



Accidentally Amish

Olivia Newport

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Software creator Annie Friesen seeks refuge with an Amish family in the San Luis Valley. She's fascinated by their culture, even more so when she discovers an ancestral link to the Amish and becomes attracted to cabinetmaker Rufus Beiler. How much is she willing to sacrifice to stay in his life forever?

Accidentally Amish Details

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From Reader Review Accidentally Amish for online ebook

IrenesBookReviews says

This is book One in the Valley of Choice Series by Olivia Newport. Annie is on the run; will she run into the arms of Rufus, her new found Amish friend?

Annie lives a very busy life. Filled with the most up to date technology used to make her life easier. When she finds herself in need of a hiding place she ends up in the barn of Rufus Beiler who is part of the Amish community. Will she learn to like the ways of the Amish better then her technology filled world? Will Rufus have an influence on her or will his lifestyle cause her to run again?

I gave this book 4/5 stars. I thought the book was good but missed that certain zing that catches your attention when reading a good book. I liked the characters but they did not have much depth. Overall it was a good story and if you are looking for a Christian fiction book to escape into this book will do just fine.

I would like to thank NetGalley and the publisher for the copy of this book I enjoyed reading. I gave an honest review based on my opinion of what I read.

Jennie says

I like Amish books, I really do. I'll read anything really, and have read a lot of things along the spectrum; erotic, inspirational, amish, historical fiction, etc.

This novel seemed to just leave me hanging. The end really didn't have an ending, you were left wondering, well what happened to this person, that person, this situation, etc. I know there are going to be 2 more in the series (at least) so now I have to read those.

Just once I'd like to read a book that just wraps it all up. I don't have to wade through 3, 4, or 9 more books to find an ending.

SPOILER ALERT: I find it inconceivable that someone would give up all their money (a LOT of money) to live Amish when they don't even know if the person they care for will recipricate their feelings.

Overall, I basically finished the book because I always finish a book. I don't believe I will read the rest, and really don't look forward to them.

Marilyn says

I have received this book for free in exchange for an honest review

This in no way affects my opinion

I loved this book!!

The characters are highly believable, and just completely pull you into the story.

Annie is a very well off, very professional person. However her life gets turned upside down when things start to go funny at work. Add that to the fact that she 'finds' herself in the back of a pickup - which takes her to Amish country and you have the start to a very interesting tale. Enter Rufus Beiler, a local Amish craftsman, and not only do you have a possible romance, but the recollection on Annie's part that there were Bylers in her family history. Combine all this and you have an enthralling tale. Then add a twist, and start doing flash backs to when the original Bylers came and settled in America from Switzerland, and you really have a story like no other. This was a complete different story from many of the Amish based fiction I have read. It was wonderful and perfectly done.

I would LOVE a sequel, and would run out to buy it!!

Also, as an author note at the end, this story is based on actual history. The boat did sink, and the author's distant ancestors did complete much the same journey.

Simply a book that can not be missed - even if you don't typically read Amish fiction.

Kay M says

Accidentally Amish isn't a typical Amish book in that the main character, Annie Frieson, is not Amish. Also, this work is actually 2 parallel stories interwoven into one novel. In addition to the contemporary, romantic suspense of Annie, there is a second story about Annie's ancestors, who came to America in 1737.

The main story, about Annie, takes the reader quickly on a chase as Annie flees from her former boyfriend and lawyer, whom she no longer trusts. Annie's frightful flight from the city terminates in an Amish barn far from her hectic life as a software developer. There she meets the Beiler family as her world and her heart collide with the world of the Amish.

I enjoyed reading Accidentally Amish. I like the way the stories move right along. The characters are interesting and have unique personalities. I especially like the historical story about Jakob and Verona, who along with their five children, left Switzerland and came to America seeking religious freedom. The hardships they endured with resolution, for their faith, are difficult to imagine.

A common theme running through both stories is how to live your faith, stay true to your God and then accept the results of those decisions. The author did a great job in addressing this question.

I am not convinced that Annie's decisions are totally realistic, so it will be interesting to see what happens in the book that follows.

Tima says

Annie is running from the danger surrounding her company. By chance she lands in an Amish barn for the night. That chance encounter will change her life forever. Finding family history and perhaps a chance at love are just a few of the things that happen because of her ride into Amish country.

The characters were fun and the story was engaging. The book alternated between the current story and giving a little back story on the ancestors of the main characters. It lent an interesting twist to the story and provided information on some of the reasons the characters chose their path in life.

I enjoyed the story, but it wasn't one of my favorites. It intrigued me enough to look at the 2nd book when it comes out, but it certainly isn't gripping and high suspense. It also left quite a few questions unanswered.

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

Donna says

This book started out well with Annie, a highly successful entrepreneur in danger of losing her business to a sharp dealing lawyer/boyfriend, Rick. Somehow Rick has turned Annie's partner, Barrett, against her. Annie runs away from Rick, hides in a truck and meets an Amish man. Thus starts the tale of romance which isn't badly done, but too many questions are left unanswered...Why is Annie running away instead of just dealing with Rick legally? How did Rick manage to turn Barrett against Annie? It is suggested that Rick is a dangerous threat but we never know how this is so. Annie is 'spunky and gets what she wants' so why is she hiding from Rick? This is not consistent with her character. For an important character, Rick disappears suddenly from the story when Annie conveniently gets an offer to sell her business. All in all, a disappointing, rather annoying read.

Abbie says

Annie is a software creature and her product is in jeopardy of being stolen and if she is not careful her life could also be in danger. While trying to flee from harm she hides in the back of a truck which ends up in Amish country. She ends up in the barn owned by Rufus's family. Even though they don't know her Rufus and his family help her out. She is hiding out for a while and tries to keep her software and herself safe. At first Annie find the Amish way of life hard with the lack of electricity and other modern conveniences but the more time she spends with them the more she starts to feel at home and to question where she is going in life. Rufus knows to keep his distance from the pretty English lady but he finds himself caring for her. Can these two overcome their social differences and find love? Will Annie keep her software and herself safe?

I was not sure how I was going to like this book when I first read the description but it turned out to be a pretty good book.

What I liked: This book had a little of everything. Romance, Suspense, Amish and even Historical. I liked both Annie and Rufus as well as Rufus's sister Ruth. There was also an interesting side story dealing with past relatives back in the 1700-1800 hundreds. I thought all the different angles of this story flowed pretty well

together.

What I did not like: I thought the suspense part of the story was a little weak. I expected a little more suspense at the climax but there wasn't much. I am also going to say the idea of someone like Annie turning Amish really does not seem likely. Of course it could happen but it seems quite unbelievable to me. As much as I liked the historical side of the story and it did fit okay into the whole storyline I kind of wish it has been a book itself. I liked the characters and wish we could have spent more time with them.

Over all this was a good book and I enjoyed it. I am interested to see where the 2nd book goes. This book is different then some I have read and think others will enjoy it as well it has something for everyone.

As I was writing this review I came across what the 2nd book is going to be about. It appears this is going to be a 3 part series on Annie and her struggle to turn Amish which makes this book more believable. Now I am really looking forward to the rest of the series!

<http://abbiesreadingcorner.com/2012/1...>

Barbara says

This book goes back and forth between the 1700's and present day. Mystery, faith, lifestyle choices, religion, family relationships, and a sweet romance are all included. The two stories are tied together, and the book held my interest enough that I certainly plan to read the next two books in the series. However, the flashbacks didn't work well for me. Although the author had great reasons to tell both stories simultaneously, I would have liked to have read the older story, and then have it lead into the present day story. The characters were endearing, and the fact that there were some who wanted to leave the Amish way of life and some who were English but wanted to think about living a simpler life like the Amish and leaving most conveniences behind was fantastic, and the author did a fabulous job of helping you feel their emotions, their reasoning, etc. The other thing that bothered me a little bit is that it did not seem like any of the story lines came to a conclusion at all. The first book in a series will always have loose ends that will be continued in the books that follow, but this one leaves everything up in the air if you don't read the authors other books.

???? says

A very pleasant surprise! I don't know exactly what I was expecting, but it was much better than I felt it was going to be. i mean, the title is a little ridiculous... An enjoyable read!

Shari Larsen says

Annie Friesen is a 27 year old software developer who owns her own company. She no longer trusts her boyfriend, (who is also her lawyer), and while fleeing from him, stows away in the back of a pickup truck and ends up on an Amish farm, where she meets Rufus Beiler and his family. As she is trying to figure out a way to save her company, she finds a sense of peace and contentment as she is living among the Amish and getting to know Rufus and his family.

When she learns that she may share a common ancestor with the Beilers, she becomes interested in genealogy. She traces her family back to the 1700's. Interwoven with the present day story is the story of Jakob and Verona Beyeler, who are on a boat with their 5 children to settle in Pennsylvania.

I enjoyed this story, especially the chapters about her ancestors. I have read a lot of Amish fiction, but this is the first time I have read a story about them set in the 1700's, when the Amish were just beginning to settle in America. After reading this, I can understand why Pennsylvania has one of the largest populations of Amish. I also liked the way the character of Annie changed and grew in her faith in a believable way.

The ending was satisfying, and left me wanting more, but in a good way. There are 3 books in this series, and I have just started the next one, *In Plain View*. I know I will be anxious to read the third book also, but that one will not be released until February 2014.

Mallory says

Three stars because it is a decently written novel. Not winning any national prizes, but this book clearly had a decent writer and/editor. Another pro for this book is that there was no "easy" conversion for our English heroine to Amish, which, especially for a romance novel, demonstrates considerable restraint!!! In fact, by the end of the book our heroine Annie has only just converted her house to all propane and electricity! And! It is not even clear if she and her Amish squeeze Rufus are officially courting!!! The book ends with a kiss, not a marriage! A sneaky way to work in a sequel? Probably. Negatives for the book (let me count the ways):

1. An entire useless side story about a common Amish ancestor our OTP share over one hundred years ago thinly sold to me as "back story." Pretty sure there are less boring ways of making your book 300 pages long.
 2. The constant bring up and resolving minor conflicts (except I guess both our OTP characters not being Amish. Pretty big hurdle, I have to admit.) She is being chased by an ex-lover out for her fortune! Her business partner has also betrayed her! But now she is falling in love with an Amish man! But she constantly screws up Amish traditions/beliefs! But she HAD to be mean to her former business partner! Her ex-lover is stalking her! She kissed Amish Rufus! She forced a meeting between Rufus and his estranged sister! Annie has a concussion! Rufus has a concussion!
 3. Stop using concussions as a plot device!!!!
 4. Rufus's fixation on her hair. When is someone going to realize this is not chaste thoughts about a woman but rather fetishization?
 5. When a 27 year old can't talk to anyone about her feelings. Like we're in high school playing yes/no/maybe
 6. Point of the estranged sister side plot??? (Clearly also another possible sequel here.)
 7. Violet-blue eyes. NO. I BID YOU GOOD DAY, SIR.
-

Lynda says

How I love a good Amish story! And this was a GOOD – a VERY GOOD – Amish story. On top of that I love a good genealogical based story – and this book fills that bill as well.

There is the driven 21st century woman. Smart. Successful. Determined. Generous. And wealthy by her own efforts before the age of 30. Enter someone who wants that wealth even though he certainly has not earned it. And who does not care one bit – not even a little teeny bit – who could be hurt as long as he obtains what he

wants. If it destroys a life – so be it.

Enter a man of Amish faith who assists the woman and introduces her to a life that is a slower pace. As well as walking in the path of God's grace and love. Add his loving family. A small town totally unlike the busy, even frantic city life.

As for the genealogy – turns out our 21st gal has roots going back to the Anabaptist era and lots of centuries.

Not only does this book handle the Amish world well, it also does more than just lip service to genealogy.

This book will go into my re-read stack. If you like either genre, don't hesitate – READ NOW!

Rhonda says

Review: Accidentally Amish by Olivia Newport

4 STARS This book is a little bit different as it followed almost 3 storylines in one. I liked it even though I cried in parts. Thier was no sex scenes or swearing. Annie Friesen was scared of her lawyer and boyfriend. He tried to sneak extra papers for her to sign. He wanted to go to a meeting with her and she kept saying no. In fact she planned not to go but to leave town and go to where a rental car would be thier. But Rick followed her and when it was clear she was not going to the meeting kept calling her, texting her and was getting closer. She was figuring another way to get around him and parked in a hotel and threw the woods she could hear him shouting at her. She saw a truck in a different lot and it had a tarp she crawled in between the lumber and went where ever the truck was going. She heard a lot of the talking between the two men when they stopped. She snuck out when one men dropped off the other. Annie saw a barn it was night time and dark really dark. The horses made noises and when Rufus came to check found her. Annie told him she stowed away and asked where she was at. He told her she was close to small town and she could spend the night. He went and got her blankets and she slept in the straw. The next morning Annie was still thier when Rufus little brother and mother saw her so was invited in for breakfast. Annie with her cell phone could get the internet and she also got it on laptop but after a day she needed to plug in soon. She moved to the motel and stayed thier till a accident left her with concussion and hurt back. Rufus took her back to his family home. Annie was really attracted to Rufus and she loved the peace but she had a hard time with some of his beliefs of turning the other cheek. It Flashes back to when Rufus ancestors came to this country and some of the experiences they had. The choices they all made back then and how it affects the ones Annie faces now. The other story is Ruth and the choices she made to go to school to be a nurse. The story did not end with everything wrapped up. Would love to read more about Annie journey as she learns more about the Amish and want to know more about Ruth. I was given this ebook to read in exchange for honest review from Netgalley. 10/01/2012 PUB Barbour Publishing, Inc.

Eustacia Tan says

I think it's no secret that I quite like Amish-related books. There's something about the simplicity and utter disconnect from the world that appeals to me. And if you remember, some time back, I reviewed the frustrating yet addictive book Temptation ([link to review!](#)). Well, this is like that - English and Amish.

But so different.

For one thing, Annie (Analise), meets Rush (the Amish guy) when she stows away while running from a terrible lawyer (yes, lawyers are THAT scary). After a few misunderstandings, he helps her, and somehow, they meet more often and often. The more she sees him, the more intrigued she is with the Amish lifestyle, and the more she starts to fall in love with him (Difference #1 - It's no instalove)

Intertwined with this plot, is Difference #2 - the subplot. Annie finds out that they're very distantly related (like, they had a common ancestor a few hundred years ago). So the book flashes between the now, and then, when the Amish first came.

And in both plots, the tension between the Amish and the English way of life was present. It actually led to me consider - how Christian is the Amish lifestyle?

Before you start firing bunches of angry comments at me, let me explain.

As I understand it (but correct me if I'm wrong. Like really, false premises will never give true conclusions), the Amish are apart because they believe that they're are "chosen race" (First Peter 2:9), and to avoid loving the world (1 John 2:5, James 4:4). But if I am right, we are also called to be the Salt and Light of the world. For what use is salt if it loses it taste? It is thrown out. How does separation let one be the salt of the world? It's like being a lamp hidden in under a bushel.

If anyone knows the answer, please comment. I'm really interested in this.

In addition, this book is a very good introduction to the Amish lifestyle. It explains why they don't adopt modern technology (well, they're reluctance to adopt technology is a better word). The comparison between Annie and Rufus's lives really drove home this point.

This book is definitely a series. But the cliffhanger isn't very terrible.

Definitely a must-read for fans of Amish fiction

Disclaimer: I got a free copy of this book from NetGalley in exchange for a free and honest review.

First posted at Inside the mind of a Bibliophile

Jac (For Love and Books) says

One day I was on Netgalley, lurking for some new books to read when I saw Accidentally Amish. Now, here's something you may not know about me - I have a secret love for Amish Fiction! Every few months, I'll grab a few and read them like crazy! Well, when I saw that this one took place in Colorado's San Luis valley? I thought "Hey, a local Amish book?? I'm grabbing it!"

The book starts out a bit slow for my liking, although with the quick action you could claim otherwise! Annie is running from a work scandal (and her fiance - Rick- who may be at the core of this scandal), and

she finds her way into the back of a truck which takes her to an Amish farm in Westcliffe Colorado. There she falls in love with the beautiful view of the Sangre De Cristo Mountain Range (my picture is posted here!) and she also grows curious about the Amish way of life.

Rufus, the Amish man who "rescued" Annie is also drawn to her, but knows that he is Amish to the core. He's a likable "hero" and has a fascinating journey as far as growing his business, which leads to a mystery all of it's own - and a hospital stay when he is attacked.

SPOILER ALERT!! This next paragraph has a possible (small) spoiler!

There are two things about this book that caused me to give it 3 stars instead of 4 or 5. The first being the amount of things that were left unanswered. What was Rick really up to? I felt like that was never really answered. Also - Was Karl Krammer behind the attack on Rufus?? I felt like I would have enjoyed this book more if there was more of a resolution for me.

END SPOILER!!

Also, I wasn't a huge fan of the Amish Tale from the 1700's added in. I get that Annie finding her relation to the Beiler family is important, but I found myself starting to skim this story, as it didn't really feel like my type of thing.

In the end, Accidentally Amish is a solid tale, of Annie finding who she is and falling in love with Rufus. The whole "Let Go and Let God" undertelling is definitely present.
