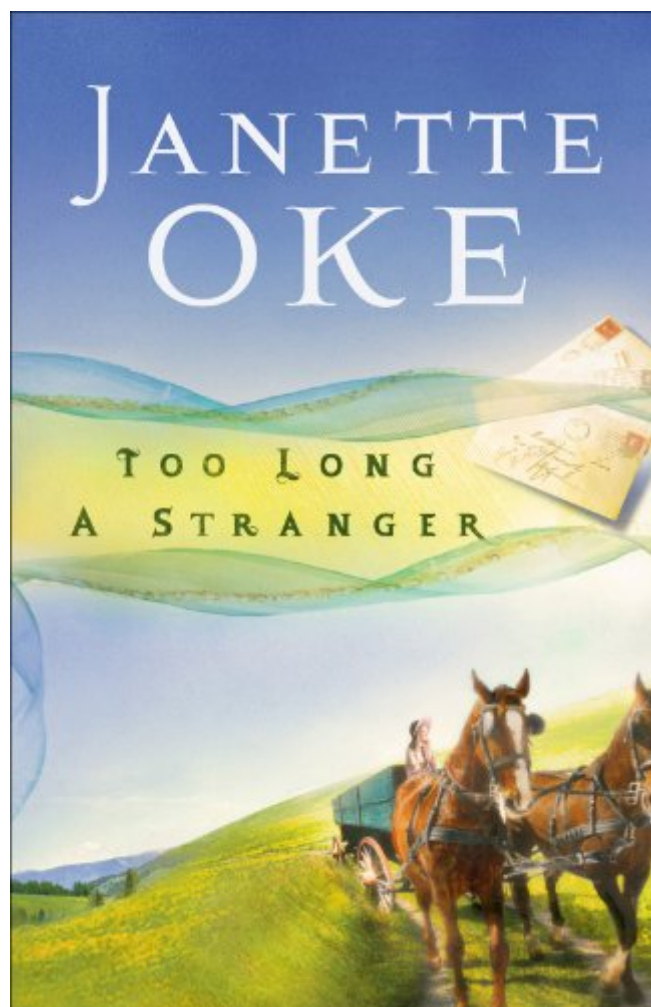


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# Too Long A Stranger (Women Of The West Book #9)



## Synopsis

She made the difficult decision with only her daughter's best interest in mind . . . but did she sacrifice too much? When her husband dies, Sarah Perry is left with no way to support herself and her daughter, Rebecca. Reluctantly, she takes over operation of her husband's freight-hauling business, managing to save enough money to send Rebecca east to a boarding school-- to an easier life and a future Sarah could not provide. With the boarding-school fees consuming Sarah's savings, there is no money left for trips home. Over the years, the chasm between mother and daughter becomes much more than geographical distance, and when Rebecca finally returns home, it seems that she and her mother are from different worlds. What hope is there of breaking down the enormous barriers between them?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

How do you go home when you don't know what that is? This is an emotional, agonizing story carrying the reader through a story of loss, determination, sacrifice, pride, detachment and finding God. Heart-wrenching story has few light moments. It's a downer, ending expected. Hard case for what seems best at the time, that action may backfire.

This is an interesting, fast-paced book about the complexities of a mother-daughter relationship and the extent one woman is willing to sacrifice herself for her child. Sarah was such a strong heroine and it was easy to admire her for all she sacrificed in her passionate mission to be independent and provide for herself and her daughter. Her work ethic was incredible! In her position, I don't know if I'd have the courage and strength to do as she did, especially with TWO handsome, loving and kindly gentlemen offering to take care of me and my daughter. In fact, it was very frustrating that even after successfully achieving her goals, Sarah wasn't open to a new relationship with either of these good men, and didn't allow herself to fall in love again, relieving the intense loneliness she often struggled with, and making her daily life more joyful. She certainly deserved as much! I ached alongside her when Rebecca returned home from boarding school with values and ideas that were in conflict with Sarah's humble lifestyle. Even though this story would be considered to have a happy ending, I felt very heavy-hearted and empty that Sarah worked so hard for such bittersweet rewards. Although she made admirable choices, the price she paid was far too much, as well as unnecessary. Was being independent and admired/respected at the expense of developing close and solid relationships truly worth it?

Widowed and earning a living to give her daughter the best education and start in life did not quite go as planned. This woman in a man's world had to fight hard to keep a livelihood for herself and her child. She deserved more credit than she got from her daughter when she returned home spoiled.

This was interesting to see how a woman endured taking over her husband's business after his death. I got mad at the main character at times for the choices she made, but many women do make similar choices .

I loved the book, I've liked all of Janette's books. Story about Sarah and her hardships after her husband died and left her with Rebecca, a little baby girl, a lot of debt she didn't know about. She started working her husband's business to provide for them. Rebecca started to accept the family who cared for her as her family and tried calling the women Momma and her son Uncle Boyd. Boyd's mother would not let Rebecca call her Momma and tried to keep the contact with Sarah as mother. Sarah worked hard to make enough money to send Sarah to a girls school back east but could not make enough to bring her home for the summer. Rebecca got lost in the life back east after spending about ten years there. and didn't want to come home. She did come home but hated it

and her mother said she could go back. After many things happening to her she met a guy how helped find true faith and the Lord Jesus, whom she accepted, and loved her mother again and STAYED at home.

I did not enjoy this book as much as I have enjoyed other books from this author. The main character, while strong, was strong to the point of having little common sense. She sacrificed everything so that her daughter could go to a school 1000 miles away in the east, a fancy school where she learns to be a lady, doesn't see her for almost 10 years, then expects her to be the same little girl and to remember her life in a little frontier town in the west, and to love the place. The girl comes home a lady and can't relate to her mother, who has become more like a man -- and again Mom can't figure it out. Wasn't there a school a lot closer where she could have gone, instead of the mother only applying to one school she couldn't even afford? I guess I'm too much of a realist, it just seems to be a weak premise for a book. The ending was also far too contrived and left you with too many questions.

This was a nice story, but for the era during which it took place, it really was quite unrealistic. A small, vulnerable widow at that time really would not have been required nor allowed to go through what she did at that time in America. Plus, sending her only child off to school miles and miles away for 10 plus years??? And then send for her after graduation and really not expect problems???

I have read several Janette Oke books and they are either a home run or a strike out, in my opinion. The over use of long dashes and "ah" this and that, made it so uncomfortable to read I didn't get very far into it. Amazing that such a good story teller could deliver a product this bad. I will avoid her books in the future.

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