



Mistletoe in Manhattan

Talli Roland

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As Little Missington's first Christmas baby in fifty years and the daughter of 'Christmas When You Like It' party-planners, Holly West has been surrounded by the holiday spirit since birth. Trouble is, she's not exactly filled with festive cheer. In fact, Holly can't wait to ditch the tinsel and Santa suits for champagne and celebs, and become a party-planner to the stars.

When British film star Dean Layton hires her parents' company to throw his holiday bash in Manhattan, Holly jumps at the chance to help, confident she can handle a little Christmas in exchange for access to Dean's exclusive world.

But New York and Dean's over-the-top demands are more than Holly bargained for. Can Holly deck the halls and make it a party to be proud of, or will this Christmas be one she'll never forget . . . even if she wants to?

Note: Mistletoe in Manhattan is a novella.

Mistletoe in Manhattan Details

Date : Published November 3rd 2012 by Notting Hill Press

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Author : Talli Roland

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From Reader Review Mistletoe in Manhattan for online ebook

Jules (Never enough time to read) says

I really enjoyed the short story and my only one complaint was that it wasn't long enough, I wish it had been a full length novel!

Good writing, nice characters and definitely a Christmasy feel to the story.

Rebecca Carter says

I would have given this book another star but because I felt it was missing a certain resolution at the end I had to give it a 3.

I got this novella not expecting much to be honest. The only other Christmas theme book I've read was a bit of a let down. So this book was my last attempt at reading a Christmas book - notice I said was!?

I'm trying my best to get into the Christmas spirit - I know, I know, it's only November - and it's not like I put up decorations before December. But as I'm in Australia before heading home for Xmas and it's summer here, I'm attempting to evoke the spirit of Christmas....Which is pretty difficult when the suns blazing outside, it's boiling hot and I'm wearing a strappy summer dress! However this book succeeded into fooling me it was snowy and cold outside as it really did have a great Christmasy feel to it. I can almost feel the stinging cold wind hitting my cheeks and the need to grab some winter Woolies from the wardrobe and a mug of steaming hot chocolate topped with marshmallows.

The story is about a girl, Holly, who's parents own a Christmas themed party planning company in a small village in England. However Holly is 22, has just finished college and has ambitions to have a career throwing star studded glamorous parties for celebrities. When she gets the opportunity to head to New York and organise a Christmas party for a British celeb living there she jumps at the chance. I can't say much more without spoiling it, apart from she meets a guy and there's a sweet moral to the story. Which I really understand myself being so far from home with Christmas almost in sight.

I'd recommend this book to anyone. It's a perfect Christmas read as it really feels like Christmas when you read it and it's a nice light easy read for when you just want to relax inbeteen dashing about christmas shopping, wrapping presents, Christmas parties, baking mince pies and Christmas cake etc. The only issue I have with the story is it's too short and i wanted to learn more about the characters.

I think I may now have to delve further into Tallis others books to see what else she has written.

Ginger says

Cute Christmas story. It's sure to get you in the holiday spirit and show you what's truly important this time of year.

Talli Roland says

Out now on Amazon. Yay!

Nancy Holte says

Story of a girl who wants to get away from her family party planning business in England and work with the rich and famous in NYC.

Angela Whitmore says

Mim

Short, sweet, schmaltzy Christmas tale with a ridiculous storyline about a British Christmas party planner getting a last minute job organising a celebrity bash in New York.

Jan Duthie says

I'm not a great fan of Christmas books ,with the exception of Dickens, and the fact that I was given it by a friend, usually the kiss of death, but I was seeing her soon and knew she would ask how I liked the book. So after putting it off for another few days I eventually sat down and read it and to my surprise I really enjoyed it. It had good well rounded characters and a strong storyline. I must remember not to automatically put "you-must-reads" in the darkest corner.

Barbara Watkins says

Good Christmas light romance

I enjoyed the light, feel good Christmas romance. It went from England to New York. It shows the feelings of Christmas.

Michele Gorman says

I bought Mistletoe in Manhattan this morning and couldn't wait to start reading it - so much so that I devoured it in one sitting! I loved 22-year old Holly and was carried along with her as she decides what's really important to her. Talli Roland has a wonderful knack for packing great characters into her page turners, and this one has definitely put me in the Christmas spirit.

Stacey says

Full review to follow...

Gaby says

This is a pretty predictable light read that is meant as a nice little holiday story to quickly fly through during an otherwise very hectic time of year. My condensed thoughts are that it's a cute story. A one-sitting read to get through between other books. However, it's very far from perfect and there are a few small issues that readers will easily pick up on if they are doing more than just casually reading through.

Right away Holly is a contradictory character. On the one hand she thinks she is ready for higher level clients, yet she has no idea how to organize things or get her bearings. She is frazzled beyond the point of being believable and yet, she thinks she's the professional member of the family business. Her lack of preparation is painful to read about if you try to analyze it and she trusts a random stranger with an event she makes a very big deal about pointing out her career depends on to go well. She is clueless about things, yet is annoyed her mother doesn't know the very things she was clueless about not a few paragraphs earlier. She knows Alex for less than a week and yet is surprised that there are details about him she doesn't know.

Elsa's character pushes the mean girl generic qualities too much. I find it hard to believe an A-list celebrity assistant wouldn't realize that if her boss's party goes badly, she looks bad, not just the party planners. She's the one who hired the people to do the work, after all.

Alex is supposed to be the ultimate good guy which directly contradicts the way he judges Holly for making a choice career wise that is the entire reason she is in America at all...also, he's known her for a matter of days!

The ending was rushed and tried to tie it all together and end all the conflicts, but there must be repercussions for some of the actions the characters took.

In the end, it's a free book, only about 60 pages, so if you want a quick holiday read, go for it...but I'm sure there are better Christmas stories out there.

BookwormMomma7 says

A great Holiday book about finding out what's important in life. Not a romance per se but a great book that shows us how easily, we can lose track of what is important.

Jennifer says

This review was originally posted to Jen in Bookland

Mistletoe in Manhattan is a different type of Christmas story. Instead of being a romance where two people fall in love and live happily ever after in this story we learn that Christmas is all about the family, though **slight spoilers** there is a bit of a love interest that doesn't really go anywhere. It is a bit unsatisfying as I would have liked it to not be there, or maybe have a follow up book or something. Oh well, it was still a fun holiday read.

Holly works for her family's Christmas party planning business. She wants to break away a bit and do more parties, not just Christmas parties. She is getting tired of all the holiday things all the time. When a British film star wants to have a British Christmas party last minute in New York he hires Holly to handle it for him. She flies from her small hometown to Manhattan to plan the party that will hopefully help her family's business grow and expand across the pond.

Once Holly arrives in New York things don't go exactly as she planned. There is a lady who is not too thrilled to have Holly planning the party who pretty much is useless since she wants to see Holly fail. There are the extras that are added after she already planned most of the party that make it so she can't catch her original flight out which would have had her home on Christmas Eve. There is just a lot that Holly didn't realize, the way these people do business and run their lives is not like what she is used to. Really it makes me glad I don't have to deal with famous people.

Through all of this Holly has the help of the friendly bartender at her hotel bar. He helps her figure out where to get everything she needs and helps her explore New York a bit as well. He also helps Holly realize that if she can spend Christmas with her family she should. She shouldn't be one of those people who puts work first.

Overall it was a good read, but the slight romantic interest which didn't really do much left me wanting more, or less. Still I enjoyed the story. It had just enough holiday fun for me.

Leah says

Mistletoe in Manhattan is a novella of 20,000 words, and also gives readers a sneak peek of Talli Roland's latest novel The Pollyanna Plan, due out in late November.

I love Talli Roland's novels. She's an amazing writer and anyone who brings out two novels a year plus a novella makes me a happy reader. Her most recent novella is Mistletoe in Manhattan and is a nice little read in preparation for Talli's next full-length novel, The Pollyanna Plan, which is out in a couple of weeks. (Can I get a woo-hoo?)

Holly West is Little Missington's first Christmas baby in years, and her life is full to bursting with all things Christmassy, especially as her parents run a company specialising in bringing Christmas parties to the masses. So when Holly gets the chance to go to Manhattan to help Dean Layton, famous actor, throw a big celebrity Christmas bash, Holly jumps at the chance, but will being in Manhattan and being around celebrities really be all Holly's ever wished for, and will she make it back home to Little Missington in time for Christmas?

I thought Mistletoe in Manhattan was a really quick, cute read. For 77p you really can't go wrong, especially as I paid a whopping £1.99 for Paige Toon's Christmas novella that was miles shorter than Mistletoe in Manhattan, proving that publishers really do sometimes jack up the prices of novellas. I loved that the novel was set in New York. I adore New York. I have a picture of New York above my desk on my wall and one day I will go there, and see all the sights and shops New York has to offer. You cannot beat a book set in New York. I thought Holly's job as a party planner was really great and interesting reading. Party planning is (surprisingly) not something you come across a lot in Chick Lit and it's such an interesting and enjoyable topic. Mostly, though, what I loved about the novella was Holly meeting Alex, the barman. I loved Alex, the barman. I wanted a full length novel of Alex, I'm not joking, I was totally hooked on him.

I thoroughly enjoyed Mistletoe in Manhattan. It's a wonderfully quick read and it was actually the perfect read for me as, at the moment, work is so super busy that I just don't have time to read something that's 100,000 words long, so novella are a brilliant way to feel like you're still reading books every day, and it's just an excellent tool to keep you reading whilst busy because everyone has 10-20 minutes a day for a novella. I can't wait for Roland's next full length novel – and thankfully, I only have a matter of weeks to wait. She's an author I always look forward to, and she's one of the finest Chick Lit writers around and long may it continue.

Yvonne says

Working for her parent's 'Christmas When You Like It' party-planning company, Holly West wants more for herself. She wants to be a successful party-planner with only the most wealthiest and famous as her clients. However, life in Little Missington in the UK is not going to get her there.

She is more than thrilled when she is offered the chance of a lifetime – a British celebrity, Dean Layton, in New York wants to hire her to plan a British-themed Christmas party. She's sure this will be the start of something big. Promising to return to the UK to spend Christmas with her parents, Holly jumps on the first plane to the US.

Things aren't as easy as she'd hoped. Dean's assistant obviously doesn't want Holly to succeed and is constantly throwing obstacles in her way. To make things even more difficult, Holly has no connections in New York and has no idea where to turn for help. Fortunately, the hotel's sexy bartender, Alex, is willing to give Holly all the help she needs.

When Dean suddenly demands that Holly plan an "after Christmas" party, too, Holly fears that she won't make it home in time for her own Christmas celebration.

This is a novella for the holidays. It's cute, but I think this could have worked better as a full length book. There was no time to explore any real romance for Holly. There were hints, but not much more than that. I even hesitate to call this a romance. I guess I just wanted more in the story, but that's what happens with novellas, there just isn't more.

I would read another book by this author as I think she's good at writing chick lit and her book reminds me of the "Shopaholic" series by Sophie Kinsella. I checked out Talli Roland's backlist and she has some full length books too. I'll give them a try.
