



Wishes And Stitches

Rachael Herron

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It has always been Naomi Fontaine's dream to practice small-town medicine—an ambition that brought her to Cypress Hollow, the charming, tight-knit community her late friend, knitting guru Eliza Carpenter, loved so well. But no matter how hard she tries, Naomi can't seem to fit in here. Then rugged Rig Keller moves in to take over half of Naomi's medical practice, and instantly charms everyone in town . . . including Naomi.

Rig saw what a broken relationship did to his brother, and has no interest whatsoever in getting serious. But the temptation to play doctor with his new partner is just too strong to resist. Any chance they might have of being truly knit together by love, however, depends entirely on what secrets they are willing to reveal . . . and on Rig's willingness to risk his heart and Naomi's desire to open hers completely.

Wishes And Stitches Details

Date : Published October 10th 2011

ISBN :

Author : Rachael Herron

Format : Kindle Edition 400 pages

Genre : Romance, Fiction, Crafts, Knitting, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Wishes And Stitches for online ebook

ALPHAreader says

Dr Naomi Fontaine might have made a huge mistake in moving to Cypress Hollow. The townsfolk are wary of her and even after months of being the only doctor in town and eating at the same diner every morning, nobody has really warmed up to her. Not that she can blame them . . . Naomi knows that while she's a great doctor, her bedside manner leaves a little something to be desired. She can't do chit-chat or idle small-talk; she's painfully shy and in the past that aloofness has come across as stuck-up.

Naomi could have helped herself if she'd just explained the reason she moved to Cypress Hollow in the first place – Eliza Carpenter. The famed knitter and writer was Naomi's patient, and eventually a very dear friend . . . until she died of cancer. But in the months that they'd had to grow close to one another, Eliza spoke constantly of Cypress Hollow – and instilled a great wish in Naomi to move to the little town and call it home. Naomi started out with high-hopes for the Hollow – and even opened a free clinic, in honour of her deceased father; a doctor who Naomi loved dearly, so much so that she followed in his footsteps.

But everything is falling apart, and maybe it's all Naomi's fault . . . so maybe that's why she had a hot, intense fling at an out-of-town conference with the handsomest man she had ever seen.

Just when Naomi is at her lowest, a stranger comes to Cypress Hollow – a stranger who Naomi sort of knows, after their one night together.

Hank 'Rig' Keller has returned from his lonely job as doctor on the oil-rigs to stay with his widowed brother, little nephew Milo and elderly father, Frank. He is even thinking of buying into the local practice, currently manned by one doctor . . . who, surprise-surprise! happens to be the one-night stand he can't stop thinking about.

Rig Keller didn't expect to trip over Doc Fontaine ever again, but now that he has he can't seem to get her out of his system. Not even with the complication of them working together (or the technicality that Naomi is his boss). Rig can't even help his attraction when Naomi's little sister, by all accounts a reckless wanderer, turns up on her doorstep seven months pregnant, sending Naomi's carefully organized life spiralling into orbit . . .

'Naomi's Wish' (called 'Wishes and Stitches' in the US) is the third book in Rachael Herron's lovely-addictive contemporary romance series, 'Cypress Hollow Yarn'.

I have really enjoyed this series. I read first book, 'Eliza's Gift' last year, followed by 'Lucy's Kiss' and was absolutely bawled over by how much I enjoyed the sweet little romances – set in the country town of Cypress Hollow, and loosely tangled around a renowned knitter called Eliza Carpenter. To be more precise, the stories are about the people who find themselves at loose ends after Eliza dies of cancer – but her friendships, plotting and patterns are still felt in the Hollow.

In the case of 'Naomi's Wish', Dr Naomi Fontaine was Eliza's doctor who, in the wake of Eliza's sad passing, decides to pack her city life up and move to the Hollow. When the book begins, Naomi has been living in Cypress Hollow for quite a few months – but you'd never know it. The townspeople barely register her presence, and Naomi is too shy to initiate friendships or even acquaintances. It's rather painful to read how shy Naomi is, and how misjudged by the town for her aloofness. So it's rather a surprise when big,

handsome Rig Keller walks through the door of the local diner, and Naomi is horrified to discover it's the man she had a one-night stand with a few weeks ago. Seems that Naomi enjoyed letting her hair down outside of Cypress Hollow, but in a twist of fate that one moment of recklessness is coming to bite her in the behind. . .

Rig is actually in town for a few reasons. His brother, Jake, is a widower whose wife died three years ago. Jake and Megan had a big love, and her loss nearly crippled him. It's something Rig has seen before – in their father, Frank. When Jake and Rig's mum died, Frank stayed in bed for six months and it was only with coaxing and tough-love that Jake and Rig were able to save him from himself. Rig has come to Cypress Hollow and intends to stay; to help his brother and father any way he can, and watch his beloved nephew, Milo grow up. Jake is doing okay – he's just a little over-protective and over-cautious, and he refuses to move or change anything that Megan touched.

When he sees Doc Naomi Fontaine, Rig is counting his lucky stars that he decided to leave the oil-rig life behind and move to the Hollow. Memories of her have been plaguing him for weeks, and he can't believe his luck that the small town he has decided to move to comes complete with the woman of his dreams. But he's a little surprised to discover that the Naomi from his day-dreams is a little more cold-shouldered in real life, less self-assured and painfully shy.

One of my favourite things in this book was the Keller family. Jake, Rig, Milo and Frank were wonderfully sweet, and offered some hilarious moments;

"So," said Jake, and Rig could see the effort he was putting into cheering up. "How did your first day go as a new citizen?"

"I'm going to have to work with the hottest one-night stand I ever had."

Jake said, "Rig!"

Milo bounced once, hard, and said, "My nightstand is next to my bed. Where's yours?"

I found it really interesting that both Jake and Frank are wounded men – missing the loves of their lives. For Rig, his dad and brother's heartbreak offers a warning not to lose your heart – but I thought it was really interesting to read about these men who have had to pick up the pieces of their lives after great loss.

I liked Naomi's family a little less – mainly, her sister. Anna is Naomi's half-sister, they share the same mother, but Anna's father is their mother's second husband, whom she is still married to. Naomi has always felt that Anna was their mother's favourite – despite her recklessness. Anna ran away from home and has had a number of dubious jobs and relationships, and she is known to call up in the middle of the night and beg for money to be wired. When Anna winds up on Naomi's front-porch, seven months pregnant and refusing to speak of the father, Naomi is upset but not all that surprised. There was so much friction and a history of hurt between Naomi and Anna, and I felt like we needed more page-time with the sisters. I also thought it was odd when Jake and Anna grew close . . . I thought that Anna was just using Jake at her convenience; she can't hold down a job, has a baby on the way, so she sees leaching on to widower as the easy way out. Maybe Naomi loves her sister too much to think that critically of her, but I was really not keen on the Anna/Jake pairing and I wished someone would have pointed out the imbalance in the relationship.

I also thought that a lot of revelations happened to Naomi towards the end of the book. . . and I wished that they had been more evenly distributed. Because they were such BIG revelations, I wanted Naomi (and the reader) to spend more time dissecting them – instead it felt like we were led to a galloping conclusion without the in-depth emotional examination I would have liked.

But those are my only small complaints about this book. Everything else worked for me. I loved Naomi and Rig – he was such a charming man’s man, while she was an awkward wallflower and it was adorable to read how those clashing personalities actually complemented one another. I also had quite a swoony moment, when Rig nursed Naomi through a bout of food-poisoning. I think everyone, at some stage, has wondered what their loved one’s gross-out limits are. Childbirth is probably a pretty good indicator; but food-poisoning has got to be up there because it ain’t pretty. And if my partner reacted the way that Rig did, they’d have my eternal devotion;

And even pale as she was, face shiny with dried sweat, her curls tangled as if they’d been in a blender, Rig’s heart twisted when he looked at her. He pressed kiss after kiss into her temple, her forehead, her cheek, and when he did, she snuggled closer to him, her arms wrapping around his neck or his arm, whatever was closest to her. He wasn’t sure if it was just because she was sick, but he hoped not. He loved it.

As with all the ‘Cypress Hollow Yarn’ books, I loved the custodial wisdom of Eliza Carpenter’s knitted words of wisdom. They’re lovely, interspersed throughout the chapters and surprisingly easy to apply to real-life;

Grace is knowing when to bind off.

- E.C.

‘Naomi’s Wish’ was another beautiful romance by Rachael Herron. Reading one of these books is the equivalent to throwing a lovely knitted shawl over your shoulders and snuggling into the warmth. Lovely, lovely, lovely – and I do so hope it’s not the last time we visit Cypress Hollow, because I already want to return!

Debbie says

the details/imagery in this book is truly amazing. you will fall in love with these characters.

Nicole Brown says

The trifecta of awesomeness... Rachel has done it again with a story that wraps you up and takes you on a sweet ride... Be warned tho, you may find a new found interest in knitting ;)

Debbie says

This book was a bit slow starting out but was an excellently written story which left me wanting to know just a bit more than happily ever after. Now to read the other two yarn books.

Silverluna says

:)

Kathy Barton says

in the series, this was my least favorite so far.

Fay says

I am sorry to say this was one of the weaker books I've read in a long time. Not really sure why I stayed with it except that is my practice and I don't usually give up on a book. It was predictable and very routine. Perhaps it suffered from it following a Ken Follett gem, but I don't think I'll look for any more of the author's writing. Sorry

Cameron Toney says

I'm a sucker for any book that promises me knitting, and am willing to put up with a lot of silliness to get at it, but this book just never delivers.

Its a romance, where the two main characters just need to have their heads knocked together, and the plot is dressed up with so much extemporaneous nonsense that it just bogs down the basic story.
Not for me, I'm afraid.

Meagan says

This is the first of Rachael Herron's books I have read. Thoroughly enjoyed this romance, with plenty of twists and turns to keep me interested and unable to put the book down! Didn't hurt that Naomi's love interest,Rig,rides a Harley either :)

Kathleen (Kat) Smith says

Naomi Fontaine's biggest dream was to live in a small town overlooking the beach. The kind where you can stop in the diner in the morning and have breakfast. Stopping at a table that is reserved just for you as you wave hi to everyone in town that's there for breakfast too.

And that's the very reason why she has settled down in the small, beachside town on Cypress Hollow, to begin a new life for herself, to open up a small health clinic like her dad used to have and be the resident doctor. Living on an idyllic street reminiscent of any perfect neighborhood, Naomi Fontaine has found true happiness. A thriving practice with the local doctor as his partner who is retiring in a few short months. Not

knowing if she'll have enough money to buy out his part of the practice, she can only hope the replacement doctor is someone she can work well with.

The only problem with Naomi's dream life in Cypress Hollow is she can't bring herself to talk to anyone. Not even all those town residents she passes by on her way into Tillie's diner for breakfast. Nope instead she heads to the farthest table in the back where she tortures herself with the conversations she wished she was having with the people but instead only dreams of those conversations in her head. Why Oh why can't she find it within herself to just talk to people? Even the knitting she is struggling with, she can't manage to wander her way into the local yarn shop and ask for help. Nope, she resolves to stay in her little world until something changes.

And it does in fact change when Rig Keller walks into the diner one morning. Not quite sure if he is indeed the same person she fell for at a medical convention in Portland, she cringes when she realizes that it is. She wishes she could just crawl into a hole and pull the rock in after her, but when his great rugged looks, and that to die for smile come walking her way, Naomi realizes her life is about to change.

I received Wishes and Stitches by Rachael Herron compliments of William Morrow, a division of Harper Collins Publishers for my honest review. This is such a great love story with so much extra thrown in, the reader is entertained from beginning to end at just what Naomi will do to finally make her dreams come true. Sometimes she gets in her own way instead of just being the bold doctor she was in Portland. Only the trust that was lost so long ago, will make Naomi realize she's been lost and hiding for far too long and it's time to really start living her life. This one rates a 4 out of 5 stars. There is some sexual content that may offend some readers, so be warned. All in all, a great story!

Dotti Elrick says

Not my favorite book in the series. I really struggled to get through this one.

It wasn't a bad book, there were parts I liked, and others I really did not care for. Like the first two books in the series, my issues are with the female leads.

I loved Rig. Like the other men in this series, he was a "man's man". Rough, tough, sexy, alpha male. And when it comes to the heroine, has the patience of a saint to deal with their issues.

The secondary characters are great, quirky, lovable and hilarious.

Each book has drawn me in with the blurb. And they all start off great. I don't mind the back and forth dance the two main characters do before finally having that "moment" where they finally come to their senses and give into each other. My problem is with the weak, stagnant women who live in their own heads more than the real world. Having tunnel vision and refusing to see help and friendship when it's offered.

Naomi made me crazy. Her constant whining about having no friends, no one to talk to. Yet when opportunities arose where she could make friends she quickly turned them down. Refused invitations to join book clubs, knitting groups. Blamed the townspeople for not accepting her. Continuing to believe they would turn around come to her. Kept telling herself she was just shy. Until she overhears others talking about her. And realizes it's not shyness they are seeing in her, but snobbishness.

Naomi put her father on a pedestal. Early on in her life someone needed to knock him off of that pedestal she put him on, and show her he was just a person. Not the idol she made him out to be. She spent her life trying to emulate her father, continue the work he started. She was so wrapped up in his life and work, she forgot to live her own life. Come up with her own professional goals.

Dealing with her internal dialogue, I found my self skipping parts.

It's not a bad book, it was well written. And does have a happy ending. I loved seeing, and catching up with past characters.

Carolyn says

Oops, finished this one a week or two ago but never marked it.

Rachel's a good friend so I don't really feel objective. BUT IT WAS GREAT.

Leah says

This was my least favorite of the series. It was the characters. I did not like any of them, except the main characters of the previous two novels. The four of them weren't in this book much, though. Also, there wasn't enough knitting in this book; I was expecting a lot more knitting and yarn in this book. I also did not like the romances, but that stems from my dislike of the characters. There is a happy ending, which was nice.

Karen says

I would give it 3.5. Fun book Really enjoy these books
