



## The Mercy

*Beverly Lewis*

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## **The Mercy** Beverly Lewis

The Amish and modern worlds clash in this moving conclusion to The Rose Trilogy as two sisters love young men lost to the English world. The Rose Trilogy book 3.

### **The Mercy Details**

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Author : Beverly Lewis

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## From Reader Review The Mercy for online ebook

### Victoria Goodbrand says

This was good but I found it was hard to get through.

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### Audrey says

Things finally got sorted out for Hen and Rose. Hen and Brandon get reconciled after his accident. Both of their hearts have softened towards each other and their marriage is stronger than ever. It wasn't so easy for Rose. After she called off her engagement with her fiance she dates another man from a neighboring community. After awhile she realizes that he isn't the man for her and has to decline his marriage proposal making her grief-stricken. Rose still yearns for Nick, her childhood friend. When he returns to the Amish community and becomes baptized her future is much more promising.

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### Cindy says

Rose Kauffman misses her friend Nick, but he left the Amish community after his adopted brother died, his rebellious spirit, has led to the "silencing" of his adopted father Bishop Aaron. However Rose knows that her life must go forward, because Nick will probably never come back, and besides, he is not Amish, and she is determined to follow God.

She is happy that her sister Hen and her husband Brandon have resolved their relationship, and are now living closer to home and also serving God together in a small country church nearby. They seem so happy, and another baby is on the way.

As Rose moves on with life, she is sure that she has finally found love when she starts dating a boy from another district. Isaac however does not seem to be as dedicated to his faith, as Rose is to hers, and she is crushed when she finds out that he really is trying to live in the English world and the Amish world both. She knows she can never marry someone not dedicated to the Lord, or to his faith.

My only negatives I have to say about this book is it ended too quick, it seemed to wrap up way too fast. Also it was book three of a trilogy, and it really made the story to know what the first two books were about (which I read them) I prefer for a story to stand alone.

A great story however, told in true Beverly Lewis style! A great redemptive story of Hen and Brandon, a wonderful story of redemption of family values for Hen. I loved their characters and was glad their ending was happy. I also loved the ending for Rose, but no spoilers here!! 4 stars!

This book was provided by Bethany House for review purposes only, no payment was received for this review.

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**Rebekah says**

I really like how everything was resolved in this final book of The Rose Trilogy!

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**Stephanie says**

This book completes the entire Rose trilogy. I enjoyed the trail of events and liked the trilogy overall, but by the time I got to the latter part of the third book, I was becoming restless. It felt like it was dragging and I didn't care about what Rose was cooking - I just wanted the story to make full circle - which it did - and I expected it would. I enjoyed the last two books the best and although the last one ties up all the loose ends, I felt like there was more action in the second book.

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**Steven Walle says**

Full review shortly.

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**Stephanie Williams says**

A quick read that has everything end well. A palate cleanser book.

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**Carly says**

If you are a regular reading of my reviews you will know that I am about as finicky as can be when it comes to Amish fiction. There are just a few Amish novelists that I really like a lot. I have not read much from Beverly Lewis. I find that prolific authors may not take the time to fully develop a plot and characters because they write so many books. That was kind of how The Mercy felt to me.

I don't want to say that I didn't like any of this book. I did like this book better than the last one in this series, The Judgment. This book felt a bit more developed and much more cohesive. I like the characters and Beverly's writing of the Amish life. She has quite a following and is adored by her fans. I have yet to become a fan, but as my reading tastes change and I embrace more Amish fiction, I can see me enjoying a Beverly Lewis novel more than I do now. I have found Rose to be a likable character, and that can do a lot to enhance the reading experience as it did here. Overall, The Mercy is a pretty good book. Not my favorite Amish novel, but it did have several high points that made it a worthwhile read.

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**Tasha says**

Here are my thoughts on the series overall.....

### 1) Irony!/Nobody's perfect

Is it me or does anyone else find a lot of irony in this series? For one thing, I find the People's attitude toward Nick versus their attitude toward one of their own very contradictory. Starting with Solomon's opinion of Nick which is initially one of concern regarding his rebellious ways and develops into a blind judgment when he realizes that the worldly boy and his daughter have feelings for one another baffles me. I think there was something about Nick that made Mr Kaufmann see him as an "outsider" in every way (and to be honest, Nick's disdain for the ordung didn't help). What got to me is that Solomon had no problem welcoming his Englisch daughter Hen back into the community, no questions, no judgment. Hen's attitude toward Nick was the most annoying for me. I understand she didn't want her sister to make the same mistake she did (marry and outsider and turn her back on their family, tradition, church, etc) but she spent the first two books judging and detest the worldliness of her husband and her sister's best friend that she couldn't come face to face with her own selfishness. She was ignorant to the fact that while she had every right to desire a return her Plain roots, the manner in which she went about it was very self centered. She coped with her guilt over turning her back on her family and faith with a "its my way or the highway" attitude. Granted her husband Brandon had the same mindset, which didn't help but from the perspective of the third book, it seems that her impulsiveness served as a catalyst for Brandon's anger and frustration. With the same hastiness that she married him she left him to return to her family. She didn't consider her family when she left them to marry Brandon nor did she fully consider Brandon's perspective when she re-adopted her family's convictions. With that said, you would think in the first book she would've extended some mercy and some empathy for Nick, but no. I believe her lack of understanding for Nick was really misdirected resentment towards her own predicament which was brought about by her hasty decision making. I also found it ironic that it took Rose so long to appreciate what Nick had to offer her. In her defense, Rose was brought up in a community that is not as flexible as ours and out of all the characters, her perspective wasn't cluttered with prejudices and was thus clear enough to see the good in Nick. However, it surprised me that she was somewhat blind to his devotion to her, a devotion that she searched for throughout the series and could never seem to find it in other beaux (Silas and Isaac). To think that while Nick was undeniably loyal to Rose and saw her for the rare flower that she was, she almost missed out on his because she was distracted by a guy who was in love with someone else and by another guy who had one foot in the church and one foot in the world. I think that the People weren't patient enough with Nick. They were so consumed with making sure that he became grafted in with their traditions and rules that they missed the real role community played in conversion, which is support, understanding and love. In the first book it seemed like most of the characters were just tolerating Nick and/or waiting for him to do something that caused irrevocable damage thus causing for his expulsion from the community instead of genuinely reaching out to him in love.

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### **Kat Rose says**

Plot: I just finished my first Amish Trilogy and loved it. I loved the ending especially. I'm not going to spoil it for you, but I have to comment how it was smart on Lewis' part to leave it open for the readers to imagine what happens. Normally, I don't like this kind of an ending because I like when the plot is tied up in a bow and presented to me.

Characters: I love Rose Ann and Hen. They remind me of my sister and I (Me being Rose Ann and her being Hen). Their personalities are contrasting. Hen leaves the amish life and marries an englisher while Rose joins the church and dates other Amish men. Hen later comes back to her roots while Rose stays strong in her

faith. I like Nick and Brandon as well (Nick more than Brandon). They both grow up english, but gets a taste of the amish life. They both have to find their ways back to God whether returning to their old roots or planting new roots.

Final thoughts: I have learned about the way of Amish life through these books. I want to read more books like this. I was gifted another amish trilogy that I'm willing to give a shot now.

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### **Sheri says**

This final book in the trilogy follows two storylines: the first half is primarily about Mamm's struggle with pain, while the second half focuses on Nick's disappearance.

While the writing, wasn't awful, there were a lot of things I found disappointing or unbelievable about the story itself. **THE CONTENTS BELOW WILL CONTAIN SPOILERS.**

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My first problem with this was the resolution of Mamm's story. While I appreciate that things weren't magically better for her, they came pretty close: she's suddenly pain-free and strong and getting out of the house regularly when before she'd been homebound for years; at the end of the book, she even feels tingles in her legs. This whole story thread felt too good to be true. I know that we're supposed to see Beth's pure faith and her incredible dreams and be awed, but... I truly would have liked the story better if Mamm had died. I think it would have been more realistic (especially since she was on the brink of death for a while and then seemed to magically regain her health even before seeing the doctor, as if just the hope was enough to cure her weakness) and would have provided an opportunity for Rose to struggle with grief. Perhaps Lewis felt like she had enough struggles going in this book, but I was disappointed at such a quick, rosy ending to this thread.

My second problem was with Hen. I mean, in the second book, she's completely 100% loving everything about the Amish lifestyle. And I know that she needs to compromise to save her marriage, but it surprised me that makeup and clothing were things she happily returned to. I can understand the convenience of electricity and cars, but after her complete disdain for the clothing she left behind, I found it shocking that she returned to it so happily. I thought maybe she'd go for simple dresses or maybe modest modern, but the makeup seemed like a pointless concession, and the whole thing felt false after her way-over-the-top-opposite behavior in the last book.

Then there's Rose. She's been so careful to distance herself from Nick because of his worldly leanings--even going as far as to essentially cut off contact and get engaged to Silas in the first book, willing to marry someone she doesn't fully love for the sake of her faith and principles. And now I'm supposed to believe that she'd really get into a long-term relationship with a guy who isn't a church member and seems to be constantly pushing boundaries? I know he's from another district and thus there's much she doesn't know about his daily life, but I'd think that his enthusiasm for working for an English farmer and his coolness toward his more conservative twin would have been immediate red flags; having him openly admit to going biking and driving a dune buggy should have had him out the door. Maybe we're supposed to think that she's just gotten desperate enough for marriage that she's willing to compromise, but after her sister's experience, this strikes me as false.

Speaking of things that strike me as false: Nick. Yeah, I can believe that he's always been good-hearted, but I

find his complete and total 180 personality change to be unbelievable. When he leaves town, Rose has said that he shouldn't stay because trying to force himself to be Amish would kill him; then, less than a year later, he comes back--having had positive experiences on the outside with his work at the homeless shelter and having deliberately finished his semester at community college--and he's meek and mild and suddenly wholly Amish. If it took Hen five years to wander back, having had no outside experience and only the burden of caring for her mother to run from, I find it hard to believe that eight months would be enough to turn a boy who spent the first ten years of his life in the outside world and was tormented daily by his Amish brother in the decade he spent with the People.

Finally, I was waiting this whole book for Lewis to pull out that "Nick can somehow sense when Rose is in trouble" card and have him come rescue her. I mean, why even bring that up in the first book if you're not going to use it later in the story? And there were a couple places when I was sure she was going to use it--like when Rose was in the ravine alone and thought that if anything happened, no one would know where to find her; or, better yet, when Rose was taking George out to visit Hen the evening that Isaac was out of town (and Nick was home). Why would she talk about how restive George is or how she's slightly nervous because she hadn't ridden him in a long time if she wasn't going to follow through on those tidbits and have the horse throw her?!

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### **Jerry says**

A great conclusion to this trilogy. It's easy to see why Beverly Lewis' Amish books are among the most beloved works of Christian fiction.

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### **Miriam says**

Rose Rose Rose why are you dating this obvious demon boy? Or maybe he's an evil vampire. I mean, I get it, you like vampires, you keep almost marrying them. But deep down, you know you really want the werewolf. But now you are dating a SECOND vampire, and this one is even more wrong for you. He's not even a really solid Amish vampire.

Luckily, this is a good Christian romance, so in the end, you go with the right guy - the beautiful werewolf who ran off into the world, and clearly found the prime werewolf and was released from the evil spell that made him a werewolf because when he returns he's ready to be a good plain Amish man who follows the sun and works in the fields. The curse also lifts off of simple Jeb, who comes and tells tales that release him from the local shunning sorcery.

In side stories, Brandon and Hen get back together and make babies. wut wut!

I was a little disappointed by how quickly the story ended though. There could have been a little more courtship between Rosie and the werewolf, after she forgives him and her father is all "go to him" in my opinion.

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**Rachel Copeland says**

I love happy endings! ^.^

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**Sylvia says**

I loved this book!! Great story!! love this author!! one of my favorite authors!!

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