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When Christmas Comes Details

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Author : Debbie Macomber

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From Reader Review When Christmas Comes for online ebook

Chris Meads says

This is an earlier version of Trading Christmas by Debbie Macomber.

Emily Springer can't wait for her daughter to come home for Christmas--they have a lot of Christmas traditions they do together since her husband died several years back. But Heather, her daughter will be spending Christmas with her boyfriend down in Florida (and doesn't bother to tell her mom).

Charles Brewster dislikes Christmas and wants peace and quiet to write his book. So...

Emily and Charles switch homes. Emily heads to Boston to surprise her daughter only to find out then her daughter is leaving with a "biker." Charles thinks that Leavenworth is home to the prison (Leavenworth, Kansas) but finds out that Leavenworth, Washington is more like Santa's village.

Enter Faith, Emily's best friend. When Emily told her that Heather won't be coming home for Christmas, she decides to fly to Leavenworth to spend Christmas with Emily. She doesn't know that Emily is heading for Boston where her daughter is and that Charles is at Emily's house.

Enter Mom of Charles and Ray (he lives in NY and is a publisher) calls Charles apartment only to find a strange woman there. She contacts Ray, has him head to Boston to find out what is going on. He finds Emily at Charles' apartment.

Thus comes the humor of each situation. Faith finds Charles a Scrooge of sorts and find both opening up as they get to know each other. Emily finds herself attracted to Ray, and Heather finds out her mistakes.

This book will keep you laughing and then hoping for the best for each situation. A great Chris mas read.

Christina says

This one may be my favorite. Think "The Holiday" with what are presumably less attractive main characters (except for maybe Jack Black) and set entirely within the US. It's nice to have the author break out from her usual Seattle setting, btw.

Jennifer says

I have to say I enjoyed this quite a bit - choosing to finish it last night rather than knit, watch tv or play Farmville. High praise!

I liked the characters in this one more than the other Debbie Mac books I have read. That being said, I find these books a little too fluffy and a little too "My Mom's Generation". No cussing. The closest two characters get to sex is toward the end of the book when someone gets felt up in front of a Christmas tree (A little blouse unbuttoning), and the characters are pretty immature. The mothers are drawn as meddling busy-

bodies who get rewarded for smothering their children. The "child" who is a Sophomore at Harvard is just a bleeping idiot. Her actions were right on if she were 14 instead of 20 something. I mean seriously - grow up you little dork! And all the characters are a little too squeaky clean. Seriously. The closest one of the characters gets to a negative trait was that the Professor was a little grouchy and the "child" was a brat. But even THEY come around. It's really Hallmark moment after Hallmark moment.

All that being said - there was a wonderful chemistry here and it was the kind of romance I love - where silly things happen and people make the best of situations and fall in love.

Cait • A Page with a View says

This is basically like the movie "The Holiday," except it was actually written before that came out. A mom does a house swap with a Harvard professor on the other side of the country so she can actually see her daughter for Christmas. The professor's brother comes to check up on him and meets the mom staying in his house. Meanwhile, the professor is a total grinch who didn't realize he was going to a town that's huge on Christmas. The mom whose house he's staying in has a friend who flies in to surprise her for Christmas... and you can probably guess the whole story. It's predictable but all very happy.

The couples here are a bit older, so this seems like something my mom might enjoy more than I did. But I still liked it and thought it felt like one of the older Hall of Fame Hallmark movies! It's all very clean and wraps up in a neat bow.

Joann says

I loved this!! I wish I could be so brave and switch houses with someone in another City, Town or even Country especially at Christmas time!!

Kathy says

Emily Springer: school teacher; loved her husband; he died when daughter 10ish; close to daughter, many traditions; disappointed when daughter not coming home for Christmas, so decides to trade houses, go to Boston to be with her daughter...

Heather Springer: 3rd year at Harvard; enamored of bad boy, tattooed motorcyclist, and decides to go with him on his motorcycle down to Florida for Christmas; thinks she's in love, and has weaved a romantic time; tells mom she can't come home; when mom shows up in Boston, just as she's getting ready to leave, she baldly says she's leaving for Florida;

Charles Brewster: professor of history at Harvard; loves history, anti-people; typical scattered professor; writing a text book, wants isolation, agrees to house switch with Emily (online) - thinking he's going to Leavenworth where there is a prison -sure to be quiet...

Faith Kerrigan: younger teacher; married and divorced young; student taught with Emily, then moved back to California; stays in contact with Emily;

Rayburn Brewster: publishing: older brother; workaholic to exclusion of all else;

Mother Brewster: wants her sons to marry and give her grandchildren; lives in Arizona; a busybody with the best motives;

Musical houses...,

Emily at Charles home... alone... lonely... when mother Brewster sends Ray (who is in New York) to find out why a woman answered Charles phone... and they have a romantic week together, learning about themselves

Charles upset that he's in a Leavenworth submerged in Christmas... and 5 friendly kids next door ... he acts the real Scrooge with them; Faith, realizing she hadn't supported Emily to well by phone when she called distraught about daughter, so she decides to fly to surprise her... but instead finds Charles... he ungraciously allows her to stay the first night... but she can't afford to fly home early, she fixes him breakfast, he begrudgingly agrees she can stay and cook... and bit by bit, he loosens up... they play with the kids...

and Heather realizes her mistake... flies back to Boston to be with mom... and is surprised to find Ray there...

and all works out... Charles goes to Berkeley to be a professor and marry Heather... Emily moves to New York to marry Ray...

humor:

Heather allows midgets who dress as elves to tour hospitals and retirement homes up north to have last rental van, and they deliver her to surprised Charles...

The kids make an atomically correct snowman..

the snowball fight of girls vs boys..

lobsters for dinner - but one gets out of pot, and attaches itself to Emily's pant legs...

BarbaraW says

Towards the end, the author says the situation is a comedy of errors and so too is the whole book. Well put together and a nice little holiday read about unexpected romance.

Karla Goforth Abreu says

This is typical Debbie Macomber, romance, predictable, fuzzy warm feelings, sappy. BUT it is so relaxing and her Christmas books are perfect for that Christmas feeling we all desire (give me a cup of coffee and some cookies). This novel is a story that has been reworked several times, recently and in a couple of movies. Two people on opposite sides of the country, both lonely or discontent, exchange houses for a short time. The story goes from there.

Megann Zeigler says

It is 100 degrees outside and for the past few days I have been reading Christmas stories to beat the heat. I had read this one in 2014 and loved it so thought I would read it again. Funny, I did not remember much of the book but had given it a very high rating and am doing so again. This is a marvelous story about how when you are at your lowest wonderful things can happen. Debbie is so uplifting and can turn things around within a few chapters. If you have not read do so please if you have read you might want to read again.

Glenda L says

This is a cute romantic comedy by Debbie Macomber. She always brings laughter and joy.

Jill Robbertze says

A sweet girlie Christmas story - a funny, romantic feel-good book which is perfect for the holidays. Although I did enjoy this quick read, I didn't find it particularly memorable, but then I don't think that it is meant to be more than light entertainment.

Lyndsey says

A man and a woman swap houses for the holiday via an internet arrangement. Both have different reasons for escaping during the holidays but in the end they both find out that what they thought they didn't want was exactly what they needed! Cute, clean and festive love story following the two house swappers and their unexpected housemates!

Jan Mcleod says

This is a really cute romantic comedy set in Washington state, Boston and New York at Christmas time. There are several merry mix-ups concerning where Emily and Faith are supposed to be at Christmas; however, two work-alcoholic brothers, Charles and Ray, are also involved in the mix-up. They all find life changing attitudes and experiences.

A good, enjoyable read--typical of Ms. Macomber!

This novel is also called Trading Christmas because it was made into a movie.

Jasmine says

This is not what I usually read; there are no vampires, werewolves, faeries, Lords and Ladies, or danger of any kind. However, Debbie Macomber gave me exactly what I was in the mood for, a sweet Christmas romance that leaves you feeling that all is right with the world.

Josette says

The story reminds me a lot of one of my favorite movies, "The Holiday," which came out two years after this book. I'm not sure if director/writer Nancy Meyers was in any way influenced by this book when she wrote "The Holiday," about two women who trade houses for two weeks at Christmas and end up finding love. "When Christmas Comes" is similar, about a man and woman who meet online when both are looking for a place to spend the holidays. They trade homes for two weeks and also find love in each other's hometown.

I was looking for a cute Christmas-y story to read and I got one, hence the two stars for effort.
