



The Trouble with Angels

Debbie Macomber

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A Wing and a Prayer

When irrepressible angels Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy set out for the City of Angels to grant three rush Christmas prayer requests, they are sure they can help without resorting to, er, divine intervention. But they soon find it will take more than one miracle to teach their precious lessons of love—as well as make three special holiday dreams come true!

The Trouble with Angels Details

Date : Published October 13th 2009 by HarperCollins e-books (first published 1994)

ISBN :

Author : Debbie Macomber

Format : Kindle Edition 352 pages

Genre : Holiday, Christmas, Romance, Fiction

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From Reader Review The Trouble with Angels for online ebook

Danni says

I have really liked these books they are cute.

Nairabell says

Angels Shirley, Goodness and Mercy have been sent to Los Angeles to act as prayer ambassadors for three difficult cases. Shirley finds herself assigned to Karen Woods, a young girl who has been having nightmares since her parents painful and messy divorce. Mercy is sent to Catherine Goodwin who is praying her grandson finds a love that will rival the one she experienced years before and Goodness finds herself with a demanding case. Assigned to Paul Morris, Goodness must help the pastor to regain the faith he has lost since the death of his wife.

This is the second book in the Angels series (after A Season of Angels) and I was really looking forward to reading it. I fell in love with the irrepressible Shirley, Goodness and Mercy in the previous book so I couldn't wait to see what they'd get up to next. As with the previous book, each angel is assigned their own case but frequently join together to help each other out.

The three stories are well paced with realistic plots and unique storylines, and switching between them created some mini cliffhangers that kept me glued to the page. Shirley, Goodness and Mercy continue with their unusual ways of connecting with their charges, often with hilarious results. At times I wished for a little more depth on some background characters, like Karen's father, but their motivations weren't really relevant to the story so I can understand why they were skipped.

Faith is a key part of the story, but the book isn't pushy or aimed at forcing you to believe in religion. It simply shows how having faith (in anything) can make your life easier. Most problems have mundane solutions and the majority of the book revolves around honesty and trust between characters not divine intervention, although sometimes people just need a nudge in the right direction.

I did find the ending of the previous book to feel a little contrived, but I'm happy to say that this ending flows beautifully out of the story tying up the loose ends in a believable way. The whole book has a really positive uplifting feel which makes it an ideal holiday read.

All in all, this was a great read and I'm really looking forward to reading Touched by Angels.

Plot: 9/10

Characters: 9/10

Ending: 10/10

Enjoyment: 10/10

Cover: 9/10

Overall: 47/50

Rebamom7 says

I selfishly wanted to hear more about the folks in the first Angels book, but grew to love the characters in the second one. I have the third here in front of me and can't wait to start!!! Fun, seasonal reads!

Tracy says

This was a fun, lighthearted Christmas romance involving angels. Although I hadn't read the first book, I enjoyed this book immensely and felt that I understood the angels without knowing their full backstory. Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy are assigned as prayer ambassadors for three individuals in Los Angeles (the city of angels).

Maureen Woods is a single mom who went through a terrible divorce and has a daughter who suffers from nightmares because of all the trauma in her life. She begs her mom to let her have riding lessons. When Maureen finally locates a stable, the handsome cowboy who runs the place catches her eye.

Ted Goodwin is going to marry the girl of his dreams. Blythe is model-gorgeous, successful, ambitious, and smart. But his beloved Aunt Catherine really wants him to pay attention to Joy Palmer, the cute, compassionate, loving director assistant at the rest home where Catherine is staying.

Paul Morris lost everything when his beloved wife died. He lost his faith, his energy, and his will to live. As the pastor of his congregation, he feels a need to convey love and spirituality, but he can't get past his own hurt and grief.

The angels use tricks, miracles, and coincidences to get these three people back on track again. It's a fun, entertaining read. My one disappointment was the smattering of swear words throughout the book. They were totally unnecessary and took away from instead of adding to the story.

Julianna says

Reviewed for THC Reviews

The Trouble with Angels is the second book in Debbie Macomber's *Angels Everywhere* series that follows the exploits of Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy, a trio of prayer ambassador angel friends who have a penchant for getting into trouble. In this one, their boss, the archangel, Gabriel, is reluctant to send them to Earth to help humans because of all the mischief they caused the previous Christmas, but he's overruled by a higher power. Each of the three angels are sent to help three different people for whom many prayers are being said, but they occasionally try to help each other with their respective assignments as well. This time around, they're a little more grounded than before, trying their best to stay out of trouble, but they do still engineer a few events that they fear Gabriel might frown upon. In the end, though, all is well, and since there are more books in the series, I'm sure they'll be back for more high-jinks and heartfelt assistance in the next volume.

Shirley, the oldest and most experienced angel, is sent to help Maureen, a woman who is so mired in hatred and resentment for her ex-husband, it's causing stress in both hers and her daughter, Karen's lives. Karen wants more than anything to get a horse for Christmas. Knowing that isn't feasible, Maureen brushes off her daughter's Christmas wish, until Shirley works a little angelic magic to gently drive Maureen toward the

compromise of Karen getting riding lessons instead. It just so happens that Thom, the owner of the stable, is a widower whose daughter, Paula, is the same age as Karen. The two girls hit it off and become instant best friends. Thom is also instantly attracted to Maureen and begins pursuing her almost immediately. Of course, Maureen is slow to warm up because of what her ex put her through which has soured her on men in general. Thom is maybe just a teensy bit too pushy in the beginning, but I grew to like him as their part of the story progressed. He's a great influence on Maureen, encouraging her to forgive her ex in order to relieve some of the bad feelings that are causing Karen to have terrible nightmares. He also has a gentle and supportive side that is very much unlike Maureen's ex, and despite my slight misgiving early on, Thom ended up being my favorite of the male leads in the book.

Goodness is tasked with helping Paul, a minister whose faith has been wavering ever since his wife died two years earlier. Now he's being drawn into the life of one of his congregants, who is facing losing his own wife to the same form of cancer that took Paul's. This sends Paul into a downward spiral of depression as he tries to balance his ministerial responsibilities with taking care of his own emotional health. He's also looking forward to spending Christmas with his son, Joe, but Joe comes home with a surprise fiancée in tow and the announcement that they'll be spending the holiday with her family instead. Paul is a man at loose ends with whom I could relate. After going through something as traumatic as losing a spouse to cancer, he's understandably feeling betrayed by God, and then having to watch yet another woman succumb to the same disease is devastating for him. This part of the story was by far the darkest one, and at times, came close to being a tearjerker of a read for me. The reader can palpably feel the heaviness on Paul's heart. He eventually receives a message that gives him the closure he so desperately needs, but it doesn't come until the very end. This is also the only one of the three story lines that doesn't really contain a romance.

Last but not least, Mercy is sent to help Ted, whose grandmother, Catherine, has been praying that he'll find the right woman for him. Everyone, including Mercy, seems to think that the perfect person is Joy, the resident service director at Catherine's assisted living facility. The only problem is that Ted is already involved with Blythe, a co-worker who it seems he's close to proposing to. However, one "arranged date" with Joy reminds Ted of all the things he doesn't like about Blythe and proves to him that Joy is the better choice for him. But Joy is reluctant to get more deeply involved with Ted when he was so recently close to getting engaged to Blythe. She thinks it's just Ted having cold feet about making a commitment. Ted is pretty sure that isn't the case, but Blythe may still hold sway over him in an unexpected way. Although it wasn't perfect, this was probably my favorite of the three sub-plots because it's the closest to a traditional romance. However, the characters gave me cause to question their actions a couple of times. Like Thom, Ted is a tad pushy, saying he won't take no for an answer once or twice, which isn't really my cup of tea. Also Joy was crushing on Ted until he went out with her, and then she suddenly didn't entirely trust him. The feelings that Ted and Joy develop for one another come about a little too quickly to be entirely believable, too. But the angelic intervention and their obvious rightness for each other helped to make it more credible.

Overall, *The Trouble with Angels* was a heartwarming book that was a nice conclusion to my holiday reading this year. I liked all three of the story lines and felt that each of the people the angels were sent to help experienced admirable growth throughout the book, especially Maureen and Paul. Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy are also a treat. They care so much for their charges and always try to do their best to help even though they sometimes feel like they might be messing up or occasionally get a little off track. Due to a small amount of mild bad language, I wouldn't really categorize this book as an inspirational, but it does have a pretty overt faith message that might not be for everyone. However, I felt that it was handled with a pretty light touch that should resonate well with anyone who believes in God and angels. While it might not have reached the heights of perfection, *The Trouble with Angels* was still a very pleasant read that already has me looking forward to finding out what new mischief this angel trio might get into in the next book, *Touched by Angels*.

MaryEllin says

Easy read, and enchanting angels. What else do you need?

Jen says

Cute book. The blurb made it sound like it was going to be saccharine and cloying, but it was well written and dodged the danger of being too sweet by a mile. So props to the author on avoiding the typical pitfall that most Christmas books makes, too sugary and cavity inducing.

This would have been five stars, except. SLIGHT SPOILERS AFTER THIS PART.

The Joy/Ted/Blythe triangle.

Ted was dating Blythe, was planning on popping the question. She was obviously the wrong woman for him. She was beautiful, selfish, focused on looks and money and was basically a witch on Manolos. Ted meets Joy, who is sweet and giving, the complete opposite of Blythe. Ted falls for Joy immediately, kisses her and then wants to date her.

Without telling Blythe he wants to date other people or breaking it off with her.

Joy says no, but never says that he needs to tell Blythe or break it off with her. She gives in to his demands for dates.

But this all becomes ok, because Blythe ends up being pregnant by the married man she's been seeing on the side.

No, just no. Ted should have respected Joy's no. He should have been honest with Blythe when he realized he wanted to see Joy too.

This whole plot line drops the book two stars for me. I don't abide with cheating, period.

The rest of the book was good and realistic. Well, I guess the triangle WAS realistic, but I like my realism to not be TOO realistic, not so realistic that it leaves a bad taste in my mouth. Books are for escaping reality, not wallowing in it.

Well, the other two plots involved a pastor who lost his faith when he lost his wife to cancer and a bitterly divorced woman who's bitterness was affecting her daughter and her chance at happiness. The bitterness after divorce was realistic and the moving forward from that felt realistic and hopeful to me. Good HEA for that. The pastor's issues also felt very real to me, despite never having gone through what he did, I could FEEL his utter depression and despair and then his hope after going through it all.

The angels were cute and not too hokey.

Cute and sweet read for Christmas. Not the best, that JTB triangle irked me, but the rest of the book made up enough for it to earn this book three stars from me. You can definitely read worse Christmas themed books than this. I would read other books by this author for sure.

Luli says

You can find this review in English below.

My Trouble with angels. Angels Everywhere. Oh, yes...

Pues creo que esa línea prácticamente lo resume todo. O casi todo. Lo de los ángeles me ha sacado de mis casillas, he intentado saltarme los párrafos que protagonizaban porque, de verdad, me tenían los nervios hechos cisco. Ejem, aunque para ser sincera tampoco es que yo sea una persona calmada o paciente... ;)

Pues esta historia consta de tres historias de personas que lo están pasando realmente mal: un pastor que perdió a su mujer dos años atrás y con ella a su fé, una divorciada que aún no se ha recuperado de los sinsabores de su matrimonio y una anciana que ve acercarse el final de sus días y le gustaría ver a su nieto favorito enamorado de la mujer ideal.

Las tres historias parecían interesantes, pero creo que esta autora tiene debilidad por el melodrama, si es dentro de la familia, mejor que mejor, y eso ha empañado el resto de la trama. Eso y, ¿cómo lo diría yo?, lo superficiales que son las historias. Buenos muy buenos, malos muy malos y resoluciones que, no saldrán de la manga, pero sí de las alas.

No me han gustado y no he encontrado el sentimiento navideño por ningún lado.

:(

My Trouble with angels. Angels Everywhere. Oh, yes...

Well, I think that line almost sums it up everything. Or almost everything. The angels got on my nerves, I tried to skip the paragraphs starred by them because, really, my nerves were on edge. Hem..., although to be honest I am neither a calm nor patient person... ;)

So this story consists of three stories of people who are really going through a bad spell: a pastor who lost his wife two years ago and with her his faith too, a divorcee who has not yet recovered from the troubles of her marriage and an old woman who longs to see his favorite grandson in love with the ideal woman.

The three stories seemed interesting, but I think this author has a fondness for melodrama, and if it is within the family, all the better, and that has tarnished the rest of the plot. That and, how would I say it? That, and the *shallowness* of the stories. Good people are extraordinary good, bad people are very bad and the stories' resolutions well, they weren't pull out of a hat but a halo.

I did not like them and I did not find the Christmas feeling anywhere.

:(

Lorna Collins says

One of my all-time favorite Christmas books. Debbie's meddlesome angels, Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy, make their first appearance - and it's a memorable one. I often reread this during the holidays. And I rarely reread anything.

Briansmom says

A sweet Christmas novel that features the "prayer ambassador" angels Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy. A nice, and different, addition to the usual Christmas fluff, with 3 different, yet intertwining, stories.

Dawn ♥ romance says

I enjoyed these three intertwined holiday stories that kept my attention throughout but most of the book was negative. It did a good job establishing the problems then in the last few pages everything turned around. Not real believable. Three angels help 1) a bitter divorcee and her 12 year old daughter, 2) an adult grandson find the right girl, and 3) a widowed pastor losing faith after his wife's death.

Marianne says

The Trouble With Angels is the second book in the Angles Everywhere series by popular American author, Debbie Macomber. Once again, Christmas is fast approaching and, against his better judgement, Archangel Gabriel sends three angels, Prayer Ambassadors Shirley, Goodness and Mercy, down to Los Angeles to deal with the desperate prayers of certain LA supplicants.

Karen prays that her mom, Maureen can stop hating her dad, Brian, even though he left them for someone new, and get on with her own life. Oh, and she'd like a horse too, if it's not too much trouble. Shirley delights in this assignment, finding that Thom Nichols and his riding school might just answer both prayers.

Goodness is sent to Pastor Paul Morris, a widower who has been unable to deal with the grief of losing his wife to cancer. His friends and parishioners have flooded Gabriel's prayer book, and Goodness sees this is a challenging assignment that will need some careful thought.

Mercy is sent to see the elderly Catherine Goodwin, who prays for the right partner for her beloved grandson, Ted. She believes that Joy Palmer, resident service director at her home, Wilshire Grove, is the right candidate, so when Ted turns up to visit with the gorgeous Blythe in tow, she may have to rethink. Mercy is quietly confident, though, that she can see this prayer answered.

Macomber gives the reader three separate, slightly Christmas themed, stories that are linked only by the Angels. They are sweet tales, mostly fairly predictable, although a twist or two keeps them interesting. The Queen of Feel Good keeps her title with this little collection.

3.5 stars

Brooke says

Enjoyable quick read. Lots of life, laughter & love.

Melinda says

Another lovely read. Something light and feelgood and fluffy...perfect for a rainy day.

Kristina says

This is a nice fluffy book with happy ending...I recommend series for someone wanted a nice happy light read to get away from the crazy of the holiday. It is my goal to read a book from this series every Christmas to help cope with the stress that usually involved. It reminds you to wonder what forces are behind life. This one especially hit home if the Pastor dealing with his own emotions and passing of his wife. That was interesting to see how he lifted himself up from his situation.
