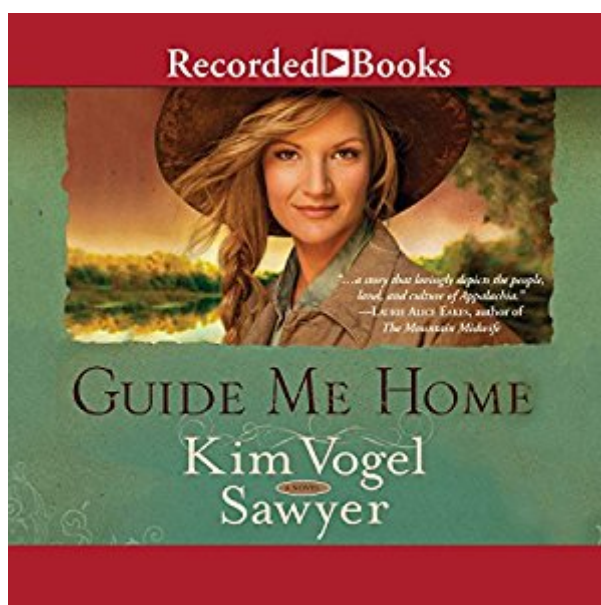


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# Guide Me Home: A Novel



## Synopsis

Romance and historical inspirational listeners love Kim Vogel Sawyer's gentle stories of hope, and this sweet Kentucky tale is certain to entertain and encourage. Twenty-one-year-old Rebecca Hardin is determined to help provide for her family, living a hardscrabble life in 1910 in the Southern Kentucky hills. Her brother, Andy, died when he became lost in a cave five years earlier, and Rebecca feels responsible for his death because she'd told him to "go, get lost". The best wages at Mammoth Cave are earned by the guides, who receive a salary plus tips from the guests. But only men are allowed to be guides, so Rebecca cuts her hair, dons some of Andy's clothes, and introduces herself as Reb to the estate manager. She's put under the tutelage of Tolly Branford, a longtime trusted employee. Both Tolly and fellow guide Devlin Bale discover Rebecca's secret. Tolly wants to help the Hardins. Devlin and Rebecca, who may be smitten with each other, spend days scouting the depths of the cave and learning its secrets. When the cave threatens to claim another Hardin family member, can Tolly and Devlin use their skills before it's too late?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

About the Book: Working as a guide in Mammoth Cave might allow Rebekah the chance to bring joy back to her family. But will the cave claim more than it gives? After tragedy leaves its mark on Rebekah Hardin's family, she plans to help her parents and six siblings honor her beloved brother's memory and alleviate their poverty by working as a guide in the dangerous cave system. Kentucky's renowned Mammoth Cave presents profitable opportunities for hardworking, capable men. But

Rebekah is determined and if it means presenting herself as a himself, then she's up to the job. Under the wing of experienced guide Tolly Sanford, Reb begins to learn the complexities of the cave. The two are joined by an aspiring young cartographer, Devlin Bale. The university student has traveled to the hill country to map tunnels not to fall for a girl in disguise. Can the God who designed miles of underground astonishment shape Devlin's ambitious plans and free Reb from the weight of her past? My Review: After her brother died, Rebekah Hardin watched as her family became more and more depressed. As if things weren't already hard enough, he had just had to die. Hearing of her mother's wishes, Rebekah sets out to find a job in order to pay for a headstone that will help set her mother's mind at ease and even clear Rebekah's conscience. Dressed as a man, she does just that. Young Cartographer, Devlin Bale couldn't believe his ears when his father agreed to his crazy scheme. In the heart of Kentucky's Mammoth Cave, he plans to map the tunnels and where they lead. But little does he know that he will meet a girl with hopes of helping her family in that, dressed the way she is.

Guide Me Home is a novel written by Kim Vogel Sawyer. Andy Hardin, the only son of Festus and Nell Hardin, wandered into the Mammoth Cave and was carried out days later by Tolly Sandford. Nell Hardin has been sad every since and says she will not be able to return to her old self until Andy's grave had a headstone. Hearing this, Rebekah, the oldest daughter, sets out to get a job so she can buy her mother a headstone. The only job open is a guide at the cave and those jobs are typically given to men. Rebekah dresses up like a man and applies for the job. Tolly is not fooled, he knows she is a girl and hires her anyways. He still feels bad that he was not able to rescue Andy alive. Rebekah, known as Reb, teams up with Tolly and their summer duties are to work with college student, Devlin Bale, showing him the cave and surrounding area. Devlin is making a map of the cave as part of his college studies and also in an attempt to help his father win a political election. Cassy, the second oldest child of Festus and Nell, is upset that Rebekah gets to go away and work. Cassy is not happy with her life, she wants to go away to a big city and have nice things. She manages to get a job at the resort as well and meets a young man. When their relationship is dying she tells him she can take him into the cave and show him things that the tour doesn't. They get lost in the cave and the Hardin family once again is waiting outside the cave waiting for a child to be rescued. This is a very good story. I appreciate the author's notes at the end of the book with the real history of the cave. The author has written a story that somewhat follows the true story of the cave. I enjoyed reading the story and seeing the difference between Rebekah and Cassy.

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