



Genre: Historical Fiction

Title: **The Whittaker Family Reunion**

Author: Shirley A. Roe

Martha Whittaker is turning forty and looking forward to a family reunion. Her years of terror with her first husband, Jebediah, have long since been buried in the back of her mind. Her three stepsons, Isaac, Abraham and Ezekiel, have also blocked the painful memories of their abusive father. Even Jeremy, Martha's second husband and Jebediah's older brother, has worked hard to create a happy family and help remove the horrors of his brother from everyone's mind. The past is in the past and Jebediah has long been dead and buried in some far-away prairie town. At least everyone thought so until a man looking very much like Jebediah starts to haunt the Whittaker family, threatening the happy gathering of Martha's three stepsons and her very troublesome daughter, Anna. Will Isaac's wife bear the brunt of his guilt and suffer from this man's abuse? Will Ezekiel suddenly turn abusive like his father? Will Abraham's dreams of his father's return actually come true? And then there is the most troubling question that plays on Martha's mind. Do any of the children bear the evil gene that fed Jebediah's madness, the same gene of insanity that placed their grandmother in an asylum long before they were born?

Shirley A. Roe has once again woven a fascinating plot of mystery and intrigue with a touch of romance set in nineteenth century America. She leads us very quickly into the lives of each member of the Whittaker family, revealing their talents, their strengths and their weaknesses as they come together again, reluctantly reminiscing the horrors of their past. The family that we grew to love in Roe's first novel about Martha Whittaker, *Of Dreams and Nightmares*, catches our hearts and compassion yet again as the author expands her compelling tale of love and hate, good and evil. She tells a passionate tale of a family that bands together as one strong, unified force confronting their foe head-on in an attempt to avert yet another tragedy.

Roe's talent at bringing history to life is evident in her second novel about the Whittaker family. ***The Whittaker Family Reunion* is highly recommended by Allbooks reviewer, Emily-Jane Hills Orford, Allbooks Reviews.**

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