



Serving Up a Sweetheart: A February Wedding Story

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.

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?

During one of the biggest weeks of her catering career, Meadow Larson's kitchen roof caves in after an unrelenting blizzard. She has to accept help from the last person on earth she wants to see: Colin McGrath. The tormentor from her past is now a contractor, her new neighbor—and the only person available to take on a project of this size.

Colin is aware God has given him a second chance to make things right with Meadow after bullying her in high school. After years of regret and guilt, Colin is determined to earn her respect and forgiveness, no matter what it takes.

It'll take an extreme kitchen renovation, several cooking lessons, a little lace, and a lot of grace, but God is using this renovation project not only to restore Meadow's heart, but also to restore Colin's integrity in her eyes. Will Meadow learn to trust the new Colin even as their relationship grows from a business exchange to something more meaningful?

Serving Up a Sweetheart: A February Wedding Story Details

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From Reader Review Serving Up a Sweetheart: A February Wedding Story for online ebook

Carrie Schmidt (Reading is My SuperPower) says

Serving Up A Sweetheart introduced me to Cheryl Wyatt and made me want to hunt down her backlist and catch up! In fact, I would happily read more novellas or full-length books set in this particular universe. 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 novella in exchange for only my honest review.)

Jennifer says

I just couldn't do it. When something happens 10 yrs ago, GET OVER IT! To much drama writing for me. I don't like when people are stuck and we have to read about it every other chapter. And "they can't like or be with THE PERSON because something happened 10 yrs ago. Geees. I really wanted to like this one. Oh well, moving on.

Susan Snodgrass says

This was my first Cheryl Wyatt book, but it won't be my last. A completely delightful novella, it was. Great characterization and a believable plot. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Rachel Marie says

I must say, I think this is my favorite out of the series so far. I loved this one. I have a weakness for couples that go from not even liking each other to more, and this did that so well.

Meadow did not have a good childhood. Bullied throughout high school, the stigma and pain has stayed with her this whole time. But she's followed her dreams and made herself a name in the catering business. Until her kitchen roof caves in during a blizzard. To make matters worse, her new neighbor is the guy in the group of bullies in high school, and the only one who can fix her roof.

I loved Meadow. She was strong, spunky, and independent. She's had a hard life, but she's managed to rise above that and continue with her life. Not only that, she helps other at-risk teens, so that they too can overcome their circumstances. She was kind and gracious, even when that meant taking help from the last person she wants to see. Colin was pretty great himself. He is ashamed of the person he was in high school, and wants a chance to show Meadow that he has changed. He was genuine, fun, and kind. I loved their witty

banter as they had to work together, and just the two of them in general.

I also love seeing the wedding business from behind the scenes, especially the food. I loved Meadow's themed wedding catering business, and the scenes with the food were the most fun. This story was sweet, and fun, and I loved it.

I received a copy from the publisher, this did not affect my honest opinion.

This review first appears on The NerdHerd Reads

Rachel DeVaughn says

I enjoyed this clean, romantic novella with the main characters Meadow and Colin. Meadow and Colin knew each other from high school, but didn't have very good memories of the other person. Many years later, they find themselves working side by side, but can they let go of the past, in hopes of having a future together?

It was a good story and had a lot of great Christian elements and scriptures, however I felt like the romantic development was rushed and not realistic for the time frame. Sometimes I've found that problem with Novellas-the story line is rushed because it's a short book. Regardless, it was a sweet story and I would recommend it for a quick afternoon read.

I received this ebook complimentary from BookLook Bloggers in exchange for an honest review on my blog and social media. All opinions are my own.

Susan K says

Romance, Clean, Christian.

This was a sweet romance with healing hearts included! Disaster leads to help from an unwelcome source for Meadow, her neighbor Colin who was a High School nemesis. He genuinely wants to help her, and she sees he has changed, but isn't sure she can fully trust him after everything that happened in the past.

Colin has returned home to help his family after his father falls ill. He is a much different person since High School, reformed, and fully changed in his outlook and purpose in his life. He truly wants to help Meadow out of kindness, but also because he is drawn to her.

Between Meadow's worry, and lack of trust, it takes a while for her to open up her heart to Colin, but she reluctantly sees he doesn't have an ulterior motive, and he is finally able to open up about his feelings for her as he serves and helps her with her crisis, rebuilding not only her home, but her heart as well. Colin also helps her with her catering business, and builds his admiration and hope for their future.

Very sweet romance, sincere, honest hearts, and of course some chemistry. Loved it was clean! Will definitely look for more by this author to read!

mild religious elements, expressions of faith.

Darla Damron says

This was a fun and romantic story about overcoming bitterness from a past offense. The author showed how to allow God to help her to forgive people who were mean and to forgive them.

I listened to this book as an audio-book. It was very easy to listen to.

Tim says

Meadow is having a very, very bad day. She's getting ready for a super busy time with her catering business when her partner gets sick and her roof caves in. Unfortunately she works from her kitchen with only some high school students to help the two of them. If she doesn't get help quickly she can kiss her business good bye. Enter Colin, the one man she doesn't ever want to see again. He bullied her in high school and Meadow doesn't trust that he's changed.

This was a sweet story. It progressed very quickly, but still had the elements of a good novella. The characters were endearing and entertaining. The author subtly brought in faith and forgiveness. These wedding novellas are a great little story to enjoy when you only have a brief amount of time to read. They are also a great way to try out a new author. Pick up this story if you want a quick, romantic story that will warm your heart.

I received this book free of charge from BookLook Bloggers in exchange for my honest review.

Kame says

I wish it were longer - I didn't want my time with Colin and Meadow to end!

Chanel says

A sweet and romantic novella about forgiveness, second chances and love. Meadow Larson is stubborn and hesitant to forgive Colin McGrath, someone who teased, pranked and tortured her along with his friends in high school. But when the roof of her kitchen caves in and threatens the success of her catering business, Meadow finds herself begrudgingly in need of his assistance. Colin deeply regrets how he and his former friends treated Meadow. He's determined to make it up to her in any way he can. But in his journey to earn her forgiveness, he finds himself wanting to win her heart.

So cute! The audience is fully aware of Colin's regret and earnestness in seeking Meadow's forgiveness - it comes across in all his actions. As for Meadow, she is weary to forgive and wrestles with the fear that keeps her resentments and walls in place for most of the novella. In both of their journeys, I was pleased they had open communication with God about how they were feeling, the things happening in their life and asking Him to step in to help them through their struggles. There's great chemistry between the two leads, too. Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed their story.

Kathy * Bookworm Nation says

2.5

I liked the idea of this one, but didn't enjoy it as much as I wanted. Meadow was bullied by Colin and his popular friends in high school. It's now ten years later and they're reunited when Meadow's kitchen is destroyed and he just happens to be there when it happens and is a successful contractor. The sparks fly between them and it was fun seeing them together. I got a little bored though, I think all the religious stuff just turned me off. Too much praying and stuff like that. For me, it distracted from the story and felt to forced and preachy. I'm sure some wouldn't mind it and it was well written. Just not for me.

Content

Romance: Clean

Religious: Heavy

Read Again: No, while I like the idea of the story, I didn't care for the execution.

Source: Sale on Amazon

Laura says

SERVING UP A SWEETHEART starts slow, but it continues on with a steady pace. Meadow and Colin have a history and Colin will have to work overtime to even begin to breach the walls she erected.

Colin is a sweetheart, willing to step in and help Meadow with her catering, even while he remodels her house and holds down his father's business while he goes for cancer treatments. I would've liked to have seen some closure to some threads that were brought up and left untrimmed.

Meadow has a lot of hurt to work through. I hurt for her. I was proud she raised above her circumstances enough to build a successful business, but saddened that she couldn't allow herself to trust anyone except a retired teacher and her sister. I wanted to see Colin succeed in becoming her friend.

If you like Zondervan's Wedding series, you will want to read SERVING UP A SWEETHEART. A great collection of novellas.

Joy says

Back in high school Colin was one of the people who tormented Meadow and her family...at least the way she remembers it. Meadow never thought she would see Colin again but now he's back in town and she really needs his help.

Colin can't believe he's getting a second chance with Meadow. He feels bad for the way he treated her in high school and is doing his best to make it up to her. But Meadow still sees him as the guy who tormented her. How can he prove to her that he's changed for the better?

This was a sweet novella but I do recommend this for ages 13 and up for some violent (not gory) content.

Heidi Robbins (Heidi Reads...) says

I liked the idea behind this story, but the first part of the book only hinted at some of the misdeeds from Colin's past, which made the extent and intensity of Meadow's bitterness seem unequal to what was revealed. I think I would have enjoyed the story more if her vulnerabilities were shown rather than repetitively guarded by a brash exterior. Once she begins to let go and forgive, the story picks up and the characters are able to finally interact and bond. I admired Colin's tenacity in proving himself to Meadow- he goes the extra mile by volunteering his time and resources to repairing her house and giving her a place to live and work during the renovation. All free of charge, no strings attached. I completely understand how uncomfortable this makes Meadow, but as she's desperate to fulfill her upcoming contracts, she accepts... and her matchmaking sister with a softer heart for redemption influences Meadow to open her heart and allow God to heal her hurts.

(Thank you to Zondervan Publishing and BookLook Bloggers for a copy of the book in exchange for my honest review)

Iola says

When wedding caterer Meadow Larson's kitchen roof collapses, her high school nemesis comes to the rescue, offering his barn as a temporary kitchen. While Colin McGrath never led the bullies in the popular crowd who made her high school years a misery, he never called them on their behaviour either. Now he says he's changed. Can she believe him?

Yes, I can see that a person can change after high school. I can see that they might regret some of their teenage decisions and behaviour (who doesn't?). But I never got an impression of how Colin had changed, which meant I didn't get that he had changed. I only saw the almost-perfect Christian contractor he now is.

I also didn't really get Meadow. If she hated high school and everyone in town bullied her, why did she stay? Here's the other thing I didn't get. She appears to be operating a commercial catering business out of her house, and when her kitchen is destroyed, she uses the home kitchen of her building contractor. Really? A bachelor who lives in a barn has a kitchen good enough to use for commercial catering? And it doesn't have to be certified as meeting local hygiene standards?

Okay, these might be minor issues, and it seems most people are loving this novella. But it didn't work for me. The writing was good, and I thought the Christian aspects were excellent. But I didn't get the characters, and I thought the plot was too complex to adequately cover in such a short word count. Overall, average.

Thanks to Zondervan and NetGalley for providing a free ebook for review.
