



Love Me By Christmas

Jaci Burton

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Ellie Washington lost her husband in a tragedy five years ago at Christmas. She wouldn't have made it through her grief if not for her husband's brother, Nick, who helped her pick up the pieces of her shattered life. And with every year, her feelings for Nick have grown. Now she realizes she might be in love with him, but that's not fair, because Nick deserves a life that isn't about his brother's widow and son.

Sharing his life with Ellie and her son has been the balm that soothed Nick's soul after losing his brother. Now that friendship has turned into something deeper. Nick doesn't want to upset the status quo, but someone has to make the first move, and it's time they figure out if their feelings are real. Nick believes in what they have. He also believes in Christmas miracles, and he thinks they're both long overdue for one.

Love Me By Christmas Details

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From Reader Review Love Me By Christmas for online ebook

Yvonne says

Christmas is a very difficult time for Ellie Washington. Five years ago her husband died at Christmas leaving her pregnant and alone. Thanks to the help of her husband's brother, Nick, Ellie made it through for the sake of her child. As time went on, Nick and Ellie grew closer. The only father her son ever knew is Nick, but Ellie fears she is holding Nick back from having a life of his own.

Although devastated by his brother's death, Nick found comfort with Ellie and her son. They gave his life meaning, but now Nick wants more. Christmas is a hard time for his family, but he intends to be there for Ellie and her son. He is terribly confused when she suddenly pushes him away, especially when he wants to be even closer.

Ellie and Nick's story is both sad and heartwarming. It's a chance for two lost souls to be together even after going through the worst tragedy of their lives. Their romance sizzles and your heart goes out to these two.

I never read anything by this author, but I've wanted to for a long time. I loved her writing style and how quickly this short story moved along. It's a lovely romance for the Christmas holiday time of year. I'll definitely be looking at this author's backlist.

FTC Disclosure: I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Reader Copy of this book from the publisher. I was not required to write a positive review. All opinions expressed are my own.

Dylan says

eh. wasn't expecting anything, so not disappointed i guess lmao

Eleanor (The Book Hammock) says

Such a feel good, then again, it must for it to be a Christmas story :)

Ellie loved her husband so much, his tragic death nearly crushed her, the only balm to her soul, her unborn child. That's when Nick, her brother in law, stepped up and took care of her and her son. They have both been living with him and grew to be a tight knit family of sorts.

Now, though, five years later, Ellie finds that she's having feelings for Nick, and those feelings grow with every day passing. In her mind, though, she realizes Nick hasn't been on a date throughout the time she's been living with him and feels like she's holding him back from living his life. Add to that feeling like she's betraying her dead husband, and you have yourself one lustful yet tortured young woman. She is determined to find him a girlfriend.

Now that he's had years to recover from losing his brother and caring for his widow, Nick is pretty sure his friendship and "brotherly affection" to her has grown and he is in love with Ellie, but feels like if he acts on it, he'll ruin everything. When he discovers Ellie is fixing him up with her friends from work, he sabotages the set-ups with ridiculous and mischievous little tricks.

Can you imagine how fun them realizing they need to be together is? Adorable story is adorable, and just perfect to kick off the holiday season.

Jessica Alcazar says

This was such an easy read you guys. I read it from start to finish in one evening. GAH, how I've missed reading Jaci Burton! This was a sweet and poignant romance story. One of the best *close-proximity* reads I have read in a very long time. You know, a lot of times with *close proximity* story-lines, the HEA doesn't seem realistic to me, but *Jaci* did an exceptional job with this one. She also made sure to not brush off some really important life circumstances that were added into the mix.

Right about now you're thinking to yourself ... could this reviewer be any more vague?! LOL Yes, I actually could LOL I just don't want to tell you about the journey of Ellie and Nick any more than the blurb already has or you will miss out of experiencing this outstanding story of ***family, growth, trust, letting go, taking chances and fate*** :) with a clean slate in your mind. No details. It's the best way! #TRUST

Copy provided by the publisher for blog tour review

Jo says

If life is that kind of easy, love can heal everything, no more troubles then.

Anyway, having something positive n show u life wasn't that bad is good four soul, especially when you r in your hard time, drowning, with so much pressure, like rocks on your chest.

Richelle Robinson says

Since I love the holidays I'm on a never ending quest to read as many holiday reads as I can. I wanted to like this story but certain things didn't work out in my favor. I found the main character Ellie to be very wishy washy and it was so annoying. I get her reservations but even after her talk with Nick she would still go back and forth and it got to be annoying. I loved how her best friend called her out on her actions as well as Nick. Another issue I had with the story was by the time it got good the story was over. The ending felt very rushed and I was hoping for more between the two characters.

ARC Review

Kayla Ritenour (In Between The pages) says

I want to send a huge thank you to Sullivan and Partners for sending this beauty out for review. Ya'll are amazing. And I can't thank you enough for how good you take care of us bloggers.

???

So before this book, the only Jaci Burton ones I had read had been her sports romances (which I absolutely love FYI)

So of course when the opportunity to read and review this baby came up, I just had to snap it up.

And I mean literally. It made it to my kindle and I for realiesies snapped up my kindle and got lost in this amazing book for a few hours until I had to go to work.

Jaci just has this way of writing stories that really pull you in. She writes some incredibly relatable and when it comes down to it, pretty dimensional characters as well.

You can sympathize with them so well. And I always find myself so drawn into their stories.

But it isn't just her ability to write such memorable characters either. It's the story itself too. She wrote such an adorable holiday story. And yes, there were parts that just made me ache for these characters, but I couldn't help but just love how their story progressed. Watching the romance bloom.

This book honestly kinda took me on a ride.
It's such a cute little Christmas book.

I loved the almost hallmark movie type quality the story had. Because let's face it. I am a hallmark Christmas movie addict, so what can I say? haha.

But the story itself was pretty sweet and special. It was a sentimental one. And honestly just a pure good holiday romance.

I'm not sure this classifies as a 2nd chance romance in the traditional sense. Since it isn't the whole 2 people falling out and then finding each other again. But more a being able to move forward from tragedy type thing, with the person you don't think you should be with.

But that's kinda what I consider this one in way.

I liked how sweet the underlining theme was on this one.

My only complaint honestly, was my issues with Ellie. It's no secret I'm never the fondest of female characters. It's rare I like one. And sadly Ellie didn't do it for me. I just didn't like her wishy washyness for a majority of the book. I found myself wanting to reach into the book and strangle her. Tell her to get it together haha. But at the same time I could understand where she was coming from too. And as I said, the characters are all pretty dimensional, so that's really just one part of who she is through the book.

And we can't forget that adorable little boy and the one hunky man that redeemed my little issues (that are purely mine. And not anything against the story plot itself. I'm weird like that)

They added that nice buffer and almost tenderness I needed to kinda understand why Ellie was the way she

was. Even if it drove me crazy.

And Nick, he's just one of those characters you fall in insta-love with. He's so kind and caring. And oh man...The total sweetheart package. And the way he is with his nephew. A girl can't help but adore that haha.

I give LOVE ME BY CHRISTMAS

????4 STARS????

Gretchen (About That Story) says

Such an awesome story! **It was sweet and fun with the perfect mix of emotion added in.** By the end, my heart was pretty much exploding with happiness. :-)

This had everything I love rolled up into one impactful story. The story jumps right in with all the important details and introductions and I immediately wanted Nick and Ellie to have their happily ever after. I totally understood their conflict and why they were holding back. Their attraction to the other is really fun and cute, all the longing and looks. It had me smiling big time. It was so sweet watching their shields come down as they let their attraction out. Nick was so kind and caring and Ellie was just so strong with all that had happened in her life. I loved their internal struggle to work through everything. They had a wonderful connection and ease with one another and really like how everything grew so naturally.

I thought the writing was great. There are excellent details and a really nice cast of characters. There was a great build and pace as well. The story moved along at a quick pace but it never felt rushed or like it was missing anything. There was so much emotion and that ending, it was all I could do not to ball my eyes out. It was just a sweet, cathartic moment. Add some sexy times in to round it all out and it was pretty great read.

I love an HEA that leaves my heart feeling full and that's exactly what happened. **Wonderful story full of so much love, strength, and healing.** Fantastic read.

Complimentary copy received for honest review.

Mandy says

1.5 stars

90% of this book is Ellie pushing away Nick, pushing other women his way and constantly doing everything she can to show him they shouldn't be together because he's her dead husband's brother. Forget the fact that Nick has devoted the last 5 years to Ellie, having her live in his house and helping to raise her son, putting his life on hold and not even dating for 5 years. Ellie was really annoying and ruined the book for me.

Emily says

Ellie Washington has come to terms with her husband's death and devoted her time raising her son. Fortunately she had the help of her husband's brother, Nick. However, Ellie is beginning to develop feelings

for Nick that are far from sisterly and she does not know what to do about it.

Nick doesn't know what to make of Ellie's behavior lately, when it is revealed why Ellie has been different towards Nick they begin to explore what they have. The problem is Ellie believes she is holding Nick back and is willing to let him go for his shot at happiness, will Nick feel the same?

Festive story, I felt for Ellie but wish she didn't get in her head so much. Liked Nick, he is a great hero who you want more of with every page. If you are looking for a holiday read, this is one to pick up.

Stephanie says

If you're looking for a sweet holiday read, Love Me By Christmas is perfect. Nick and Ellie's story had me hooked from the beginning and has just the right blend of emotions. I only wish it had been longer. It's definitely one to pick up!

Kimmy (Sinfully Snarky Reviews) says

★ ★ ★ Love Me By Christmas ★ ★ ★

★ ★ By: Jaci Burton ★ ★

5 Totally Loved Stars!

Love Me by Christmas was the second book by Jaci Burton that I've read. After reading this book I've gone back and moved the rest of the Play-by-Play series books up on my TBR list.

Love Me by Christmas was one of those books that while reading you can totally see this book being a movie on the Hallmark Countdown to Christmas. I just didn't want this book to end.

Elle lost her husband in a fire right before Christmas almost 5 years ago, while pregnant. Since her husband, John's death she has not been into Christmas but has just been going through the motions for her 4 year old son Henry.

Five years ago, one Christmas had signed what she thought was the end of her life.

Over the last 5 years Elle and Henry have been living with John's brother Nick. During these 5 years Nick and Elle have been helping each other coping with John's death and raising Henry. However over the last couple of years something between Elle and Nick has shifted from healing each other into something more.

Are the feelings that Elle and Nick now feel real or are these just from helping each other heal?

Jennifer says

This was cute. I saw it on my library audiobook app and decided to give it a try. It was super short and didn't take me long to listen to at all. It wasn't the best NA book i've read but it was cute.

shms says

My review is not a reflection of the writing, not at all. but the romance. The story of the widow and brother in law finding love was possibly too weighty for a novella format. We got all sorts of short cuts to keep the romance moving, and a set up which was frankly unbelievable. I was also bored and took to skimming some bits.

FMABookReviews says

A fabulous start to the holiday season, 'Love Me By Christmas' is a passionate and tender friends-to-lovers romance!

Full Review To Come

****I was voluntarily provided this free review copy. This did not influence my opinion of the book nor my review.****
