



Love's Vow

Melissa Storm

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Love is patient...

It's been nearly a year since Ben Davis first laid eyes on Summer Smith, the woman who would be his saving grace. Now on the eve of their wedding, the entire town of Sweet Grove is in chaos. The wedding garden never bloomed, the flower girl has the flu, and the ring bearer won't stop biting everyone!

Love is kind...

Ben's father is back in town for the first time in years and has brought his new wife and family with him, testing the limits of Susan's recovery. Meanwhile, both the maid of honor and the pastor are stuck out of town and may not even make it to the ceremony in time. And if diner matriarch Mabel refuses to take her retirement seriously, she just may end up at the hospital instead of the wedding reception.

Love never fails.

It's First Street Church's first wedding of the season, and nothing is going as planned. Can this small Texas town pull together to give Ben and Summer a wedding they'll never forget? Don't miss another chance to visit the close-knit community of Sweet Grove—get your copy of *Love's Vow* today!

Love's Vow Details

Date : Published August 5th 2017 by Partridge & Pear Press

ISBN :

Author : Melissa Storm

Format : Kindle Edition 95 pages

Genre : Romance, Fiction

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From Reader Review Love's Vow for online ebook

Jenny T. says

This is the 4th novella in the First Street Church series and revisits Ben Davis & Summer Smith from "Love's Prayer" (the 1st book the series) as they prepare for their wedding. Despite all of their careful preparations, things do not progress as planned for Ben & Summer's big day- Ben's estranged father shows up at the rehearsal dinner, the custom gown is not ready, the place needs at the last minute, etc. Can the small town of Sweet Grove, TX avoid a disaster for these lovebirds? A cute fast read! (I received a copy of the book in exchange for an honest and unbiased opinion.)

Sherry Greene says

This is the fourth book in the First Street Church Romances series and like all the others was an enjoyable read.

Anything and everything that could go wrong for Summer and Ben's wedding happens. However, the goodness of the people of Sweet Grove comes out as they unite together to make it a beautiful, memorable wedding day for Summer and Ben.

A story of love, forgiveness and goodness, I highly recommend this book for those that enjoy sweet, clean romances. I received a free copy of this book, but was under no obligation to review the book. I have expressed my unbiased opinion.

Pam says

I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review. This was another awesome book by Melissa Storm. Once I start reading I never want to put the book down until I have read the whole thing. Ben and Summer are truly in love and it is time to plan their wedding. Ben doesn't feel he is good enough for Summer or that he deserves her love.

Ben has been estranged from his father and wants nothing to do with him. He retreats to the library to brush up on some love books and to try to write his vows. Sally works at the library and makes an advance on Ben which he is not at all happy about. He has no feelings for Sally.

The wedding day gets closer and everything goes wrong, i.e., Elise and the wedding dress are stuck in Austin, Molly Sue is sick and can't be the flower girl, Pastor Bernie is stuck in Chicago, and the termites are ruining the church floor. Everyone in Sweet Grove pitches in to help so the wedding can take place. Ben finally calls his father for help. They had both lost themselves to the past and want to make amends.

Ben and Summer got married by the old wishing well where they met. She wore her sundress from their first

meeting. Aunt Iris took care of the flowers. Jennifer stood in for the Pastor. All of Sweet Grove helped make their day special.

I highly recommend this book.

Elissa says

Your wedding day. The culmination of hopes and fears and plans and happily ever after love. You've booked the venue, selected the dress, organized the wedding party, arranged for a pastor. Each balloon is in place. And then someone lets loose Spanky & Gang with pins.

Despite the very serious issues facing a number of the characters, there is a tremendous amount of love and humor to pull everything and everyone together. Your first introduction to Sweet Grove? No worries, you will meet each character and get the names straight by the end of the party. Already an aficionado? You will enjoy this romp to the altar.

Kate says

Here we are again with the First Street Church people. What a great story of love, forgiveness and happiness. It's time for Ben and Summer's wedding day and leading up to it, it seems that whatever can go wrong, will go wrong. But, it what happens in the end that is important.

This is a great story to read on the beach, by a pool and anywhere else. I loved the way everything works out for the best. I also like the letter in the back of the book from the author, Melissa Storm. She shares her personal life and makes you feel that she is one of your best friends just telling it like it is. Beautiful story both in the book and in the letter!

Kiki says

I can't remember if it was vintage, StM or boogie that said this once, but sometime a one star must be given.

For this book to be given anything over a one star, you need to be seriously drunk on Christian beliefs that is based heavily on forgiveness despite the sin.

Now I AM a religious person.

However I am not a Christian, and I absolutely refuse to take the BS the author is giving give us about forgiveness.

At the end of the day, where does that leave us with comeuppance?

This book is an assault to my good sense, my common sense, my sense of justice and humanity.

This book is actually downright insulting.

This book, and the author, yes, I AM going to go there, has the audacity to tell me that it IS ok to do things wrong, and to commit sin, and then come back and say "I am sorry I was not there at you worst time, however, now that you have everything under control, I am here for you, I will not be going away, I will be here now that you don't NEED me, but you owe me your time and forgiveness because I made the effort to come to you, so forgive me, and let me be a part of your successful life"

Apparently, because you are a Christian, you SHOULD feel compassionate towards those words, and you shouldn't only forgive them, you should also forget the hurt like it has never happened, and you should actually let them be a part of your life that you made not because of them but despite of them.

Really?

This is all glorious Christianity?

So if I commit a crime, I run away, I meet a wonderful guy, get married, have kids, never paid for my crimes, but throughout my life I felt bad for my crime, now I came back, people who are effected by my crime had to pay for the aftershock though, now they have a good life, they have gotten over the hardship. There is nothing for me to do.

Nothing financial. Nothing emotional. So I tell them I am sorry, I had a good life all the years they struggled, but I felt bad, and my husband was my rock and I prayed to God for their wellbeing, and now I want to be part of their life.

By this book's and author's logic: I should be forgiven, I shouldn't be punished, I shouldn't have to face the consequences, and the people effected by my selfishness should fucking get over it and embrace me with both arms?

What if my crime was murder?

How is abandonment of your only child ANY better than that?

This guy, father of hero, murdered ANY hope or dream the hero had of making his own life.

He was left with memory of a dead brother, a depressed suicidal state, an alcoholic mother and a mortgage. THE FATHER'S MORTGAGE.

Hero asks a very logical question when the father tells him that "i'm here now" to his now successful son, "where were you when we were struggling to pay mortgage?"

A question that NO ONE bothered answering, and NO reviewer bothered revisiting. Does the author take us readers as imbeciles?

Is that a minor setback in life NOT a major issue of a man as a failure when he leaves his wife and kids to pay off the mortgage and fails to pay a single cent?

He tells him "it wasn't really like that..." and at this point I was really hoping may be he paid something, and may be pride of the MCs made them refuse the payment.

BUT NO. The guy did NOT pay ANYTHING.

He upped and left because he couldn't take it anymore after his son died and he found happiness with his new wife and never bothered finding out how his alive son was doing UNTIL he actually turned out ok.

He NEVER showed up when he struggled.

He didn't show up when he was suicidal.

No. That's when heroine decided to give him a chance to turn his life around with her life.

This guy spent a good portion of his life giving up his dreams looking after his alcoholic mum and what does she do?

Let's him down by insisting he forgive his father and almost emotionally blackmailing him.

Yes, I understand her POV of forgiving him for ditching HER.

She was a being a bitch, she no longer loved him, the marriage fell apart.

BUT can she not see that her ex husband was just looking for a reason to run and he abandoned her SON?

He was DEADBEAT!

How can she forgive him for hurting her SON, how can she forgive him as a MOTHER?

She didn't fail as a mother when she was an alcoholic, she failed when she was sober.

I think the author needs a good dose of reality to understanding what failure actually means.

Yes, hero is getting married, starting a new life, he needs to MOVE ON with his life.

But that doesn't mean the father gets forgiven.

Moving on doesn't always mean forgiving.

Even if he does have to forgive him in his mind, in NO WAY is he obliged to let the father know of that

The father does NOT deserve a pardon.

He does not deserve acceptance, along with his new wife.

He does not get to play happy family.

He does NOT get to pretend his new kid his hero's sister!

His words:

"You have done so well" "Now I'm here for you" "I'm so proud of you"

AFTER he had passed the hardship. AFTER he got help for his alcoholic mother, AFTER he made good with his life with the help of a loving partner. AFTER he paid off the mortgage.

VERY CONVENIENTLY AFTER he's ever likely to need any monetary assistance.

So, A father abandons his son WITHOUT any contact AND any monetary support, can comeback with a happy family, "oh BTW boy, this is your baby sister I named after your dead brother, and I want to be part of your life now that you don't need any money off me", and the Christian thing to do is to forgive him?

What about consequences?

What about the butterfly effect?

What if the hero actually DID commit suicide? what use would be this deadbeat's so called love?

What if the hero did go bankrupt and couldn't pay the mortgage?

What if the mother OD'd?

Did I mention the father showed up with his new younger family at the hero's WEDDING? UNIVITED?

Now after all this, was hero any better?

Until the second last page? I had hope.

He understood.

He doesn't have to forgive him.

He doesn't have to give him any time.

He just can't let his anger ruin his chance of happiness with his wife!

Then there are issues with wedding and he needs help!

And just like his selfish father, BECAUSE he needs his father and the stepmother that he DOESN'T know fix his falling apart wedding he calls his father and suddenly he is crying and hugging and reconciling?

WITHOUT a single explanation and confrontation?

Really?

Do people this days think therapy on abandonment issue is a joke or an in thing like Kale chips?

I swear to god, his father does NOT explain ANYTHING apart from HOW great his new wife is and HOW much he loves his new daughter!

And the hero asks him to stand beside him at the wedding.

So all the valid questions about mortgage, and suicide, and pain and abandonment is no longer valid?

Let me tell you something Ms author.

You are a spiritual writer. You have my respect, however, we will have some issues if you expect me to replac my logic and thinking hat for the sake of spirituality.

If you are asking me to forgive a cheater for the sake of a forgiving philosophy, i'll have a little issue, because that's what the father was, he cheated on his son out of his fatherly responsibilities and came back and expected forgiveness without consequences and that's exactly what you gave him.

Lastly, why did I read this book because I am clearly not the intended audience?

Because it said ROMANCE.

And someone raved about how a "clean" book could be so romantic without having sex or dirty language in it.

Because clearly reading about two consenting adult having sex or an adult swearing a time or twenty is so much worse than reading about a Deadbeat being forgiven for abandoning his son with HIS mortgage and his alcoholic wife.

Mary Lou Hoffman says

LOVE'S VOW is the fourth in the First Street Church series. Each stands on their own, but with heavy involvement with the characters from the other stories.

Unfortunately for me, I had not read the previous books in this series. Though I enjoyed the story of Ben's and Summer's wedding preparations and day, I didn't know these people well enough. I would say it is better to have read the other books first.

What I can say is that these two obviously love each other and are surrounded by people who also love them.

The blurb says: "Love is patient. Love is kind. Love never fails." I would add that Love can conquer all obstacles.

I would love to read the stories leading up to this one and continue this series. This one made me happy and still has me smiling.

Note: while I was given this book as a gifted ARC, my opinions are my own and are given freely.

Title: LOVE'S VOW

Series: First Street Church #4

Category /Genre: Contemporary Romance, short story

Recommended for: all ages

Grammar/editing: A – nearly perfect

Received from: Melissa Storm (as an ARC gifted copy)

Susan Shearer says

Going back to Sweet Grove and the First Street Church is like going home to family so I was excited about Melissa Storm's newest book 'Love's Vow.' And she didn't disappoint!!!

We're getting ready for Summer Smith's wedding to Ben Davis! Summer actually saved Ben from committing suicide a year ago like his brother Stephen, a romance and return to God.

All of Sweet Grove is excited about the happenings before the wedding, but like all weddings....mishaps happen. From the bride being 'kidnapped' by the maid of honor and the bridesmaids, the delayed wedding dress, to Ben's absentee father and someone's unexpected confession of love, this wedding is no different. Love for each other (and the whole town) and especially God everything works out. There were twists I never saw coming and some made me laugh or cry.

I guarantee you will not be disappointed in this book! So pick up a copy and enjoy a sweet cup of love!

Debra says

Ben and Summer are getting married! What should be happiest of times are quickly turning into one disaster after another. Their loyal friends and family they will do everything to make Ben and Summer's wedding day sparkle with happiness. I loved this book. Ms. Storm's, First Street Church series is destined to be a hit. This is a love story for everyone!

Barb Deskin (azbadbabs) says

Love's Vow by Melissa Storm is the next book in her First Street Church series. It is the story of Ben and Summer's upcoming wedding. This story had me on the edge of my seat and I couldn't put it down. I don't want to say too much because it will give the story away, but, if you have read Melissa Storm's other books in this series you know she doesn't disappoint her readers. We fell in love with Summer and Ben when they first met due to a flower arrangement mixup ... this story reveals who those flowers were meant for. I can't wait to read the next book in this series.

If you don't know who Melissa Storm is ... you're missing out on a great author and really need to read any of her books. In my opinion, she is the next Danielle Steel. All of her stories are heartfelt and make you feel like you fit in somewhere in her storylines.

Kudos Melissa on another GREAT story ... hurry up and finish the next story in this series because I can't wait to read it.

Mary Parks says

How can you not fall in love with Ben and Summer? We all can relate to Ben's fears of not being good enough, of repeating mistakes, of just falling in love with the PERFECT someone who seems to be just way too good for us...and Summer, who has such a big heart, who loves Ben so completely, and sees the perfect man she loves...this couple faces real life challenges, and some zany ones...to make it to "I Do"..and along the way they learn an open heart, a forgiving heart, is the truly loving heart...and that by giving yourself permission to see clearly, to be open, honest and true...life is better and love abounds.

Can we all take a trip to Sweet Grove? I really want to spend a vacation with everyone in this little town!!!

Dotty says

Melissa Storm does it every time. What a great book! Very well written clean romance. I wish I could tell you my favorite part of the book but if I did I would give away the story. This is not a stand alone book so please read the other ones first. this is Ben and Summer's story.

What do you do when your wedding is just a few days away and if something can go wrong it does. Summer's wedding dress is not ready for her, Molly Sue is sick so she can't be the flower girl, Pastor Bernie is stuck in Chicago and termites are in the church ruining the floor. All the plans have to be changed at the last minute.. Ben's father shows up for the wedding with his new wife and family and that makes things very interesting too But does the wedding still go off as planned read the book to find out.

I receive complimentary books for review from publishers, publicists, and/or authors. I am not required to write positive reviews. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

Teresa says

Ben did not have a good example of what a relationship should be like growing up. After his brother's suicide, his mother took to drinking and his dad left leaving Ben to handle everything at home. Summer did not have a good example either with no dad or mom around but a loving Aunt to shower her with love. When they meet, they show each other the other side of life. A year after meeting, it is finally time for them to wed but the wedding has its own problems. Both look to God for signs for understanding and strength to get them to the alter – if they can find one to hold the wedding. With God's help, the people of the town, their friends, and their family, it can happen. Loved Ben and Summer's story. Another great one Mrs. Storm!

R says

This is the wedding I've been looking forward to ever since I read the first book in the First Street Church Romance series (Love's Prayer).

The wedding is only four days away. Everything is set. What could possibly go wrong?
I know. I should never ask that question.

There are termites in the church floor. The preacher is stuck in Chicago and the flower girl is sick. Desperate Sally has to make one more pass at Ben, which upsets him mightily... And on top of that his estranged dad is back in town with his new family in tow... Is it possible to find common ground?

So, I'm all dressed up and ready to go...where?

And amidst all of this chaos, the good, quirky and wonder folk of Sweet Water come together to make this wedding happen.

And it's up to you to discover the rest of the story.

Melissa Storm creates characters that multi-dimensional and real. I look forward to every one of her books. Never disappointed. 5 stars.

I received an ARC of this book, and this is my honest and voluntary review.

Marie Bourgerie says

Ben and Summer have had a rocky path to follow with their romance and that continues with their wedding plans. First her aunt has a bug infestation, so they can't have the perfect backyard wedding. Then Ben's estranged father shows up and upsets him and his recovering alcoholic mother. The church has termites, so they can't get married there. Summer's perfect wedding dress is still being altered and may not be completed on time. And on and on the issues come up that make Ben and Summer question if they are really meant to be. But all the adjustments in their wedding plans may make it even better than they could have imagined. Lots of laughs in this sweet romance.
