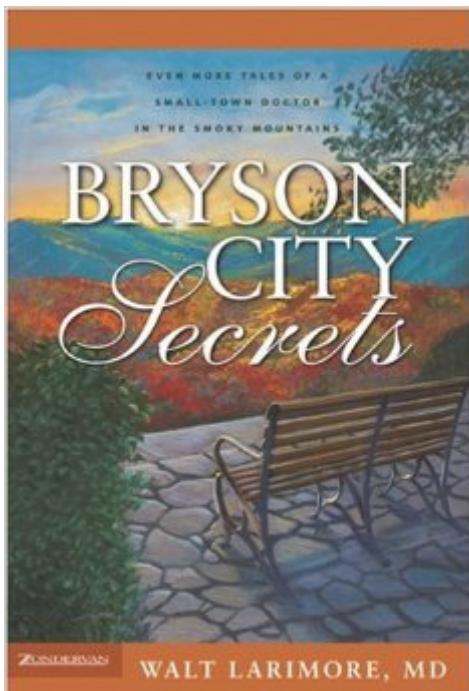


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Bryson City Secrets: Even More Tales Of A Small-Town Doctor In The Smoky Mountains



Synopsis

More enchanting tales of the people and events that shaped a young doctor's life and faith during his early practice in the Smoky Mountains . . . There are places in Bryson City where the smell of home cooking is a little too tempting for an empty stomach. Don't, for instance, pass the Fryemont Inn when the windows are open---not unless you plan to come inside and enjoy fresh-baked rolls, gourmet cooking, and an owner who is as warm and inviting as the food. She's just one of the friendly faces you'll meet in *Bryson City Secrets*. Told with winsome humor and deep affection, *Bryson City Secrets* is a story-lover's delight, continuing Dr. Walt Larimore's reminiscences of his early years of country medical practice. So, pull up a chair and feast on this rich fare of Smoky Mountain personalities, highland wisdom, and all the tears, laughter, tenderness, faith, courage, and misadventures of small-town life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you've followed the story of Dr. Walt Larimore's medical practice in the Smoky Mountains from *BRYSON CITY TALES* to *BRYSON CITY SEASONS*, you won't want to miss *BRYSON CITY SECRETS*. This latest installment continues Larimore's enjoyable stories of small-town rural medical practice, and explains why he and his family mysteriously left the small town they loved to move to another state. In *BRYSON CITY SEASONS*, we left the Larimore family as they made the decision to leave the Smoky Mountains for a practice in Florida. Here, Larimore sets up his book well by leading off with a phone call from his 24-year-old daughter Kate, who has remembered a

terrible incident from her past and wants to be reassured it was just a bad dream. There is just enough information for the reader to guess at what happened --- and what will be revealed in the coming chapters --- without giving it away until the end of the book. This keeps the pages turning, as the book opens with some of the usual Bryson tales. And they are vintage Larimore: earthy, nostalgic, and often funny. The first three chapters find the doctor called to a murder scene, where a woman is suspected of brutally killing her husband with a butcher knife. Larimore, however, has his doubts when he examines the corpse and then the woman, who is hospitalized and unable to communicate. As the short story comes to its conclusion, he reflects on the darkness of all human hearts and the forgiveness available to everyone through Christ. He's not Pollyannaish, however, but honest. "Frankly, even though I had prayed for the handyman the night of the crime, part of me didn't want to accept the premise that the Creator of the universe would and could love a murderer as much as he would love anyone else.

"As I stood to go inside, a loud clap of thunder boomed across Bryson City. I looked over my shoulder. A storm was moving toward me faster than I could have imagined." With that bit of foreshadowing, so ends Bryson City Seasons, the second book in Walt Larimore's Bryson City trilogy. When Bryson City Secrets, the final book in the series, begins, that storm has long since passed, but a tearful, long distance phone call and a heartbreakingly mysterious (to the reader) question from Kate, Larimore's now grown daughter, hints at the damage it left behind. "Can you have nightmares during the day?" Kate asks her dad. "Yes, I thought to myself, you can have a nightmare during the day. And another one had just begun for the Larimores." Coming at the end of the prologue, those ominous words, along with the title itself, presage the horror to come and establish the book's disquieting tone. As did the previous two books, this one includes humorous stories, like those about the womanless wedding Larimore was coerced into participating in and the moonshiner and the "T-man" who end up as buddies in the same nursing home. But interspersed with these are more sinister ones about a handyman brutally murdering his employer; satanic rituals going on in the forest; a young, pregnant, woman giving birth while under demonic attack; and a little boy dying of cancer who talks to angels. As the book reaches its climax, it's clear that the serpent still lurks even in the idyllic, Eden-like setting of Bryson City, North Carolina. But despite its dark undertones, the principle theme of Bryson City Secrets is a positive one, illustrating the truth of Romans 8:28, "that all things work together for good to them that love God.

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