

Debbie Macomber

A Turn in the Road

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Sometimes, where you *think* you're going isn't where you end up...

In the middle of the year, in the middle of her life, Bethanne Hamlin takes a road trip with her daughter, Annie, and her former mother-in-law, Ruth.

They're driving to Florida for Ruth's 50th high-school reunion. A longtime widow, Ruth would like to reconnect with the love of her teenage life. She's curious and maybe even hopeful.

Bethanne needs time to reflect, to ponder a decision she has to make—whether or not to reconcile with her ex-husband, Grant, her children's father.

Meanwhile, Annie's out to prove to her onetime boyfriend that she can live a *brilliant* life without him!

So there they are, three women driving across America. They have their maps and their directions—but even the best-planned journey can take you to a turn in the road. Or lead you to an unexpected encounter...

From Seattle's Blossom Street to the other end of the country, this is a trip that could change three women's lives.

A Turn in the Road Details

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From Reader Review A Turn in the Road for online ebook

Booklover says

WOW!Such a wonderful read,excellent second chance read,i felt i was actually with Bethanie,Ruth n Annie on the road trip,such a excellent story about how each woman are trying to find answers and way to happiness

Bethanie liked her a lot but at some places i was irritated with her,taking all the crap things from her daughter though i was glad she never gave in and did what her heart wanted to do, and she took a long time taking the decision but was really really happy she went with Max,i agree Grant and she had a happy marriage but he did went and betrayed those vows and i disliked the fact Bethanie somewhere blamed herself for his cheating but Andrew gave her some sense she is a great mother and was a good wife it was Grant's fault totally

Ruth hurted Royce her first love horribly and things between them ended really bad now she wanted forgiveness and hope for second chance,liked their story very much and was glad theses two mended fences and were together

Annie is a intelligent smart selfish yet good at heart,i disliked her a lot in few scenes,she really acted very selfish and immature,she didn't behaved as a 22 year old adult but most of time she behaved worse then a child and she crossed lines many times,who is she to get angry and see messages of her mother and spy on her really wanted to smack her for her immaturity,in start she analysis her behaviour after divorce how she blamed Bethanie more cause she became boring and her father went to Tiffany though she is ashamed but i still felt she still blamed Bethanie,i understand she wants her parents back but she really crossed lines many times,she acted selfishly but then as she passes through same phase as Bethanie though Vance didn't cheat but he kept secret from her and realised hoe her mother might have felt and slowly she realised its not to going to work and gives up and when she gets to know Max she likes him and is happy for her mother

Max is one of the most favourite character in the book after Rooster,he has went through so much but his loyalty n determination and his confidence in his love made me adore him more,he never once did pressurize Bethanie let her make her own decision and finally his love wins

Grant what can i say as Andrew said whatever place he is in,however lonely he did it himself,way he abandoned his family and turned his back,today when he has no one he realises his importance of his family and regrets his actions but as he himself said it is too late,when he cried at end felt bad for him but as the saying goes "as you sow so shall you reap"

Overall a good read
Recommend it

Leslie says

Without being mean or snippy I'll say that for a light read, and a clean conscious, this is a good book. Otherwise, I was bored at times. Again, too much repetition of facts I already know about the characters. Honestly, sometimes I think the new age writers, or their editors, believe the readers have trouble

comprehending and remembering things we've previously read. It's an irritation for me. For instance, how many times does Bethanne have to repeat to herself, other characters, or to the reader, that she and Grant are divorced, and all that went into that... I don't like repetition if it's simply for filling pages. I've been reading so many authors that do this lately and it really irritates. Anyway, I did appreciate the relationship between Bethanne and Max, that it stayed on a mature level, in my view. However, it was kind of crazy they would fall in love....but this is romance so I can't knock it too much. For a nice, romance with more than one angle going on, Macomber did a good job. But please, writers, quit just filling pages with inane conversations of the characters problems we've already been through more than once. I get it!!!

Jackie Lane says

While this book was so out of the ordinary for the Blossom Street series, I ended up truly enjoying myself.

A road trip to Florida from Oregon helps to find love, hope and happiness.

Bethanne takes a road trip with her daughter, Annie and her ex-mother-in-law, Ruth. During the time the three spend driving to Florida for Ruth to make her 50th reunion, they share experiences that at times are crazy and fun and at other times are bittersweet. Each of them has a decision to make and will take the time to work it out in their own way.

(view spoiler)

Sandy says

Loved this book! I must have been in the mood for a warm, humorous, loving story because it's not that there's anything "meaty" about it, it was just enjoyable. I wasn't sure how it would end and that's always a good thing. Also, I could see myself and some of my family members as the characters. A light, fun read!

Darlene says

Awesome!

I hoped so much, Bethanne makes the right decision! Sie did!

Jo says

Another in the Blossom street series, except off the street and on a cross country road trip. The main characters from the series are: Bethanne Hamlin who we met earlier in the series after her husband, Grant, left her and her two children for a younger woman (after some struggles she became a successful businesswoman); her daughter, Annie; and her former mother-in-law, Ruth. Ruth, is planning to drive from Seattle, Washington to Vero Beach, Florida to attend her 50 year high school class reunion, and Bethanne and Annie join her to keep Ruth's kids from putting the kibosh on the idea.

Bethanne's ex-husband has made it known he wants her back now that his second marriage has fallen apart; she is going on this trip to give herself time to think, but along the way meets someone who makes the decision harder than ever. Annie thought her boyfriend was going to propose marriage and instead he broke her heart by telling her he was going to travel Europe with friends for a year, just expecting her to wait for him. Annie goes on the trip because she's at loose ends. Ruth says is going back to see old friends, but is really going back to see her old high school flame, and apologize for hurting him.

I listened to this one as an audio book. I usually like the Blossom street books a lot better than the Cedar Cove books. However, this one got on my nerves. The main reason was Annie who whined throughout the whole book and generally acted as though she were an immature 14 instead of someone one year away from an MBA. She was repetitious beyond endurance and tattled like a little child to her father. Also, Bethanne's indecision drove me nuts (probably moreso because I don't like her ex, who felt like a controlling stalker type and who in past books had been a pure cad -- why the hell would any adult woman consider taking him back in her life?). I did like Max - yum!

?ntellecta says

"Debbie Macomber's style is on a straight line. . I liked some places in the book but this is not valid for the whole thing. Usually if two people love each other, they have to kiss or have certain relations. I can not feel the coldness and the love between the characters in this subject."

Judy & Marianne from Long and Short Reviews says

Answers. Bethann needs answers. She's a creative, decisive, successful business woman, but making a decision about a possible reconciliation with Grant, her contrite ex-husband has her flummoxed. Her daughter Annie and her ex-mother-in-law Ruth are lobbying hard for the reconciliation. Her son Andrew, who never quite forgave his father for leaving them six years ago, is not so gung-ho for it, but says it is up to her.

Hoping to reach a clear decision while making a trip with Ruth and Annie from Seattle to Florida, Bethann goes with the flow as Ruth and Annie adjust and readjust the original route they would travel. As Ruth reconnects with friends of long ago and Annie licks her emotions wounds from a romance that took a wrong turn, Bethann wrestles with her dilemma. Although she and Grant have a twenty-year marriage history, she had recreated herself in the last six years. She is no longer that person who would be content to just be an adjunct to Grant.

To add fuel to her quandary, a biker (can you imagine!) with sad, knowing eyes that flash with desire sends her body into overdrive, her heart racing, and her mind questioning her sanity and many other things. Life gets complicated for Bethann.

Grant knows he erred big time when he divorced Bethann. Now he, with the help of Annie, is working hard to get her back after six years. She had complemented him during all their years together, helping him become very successful. He needs her and wants her back like it used to be.

Max, the biker, and his friend Rooster ride with Willie and Skunk part of the time, But, at times, Max rides alone when Rooster goes back to tend to his advertising business. Max has not come to terms with the death of his daughter and wife. For three years he has drifted leaving his business in the hands of his brother.

When he sees Bethann, he realizes he can FEEL again, breath without pain, and face the future. He “gets right” with God after she told him about her situation and how she finally realized that she had to unclench her fists of anger to fill her hands with happiness, joy, and love. Max’s good deeds, sense of fair play, and amazing forbearance add depth to this man who deals so gently with Bethann.

The unique connection between Max and Bethann touches deep emotions. They both have lost what they most treasured. They recognize each other’s grief, a grief that eases as they share with each other in a way that transcends the physical.

Ruth’s hopes and fears about seeing her high school sweetheart and first love is a heartwarming part of *A Turn in the Road*. It has so many delightful revelations. While Ruth seeks an old love, Annie, so angry with her ‘old’ love, enjoys meeting and having fun with new guys as the three women make their way to Florida. The way each of these three women evolves to a new stage in their lives is mesmerizing reading.

Debbie Macomber does a magnificent job of creating characters so life-like that some feel like one’s very own friends and acquaintances, while others come across as plain-old ornery people one hopes to avoid. The reader vicariously experiences the thoughts, hopes, fears, and deepest desires of the characters. With humor, remarkable description, and phenomenal character development, Ms. Macomber takes the reader right along on this life-changing trip with Bethann, Annie, and Ruth, AND gives the reader heroes that make the heart dance with joy.

A Turn in the Road is exquisitely written and sparkles with humor and an appreciation for life. Super reading!

originally posted at <http://longandshortreviews.blogspot.c...>

Donna says

I really, really loved this!!! Some of her books have too little romance for me to really love, but this one was great. The different storylines with all three generations were all enjoyable. I was on edge through a lot of the book because I was afraid Bethanne would make the "wrong" choice!! The author did a great job of keeping us unsure which guy Bethanne would chose!! I loved the author's insights into each family member's emotions and thought processes. This was one of the best books in this series.

Melissa says

I enjoyed this story of 3 Generations of women driving Cross Country from Seattle to Florida. Ruth (the Grandmother and Ex Mother in law) wants to go to her High School Reunion and possibly rekindle a old romance.

Bethanne is struggling with her decision on whether or not to go back to her ex-husband and decides to take this Cross Country trip, and her Daughter rides along also.

Along the way they have several adventures, and meet two very nice Gentleman. A loving story of family and finding love again.

Kym says

Debbie Macomber " A Turn in the Road"

From Seattle's Blossom Street, Bethanne Hamlin, her daughter Annie, and her ex-Mother-in-law, Ruth, take a road trip of a lifetime !

Ruth was determined to drive to her 50th class reunion in Florida. She has secret hopes to also see her high school sweetheart, Bryce. Ruth wants to make amends with her first love, all these years she has felt horrible for the way she left him.

Bethanne agreed to accompany Ruth on the trip, she needed time to reflect on the fact that her ex-husband, that left her six years ago for another woman, wants a chance to reconcile.

The adventure brings them to many turns in the road, like their first stop, Pendleton Oregon. It brought Ruth back to the place she lived as a newlywed, and she was able to connect with a long lost friend. Bethanne also meets a biker, Max whom she cant get out of her mind. This makes her decision to reconcile even more complicated.

This book is an amazing example of the saying "It isn't the ending, but the journey that matters" You will fall in love with the characters, and feel like part of the family. Debbie Macomber has a wonderful ability of drawing you into her character's lives. Her books stay with me, even after I have closed the cover.

Megan says

This book was painful for me to read. The whole book was about whether or not she should get back together with her ex-husband. Her ex cheated on her, abandoned her and their kids, and then decided six years later that he couldn't live without her (after the new wife left him). Yeah, yeah, we need to forgive and all that, but the characters and the plot just bugged me. The only reason I kept on reading was because in the past, I have really liked a lot of Debbie Macomber books.

Gülay Cansever says

Mutlu sonlar? kim sevmez de?il mi? Bethanne hayat?n?n karar?n? verecek, peki bu karar a?amas?nda ba??na neler gelecek dersiniz. Merak ediyorsan?z hemen okuyun derim ?

Nancy says

That had to be the longest road trip of my life. I know that some people can tolerate a great deal when a particular book in a series hits the wrong nerve, but having to put up with Annie, the 23ish year old daughter of main character Bethanne, was almost enough for me to wall bang this book and walk away from this series. If her constant immaturity and whining had been toned down a bit, I would have accepted what she had to say, but she was just too much.

In addition to Annie, other little things kept bothering me while reading this book. Why would a woman, Bethanne, whose husband left her for another woman six years prior, even consider getting back with him? What woman in her right mind, who has gone on to create a good stable career from scratch, ever considers this emotional U-turn? In addition, a little research needed to have been done on road trips - driving from Flagstaff, AZ to Albuquerque, NM takes five hours and not "a little over two". This is where the bogging down in my reading occurred. Every time a travel distance or location come up I would have to stop and picture a map and wonder why they did what they did. Possibly, I was concentrating on the wrong parts of the story, but to be honest, I needed a break from Annie.

Ok, enough venting.

Bethanne Hamlin has agreed to take her ex-mother-in-law Ruth to her 50th high school reunion. Ruth was prepared to take the trip alone, but Bethanne was not too sure that a 70-something woman should drive from Seattle to Florida on her own. Annie, the annoying daughter, invites herself along so the three women jump into the car for a life changing drive across the United States. Being a "romance", each woman has to come to terms with the men in their lives, Bethanne's ex-husband Grant wants a second chance, Annie's boyfriend realizes he has made a mistake and wants Annie to be home waiting for his return and Ruth, my favorite character in the book, agonizes over meeting up with a boy from high school.

I have enjoyed some books from this series, a few have hit the right chord with engaging characters, but other should just be skipped. Overall, I do not think that this particular story moved the Blossom Street series forward. Very little was mentioned of the original group or even Blossom Street in general.

Catherine says

A nice cozy Hallmark story. Love the bond between mother daughter, and ex-mother-in-law. The road trip was a great idea. Except I thought the daughter, Annie was a brat. Tried to be too controlling. The dad screwed up and did not deserve. A second chance. Enjoyed with a cup of hot chocolate.
