



White Lie Christmas

Christine Bell

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The holidays are here, and Leah Latrelle has made a mess of them. When her out-of-town parents' concern over her non-existent love life threatens to interfere with her father's health, she invents a boyfriend who quickly turns into a fiancé. Her family is thrilled, and they change their Christmas plans last minute to meet their future son-in-law. Now Leah has no choice but to come up with the goods. She needs a man, fast. When her friend and business partner, Mick, offers himself up as a sacrifice, she's all over it. He's handsome, dependable and available for the job. What could go wrong?

Tis the season, and Mick Kilpatrick can't say no to a damsel in distress. Especially when that damsel is his luscious business partner who has been the object of his reluctant desire for the past year. He hasn't pursued anything because being a dad is still priority number one. A sexy woman like Leah will only distract him from what's really important and he can't have that. He'll pretend to be her fiancé, but when it's over, everything will go back to normal. Sure, he's fantasized about her once or...a million times but that doesn't mean he's in love with her. Does it?

White Lie Christmas Details

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Author : Christine Bell

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From Reader Review White Lie Christmas for online ebook

Harmony Williams says

Lighthearted, fun, and sexy. Once I started reading, I didn't want to stop!

Rachel says

I loved this novella. It was just what I wanted for a reading pick-me-up. I don't hide the fact that I love Christmas themed stories and this one fits the season perfectly and will be added to my collection.

With a premise of telling a little white lie that blossoms into a big, fat, huge, life altering lie, this story will suck you in and keep you entertained the whole way through.

Both the main characters Mick & Leah are fantastic and then add in a sister whom I really want as my own, parents who are a blast and a little kid who I just wanted to hug and you end up with characters you want as your friends so you can be part of their lives.

The chemistry is strong with Leah & Mick, seriously how could anyone not want Mick ? He is the ultimate fake fiancé and it's really fun to see this pair finally start to give into the feelings they have been fighting for years.

But can a ruse that was started to make Leah's parents worry less lead to the ultimate happiness ? Read this story and find out.

This novella was supplied by the publisher for an honest review.

Sue Stewart says

"she invents a boyfriend who quickly turns into a fiancé" is certainly not a new concept but I so do enjoy books with this storyline. And with the Christmas theme and such fun, lovable characters as Leah and Mick and a really well developed progression of the story - this book did not disappoint - Was outstanding! Loved the twists and turns that made IT unique!!

"Friends help friends. It's that simple."

? Kimberly says

White Christmas by Christine Bell and Riley Murphy was the perfect holiday novella. It was filled with gooey goodness, heat, romance and then sprinkled with the magic of the holidays. I consumed this in a single sitting as my emotions were swept up. I laughed, sighed and even shed a tear. Mini review: heart-warming friends to lover trope, with humor, heat and magic. Full review to post Dec 9th

Lauren ♥ Inked in Chapters says

You can read this and other reviews at [Madison Says](#)

I could not connect with these characters for the life of me. I swear to you that I tired. I really did. But as I read each page, my mind would wander. It's almost as if it was intent on picking apart things that had absolutely nothing to do with the pages in front of me. Finally at around 85% of the way through there was a moment. The connection – my stomach bottomed out and I felt the horrible despair that Leah must have felt. I found myself worried for Mick. His head and heart were in two very different places.

I'm getting ahead of myself...

Leah and Mick work together. They're partners in a real estate firm. Leah finds herself in a bit of a jam. She invented a boyfriend to keep her parents happy. Her father has been ill and they moved to warmer weather because it's easier on him. The last thing Leah wants is for her parents to come back to the wind and cold simply because they're worried about her. It seemed easier to invent a fake relationship. Let this be a lesson to you all, fake relationships only end in heartache. Don't do it. Just, don't. Leah's parents decide to come visit for Christmas, and by this time, Leah has upped the fake relationship to a fake engagement. Bad idea... How could that possibly end well? Maybe you can tell me because the future isn't looking too bright. Of course Mick finds out about the whole thing and volunteers to be the mysterious fiancé. Who would have thunk it? Both Leah and Mick have feelings for one another. They struggle with keeping things "friendly" and as a result, Leah makes a fool out herself – repeatedly.

Now he had more time with her to explore whether or not this – whatever it was between them, was worth taking the risk. A risk that was twofold, he reminded himself. A friendship and business partnership were on the line.

Mick has a lot to think about before diving into a relationship. He's got a little boy named Luke from a previous marriage. And if you're a parent, you KNOW what a big deal that is. Not only would the woman have to be into Mick, but she'd have to love and accept his son, Luke, as well. The man hasn't even dated in the last three years...

*He could still be a good dad to Luke, and have a passionate relationship with a woman. A woman who wanted a good man with a little bad boy mixed in.
A woman like Leah.*

Leah has also been in a dating drought. When she realized Mick was waiting for someone special, it made her want to do the same. Sweet, yet a little creepy.

When the two finally get together they jump right into sexy time. Seriously... It went from "eh, we shouldn't do this" to "take your clothes off and do me" in a matter of sentences. Yes, I get that they already have the friendship foundation, but it seems awful sudden and intense. Also, for me, the sexy time writing was a little "old school" for lack of a better term. I felt like it was something out a romance novel from the 80's; something my mom would have read when I was young. It just didn't do it for me.

Overall this is a cute story. It's very basic and straight forward, not much in the twists and turns department.

The ending is sweet – yet predictable. I can't really say I'd recommend this novella, but if you're looking for something to read and happen upon it, give it a chance. You might find it a nice change of pace. I wish I could say the same. Again, your opinion may differ greatly from mine. That's perfectly fine. It's what makes the world such a beautiful place. Even though I FINALLY found that connection I was so desperately searching for, I just can't in good conscience tell you to run out and pick this short read up.

Angie says

I am such a sucker for fake relationships turning into real one stories, and *White Lie Christmas* is a really cute one. Leah told her parents that she had a fiance so that they would stop worrying about her being alone, but now they want to come over for the holidays to meet him! When she tells her friend and business partner, Mick, about her predicament, he comes up with the perfect solution: he'll pretend to be her fiance. It helps that the man she described looks just like him and is named Michael, since she's been secretly crushing Mick. Well, Mick's been crushing on her too, but hasn't made a move since he's putting his son first after his divorce. Then Leah's family falls in love with Mick, and she does do.

White Lie Christmas is sweet, funny, and steamy! I was actually surprised at the level of steam in this one, but I'm not complaining! Leah and Mick are great together, probably because they were friends first and already had some kind of relationship to start with. I really enjoyed the awkward family time, since Leah has no idea how to handle the situation while Mick is being a bit too charming and likeable. I did find myself annoyed at Leah at one point, because she was being really rude for no reason. Mick is trying to help her out, but she almost ruined it. Overall, I really liked this quickie romance.

Read more of my reviews at [Pinkindle Reads & Reviews](#).

Kristin (These Pretty Words) says

Originally reviewed on [These Pretty Words](#).

Swooniest little read of 2013...that's my opinion on this piece. Mick is ridiculously charming and sexy. Between his bit of bad boy, his daddy moments and the way he sweeps Leah off her feet multiple times, he kept me completely engaged in the plot of *White Lie Christmas*. And Leah? She's funny and emotional. Her family coming to visit has pushed her to the limit but it's Mick's sudden not-so-fake interest in her that really pushes her over the edge.

I loved every little thing about this story. From drunken rambles to sweet little boy smiles, glow in the dark condoms to chaste and not-so-chaste kisses. This is one story I will read again and again when I need a fun, sweet, swoony read. Perfection!

R.J. Garside says

I am a huge fan of Christine Bell and this story didn't disappoint. This is a perfect story to get you in the mood for Christmas. I loved the heroine, Leah Latrelle as she was a wonderful character that I think women can really sympathize with. And the hero, Mick Kilpatrick is smoking hot, not only with his description, quick wit and conflicted heart, but also because he is such a dedicated father. Leah's quirky family were also an asset and interesting to read. After her sister becomes engaged, Leah is need of a man to show her parents that she doesn't need them to take care of her. Her father needs to be in a warmer climate because of a health issue, but he and his Leah's mother worry about Leah being alone and consider staying in the cool climate. Leah enlists the help of her real estate partner Mick to pose at her fiancé. The family meetings are hilarious and the warming of the feelings between Leah and Mick are awesome. The love scenes are wonderfully and skillfully written (very hot). And the ending is so sweet that I nearly cried. This is a wonderful and heart warming book that I would recommend. I gave it five stars.

LJT says

White Lie Christmas by Christine Bell and Riley Murphy is a sexy novella that won't disappoint. It is about business partners Leah Latrelle and Mick Kilpatrick. Leah and Mick are real estate agents that recently joined forces to form their own agency after achieving success elsewhere. There has always been a spark between them that they never pursued.

It is the holiday season and Leah's parents are returning to Chicago to celebrate with her as well as check-out her new fiance, which she fabricated for the sake of her father's health. Due to Leah's desperation, Mick volunteers to be her fake fiance while her parent's are in town. Spending so much time together intensifies their feelings and they end up becoming more.

I liked this novella. It has some very funny laugh out loud moments in addition to a very hot couple. The amicable relationship between Mick and his ex-wife is both refreshing as well as harmonious. If you are in the mood for a hot romance, give this book a try.

I was given this ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Leslie aka StoreyBook Reviews says

what could possibly go wrong if you have your partner pretend to be your fiance? apparently a LOT but perhaps love might be found with each other anyway. Well written and I truly enjoyed this story.

Mephala says

I've read this story as a part of anthology "**Kiss Me for Christmas**".

It's by far the best story in the bundle. It's funny and written well, has a good pair of main characters, and the premise is pleasantly simple. I enjoyed the dynamic between Leah and Mick; the transition from friends to lovers was believable and handled well. And, even the most *glowy* scene in the story was charming.

Highly recommended quick Christmas-y read.

Sapphyria says

Leah Latrelle and Mick Kilpatrick are business partners running a high-end real estate firm. Each has a small crush on the other since before pooling their resources and branching off to start their own company. They both, however, know that dating a business partner is risky business. Leah tends to forget that part when she lies to her family, insisting that she has a new boyfriend - turned fiance - so that they won't worry about her being alone. All goes well until her family comes into town requesting to meet her new fiance. Now, Leah has to find the fake fiance or risk humiliation.

Enter one hunky business partner who is more than willing to step into a role that brings him closer to Leah. Mick has been standoffish with Leah for more reasons than just because they are business partners. Mick is a divorced non-custodial father who's son is more important to him than anything else. He doesn't allow himself the opportunity to date because he doesn't want to share or give up the few times he gets to see his son each month. His attraction to Leah increases to more they spend time together.

White Lie Christmas is a novella packed full of love. The author does a great job of bringing two stubborn and wary characters together who are clearly meant for one another. The chemistry between Leah and Mick is undeniable from start to finish. When Mick steps up to the plate to help Leah, neither one expected a real romance to blossom. Both characters have so many qualities that readers will be able to relate to plus Leah and Mick are just so very likable. There are steamy moments, but there are also tender moments, and some laugh out loud scenes.

White Lie Christmas is very enjoyable and highly entertaining!

Review Copy Courtesy of Entangled Publishing, at no cost, in exchange for an honest review.

Becky says

I enjoyed this novella--the fake fiance storyline always makes for a lot of fun opportunities, and it was definitely used well here. It's also a friends-to-lovers story, which definitely adds to the enjoyment. The Christmas setting was like hitting the holiday novella trifecta :)

I enjoyed the two main characters, Mick and Leah, a whole lot--but because of this, I felt their story deserved to be longer! Since he's a devoted single dad, I would have really liked to have seen Mick's son play a bigger role. The easy relationship between him and Leah was alluded to a few times, and seeing it play out alongside the rest of the story could have been really satisfying.

Still, this was a nice way to fill a few spare moments in the holiday season; a quick and entertaining read from authors I'll be looking for more from in the future.

I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Mistress of the Dark Path says

If you enjoy romantic comedies, then this might be a great choice. It's a light, easy read and fits well with the Christmas season. There isn't any new ground covered as far as the storyline goes, but I still really enjoyed it. Leah and Mick are thrown into desperate circumstances and must pretend to be together. The thing is that they've each (unknowingly) been attracted to each other for some time. Neither wants to make a move forward because of their business relationship.

I must say I really liked Mick as a good guy hero. He was sweet and really tried so hard to make things work. His young son, Luke, was also a nice added touch. Leah was the more difficult of the two. Things should have been less complicated for her, but she often made a mess of things. Sometimes I wanted to reach through the pages and throttle her. Having said that, she was also the funny one and there were some definite laugh-out-loud moments that helped offset the negative. Leah and Mick had some definite chemistry and it was fun to watch them go from faking their relationship to making it become something real.

Overall, I enjoyed this book and was glad for the opportunity to read it.

Note- I was given a free copy of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

Chanel says

I am such a sucker for the "Fake Relationship" theme, and of course, I enjoyed this book.

What makes this one different, is the main characters, Leah and Mick, are business partners and have known each other for years. Plus, Mick is a dad, which is usually not the case with this theme. Another thing that set the story apart was the untypical way Leah acted in public with Mick and how poorly she handled the whole the fake relationship around her parents.

The author threw in an expected twist and a "Cougar" to keep the story interesting.

Over-all 3.75.
