

Author Interview With Shanna Hatfield by Itsy Bitsy Book Bits

For those new to your work, please tell us a bit about yourself, your books and your genre/s

- Hopeless romantic Shanna Hatfield received a rural foundation on a farm her family wrested out of the Eastern Oregon desert, uprooting sagebrush, rock, and the random juniper tree. She spent her growing up years there, where her dad raised hay, wheat, corn, and cattle. Her childhood brimmed with sunshine, hay fever, and an ongoing supply of learning experiences. When she wasn't running amok on the farm, her parents did their best to give her a strong foundation in faith. Today, Shanna draws on her rural roots to create sweet and wholesome historical and contemporary romances filled with hope, humor, quirky small-town characters, realistic heroes, and women of strength. Once in a while she even writes children's books. When this award-winning author isn't writing, testing out new recipes (she loves to bake!), or crafting with her hot glue gun, Shanna hangs out at home in the Pacific Northwest with her beloved husband, better known as Captain Cavedweller.

What lessons have you learned as a writer?

- Never give up!
- Words written from the heart touch the hearts of others.
- Readers are everything!

If you won the lottery what would you do with the money?

- Set up literacy programs for children who don't have access to books.

In your everyday life how do you give back to the world?

- From October 1 through December 24, I contribute 10 percent of my net proceeds from all book sales to the Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund through my Read a Book, Help a Cowboy campaign. This is my eighth year to run the campaign and I love contributing to such a great organization. For more details, visit my website:
- <https://shannahatfield.com/give-back/>

If your life was a song what song would it be and why?

- Be A Light by Thomas Rhett - I try to let me light shine and to be a blessing to others.

Name two authors you wish more people knew about

- Marcia Lynn McClure and Mel Jolly

What are some of your hobbies?

- Photography
- Baking
- Gardening

When reading reviews, what is something you love to see written?

- That the book touched their heart, made them laugh or cry.

What are you currently working on?

- A winter romance.

What books are currently in your to-read list?

- Debbie Macomber's Dear Santa, Karen Witemeyer's Under the Texas Mistletoe

What is your favorite book made into a movie/tv show?

- The Princess Bride

You are filling out this interview as part of a tour with Itsy Bitsy Book Bits. What made you choose Itsy Bitsy Book Bits?

- The in-depth options they offer.

What is something people would be surprised to know about you?

- In my younger years I wanted to be a race car driver. My husband, Captain Cavedweller, claims I'm still practicing.

Have you ever met a celebrity? Which celebrity would you like to meet?

- Jason Priestley and Debbie Macomber.

Do you collect anything?

- Antiques - mostly dishes

Would you change your ending to any story you've written and why?

- **No. I write happily ever afters and I wouldn't change any of them. The characters all worked too hard to get there to take it away from them!**

When writing from the characters point of view, do you prefer to do so on an emotional level or just physical descriptions?

- **Emotional level. I want my readers to feel like they are in the book with the characters. To do that, there has to be an emotional investment.**

If you were offered a movie deal for just one of your books, which would you choose and why?

- **Garden of Her Heart. It's a powerful story and would make such a great Hallmark Hall of Fame movie!**