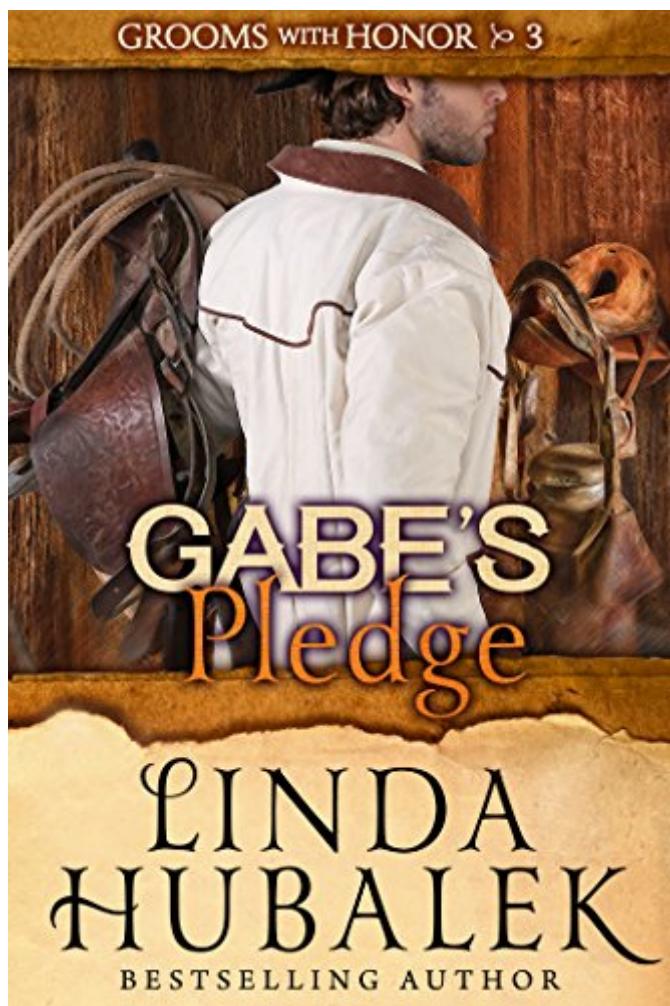


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# Gabe's Pledge (Grooms With Honor Book 3)



## Synopsis

A sweet historical romance set in 1887. Gabriel Shepard has secretly loved Iva Mae Paulson for years, but has been too shy to court her. But when Iva Mae announces at a New Year's Eve party that her 1887 resolution is to find a groom, Gabe must decide if he's ready to lose her to another man, or step out of his saddle shop to pursue her. Iva Mae Paulson loves teaching children but after six years, she wants her own family instead. Since her choice of husband won't take the first step, she'll set her own destiny by signing up to become a mail-order bride. Help and hindrance by family and friends makes this a comical trip down the church aisle for this couple. The Grooms with Honor series showcases the six sons of Pastor and Kaitlyn Reagan. The family was first featured in the 1873 year-based Brides with Grit series. Besides the Reagan brothers, the series features other men in their community. "Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, be faithful unto her as long as you both shall live?" The young men have heard Pastor Reagan say these words to many couples over the years, and they vow to treat all women this way as they walk through life. Grooms with Honor Stories and Series (available and future titles) Montana Sky: Nolan's Vow (Nolan and Holly) Montana Sky: Elof's Mission (Elof and Linnea) Angus's Trust (Angus and Daisy) Fergus's Honor (Fergus and Iris) Gabe's Pledge (Gabe and Iva Mae) Montana Sky: Jasper's Wish (Jasper and Julip) Nov. 9, 2017 release Mack's Care (Mack and Pansy) Cullen's Love (Cullen and Rose) Seth's Promise (Seth and Lilly) Tully's Faith (Tully and Violet)

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## **Customer Reviews**

As children they grew up togetherAs adults they love each otherAs a woman, she's ready to marry and settle downAs a man, his childhood makes commitment and marriage impossibleAs a reader, return to Clear Creek and catch up with your favorite citizens The Reagans & Paulsons; Isaac, Reuben, Darcie and Tate

Love all her books.

**STORY-LINE GABE'S PLEDGE BY LINDA HUBALEK:** Gabe's Pledge is the story of Iva Mae Paulson and Gabriel Shepard. Iva has loved Gabe for years; she's waited for him to propose. On New Years Eve 1886, Iva announces she will sign up with a mail order bride agency; for she intends to be a bride in 1887. She loves teaching in Clear Creek, but wants a family and home of her own. Hoping to push Gabe into proposing, will her plan backfire? Gabe Shepard, shy and prodding, just can't bring himself to propose to Iva. After she kisses him on New Year Eve, he felt a wonderful tinge. But can he overcome his issues to make her his wife? Hubalek takes readers back to small town Clear Creek. Filled with laughter, family help or was it hindrance, a strong woman, and maybe a groom of honor, Hubalek takes us on another wonderful journey in the West.  
**CHARACTERS, PLOTTING, DEVELOPMENT:** Welcome back to Clear Creek, Kansas and the people we have come to know and love; Pastor and Kaitlyn Reagan, their six sons, the Paulsons, Shepards, and all the other wonderful residents of Clear Creek. A small town, close-knit, ready to help each other in any way they can, and where faith in God's the backbone of the community. Hubalek skillfully filled Clear Creek with a variety of characters with different personalities and dreams. I love this series; Hubalek included characters from earlier books, allowing her readers to catch up with their lives. I am always impatient for the next book in this series; wondering who's the next couple united in love and faith. The plotting of Gabe's Pledge will bring laughter as you follow Iva's manipulations as she tries to bring Gabe up to snuff. Iva's character is one of strength and determination; when she speaks in

her school teacher voice, everyone pays attention. But has she finally reached the end of her patience with Gabe? Although strong, the reader also feels Iva's pain of unrequited love. My goodness, I thought Gabe would lose Iva by dragging his feet. I wanted to shake him at times. However, I realized shortly, Gabe has issues from his past he must face and put behind him. Childhood emotional trauma effects an individual for their entire life. I laughed and laughed at Gabe's reaction when Iva's suitor arrived on the scene. Hubalek skillfully crafted situations which made Gabe realize what he could lose by dragging his feet and prodding along. As always, Pastor Reagan gives sage advice along with other citizens of Clear Creek. Everyone could see what Gabe refused to acknowledge until it was almost too late. With a smooth pace, well-developed characters, scenes which transitioned smoothly, and writing which flowed easily, I found Gabe's Pledge a wonderful addition to the Grooms Of Honor Series. Hubalek developed her characters to their full potential, as well as, adding secondary characters which added depth to the story. Although a standalone read, I would suggest reading the earlier books to enhance your reading pleasure. I always feel I have returned home to see old friends when reading Hubalek's Grooms Of Honor. A clean sweet romance, I would not hesitate to buy this book for myself or a friend.

**GABE'S PLEDGE RECOMMENDATION: STARS 4**

**FINALLY, PLEASE NOTE:** Additionally, I received this book from the author, choosing to voluntarily review the book/novel with honest romance book reviews. Furthermore, book reviews of any novel are dependent on the book/novel review author's opinion. Consequently, all book/novel reviews on-line and on my blog, are my opinions. No one influences my voluntary romance book reviews.

I enjoyed this wonderful addition to the Grooms of Honor series, and this story is about Gabriel "Gabe" Shepard and Iva Mae Paulson. As with the other stories in this series, they are part of an ongoing saga in the town of Clear Creek, Kansas, and complement each other, but can read as a standalone. Both Gabe and Iva Mae have had a rough younger childhood, having experienced hardships that many people would not understand or have ever had to endure. They both arrived in Clear Creek, Kansas around the same time thirteen years ago and became best friends from school. Iva Mae has no doubts as to the man she is in love with and has become frustrated at his lack of commitment. While Gabe has feelings for Iva Mae, he has become complacent with living with his father and Darcie and working with his father. A New Year's resolution by Iva Mae to be married before the end of 1887 will set this tale into motion. When Gabe continues to withdraw from her, she will send off to a matrimonial agency to become a mail-ordered bride. Will this be the push that Gabe needs to step up his game or will

Linda Hubalek has done it again. She has written a story that draws you in. Written characters that are likeable, relatable and invite you to get to know them. Iva Mae has waited for YEARS for Gabe to ask her to court, but Gabe is so caught up with issues from the past that he can not move forward. It is only when Iva Mae takes matter into her own hands and decides that either with Gabe or not, by the end of the year she was going to be married, that it lights a fire under Gabe. The road to happy ever after was not a smooth one for Gabe and Iva Mae with Gabe not knowing his own mind, but with patient and faith it will turn out. I so enjoy catching up with all my favorites from Clear Creek. I received a ARC from the author. My opinion is my own.

Ms. Hubalek has hit another home run with Gabe's Pledge. The Grooms with Honor series has been such a delight to read. Gabe's Pledge didn't let me down. This book could have taken place in present day instead of 1887. The problems Gabe goes through trying to decide whether to court

and propose to Iva Mae or let her become a mail order bride and possibly never see her again put him through the wringer. I truly enjoyed this book. I always think the prior book before is the best in the series, and then I read the next one and my mind changes. I give this book 5 stars and highly recommend it to others, even if you have not read the other books in this series.

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