



A Season to Wed: Three Winter Love Stories

Cindy Kirk , Rachel Hauck , Cheryl Wyatt

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They've helped orchestrate the perfect day for countless couples. Now twelve new couples will find themselves in the wedding spotlight in the second Year of Weddings novella collection.

***Love at Mistletoe Inn* by Cindy Kirk**

Sometimes the road to happiness is paved with youthful mistakes.

Ten years after what she thought was her almost-wedding, Hope Prentiss discovers that the ceremony counted—and, as fate would have it, the jilted John Burke has just ridden back into town. After spending some time with John and helping plan a Christmas wedding for a mystery couple, Hope begins to wonder if she really wants a divorce . . . or a real wedding of her own.

***A Brush with Love* by Rachel Hauck**

Revealing the beauty in other women might be Ginger Winters's specialty—but it will take an unexpected kind of love to help Ginger see the beauty in herself.

Ginger Winters will be the “beauty-maker” for the Alabama society wedding of the decade.

But when high-school crush Tom Wells shows up looking for a haircut, Ginger's thinly veiled insecurities threaten to keep her from love once again . . . despite Tom's best efforts.

***Serving Up a Sweetheart* by Cheryl Wyatt**

Meadow knows how to serve delicious food to match any wedding theme. But can she accept love when it's served up on a silver platter?

Meadow Larson is having the mother of all Mondays when her roof caves in during a blizzard, right before the most important wedding contract of her career.

Renovation contractor Colin McGrath offers to fix Meadow's roof, even though he knows he is the last person she would accept help from.

But the more Meadow gets to know the new Colin, the more she realizes God may have something more permanent in store than a new catering kitchen.

A Season to Wed: Three Winter Love Stories Details

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From Reader Review A Season to Wed: Three Winter Love Stories for online ebook

Barb Eck says

I received this book from a contest at Goodreads. I can definitely recommend all three stories in this book. They are all good, clean stories with the theme of forgiveness in all of them.

Love at Mistletoe Inn by Cindy Kirk has Hope Prentiss discovering her wedding of 10 years ago is valid. Then the "groom", John Burke, returns to town, and Cindy helps him plan a Christmas wedding. While they are working together, she begins to wonder if their marriage should be dissolved.

A Brush with Love by Rachael Hauck has Ginger Winters the "beauty-maker" to Alabama society. She was scarred inside and out when she was a child. Her high school crush, Tom Wells, comes back to town to attend a wedding that Ginger is helping to do. Can they both overcome her scars to move on with life?

Serving Up a Sweetheart by Cheryl Wyatt has Meadow Larson working on an important contract. She can serve up food to fit the theme of any wedding. She has worked hard to overcome teasing in school and an abusive home life. A storm causes her roof to cave in which could cause her to lose the important contract. A renovation contractor, Colin McGrath, who was in school with her, offers to help. Will she be able to forgive him for the past and work with him?

Cheryl Baranski says

I received a copy of this book for my honest review.

A wonderful collection of stories by three very talented writers. Rachel Hauck, Cindy Kirk and Cheryl Wyatt all spin a wonderful love story for you to read and enjoy. All three storied with different sets of circumstances will have you glued to your seat as you devour this most wonderful book. Be sure to order your copy today. 4 stars!

Chrissy says

Different from the first series, but still good :)

Carrie Schmidt (Reading is My SuperPower) says

If you like wintry weddings... if you like stories that revolve around the people who make weddings possible ... if you like sweet and sometimes sassy romance, A Season to Wed is a great novella collection for you! All three authors – Cindy Kirk, Rachel Hauck, and Cheryl Wyatt – vividly bring their characters and settings to life, and each story points unequivocally to the Author who IS the very definition of Love. A perfect way to spend a chilly Spring evening!

Love at Mistletoe Inn by Cindy Kirk - I was drawn to the brewing sub-plot romance between Amity and Dan – surprisingly even more than to the main characters Hope and John. In fact, I would be first in line to read a story with Amity & Dan as the MCs :) I also loved Verna and her Mistletoe Inn shenanigans, though that did take some suspension of disbelief. For the most part, I enjoyed the story -it's cute and sweet! However, I had trouble understanding some character motivation - particularly the motivation behind some of Hope's actions and reactions.

A Brush With Love by Rachel Hauck is full of wit, grins, and southern sass but it's also just such a heartfelt, moving, and beautiful picture of God's love for us – and of true romance. Tom's mission to help Ginger see her beauty, despite her scars, truly touched me. His execution of said mission brought tears to my eyes more than once. The epilogue – well – just make sure you have a tissue box handy but your smile will be firmly in place as well!

Serving Up A Sweetheart introduced me to Cheryl Wyatt and made me want to hunt down her backlist and catch up! From the moment Colin encounters Meadow trying to assassinate a snowman, I knew I was going to like these two characters – separately and together – and I did! I loved the humor, the sweetness, and the theme of restoration (spiritual, relational, and literal). This novella also contained such a great line – “Colin cradled her gaze intently in an effort to anchor his answer therein...” Oh, don't you just love that phrase – “cradled her gaze” ?

(I received a copy of this book in exchange for only my honest review.)

Liz Michaels says

The first story 4, the second DNF, the third 3

Megan says

Sweet soft read.

Pam Marcola Duff says

Fun collection of short sweet stories

Sarah Ruut says

Three sweet stories of those who help create perfect weddings finding love of their own.

'Love at Mistletoe Inn' begins with an intriguing premise: a young couple who thought they had called off their wedding learn that they were indeed legally married. This sets up all kinds of possibilities!

Unfortunately, I found these characters hard to relate to, and their actions and decisions awkward. It was a cute story that will likely appeal more to some, but it was my least favorite of the set.

'A Brush with Love' tells the beautiful story of Ginger, who sees the beauty in others but not in herself. So many women struggle with self-image issues, and the encouragement wrapped up in Ginger's story is sure to encourage others who have felt the same way.

She faces a number of challenges throughout the story, but the hero of her story turns out to be truly that!

'Serving Up a Sweetheart' begins with Meadow's world literally crashing down around her. As she works to honor her commitments and keep everything going, she has to accept help from a former rival.

Like Ginger, Meadow has self-image issues to resolve, but with the right help, she begins to see the truth about who she really is. Another encouraging story for those who have been in similar situations!

(This review was first published on my blog -- sarahruut.com. I received a complimentary copy of this novel in exchange for an honest review. The thoughts expressed here are entirely my own.)

Andrea says

Three VERY good, sweet romantic stories full of faith, love, and forgiveness. Make sure to have tissues handy. You will need them.

First, there is the wedding that wasn't legal, or was it? Ten years later, Hope and John find out the truth of their young romance. A beautiful story with lots of heart.

Next, there is the story of Ginger. She is scarred inside and out by a fire at age twelve. She overcomes it to become a successful "beauty maker" and salon owner when her high-school crush comes back to town. His family scarred by scandal. Their story is so sweet and tender. As she is the stylist for the wedding party of (one of the snootiest girls I've read) a former classmate and Tom is the best man.

Third, there is the story of Meadow Larson. She grew up poor with lots of siblings, all with nature manes. They were bullied but Meadow has made a small success of her life with a catering/decorating business. Until her roof caves in. One of her former bullies, Colin, happens to be a contractor and just moving in across the street. The way they meet again is so cute. Meadow has no choice but to allow Colin to make the repairs on her house. He is a changed man and very sorry for the way he and his friends treated Meadow in high school. He begs for her forgiveness and sets out to prove he is no longer that boy. Meadow slowly gives in and begins to trust and depend on Colin in this desperate time in her life. She also learns that not everything was as it seemed in high school and that some people change but others do not. This was a very compelling story dealing with bullies, disasters, the mending of hearts, and the pleasures of falling in love.

Amy (Books, College, and Other Random Things) says

I received a copy from BookLook Bloggers

4/5 Love at Mistletoe Inn

Hope has sworn off love ever since her quick marriage that ended almost as soon as it happened or so she

thought. While she is with her friend at a Boise Bridal Extravaganza, she finds out that even though her marriage was never recorded she still could be married.

Her ex, John, left town after their “failed” marriage and graduation but has decided to return and put down roots.

I thought the writing style was enjoyable and never felt that it dragged. I did really enjoy this book, but I thought there was too much mention of the attraction of both characters and adult situations for a Christian story. It did not go into any descriptions, but I really would have preferred for that not to be there. It just seemed too sudden. I would read more from Cindy because I did like her writing but would do so after some research on the book.

5/5 A Brush with Love

Ginger tries to make others beautiful through styling hair. She was in an accident where fire has left her physically and emotionally scarred but that is not the only thing she can’t get over, Tom Wells.

Ginger tutored Tom in high school and even was going to go on a date with him, but he didn’t show up or give a reason why.

Ginger is not the only one with something to hide, Tom left town for a reason and does not want Ginger to know. However, it’s going to be hard for him to hide it, especially since he came back to town to start his own ministry. Tom’s old feelings have started to resurface and spends some time with Ginger because she is doing the hair for his friend’s wedding, at which is going to be part of the wedding.

I probably liked this story the most, but *Serving Up a Sweetheart* was really close. I hated to see how the bride treated Ginger. Bridget didn’t really give much thought in how her actions made Ginger feel. This story definitely had God as a focus more so than the other books. I liked seeing that Ginger wasn’t a believer at first because the stories I’ve read in the *Year of Weddings* series has had both of the main characters already have faith. However, keep in mind I have not read a lot of these. I just found it refreshing. I have read another book by Rachel Hauck before and would do so again.

5/5 Serving Up a Sweetheart

Meadow cannot catch a break first her ceiling collapses, she attacks a snowman, and one of her high school bullies/tormenters sees her fight a snowman and lose, well at least her shoe inside of the snowman.

Colin offers to help her but does not recognize who it is at first. He apologizes but Meadow doubts his sincerity. Colin offers to fix Meadow’s kitchen that she has been using for catering, and she eventually agrees after Colin mentions that she could pay him back by doing some decorating for him. Also, he lets her use his pole barn kitchen to work in while he is working on her kitchen.

I thought the beginning of this story was pretty funny, especially the snowman scene. I loved that Meadow’s catering team consisted of at-risk teenagers. In my opinion, it was a very nice touch. God is mentioned a bit throughout, and I felt that praying/talking to God was done more in this story than the others. I don’t think I’ve read anything by Cheryl before and definitely would, especially any that had quite a few comedic moments because I thought those were pretty great.

Overall, I think this book as a whole mentioned God more than the other *Year of Weddings* more than *Winter Brides* and thought that was definitely important to note.

Leah says

Overall, this collection was all right. I really liked the first story, *Love at Mistletoe Inn* . That was a cute story, but I was surprised that it took the main characters so long to figure out what was going on. This story got 4 stars. I didn't like the second story, *A Brush with Love* . This story got 2 stars. The only thing I liked about this story was the ending. The last story, *Serving Up a Sweetheart* , was okay. This story got 3 stars. The main character, Meadow, was, at times, too annoying. I did like her love interest, Colin, though. Also, I enjoyed all the cooking in this story. That was my favorite thing about this story.

Jenni says

DNF

I won this book through a Goodreads First Reads giveaway.

Somehow I missed the part about these being Christian Fiction when I entered the giveaway. I don't usually like Christian Fiction because I find it a bit preachy. I read all of *Love at Mistletoe Inn* by Cindy Kirk and actually enjoyed it, but I couldn't get into the other two Stories.

Mackenzie says

A Year of Weddings Series 2

Books 1-3

**Audio book

Lisa Johnson says

Title: A Season to Wed (Three Winter Love Stories)

Author: Rachel Hauck, Cindy Kirk, Cheryl Wyatt

Pages: 336

Year: 2015

Publisher: Zondervan

My rating is 5 stars.

Love at Mistletoe Inn

In this novella a wonderful, single, elderly woman named Verna has in her heart adopted two people, Hope and John. Verna is my favorite character because of her love, no nonsense yet gentle approach and giving heart. In the tale two, young, impulsive teenagers make an adult decision to marry in a different state now meet again for the first time in ten years. Prior to this, Hope ran out of the chapel no longer wanting to be married and John left town. Now they reunite in a tale of redemption, forgiveness, love and faith.

A Brush with Love

I cannot help but think this novella will touch the very heart of any reader who is willing to open their heart to the Story behind this story. The main female lead is a woman named Ginger who suffered a tragedy as a young preteen and has lived with the outcome both within her heart and outside with scars. Here is a parable of sorts that I believe will help others understand God in a new way and be willing to reveal to Him the scars

of their hearts. The novella portrays pastors as humans who sometimes make mistakes just like the congregation in the pews. Hope is what you might feel when the story ends, but what just might be beginning in your heart.

Serving Up a Sweetheart

Meadow is a caterer and decorator extraordinaire! Her past hurts and trials God has turned into a budding business born through her heart's desire. Meadow's home life and school bullying experiences colored her view of Conner when he returned to their hometown. Conner's past wasn't something he was proud of, but God had really changed him if only he could convince Meadow of that truth. This is a wonderful tale of love, forgiveness, earning back trust and letting go of past hurts and those who caused them!

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received one or more of the products or services mentioned above for free in the hope that I would mention it on my blog. Regardless, I only recommend products or services I use personally and believe will be good for my readers. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255. "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Rachel says

Love at Mistletoe Inn by Cindy Kirk - In my opinion, there are so many ways this novella could have gone and would have been better if the story had been done differently. The premise of the story - two kids go to get married right out of high school but she has doubts and backs out before they even leave the building but not before they've gone through the ceremony and signed the paper. Now, 10 years later, they find out that they are still legally married.

Hope and John have had limited contact over the last 10 years but then John decides to move back to Harmony and settle down. Once Hope finds out about the marriage still being legal she goes to John to tell him about it. What happens next totally threw this book out the window for me. Rather than enhance the romance of the book I think it spoiled it.

And even though I liked the character of Aunt Verna, the whole ruse of planning a wedding for two people who were "deployed" was over the top. And the fact that John and Hope were dense enough to believe it was somewhat frustrating.

A Brush With Love by Rachel Hauck - Ginger is a very talented and accomplished hair dresser who has worked for the stars. She's moved back to her home and is successfully running a beauty shop in town. But Ginger was scarred by a fire when she was a young girl and sees herself as ugly. She covers her scars with long sleeves and scarfs and secretly longs to be normal.

She's hired to style a wedding party and finds out that the best man is none other than the guy who stood her up when his family mysteriously left town 12 years ago. Ginger should have put it past her, but she couldn't get over the hurt and rejection of the only guy who has ever paid her any attention.

Tom is back in his hometown to start a church. Due to the way they left he must work to overcome town bias against his family. He must also work to overcome the walls surrounding Ginger's heart. Tom sees Ginger's inner and outer beauty but will he be able to convince her of his love and that both he and God find her beautiful?

This story pulled me in and kept me engaged all the way through. I hurt with Ginger over the pain of her scars and the struggle she had to feel beautiful and wanted. I got so mad at the way she was treated by the wedding party at one point. And was so proud of the way Tom stood up for her! No doubts that this story will keep your attention. The author did a good job on this short novella! :)

Serving Up A Sweetheart by Cheryl Wyatt - Meadow Larson has triumphed over the trauma of her childhood to become a talented wedding caterer and decorator. When her roof caves in during a blizzard, right before the most important wedding contract of her career, she's in a panic. When Colin McGrath, renovation contractor and an unwelcome connection to her past, sees her trying to take out a snowman, he knows he has to help her. Even if he's the last person she would accept help from.

I loved this sweet romance! Meadow has a hard time believing that Colin is not the same person she knew as a teenager. Even though she has moved on from her painful childhood thanks to her grandmother, Meadow has not fully released all of the hurt and anger from her past. When Colin returns to town to help his parents, he stirs up all the old feelings. But Colin is determined to show her that he has become a Christian and has changed. I loved how sweet and patient he is with Meadow. With bits of humor, moments of chemistry, and uplifting faith, you'll be hooked to the last word.

Thanks to Singing Librarian Books Tours for a complimentary copy of this book for review purposes. All opinions stated are my own.
