



The Christmas Wedding Quilt: Let It Snow\You Better Watch Out\Nine Ladies Dancing

Emilie Richards , Janice Kay Johnson , Sarah Mayberry

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Let It Snow by USA TODAY bestselling author **Emilie Richards**

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You Better Watch Out by **Janice Kay Johnson**

Ella is desperate when the unfinished quilt goes missing in her care. But a cocky lawyer might just help her find it— and find love.

Nine Ladies Dancing by **Sarah Mayberry**

Shy Rachel risks exposing her secret life when she falls for her quilting teacher's seemingly perfect son.

Together, Jo, Ella and Rachel create a Christmas heirloom that's both a wish and a promise—of happiness, hope and love everlasting.

The Christmas Wedding Quilt: Let It Snow\You Better Watch Out\Nine Ladies Dancing Details

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Out\Nine Ladies Dancing Emilie Richards , Janice Kay Johnson , Sarah Mayberry

From Reader Review The Christmas Wedding Quilt: Let It Snow\You Better Watch Out\Nine Ladies Dancing for online ebook

Denise says

Three cousins take on finishing a wedding quilt, there will be a wedding, but the mother will not be alive to pass on the quilt she started, so she asks family to finish it. Three authors, each writing about one of the cousins and their life story as it involves the finishing of the quilt. The covering of romance almost takes away for me the idea behind the story of the quilt and the building of family, however these are meant to be romance stories, just not my favorite read. I picked it up for a Christmas read and honestly I didn't pick up much Christmas. There was more Christmas in the first of the three stories than the other to me. None the less I did enjoy the story. I favored the last just because I am a fan of both firefighters and librarians ... now there is a pattern to follow!

Kelly says

This is a very clever concept for a book of novellas written by different authors. The premise is that 1 of 4 cousins, Olivia, is getting married at Christmas. Her mother's health is failing but the wedding cannot be moved up as the groom, Eric, is stationed in Afghanistan. Olivia's mother had started a quilt for Olivia and Eric and has created a beautiful center panel for the quilt. She realizes she won't be able to finish the quilt in time and mails the panel plus sentimental fabrics to Jo who is to add a border around the center panel and send it to her cousin Ella, who is to add a border and send it to Rachel, the third cousin to add a border as well. Each author wrote one of the cousin's stories. While the romance of each cousin was prominent, the quilt was always there as well. The cousins had been close as kids but had grown apart over the years. This project brings them back together.

The first novella is Let it Snow by Emilie Richards. This is Jo's story. She has driven herself at work so she really doesn't have a life. Many things, including her mother, pushed her in that direction. When the quilt arrives she accepts the responsibility and recognizes that she has to stop putting work first. She missed her aunt's funeral for work which proved fruitless as the job still fell through and her boss is blaming her. Jo takes some long due vacation time to go back to the shared family lake home, Hollymeade, to work on her part of the quilt and re-think life. Jo had been engaged to Brody Ryan a decade or more earlier. He lives near by Hollymeade and helps to take care of the place while the family is away. The flames between Jo and Brody are still there. Brody also takes care of the family vineyards and is trying to make a go of special wines. The story is sweet as they start to learn about each other again. Working back to friends and then more than friends. Each has their problems and secrets. They are both portrayed as private people, so their story is one where if they would talk to each other, they wouldn't have the big misunderstanding. Luckily, the duration of the misunderstanding is short-lived and reasoned out by both parties.

The second novella is "You Better Watch Out" by Janice Kay Johnson. This is Ella's story. Ella is a pottery artist and is delivering her work to a gallery. After which, she planned on mailing the quilt with her border already done and attached to her cousin Rachel. As she heads back to her vehicle she noticed it was oddly parked, not the way she thought she left it. Then it pulls out into traffic and she realizes it was being stolen. She runs after it and ends up plowing into the hero, Brett. Brett is a defense attorney who just lost a case and was reamed out by his boss over it. Brett has been losing his edge and really his faith in what he does. He also recently lost his girlfriend. Brett heroically offers to pursue the thief in his corvette. The two take off in pursuit! During the ride they get to know each other a bit, including why Ella is so desperate to get the car - really the quilt - back. Ella calls the police. After quite the long car chase, they lose the vehicle, the thief and

the quilt. Defeated, they go back to Brett's place and have dinner. During which, Brett realizes he doesn't want to fail again and doesn't want to fail Ella. So, they continue the pursuit assuming the thief would keep the car and probably lived in the neighborhood where they lost him. As they spend more time together, they grow closer. Ella has self-esteem issues stemming from her mother's passing and an unemotional father. Brett wants to follow in his dad's footsteps but not really. It isn't much of a spoiler to let you know they do find the thief and get the quilt back since it is sent on to Rachel for the third story.

The 3rd novella is Nine Ladies Dancing by Sarah Mayberry. Rachel receives the quilt from Ella and is stunned at the work done so far. Her own skills having gone stale, she seeks out the help of one of the library's patrons who checks out books on quilting. Rachel is a librarian living in Australia where her mother had relocated her back as a teenager. Turns out the quilter, Gabby, who is going to help Rachel with the quilting project is also the mother of Leo Bennett. Leo and Rachel went to school together. Leo was an obnoxious, arrogant, popular jock in school. Rachel overheard him say about her "Mate, if I woke up and found that lying next to me, I'd chew my own arm off to get away. That's how bad she is. I'd rather cut it off than stick it in her." As you might expect, she was not happy to see him again. Leo is staying with his mom because he was injured on the job. He is a firefighter and broke his wrist and did damage to his shoulder when attempting to climb stairs in a burning building. He was hauled out of the building by his best buddy, Cameron, who went back in and died in the building. He is on leave as he heals, emotionally and physically. Leo picks up on Rachel's animosity towards him and confronts her about it. She tells him the story from way back and he apologizes. He even brings her a gift that really works for her. (She finds it super thoughtful but if I had gotten it, meh.) Anyway, Rachel sees Leo one day on the sidewalk and notices the anguish on his face as he watches other firemen putting away the equipment. She offers to walk with him on the beach and he accepts. He shares with her what happens and she starts to be a person he can lean on. They end up talking more and becoming friends. Rachel also has a sort of secret. She won dance lessons, which she took and found out she has natural rhythm. She is entered in a dance contest and finds dancing to be quite soothing. Rachel initially turns down Leo when he wants to take things to a more physical level, until the night he turns up hurting and broken. (His adult self has no issue with sticking it in her.) The next morning is the day of the dance and a crisis happens as the neighbor's cat has shredded her dance outfit. They come up with a solution, get her there in the nick of time and she dances divinely. All that is left is to figure out their relationship.

The epilogue tells us of Eric arriving home to Olivia at Hollymeade along with the cousins showing up to get the quilt quilted and to reconnect.

It was a darling set of stories. It really worked for me as I'm a quilter and a librarian. I was amused by the fact that all three had at least one person in the couple considering a job change. These romances are more about the relationship and trust being built between the couple than describing the pairing when they decide to consummate the relationship. It would be sweet if any of the authors turned this into a series as many other family members were mentioned.

Dora says

The Christmas Wedding Quilt

The Miller cousins were really tight growing up and staying at Hollymeade the family's lakeside retreat in the summers. However, as they grew up they were separated by time and circumstances and stopped communicating with one another.

Aunt Gloria had a package sent to Jo, one of the cousins known for getting things done, asking that she and

two of her other cousins complete the quilt top that she had started for her daughter before she became ill to finish it. The quilt top arrived after Aunt Gloria's death.

If you like romances, you will probably like this book.

Lisa says

I am a sucker for any book about Christmas and quilting, and when they throw in a wedding for good measure and one of the authors of the three stories in the book is Emilie Richards--well, I had to read this, even though I am trying to boycott fluffy romance novels. The three stories involve three cousins, each of whom is adding a border, round-robin fashion, to a wedding quilt for a fourth cousin whose mother died before she could do more than the central panel. The first story is quite good, as I would expect from Richards. The middle story would have been good enough except that the author included a somewhat graphic sex scene, when sex between the characters was not needed at all, certainly not explicitly. I expect that the author (or an editor) decided that this was needed to really "bond" the protagonists, but they were sufficiently bonded that this was not necessary. The third story went well and redeemed the book, although this is hardly intended to be great literature. Unfortunately, because of the explicit scene, I can't recommend it even as a fun, light Christmastime read, which I would do but for that blemish.

Elizabeth Meadows says

I really enjoyed reading this book. I didn't realize until the second story that they were all connected. I loved the premise and how everything fit together. In fact I would have enjoyed a bit more in the epilogue. It would have been great to have a quilting bee of the cousins at the end when they sandwiched the quilt together.

I also thought that the sex scenes were unnecessary. I appreciated how Emilie Richards glazed over those parts and allowed the reader to use their own imagination. The second story by Janice Kay Johnson got too steamy for my taste.

Lara says

I'm currently on a Sarah Mayberry kick, so I only read her story in this collection. Not quite what I've come to expect and love about Mayberry's writing, but still enjoyable.

Susan says

A FAMILY'S GIFT

When they were young, cousins Ella, Rachel and Jo were always together at their family's lake house. As they grew up, though, they grew apart...until now, as the three must band together to grant a beloved aunt's dying wish: to finish the quilt she began as a gift for her daughter's Christmas wedding.

Let It Snow by Emilie Richards

Searching for vintage quilting fabric, independent Jo is reunited with the man she thought she'd marry—and proves that sometimes the second time's the charm....

Jo returns from an overseas trip to find the beginnings of a wedding quilt from her aunt who had passed away. She is supposed to do part of the quilt, then pass it on to her two cousins for them to do their parts before giving it to another cousin as a wedding gift. In order to do it justice she takes vacation time and returns to her aunt's hometown to search for the right material. She arrives in the middle of a blizzard and is rescued by her old flame Brody. They had gone their separate ways ten years ago, but now have a chance to start over. Jo has been feeling unappreciated by her boss and is enjoying being back in Kenowa Lake. She finds that being around Brody again has reignited her old feelings and she really wants to have the time to spend with him. Brody remembers how much he loved Jo and is thrilled to have her back in his life. He'd like nothing more than to make it permanent but he's in financial trouble and feels it wouldn't be fair to ask her to share those problems. Jo's job involves helping businesses improve their procedures and she would love to help Brody out but he hasn't confided in her or indicated what his feelings for her are. She's considering striking out on her own and moving to Kenowa Lake but hesitates to tell him about it. Like their favorite Christmas story, The Gift of the Magi, they're willing to give up their own dreams to help the other.

You Better Watch Out by Janice Kay Johnson

Ella is desperate when the unfinished quilt goes missing in her care. But a cocky lawyer might just help her find it— and find love.

Ella has finished her part of the quilt and is ready to send it on to Rachel when her car, with the quilt boxed and ready, is stolen. She nearly knocks Brett over as she tries to chase after the car. He offers to help her follow it and as they do he hears the story behind the quilt. When they lose sight of the car he offers to help her again the next day. Brett is a defense lawyer who has not been having a good time of it lately. He's a bit burned out on working for the bad guys instead of seeking the justice he dreamed of when he was younger. Instead, he's trying to live up to what he see as his father's expectations. Helping Ella over the next few days as they search for the missing car and quilt helps him see where his heart really lies. Ella herself has been dealing with a lot of emotions lately. Working on the quilt has reminded her how much she misses her cousins. She's not sure she feels worthy of working on such an important project as she still carries a lot of guilt from the death of her mother. She blames herself for the distance between them at the time, as she was thirteen and in the midst of a really obnoxious time. Brett helps her let go of those feelings as they get to know each other. I loved the way each of them was able to help the other sort out the feelings that were bringing them down. I loved the way Brett was able to save the day.

Nine Ladies Dancing by Sarah Mayberry

Shy Rachel risks exposing her secret life when she falls for her quilting teacher's seemingly perfect son.

Rachel had moved to Australia with her mother when she was a teen. Her high school years had not been the greatest and Leo was one of the problems. He'd been a really obnoxious teenage boy and she overheard him making very derogatory comments about her. More than ten years later it still hurts. When she receives the quilt she knows she's in trouble. It's been so long since she did any quilting she's afraid of ruining it. One of the patrons at the library where she works is a quilter, so she asks for help. Gabby offers to teach Rachel what she needs to know to do her part of the quilt. Rachel doesn't expect to see Leo there and is very cold to him at first. After he discovers why and makes a proper apology they begin to get to know each other. Leo is recovering from injuries received as a firefighter in a blaze that also killed his best friend. He is having a hard time dealing with the grief and guilt. Rachel doesn't try to do anything to cure him, she just provides a sympathetic shoulder to lean on. I loved seeing the way that he really opens up to her. He begins to feel a real connection to her and picturing a future, but doesn't know if she can ever forget his past. Meanwhile, Rachel discovers that he has matured from that odious teenager and that they have a lot in common. I loved

seeing them hanging out together and getting to know each other. I really liked his coolheaded approach to her crisis at the end and how it all came together for them.

Together, Jo, Ella and Rachel create a Christmas heirloom that's both a wish and a promise—of happiness, hope and love everlasting.

I loved the last chapter as we see Olivia waiting for Eric's arrival home from the war. Their happiness at being reunited is added to by the arrival of Jo, Ella and Rachel. The reunion of the four girls brings home to them just how important their family is to them.

Crissy says

So excited to find that each of the smaller books included were actually all tied together. I hate when I grab a book to find out there are multiple books involved but they are all their own little story. This one moved from cousin to cousin as the Christmas Wedding Quilt made its way from Mother of the bride back to bride. I am hoping I can look and find the bride's story as that would have made things complete. Each book could stand on its own but went so much better together.

Lisa says

This is a collection of 3 Novellas that have the common thread of a round robin quilt that must be completed before the pre Christmas wedding for which it is to be a gift.

With the first story I was loving the coziness of the story as well as the quilting/sewing aspects. I think this is exactly what I needed at the time to get me into the Christmas spirit and escape some end of the year stress. The characters and their conflicts were starting to annoy me in the second story. As I finished the third I was just wanting to see the resolution to the whole quilt for the cousin's wedding/ reunion of the estranged cousins.

Katie says

I am pretty sure I bought this a million years ago for the Sarah Mayberry. Oh, and I did start this before Christmas.

Despite the conceit, these stories are really pretty separate from each other. The women don't live in the same place (at all) and the quilt didn't feel like a huge part of their stories, really.

"Let it Snow" by Emilie Richard

5 stars for the heroine having my job title (systems analyst!). 0 stars for her seeming to make much, much more money than me. 3 stars for the overall story. It's a reunited lovers story, only it felt very . . . they just got back together right away! And they managed to Not Talk in both the past AND the present. This does not seem like a promising relationship!

"You Better Watch Out" by Janice Kay Johnson

This one gets the extra stars for being set in Seattle and being detailed enough that I knew just where they were at places. But 3 stars overall. I just didn't like the premise much. The quilt was stolen! This is not fun to read about. And the heroine's "secret" was too drawn out, which . . . this is a novella. It shouldn't feel this way.

"Nine Ladies Dancing" by Sarah Mayberry

Probably the strongest of the three, but definitely too much story for a novella.

Paula-O says

The Christmas Wedding Quilt, authors Emilie Richards-Janice Kay Johnson & Sarah Mayberry

These short stories are put together surrounding a quilt that was begun by a Beloved aunt of a young woman about to be married, three cousins have chosen to add to the quilt and then all finish it together bringing the cousins together after a long time apart.

Each story is lovingly told in stories "Let It Snow", "You Better Watch Out" and "Nine Ladies Dancing", fitting each quilt piece and threaded stitch together as the lives of the two getting married soon, Olivia and Eric will be.

One cousin chose to begin her part of the quilt by getting scraps from Olivia and Eric's past to add to the quilt...what a special quilt. You won't want to miss reading these stories.

Laurie says

Three pleasant Christmas romance novellas about cousins reconnecting via sewing a quilt together.

Julie Barrett says

The Christmas Wedding Quilt

Love the idea of this book-not only is it about Christmas, but quilting and a wedding and the fact that there are 3 different authors.

All these factors led me to want to read/review this book.

Let It Snow by Emilie Richards

This story starts out with Jo Miller returning home from overseas and being handed a package from an aunt that had passed away.

The quilt square was for Olivia's wedding, her cousin. The letter that comes with the quilt block speaks of what she had intended others to do to complete it.

The girl cousins had taken quilt lessons from their grandmother during the summer months when they were growing up.

During her holiday vacation she travels to the town of Kenowa Lake where her father had lived..

Brody Ryan, a neighbor and friend rescues her during the storm when she arrives during a northeast blizzard.

They are able to catch up with each other.

Story also follows how Ryan spends his time in the town and also goes back to when they secretly dated in

high school. We learn how and what broke them up...

She learns from Eric's mother who's giving her his baby clothes for Eric and Olivia's quilt more about Brody and she wonders if his father's health was the reason they broke up.

Especially like the talk of the vineyard that he runs an it's progress over the years and all the talk of the quilt she's working on-a round robin type where she will work on one section then send it off to another cousin for them to do the next section.

Kind of like how this book was written-where the next in line will pick up where the first author leaves off...

Love how each of them are so devious to do things so they will end up spending more time with one another...

She comes up with a gracious gift for him but will he see it as such??? She learns more about his business at the same time he's talking to her mother about Jo's life.

They confront one another but will they go their own way to combine forces...

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You Better Watch Out by Janice Kay Johnson

Ella Torrence is an artist in Seattle with ceramic pieces. Ella is also the cousin of Jo from the previous story and she will be getting what Jo's finished for Olivia's Christmas wedding quilt. Ella had finished her section and it's soon to be sent to Rachel in Australia.

The quilt is in her car but someone had just stolen it...

Brett Hollister is a lawyer in town and things the past month hadn't gone his way... Ella runs into him and he realizes how frazzled she is..

Brett agrees to take her in his car to follow her stolen car and explains why the quilt top is so important to her. He agrees to help her the next day also because he hates to fail...

Love hearing via email from Jo and the and all about the saga of the quilt top...

Brett has issues with his job and his father and tries to relieve the pressure by playing racquetball with a neighbor.

Love her studio and the hot steamy sex scenes. With Brett's father medical emergency he is able to figure out what part of being a lawyer he wants to pursue.

Ella and Brett do run into problems as they listen to one another about their pasts.

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Nine Ladies Dancing by Sarah Mayberry

Rachel MacIntosh lives in Australia as a librarian and is the 3rd cousin who will sew a border around Olivia's Christmas wedding quilt. Jo and Ella have done their portion.

When she got the quilt she knew she was in trouble. She had not quilted in over 15 years...

Leo Bennett is recovering from his best friend's death and is living home while his mom Gabby took care of him. Gabby has agreed to help Rachel with the quilt top and will have her over many times to teach her new things.

Leo had taken a few classes with her in years prior and he's now a firefighter. Rachel just sees him as being rude and crude.

Loved hearing of the choices of how to finish the quilt top.

Leo confronts Rachel at work and she does tell him what happened years ago that made her not like him at all...

He holds all his pain inside, the day of the incident when Cameron died. Gabby is concerned about him and knows he needs to talk to somebody about that day.

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Loved this book because it introduced me to a few new authors and loved the saga of the quilt and all it stood for.

Travel was another really big hit for me and the things I learned along the way. Loved how the round robin worked out for the quilt and the authors.

I have read others similar to this but this one was a seamless transition.

I received this book from Net Galley via Harlequin in exchange for my honest review.

Katherine P says

Let it Snow by Emilie Richards - When it comes to romance novellas one of my favorite plots is second chances. Part of it is because the characters already have a history so if they fall in love very quickly it doesn't seem far-fetched. As usual Richards didn't let me down. Brody and Jo were both likable characters trying to do what was right which had pushed their personal lives to the side. I liked the Gift of the Magi mentions and their reasons for not telling each other were motivated out of kindness and protectiveness. This was a sweet second chance story with a dash of humor. 4 Stars

You Better Watch Out by Janice Kay Johnson - Ella is the 2nd cousin to get the quilt and as soon as she finishes sewing her part but before she can send it on it's way her car is stolen with the quilt in it. While trying to chase down the thief she barrels head first into disillusioned defense attorney Brett Hollister. I really liked both Ella and Brett and I think their characters work very well together but the premise was just a little absurd. The two of them basically spend a couple of days driving around town looking for her stolen car. While it did give them a chance to get to know each other it just didn't feel very believable. I also felt like her guilt regarding her mother was a little over the top. I'd definitely be willing to try another book by this author on the strength of her characters but I'll be reading the blurb carefully. 3 Stars

Nine Ladies Dancing by Sarah Mayberry - This isn't exactly a 2nd chance story though they did go to high school together. Rachel remembers Leo but not fondly and Leo only has the vaguest memory of her. When they meet again through Leo's mother who just happens to be Rachel's quilt teacher it doesn't go well. But then Leo goes to the library where Rachel is a Librarian and they talk about books! That alone would make this my favorite story in the book. Luckily, I also get a well paced story and likable characters. 4.5

Overall: I expected to love this one going in with Emilie Richards heading up the book and it being about a quilt that each cousin works on but I ended up really loving it. While each story does focus on a romance there's more focus on each of the women getting to know themselves better. The heat is very low with scenes doing the fade to black before anything happens but I found it worked with the feel of the book.

Full review: <http://iwishilivedinalibrary.blogspot...>

Heidi says

Three Stars: A pleasant read that reminds you of the importance of family.

Ella, Jo and Rachel and Olivia grew up spending their summers at their family lake house with their grandmother. The four cousins whiled away the summer days soaking up sun, swimming in the lake, spying on cute boys and learning to sew and quilt. Unfortunately, time and distance caused the cousins to lose contact with one another. Now a woman's dying wish is to have the girls finish a project she started for her daughter's upcoming wedding. Ella, Jo and Rachel are called upon to complete a gorgeous heirloom quilt started by Olivia's mother before her death. As the three women construct the quilt and reconnect, they begin to heal and discover love again. Can they finish the quilt in time for the Christmas wedding?

What I Liked:

*I liked that this book presents three different stories by three authors. The stories are woven together by the threads of the quilt that each woman takes a turn stitching. All three stories combine and create a pleasant,

cozy read appropriate for the holidays or anytime of the year.

*I enjoyed the focus on family, and I liked watching the girls reconnect and remember the ties that bound them together when they were younger. It is all too easy to grow up and move on from those childhood friends. The cousins have lost touch over the years due to some heartache, distance and life. The quilt brings them together. I love that something as simple as a sewing project helps the girls heal and move forward.

*The quilt was my favorite part of the book. I was fascinated by the intricate detail and the amount of time and work that went into it. Quilt making is an art and I thoroughly enjoyed learning more about it.

*Each of the three stories presents a romance. In *Let It Snow*, Jo returns to the lake house right before Christmas in search of vintage fabrics for her portion of the quilt. Jo hasn't been back since her then fiancé, Brody, broke their engagement thirteen years ago. Jo is struggling with the demands of her job and in need of a break. What she doesn't expect is to find Brody still at the lake and unmarried. It seems their relationship was the victim of a lack of communication. Can a snow storm and a quilt help mend two lonely hearts? I liked that this romance was all about the two reconnecting and helping each other. It moves slow and steady, and there are some frustrating stumbles, mostly due to the fact that the two don't know how to talk things through, but it ends happily. The second story, *You Better Watch Out*, is a bit strange and it was my least favorite. The quilt is mailed from Jo to Ella in Seattle. It is now summer and Ella has just completed her portion of the quilt. She has it packed and ready to mail in her aging Subaru. Disaster strikes when her car is stolen with the quilt inside right in front of her eyes. An unlikely hero, Brett an up and coming lawyer, is coming off a bitter loss in court. When the attractive woman plows into him desperate for help, he jumps into action. The two follow the thief all across Seattle in hopes of recovering the quilt. Over time, Brett refuses to give up and he is determined to recover the quilt. As the days tick by and hope is dwindling, a new relationship is born. Both Brett and Ella have some serious issues to overcome before they can fully commit. Finally, the third story, *Nine Ladies Dancing*, which was my favorite, tells the tale of Rachel who is in Australia. Rachel desperately needs some help with the quilt as her skills are rusty. Luckily, she has a friend, Gabby, who can help. While at Gabby's house, Rachel comes face to face with the boy who once made her teenage years miserable. Leo, Gabby's son, is convalescing at his mother's house while he recovers from injuries he suffered on the job. Rachel absolutely detests Leo, but is surprised to discover that he has grown up and is far removed from the inconsiderate teenager who stole her self esteem. An unlikely and beautiful relationship is born. Finally at the end, a happy reunion is in store as Olivia prepares for her wedding and the homecoming of her fiancé. I really enjoyed seeing how all three stories came together to form the complete tale.

*I appreciated that each story had a resolution and a happy ending and that all three stories blended into a satisfying read. This was a simple, uplifting book that is sure to please those looking for something cozy and pleasant for the holiday.

And *The Not So Much*:

*This is labeled as a Christmas book, but it is a bit misleading as only the first story has a Christmas feel. Jo and Brody's story occurs during the Christmas period and it has plenty of snow, snuggling and kisses that are perfect for the holiday theme. However, the two subsequent stories have nothing to do with Christmas. Ella's story occurs in the summer, and Rachel's is in the fall, but since it is in Australia it is spring. I was disappointed that there wasn't more Christmas cheer.

*I struggled with the second romance. I think because the characters are emotionally stunted and they have some major issues. Ella is especially hard to like because she continues to push everyone away, granted she has a reason, but it is difficult to like her. The romance is a bit of a hard sell as well since it moves fast and then stutters.

*I loved the quilt and I wished that there was more discussion on how the quilt was made and all the details around quilt making. The first two stories have scant snippets on the quilt, especially the second story as it is more focused on recovering the stolen quilt. The third story does a much better job of presenting quilt making. Since the quilt is what binds all three stories together, I wanted just a bit more on it.

*Finally, I was extremely disappointed in the ending. Just as everything is in place to come together, the quilt is packed up and ready to go to the lake house where the four cousins are to convene, the book abruptly ends before the reunion happens. I would have loved to see the cousins get together and experience the final stitches that went into the quilt, and perhaps get a peek at the wedding. It is a frustrating end because it feels

like it stops right at the climax. It does end on a high note, but I wanted more.

The Christmas Wedding Quilt is a pleasant, simple read that brings together three women and three stories centered around the making of an heirloom quilt. I enjoyed the romances and healing and learning about quilt making. I wished that there was more holiday cheer and an extension on the ending. This is a book would make a nice read for the holiday, but it is also good for anytime of the year.

Favorite Quotations:

"She couldn't dig up the past, at least not in giant shovelfuls. She had to inch into it, a thimbleful at a time. If she cared enough."

"Because the only way she knew how to defang the monsters under the bed was to shine a bright light on them."

I received a copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own and I was not compensated for this review.

Posted@Posted@Rainy Day Ramblings.
