



A Father for Christmas

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Single mother Kelly Kennedy can't afford lavish gifts for her four-year-old daughter, Bree. Homeless veteran Tyler Manning doesn't believe he deserves a Merry Christmas.

When Bree asks Santa for a father and picks Tyler, both Tyler and Kelly vow to keep Bree from being hurt while fighting their feelings for each other.

Tyler struggles with frightening flashbacks that scare Kelly. Meanwhile, Kelly's criminal past threatens her chance for happiness. Tyler and Kelly must believe in the power of love to give Bree her best Christmas ever.

A Father for Christmas Details

Date : Published October 7th 2014 by Amiga Books (first published September 23rd 2014)

ISBN : 9781502474162

Author : Rachelle Ayala

Format : Paperback 152 pages

Genre : Romance, Holiday, Christmas, War, Military Fiction, Contemporary, Short Stories

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From Reader Review A Father for Christmas for online ebook

Ronalyn Wentz says

I enjoyed “A Father for Christmas.” I haven’t read a romance novel in a while and this was a nice chance to just read about a blooming romance. The story was a sweet one where you learned about Kelly and her daughter, Bree, and Tyler along with their backstory. The story is touching because it shows how love overcomes the “baggage” and you create your happiness. It’s a sweet story and ends on a good note.

Tiffany says

A Father for Christmas is a really sweet holiday love story. I’m glad I was able to read and review this before Christmas. I’m a huge fan of Rachelle Ayala’s work. She always delivers a story that’s uplifting and loving in some way.

In this book, the character Kelly gives a second chance and gets one of her own. I love that theme. We see her and Tyler, a veteran struggling with PTSD, in a strange dance of uncertainty about trust. Ultimately, when Kelly’s little girl Bree prays for a papa, she knows her prayers were heard. It’s so touching that three somewhat lost people could come together to be happy and whole on the holidays.

If you like romances, second chances, and Christmastime books this is exactly what you need to pick up.

I received an ebook copy in exchange for my honest review. My opinions are my own.

Amber says

This is one story that takes the harsh reality of life and its consequences and shows them for what they are while at the same time mixing in a healthy amount of love, understanding, and dedication to prove that there really is good in the world for everyone. The end result is a beautiful tale of how two broken and hurting people can find solace and love within the safe haven of each other. They just needed to find the courage to reach out and take hold of the incredible opportunity of wholeness and strength that was being offered to them.

Kelly knows she made a huge mistake in her not so distant past, but she made it with the best intentions in mind. Even though she knows that doesn’t justify what she did, in her heart she knows she is not a hardened criminal. She is a person who knew the consequences involved, paid those consequences and more, and now just wants to provide for her family. She is content to live a quiet yet fulfilled life taking care of the ones she loves. When Tyler Manning comes barging into her life in a very personal yet rough way, Kelly’s world is tilted on its axis enough to realize that she actually does want more out of life. She wants to feel that she is making a difference especially in her young daughter’s life, and perhaps the needs and desires that she has put on the backburner as unnecessary may not take no for an answer any longer. The problem she faces is trying to figure out how to deal with her daughter’s only Christmas wish this year – a father. Will she take this leap of faith and grab hold of the changes that Tyler promises to bring to her life, or will she shake him off and turn away awhile allowing her heart to completely turn to stone?

Seeing how the tough topics covered in this story were handled with such care and a healthy dose of love and

respect really made my heart soar. These are such heavy yet immensely important subjects that need to be dealt with, and they were addressed with such finesse that my heart really broke for these characters. I could feel the pain and suffering that they had endured and continued to endure. Finding the perfect shelter in each other provided for an absolutely breathtaking love story. I honestly don't think it could have been any better!

Rachelle Ayala is a phenomenal author who has turned my world upside-down. I have only just discovered her, but I plan on delving much deeper into her treasure trove of amazing literary creations. She has completely entranced me with her passion for writing stories that not only touch your heart but impact your soul by leaving an intense lasting impression. I feel as if she has only barely scratched the depth of her heart, but there is no denying that she pours her soul into each of her stories. I can't wait to read more from her!

Shelly says

All any child wants is love and parents who love them. The nuclear family of a mom, dad, kids and pets is a dream that I think all little ones desire. I instantly fell in love with this book because it reminded me of where I was 10 years ago....I had been thrown out of my home by my (then) husband with two babies. When I met my (now) husband, I didn't think I was ready for another relationship but I watched as he fell in love with my boys and they began to look at him like a father. That bond is truly hard to find in someone who isn't blood but it's at that point, you know it's extremely special.

Bree and Kelly hit hard times when Kelly loses her savvy Wall Street job but she goes to the ends of the Earth to provide for her daughter. When Bree tells the mall Santa that she wants a father for Christmas, Kelly feels a bit of panic. It's not like she can run into a store and grab one up! Fate, as it always does, steps in and causes Kelly and Tyler to meet. He is homeless and Kelly isn't the least bit intrigued because of how shady he seems but little, sweet Bree knows that Tyler is meant to be her father. After all, they did meet in front of the Christmas tree!

Wouldn't it be nice to have that youthful optimism again? If you're feeling down and out, this is the book to pick up and read. You'll regain your faith in the fact that our lives are not just what we make them - but also what fate has in store!

I received this book to review through Beck Valley Books Book Tours, all the opinions above are 100% my own.

Mihaela Day says

I received this ebook for free so I can review it. The story will melt your heart and eventually is going to get you smiling. Kelly Kennedy is a single mother who used to work on Wall Street, however, a bad trade resulted in her spending time in jail and losing everything but her family. She lives in the shadow of her past. Tyler Manning who gave up on his dreams of football to serve his country like his father had before, is now a homeless veteran. His past is haunting him, the world sees him as a hero but he is only a killer in his own eyes. They run into each other at the mall thanks to Bree, Kelly's daughter, who gets lost and found by Tyler. From this point on, a beautiful love story commences, not without the pitfalls of the past showing up in the present. This is a story of love eventually conquering the hearts of two people that gave up a long time ago :)

Jeanie Jackson says

A Christmas novel for all seasons. I love Christmas stories and read tons of them which is great but they often fall into a standard pattern. Rachelle Ayala seems to have a talent for going in unexpected directions and making them work. I loved A Father for Christmas and hope she continues to write sweet stories and books well as steamy romances. I will provide this spoiler, the guy and the woman do get together as one might expect but other than that element that is a must, this book provides some elements that I wouldn't expect. Thanks for giving us something different in an awesome Christmas novel!

Tamara says

All four-year old Bree wants for Christmas is a Papa. Conceived by artificial insemination, she has never questioned the lack of not having a father until she starts noticing other children having dads. Of course for a four-year old, asking Santa for a father under the Christmas tree shouldn't be a problem, right?

Bree's mom, Kelly use to have it all. A high paying, lucrative job on Wall Street and the ability to live a life of not wanting for anything. Then one day and one bad insider trade later, she ended up losing it all. Kelly is a great mom and does what she can to provide for her daughter. When she and Bree are at the mall getting Bree's picture taken with Santa, her heart breaks when she hears Bree's request of the ultimate Christmas present - a father. That one thing that has never been part of Kelly's plan.

But the funny thing about fate is that it will come knocking on the door whether you think you are ready or not. That day at the mall, Bree gets separated from Kelly. Entering the scene is one Tyler Manning. Tyler finds Bree wandering around the mall and looks after her until Mall Security locates them. Kelly is livid thinking Tyler was trying to lure Bree to go somewhere with him. Tyler is a little rough looking that day because you see, Tyler is homeless. But being homeless is his choice. He is a war vet and donates all of his benefit money to an organization that helps out Afghanistan children. Tyler has a huge heart, but PTSD makes his life difficult at times because images from the war overtake him without warning. Anyway, running into Tyler by the mall Christmas Tree has Bree convince that Tyler is her new papa. This kid is so cute!

But this story is not about Bree - no, she is just icing on the cake. This is Kelly and Tyler's story and boy what a story it is. Despite the bumpy start to their relationship and many setbacks, the love between Kelly and Tyler grows and it is beautiful.

A Father for Christmas is truly a wonderful, heart-warming story that will fill your heart with joy as you journey with Tyler and Kelly down their road to true love.

This story deals with real life issues and the characters are relatable. The author really does draw you into the story with her eloquent and descriptive writing. You just can't help but imagine yourself right smack in the story as it unfolds.

Although this is the perfect story to get you in the holiday spirit, it can be enjoyed anytime throughout the year and just reading it will lift your spirits. I highly recommend this sweet romantic story!

*I received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

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Kaitlyn says

I received "A Father for Christmas" as a promotional item on Tomoson.

I love romance books. They're my favorite to read.

The characters in this story had very interesting pasts.

Kelly Kennedy is a single mother who used to work on Wall Street. A bad trade made her lose everything but her family. She had to spend time in jail, which has changed part of her outlook on life. Once out, she did her best to make ends meet and raise her daughter, Bree, well with the help of her mother and sister.

Bree happens to be Kelly's daughter. Conceived by artificial insemination. Bree didn't know her family was missing anything until she went to school. She started to notice she didn't have a father like everyone else. She asked Santa for a father for Christmas. That same day, Bree got lost and ran into Tyler Manning.

Tyler Manning was to be a football star, but he gave all that up to serve his country like his father had. He seen terrible things that happened during the war. He suffers lucid flashbacks of those times. He's a hero in the eyes of the public, but a killer in his own eyes. He gives what ever money he makes to the orphaned children of the war, trying to make amends for what happened over there.

Tyler overhears Bree telling Santa that she wants a father for Christmas. He finds it amusing that Bree and secretly, Kelly, want a father for Christmas. Bree got separated from her mother at the mall, and Bree finds Tyler underneath the big Christmas tree like Santa said her father would be. Kelly finds Tyler with Bree, and she thinks he's trying to kidnap her daughter.

They got off on a rough start, but they keep running into each other after the incident at the mall. With the help of Kelly's mother and Bree, Tyler and Kelly get to know each other. Their relationship begins to grow, yet both of them keep pushing the other away for different reasons.

The characters were well done, but the story line had parts missing towards the end. When Tyler runs, Kelly goes to find him, but parts of the journey for them both are left out. It made the story a bit choppy and didn't flow as well as the rest of the story did.

Nannette P says

One of the sweetest books that came out for this past holiday season. A little girl plays the guardian angel of holiday love for her momma, and the romance and give take ensues.

It really is a great story, and will warm your heart.

Sonya Neal says

Kelly used to have it all, a beautiful daughter that she loved, a high-powered job that provided everything her family could want, and a loving mother. Then her job crashed around her, and Kelly is struggling to provide for her daughter. She splurges to let her daughter visit with a mall Santa, and Bree asks for a gift that Kelly never expected... Bree wants a Daddy for Christmas! Bree has finally noticed that most other kids have a Dad, and she's decided that Santa can bring her one for Christmas.

Tyler Manning is a homeless veteran who suffers from serious PTSD flashbacks. He feels guilty for what he did in the name of war, and he's crushing himself holding the weight of the world on his shoulders so that he can never be happy. When Bree finds Tyler sitting under the Christmas tree in the mall, she decides that Tyler is the Daddy that Santa sent. Suddenly Kelly has a daughter who not only wants a Daddy, but she wants a homeless man with violent flashbacks as her Daddy.

This comes across as a light holiday read, but because of the heavy topics of homeless vets and PTSD, it actually is a surprisingly deep, heartfelt story.

* I received this book to review through Beck Valley Books Book Tours, all the opinions above are 100% my own.

Teresa Kander says

What a great book to start my holiday reading this year. It's a romance, but it's not the typical "and they all lived happily ever after" sort--it's much more realistic than that.

Both of the main characters have complicated pasts, and have tried to avoid romantic relationships because of those pasts. When they are brought together by 4 year old Bree (who is probably my favorite character in the book, as she is just so darn CUTE!), neither of them has any intention of falling in love with the other, and they fight the good fight to avoid it for quite a good portion of the book. Will Bree actually find her Papa under the tree on Christmas morning, or will Santa break her heart?

There are a variety of supporting characters who add to the story--Kelly's mother and sister, and Tyler's friend Sawyer are particularly important. They have stories of their own which we learn a little about as the book progresses. I hope we get to know them all better as the series continues.

There is also a bit of a religious component to this story, although it isn't overpowering, and just seems to flow naturally from who the characters are, and how they deal with life.

If you're looking for a clean, sweet holiday romance to get you in the spirit, this is definitely that book!

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts and opinions are entirely my own.

Lyssa says

This was such a sweet story about a homeless veteran, who is giving everything he can to make up for the guilt of his actions while he was at war. Tyler Manning was easy to fall in love with and I can understand why Bree would want him to be his father. Kelly has a past too, but quite the opposite of Tyler. After losing everything she's earned as an investment banker, she has to start over just like Tyler did when he returned home from war. This is a sweet, loving story that will warm your soul! Perfect read for the holiday season!

Jessica Avancena cassidy says

My first time to read a holiday romance book and loved this story so very much. It melt your heart to read when a child wish for extra ordinary for Christmas which is to have father. Christmas is about family and miracles as well. This book is so beautiful to read. It will teach you to trust and have a second chance in life. It is also a book about military and faith. I highly recommend this book to everybody. It has romance and a little in between.

Emerald Barnes says

A Father for Christmas was a delightful Christmas read! It had every good Christmas novel needs. Romance, a sexy hero, and of course, obstacles to overcome!

Kelly has hardened her heart after a few things that happened to her, and when Tyler comes into her life, she isn't quite sure what to think about the damaged soldier who seems to be vying for her attention. It doesn't help that she has a daughter begging for a father. When you combine all of these things, it can be dangerous, but it can also be the best thing to happen.

If you love Christmas books, this is the one for you!

Michele says

It will come as no surprise to anyone familiar with my blog that I love Rachel Ayala's books. I took the advice given and read A Father for Christmas first. This short novel will definitely tug at your heartstrings as 4 year old Bree decides that she needs a father and asks Santa for one. He promised her one--uh oh--promise a 4 year old something like that you know there is going to be trouble with a capital "T". But this is an enterprising young trouble maker and takes off in search of the father promised her in the mall--then she realizes she is lost and does not know where her Mom is. Homeless veteran Tyler Manning just happens to be there and Bree decided--you guessed it. Tyler almost gets arrested for kidnapping when they finally find her Mom. Can a damaged war veteran ad a single mom manage to overcome their own problems and fears with a host of other characters egging them on?A Father for Christmas
