



Marrying Mandy (Brides of Clearwater Book 1)

Melanie D. Snitker

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Mandy Hudson swore she'd never marry. Abandoned by her parents and raised by her grandparents, she has a hard time trusting that real love will last. When her grandmother dies, Mandy's shocked to discover a stipulation in the will. Considering marriage to her best friend may be the only way to keep her family's beloved bed-and-breakfast.

The loss of his job threatens Preston Yarrow's shaky financial stability. Besides, he can't watch his best friend give up the only real home she's ever known. Frustrated by Mandy's stubborn refusal to let him help, he's certain they are stronger together than they are apart. A marriage of convenience might be crazy... or an answer to both their prayers.

Marrying Mandy (Brides of Clearwater Book 1) Details

Date : Published January 2nd 2018 by Kindle Press

ISBN :

Author : Melanie D. Snitker

Format : Kindle Edition 206 pages

Genre : Romance, Clean Romance, Contemporary, Christian Fiction



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From Reader Review Marrying Mandy (Brides of Clearwater Book 1) for online ebook

Melissa Henderson says

A very sweet story. Emotions run deep in this one. The characters are easy to relate to and to care about. I enjoyed this story.

Brittany says

I enjoyed this marriage of convenience story so much! What a sweet tale of friends who ended up married to each other as a means to fulfill the terms of a will.

I so enjoyed the fact that Preston had loved Mandy ever since they were teenagers and that he truly would do whatever it took to help her save what was important to her. And I loved the way that Mandy cared for Preston as a friend, even had feelings for him, yet was so terrified of ending up as her parents did. It took her awhile to wake up to the truth of God's grace and what her feelings for Preston really were. These two characters were such a joy to read about.

There was great romantic tension in this novel and the rollercoaster of emotions that Mandy and Preston went through made the story one that I had a hard time setting down. This is a book that I will be re-reading.

You can read this review on my blog:

<https://brittreadsfiction.wordpress.c...>

Shona says

A brilliantly crafted story which takes the reader through the emotions of loss, love and second chances. It proves that God never gives up on us and always has a much better plan for our lives than we could ever hope to imagine. A new concept for a marriage of convenience and one which worked well in this particular situation.

Pick up this book and lose yourself in Mandy and Preston's romance. You won't regret it...

Angelica Bentley says

I nominated this book during its Kindle Scout run, but having read it to the end, it was only okay for me. The plot was predictable from the start and did not hold any surprises, but I was curious to see how the author was going to turn around a truly annoying heroine.

Mandy's grandparents brought her up and gave her a loving and happy home until their death, but she can't get past the trauma of being abandoned by her deadbeat parents. She has decided that she will never marry or have children, despite being far from indifferent to her handsome childhood friend, Preston, who loves her

tenderly and unconditionally. All she cares about is the big, old house and land where she was raised and the struggling Bed & Breakfast business she helped run. Fighting against her grandparents' well-meaning scheming, she eventually consents to marry Preston to satisfy a specific condition in the will, but makes it very clear that it's a marriage of convenience and she wants to keep her distance. After some setbacks, Mandy eventually starts to see things differently, and her developmental arc is fairly well done.

The issue for me was that the characters and situations are overdone and unrealistic. Although we are told that Mandy is amazingly beautiful and kind, her actions show her to be selfish and incredibly mulish, and it's difficult to see why Preston is so taken with her since she treats him horribly. I doubt very much that any man would accept the situation and show so much patience. Characterization is rather superficial, the pace is slow, and plot devices a bit too contrived. Occasionally the head-hopping becomes a little distracting, but the dialogue is natural and convincing (probably the best part of the book). The writing style is clean and flowing but rather flat, lacking both humour and inventiveness.

Linda Rainey says

What a beautiful story about, love, loss and second chances.
The story was well crafted, the characters engaging amidst the back drop of a B&B.
I recommend this book for anyone who loves Christian romances.

Toni Shiloh says

Such a sweet tale of romance and I loved the marriage of convenience angle.

Chanel says

Sweet, tender and heartwarming. Marrying Mandy is a soft, subtle romance as two friends fall in love while in a marriage of convenience.

The heroine, Mandy, has always sworn she would never marry because of her parents' reckless marriage and consequential divorce. But when her grandparents' will gives her the option to sell the family-owned B&B or marry to keep it, she knows she can't give up the only home she's ever known. Her best friend, Preston, is also struggling with his finances and finding a way to jumpstart his dream of a woodworking business. On top of that, he's been in love with Mandy for years and refuses to stand by when he can help. A marriage of convenience seems like the answer to both of their problems, but Preston is more determined than ever to show Mandy that their marriage means more to him than that as he pursues her heart.

This novel is super sweet. Mandy is a strong, independent, and kind woman, who still carries emotional scars from her history with her parents. Consequently, she is wary about marriage and hesitant to let Preston into her heart. Preston is playful, kind, protective and sure to win over every reader. His love for Mandy is clear in everything he does because all he wants is for her to be happy. I'm swooning again from just thinking about it. Both characters are likable and readers can easily invest in their journey. Their chemistry and transition from friends to lovers was also easygoing and natural. All the characters were fun to hang out with and get to know - and I can't wait to read Raven's story next. Definitely an enjoyable read that I would

recommend to others.

Darla Damron says

What an awesome story about a marriage of convenience. This story is about Molly and Preston who have been best friends growing up. After Molly's grandparents pass away then Preston comes to her rescue. I love the back and forth teasing between the two. Reminds me of my own marriage. The couple goes through many trials but they keep on being reminded to trust and rely on the Lord.

What I loved: The spiritual content was continuous and constant. I love how it wove into each part of the story. It truly encouraged me as a Christian.

I highly recommend this book to anyone wanting a contemporary christian fiction book.

Peggy McAloon says

I immediately bonded with Mandy and her desire to avoid the tragedy a divorce places on the children left behind. Mandy suffered the ultimate betrayal when neither of her parents wanted her after the divorce. Those of us who have experienced divorce understand the loss, but being unwanted is the ultimate catastrophe when Mandy is sent to live at the Bed & Breakfast with her grandparents.

One childhood friend, Preston, has stood beside Mandy throughout the years, and it is no surprise he continues to be her stalwart companion when her grandparents are both now gone. This is a story about finding love with your best friend. When a heart closes to any further pain, it's difficult to allow the glow of hope to permeate the walls erected for protection. It's a story of faith, love, compassion, and hope.

Sometimes we find others can find small ways to bolster our hopes when we have totally given up on any dreams of a better life.

I desperately needed an escape from a potentially devastating diagnosis when I picked up this book, and I was delighted to spend several hours totally immersed in the challenge Mandy faced as she struggled with her grandparent's will and the leap of faith they were asking her to take. Once in awhile, we discover the answers to our own prayers in a story written by someone who has felt the depths of our struggles and shares the inspiration we so desperately need.

Julie Carpenter says

I love a good story about childhood sweethearts and marriages of convenience. This was a sweet love story and had two great characters who had struggles in life but were just good characters and doing the best that they could. When more sorrow comes their way and the possibility of losing all that Mandy holds dear, they choose to marry and save her family's heritage. Of course they agree it is a marriage of convenience. But that doesn't stop Preston from promising to take care of her and help her in any way she needs help. You see Preston loves Mandy. He has loved her and wanted to marry her since they were teenagers. Mandy has some different thoughts on marriage, and for good reason. So after swearing off marriage when she was younger, all her plans go out the window when she realizes she can't save the family Bed and Breakfast without first

setting aside her plans to never marry.

Preston was awesome. He was so good to Mandy and really taught her so much about friendship and the ability to love. You can't go wrong with a best friend like him in your life.

If you want a sweet and gentle story of two best friends, this is one I highly recommend.

Content: clean. Some talk about God but nothing preachy.

My own personal copy from voting for this book in the Kindle scout program.

Happy Reading!!!

Phyllis says

Sniffle. My heart went out to Mandy. She was so hurt by events in her life. And left afraid to love. Then there is Preston, probably the sweetest guy ever. (At least until the next book I read.) I love that he had loved Mandy pretty much since he met her when they were both teenagers. One of the things that made this story so sweet was that though they were both in their mid-twenties, neither Mandy nor Preston had ever dated anyone else. (Or each other, actually.)

Preston exhibited a constant, patient and Christ-like love towards Mandy. Willing to be there for her and love her, even if she was never able to return that love. Willing to sacrifice his dreams to help her fulfill hers.

The story was told from both Mandy and Preston's perspectives. It was a sweet, emotional journey filled with moments of longing and hope.

Here is a quote from the book:

She focused on the breeze as it played music in the trees nearby while birds sang songs to each other.

This review was originally posted on Among the Reads

Joyful says

Marrying Mandy is an uplifting story of love, hope and family. It's well-written and realistic to the grieving process. Mandy has no intention of ever marrying. Preston's love of family and Mandy is intent unconditional even to the point of a marriage of convenience. Their lives obstacles makes for an interesting, triumphant, and rewarding storyline.

I receive complimentary books for review from publishers, publicists, and/or authors. I am not required to write positive reviews. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

Jaycee Weaver says

Adorable!

Preston is a truly wonderful hero—charming, selfless, patient. So much of this book was set in Mandy's stubborn, misguided, desperate head, but reading how she worked through her issues with so many things coming at her was rewarding. Marriage of convenience stories might not seem very realistic, but the way Melanie Snitker wrote her characters and then threw difficult situation after difficult situation at them actually made everything seem more lifelike. Isn't that just how life goes—it never rains but it pours?! A fun, relatively quick read.

Sarah says

I was so excited to get my Kindle Scout copy of Melanie D. Snitker's book *Marrying Mandy!* This book was every bit as marvelous as I anticipated. I have fallen in love with the characters and TOTALLY enjoyed the storyline of every book that I have read by the author. When I finish one of her books, I not only feel like I KNOW the people in the book, but maybe I AM one of the characters! LOL! It seems that there is always SOMETHING or SOMEONE that truly resonates with my spirit. It is wonderful to find books & series about, and an author who brings out, sacrificial love. *Marrying Mandy* is about a love story about a woman who has been hurt by those who should have put her needs above their own, and the man who loves her enough to sacrifice his desires for what is best for her.

SPOILER ALERT! ;-) OF COURSE, she comes to her senses at the end! It truly is a beautiful love story. I can't wait for the next book in the series!!!

Rebekah Morris says

I had read another "marriage of convenience" story by this author and enjoyed it, so I ventured to try this one. While the kissing was a little over the top, I didn't mind it as much because they were married. And, while I understood and sympathized with Mandy, I wanted to lecture her a bit several times. There wasn't a lot of Christianity in the book, but it wasn't non-existent either. I did appreciate that though this was a marriage of convenience, neither one would consider a divorce after it happened.
