



Special Delivery

Laura Browning

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Welcome home to Mountain Meadow, Virginia—a small town with a big heart, where love is just around the corner...

All Holly Morgan wants is a safe place to have her baby. Nestled deep within the Blue Ridge Mountains, miles away from her abusive ex-fiancé, Spence, Mountain Meadow seems perfect. Holly can manage a few meddling church matrons if it means Spence can't find her. Harder to handle is Jake Allred. He may be a dark-haired hunk, but he's also someone Holly can't trust: a cop.

Since his time in the military, Lieutenant Jake Allred has lived to protect and serve. And if anyone needs protection, it's Holly. Having been let down by the law before, she's wary of letting Jake into her life. But when an unexpected snow storm strands them together, their attraction is hot enough to melt the mounting ice. Just when Jake thinks he's finally warmed Holly's heart, Spence strikes. Now it's up to Jake to save Holly's baby and bring their fledgling family back together.

Special Delivery Details

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From Reader Review Special Delivery for online ebook

Rita says

Wanted to give 3.5.

Jadine says

Free book on Goodreads. I thought this book was going really good until the end, then I felt like some things got overlooked. I found a paragraph in a chapter that was nearly identical to a paragraph in an earlier chapter, I went back and reread it. This was a sweet romance with a little suspense, times two. Since there were two romances and both romances had their own suspenseful moment. I thought it was kind of cool that we were getting two love stories, but I think it would have been better if they had been separated out into two books. We could have focused more on Holly and Jake, showing more of him helping her out before the birth and then being there for the birth because it was kind of strange to me, I understand she was in an impossible situation and he was her only help but she seemed to switch over and trust him in that moment and not because he had been gradually earning her trust all along but because he was there. And then when she moved in with him, I think it was days, literally days before they were like we love each other and professed it to each other. Spencer Dilby was a douchebag he deserves all the bad things in life, end of story. And then we had Jenny and Evan, who were not mentioned on the back cover at all. They deserved their own book. They too had a fast romance, I get that they were together twelve years ago but because the gang rape incident happened and tore them apart so viciously, I think they got back together too quickly. I'm not going to question why Jenny didn't try to get Evan's dad in trouble before now, because I wouldn't want to judge but I feel like something could have been done sooner, especially if there was a money trail? I don't know and I'll admit I didn't think about it too hard before now. BUT Jenny did know who some of her attackers were and since it seems like they were all upstanding citizens to the town, I am surprised she didn't have any run-ins of some kind with any of them up until now since she is a doctor. And then the whole side story of the two church's nativity scenes. That was a whatever event for me, maybe if that had been a funny thing that kept popping up but it wasn't funny for me as a reader, it was an event talked about from afar. The end was kind of abrupt, it should have played things out a little more I think. I guess it all comes down to the fact that I think this should have been two books, this one had two love stories and was only 200 pages, the author could have sprinkled some of Evan and Jenny in this book and given Jake and Holly another 100 pages to develop a relationship and play it out.

Deb Diem says

Special Delivery by Laura Browning is an entertaining read. Ms Browning has delivered a well-written book and filled it with amazing characters. Holly and Jake's story is full of drama, suspense, humor and spice. I enjoyed this book from cover to cover and look forward to reading more from Laura Browning in the future. Special Delivery is book 1 of the Mountain Meadow Homecomings Series but can be read as a standalone. This is a complete book, not a cliff-hanger.

Karen says

There are quite a few stories running through this novel. Two revolving around confirmed bachelors, that have two women who provoke them to no end. When the guys delve deeper, they see injustice, they have to act allowing trust to be rebuilt. The town also has a battle between the church ladies, the creative solution is fun to watch but a pain for law enforcement in the middle of winter.

Good holiday read.

Cynthia says

Beautiful

This is a wonderful story about a young woman running from an ex stalker boyfriend, pregnant, and taking care of her younger brother. They find a new home in Mountain Meadows. But they also found a town that would help. Jake is a police officer and friends with pregnant Holly's doctor. There are some wonderful twists and turns in the friendships, relationships and town.

Wendy says

"Special Delivery" the first novel in the "Mountain Meadow Homecomings" which I won from Goodreads/First Reads is a heart-warming, adventurous romance that begins when sparks fly between Holly Morgan and Assistant Police Chief Jake Allred after he delivers her baby in an isolated and decrepit house near Mountain Meadow during a winter storm. Also woven into their love story is the rebirth of a passionate love affair between Holly's doctor Jenny Owens and Jake's neighbour Evan Richardson whose teenage romance years before was destroyed by a vicious lie. Both couples must overcome the demons in their past if their love is to survive.

Set in a town nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia Holly intends to hide out from her abusive ex-fiancé Spence, heir to the Dilby fortune until her baby is born, but finds her life turned upside down when Assistant Police Chief Jake Allred delivers her baby by flashlight during a brutal winter storm. Trusting Jake, love ignites between them only to be thwarted by Spence who's determined to kidnap the baby for his fiancé Seely who is unable to have children.

In contrast Holly's doctor Jenny Owens suffers from an abusive and tragic incident in her past that destroyed her relationship with Evan Richardson, a County attorney. Torn apart by lies, secrets and deception Jenny finally confronts Evan with the horrible truth that not only brings healing but sparks a love that's only lain dormant for years. As their passion flares Evan must find the courage to confront his father's treachery if their love is to survive.

On the verge of Christmas the author heightens tension and suspense with a kidnapping and arrests that rock the small town already plagued by theft at the Baptist and Presbyterian Churches. The story never loses momentum as strands of the plot twist and turn with a Christmas mystery, and romance as well as an attempted murder. Yet for all the controversy, fear and upheaval that threatens not only the couples who've found love but the warmth of fellowship in Mountain Meadow, elements of forgiveness, courage and faith shine through.

Although imperfect with all their flaws, the characters in their struggle to overcome adversity are unforgettable, adding passion, energy and drama to this captivating story. Holly Morgan is cautious, defensive and prickly, a young woman with trust issues when she initially meets Jake Allred. Yet as she gets to know the kind, capable and patient Assistant Police Chief she warms to his generosity of spirit and his patience. Tyler Morgan, Holly's eleven year old brother is conscientious, and thoughtful, wanting to protect and help provide for his sister after not only the death of their parents but from the hot-tempered, vicious bully Spence Dilby. Evan Richardson at first is cynical, sarcastic and intimidating until he learns the truth of the tragedy that robbed him of the woman he loved. Dr. Jenny Owens haunted by abuse and heartbreak is smart, feisty and tough, helping to bring justice to the man that tried to destroy her.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading " Special Delivery" an emotionally -charged romance with splashes of humor that will delight anyone who likes a well-developed, passionate love story.

Kim says

I received this free e-book from Amazon and I am voluntarily writing an honest review. I really enjoyed this old fashioned style of romantic read and if it seems really long it is because the author chose to combine two stories into one book.

Connie says

What a wonderful feel-good novel

First, grab your tissues. I must have gone through a box. This book is about love and Christmas. It contains stop your heart anxiety as dark things happen. It contains long lost love, new found love, and the happiness of Christmas. Throw in more bad guys than you can imagine and it's a roller coaster ride of suspense and entertainment. I highly recommend it!

Joan Winters says

I enjoyed reading this book very much. Very interesting from the get go, to the very end. I wish the book continued with the same characters. Pregnant young lady and the younger brother are forced to leave their home after parents are killed in an auto accident. They start out to find a place to live away from a brutal ex-boyfriend. They find a not so nice furnished house in the middle of nowhere. Eventually the biological father finds them, but just watches them, till he comes up with a plan to kidnap his baby, for his bride to be. You'll have to get the book to enjoy the whole story!

Brittany says

I received this from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. I LOVED THIS! I either was laughing or had a huge smile on my face during this entire book! I was only planning on reading a little bit but I could not put it down and stayed up all night reading it. If you was a heart warming, fun read then look no further!

Madison says

The story was a good little read, I found that it was missing depth and kept repeating certain things over and over when it didn't need to be mentioned again. I also thought that it seemed like it rushed parts that were important and went in depth on others that didn't need it.

Allyson ?? says

ARC from NetGalley for honest review

Can't decide if this was a 2.5 Star read or a 3 Star read...

It was good. But it also wasn't... Which makes like no sense but I don't even care.
There were just things I liked about it but then things I couldn't stand.

Things I like:

- I'm a sucker for a pregnant lady book.
- She also takes care of her 11 year old brother. I'm a sucker for that too.
- Jake is a hot-hot-hottie.
- There's a little crazy (her ex-fiance) in it. Which I enjoy.

Things I didn't like:

- There romance takes place in a week.... UGH.
- Her baby bump was described as "her pregnancy." It went a little something like this.... 'His eyes drifted down to her pregnancy.' I just don't like how that sounds. It's just worded all weird.
- Holly was way too happy at the end when things were going all to shit. If I were her, then I would be ripping my hair out...after I ripped everyone else's out.
- She has the baby then by an amazing miracle, she can have sex a whole month before she's supposed to.
- I do kind of wish that Evan and Jenny had their own book. I loved their story but I wish that I could've had something just for them. And I would've liked a little trial wrap-up or something at the end to conclude their story.
- Tyler, Holly's 11 year old brother, works... Hello, child labor laws. But I guess it's okay since his new brother, Jake, is a cop...? Living above the law.
- The ending. (There's no need for me to elaborate here.)

I guess I'll stop there.

I think that I've figured out that this was a 2.5 Star read for me...

Janice says

cliche, after cliche, after cliche. The format of the writing was good but the plot and it's execution were sub par.

Hannah says

ARC REVIEW

Special Delivery by Laura Browning should have been released five months ago and been named Christmas Angels. Sadly this book just didn't do it for me. It was fine it was well written and the story was good, but there was so much of the story I wished was different. The blurb makes you think it is solely about Holly and Jake but it's not, simultaneously and not as a sub plot is Jenny and Evans story. It was as if it were two books in one with the common factor of Holly because without Holly none of it would have happened. Things happened fairly quickly and I wish they hadn't; with both stories when the change happened it was a complete almost instant 180 change. I know you could probably argue that Jenny and Evan's change could have and should have been that instantaneous, I just didn't like it. I did like the characters they are very likeable and I liked the conflict but that's about it.

Holly is very pregnant, unfortunately the father of her unborn baby has proved himself to be a crazy bastard he has repeatedly threatened her and her little brother, Tyler. Spencer at first would not acknowledge the baby as his but when his fiance, the woman his parents picked for him, tells him she can never have kids he decides that Holly's baby will fill in just fine and will do anything to take that baby from Holly. Holly knowing something bad is going to happen packs up her brother in the car and leaves driving to nowhere in general just getting herself as far away from Spence as possible. Luck is on her side Tyler and Holly find themselves at a little valley nestled in the mountains that seems pleasant enough and small enough to safely hide.

Jake Allred is ready to settle down, he wants a wife and kids he already has the big house just waiting for the perfect woman to spend the rest of his life with and then he meet Holly. Not even her obvious distrust for him deters him from making friends with Tyler and firmly situating himself into her life and when she goes into early labor and he delivers a beautiful baby girl during a snowstorm with no electricity Holly finally admits she wants him as much as he wants her.

Meanwhile Jenny and Evan are Jake's best friends and they use to date but something happened in the past that tore them apart. The horrible truth finally comes out and mends the rift between them. Evan as a lawyer can not let the past goes he must do something about it even if that means tearing his family apart and a couple of town officials.

The situation with Spence finally comes to a climatic conclusion. It paid off in the end it had a good ending but certain parts were cheesy in an eighties sitcom way.

Char (1RadReader59) says

This is one of those books that just grips you from the onset. You are carried through so many emotions on your way to a thought provoking story. Exuberant joy to overwhelming anguish.

This story starts with a very pregnant Holly Morgan and 11 year old brother Tyler fleeing for their lives in the middle of the night. Holly's ex fiancé Spence Dilby, of Dilby the department store chain, has proven not only to be a stalker but has laid hands on them both. Being from that family he's from, the restraining order he has against him means nothing. For the police just turn their backs or a blind eye. This move is heart wrenching but she can't let him hurt Tyler or the baby who is yet to be born.

You see Holly and Tyler's parents were killed a year ago in a car accident and Tyler was injured in the same accident. She had met Spence a little before that but the push to be with her was on once they passed. Not knowing it was her first time he took her rough. Which only made her not want it again until after they were to be married if even. Spence started to change though not being as kind, saying cruel things in front of others. But the icing on the cake was when she said she was when she said she was pregnant. He full on denied it and said she was just trying to trap him. Which floored her since they were engaged. So, they were over!

The next thing she knows he's calling saying his new fiancé can't have children. Then he said the one thing that made her cold to the bone. That he wanted to baby to give to the new fiancé. As if her daughter was a dog to be exchanged from owner to owner. When she said never that's when he got scary. She tried selling her childhood home even lowering the price and nothing. The she decided to just rent it out. Now she was just dropping off keys with the realtor on the way out to see what he could do.

So, sometime the next day the stop along the highway see the name of this little town Mountain Meadow. They thought it was as good enough place to start over as any place else. An older gentleman rented them what I guess you could call a house. It was a ways out of town but it would do. After they were settled in she knew what was available so she got a bookkeeping job at a pallet place. Didn't pay great but better than nothing. She makes an appointment with Dr. Jenny Owens for a check-up. She's fine but the baby's showing stress. She now needs to be on total bed rest, now the panic starts in. She had Tyler wait at the general store while she saw the doctor. While there he met Jake Allred Lieutenant Police Chief.

Jake served 10 years in the military in the Special Forces the last half. When he had to be sent home parts of his buddy, "No Man Left Behind!" He knew it his career was over. He came home to Mountain Meadows for a few reasons but then decided he needed the familiar and to feel safe being around people he knew. The worst is the nightmares he wants a family so bad it hurts but with the frightening wakes he can't think of subjecting a mate to that anguish.

But the afternoon Holly walked into the store to pick up her brother and they met he knew. No other woman could compare to her beauty. Yet, her eyes told a story of lack of trust, panic, and fear. Although her words were kind the tone was not. He looks down to look for a ring and finds no ring but does find a baby bump. He just remembers being so disappointed someone was lucky enough to have her and she was carrying his child.

Now though the total bed rest means Tyler has to do more. Which thank goodness he does. Like going to the grocery store to do shopping when he arrives home extremely late she was in a panic. Jake was the one who gave him a ride home brought food too. Calming her but also sending her lady parts on red alert.

This is the start of a process of learning to trust for both of them. When something life changing effects them all the results of it changes the town. I give this 5 stars. Provided by Net Galley. Follow us at:

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