



## Love on a Limb

*Laurie L.C. Lewis*

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## **Love on a Limb** Laurie L.C. Lewis

Matthew Grayken is young, successful, and dying, which is why he's about to propose to a total stranger. He isn't interested in love. He needs a companion and nurse to ease his last days, and a legal voice to enforce his wishes when he no longer can.

Lonely, compassionate nurse Mikaela Compton is intrigued by Matt Grayken's tender request, but as their friendly marriage turns into love, she rejects the inevitability of Matt's death and prays for a miracle instead.

Mikaela reignites Matt's will to fight the disease, but he needs a miracle. Mikaela believes she knows where to find one, but it will require her to leave Matt at the hour of his greatest need and break the fundamental promise she made to him—to be his advocate and enforce his last wishes.

Mikaela faces an excruciating truth—that love brings exquisite joy, but it also requires the agonizing courage to go out on a limb.

## **Love on a Limb Details**

Date : Published April 2018 (first published November 26th 2017)

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Author : Laurie L.C. Lewis

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## From Reader Review Love on a Limb for online ebook

### Susan K says

Romance, clean, Christian faith elements

This was a lovely read. Matt's wish to have an advocate, and someone to be with him on his final journey was very poignant, heartfelt, and of course romantic. Mikaela is a lovely, beautiful, honest, and caring nurse. Their agreement, his cancer journey, their gradual achingly, beautiful fall was a pleasure to read. Actually brought tears to my eyes as I read portions of it. Two beautiful souls, with genuine, honest caring hearts, just a lovely read.

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### Meka♥books says

Love on a Limb reads like a Life Time movie which isn't a bad thing. It just means the story flowed in such a way it allowed me to fully picture the scenes as if I was watching a film and some scenes for me were too "perfect". The seriousness of the theme leukemia and the struggles to make sure someone carries out your wishes when you no longer can voice them is what Matthew Grayken is faced with.

Love on a Limb is a quick and endearing contemporary Christian romance that I've read several times already. Characters made my heart hurt, made me chuckle, made me angry, and flat out irritated me. By far I enjoyed Mikaela Compton. Her gentleness yet tenacity were just what Matthew needed during his battle with cancer.

If you like reads without sex and want a twist to the friend to lover troupe, then I recommend Love on a Limb.

\*\*\*I received a copy of this book from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review\*\*\*

I also purchased a copy of this book from Amazon :-)

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### Kim Shofner says

This book tugged on my heartstrings from beginning to end. I cried a lot at the end. I really want to start doing Christmas ornaments like they did, but I don't think I'll put my tree up in September. Matt and his wife are fighting an uphill battle. But they still make memories together. Their love and commitment to each other brought tears to my eyes. I loved this book all the way through.

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### Angela says

5 Stars

Love On A Limb is a fantastic holiday romance by Laurie L.C. Lewis. Ms. Lewis came to my attention when

I read her book Sweet Water, followed by The Dragons of Alsace Farm. Those books were really wonderful, so when this one showed up in my feed I knew I had to read it. This story really does have quite a lot going on in it- there is romance, discovery, a struggle between life and death, coming to terms with one's mortality, love and faith, emotions, humour, and is really a rewarding read. I laughed, but boy did I cry. This book should come with a box of tissues, because you are going to need them.

This story really touched me, and etched its way deep into my heart! The subject matter is devastating- terminal illness isn't a light and fluffy subject matter- but the author wrote with such emotion and in such a powerful way that the character and their stories mattered to me, I was by their side rooting for them the whole way- laughing with them, crying with them and most of all fighting alongside Matt in his battle with cancer. This story slayed me! I was so invested in it, I have a bit of a book hang-over now it's finished, but I would turn around and do it all over again because this story is special and touches the reader in unexpected ways.

I really recommend this story to anyone who loves a wonderful story that will stay with you long after you read the final words. This is a holiday romance that can be enjoyed at any time of the year!!

I look forward to Ms. Lewis' next book!

Thank you!

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### **Elissa says**

A very powerful and moving love story (which concludes on Christmas Day), tugging at your emotions, running the gamut from laughter to tears.

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### **Brigitte says**

Love on a Limb is a poignant story about despair, loss, love and compassion.

Matt is a young successful businessman, undergoing treatment for one of the most debilitating illnesses.

Mikaela is a nurse working in an oncology treatment unit. She lives on her own and despite her own losses, she remains cheerful.

Matt is attracted to Mikaela. Her cheerful and compassionate demeanour is like a breath of fresh air. He approaches her with a proposition and after spending some time together, she agrees. There are terms which they are both prepared to honour and initially it appears to be working. When they are no longer able to hide the feelings which they try so hard to avoid, there is a shift in the relationship. Their despair only intensifies the nature of this sad and delicate situation. Time is ticking, but where there is life, there is hope.

Matt is considerate and whilst trying to spare his loved ones, his actions bring resentment, pain and sorrow. Mikaela doesn't give up easily and is prepared to fight for their love. Her courage is commendable. Even though this is a tear jerker, there are some warmth and laughter. It's an incredible story where love, friendship and perseverance prevail. Well worth reading.

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## **Cynthia Hamilton says**

The premise for Laurie Lewis's latest book is quite thought-provoking on its surface: what would you do if a stranger approached you with a marriage proposal, a stranger that has just learned of his third occurrence of leukemia? It sets the mind racing, that's for sure. But before I had a chance to even dwell on the concept, I was swept up into the story, my senses keen to find out where this book was going to take me.

It didn't take long to get invested in the characters. Mikaela and Matt are so vividly drawn by their own words and the way they are affected by the circumstances they now find themselves in.

Though they both have plenty experience with cancer—Mikaela as a cancer nurse—being married is something new for both of them. And having a marriage based on a business arrangement leaves both of them unsure of how to treat each other.

What they have going for them is their sincere desire to help each other. Through their courtesy and kindness and mutual respect, they grow to know one another. Falling in love is not part of the plan, but as they find out, you can control who you fall in love with.

I got completely wrapped up in their struggles—their fight to beat cancer for the third time, their dilemma over how much to tell Matt's parents, and their own feelings about their marriage based on a mutually beneficial arrangement. The story was raw and difficult and tender at times, heartwarming and heartbreakingly others. It's no wonder the book has gotten such rave reviews—it will definitely find a place in your heart.

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## **Katie says**

Love on a Limb – A Love Story for all Seasons

By Laurie Lewis

5 stars

Every time I read one of Laurie's books I know that I am going to read something thought provoking. She has such an amazing ability to write her books with such depth of emotion and they really are a joy to read. It is certainly one of those books that has you thinking about it as soon as you have finished.

Love on a Limb certainly had me on the verge of tears throughout. I just completely fell in love with Matt and Mikaela and the journey that they went on together. Through such tough circumstances they supported each other even when things did get too much. I really felt for both characters they were both lovely people and such sad circumstance brought them together.

This truly is a beautiful and emotional story. The writing is just outstanding and I highly recommend it. As always I look forward to reading more from Laurie in the future.

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## **Faelynn says**

### **Loved this book!**

This is a book to read to remind you about your life and the ones you love. A sweet love story that won't

disappoint.

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### **Heather Bass says**

This is the first book I have read from this author and she blew me away. Love on a limb is part of the A Love Story For All Seasons. I was hooked from the very start and I could not put it down. This book gave me chills all through my body. I cried tears of pain and also joy. I was up all night wanting to find out what happens to this beautiful couple.

Matthew Grayken is living with a devastating disease that claims a lot of lives. He doesn't want to be alone anymore. Matthew has been watching this beautiful nurse Mikaela for a while now. He can't get her out of his mind. Matthew finally gets enough courage and asks her to marry him. Mikaela is stunned when he asked her to marry him. She gets to know him and she tells him yes she will marry him. They both put down limits on their marriage so no one will end up hurt. Matthew has some time off so they go and make new memories. Life is going good for this new couple until Matthew gets some bad news. He now has to make some very hard decisions. He quickly realizes that he has strong feelings for Mikaela but does she feels the same? Will this couple make it through the bad times to get to the good times?

I absolutely loved this book. This is a true masterpiece and everyone should read this beautiful story. The storyline has it all romance, tragedy, and forgiveness. You will fall in love with the characters right from the beginning. Matthew is fighting for his life but he always sees the good. He is so sweet to Mikaela it will make your heart melt. Mikaela is a beautiful woman inside and out. She is my new favorite heroine thus far. She is a hero to me because she never gave up on Matthew no matter how hard it got. I loved that this talented author wrote this story in both characters points of views. This gives you more are personal connection of the struggles these characters had. This story will make you look at your life in a different way. This couple will stay in my heart for years to come. I can't wait to see what this amazing author will write next.

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### **Sara Oxton says**

Love on a Limb by Laurie Lewis a four-star read that can be read at any time of year. This appears like a Christmas novel but as the tag line suggests it can be read at any time, there are scenes of Christmas but there are lots of others as well, as we follow Matt and Mikaela on a journey one that starts with them as patient and nurse and sees them becoming friends and more, Matt is scared to face his illness and possible times ahead alone and just wants someone to be with him on his journey. The author has clearly done her homework as she deals with the subject matter in a very kind and compassionate manner, she has a realness to her writing and I deal with people like Matt and Mikaela on a daily basis, so it was a very real subject to me. Overall the story was very well written there were just a couple of bits that went on a little too much, otherwise well done on a great story.

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### **Jacob Proffitt says**

I very nearly passed on this book because of all the drama potential. I mean, Matt is dying and we know that

from the very beginning. And that limits story possibilities quite a lot and it creates a minefield that few authors can navigate successfully. Particularly in a story tagged as romance because that means that the love story has that tragic backdrop dogging it every step of the way. So the author has to take that very serious background and make it work with the joy of finding true love.

So I went into it expecting to find jarring cross-notes and for every character or story beat misstep to glare brightly and drag me out of the book. And I admit I was looking for excuses to dismiss it and move on. But . . .

This story gripped me from the very start and it never let go—not in the sense that I couldn't put it down (I stupidly started it late at night expecting I'd find an excuse and be to bed on time). So I *had no choice* but to put it down last night. And then couldn't wait to get to a quiet moment this evening to pick it back up again. These characters just reached out to me and I was fully engaged and I just loved how this story flowed from beginning to end.

A lot of that is owed to Mikaela. She's not quite perfect, but she's very close. But since Matt had leisure and insight and choice, it's not like she's a random girl so it actually holds together pretty well that she is kind and giving and that her support for Matt works out the way it does. And Lewis does a fantastic job showing her stress and distress. And it isn't like she doesn't screw up from time to time because she does.

And I liked Matt, too. You could see that this wasn't his first rodeo and you could see the thought he'd put into his relationship with Mikaela. I worried for a bit that Lewis was going to play the secret that he already was in love with Mikaela (something we learn really early, so not a spoiler) for cheap melodrama and was thrilled that it didn't play out that way. One of my favorite parts of their relationship, though, was that both chose to work to repair the damage that comes from two humans working through really tough times. In other words, both screwed up sometimes, but when it happened, both were willing to reach out to the other for reconciliation, apology, and healing.

And the final hurdle? The reaper menacing them in the background from the start? The single hardest challenge for Lewis to bring off and give both the emotional impact it required and the depth and believability to make this an actual romance story, I mean. Yes, that works out very well I think and without any cheap or unearned steps along the way and I kind of hate that I can't back that up without details but I'm realistic enough not to try.

Two drawbacks to note before concluding this review. First, the editing isn't great. If I catch a handful of problems, there are likely dozens. That is truly unfortunate, but not unexpected with a small press in a Kindle Unlimited release. Second, this is a very tricky story to pull off and just because I think it worked doesn't mean it'll work universally. I worry about that with this one because I was powerfully moved through much of the second half of this story with engaged emotion and while that's true for me, it's a very tricky balance and with stakes that high it'd be easy to fall off if individual tolerances vary even a little.

Anyway, I'm giving this all the stars because even as I acknowledge that others may find it less compelling, for me, it was powerful in the way the best stories are and it moved me deeply. So I'll wrap with two notes.

**A note about Faith:** Mikaela starts off as a believer and she goes to church regularly and prayer is a big part of her background. Lewis keeps it non-denominational and there are a couple of strong religious characters who intersect her journey and some are from identifiable, and diverse, backgrounds. I loved this ecumenical-yet-specific aspect of the story and not least because the final resolution doesn't depend on the validity of that faith even as it depicts the strength her faith provided. This is extremely well-done and I loved that aspect of

this story.

**A note about Chaste:** Mikaela and Matt marry relatively early in this story. And they eventually have sex once they work out that they're in love and need the comfort of that kind of intimacy. But all we get on the page is some mild kissing and the occasional loving touch. And again, this worked out very well, I think, and is another aspect of this story that Lewis handled masterfully.

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### **Lisa Swinton says**

Ms. Lewis knows no bounds when it comes to heart/gut wrenching romance. This time it's between a dying cancer patient and his nurse/soon-to-be wife. The agreement is not to fall in love, in case the worst happens.

I seriously don't have words to describe the deep emotional roller coaster ride this book launches you on, leaving you dizzy, breathless, and believing in hope. It is little short of perfect in terms of a clean romantic read.

As always, Ms. Lewis is at the top of her craft. I imagine she'll stay there forever.

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### **Heidi says**

Love on a Limb, simply is a book that is beautiful, heartbreak, and touch so many of my emotions. Laurie Lewis wrote a story with no limits in this romance. Matt is dying and needs a caregiver so offers a marriage of friendship to help him in his last days. He doesn't wasn't want love, he needs a companion and someone to be his voice when he can't. Mikaela, a loving nurse take Matts request and it doesn't take much for the marriage to turn to love. Mikaela begins to pray for a miracle and Matt begins to fight for his life while is body is giving up.

From the beginning until the end of this book, I went on a roller-coaster of emotions, fear, sadness and faith. This clean romance simply grabbed me and didn't let me go. This was third book ever to openly make me cry and simply became an all-time favorite read. Laurie Lewis is an amazing author and does not disappoint!

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### **Anastasia says**

Love On A Limb

By Laurie Lewis

5 Stars

Wow this story was completely unexpected and I loved every minute of it. The story flowed, and the character were fantastic. I felt what they were feeling, and I was sent on an emotional roller coaster and it was great!

This story is about Matthew and Mikaela. They were fast friends and they soon turned to love.

This story is one I would definitely read again, and I would recommend it to a friend.

Review by Anastasia D.

