



Santa In A Stetson

Janet Dailey

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STARS IN HER EYES

Though Diana Palmer left the bright lights of the big city behind for New Mexico, she misses the excitement now that Christmas is coming. But she's about to find out the joys of the season are just as big in the Land of Enchantment ... and just as romantic. They do things differently, though --- the rancher at her door with a fresh pine tree slung over his shoulder arrives unannounced and she can't help but invite him in for a cup of cocoa. Tall, sexy, and single, Lije Masters is all man ... and all she ever wanted for Christmas as warm and happy as two hearts can make it ...

Santa In A Stetson Details

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Author : Janet Dailey

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Amanda says

Book #102 of 2009

I was very much looking forward to this book. It seemed like a good premise... but... I didn't really like it much at all in the end. First of all, I felt that the blurb on the back had almost nothing to do with the story, so that was a bit dissapointing. And then the story. Oh the sory line. Where not a whole lot happens. And theres a bunch of drama. Followed by not a whole lot happening. Ugh. I was just... bored.

Marina says

I give this one 3.5 to 4 stars.It was a nice sweet love story. Cowboys were present as well.Laughs.

Spoiler

Note to Self: New Mexico

Diana Palmer("Di",ex-model,24yo,new newspaper writer,preg w/ twins)+Elijah Masters("Lije",31yo,ranch owner,pal1) and Deuce & Trey (their dogs),Jim Two Pony(ranch foreman,pal1)+Tina(gf),Stella(model,pal),Vanessa(model),Cord Harris(ranch owner,pal1)+Stacy= Joshua(their son),Lisa Griswold(new pal),Herb Bigelow(newspaper owner,new pal)+Dottie.

Becky says

The description on the back of the book was intriguing, which prompted the purchase of this "Christmas-themed" romance novel.

The description on the back of the book is also very misleading. The name of the heroine is different (Diana Mills, not Diana Palmer), she moves to New Mexico with her new husband, it takes place mainly in February/March and a little during the summer, and is only Christmas in the last chapter or two, and no "unannounced rancher" arrives at her door with a "pine tree slung over his shoulder" for Christmas. Lies!!

All in all, this book was just really dumb. Dumb storyline, dumb characters, dumb dialog... Not a book I'll be reading every Christmas - or ever again.

Jacqueline says

This is a rewrite/update of Land of Enchantment by Janet Dailey. It is basically the same book with a few extras added. Mainly I think the extras are things like adding in cell phones and PCs. The book is pretty old school. It is told totally from the heroine's POV. He is pretty mean to her etc. In other words typical for Harlequin Presents from the late 1970s which is when Land of Enchantment was originally written. Doesn't

really have anything to do with Christmas.

Sandy M says

I haven't read Janet Dailey in years. I loved her Calder saga when it began back in 1999. (I actually thought it was later than that, but that's what the websites I checked say.) I read the first four books of that series because that's all there was at that time. I've yet to start the second half of it, but they are in the TBR pile. After reading this book, I'm all the more curious to start the Calders at the beginning just to see if they have the same punch as they did all those years ago. I'm having my doubts, however. Santa in a Stetson is hopefully not vintage Dailey after so much time. I'm hoping she's better than what I just experienced or remember.

The biggest nitpick with this book is Ms. Dailey doesn't seem to have grown with the years as far love/sex scenes in romance. Yes, there's the sweet and sensual for readers who don't care to get totally nekkid when reading, but this book barely skims sweet or sensual. You have to keep up to date even when you're old fashioned, and Ms. Dailey just plain misses the mark with this story. There's not even the smallest beginnings of a sizzle between this couple.

And if you're looking for a Christmas read, this ain't it. Whoever titled this book also missed the mark. Big time. Christmas doesn't even come into the story until very, very late in the book, and though Lije receives a Stetson as a gift, that's just not what I had pictured in my head of what could conceivably happen in this book. And he doesn't even play Santa.

Lije and Diana meet while she's on a photo shoot on a Texas ranch where a local rodeo is going on, Lije being a participant, and they have a whirlwind of a time with each other. They both fall hard for the other very quickly. It's Lije who does the hard part and says goodbye for them to go their separate ways when the time comes. But it's Diana who takes the first step toward love, giving up her modeling career to tell Lije she loves him and she wants a future with him.

They marry just as quickly, and just as quickly Diana has doubts about what she's done the very second she steps onto Lije's ranch. This was a huge stumbling block for me. She didn't even give the man a minute's worth of confidence, worried only that she's a city girl, the ranch is run down, she's used to nicer things, maybe she's made a mistake. I'd have to say it was Lije who made the mistake, seems he got the short end of the stick. More happens, of course, to cause discord between them. Diana eventually in another short period of time can't stand the loneliness on the ranch when Lije is out working all day long trying to make a go of the place. She just irritated me something fierce from this point on out.

That's not to say that Lije doesn't have his moment of errors in judgment. He jumps to the wrong conclusion when he arrives home after being gone a week to see Diana in the barn with a man Lije doesn't care for, in somewhat of a compromising position. Things hurl south even faster after this, divorce is thrown around, and Diana begins to pack her bags. On top of it all, the dialogue between them is awkward and just doesn't sound right at this point in the relationship.

I'm very disappointed in this book. The characters are likeable and that's pretty much all there is to like about the whole story. What's been done to them just isn't worth the read. I'm still determined, though, to pull out my Calder books. I have to see if they and my nostalgia surrounding them have survived the years.

Oh, and, Ms. Dailey, please update your website. Santa in a Stetson isn't even listed there. The most recent book showing is 2007. It's very frustrating roaming through a site that doesn't have the information you're looking for.

See my complete review at <http://www.goodbadandunread.com>

Andrea says

Oh my.. this book is a BORE!!! If you like to read books that are soapish.. then this book is good for you. I hate soapish books. I like books with good storyline, climax and some interesting points that keep me on toes. This book has NOTHING. Just a guy and woman met each other and fall in love and got married instantly, then story focus on poor woman who is not used to living on far away ranch while her macho husband is busy with working which isn't nearby the home. Boo-hoo.. So boring.... I am surprised that I was able to finish the book quickly. Thank god.. So sum it up... the book is ECHHHHHHHHHHHH.

Tina says

This was a nice and easy read romance. I enjoyed the story setting of the farm with all of its imperfections. Would definitely recommend to those who enjoy a light-hearted romance story. The only thing I would have changed was the ending - I think something a little more "creative" could have been done when she announced that they were having twins. Maybe something like having some mini stetsons for her husband to discover.

Maggie says

This is the lowest rating I've ever given a book (I think). I am shocked at how much I didn't like it! Just a heads up the discription on the back of the book doesn't even sound like the book AT ALL! The version I have says the main character's name is Diana Palmer (which I thought was sweet since they write the same genre) but the character's name isn't Palmer, its Mills. Strange? Yes.... the description sounds like an excellent book the actual book isn't nearly as good.

Did I get a misprinted copy? Anyone else have this problem?

Dixie Bowman says

Cute read. I enjoy Janet Dailey's books. Fast easy book. Just a little Christmas spirit.

Laura says

Diana Mills is a small-time model who dreams of getting married and having a family. During a shoot at a

rodeo in San Antonio, she meets Lije Masters (Lije is short for Elijah). A very short courtship turns into what could be her dream.

This story is difficult to classify. It is a romance, but not quite in the typical sense. It is more about making the romance work than just getting the happily ever after. The blurb on the back of the book is very misleading and really has nothing at all to do with this book. The publisher did this book a huge mistake with it--I was confused as to what the book was about because of it.

I liked this book, but I didn't love it by any means. It was a sweet story, but the characters weren't ones that were easy to connect with. It is written in third person entirely from Diana's point of view. I usually don't like one-sided romances because I really like to know what the other person in the relationship is thinking--I want to get to know both characters. I felt like I never really got to know Lije very much.

It is a bit slow, but a very simple read--it only took me a day to finish. I was hoping for something a bit more Christmasy, but this really had very little of a Christmas aspect to it.

A bit of a disappointment from what I was expecting, but a cute read nonetheless.

Note: This is a tame book with no sex. It has implications and innuendo, but no descriptions.

Julie says

Cute light read.

Amanda says

This book was nothing like what it said on the back. I found myself skimming through the book to get to the Christmas part which was only the last 10 pages. If you bought this book, try to return it, you'll thank me for that.

Marisa says

Don't let the title fool you - NO santa in this book.

Alice Harbin says

What a change for a romance novel. Boy marries girl, but all does not go well. There is some descriptions of love making, but they are discreet. I won't give the ending away. That part stretches things a bit.

I never read the description on the back of the book or on the book cover flaps. I like to be totally surprised by the story and not know what to expect. So the discrepancy there did not bother me. The description on the back does not match the book

Dorry Lou says

This was a fun book to read. I don't read many of her books as they are not always clean. However this one was as she tells of a city girl that was a model that meets a rodeo rider and falls hard for him. When the circuit is over and he is to leave, the city girl decides she loves him. So they go to a little town and get married and go together to his ranch in New Mexico. The ranch is pretty much isolated and Diana the city girl, has a hard time adjusting to that kind of life. The typical romantic story and very enjoyable.
