



Christmas Kiss from the Sheriff

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From Reader Review Christmas Kiss from the Sheriff for online ebook

Susan says

Very good book about two people who are looking for fresh starts in their lives. Gemma is a well educated and beautiful young woman who fled west after shooting a man in self-defense. She has put her education to use by becoming a teacher in the small mining town of Clear Springs. Craig is the new sheriff, who is looking for his own new beginning after his fiancee threw him over and married his brother instead. He plans to steer clear of entanglements for a good long time.

Gemma and Craig are first brought into contact by a difference of opinion over how she handles a fight between two of her students. They agree to disagree, but neither is able to forget their encounter. They're brought together again when Gemma receives a threatening note and Craig is determined to investigate.

Craig is impressed, and frequently frustrated, by Gemma's independence and reluctance to rely on his protection. I loved seeing him insist and use her own intelligence to show her what she needs. As he provides protection for her and they get to know each other, feelings begin to grow in spite of their intentions. But the more Craig gets to know her, the more he gets the feeling that Gemma is hiding something from him. Gemma knows she has to tell him what happened, but she's afraid of what his reaction will be. I liked seeing the way that she finally faced her past, knowing that it could have far reaching effects. Craig's reaction was understandable, though somewhat disappointing, but his actions redeemed him.

The mystery of who was threatening Gemma was very well done. It started slow with just a couple notes, but escalated quickly. From thinking it was a disgruntled student or parent to her past catching up with her, Gemma was afraid of what would happen next. The injuring of a harmless old man and the burning down of the school, made Craig and Gemma realize that whoever it was would not give up easily. The identity of the villain during the final confrontation was unexpected, and I loved how Gemma saved herself.

Harlequin Historical says

Miniseries: Heroes of San Diego

Marie Piper says

What a perfect western historical Christmas romance. Likable characters, a vivid setting, and an engrossing mystery. (I totally suspected someone who wasn't the culprit!)

Marsha says

For a woman determined to protect a secret, Ms. Starling really chatters a lot. She keeps telling herself not to reveal too much to the sheriff who interrogates her and then winds up spilling her guts anyway. While

respecting her independent streak and strong nature, Sheriff Parker has no problems with telling her what to do, to the point of threatening to handcuff her to a post. We're meant to excuse his behavior because he is a lawman and used to getting his own way. We're also meant to excuse his gruff way of acting sometimes because he's a rugged outdoorsman who doesn't know how to talk sometimes—and that includes making a woman a proper marriage proposal.

The people of Clear Springs seem to want a schoolteacher—to the point of hiring new ones whenever the previous ones get married. But you have to wonder just how much value they attach to it. The ability to skin animals, use them for meat, sell their hides for money, track your position by the stars and shoot a firearm are all shown to have their uses. But there lies a faint denigration of so-called book learning that keeps cropping up (although the townspeople never voice it). Sheriff Parker seems especially prone to such blinkered thinking, wondering how a woman can grow up and never learn astronomy or how to fire a gun.

The novel gets its happily-ever-after ending by having Miss Starling give up her dreams of being a Boston lawyer and settle down to being a small-town schoolmarm—no, wait. She abandons that work as well to being a lawman's wife (as if she couldn't do both). So much for being independent and strong willed.

This is just another generic entry in a long line of romantic heroines giving up their lives to wait on men. If that's what lights your fire, you're welcome to it.

Cindy Nipper says

I was given a free copy in exchange for a review!

This is a brilliant story! I especially enjoyed the twists at the end! Very well written and a creative story that pulls you in! I could almost smell the scents of Christmas as well as smoke!!

Now I have to go back and read the first books in this series!

Maria Dariotis says

Gemma Starling a young woman running from her past and the pain of being alone after her beloved father's death . An act of self defence has her running from the authorities and from everything and everyone she has known. As an educated woman she took a teaching position in Clear Springs, surely the offer was a sign for a new beginning .

Sheriff Craig Parker had sworn off matters of the heart after his ex fiancé threw him over and married his brother. He knew it would take a woman strong in character to be the wife of a sheriff -until he saw Gemma! He knew she was special but something didn't add up, after certain threats and attempts to scare her away brought them close, feelings of more than friendship were blossoming he was puzzled at how guarded she was on her background, and one thing he loved solving was a puzzle!

Will the secrets once exposed be the end? Or will Gemma's past finally catch up with her?

This was one awesome read you have mystery a budding romance with one uptight gorgeous sheriff, a prim and proper educated wealthy teacher, enough action to keep you on the edge of your seat. One definitely

doesn't expect the villains identity or the way the mystery unfolds! Great cast of characters , wonderful story of trust and new beginnings!

I received an ARC from the author for my honest review. The opinions are my own and not influenced in any way by the author or the publisher.

Barbara M. Britton says

I am a sucker for Westerns and I loved Gemma and Craig's story. Gemma must overcome heartache from her past in order to fall fully in love with Craig. Craig is torn between the dark-haired beauty of a school teacher and his job as sheriff. Will her past tear them apart? Loved this book.

Susan says

Be still my beating heart! I loved the chemistry and oh-so romantic tension between these two characters. It was like the show When Calls the Heart in BOOK form! Gemma is up to the challenge of teaching even though she is running from her former life. Craig, the heart stopping sheriff, has his hands full when sinister things start happening to Gemma and the school. Wonderful writing and engaging banter made this the perfect page turner! The secondary characters are unique and add depth to the story. Those stolen kisses and steamy chemistry had me rooting for them! The suspense of danger builds up in each chapter until a twist of an ending that has you happy and oh so satisfied for the two love birds.

Julie (Manga Maniac Cafe) says

DNF at 25%

This is just not holding my attention. I think I have read too many western type books in a row.

Harlequin Books says

"The near-fatal attacks on the schoolteacher and the secret past she tries desperately to keep hidden make for a fun evening's read,..." (RT Book Reviews).

Miniseries: Heroes of San Diego

Teri Donaldson says

I loved this western romance. Ms. Albright provided us with old fashioned romance, a mystery and Christmas-all of my favorite things.

Gemma is running from her past, right into the arms of the sheriff, Craig. Craig is healing his heart over a failed engagement and is committed to protecting the town's newest addition. Together, they work to solve

the mystery surrounding the school where Gemma teaches.
All of the characters in this book are colorful. I especially liked the children.
I look forward to reading other books by Ms. Albright.
I did receive an ARC of this fabulous book. I voluntarily read and reviewed it.

Lois says

I really enjoyed reading this advance copy I received of this book. Kathryn has a way of getting you into her stories & this one kept you guessing. Sheriff Craig & school teacher Gemma are going to come to a understanding about what is going on in their lives. Will they find love?? Sheriff Craig doesn't think that's going to happen for him since his fiancee married his brother. Gemma is running from her past & Craig will find out if she doesn't start running again after someone burns her school & a letter telling her to leave. You must read this wonderful Christmas book to find the answer. It is a sweet story. Thank You, Kathryn for sending me an advance copy.

Robyn Echols says

Running from Problems

This story has a healthy dose of suspense which kept me guessing and reading. Genna had her secret, and she worried the problem she left behind followed her out west. But did it explain the threats against her and the school where she taught? The author developed her characters well. Great sweet romance for Christmas.

Maxine Douglas says

I LOVED it! Kathryn Albright has penned the perfect kiss of Christmas. Gemma is the perfect heroine for Sheriff Craig Parker. Despite secrets Gemma loves her students as much as she does Craig Parker. A story for the season with a touch of suspense as Gemma and Craig work to figure out who wants to rid the town of their new teacher and find a way to push their secrets into the open and truly love each other.

Russell Howen says

A sweet romance mystery . I enjoyed it Kathryn.
