



Wish Me Love

Michele Ashman Bell

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Charlotte Wells does not date. After surviving a broken engagement, she's taken a leave of absence from the social scene. So when her best friend and coworker, Jack, challenges her to get back in the game, she's not so sure she's ready to play. But ultimately, curiosity gets the best of her, and Charlotte accepts the daunting challenge: she will attempt to have fifty first dates in her effort to find "the one." Unfortunately, she quickly realizes that the dating pool mostly holds clown fish as she goes on one lousy outing after another. Without a good man in sight as summer ends, Charlotte cuts her losses and sets her sights on a fun-filled trip to her cousin's destination wedding in Brazil.

Brazil is a land of beautiful sights and delicious offerings—including Max, the charming brother of her cousin's new husband. Max has all the makings of a Prince Charming in soccer cleats, and Charlotte's happily ever after seems to be within reach. But love is a funny thing, and soon Charlotte finds herself wondering: could it be that her true love has been right in front of her all along?

Wish Me Love Details

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From Reader Review Wish Me Love for online ebook

Miriam says

I wanted to like this more than I do. I liked the way the writer handled LDS topics, and the main characters were likeable and sympathetic. But even though I knew how the book was going to end from pretty much the very first page, I still felt that the ending was truncated and a little odd. It felt like watching one of those BBC miniseries (I'm looking at you, P&P) where every excruciating detail is shown for 5 3/4 episodes and then all the sudden the director realizes that they only have 10 minutes to go and skims over the last 3 chapters. I felt cheated, maybe because the main characters were so sympathetic.

Janette says

Fun quick read. I liked the characters but I felt it was rushed and their feelings for each other sort of came out of the blue. I would have liked more hints of their feelings especially from Jack. I also feel it could have used an epilogue. I did enjoy reading it.

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

3.5 rounding up

First of all, I really love this cover. It's so bright and happy. And, like the character in this book, my grandma had lilacs in her yard and I loved them. I planted a lilac bush in my yard and it always reminds me of her.

I loved the characters in this book. I think Charlotte and Jack are fantastic and I would love to have them as my friends! They have so much personality and it's well defined so that I feel like I know them.

The book takes a location change to Brasil and it was fun! It made me want to visit there myself. I loved the bracelet and wishes part of the book too. It made Charlotte's life feel a bit magical.

The story lost some momentum for me in the middle when the more religious elements came into play. I'm a religious girl, but I felt like this just slowed the story down and went on too long. That's just me though. The HEA ending happened VERY fast. Over in an instant. I guess I just wanted more between the couple AS a couple- I waited so long for it. No epilogue. It's okay though. I really did enjoy this book for the most part.

Content: This is an LDS fiction book. There are religious elements in it- more than just casual Christian mentions. Clean.

- I received a copy of this book from the publisher. All opinions expressed are my own.

Rachel DeV Vaughn says

I absolutely loved this book! Steady pace, lots of laughs, drama, and clean romance!

Charlotte and her friend Jack are very successful in their marketing jobs but Charlotte isn't so lucky in the dating department. Jack challenges her to go on 50 dates in hopes she will find "The One". Charlotte doesn't like dating after her best friend stole her fiancé years before. She's perfectly happy going to family gatherings, working, and hanging out with Jack and his fiancé Sylvia.

It was so funny reading all of Charlotte's dating disasters! Oh my!

I also liked Charlotte's work friend Priscilla and how she helped her thru her dating disasters. At one of Priscilla's parties she gets a Brazilian "wish" bracelet so she decides to make 3 wishes-about her love life, job and purchasing her own home.

As the story progresses Charlotte decides to have more faith and give dating a chance! I highly recommend this fun romance book!

I received a copy of this book complimentary for blog and social media review. All opinions are my own.

Kelly says

I've been to Peru for a wedding (ok my daughter's) and had the same experience as Charlotte had with the people and culture and the people taking you to all the spots to experience the wedding in Brazil! So I got all into that and could see it there in my head really easily with the author's descriptions.

I loved Charlotte's cute home and her family. They are the real definition of a family.

The cover makes more sense now that I read the book. It's definitely Charlotte!!

My grandmother tell me this all the time. She say Priscilla..." She thought for a moment.
"Okay, I think I have it in English. She say, 'Priscilla,
faith is seeing light with your heart when all you see is darkness with your eyes.'

Where I loved all that happened up to the end; something about the ending that bothered me. I didn't feel the spark that changed their relationship in the moment that they realized it. The scene where they both realize what they already have just missed the mark for me. Don't get me wrong. I could easily see that they were meant for each other as they didn't. I just didn't feel it.

If you like LDS stories, travel, beautiful beaches and weddings on the beach, reading about first dates (those were really funny), realizing your bestfriend is the love of your life than this might be for you.

Bonnie says

This book was such a fun read. There were times I questioned why Charlotte and Jack didn't figure things out sooner, but I understood the reasons why. Then when Charlotte met Max . . . I was thrilled even though a part of me kept saying, "But he's not Jack." It is a darling story that anyone who loves a good, clean romance will love. I highly recommend it.

Kathryn says

A little predictable, but was an enjoyable journey to go on with the delightful characters of Jack and Charlotte.

This is what you hope all your children will find is their best friend in their partners

Lisa (Bookworm Lisa) says

Be careful what you wish for! Wishes may come true and turn into the unexpected.

Charlotte and Jack are best friends and adorable. They are platonic, but you know that they shouldn't be. They are a perfect fit. But their relationship has never headed in that direction.

Charlotte's love life has been a disaster and she is reluctant to jump back into the dating scene. She would rather wallow in misery than put herself out there to have her heart broken. She makes three wishes on a bracelet and her life changes. She takes a chance, even traveling to Brazil for a relative's wedding.

The moral of the story is that sometimes the best things are right in front of you. It takes a little searching, and you realize what you have when you look somewhere else.

The characters are cute and people that you wish that you had in your life. I felt as if I could get to know them in real life. I enjoyed reading of Charlotte's dating adventures. The plot deals with two religious people, so religion comes into play in the book. This is a fun, cute novel that helps you escape your own cares and worries for a short time.

Source: I received a complimentary copy to review from the publisher. All thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.

Tenille says

Fun story of moving on and finding true love. I enjoyed it except I felt the ending was rushed.

Peggy says

Predictable but cute. And unrealistic that they didn't recognize they were in love with each other. But the description of the "first dates" was hilarious.

Carrie Schmidt (Reading is My SuperPower) says

Wish Me Love by Michele Ashman Bell is a good choice for those days when you want a sweet, light read full of fluff and fun!

Charlotte and Jack are two best friends – Charlotte is still recovering from a badly-broken engagement while Jack and his fiancée are trying to nail down their own wedding plans. In an effort to detour Charlotte from the lonely path she's currently on, Jack issues her a challenge: Go on fifty first dates. And let me tell you – those dates? Hilarious. Poor Charlotte. It's really a wonder she keeps speaking to Jack.

I did wish for a little more emotional depth to the characters. Their dialogue often comes across as very one-dimensional, and the ending feels a bit anti-climactic after all is said and done. It's very sweet, don't get me wrong. It made me happy and it reminded me of my relationship with my husband. But I needed something a little more layered, even if this is a light read.

Bottom Line: Wish Me Love by Michele Ashman Bell is cute and sweet. I loved Charlotte's relationship with her friends and her family, as well as her excitement over her new home. Her dates made for some great laughs, and her friendship with Jack is tender and fun. The LDS terms and circumstances scattered throughout did slow my reading a bit, since they are unfamiliar to me and not really explained. And as I've mentioned, I wished it had been more dimensional overall. Still, this is a nice weekend read – light, fun, and romantic!

(I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book)

first seen at Reading Is My SuperPower

Sheila says

This was a cute book. I liked the main character Charlotte and her friend and co-worker Jack. Right from the beginning I loved their friendship and couldn't wait to read the chapters where they were together. As Charlotte was dating other guys I felt bad for her as every guy just turned out to be "Mr. Wrong". Even when she goes to her cousin's wedding in Brazil and starts falling for the grooms brother, something was off.

It was fun to read about Charlotte's vacation to Brazil but it's funny how this wasn't my favorite part of the book. I actually loved the first part as Charlotte found her first home to buy and Jack and her parents were helping her to fix it up.

This book is written with many Latter-Day Saint (LDS) ideas and the main characters talk a lot of things that some not of this religion may not be familiar with. I didn't feel this detracted from the story at all but just know there is talk of religion and God.

I was happy about the ending but I just wish that there had been an epilogue detailing how things had turned out for everyone in the book. I wanted to know how Charlotte and Jack's new business had done, how her cousin's new marriages were doing and how long it took for her and a certain man to get married.

This book is a fun one to read with great romance, terrific descriptions of vacationing in Brazil, and the ups and downs of dating. There are so many things that will bring a smile to your face by reading 'Wish Me Love'.

Sydney says

A cute, sweet, and funny romance! Review coming soon...

Lydia says

Delightful story of learning who your soul mate is. I loved the collection of horrible dates and experiencing Brazil.

Katie W says

Have you ever thought you knew exactly how something was going to go, only to be surprised when it doesn't work out that way at all? I thought I knew where the ending was heading, but then I got caught up in all of the surprise twists, especially when they were almost too crazy to be true.

The fun really starts when Charlotte and her best friend and co-worker, Jack, attend a Brazilian party and get these wish bracelets. Three wishes? No problem and Charlotte is shocked when most of them almost immediately start to come true. Jack challenges her to go on 50 first dates, which results in hilarity and unbelievable, laugh-out-loud entertainment.

The story is broken up into three distinct parts. First, we are treated to Jack's and Charlotte's working relationship, as well as the 50 dates. Next, we are taken to Brazil, where Charlotte attends her cousin's wedding and a whole new world is opened up to her and to the reader. I loved the descriptions of this beautiful place. And last of all, we are given when happens when the two former parts merge.

The real emotion comes to play with the easy banter and comradery that Jack and Charlotte have with each other. I loved their friendship and that they have each other's backs. Through all the ups and downs that this story brings, the romantic element shines through and is my favorite part. I wanted a little more of a spark, but I was still happy with how it all turned out. Although (view spoiler)

Content: mild romance; moderate religious elements, specific to the LDS religion.

I received a copy through the publisher, which did not influence my thoughts in any way.
