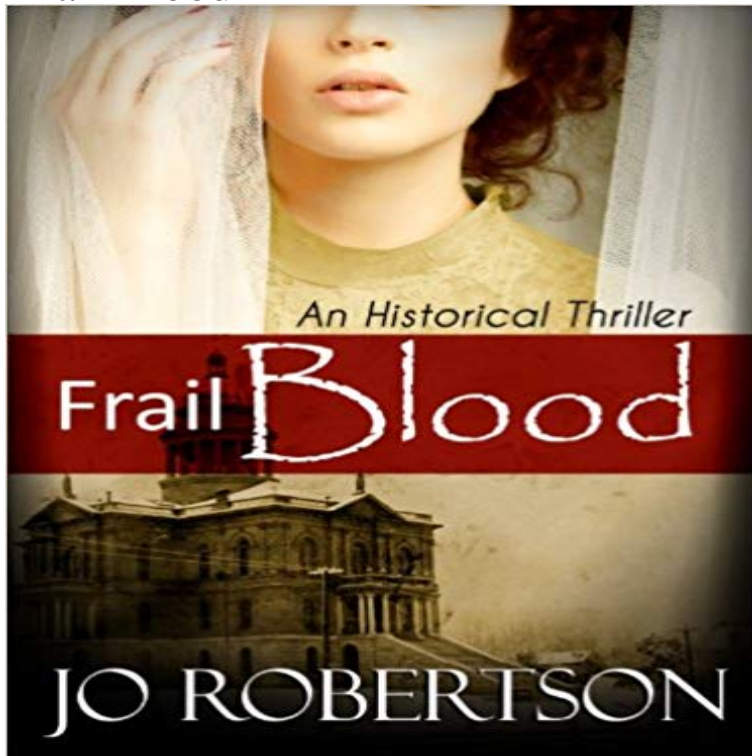


Frail Blood



4 1/2 star Romantic Times Review Rating Robertson delivers a suspenseful tale of murder, sex, and deception. See the entire review at <http://www.rtbookreviews.com/book-review/frail-blood> Book Description: Frail Blood is an historical romantic thriller, completely fictionalized from a true court case. California, 1909. A woman straps a pistol to her ankle, walks to her lovers home, and shoots him. Her motive? After an affair of four months, he jilted her for another woman. How would an attorney defend the woman in light of her outright confession? Would an all-male jury view her actions with repulsion or pity? The climate of California in the early twentieth century when women couldnt vote and men held the real power, where immense wealth rested alongside poverty, held a paradox of contradictions. The bare bones of this event sparked the idea for the fictional story of Alma Bentley, attorney Malachi Rivers, and Emma Knight, the woman who helps him investigate the case. When jaded lawyer Malachi Rivers engages newspaper editor Emma Knight to aid him in the case of Alma Bentley, he has no idea theyll eventually unmask a vile web of family deceit, wickedness, and treachery. Constantly putting herself in harms way, the feckless Emma uncovers dark secrets that lie behind the wealthy facade of the Joseph Machado clan. With her strong opinions, Emma tests Malachis patience even while hes strongly attracted to her. She disagrees with every aspect of his trial strategy, but he defends his client the only way he can by insisting that a woman, a naturally frail creature, is incapable of committing such a heinous crime. Emma wants to experience true passion and detests the false notion that women are inferior to men in any way. Even while she confronts Malachi at every turn, she falls ridiculously in love with him. Readers of historical fiction and mystery/suspense, as

well as historical romance, will enjoy the elements at play in this slice of life, fictionalized story of California. ABNA Publishers Weekly Reviewer This outstanding manuscript begins in 1909 northern California, where Alma Bentley has murdered her boss and lover, Joe Machado. Enter the famed attorney, Malachi Rivers, who must defend this uneducated, naive and clearly guilty woman. The trial is watched carefully by Emma Knight, an heiress who is determined to make her own way as a newspaperwoman and to whom Alma has confided the truth behind the murder. As love grows between Emma and Malachi, the two become partners in their efforts to save Alma from herself and from the biased hand of the law. The trial unfolds while the truth behind Malachis family is unveiled, offering up two parallel and engaging mysteries. The characters and setting come to life through effective and creative dialogue, while the trial provides a unrelenting narrative tension. Dont be surprised if you finish it in one sitting.

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