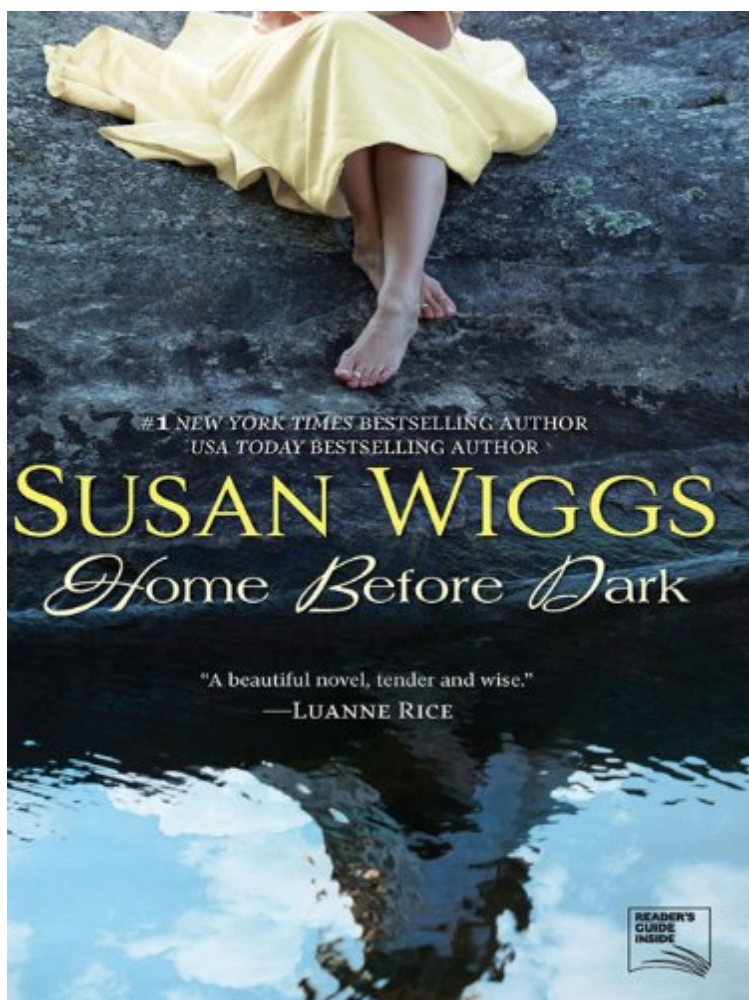


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# Home Before Dark



*Par Susan Wiggs*  
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**Par Susan Wiggs : Home Before Dark** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Home Before Dark:

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**Description :** Description du produit With a wise, insightful voice, acclaimed author Susan Wiggs creates a moving novel about family, second chances and the healing power of love. Photojournalist Jessie Ryder has never been able to travel far enough to escape the pain of giving her baby daughter away. Now, sixteen years later, she's decided to come home to seek out Lila, even if it means upsetting the world of Lila's adoptive mother . . . her very own sister, Luz. As Jessie and Luz examine the true meaning of love, loyalty and family, they are drawn into an emotional tug-of-war filled with moments of unexpected humor, surprising sweetness and unbearable sadness. And as the pain, regrets and mistakes of the past slowly rise to the surface, a new picture emerges -- a picture filled with hope and promise and the redeeming power of the human heart.

Prsentation de l'diteur She left her child behind, but couldn't let her go As an irresponsible young mother, Jessie Ryder knew she'd never be able to give her newborn the stable family that her older sister could, and the security her child deserved. So Luz and her husband adopted little Lila and told her Jessie was but a distant aunt. Sixteen years later, having traveled the world with the winds of remorse at her back, Jessie is

suspending her photojournalism career to return home even if it means throwing her sister's world into turmoil. Where life once seemed filled with boundless opportunity, Jessie is now on a journey to redeem her careless past, bringing with her a terrible burden. Jessie's arrival is destined to expose the secrets and lies that barely held her daughter's adoptive family together to begin with, yet the truth can do so much more than just hurt. It can bring you home to a new kind of honesty, shedding its light into the deepest corners of the heart. From Publishers Weekly

Jessie Ryder, the heroine of this latest novel from romance veteran Wiggs (*Halfway to Heaven*), returns to her Texas hometown after 16 years to visit Lila, the daughter she gave up for adoption to her older sister, Luz. Her eyesight is deteriorating rapidly from a rare disease, and soon she will no longer be able to continue her successful work as a photojournalist. She now wants to tell Lila the truth about her parentage, but Luz balks at the idea. Luz has chosen a starkly different lifestyle, making a home for her husband Ian, three boys and Lila, who's now a rebellious, out-of-control teenager. Both sisters are envious of the other's choices, and free-spirited Jessie's sudden arrival turns Luz's world—not as stable as it seems on the surface—upside down. As long-buried family secrets come to the surface, Luz and Ian's marriage threatens to unravel. Meanwhile, Jessie's wanderlust is held in check when she falls in love with Dusty Matlock, a local widowed pilot with a two-year-old. The novel sets up provocative family tensions, but these are resolved too easily. Wiggs's tendency to overwrite ("a wave of devastating love and protectiveness rolled over him with crushing strength") and lackluster humor ("Jeez, you're turning into a drama queen," Lila says to Jessie, who quips, "I've been wanting a change of careers") may further disappoint readers. Some of the scenes are finely drawn, however, especially those set at Beacon for the Blind, a facility for training those without eyesight to live independently. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. From AudioFile

Jessie Ryder, world famous photographer, has returned home to Texas to her sister, her family, and the unknown future her rapidly deteriorating eyesight will bring her. But, of course, Jessie doesn't tell anyone she is going blind. Then she falls in love with neighbor Dusty Matlock and his 2-year-old daughter. Tanya Eby creates vivid voices for Jessie, the strong-willed woman who faces the future on her own; sexy Matlock, who yearns to share his heart with Jessie; and all her family members, from 6-year-old Scottie to her self-absorbed mother. As emotions clash and wills collide, Eby keeps this romance right on track, until all the characters see the light, so to speak, and love prevails. M.B.K. AudioFile 2003, Portland, Maine-- Copyright AudioFile, Portland, Maine