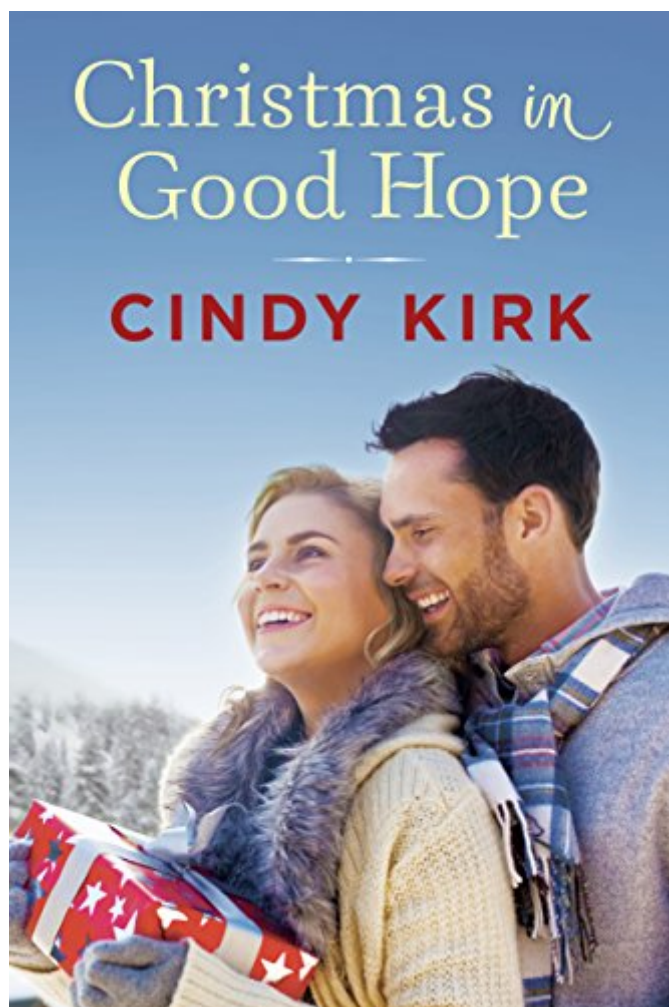


The book was found

Christmas In Good Hope (A Good Hope Novel Book 1)



Synopsis

Ami and Beck would rather forget the past, but this Christmas of love is one to remember. Amaryllis Bloom's cheerful smile greets everyone in Good Hope, Wisconsin. But her merry facade hides a dark secret she won't ever forget. Still, she throws herself into celebrating Christmas and convinces her handsome, and stubborn, new neighbor to join her. Beckett Cross, however, is determined not to celebrate the holidays. He moved to Good Hope to leave behind reminders of how he'd had it all and lost everything. But it's hard to resist adorable Ami, the designated keeper of the small town's holiday traditions, when she asks for help with the Twelve Nights celebrations. And Ami has a hard time resisting Beck's soft Southern drawl and gentle eyes. Will a Christmas miracle give them a second chance at love and the hope to heal both of their hearts for good?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Christmas in Good Hope was a wonderful read that is perfect for the Christmas season! I chose this book as my Kindle First pick of the month immediately after I saw that it was a Christmas romance set in Door County, Wisconsin. I grew up in a small town in Wisconsin and have visited Door County a number of times and was excited to read a book that takes place in my home state! It was easy for

me to picture the small town of Good Hope, the beautiful holiday decor and the friendliness of Good Hope's residents because it was similar to the small Wisconsin town where I grew up. This book did not disappoint one bit. Ami (pronounced Am-ee and short for Amaryllis) Bloom was born and raised in Good Hope and returned there after college to run her bakery, Bloom's Bake Shop. She is extremely talented and successful with her business, which is probably also due to her eternal optimism and willingness to help others in need. She meets Good Hope's newest resident, Beck (Beckett) Cross, when he purchases the Muddy Boots cafe which is next door to her bakery. Beck is from Georgia and moves to Good Hope after his beloved wife, Lisette, is killed in a car accident by a drunk driver. He prefers not to discuss his personal life with anyone and harbors a grudge against the woman who killed his wife. His personality is much like Ebenezer Scrooge because he likes to keep to himself most of the time. Ami doesn't let this deter her from getting to know him and so the two have coffee every morning and chit-chat but not about anything personal. Both of them have secrets but neither of them pushes the other one to share which helps them get along so well. Circumstances bring the two of them together more frequently when Beck reluctantly agrees to open his home to the holiday home tour.

This book should really not be in the romance category. This is more like a Hallmark Christmas special, with some romance thrown in on the side. Death, and life issues, are the focus of this book, not romance. There are many heavy stories going on here with many characters. And much of the book is focused on loved ones who have died, or the main characters' friends or family, all of whom come up quite frequently DURING the romantic moments. Literally every romantic scene has the two leads talking or thinking about either their departed loved ones, or other people and their problems or tragedies (and there are MANY tragedies in this book). Please, focus on the romance for a couple of paragraphs, and THEN discuss or focus on those other things! But the author has them doing both at the same time, which I find really bizarre. So any warm fuzzy or hot and heavy feelings you may have had while the two leads are flirting and getting affectionate are completely derailed. Even while engaging in their first foreplay, Ami's talking about some people they barely know--I am not kidding! He finally says, "Enough about them," and I had to roll my eyes and say... uh, ya THINK?? If my husband and I are being affectionate and I talk about anything other than what is going on between us, it's a total turn off for him--obviously. And it's also a turn off for the reader; it's like-- ooo this is nice-- oh wait now I have to think about the really sad thing that happened or this other situation that's going on. My other problem with the book is the super duper large amount of writing devoted to Christmas stuff. Christmas decorations, food, activities, songs,

etc etc.

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