



Dante's Gift

Aubrey Wynne

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Seventy years ago, a collie mix brings two hearts together in war torn Italy. Will their story help their grandson find his own Christmas love?

****Winner of the Golden Quill award for best novella****

Dante's Gift Details

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From Reader Review Dante's Gift for online ebook

Julie Fowler says

Dante' Gift is a story about finding your true love. Aubrey Wynne does an outstanding job of telling two love stories. The first love story is current and the second being told in the present about falling in love with a soldier during WWII. Aubrey's writing has you feeling as if you are with the characters in Italy during the war. This book has something for every reader. It has history. It has some drama. It has passion, and last but certainly not least it is about finding your one and only. Dante's Gift caught my attention from the beginning and is absolutely a must read!

Tasha and Megan Mahoney says

This story is truly beautiful and unique. The story is relatively short but it manages to pack so much information and emotion into that time.

It opens with a refused proposal by Kathleen to Dominic, the man she loves because he tells her that circumstances have made it necessary for his grandmother to live with him.

Dominic heads to Italy to persuade his nonna Antonia to live with him. From here develops a moving story of so many different kinds of love.

The writing by author Aubrey Wynne is beautifully done and so relatable in the journey through human emotions and how they impact on our life choices and the journey our lives take.

The multiple point of view was so well done by Tom. He maintained a calm to the story throughout while still being able to inject all of the thoughts, feelings and emotions into the story. He maintains the same energy level and there are no unnatural pauses.

I received this audiobook as part of my participation in a blog tour with Audiobookworm Promotions. The tour is being sponsored by Aubrey Wynne. The gifting of this audiobook did not affect my opinion of it.

Nicole says

This was a lovely story. A young man, Dominic has been planning his proposal down to the minute details for months. When the time comes, he botches the execution, and not in a cute/funny way. He precedes the moment by telling Kate that his great aunt died and he wants his grandmother to move in with him. Kate, instead of taking it in stride, decides that she needs time to figure out if she can deal with his grandmother being in the house, so she puts off answering his proposal. The grandmother comes and shares her story of meeting her true love with the hope to inspire the couple to take that next step.

At first, I didn't like Kate. I didn't like her reaction to Dominic's news. If grandma needs help, you help grandma. I thought her self-centered reasons were unwarranted, especially when she had never met the woman. She was basing her feelings on stereotypes and family members from the other side of the family. Dominic was kind in being patient to wait for her answer. While there were some good moments between the couple, I would have liked to see more interaction between the two to see why they loved each other. The best part of the story was the WWII romance. It was well woven into the story and had good segues into the

storytelling. I felt more connection with Antonia and Ken than I did Dom and Katie. Dante was a cute dog and I loved his reactions to the soldier. Antonia is a darling lady. I'm not much for war stories, but this one really squeezes your heart and will have you tearing up at the special moments. I received an advanced copy from the author for review.

Kishan Paul says

Dante's Gift is a sweet tale that spans two generations. Aubrey Wynne takes us on a trip through time to meet lovely Italian Antonia who lives in war torn Italy during World War 2 and beautifully weaves Antonia's story into that of the independent and beautiful Katie in present day America. As a result of their pasts, both women carry a world of heartache and fears. Fears that prevent them from surrendering their hearts. It is with the patience and strength of the two men who pursue them and the wisdom of a wonderful dog that they learn to trust. Dante's Gift has all the elements I enjoy in a story (humor, wisdom, and tears). Wynne has crafted a beautiful short story guaranteed to warm your heart and make you sigh.

Barbara Hill says

I absolutely loved this book. The story line had that good old fashioned love story vibe to it and the way the author gave the back drop of their history just made that much more real and believable! The deep soul stirring love between the characters just touched my heart and made me fall in love with them. The way the author incorporated another author's book being read into her book was just genius. This is a very well written book! Kudos Mrs. Wynne!

JL says

“Grab true love when you can.”

A copy was provided in exchange of an honest review.

Okay, I SO LOVED this book. It was an amazing and exciting read and I want to read more of Aubrey Wynne's book. It was a perfect Christmas read. I stayed up all night just to finish this because it was so good, amazing actually.

This is not just a typical love story—it was short yet a meaningful story that will make you believe in destiny and true love. Dante's gift was creatively written, I love how the author related two different stories in two different times at some point. I love how she connected the old and new love story which created a special bond between the characters. OMG! It was so beautiful.

Highly recommended and I gave 5 out 5 stars for this one.

Lisa (Bookworm Lisa) says

To me this book was about overcoming fear. Fear of the unknown, taking a chance, opening your heart, making life changes. The book looks at two different love stories. The first is of Katie and Dominic. Their future is unclear when he botches his proposal by telling her he is going to Italy to bring his Grandmother to live with him. The second is the grandparents' love story told in Italy during WWII.

In both stories the young women have to figure out if their love for their young men is enough to sustain them through uncertainties. Katie comes from an emotionally detached family and is not sure she is ready for the big hugging Italian family. She doesn't know if Dominic's grandmother is a lady she can get along with and is hesitant to accept his proposal.

I enjoyed reading this book. It is short and can be read quickly.

Winnie Lim says

This is my first book by Aubrey Wynne and I really enjoyed it. This is a sweet story which comprises of two pairs of lovers and I love how Aubrey brings us back to the time during the World War 2 where the young Italian Antonia falls in love with an American soldier i.e. Dom's grandfather. And I really love how Dante, the collie brought the pair of lovers together. And not forgetting the story of Dom and Katie. This is a really beautiful love story that will touch everyone's heart and brings tears to your eyes.

Yomari Suarez says

Beautiful, heart-felt story! Loved how Aubrey used a quote at the beginning of the chapters and the flashbacks to how Antonia met Ken and fell in love during WWII.

Katie is certain Dom will propose when he arranges the most romantic evening she could ever imagine. What she didn't expect was the surprise Dom had in store for her. Antonia's sister died, so he wanted to bring her with him to Chicago when he comes back from Italy. This doesn't sit well with Katie, so she puts her answer on hold until they are both inspired by Antonia and Ken's love story.

Katie W says

(4.5 Stars) Katie is ready for an engagement ring from her Italian boyfriend and is thrown for a loop when he announces that he's going to Italy for his great-aunt's funeral and to bring his Nonna (grandma) home. It's not just that we share a name, but I could kind of relate to Katie's feelings on the matter. She wasn't close to her parents growing up and Dominic has a very tight relationship with his Nonna. The fear of not being good enough, being replaced, and being placed in a situation she knows nothing about is very prominent. I feel a little squiggly when placed in those unknown situations too.

Antonia (Nonna) is nothing like what Kate expects. It's through her own love story, set in WWII, that Katie really comes to know and understand her. I'll always have a tender place in my heart for stories that take place during WWII, since my grandpa served in the war and it was shortly after when all of my grandparents met and fell in love. I loved those tender moments of learning both history and life lessons, and the parallels

between both Antonia's and Katie's stories is very charming.

Content: some mild language; mild romance and some innuendo. Clean!

I received a copy in exchange for an honest review

Sharon says

I was given this book to read in exchange for an honest review. I found this to be not only one love story but actually three. You have Kathleen who is in love with Dominic. He planned the night of his proposal for months, the day before he receives a call from his 88 year old grandmother in Italy and he knows he has to bring her back with him. He doesn't know how Kathleen will react. When the two women meet and Nonna starts to tell her love story she draws Kathleen in. The author draws you into the romance of old, the romance of new and the connection between the two women who grow to love each other in a special bond. The magic she weaves makes a Christmas Miracle you won't forget. This is one you won't want to miss.

Lisa Longstreth says

When I started reading Dante's Gift I wasn't sure if I was going to like it. It started a little slow, and I thought the Author might spend too much time on Nonna (Dominic's grandmother), and her stories of the past. Well, I was wrong. It was Nonna's stories that pulled me in. She told stories of the war, her family, and the love of her life. Her stories were heartfelt and I could picture everything she talked about. It was her stories that helped Katie learn about true love. Dante's Gift ended up being an amazing story, with characters that were easy to relate to, and it lets you see that true love can be an amazing thing to find.

Evelyn Nathalia says

DANTE'S GIFT is probably one of the stories that touches your heart in the closest possible way. I started falling in love with this book somewhere along this story, probably when Nico went to Benevento, Italy. The beautiful scene felt like straight out of the movie and I can't help but feel that I'm in a dream.

This is a really beautiful story. It gives you warm, fuzzy feelings that make you believe that love can strive through the hardest time.

At first, when I started this book, I feel a tad bit upset that Katie rejected Nico's proposal. I was thinking like why did she do that? But as I gain insight of Katie's childhood I began to understand the way she reacted into some situation.

Katie was a kind of woman who had to think through a situation, but she was a good person. And Dominic was truly perfect for her. I have yet to find a guy like him in the future. He was everything you might want (as a woman). He was understanding and compassionate. His flaw made him even more perfect. They were a perfect blend of each other.

And not to mention Dominic's grandmother, Antonio. She was one of the most exceptional characters I've ever read. She had her own hardship and her special love story. Her love story was one of the most wholehearted romances that I ever read and it's truly heartwarming.

Dante was a collie that was crucial in bringing Antonio and her husband together. I love how Ms. Aubrey put him there.

She put a new perspective of wartime. It was not completely darkness. It could be light. I don't like war, but it gave the two hearts a chance to meet each other.

There are no words that can accurately describe this book. It is timeless and endless.

If you love inspirational romance or any romance book, this is a perfect gift for you. You can give this to your beloved ones and friends.

I really recommend this.

Barbara says

This is my first read by author Aubrey Wynne but won't be my last. This was a wonderful story that was well written with a good story line that really kept your interest. The only problem is I need a sequel, I want to know the next chapter in their lives.

It's about a Kathleen James (Katie) who is from a well-to-do family brought up more by servants than her family. She doesn't know what it's like to be with a loving family and sharing special family time. She has a great boyfriend, Ken Lawrence, who has been brought up completely different. He was brought up in a very loving family who after losing his parents at a young age was brought up by his grandmother, Nonna. When Ken brings his Nonna back to American, she tells Katie of the love story between her and her husband and their collie Dante. This helps Katie realize what she really wants is life and helps Ken with his own love story.

A wonder story for the upcoming Holiday season.

Sherry Merry says

"Dante's Gift" is a treat because it has a new take on a holiday romance. It uses war-torn Italy as the scene for the tender love affair of an Italian girl and a young Yank pilot--sparked by their affection for her Collie dog, Dante. The plot is refreshingly creative, and author Aubrey Wynne has done a masterful job of research to re-create the World War II devastation of an Italian town and its courageous residents.

As the story unfolds, the author develops an array of believable characters with whom readers can really empathize. She also manages to totally engage readers with her vivid descriptions of experiences and places. You almost feel like you're right there at the scene.

The story moves between the past and present to show how the couple's enduring love is still affecting both families, two generations later. When their grandson, Dominic, brings his widowed grandmother, Antonia, back from Italy to live with him in Chicago, his girlfriend, Katie, refuses to marry him. But after meeting the warm, Italian woman, Katie becomes immersed in Antonia's intriguing war-time romance, and then experiences some unexpected Christmas magic. This makes for an ending so heartwarming it will leave a lump in any reader's throat.

The story is one readers will not want to put down. It is delightful, as well as thought-provoking about the power and perseverance of love.
