



A Gift of Family

Mia Ross

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A Gift of Family Mia Ross
INSPIRATIONAL ROMANCE
Book 3-The Sawyers

A man with secrets, ex-soldier Seth Hansen comes to the small town of Harland, North Carolina, to heal. The last thing he wants is to get involved—with the community, or with lovely waitress Lisa Sawyer, who has big dreams of leaving Harland. When a massive storm hits, it will take a dramatic rescue, and Lisa's unshakable belief, to wake a part of Seth he thought he'd lost forever. Suddenly one reluctant hero finds himself captivated by Christmas spirit. If only he can help Lisa discover the place she really wants to be....?

A Gift of Family Details

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From Reader Review A Gift of Family for online ebook

Michelle says

Family
Book 3

Lisa Sawyer is the youngest of the four siblings. She has always been babies, and feels like nobody ever takes her seriously. She lives in town with her cat and works at the cafe, but she has plans to travel to Europe.

Seth has come to Harland to heal in ways he doesn't even think possible. He was in a secret mission in the military and can't talk about what happened, but he suffers from PTSD and is trying to learn to live again. Who would know that Sweet Lisa Sawyer is just the gal to help him do that.

The author lets us see the imperfections of our hero/heroine and gives us a good view of the rest of the family. I think one of my favorite lines in the whole book was when Ridge said "My son," as if it was always that way. That warmed my heart!

Tima says

Seth came to Harland, NC to help his aunt renovate her apartments. As an ex-soldier, he was also hoping the small town would help him heal.

Lisa works at his aunts' diner in hopes that she'll soon have enough money to leave Harland. The Christmas spirit and God's amazing grace help bring this romantic story together.

The main characters were interesting and relate able. The subject of PTSD was handled well and tastefully. I really enjoyed this story. I found it fun and refreshing after some of the heavy books I've been reading lately. It's a romantic Christmas story with the love of God woven throughout.

I received this book free of charge from Goodreads in exchange for my honest review.

Kristin says

I won this book in a Goodreads giveaway. A sweet romance where two unlikely people find their way to each other with a little help from God. This was a light, easy read, happy ending book.

Diana says

Third book in a series. I received the first book in this series from Goodread's Giveaways, and I just fell in love with this author. This book focuses on the youngest in the family Lisa and her friendship/romance with a soldier with PTSD. The Faith aspect is dealt with honestly and wholeheartedly by people who practice

what they preach. It's refreshing to see Christian belief's spoken about as it is in this book. As someone who's not a Christian myself, I enjoyed the book completely, as it didn't feel like the Christian aspect was shoved at you the entire time. It was just there as a part of their lives as it should be. I'm looking forward to reading more books by this author. I recommend this book to Christian romance readers.

Madelyn says

A Gift Of Family is a great Christmas read that has you rooting for the hero Seth, a battered military man who is fighting to fit in and be the man he once was. Lisa, an under appreciated artist uses her charm, smile, and patient spirit to woo Seth back to the world of the living. I like how Ross has Lisa and Seth slowly but surely become friends as Seth begins to trust Lisa well before they become romantically involved. Lisa just sneaks beneath his skin and into his heart with her determined manner. As with many of the Love Inspired books, the quiet reverence of God is the main staple in which the characters lead their lives. In A Gift of Family, Seth begins to find his faith through the support of Lisa, his family (including the incorrigible Aunt Ruthy) and the townspeople of Harland.

Kathleen Nalley says

Thought a happy ending Christmas book was a good idea - NOT. Poor writing is poor writing.

Erica says

I was looking forward to reading about Seth and Lisa because they seemed to be lovable characters within the community. However I wasn't really into it. I would recommend it to people who really enjoy love stories that are easy going, slow-paced, and to cat lovers.

Mia Ross's character descriptions were great but I didn't feel they match their actions and subsequent responses. Overall, their relationship never developed into anything relatable and believable to me personally. It fell flat and was an incredibly slow for my style. Emotions were stereotypical and monotonous. The voices were indistinguishable at some points.

As far as content is concerned, the bottom line is they just had major communication problems and neither one of them could see past that. Seth had PTSD and Lisa played victim to her own fantasies in trying to be the hero of their relationship and tries too hard to read every single one of his emotions. But not even those parts of the story took off. Ultimately they were just using each other and the emotional exchanges weren't well-developed.

There were hints at making heart-wrenching decisions but I couldn't relate or care less. Likely it was because the rationale behind them was still justifiable in either case because nothing matched. It didn't seem to be about internal conflict either. Even the characters could talk themselves out of anything without reprieve and it was difficult to know if any of it even mattered in the first place.

The plot lacked direction and couldn't count on the either the writer or reader to figure it out. I really did appreciate the faith-based aspect and charm that she brought to the characters, however. I'd like to try reading

another book by Mia Ross in the future.

Ann Torrey says

This book was awesome interesting from beginning to end. Just the type of romance I like, really enjoyed it. Keep up the great work Mia Ross!!!!

Pamela says

This was a darling book! I won it in a good reads Giveaway & I'm so glad I did.. I Loved it so much I bought a Copy for my Nook! The Characters of Seth & Lisa make for a Very Sweet Read... This is a book you could rush through & read in 1 afternoon But I strongly advise taking a little bit more time.. It is a beautiful Story Just in Time for the Christmas season... & I think it would touch Many people's heartstrings...It touched my heart. Very excited to read more by Mia Ross!

Sarah says

A man with secrets, ex-soldier Seth Hansen comes to the small town of Harland, North Carolina, to heal. The last thing he wants is to get involved with the community, or with lovely waitress Lisa Sawyer, who has big dreams of leaving Harland and traveling Europe. When a massive storm hits, it will take a dramatic rescue, and Lisa's unshakable belief, to wake a part of Seth he thought he'd lost forever. Suddenly one reluctant hero finds himself captivated by Christmas spirit (aka Lisa).

Another frustrating fluff read of fluffiness. Only this one had no suspense to speak of...or climax really. Lisa works in Seth's aunt's diner as a waitress. His matchmaking aunt almost literally shoves Lisa at Seth the moment they are in the same room together. Blah blah blah, they get a decent storm that somehow blows down an old oak tree right on top of the local church, Seth rushes in to pull out the pastor/father/minister or whatever he's called...Charlie's his name. While this could be super dramatic I found myself glossing over it with my eyes in 'speed read' mode, the same mode I read the rest of the book in. Seth gets voted as foreman to get the church fixed up, re-finds his faith, falls for the lead gal and her cat (of all things), leaves anyways, comes back...story finished.

Anyhow, other then saying Lisa is the ultimate super nice to everyone girl in town, there isn't too much to report on this book, other then the weird flip-out Seth does at the end to shuffle in the conflict and therefore the resolution is wacked.

Major issue is one of my pet peeves...met each other in early December, married and on their honeymoon in April. We know this is the same year because Lisa was going to Europe THAT YEAR and had it all planned, booked and ready to go. GGGUUUUUHHHHHH!!!! Please please PLEASE stop with the Mach 12 romances Christian Fiction Romance authors!

So to make it super short, ultimate fluff read of mindless speed reading Christian romance.

Scarlet Fanning says

Seth Hansen is a veteran recovering from his last mission, where he was the only survivor. After two years at his parent's home, he goes to Harland, NC, to redo his Aunt Ruth's apartments above her diner.

Lisa Sawyer is a waitress in the diner, who befriends Seth. She appears to have a calming effect on Seth slowly bringing him in the community and refinding his sense of humor.

Seth lost his faith on his last mission, so when a storm comes to town, he finds himself in the awkward position of heading the construction crew to rebuild the church. This work has a healing effect on his soul.

Seth and Lisa are friends, but slowly falling in love. But he plans to leave before Christmas, and she is planning a trip to Europe. Can they admit their feelings?

Hannah says

This is a pleasant tale of a veteran coming home to find his place after years of recon have left his buddies dead and his body scarred. He doesn't know who he is anymore, but one thing he can do is help his aunt with her renovations, so he heads to Harland to help her out.

The small town feel really seemed authentic in this story. I liked reading about everyone coming into the diner, about Gus, and about the family and even the family pets, and about Lisa's ultra-protective brothers.

The one thing that bugged me was a certain oak tree being planted... Tagged "three years" (in what region do they tag plants by age? In the south it's by pot size.), but "oh, how smart it isn't a sapling" and "a trunk sturdy enough to hold up to strong winds."--- maybe a little more research is in order. Oaks fresh from the acorn grow a whopping two to four leaves in their first season. In the second they double that. By the third year they may put out their first branch. Thereafter they grow six to twelve inches per year, depending on variety and water availability, until maturity, when they may grow slightly faster. (My 60 year old red oaks grow about 18 inches per year.) So the tree described is probably 15-20 years old if it is sturdy of trunk and tall enough to anticipate shade in the next few years.

Sorry for the compulsive botany lesson. ;)

Brittany says

I received this book through the First Reads giveaway program on Goodreads.

This was a great read! I zipped through it in one day and fell in love with the characters. The character of Seth Hansen was wonderfully done, a soldier struggling with his past, looking to find himself ends up in the small, close-knit town of Harland, North Carolina. There he meets Lisa Sawyer, a bubbly waitress with big dreams who is unlike anyone he has ever known.

Karen says

Seth Hansen is rehabbing some apartments for his Aunt Ruthy as he heals from his injuries in the military. Can the town of Harland and the waitress, Lisa help his healing process?

June says

Another fine book about those who fight for our freedoms and the things they go through after the battle. I really enjoyed this book and how Lisa was able to bring such a change about in Seth's life. Very enjoyable book.
