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When Riley Sinclair stepped into her new job as director of guest relations at a posh resort on Paradise Island, she felt the final pieces of her once-broken life coming together. But the waters become choppy when Riley discovers that some who come to the Atlantis Hotel are accompanied by paralyzing secrets and overwhelming fears. Riley and three guests are in desperate but unknowing need of each other, eventually forging unlikely yet powerful friendships. With a hurricane headed straight for the island, together they embark on a journey of laughter, heartache, and healing.

Hurricanes in Paradise Details

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Author : Denise Hildreth Jones

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From Reader Review *Hurricanes in Paradise* for online ebook

Angela says

Much to my surprise I really enjoyed this book.

The characters were well depicted and the general story telling good. It provided an interesting account of the turmoil that can be all too easily become part of everyday life and the amazing strength of a recently formed friendship by the four women over a varying age group.

Debbie says

"Hurricanes in Paradise" is Christian women's fiction. Since I don't think like any of the women in this novel nor have I had male-female relationship troubles similar to theirs (abuse, an affair, a widow having trouble letting go, and depression combined with alcoholism), I didn't connect emotionally with them. If I had, I think I would have really liked this novel since the characters did (mostly) deal with realistic problems.

The author was very fond of using figures of speech and extensively describing every detail (significant or not) of every character's clothing, their "police line-up" appearance, and the details of the decor in every room of the resort. This created a slower pacing in the first 100 pages or so, but then it picked up.

The main theme was about forgiving yourself and facing your fears. The target audience seemed to be Christian women or women with a Christian background. The first part of the novel hardly had any references to God, but each woman in turn had a supernatural experience of emotional healing (including wind where there shouldn't be any, the sun winking, an actual conversation with God, and similar experiences). Then the praying and references to God became more frequent. Jesus Christ didn't have a role in this novel.

While the story was enjoyable enough once it got moving, I was left feeling a bit irritated at the author for something that happened at the end. It felt not-quite believable and wasn't necessary, so the ending didn't feel completely satisfying.

There were implied references to sex in the character's conversations, but no sex during the novel. The minimal bad language was of the "he cussed" style. Overall, I'd recommend this as clean reading.

I received this novel as a review copy from the publisher.

Melissa says

Hurricanes in Paradise A Novel by Denise Hildreth (Tyndale May 10, 2010) 384 pages.

When I was browsing the Tyndale website for book reviews this title stood out to me. "Hurricanes in Paradise". One I hate hurricanes. I have a fear of them. Go figure since I live in Florida. Paradise caught my eye, who wouldn't want to live in Paradise.

Hurricanes in Paradise

Riley Sinclair is the main character of this novel by Denise Hildreth. Riley knew from the moment she stepped onto the Island of Paradise that her life that had been broken was finally turning around. The setting takes place on Paradise Island, Bahamas. I've never been, but the author makes you feel as if you are actually walking on the beach with Riley throughout the entire book.

Riley is beginning a new job at the Atlantis Hotel, she will be director of guest relations at this five-star resort. Each page keeps your attention and craving for more as you read about this exciting story from Riley as well as three other women guests whose lives have been broken at some point in time.

One thing I loved about this book was how life-like it was. The author takes four ordinary everyday people and shares their deepest hurts and how they together reach healing. How the Lord has all our plans in His hand and it is in His time that they are discovered or revealed. This book was not overly religious for those of your squirming in your seat. You can read it if you are not a Christian, but I must warn you it will cause you to stop and think about the path of salvation.

In the book, Riley and three women guests are in desperate need of each other. They don't know it, but the Lord does and He leads them to one another time and time again. The outcome, powerful friendships!

You are probably asking where does the Hurricane in the title come from. A hurricane is headed straight for the island and together these four everyday people must embark on a journey through a physical storm and the one that has shattered their lives. As you read each page these four shattered lives are forged in friendship and healing.

I was very impressed with the book. I've read some of the reviews and I thought they were a little harsh. I definitely won't walk past a Denise Hildreth book without reading the back cover.

Until next time,

M

Kathleen Kelly says

Hurricanes in Paradise by Denise Hildreth is a heartwarming and sometimes sad tale of four women who come together at a hotel on Paradise Islands in the Bahamas. Each of these women are at the hotel for different reasons but all have issues that they can't seem to let go of. Riley, is the director of guest relations, whose job it is to take care of these ladies and see that they have everything they need. Laine is a famous author who is trying to deal with a divorce that was caused by an infidelity on her part. Winnie is a widow who came to the hotel because her children thought she needed to get away and ironically back to the place where she and her husband honeymooned. Tamyra is a young beauty queen who is faced with an illness and an abusive relationship. Riley also has her own demons from her past and a child to raise. Riley sees that her guests have what they need and over the course of this week becomes quite close to all of them. To top it off there is a hurricane heading their way, an assistant to Riley who has her own agenda and a man who would like to be romantically involved with Riley. Each one of these ladies faith has been tested so far that they think that He has abandoned them. With the help of each other they start to heal mentally and spiritually . I liked the story, there was an abundance of humor along with sadness but written in such a way that you could

feel the heartbreak that each of these ladies faces. The lesson here is to forgive others but also to forgive yourself.

Lori says

When I first saw this book was available to review, via FIRST Wild Card Tours, I wasn't sure whether it was something I would enjoy reading, or not. I decided to go ahead and request it, since I had enjoyed Denise's previous book, *The Will of Wisteria*.

Let me just tell you that I am sooooo glad I got my hands on this book -- it is absolutely amazing! There are so many laugh-out-loud moments, but I also found myself almost sobbing at times. *Hurricanes in Paradise* will most definitely be on my Top 10 list of favorite books for 2010. Yes, it's THAT good!

As you can see from the synopsis, this book is about 4 women who end up at the same resort in the Bahamas. They've all had life-changing experiences that they haven't quite come to terms with, though none of them actually realize it.

Let me interrupt myself, and mention this -- if you don't enjoy reading books that focus on how truly great God is, then this one may not be for you. I, personally, don't enjoy reading a book where I feel like religion is being "forced" on me, but in no way whatsoever did I feel that way with this book. I actually thought everything fit together perfectly.

The first person you meet will be Riley Sinclair -- she is the director of guest relations at the five-star resort, Atlantis, where this story takes place. After her life fell completely apart, and she reached absolute rock-bottom, Riley decided that she needed to get away from everything familiar and try to start over with a clean slate. Even though she feels like she has dealt with the heart-breaking events of her past, she soon finds out that she has a lot of emotional "baggage" locked up tight inside. One huge lesson that Riley has yet to learn is that she can't truly move on with her life until she finally forgives herself for the tragic events from her past -- as her family, her friends, and especially her God, have already done.

The next woman to arrive at Atlantis is Tamyra Larsen, who is a "pagent" girl. A few weeks before her arrival, she decided to sell everything she owned, including her car. She made this extreme decision after receiving the most devastating news of her young life. Tamyra hasn't even found the courage to tell her family what's going on, but she eventually opens up to one of the other ladies staying at the resort. Her story was a real tear-jerker for me!

Dr. Winnie Harris is the third to arrive, and she is the most colorful character in this story. Her crazy sayings had me laughing so hard I had tears running down my face! You never know what's gonna come out of her mouth! She is also one of the most caring women -- always ready to listen whenever anyone needs to talk, no matter if it's day or night.

The most famous guest is Laine Fulton. She is a world renowned author, and has an attitude that just won't wait. Laine was the hardest character for me to warm up to, as she gives you no reason whatsoever to like her. She's rude, obnoxious, and just plain uncaring of other people's feelings -- at least, that's how she first comes across. By the end of the story, she had found a special place in my heart.

There are quite a few more characters involved to help carry this story along, but I don't want to bore you to death, or give away any vital information that might ruin it in any way for someone!

Writing this review, and remembering special scenes, has almost brought me to tears once again. I can't encourage you enough to go out and BUY a copy of this book if you have to! Just get yourself a copy as soon as you possibly can -- it's definitely worth your time!

To find out more about Denise Hildreth and/or her books, be sure to pop over to her website.

I would like to say a special "thank you" to Vicky Lynch of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc for sending me a review copy, via FIRST Wild Card Tours.

Jennifer Hodges Young says

Riley Sinclair is the Guest Relations Manager for the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas. In this story she has 3 guests that require her special attention this week on top of that they find out that there is a hurricane on the way.

In meeting the 3 guests and keeping them busy each day Riley discovers that each of them have hidden problems, Winnie the widow who's children force her on her first vacation since her husband's death 3 years ago, Lanie the famous author who treats Riley as if she was a annoying speck, and Tamyra the beauty queen who has just got the worst news of her life. As the week progresses each women becomes close to the others and with the help of her new friends makes peace with their situations Riley included who has been running from her own past. There is a funny relaxing way that each of the characters interacts with each other that made me want to be included in the group.

This book is listed as Christian fiction, not something I have read a lot of but the story kept me interested and I could not wait to finish. There was not a lot of preaching in this story but each character has a crisis of faith done in a natural way. If you want lots of Bible verses or talk of Jesus this is not the book for you but if you want to read how people live with their faith on a daily basis this will fit the bill. I would make this a nice relaxing summer read not too deep but not complete fluff either.

Sarah says

Picked this book thinking it would be light and forgettable. I was mistaken! I was quite surprised at how much I enjoyed the character development portraying four wounded yet resilient women whose ability to care for one another make it all happen. There is substance in this message, even though at times I really laughed right out loud. If you want a real treat, be sure to read this one, it's worth it!

Alicia says

3 women take a much needed vacation in the Bahamas and are left in the capable hands of resort guest manager Riley Sinclair. Each of the women in the story are fighting their own battle and over the course of a

week in paradise they are forced to confront their demons and an impending hurricane. Classified as Christian fiction the book does deal with religion and prayers quiet often, but does not over do it. Hildreth provides a very detailed portrayal of southern life complete with multiple references to the drink of the land- sweet tea and vivid imagery and explanation of many southern themes and sayings.

Overall this was an enjoyable read. I enjoyed most of the characters, although I couldn't quite relate to them and I felt that Winnie was a little over the top (which I guess was the point). The book flows and moves through although I was disappointed at parts of the ending that felt unbelievable. Other than that the book was a good read for fans of Christian fiction and stories of redemption.

Diana says

A title with the word hurricane in it should be a HUGE clue about what is going to happen in this book. There is a real hurricane, but the true storm comes when four women from an unlikely friendship.

This is a great example of women's fiction done well. Hildreth has yet to disappoint me with one of her stories.

She lays down a complex web of layers for all of her characters and yet the book is easy to read. By the end of the book I wanted to gather my own friends together for an evening out to embrace the special thing called, 'friendship of women' there is nothing like it. All women need special friends to get them through the good and the bad times.

What I like about Hildreth's books is she doesn't pull her punches. If something bad is going to happen, should happen to her characters she lets it occur making her writing real.

Tyndale provided this copy to me for review, but as I've said before if I don't like it I don't review it. As mama said, "Don't say something unless you can say something nice."

Nora St Laurent says

I was thankful to receive a review copy of this fun, honest, and inspiring book. The story reminded me a little of the TV Shows "Love Boat" and "Hotel". Each week they'd introduce new characters and their dilemmas. Everyone tried to have fun because they were on vacation. But life doesn't stop happening just because we're on holiday!

Denise introduces four very different, interesting, quirky characters that would never have talked to each other under normal circumstances. But, rules are different when you're on holiday. Time is of the essence, you may never see these people again.

Denise's main character is Riley Sinclair, a single mom and head of guest relations at the hotel, working hard at her new job. Tamyra, is a beauty queen just finishing up her tour; hiding out from everyone and holding a secret close to her heart. Winnie Harris, Sam's widow of three years- is stuck in the past with Sam and is afraid to live. Then there's Laine Fulton, an author on a trip to get ideas for her new novel. She hates to eat alone and invites all of these ladies to dine with her, as she takes notes of their conversations. All of these ladies were in survival mode for one reason or another and life begins to get a little crazy as they all prepare

for a Hurricane heading their way.

I loved what Denise said about these women and their struggle. “These women face real-life struggles. Real-life heartache that many of us face every day...this is a story about learning to live. My hope is that as you close the pages, you will be more aware of what real living is all about, more aware that inside your soul is the ability to survive even the toughest storms.”

I couldn't agree with her more. Denise's book touched my heart and soul. I enjoyed these ladies, I laughed, I was surprised at what these women shared and my spirit was moved as these characters faced their fears. You can tell this author has faced some fears of her own. Finding Hope Book Club is reading this novel—I can't wait to hear what this group has to say about Hurricanes In Paradise. It's more than a great summer read. These ladies and their stories will stir your soul!

Disclosure of Material Connection:

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. 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”

Nora St. Laurent

The Book Club Network www.bookfun.org

The Book Club Network www.psalms16.blogspot.com

Book Fun Magazine www.bookfunmagazine.com

Laura says

In Hurricanes in Paradise, four women meet on an island, and their worlds are forever changed when they must confront their pasts and learn to live again. Riley, a hotel manager, must deal with three high maintenance clients, each with a past of hurt much like her own. When their lives become linked, the women confront their past and learn to heal and to move on.

Denise Hildreth captures the personalities of strong yet vulnerable women perfectly. She tackles the painful situations of life gracefully. At times, there was a little too much drama: how many bad things can really happen to four women? The theme of forgiveness for the past and healing for the future was evident, but it could have been achieved with more realistic problems. (I don't want to give away the ending by being more specific!)

Overall, this is a good read. I would especially recommend it to a woman who is feeling the guilt of yesterday's mistakes!

www.laurathebookworm.blogspot.com

Carly says

I have been a fan of Southern fiction for quite some time and I have wanted to read Denise Hildreth's books, but I have just not had a chance until now. There were so many things to like about Hurricanes in Paradise; it's hard to know where to begin. I guess the most obvious place to begin is with the setting. Although this

book does not take place in the South, it does take place at the Atlantis resort on Paradise Island in the Bahamas with a cast of wonderful Southern ladies (a few of them anyway). There were several times I went to the website for the Atlantis just to see the places Denise was talking about and I saw what a wonderful job of describing the resort she did. She really brings the reader right into the beauty of the setting.

Another memorable and wonderful aspect of this story is the characters. Riley, Winnie, Laine, and Tamyra are all very different, but their chemistry is unmistakable and natural. Each of these ladies has her own story of pain and each are in different stages of healing and they need each other and God to survive the storms of life. Their situations are very dramatic and tragic, but at the same time, realistic. I enjoyed watching their friendship grow to a point where they were there for each other when it really mattered.

Hurricanes in Paradise has it all. It has laughter, pain, romance, and beauty which makes for a well balanced and interesting story that was difficult to put down. There was just one thing near the end that I did not care for. I won't elaborate because I don't want to ruin it for anyone, but after reading the 'Note from the Author', I understand better the need for it. Denise did an excellent job showing the healing power of God and the importance of friendships. I highly recommend this book and I will eagerly seek out the other books by this author after reading Hurricanes in Paradise.

Leslie says

I felt like each person became my friend. The book reminds you that you don't really know people by their outside appearance. It also deals with moving on with your life after something bad happens. This book is a lot different than her other books, but I really enjoyed it. I plan to re-read it sometime.

Trinity Rose says

This book is about the lives of four very different ladies. They are all different ages, stages in life and different situations. Hurricane in Paradise takes you on a journey of love, forgiveness and peace. Even when we spend time with someone we really don't know the hurts and heartaches they have been through. This book will have you laughing and crying.

Join Riley, Laine, Winnie and Tamyra as they enjoy the pleasures of paradise while a hurricane is on the horizon in more than one way. In this wonderful book you will see these ladies overcome their fears, struggles and losses by going to the Lord and giving Him full control of their lives. One big lesson in Hurricanes in Paradise is learning to forgive yourself. Also by learning to lean on each other. A book you don't want to miss. A must read.

Nicole ((lost in the book's world)) says

...I love this book!

SO MUCH!

I don't know how I can describe this book.
