



## **A White Christmas in Webster County**

*Laura V. Hilton (Afterword)*

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### A Mother's Helper

Mercy Lapp is ready for a fresh start. Having lost her beloved fianc in a fishing accident during his rumschpringe, she escapes the painful memories by moving from her community in Shipshewana, Indiana, to Seymour, Missouri, where she takes a job as a mother's helper. She isn't exactly shy, but she's hesitant to get involved with the youth in the community because she isn't going to stay. She especially doesn't want a new romance.

### An Adventurous Hero

Abner Hilty is excited to see his twin brother, Abram, for the first time in years. The two fled their hometown of Shipshewana when their witness of a murder put their lives in danger, Abner heading to Montana to work on a ranch and hunt big game, Abram meeting a girl in Missouri, marrying, and settling down there. Abner decides to spend the holidays with them in Seymour, but he has every intention of returning to Montana, maybe even for good.

### An Unexpected Snowstorm

At a chance encounter, Abner is immediately drawn to Mercy, and even more so when he realizes that they've met before, back in Shipshewana. Initially alarmed, Mercy soon warms to his attentions, even though she keeps him at arm's length. She also branches out and begins attending youth functions, forming new friendships that are solidified during a rare snowstorm. Just when Mercy and Abner are beginning to think about a long-term relationship, Mercy gets a phone call that changes everything. The information would have been welcome months ago, but now that she knows Abner, she's torn, and she will have to do some serious soul-searching to decide how to act on it.

## A White Christmas in Webster County Details

Date : Published August 14th 2014 by Whitaker House

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Author : Laura V. Hilton (Afterword)

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## From Reader Review **A White Christmas in Webster County** for online ebook

### **Karen says**

A White Christmas in Webster County is an awesome book. The author, Laura V Hilton, wrote a fabulous story about two young Amish people, Mercy and Abner, who were trying to forget their past and move on. The book was a page turner, I couldn't put it down especially when Mercy's fiancé came back. Wow! I didn't expect that. I had to keep reading to the end with tissues in hand. I absolutely enjoyed reading this book and highly recommend it to anyone who likes reading a little Amish romance with a little mystery. Laura V Hilton did a fabulous job and I'm looking forward to reading more of her books. I was provided a copy of this book by the author/publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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### **D.J. says**

I had no idea... when I began reading **A White Christmas in Webster County** that I would NOT be able to PUT IT DOWN until I finished it... I even went back and re-read the last few pages...

IT WAS THAT GOOD!

Seriously... if you loved reading the other books in the Amish of Webster County series, you're really gonna LOVE this one! My daughter will agree – since she found me reading in bed last night — a little past midnight, because I was determined to finish it.

IT'S SO GOOD !!!

The story is wonderful and original and even better – it brings back characters we met in Laura's first two series, The Amish of Seymour and The Amish of Webster County.

This is most definitely not a story you have seen over and over, and it certainly isn't a plot you would ever expect to see in an Amish Fiction story – as a matter of fact, many of Laura's books have plots that you would never expect to read in an Amish fiction story... but it works! Perfectly!

It's a wonderful thought to be assured that, while their faith may differ somewhat and the way they live is more plain than most (if not all) of us, the Amish really are not so different from us!

Laura V. Hilton is an AMAZING author...

In two separate interviews I recently read, she said that she writes, edits the previous days writing, writes more, and when she finishes the book, it is done – no rewriting, except for minor edits and the final read-through.

If you've read Laura's books, then you know that her books are blessed by God. I don't think this is the norm for many authors. Laura says she prays – a lot – over her books.

Well, it certainly shows... they're wonderful!

I don't know about you but I can't wait to see what's next from Laura!

Disclosure of Material Connection: The opinions I express are my own, but I received this book free from the author in appreciation for featuring her this month on my blog.

God bless you!

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### **Tina Watson says**

A White Christmas in Webster County is a must read this Christmas season. OK for any time of the year you could read A White Christmas in Webster County. It is beautifully written that no reader could get lost at following along with the characters. Laura V. Hilton uses the right amount of descriptions, that you could almost feel like you are right there with the character experiencing what they are experiencing as it is happening.

Have you ever been walked all over?

Have you ever had someone tell you what you HAD to do?

Have you ever been lied to?

These questions are themed in A White Christmas in Webster County. One or more characters will have had to experience these questions by the end of the book. Also themed into the book is trust and faith. Do you trust? Do you have faith?

I loved it. I was on the edge of seat to know what was going to happen next. I loved all of the characters. The book was easy to follow. I did not feel lost in what I was reading. A White Christmas in Webster County is a very clean fictional book based around the Amish.

I received a free copy of A White Christmas in Webster County by the author in exchange for my honest review of her work.

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### **Judy says**

Laura V. Hilton, You Did It Again!

Has author Laura V. Hilton ever written a book you couldn't get into? In my opinion, absolutely not! I have read every single one of her Amish Fiction reads and they just keep getting better and better.

I love an author that can grab my interest from the very first page. Laura is one such author.

Looking for romance? It is definitely here in this book. Looking for a little mystery? Yep, it is here. Maybe it is a little suspense that you like. Once again you will find it in this book. Lies, manipulation? That too is here.

Mercy Lapp's story is one of the best I have read. I loved this character. She starts out being a little intimidated by life and people in her life. Does she continue to allow this to happen or does she finally take the bull by the horns and shows some spunk? I'm not telling!

The journey this book took me on, made me laugh, cry, gasp oh no!, and had me praying. Praying? Yes, I have been known to pray for fictional characters.

The characters in this book are easy to love and a couple are easy to make you say....wait a minute now, you can't get away with that!

Has God walked away from Mercy? That's what she thinks at times.

I don't think the author will mind if I quote a passage from this book that hit home with me. The author wrote, "The shortest distance between the problem and its solution is the distance between your knees and the floor." Now that statement spoke volumes!

I absolutely loved this book and I wanted more when it ended. There are a lot of life lessons included in this story line. It is definitely a five star read.

I wish to thank Whitaker House and author Laura V. Hilton for allowing me to read and review, *A White Christmas In Webster County*. The opinions expressed are mine alone.

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## **Dawn says**

Terrific story by Laura V. Hilton. A story of loss and moving on and one of love a first sight. I love the characters in this book. Mercy Lapp and Abner Hilty are two characters that bring out a range of emotions for the reader. Ranging from love, sympathy, anger, and joy. An absolute must read for Amish fiction lovers. I would give more details but don't want to give away the details of the story.

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## **Nancee says**

A snowy Christmas is quickly approaching in Webster County, Missouri. Abner and Mercy meet quite by accident and Abner sets the pace for romance by announcing that he intends to marry Mercy. Both have suffered grief and anguish in the recent past, and Abner finds Mercy to be his answer to prayer. A dizzying romance ensues. Characters from previous books in the Webster County series make an appearance.

As is customary with Laura V. Hilton's novels, love is definitely in the air! This author has created another passionate romance that will quicken your heartbeat while employing discernment and Christian principles. I loved the determination that Abner's character personified! The characters in this book are very well developed, and there is no room for boredom. You'll be reading this one until the wee hours of the morning! Grab a copy and settle in for a memorable experience! I highly recommend this wonderful Amish Christmas

novel.

Disclaimer: I received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for my honest review. All opinions are my own, and no monetary compensation was received for this review.

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### **Barbara Thompson says**

A White Christmas in Webster County is a fantastic book. The author writes a fascinating novel about two Amish young people trying to leave their past and move forward. As they're moving forward, they meet and form a remarkable bond. This book grabbed my attention from the first page, took me through a few twists, and then "WOW" What an ending! To me, this is not a typical Amish book, but I believe you would find it very enjoyable and thrilling. I loved A White Christmas in Webster County. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book and highly recommend it for reading and make a perfect gift for someone. I'm looking forward to the next book by Laura V Hilton.

I received a complimentary copy from the author in exchange for my honest review. This review is one hundred percent my opinion.

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### **Cindy says**

Shew, this book sizzled. It was fun to meet Abner, Abram's twin brother, to see their differences and their similarities. Laura always writes a great story and this book was no exception. I liked Mercy but she could be frustrating, when she waited for people to tell her what to do. My conclusion is this is a story you do NOT want to miss. Great character, great sizzle factor, and a great setting. The Christmas setting was fun. Most unliked character in this story, was Paul. Favorite lines in the story "Abner raked his fingers through his hair, dislodging his hat. It fell to the ground. He left it lie. "Not to mention, this... Paul... has been dead a year. He really should've had the decency to stay dead." Sorry that made me laugh. Bonus, a yummy looking recipe at the end of the book. One more added bonus was getting to meet back up with favorite characters from the other Webster County books. 5 stars from this reviewer. This book was provided by the publisher for my review, no payment was received for this review.

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### **Dali Castillo says**

Only Five?

Sometimes I read a book where I ask myself, "You mean the highest rating I can give it is a five?" And I must say that A White Christmas in Webster County is one of those books. I definitely don't make that statement lightly. It's the truth. Laura Hilton has a way of writing stories that grab you from the very first page, and often times from the first line of the book, as was the case with this story. The first page was funny, silly, endearing, romantic, and definitely peaked my curiosity right off the bat, and made me a fan of Abner Hilty from his very first line in the book. Mercy's reactions to Abner were priceless as she was completely caught off guard by this young man that was so different from any that she had ever met. And thus begins their story.

I so enjoyed how the author unfolded Abner and Mercy's story. I thought I had a few things figured out but the author threw in a few unexpected surprises making the story that much more enjoyable. Laura Hilton is a pro at writing love stories mingled with humor, surprises, and a message of faith, and she hits the mark once again with this book. Although her books in a series can be read as stand alones, I very much enjoyed how she brought back characters from previous books. She blended them in flawlessly to where not having read the past books was not a deterrent in the flow of the story.

So, that being said, A White Christmas in Webster County is a most enjoyable story that well deserves a rating of not only five, but five plus, plus, plus!

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.

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### **JoAnn Plante says**

This was unexpectedly a very good story. Although I'm not familiar with Amish customs, the author told the story through the eyes and ears of each character. The reader could sense the fear, confusion, and seriousness of deviating from their religious beliefs. The story does have a good ending and each character stood out from the others. Every character was woven into the story and added to the suspense and mystery of the final outcome. This is a great Christmas read and I would recommend this to anyone wishing to read a story about love and trust at Christmastime.

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### **Crissy says**

A White Christmas in Webster County by Laura Hilton transported me from my couch in Ohio to Webster County. I easily reconnected to the characters from her other Webster County books, but did not feel as if anything would have been lost had I picked this book up first. I enjoyed this book to the point dinner was late one night because one more chapter quickly became ten. I cheered for Abner and Mercy, cried with them, and can only hope we will get to check in on them in the future. - Christine B.

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### **J.C. Morrows says**

OK... WOW!

There should be a warning label on this book:

**WARNING: DO NOT PICK UP THIS BOOK IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING IMPORTANT TO DO!**

Seriously... if you pick it up, you won't be able to put it down unless someone makes you.

Laura V. Hilton is putting out some positively amazing books lately! Not to say that her previous books weren't great but to be honest, I didn't get pulled into them like I did with A White Christmas in Webster



County and The Snow Globe – I was blessed to review an advanced copy of this wonderful book which is scheduled for release in November of this year.

A White Christmas in Webster County is actually scheduled for release September 15th so this is a bit of an early look at it too!

The story is wonderful and original to boot. This is definitely not a story you see over and over, and it certainly isn't a plot you would ever expect to see in an Amish Fiction story but it works, it really works!

Wonderful to realize that, while their faith may differ somewhat from ours and they certainly live their lives more plain, the Amish are not so different as we might think! I know I related to Mercy in a lot of ways.

I don't know about you but I can't wait to see what's next from Laura!

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

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### **Linda says**

A White Christmas in Webster County by Laura V. Hilton is my first book by this author but will definitely not be my last. This is a book of hope, being truthful & trusting in der Herr (the Lord) in all areas of life. Both Abner & Mercy find themselves needing to heal; Abner from being a witness to murder & Mercy from losing her fiancé in a drowning accident. Mercy goes to Seymour, Missouri to be a mother's helper, & Abner Hilty leaves Montana for a visit to see his twin brother, Abram, for the first time in years. When Mercy meets Abner, she declares him 'scary'. When Abner meets Mercy he declares his love for her & from there the adventure begins! Abner is adorable & a true gentleman; Mercy at times unsure of herself. Will Abner win Mercy's heart? Will Mercy be able to stand up to her Daed when he demands she come home after she learns the truth about what happened to her fiancé? Throughout the story, Abner & Mercy rely on scripture to get them through the rough patches. Some of the characters were introduced in previous books but this is definitely a stand-alone book. This is a wonderful read to kick off the Christmas season or to be read anytime of the year. Also, would make a wonderful Christmas gift.

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### **Wendy says**

#### **BACK OF THE BOOK BLURB**

Mercy Lapp is ready for a fresh start. Having lost her fiance in a fishing accident during his rumschprunge, she escapes the painful memories by moving from her community in Shipshewana, Indiana, to Seymour, Missouri, where she takes a job as a mother's helper. She isn't exactly shy, but she's hesitant to get involved with the youth in the community because she isn't going to stay. She especially doesn't want a new romance.

Abner Hilty is excited to see his twin brother, Abram, for the first time in years. The two fled their hometown of Shipshewana when their witness of a murder put their lives in danger, Abner heading to Montana to work on a ranch and hunt big game, Abram meeting a girl in Missouri, marrying, and settling down there. Abner decides to spend the holidays with them in Seymour, but he has every intention of

returning to Montana, maybe even for good.

At a chance encounter, Abner is immediately drawn to Mercy, and even more so when he realizes that they've met before, back in Shipshewana. Initially alarmed, Mercy soon warms to his attentions. She also branches out and begins attending youth functions, forming new friendships that are solidified during a rare snowstorm. Just when Mercy and Abner are beginning to think about a long-term relationship, Mercy gets a phone call that changes everything. The information would have been welcome months ago, but now that she knows Abner, she's torn, and she will have to do some serious soul-searching to decide how to act on it.

#### MY REVIEW

I really enjoyed the first three books in this series so when I won this book in a contest I was more than thrilled. Although I thought the book started out a little slow, a little less than half way through it started picking up for me and it wasn't long before I found myself staying awake into the wee hours of the morning to finish it. WHAT a finish it was too, you see by the blurb that Mercy got a phone call that could change things for her but that isn't even the beginning of the changes. If you don't read this book you will really be missing out on something great, that's about the jist of it. You don't want to pass up this Christmas book. Laura you did a fantastic job on this one too.

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#### **Cheryl Baranski says**

A White Christmas In Webster County, By: Laura V. Hilton

This is the story of Mercy Lapp. She has taking a job as a mother's helper to get away from the pain of losing her fiancé in a fishing accident. Abner Hilty is a twin who has come to Missouri see his brother Abram and his wife. Planning on staying with them the holidays with them. He plans on returning to Montana to his job and too big game hunt after the holidays., until he suddenly meets Mercy Lapp. He is immediately drawn to Mercy. Mercy is slowly learning to open up and take a chance again when she receives a phone call that could change everything.

I absolutely loved this book. There was never a dull moment with this book!

It kept you wanting more and more. I was cheering my favorite characters on in this book. An excellent read! 5 stars!

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