



A Joyous Season

Fern Michaels, Hannah Howell, Jennifer Blake, Olga Bicos

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Meghan finds a baby and love on Christmas Eve, Phoebe falls for Santa while trapped with him in an elevator, Jessa flees an arranged marriage and finds her mate in the Highlands, and Andi turns a property dispute into passion, in four tales by Fern Michaels, Hannah Howell, Olga Bicos, and Jennifer Blake.

Four holiday hits from four of the genre's favorite authors! "Merry, Merry" by Fern Michaels features a veterinarian who figures her holidays are going to the dogs--until she meets a handsome stranger; in "A Vision of Sugar Plums" by Jennifer Blake, Meghan Castle is a real Scrooge about the holidays--until she discovers an abandoned baby in her store on Christmas Eve and a chance at romance; in Hannah Howell's "The Yuletide Gift", a young woman flees an arranged marriage and finds shelter and love in the home of a Scottish laird; and Olga Bico's "Naughty or Nice" finds a nervous bride-to-be trapped overnight in an elevator on Christmas Eve with a handsome department store Santa she can't resist.

A Joyous Season Details

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Author : Fern Michaels , Hannah Howell , Jennifer Blake , Olga Bicos

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Dawn ♥ romance says

I enjoyed three of these four holiday stories. 1) Peter wants to buy veterinarian Andi's property. 2) Meghan finds abandoned baby in her store and also Peter. 3) In 1400, Jessa flees marriage landing at Murdoch's castle - didn't finish. 4) Phoebe is trapped in elevator with Santa Jeff on eve of her wedding - my favorite.

Anne Marie says

There were good points and bad points about the story, Merry, Merry. The storyline of a struggling vet, Andi, and the man she "falls in love" with, Peter, who wants to buy her land, was good. Even Peter's grandmother, who goes to great lengths dressing as a homeless woman to set Peter and Andi up was a cute thought. The rest of the story, pathetic. For example, I do not like when things get unrealistic and sugar-coated. There wasn't any rhyme or reason as to why these two even fell in love. Second, Peter, being an important businessman, acted stupid to say the least, rambling on and on, and even giving his Mercedes keys to a teenager he just meets so she can drive his car to his house...yeah, right. I couldn't wait for this story to end when Andi gets sick and decides to bring her animals to Peter's Christmas party, doing their business in his house. And this is supposed to give the house a lived in look and be funny? I'm disappointed with this author, who I thought wrote better stories than this!

I know, I can't help reading these sugar-coated stories, like A Vision of Sugarplums. I always have hope, though. Even though this book was published close to twenty years ago, it would be very pathetic that someone finds a baby under a Christmas tree in a store, and agrees to take care of it with the rich, single, hunk of a man that is the only customer left. Not afraid of kidnapping charges or why this baby was left unattended, Meghan and Rick take the baby back to Meghan's condo and proceeds to take care of her. Two things that continuously bother me in these stories are how unrealistic they are and the characters hiding or not telling the truth. This story had both qualities. Why Rick couldn't have just said he was Annie's uncle is beyond me.

The Yuletide Gift was another story I wasn't thrilled with. But overall, it turned out to be ok, even though it took place in 1400. Jessa does not want to marry Colin MacDubbh, and I don't blame her. He has over twenty children and one on the way. So she runs away on her wedding day, gets caught in a snow storm, and ends up at Dunstanmoor castle, meeting Murdoch, who has been depressed for 3 years since losing his wife and son. Jessa brightens up the place by having them celebrate the holidays, and when Jessa's parents find her, Murdoch doesn't want her to leave so he marries her, becoming happy once again.

Phoebe, to be married the next day, Christmas, gets stuck in an elevator with Jeff, whose wife died three years ago on Christmas and is still getting over it. Not so shocking, the predictable, unrealistic, events in Naughty or Nice make this book disappointing. Phoebe never really loved her fiance, Marshall. Phoebe and Jeff talk about their lives, Jeff opening up about his deceased wife and his daughter. Phoebe and Jeff "fall in love," Marshall meets a reporter, and Jeff realizes he just needs to get on with his life, with Phoebe of course.

Andrea Guy says

This collection of short holiday stories is from 1996 and the four stories couldn't be more different. I loved

that it had both historical and contemporary romances in the one book.

The stories included are Merry Merry by Fern Michaels, A Vision Of Sugar Plums by Jennifer Blake, The Yuletide Gift by Hannah Howell and Naughty or Nice by Olga Bicos.

This collection was wonderful, mostly because the stories were so unlikely. I usually like my stories realistic but at the holiday that's not the case, so when a vet and a makeup mogul get together that's fine by me. Or when two people get trapped in an elevator for 5 hours and fall in love, I'm fine with that too. I even liked the guy who pretended his niece was an abandoned child to get to know a shopkeeper. But best of all was the Scottish runaway bride.

So you can see that the four stories here were very different. I loved them all, but the historical, The Yuletide Gift was my absolute favorite. I loved Jessa and her highland laird with the wounded heart.

Four very different stories, but all four were entertaining reads.

J.A. A Giaquinto says

This is an anthology, and my favorite one is about a Lord and the woman he falls for, and I loved this book so much that when I lost it on a plane, I searched for it and found it again on Amazon! I could NOT lose it!
