



You for Christmas

Madeline Ash

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Regan Case wouldn't know the right side of the tracks if they ran her out of town. She's lived hard since she ran away at sixteen, but eight years later, an accident has terrified her into pulling her life together. And that means finally going home for Christmas.

Taking her return one step at a time, she ends up on the doorstep of her sister's best friend, Felix Nickson. The man indebted to her after she jammed ten grand down his trousers in high school and enabled him to escape his own demons. Felix agrees to let her stay, but doesn't count on the chemistry that burns hot between them.

As they get into the Christmas spirit, he watches Regan's shadows fade away and discovers that beneath her careless attitude, she is by far the bravest woman he's ever met. He falls for her, fast and hard, but she fears she doesn't deserve such a good man. A black sheep cannot change her colors.

Can Felix forgive her past or would asking for his love be one too many miracles this Christmas?

You for Christmas Details


Date : Published October 29th 2015 by Tule Publishing

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Author : Madeline Ash

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From Reader Review You for Christmas for online ebook

Lenore Kosinski says

4.5 stars — OK, this one turned out to be a total Christmas gem!! I had no expectations going into it, had never even heard of this author — just saw it on BookBub or something like that. And it's turned into one of my fave holiday reads this year!

This isn't just some fluffy romance read either. There are some dark issues that are dealt with, though you don't find out exactly what happened until near the end of the book. I thought Regan was written beautifully...you could really tell that she was struggling with something horrible in her past that had shaped her into the woman she became...and she was a very broken and troubled young woman. Sometimes her rough edges were hard to handle, especially b/c you end up falling in total love with Felix (we'll get to him), but in the end, from my completely inexperienced perspective, I thought she was portrayed and behaved exactly as someone with those past demons would.

Now onto the shining star of this book — FELIX!!! I fell in love with him right from the prologue, with his shyness and inexperience. He was just everything. Patient, kind, though not without a rough edge or two in the beginning. I just wanted to steal him away from Regan and hug him to death. Maybe it's b/c I have my own geek to love, but he was just everything I love in a book boy.

And their bantering back and forth was a HIGHLIGHT for me! I absolutely love snarky wit and sassy comebacks, and the way they played off each other was delicious. Heck, even at the end there was great interaction with all the secondary characters — which of course makes me want to read some of their stories, so wishlisted.

So basically, we have a holiday winner. I even loved that it was set in Australia and you got to see how Christmas would be in their hot summer. On a side note, as a Canadian, it was a little disheartening that it was all about ice and snow...;)

<https://celebrityreaders.wordpress.co...>

Joy says

I loved this book. It was the first book of Madeline Ash's I have read, and it certainly will NOT be the last. Madeline hooked me in from the first page. I adore her writing style. The cute and quirky way she described her characters and their idiosyncrasies had me wishing I could write as well. I celebrated through their highs and suffered through their lows along with them, whilst they struggled for their HEA. A very satisfying and rewarding book to read in the holiday season.

Elaine says

What an amazing, emotional, moving festive story this is!

Regan Case had been in foster care for years. When she was sixteen she gave money to help the boy next door, Felix Nickson, leave his abusive father and asked him to make sure he took her sister with him, then she ran away herself. Eight years later she's had an accident which has made her reevaluate her life and made her want to reconnect with him and her sister so she's travelled from Canada back to Melbourne. Once there she finds out where Felix now lives and knocks on the door of his apartment. . . .

Regan has been traumatised by events in her teen years, she's learnt to protect herself and her feelings by building a fortress around her heart. She comes over as fierce, wild, self reliant, independent and a loner, but that's only an act and the accident has started demolishing some of those walls. Felix is the only person in the world who owes her, knows she's soft beneath those barricades and that her serious attitude problems are really just an act to protect herself. She wants to change so seeks his help . . . even though she's uncertain she dare reconnect with her sister as that will mean revealing why she ran.

The story has some very emotional scenarios in it, written so well it is easy to empathise with the characters and feel their angst and turmoil. It definitely has a dark subtext, though the reason isn't discovered till near the end (and I'm not spoiling it by telling that here) and despite that it is still a positive story, showing that despite past events, love can find a way to help heal - especially when mixed with some hope, festive magic, family love and self acceptance. It is good to reconnect with some characters from earlier novels by this author, especially Dee and Jed from 'Her Secret Prince'. It is a brilliant story that I have no hesitation in highly recommending.

Thanks to the author, publisher and NetGalley, too, for letting me read an ARC of this book in exchange for this, an honest review.

A Reader's Heaven says

(I received a free copy of this book from Net Galley in exchange for an honest review.)

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I have read a few of Madeline Ash's stories recently and have enjoyed them all. This one is no different. I am not usually a "holiday romance" kind of reader but I picked it up on the strength of her other work.

And this was another pleasant surprise. This wasn't the usual romp through the Christmas romance aisle of the local supermarket - this story had some real heart; histories for the characters, some real emotional connection with each other; some moments of levity that keep the "festive" theme at the forefront, without letting it get too light and fluffy. But most of all, for me, it wasn't an insta-love story that we seem to get

from these holiday fiction stories. These pair had history and connections that were more developed than just "caught in a snowstorm, let's have sex" kind of way.

Paul
ARH

Melody Cox says

*** 4.5 Stars***

This is a new-to-me author and I really enjoyed this book. I thought the story was quite lovely.

Regan Case seems like your typical bad girl. She's lived a hard life since she ran away from home at the age of sixteen which was eight years ago. She decides it's time to return home, turn her life around and make amends with the sister she hasn't seen in eight years, the sister she ran away to protect.

Regan has no one and as she plans her trip back home there is only one person who comes to mind, that may be willing to help her, Felix Nickson, her sister's best friend. Felix was seriously abused by his father because he was a computer nerd instead of a football muscle-man player. When Regan found out that Felix was running away after graduation and not planning to return as long as his father was alive she devises a plan. She gives him \$10,000 and begs him to take her sister with him since they were best friends. She is doing this to protect her older sister from the horrors that she, herself, has faced living with a foster family.

I have to say that Felix is one of the best heroes I have read about and I loved how he loved Regan! Swoonworthy!

This is a safe read.

Sleepless says

An emotional rollercoaster! The transformation of Regan from ugly duckling to princess is uplifting!

To be honest I didn't care for the protagonist Regan! She was hard to like, prickly and flighty! Thank goodness I stayed with the story to see this wonderful young woman emerge as a beacon of strength and determination in a world of tragedy and regrets!

Felix is a rock of kindness, support, love and understanding! He elicits from Regan the courage to face the pain and heartache she has evoked! With Felix by her side, Regan accepts the consequences of her well intentioned but brutal flight to obscurity!

With love and kindness nurturing her broken life, Regan blooms into the strong beautiful young woman she was meant to be!

Powerful storytelling and a rewarding Christmas story of happy endings!

Coco.V says

?FREE on Amazon today (12/14/2018)!?

Terri Lynn says

It was a nice read but lacked the romance. I am a huge fan of romance books, and this was a little disappointing. Also, I don't think the epilogue did the book any justice. I could not connect to the characters and didn't feel their love. Usually, with Epilogue's I am left swooning, and this didn't do that for me. I rarely read novella's that have many year gaps between the main characters, and since there was an eight-year gap between the main characters I expected more romance to connect the readers. However, as I mentioned before, it didn't feel like a romance read, though it was quite interesting. I thought it would have been a short, sweet romance read; therefore, I was disappointed.

I will say that I will not read the rest of the books, they are too short, and I will not pay \$2.99 or \$3.99 for ten to eleven chapters. If they were enrolled in kindle select, I might have read the next book in the series to see if the romance picked up, but not for that price. I wouldn't recommend one clicking if you are looking for a romance read. Although the chemistry was there, the plot focused on too many other problems, which took away from the main characters.

Louisa says

Will Regan and Felix get what they want for Christmas

I really enjoyed this story it kept me hooked from beginning to the end. Felix runs away from his abusive father the moment he finishes high school with his best friend Stevie. They are able to survive thanks to Regan, Stevie's younger sister giving Felix half of the money she stole from her foster family. Jump forward 8 years Felix is in a successful job with no real life outside work. Regan shows up at his door full of secrets including the real reason she stolen the money because she too ran away. The sparks fly between them but will Regan let her past keep her from the future she deserves

Joan says

This was pretty depressing really, and not much really happened There wasn't much character development either - just woggles of metaphors and purple prose that became tedious when the whole book seemed to be just between two people. . The Christmas aspect seemed to be added on somehow and as a Christmas story this was a major fail. There was no 'Christmas' feel to the book other than decorating a flat and buying a tree.

The writing exhausted me. The emotions were all the same vary much and the sentence structure sometimes too choppy as if the writing is gasping for breath. I wanted the story to take a long deep breath and relax, to ease off on the sexual tension and hidden secrets...though it was obvious from the start what the secret is. I

want some lighthearted laughter, I wanted to enjoy the relationship and see how Felix coped with Regan. Instead I got reams (and reams... right through to the end) of this:

She had hidden, believing acute loneliness was better than what had come before. Uneasily, it occurred to him he mightn't want to see into that sack of secrets, after all. They might tear his heart out.

Regan wondered how her skin was strong enough to contain the madness within. As the plane landed out of Byron Bay, her insides were pummeled by fear, guilt, and an unbearable sadness. Such selfish emotions, they all fought for center stage, careless of the fact that their raging left her brittle and on the verge of cracking.

And this:

Thrown, she resumed stepping in the footprints he'd made in the sand. A perk of being antisocial was not having to deal with inadequacy, but for a moment, her shortfalls joined the cram inside her. As if there was room.

The ending was unsatisfactory. (view spoiler)

But he didnt. And I hated him for that.

And yes, this is the first in a series, but there were too many unanswered questions to make me feel satisfied at the end of this book.

Carrie says

As a teenager Felix Nickson didn't have the best home life and had been planning on leaving home as soon as he graduated high school. When Regan Case, the younger sister of Felix's best friend, approached Felix just as he was about to leave home she pushed a proposal on him that Felix couldn't refuse. Giving Felix ten thousand dollars to get his new life started all Regan wanted in return was for Felix to take her sister with him and protect her and for Felix to share one kiss with Regan before he left.

Now, eight years after that day that Regan helped change Felix's life Regan has returned to town and asked for a place to stay but not to let her sister know she was back. Regan herself had ran that night from horrors in her home that only she knew but she had also stolen the money to help Felix and to gain her own freedom. Not knowing whether he should trust her but knowing he owed her a debt from before Felix agrees to let Regan stay for the holidays but before they know it that small spark started from a kiss eight years before begins to grown.

You for Christmas is the third book in the Rags to Riches series by Madeline Ash. Each book in the series features a new couple so it is not necessary to have read the other books to enjoy this story as it reads fine as a standalone novel.

The one thing that I enjoy the most with a story such as this one is that there is some kind of history with the characters to explain a more fast forward type of relationship. The story was quite the emotional one with

both characters back stories involved where each had a tough time growing up and things they needed to escape from. The book is fairly short so things move rather quickly between Felix and Regan but since they had grown up together and both had their own demons the pair fit rather nicely and the more rushed nature makes more sense.

Overall, a fast pace emotional holiday romance between two somewhat flawed characters who had escaped their pasts.

I received an a copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.wordpress....>

Nikki says

This wasn't quite what I was expecting. It was a well written story but quite difficult topics for a Christmas read.

It deals with abuse and rape, handled well but not what I'm looking for in a Christmas read.

I kindly received a copy from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Opinionated says

Oh my gosh..... I was not expecting that!

I loved the whole kit and caboodle of this book. I had not read the first two books..... but I am definitely going to now!

This story was so well written... I just adored Felix, and my heart just went out to Regan.

Get your tissues ready as you read about sassy Regan's reunion with secure and stable Felix.

This damsel in distress and white knight story left me feeling amazing!

Thank you, Madeline Ash.

Julieb says

#writingskills

The writing, grammar, and editing were all excellent, which is critical to me because I notice everything. Poor skills are very distracting and bring a whole story down. I noticed a few minor glitches, but they could probably be chalked up to me being American. ;)

Now for the good stuff. The story touched something in me. I connected with the characters, even the minor characters. I haven't read the previous stories in the series, so had no basis to go on. The brief descriptions were spot on and not overly explainy. Sorry, I like making up words. The characters of Felix and, especially Regan, were complex and real and totally believable. Ms. Ash took a complex situation and story and made

it flow so smoothly while capturing and holding my attention from beginning to end.

Chelsea Nicole says

So for some reason I was absolutely hooked to this book. I loved the character growth and I really like both Reagan and Felix. I'm not too keen to the damsel in distress skit but Reagan really did need someone. It was heartbreaking reading about her struggles and all you wanted to do was give her a hug. I also liked that this wasn't your typical Christmas story. I don't live in an area where we get snow for the holidays so it was a bit more relatable that way.
