



The Humbug Man

Diana Palmer

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Montana rancher Tate Hollister had to be the grouchiest, grumpiest humbug man widow Maggie Jeffries had ever met. But, as the holiday season progressed, Maggie discovered that Tate wasn't completely immune to the Christmas spirit-his loving embrace on a cold winter's night could prove to be the gift of a lifetime...

The Humbug Man Details

Date : Published January 1986 by Silhouette Books

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Author : Diana Palmer

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From Reader Review The Humbug Man for online ebook

Sheila Melo says

Sweet Gentle Novella

"Tate Hollister lived alone, which wasn't surprising to his nearest neighbor."

THE STORY: Maggie Jeffries is a widow with a nine year old son who comes to visit the ranch left to her by her deceased husband's grandfather. Her son worships their neighbor Tate Hollister. Tate is a taciturn neighbor who is grumpy and doesn't want anything to do with Maggie or her son after the death of his own family. A stormy Christmas, a boy determined to build a family may bring these two together.

OPINION: This is one of my favorite Diana Palmer stories. It is short but sweet and gentle and there are no misunderstandings to separate the hero and heroine. It is really just about two people getting to know one another. In fact, considering the backgrounds of the hero and heroine, I would have expected more angst and discord, but this story is really about finding love for Christmas. An easy, sweet read.

WORTH MENTIONING: This is a short novella written in the 1980s so it does have some anachronistic material in it.

FINAL DECISION: I loved this novella. There are no misunderstandings and despite their pasts no real conflict here. Just two people getting to know one another.

CONNECTED BOOKS: This is a standalone.

STAR RATING: I give this story 4 stars.

Chitra *CJ* says

"The Humbug Man" is the story of Maggie and Tate.

A sweet Christmas romance between two celibate widowers and a child, this one has a grumpy cowboy hero, a kind, independent single-mother heroine, an adorable child and loads of attraction, hairy chests and brushing kisses.

Ah I adore thee Diana so much!

Safe

4/5

Fiona Marsden says

This is a sweet novella about two lonely people who have lost their loved ones. They are brought together by her nine year old son who wants his two favourite people to get together. A short read but with enough character development to care about the ending.

Crista says

This is the perfect Christmas bok to read if you have a spare hour. It is short, sweet, albeit unrealistic, but ultimately succeeds in bringing the spirit of Christmas alive.

Tate's character is very unlikeable at first, but when Maggie's son is in need and Tate steps up to the plate, I couldn't help but forgive him for his bad behavior in the first few chapters.

With only being slightly less than 100 pages, this novella does not have any time to waste in getting these characters to fall in love. Palmer succeeds in doing just that, and this is truly a sweet "making of a family" type of romance.

Landslide says

Story included in White Christmas: Woman Hater\The Humbug Man

Lindsey Faye says

A very short read. I admit, I miss reading Ms. Palmer's stories. I adore her alpha males who are perpetually broody and seemingly mean but are truly big warm teddy bears deep down in need of the love of a good woman.

Rated: 3.5/5.0—Overall, a lovely read by one of my favorite authors whom I haven't read in a while.

Robin Reynolds / October Woman says

I don't know why it took me so long to finally read a Diana Palmer book. Especially considering she has a huge back list and I have around eighty of her books in my TBR. But one night I wanted a short book to read since my current read was a Kindle book and my phone needed to be charged. So I picked up this slim – ninety-five pages – paperback. And I would've read the entire book in one sitting if I hadn't been so dang tired that I had to quit around page seventy-eight and go to sleep.

I love a grouchy, rude, arrogant hero, a hero who is a loner, a hero who has avoided relationships, a hero who can inspire worship in a child who's innocent little brain doesn't see all those traits that piss off mama whenever she's around him. Tate ticked box after box for me. And despite having been married once, he's relatively inexperienced, and his awkward admissions of that were endearing.

Muscles rippled under darkly tanned skin as he rose from peeking into the oven, and when he turned toward her, she wondered if it was permissible for a modern woman to swoon.

Maggie is also, despite having been married once, inexperienced, and naive. In fact, she's practically a virgin, her husband having died shortly after their marriage. When she answers the door to Tyler one night and then remembers she's in her pajamas, she's horribly embarrassed. And we're not talking a negligee or peignoir.

Then there's Maggie's son, Blake, who never knew his father and who quickly plots to get his mother and

Tate together.

Such a sweet story, and with lots of humor and entertaining banter between Maggie and Tate, and Maggie and Blake. It's short, so Tate's thawing out and losing his grouchiness happens almost a little too quickly, but just almost. I definitely need to read more from this author.

Review first posted on my blog.

Carol Lee Corley says

Awesome read

Spell binding and so worth reading. Miracles do happen and Diana Palmer is good at getting the story out. Again, another awesome book.

Tracy Hall says

Great

One of my favorites from this author. Very little hate and lots of love. Full of good feelings and a couple of puppies.

Livia says

A feel good Christmas story that takes place in Montana. I'm not familiar with Diana Palmer's Montana cowboys but I am stockpiling books that feature this community. THE HUMBUG MAN is an excellent story to start with.

Andrea Guy says

Another quick holiday read. Each year Harlequin and Silhouette find the sweetest if not most unrealistic stories to help pass the stressful times before Christmas. I always read mine afterward. The Humbug Man was really a sweet tale of a young widow who falls fast for a rather crotchety rancher in Montana. Could it happen in real life? Probably not, but romance novels aren't about what could happen, they are about what we fantasize will happen.

Mandy Menasco says

great story

Mary Ann says

A romance set in the country and away from commercialism is a nice guilty pleasure.

Robyn says

A very sweet story about a mother afraid to fall in love again, little boy whose has never known a father and a man who lost a family (married the woman who loved his brother to give the baby a name and lost in an accident). Little boy gets lost and brings to lonely people together at Christmas time. A good happy ever after book.

Adriana Fogaça says

Espírito Natalino...

O livro é ótimo uma história simples mais cheia de nuances interessante, com um espírito natalino.

Como toda história da DP os personagens tem os seus fantasmas, mas nada assim assustador, são coisas da vida, na realidade é um enredo levíssimo, ótimo pra ler num dia de chuva, debaixo do edredom.

Tate apesar de suas magoas, não é um ogro, não é mal educado, não grosso, apenas é duro e direto.

Maggie é batalhadora, criou o filho sozinha, pois ficou viúva muito cedo.

Blake, como toda criança de 10 anos, é impulsiva, inteligente, esperto, um fofo.

Bem, como já disse é uma história agradabilíssima...

Vale apena ler!!!!!!!!!!!!
