



Santa's Secret

Heidi McLaughlin

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Brrr baby, it's cold outside. It's time to deck the halls and ring those bells because Christmas is in the air.

Delaney Du Luca had typical fabulous Hollywood holiday plans that included the sun, sand and the warm waters of Cancun until her B-list actor boyfriend publicly dumps her. Instead of staying home to sulk, she decides to head back to her quaint hometown in Vermont for some much-needed rest, relaxation and of course, her favorite holiday cookies.

Aiden Fisher can't seem to catch a break. Still reeling from the loss of his wife, he's become the tail end of all the town's jokes when word spreads he's done the unthinkable; pulling over the town's sweetheart, never mind the fact she was speeding. With his one-time high school girlfriend, who's now a big time actress, back in town, everyone's focused on her. Meanwhile, he's just trying to keep his fan obsessed daughter in check and not get caught up in old memories.

With Santa's sleigh packed and ready to go, the only thing missing is the mistletoe.

Santa's Secret Details

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Author : Heidi McLaughlin

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From Reader Review Santa's Secret for online ebook

Sara (sarabara081) says

You can find more of my reviews at Forever 17 Books.

3.5 stars!

Is there anything better than a cute romance to read all snuggled up by the Christmas tree? Probably not. I knew instantly that *Santa's Secret* was a must read this Holiday season with story about a second chance at love at Christmastime.

Delaney is a movie star who is heading home for Christmas after her boyfriend very publicly dumped her and their Holidays plans. It's been many years since she's been to her small town in Vermont and the gossip mill is sent into overdrive upon her return. Aiden is a single father struggling to make ends meet after the death of his wife a couple years previous. Though Delaney and Aiden only dated briefly in high school they both can't deny their rediscovered attraction to each other. But acting on those feelings isn't quite so easy when their lives are so incredibly different.

I absolutely had a Hallmark Christmas movie vibe as I was reading this. There were so many sweet moments between the characters in preparation for Christmas, especially those including Aiden's daughter Holly. Holly sort of stole the show for me. The connection between Delaney and Holly really warmed my heart, especially knowing all she has been through in losing her mother. My one issue is that I wish the romance was a little more developed by the end. I'm not sure if it was because they rarely shared a moment alone without interruption or what but I didn't quite feel the chemistry as much as I hoped and that just brought it down slightly for me.

Overall I thought this was a sweet little romance. It's very PG in terms of an adult romance read and it felt just like I was reading a Hallmark Christmas movie and I just know many will adore that!

Syndi says

This is my first book by this author. I do not have expectation at all. And I am surprise by it. I do like it. The wording, the writing style is cute and tugging on my heart even the story is very very predictable and HEA is guarantee. Its like drinking a delicious hot chocolate during holiday. Watching the snow. And the next thing you know, you smile.

However I wish the conversation between Aidan and Delayney is more deeper, more sassy and fun banter. I feel their interaction is shallow and lack of depth.

4 stars

Sharon says

What a great Christmas story! Delaney DeLuca is a Hollywood starlet! She left her old town in Vermont behind and moved on to bigger and better things, or so she thought!

Aiden Fisher (Fish) is a single dad trying to make ends meet living paycheck to paycheck trying to be the best dad he can for his daughter Holly! When he pulls over Delaney as she drives into town, he's suddenly labeled the bad guy! After all it's been 10 years since Delaney has been back to town.

When they meet up again after years of being apart, yes they dated briefly back in high school, sparks fly! Can her wish to Santa come true?

Follow their story in this amazing book, be prepared to swoon, laugh and fall in love with not only Laney & Aiden (Fish) but with Holly too!! I'm giving this 5 stars, it's the perfect story for the Christmas season! Grab this one on release day!!!!

Sarah says

Heidi has blown it out of the ballpark with this Christmas story. She made this second chance story into magic and I loved every second of it. I would love to see this made into a Hallmark Christmas movie!!!! Amazing job and I'd love to see what happens in this couples future!

Coming back home for Christmas wasn't in the plans for Delaney until the unexpected happened and she finds herself returning home where she gets pulled over by her cop ex boyfriend Aiden. sparks start to sizzle when they come face to face and the rest is just a magical story of second chances... I loved these characters and I think you will too... not to mention everyone in town. I could picture it all down to the snowy winter wonderland!

Meghan Murphy says

5 Stars

Santa's Secret by Heidi McLaughlin is a second chance holiday romance! It was a fantastic story that had all the feels and was everything you'd come to expect from a McLaughlin book. Delaney and Aiden's journey was heartwarming and absolutely perfect!

Hollywood actress Delaney De Luca is heading back home to Vermont after getting dumped by her boyfriend. Instead of warm sandy beaches for Christmas she's looking forward to spending time with her family. But when she runs into Aiden, she wasn't expecting sparks to fly. Especially after not seeing him for a decade.

Aiden Fisher is a single father and a widower. He is up to his eyeballs in debt and with Christmas right around the corner he is stressed out. A cops salary is nothing to brag about. So when he pulls over THE Delaney De Luca he isn't expecting the attraction to sizzle. Will Aiden be able to open his heart again? Or will Laney's lifestyle be too much to handle?

I loved loved loved this book! Ms. McLaughlin sure knows how to pack a punch. The storyline was great and the characters were amazing! Can't wait to see what's next!

Darcy says

This was a cute one even though it was predictable. Going home was just what Delaney needed after taking the hit she did. It seemed like being at home rejuvenated Delaney, along with making her look at her ex in a new way. I didn't like the chip that Aiden had on his shoulder, knew it would cause problems at some point and boy did it. It's a good thing that Aiden listened to Calvin, who stole many scenes he was in, and managed to dig himself out of the hole he was in. Of course it helped that he had Holly to help.

Michele A. says

Delaney returns home for Christmas after finding out her boyfriend had been cheating on her. She gets pulled over by Aiden, a town cop that she dated before leaving for Hollywood 10 years earlier. Aiden doesn't realize who he pulled over until it's too late and the town gives him plenty of grief for almost giving Delaney a ticket. Delaney's dad is the town mayor and actually asks her to do a signing booth for the town's fair. Aiden is a single father to his daughter, Holly, and is still struggling after the death of his wife, Heather. Aiden is living paycheck to paycheck and doesn't even remotely think he is in Delaney's league. There was a lot of second-guessing, introspection and just plain old inability to think about risking falling in love again. The town really did take nosiness and gossip to a new level and Aiden's sister and Shelby both needed to quit playing him. Aiden was too nice to his own good at times and it almost cost him several times. I didn't like how Delaney didn't go after what she wanted, instead running away and hiding for most of this book. I wanted more romance and less angst.

Audrey says

This second chance romance mixed with the holidays will give you all the sweet cozy feels! This was such a cute fun read with just enough bumps and drama to make the payoff even sweeter. You'll yearn to be part of a small town with big holiday traditions, even with all the meddling and gossiping, because there's nothing more magical than falling in love during the holidays when the spirit of the season is in full force. Aiden and Delaney make one cute couple and Aiden's daughter Holly is one cute scene stealer! I just loved everything about this story. If you need something to put you in or keep you in the holiday mood, this will surely do it!

Connie says

OK, I am confused at the amount of missing pages. Page 9 is blank then "job everyone." appears. What was before that? Pg. 16 begins with the word "off". Now prior to that Delaney received Chinese food. Now someone is in a cheap house talking about someone named Heather? Who is Holly? Pg. 22 blank then "must've died"??? I hate to DNF! Finally got to the end! Liked Delaney and Holly but Aiden was way too indecisive. He couldn't make up his mind about repairs to his home or which woman he wanted in his life. Aiden would rather make his daughter live in a broken down house than accept help from his friends and love ones? Too wishy-washy for me!

Ddkmc95 says

Movie star, Delaney Duluca, has been publicly dumped by her boyfriend days before their planned Christmas vacation, now she's back home in Ramona Falls, VT to lick her wounds and spend time with her family. Before I go further, I must say that this book was so refreshing...not the typical billionaire guy vs poor girl story; secondly, I liked that Delaney's family and friends are down to earth people. Of course, since she moved away 10 yrs ago and 'made it big', Delaney IS the town's sweetheart. Single dad, widower and beat cop, Aiden Fisher, is still trying to recover from the death of his wife...emotionally and financially. He is fiercely proud and refuses any help from family and friends, except babysitting. He becomes the bad guy when, to his utter surprise, he pulls over a speeding driver and realizes that it's Delaney...yep, THAT Delaney...daughter of the mayor, sister of his bff, town sweetheart...and his HS sweetheart. Now he's taking flak from everyone about that little incident...including his 7 yo daughter. Can anything come from these two broken souls finding solace in each other's company? Meanwhile Aiden's sister is determined to set him up with her bff...a single mom who recently moved to town...and whose daughter is friends with his. While I loved Aiden's daughter, and her camaraderie with Delaney, the chemistry between Aiden and Delaney was a bit lacking. I also wished the epilogue was a bit longer with a bit more insight into the HEA. That said, I still enjoyed the story.

Charissa Argento says

The perfect book to get you in the Christmas spirit! I love stories that are based in charming small towns. This book will give you all the feelings of a magical Christmas with friends and family!

Patricia Wonderland says

Cute. Really cute like a Xmas movie from Hallmark. But the hero has no backbone. He lets everyone else dictate his life. I wanted to shake him each time he lets Shelby taking decisions for him and spreading rumors about their "couple". The heroin is a bit immature but she has a huge heart. The bodyguard's role is a little too much important, the main characters wouldn't have needed him so much if they were able to communicate...

A 3 stars for me

Maria says

I Love love Christmas stories. And Santa's Secret was such a sweet story about getting a second chance at love. Laney and Fish's story started off great and cut right to the issue, i was thankful we didn't get a lot of past scenes with them and it was just reading their story in real time. So why 3 Stars? Lack of chemistry and communication. It really bothered me that Fish never communicated to anyone about his feelings, not all of them, just the ones that were really important and definitely needed to be said. I could understand his hesitancy with Laney, but I wasn't convinced he was feeling for her what she felt for him. I did like his character over hers, but those 2 things stuck with me more than half of the book.

Jill M says

This story reminded me of the sappy movies on the Hallmark channel. This was a sweet holiday romance to get you into that holiday spirit. It was a light hearted, fun romance set in a small picturesque town in Vermont with Christmas alive in their hearts. There was cute little Christmas references mixed with a fun and flirty warm your heart kind of romance.

From the time Delaney drove back into Ramona Falls, Aiden didn't stand a chance. These two had this special connection that not even ten years apart could stop it. Even if their past relationship was just a mere blip. Add in the sexy struggling dad and the cutest seven year old and you have yourself a made for TV movie.

Heidi writes romances to capture your heart and pull on the heart strings. She made me laugh and even tear a little. She weaved a beautiful story to keep me turning the pages to keep the Christmas magic alive.

Jackie says

Perfect sweet story for the holiday. Delaney and Aiden dated briefly as teenagers. Now she's a famous actress and Aiden is a cop in their hometown.

I loved Holly and how she is with her father. She sounds like a teenager at times and at others she's a little girl, which is so like little girls. I loved her with Delaney and how their relationship develops.

I loved all the festivities and how they decorated for Christmas. I loved how Aiden and Delaney were together.

This is clean, sweet, cheerful Christmas book. It's perfect to get you in the holiday spirit and it transports you to a beautiful wonderland. I highly recommend it.
