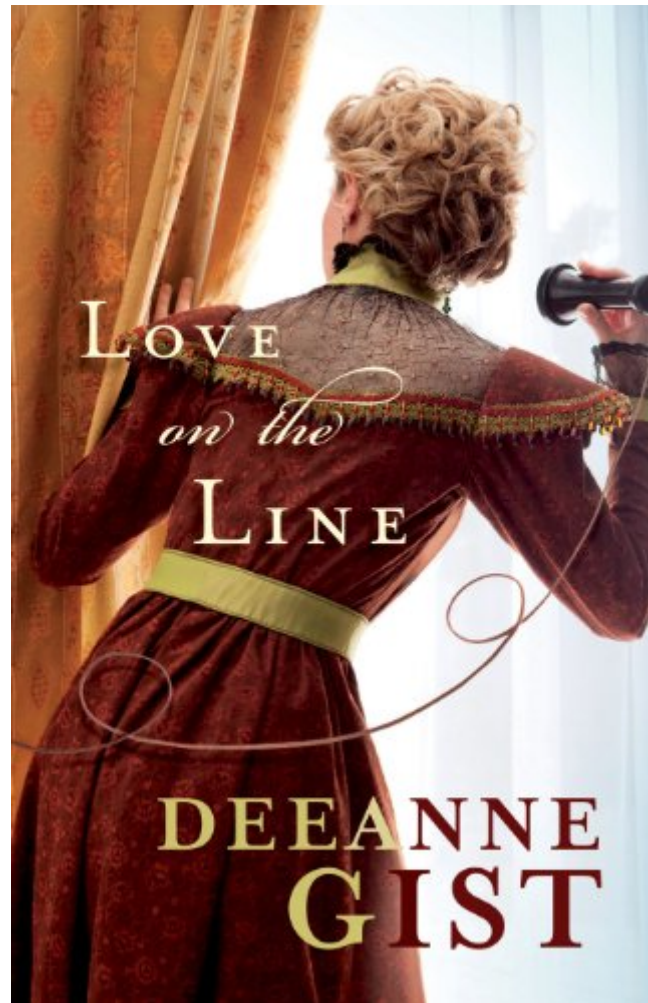




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# Love On The Line



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## Synopsis

In 1904 Texas Ranger Luke Palmer arrives in Brenham, Texas, with one goal--to capture the gang of outlaws led by Frank Comer. Undercover as a telephone repairman, he uses his days on the range to search, not realizing there's another pair of eyes watching him. Georgie Gail, switchboard operator and birder, heads out on a birding expedition, but instead of sighting a painted bunting, her opera glasses capture her telephone man, armed and far away from telephone lines. Palmer is forced to take this alluring troublemaker into his confidence and unwittingly puts her in harm's way. The closer he comes to the gang, the further she works her way into his heart--and into trouble. Soon it's more than just love that's on the line.

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## Customer Reviews

I thought I wasn't going to like this one, but it won me over. The can't-stop-reading impulse kicked in about half-way through the book. First of all, at first it seemed like there wasn't much of a connection between the two main characters, but as the story progressed their reasons for liking each other developed and I actually ended up finding them to be one of Gist's best fictional match-ups. Yes, the

bird thing was annoying and Georgie was a quirky character somewhat along the lines of Essie from the Trouble books, but she wasn't unlikeable. She obviously had a lot of spunk and personality which is a nice change from the damsel-in-distress type. And Luke became more and more loveable throughout the story. The physical details were not too much, a small bit toned down from other Gist novels. There was more of a plot beyond the sexual tension. All in all, I ended up very satisfied with the story and looking forward to getting my hands on the last few of this author's novels that I haven't devoured yet.

I enjoy how the author brought about the love connection between the Heroine and Hero. The bird part seems hard to believe. All in all, I am looking forward to reading another book from this author.

This is one of my top favorite Gist books! Gist's writing is engaging and the dialogue is witty. She also puts a lot of work into her research and details! My only complaint (and it really isn't a huge thing for me not does it hinder the story) is that sometimes The females can get a bit too stubborn, selfish, or a bit too eccentric. My main issue is just that I wish that the leading male in these stories (mainly the ones featuring Texas Rangers) was more firm and stood strong instead of bending to what the female wants all the time and giving up their jobs (when the female doesn't have too). But that's really my only issue and like I said, it's not a big thing for me and I enjoy the books no matter what! ã ã ã^ã

I will preface this review by saying that I do not rate any book five stars unless I intend to read it so many times the binding is falling apart :) That being said a four-star review is a great read by my standards. I enjoy authors such as Lori Wick, Francine Rivers, and others. I recently discovered Deeanne Gist and fell in love with Maid for a Match. The research and character development in Mrs. Gist's books is wonderful and each time I buy a new book I can't wait to dive in. Love on the Line is no exception to my description of Mrs. Gist. The main characters are both believable and like-able. The plot line is complex enough to keep even the most avid romance reader interested while not being so complex that it must be read in one sitting. As in other books by Mrs. Gist the male and female leads are not the only characters and the sub-plots in this particular book are wonderful. My only negative comment to Love on the Line would be that it was hard to get into at first because of the amount of time that was spent on birds. Further into the book I realized that part of the bird sidebar would have come from Mrs. Gist's devotion to being accurate to the period and therefore the issue would have been an important issue at the time just as bicycling was important

to *Courting Trouble* and *Deep in the Heart of Trouble* (two of my favorites by Deeanne Gist). A wonderful book overall and I look forward to the next book by Deeanne Gist.

Deeanne Gist is in my top three of favorite authors. I have loved each and every book of hers that I have read. Including this one. The first paragraph had my attention and kept me reading. I have never read a book where someone is so into birds which made this story kind of silly yet set it apart from all the rest. Add to that a switchboard operator as well and you have a unique mix in a character. What lady doesn't want to read about a Texas Ranger?! I admit, I enjoyed Luke Palmer's story. What a twist at the end of the story that I hadn't guessed until over half way through the book. My guess was correct though I won't mention what about. You'll have to grab a copy and see for yourself. What I loved about the story is the strength of Georgie and Luke's unwavering faith. They totally trust that God is in control, and that He will take care of all that is going on. This was refreshing because there is normally one person who has doubts.

I really enjoyed *Love On The Line*. Starting off with a great promise of a fun roller coaster of a love tale with a telephone operator and a Texas Ranger. But it is so much more than that - Georgie is the aforementioned switchboard operator and Lucius Laudrum is the ranger but their first meeting isn't one to remember. It involves Georgie being involved in a train heist and feeling more sympathy for the robber than that of the lawmaker. Their next meeting is with Lucius posing as Luke Palmer - a linesman for the phone company or Troubleman. The rest of the tale takes us on a fun ride of these two never really figuring each other out - especially Georgie. And it's a fun ride. On a negative side - Georgie's personality can grate sometimes. Her almost obsessive compulsion around birds and understandably the use of those precious friends as decoration for ladies hats. While commendable it did become a little irritating as the story progressed. Gladly the story does wind it up a gear as we neared the conclusion and it had just enough twists and turns to keep my attention. In the whole, a delightful story which will gladly fill a dull afternoon with no trouble at all.

Pretty disappointed with the shallow characters. George was too stupid for words. First she is over the top unreasonable in her care of birds. Second, after Luke lies to her, ties her up, burns all her hats, and pretends to be the hero rescuing her, he is quick to take advantage of her vulnerability to kiss her. When Georgie finds out the truth, she is justifiably upset, but then just blithely accepts his explanation and moves on like nothing is wrong in their relationship and she is madly in love with him. No trust issues there? Totally unbelievable.

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