



I'll Be Home For Christmas

Fern Michaels

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The perfect holiday surprise is a yuletide treat from the beloved pen of #1 "New York Times" bestselling author Fern Michaels. . .

Comfort And Joy

Ever since Angie Bradford took over her mother's gift wrap business in the Eagle Department Store, she and handsome store chief Josh Eagle have been at odds. When Josh threatens to give up on the business it's time for a miracle under the mistletoe. . .

The Christmas Stocking

Amy Baran is determined to raise money for a new seniors' center by harvesting Christmas trees from the small-town Virginia farm she remembers from her childhood. Trouble is, Gus Moss has his own ideas about saving the farm his father has neglected. Neither wants to give up, but when attraction turns to romance, they just might have to give in. . .

A Bright Red Ribbon

Being dumped by your boyfriend on Christmas Eve has got to be the worst. Still, Morgan Ames promised she'd wait two Christmases for his return--tonight--and she always keeps her promises. But a sudden snowstorm has other ideas, including a romantic turn Morgan never imagined. . .

Merry, Merry

If cosmetic king Peter King thinks he's going to buy struggling veterinarian Andi Evans's family property out from under her, he's got another thing coming. This Christmas, she's ready for war. . .or would that be love?

Four captivating tales to warm your heart and soul and add a dash of wonder to your holiday cheer. . .

I'll Be Home For Christmas Details

Date : Published October 1st 2010 by Zebra (first published September 30th 2006)

ISBN : 9781420121421

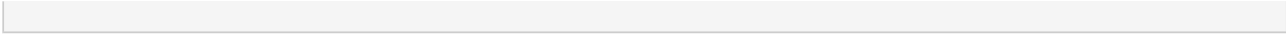
Author : Fern Michaels

Format : Paperback 320 pages

Genre : Holiday, Christmas

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Red says

This book is made up of 4 stories, something I didn't know when I started or I wouldn't have picked it up. You can't develop very much plot or character in 1/4 of a paperback romance. So I found the 1st story to be so fast paced as to leave me breathless and wondering if the author was on a speed-writing drug when she composed it. I'd give that story 1 star. But when I realized what I was in for I was able to enjoy the remaining stories a little more. I'll have to be even more careful choosing my holiday romances in the future. My favorite of the 4 stories involved the Christmas Tree farm.

Becky Liscusky-nonnemacher says

Fun Christmas stories to get you in the spirit!

Kayla says

I love a cheesy Christmas story and I'm not usually one to care too much about the quality of the writing but this was terrible!! I wonder how it gets published!

Zuleima Salazar says

Merry, Merry was pretty catchy at first but it seemed like everything was rushed and then it just went downhill. It was pretty obvious too that Gertie and Sadie were the same person. I also thought there were a couple of scenes that just were pointless: 1 being with Helen, Peter's ex. I wish that she was only mentioned and never actually a part of the story, but seeing as she was. I wish that Andi would have seen Helen roaming around her house uninvited, or even that Peter figured out it was Helen who planted the folder of Andi's investigation. After that incident Helen was never mentioned, she was just brushed away and no one ever found out it was her. 2. The monoxide detectors for her house, Peter kept mentioning them to Andi and Andi mentioned them a bit too but they never end up doing that and it's just a wait of space. 3. When the construction workers were there to bulldoze Andi's house and she was super sick and trying to get ahold of Peter or Sadie, I was disappointed that she had to drive all the way to his house to finally reach them. And then the worst was seeing him enjoying himself and not caring that she arrived late and then they didn't even ask right away and when he hissed in her ear after her extraordinary entrance with the animals that just made me mad at Peter and I honestly didn't believe he really liked her. The story really needed more and there was just many things missing. It wasn't really an enjoyable Christmas story.

A Bright Red Ribbon, I enjoyed this story. Mainly I want to say because of Murphy the golden retriever. He's such a great dog and animals always pull at my heart strings especially really smart ones. I'm honestly glad too that Morgan decides to end things with Keith on her own terms, it made me realize that we all get advice from people we don't want to hear like her family telling her to leave him, but sometimes it's up to us on our own terms when to do things. I also think Marcus the guy who she's destined to stay with was such a charming guy, not only because he had been through an accident and lost so much already but because he deserved to find love after that whole accident. I'm also glad that Fern decided to make both parties mutual

when it came about their feelings for one another and there wasn't a doubt in my mind that they both were in love.

The Christmas Stocking, I am actually enjoying this story the most off the bat. I like how both main characters lost their favorite parent and both have a connection. The part so far that I don't like is finding out that Amy's dad was cheating on her mom. Maybe it's due to all the books I've read so far where at least one person is cheating, couldn't he just have not liked her mom or something? That really takes the Christmas spirit away in my opinion. At first I didn't like Amy's mother Tillie but after finding out she acted how she did because of her dad, it makes sense and I'm glad things work out between her and Sam. They both deserve someone after "losing" their spouses. Also I'm glad that Amy and Gus end up together and get married, I'm very happy on how this story turned out and the ending was very cute with the personal touch of the purple hat and scarf! It was overall my favorite story from this book.

Comfort and Joy was another blah story. I as expecting so much more and that just did not happen. It seemed like Fern was using the same story line as the Christmas Stocking just in a different setting and it did not work for me. I also felt like there were parts that were missing and should have been in the story or not in it at all. I also didn't enjoy how Angie and Josh treated their parents and accused them of being together when they were growing up. If that was my children I would have had a thing or two to say to that about how disrespectful they were to even accuse us of that. I don't think this was even comfort and joy to be honest and the name should have been changed to something else.

Also in all honesty, The Christmas Stocking is the only one really worth it.

Julie Failla Earhart says

as seen on walrus publishing

I don't need to remind anyone how hot it has been during the summer of 2012. In order to combat the heat, especially after a night at the MUNY, I raided my bookcase to find a book set in cool location. Christmas always brings thoughts, and hope, of snow, ice, and dropping temperatures.

I settled on an anthology, I'll Be Home for Christmas, by New York Times bestselling author, Fern Michaels. Between the cover I found four delightfully romantic novellas.

The first, "Merry, Merry," had struggling veterinarian Andi Evans trying to save her family property. She and her thirty-five animals take on Perry King of King Cosmetics when Perry wants to buy her land for a new factory. It's boy versus girl as usual, but the way Andi has her animals trained always made for a great laugh. I can't imagine getting thirty-five animals to walk in line anywhere without total chaos.

In "A Bright Red Ribbon," Morgan Ames is expecting an engagement ring for Christmas. Instead, her boyfriend Keith tells her he's not quite ready to take the big step. He asks her to wait, and she does. Well the two years have gone by, but Morgan hasn't heard a word from Keith. Her friends try to tell her that he has dumped her; however Morgan has faith that he will show up and sweep her off her feet. Perhaps too much faith. As Christmas Eve approaches, she isn't sure what will happen.

"The Christmas Stocking" Amy Baran has returned to Fairfax, Virginia, to help her mother raise money for a new senior center. Her plans include making a deal with Old Man Moss for his Christmas trees. When she arrives, Moss has neglected the farm. Any hope of a tree crop this year is out of the question. When the farm's sorry state reaches Moss's son Gus in Los Angeles, he goes to back to see how he can save what so many people depend on. However, Gus and Amy have vastly different views on how the problems should be handled.

Finally, there is "Comfort and Joy," which pits Angie Bradford against Eagle Department Store owner Josh

Eagle. Angie has taken over her mother's gift-wrapping business, located inside Eagle's. The store is in trouble with sales plummeting every month. If something doesn't change soon, both Josh and Angie are going to be looking for new careers.

Michaels is always an easy read and a great way to ward off the summer heat or spend a quiet winter afternoon. My favorite of the four is "Merry, Merry" because of the hilarity of the animals. It closely reminds me of James Herriott's novels.

Diana Francis says

I bought this book today because I was looking for some romance, some Christmas (Oh, hush, I like sappy Christmas romances, even in October), and I was waiting on my prescription at the Safeway pharmacy and it was going to take me a good 1/2 hour to wait. So I got this book. I'll admit, I only read part of it. The rest I skimmed. Clearly I didn't like it.

There are two main reasons. First, the stories read more like scripts than fiction. I just don't feel the depth of the setting/characters/emotions that I wanted. The second reason was that the coming together of the hero and heroine were basically skipped over without any real emotional buildup or crescendo of emotion. Sort of the way Bones totally skipped over Booth's and Bones' relationship coming together (which still pisses me off). So these stories may be good for someone else. But they just weren't any good for me. This is the first Fern Michaels I've read. I'm doubting I'll be picking anything else up.

Sally says

The first two stories were good the second one I read in about an hour last night just could not put it down, am getting ready to start the third story

Anne Marie says

This book included four stories. A Bright Red Ribbon started out good. Morgan is driving to her parents' house in a bad snowstorm. She had to be there by Christmas Eve because 2 years ago, her boyfriend wanted to take a break from dating, but said in two years, they would meet at the same place to possibly resume their relationship and get engaged. The storm though, is so bad, Morgan somehow drives off the main road, gets stranded, and has to crawl to find help. This is when the story goes to what I call far fetched. Help finds her-a dog, Murphy, who is super smart to say the least, leads her to his master, Marcus, and from there, Morgan makes herself at home and falls asleep. The story proceeds with Murphy being fed food that would make any dog sick (licorice, potato chips, and grape soda?) Weird dinner conversation. Questions also went through my mind as I read: Can dogs really pack their things when they're going away? Isn't an operation like Marcus' scheduled in advance? Wouldn't it be wise to ask Morgan ahead of time and see when the time comes for his operation could she watch his dog? Do Mo's parents have an endless supply of money, time, and patience with buying her an architectural business, then having to give that up to buy her a house? Are Mo and Marcus really in love since they really didn't spend that much time together...I hope the relationship doesn't last! Lol I mean, Mo's boyfriend Keith did show up with a ring like he promised!

Comfort and Joy is a little more realistic even though it could never happen in New Jersey. Angie works in a gift wrapping business her mother started at the Eagle Department store. She doesn't get along with the

owner's son, Josh, and has been battling in court with him over her gift wrapping business for a while. But with the Christmas season right around the corner, and sales for the store way down, Josh and Angie work together with new ideas to give the store a fresh start. It's kind of sad in a way, because all the stores like this in NJ closed. Romance of course is obvious for Josh and Angie. But also for Josh's dad and Angie's mom! The Christmas Stocking was read in the book Sugar and Spice and Merry, Merry was read in the book A Joyous Season.

Rita Nye says

The Season of Giving

I loved each one of the stories in this book. Christmas is a wonderful time of year. A time of peace, love and family.

Rene Glendening says

This is a collection of (4)short Christmas Stories by Fern Michaels. I've never read any of her books before so this was a new experience. Overall, the stories were pleasant because I'm in the Christmas Spirit and who doesn't like a Holiday story? The writing style in the first two stories was very choppy and was mostly dialogue back and forth which irritated me. The last two stories flowed more smoothly and were cute.

June says

Great story about the true Christmas spirit of caring for others before oneself. I wish the language had been squeaky clean, hence the 4 stars over 5.

Nolan says

This is a four-story Christmas romance collection that will leave you smiling and glad you read it. My two favorites were "Merry, Merry" and "Comfort and Joy."

In "Merry, Merry," young single veterinarian Andrea Evans has to sell her practice, such as it is. No one in town comes to the new vet, and she's being forced to give up property that has been in the family for generations. But not so fast. The buyer, Peter King, a cosmetics mogul, just may have what it takes to change all that.

I guess I liked this story so much because the character of Andrea (Andi) Evans was so approachable in her exuberance and in her ability to reach out to and love others—an ability that seems effortless to her and probably a bit harder for others of us.

In "Comfort and Joy," Angie Bradford operates a small gift wrapping store inside Eagle department store. Angie is there because her mom procured the lease on the property inside Eagle's at no cost, and the new owner of the store, young Josh Eagle, is more than a little resentful. He's watching the store disintegrate

before his eyes because his dad won't let him innovate and do things to the facility that would make it more attractive to a newer generation of shoppers. So bad is it that he has taken a job with a prestigious London department store in the new year.

But things begin to turn around for both Angie and Josh when she steps up vowing to help keep the store open. There's Christmas magic, retail success, and love in the air, and not just for Josh and Angie.

In "The Christmas Stocking," Gus Moss leaves behind a highly successful architecture firm in Los Angeles to return east to the site of a once thriving Christmas tree farm owned by his dad. Gus and his dad have been at odds since Gus's beloved mother, Sarah, died, and Gus fully expects to simply close down the farm altogether.

Meanwhile, Amy Baran has decided to go home to help her mom organize a massive Christmas fundraiser for a local senior center. She's a public relations career woman, and she's a natural to get the senior center off to a successful fundraising start by selling Christmas trees. She wants them to come from the farm Gus is closing down, and that makes life deliciously complicated and Christmas magic wonderful all at once.

Ida Lukasik says

I really liked the stories.
There are 4 in total.
Each one different but fun

Rosmary says

Cute story lines but a lot of the storyline and dialogue between characters felt rushed.

Stephanie Tracy says

I always love a good Christmas book, and Fern Michaels really knows how to write fun, inspiring, and romantic Christmas stories! My favorite in this collection is "A Bright Red Ribbon" - I'd actually read it in another book before, but it was just as good the second time around. All four short stories were clever, well-written, and festive. Definitely a fun holiday book to relax with!
