



Book of the Month

***Run Rose Run* by James Patterson and Dolly Parton**

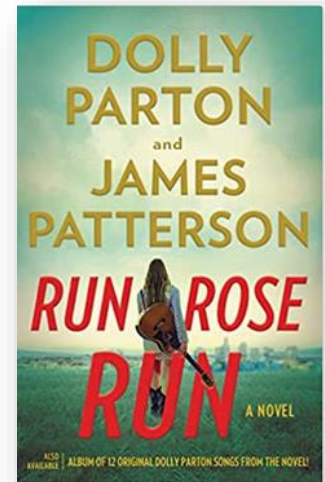
Book Review by Maureen Lang, Friends of the Starkville Library Board Member

Run Rose Run is a new novel written by the unexpected duo of Dolly Parton and James Patterson. It is foreshadowed by a scene that appears with the main character, AnnieLee Keyes, (Rose McCord), standing on the balcony of a four-story building ready to jump! Do not close this book! It is not what it looks like and there is nothing depressing with this story.

Our main characters start with AnnieLee a young, beautiful, incredibly talented, songwriter who has a one-in-a-million voice and is trying to break into the music business. She is not a softy and is forced to defend herself whenever someone tries to take advantage of her. Next, comes Ruthana Ryder, a beautiful, vibrant, famous country singer-songwriter who has gone into voluntary retirement. She reminds us of Dolly Parton in her sparky personality, her incredible talent, her big heart, and her involvement with helping children with books. Finally, there is Ethan Blake, a handsome, talented musician in his own right, who works for Ruthana in her band. He discovers this new talent when AnnieLee has talked the manager into letting her sing on the stage of The Cat's Paw bar between acts.

The story revolves around AnnieLee's struggles to get heard while trying to evade and overcome the dark past that she zealously hides from all who try to help her. Ruthana, despite her rough edges, becomes AnnieLee's greatest promoter and as a result, spins her own future life into a new chapter. Ethan is the good guy who believes in AnnieLee and aims to protect this mysterious girl who keeps him at arm's length at the best of times. Throughout this book, AnnieLee is in danger from a number of people from her past. Who is the girl, really? She is a hard-nosed survivor underneath the naturally beautiful exterior. She is determined to make it in the music world and will do whatever it takes to get there. Will she make it to the place where the songs she has within her can be heard by all the world? Or will her past catch up with her and destroy her dreams forever?

This was a quick moving and interesting book to read. The way the book is written, the reader is transported to the Nashville music world and all it entails, both the good and the bad. Throughout the book are songs that AnnieLee writes and performs. I really felt like Dolly Parton gave us a peek into how



little snippets of rhymes that become songs just keep coming to her nonstop. At the end of the book are over ten different songs from the story with their lyrics included for the reader to enjoy. It is a book that is informative as well as entertaining. There is a companion album that can be found if the reader wants to hear music with the lyrics. In the future, I would not be surprised to see this made into an entertaining movie. I thoroughly recommend this book for anyone who wants a fun, interesting jaunt into a world so different from our own. You won't be disappointed!

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