



## Sealed with a Christmas Kiss

*Rachael Lucas*

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Kate has taken to life on the remote Scottish island of Auchenmor like a seal to water: she's given a new lease of life to the Laird's estate in her day job; she's befriended the once-nosy locals; and even young Laird Roddy is not quite so grumpy these days.

Better still, Kate has just had her best idea yet: they'll turn the castle into the most gorgeous wedding venue in Scotland. The pressure's on as the first wedding is booked in for Christmas Eve - just weeks away. But with a mismatched bride and groom, a hysterical PR on her case, her own relationship woes and a huge storm blowing in, can Kate pull it off in time?

Escape the stresses of the Christmas season with this warm, funny and truly inspiring novella from bestselling author Rachael Lucas

## Sealed with a Christmas Kiss Details

Date : Published November 6th 2014 by Pan

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Author : Rachael Lucas

Format : Kindle Edition 88 pages

Genre : Holiday, Christmas, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Romance, Contemporary, Adult, Cultural, Scotland

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## From Reader Review Sealed with a Christmas Kiss for online ebook

### Laurie Carlson says

This book was one of the best novellas that I've read so far because it told a complete story from start to finish without feeling like there were any holes in the story. Many novellas don't quite seem to tell a complete story, or they are rushed through and you are left feeling that it had a lot of holes in it, but not with this 88 page novella. I did not feel like this story was rushed or missing a thing to it. This novella started out with a wedding theme, the author stuck to the theme, and it was very enjoyable. I happened to love it!

This story was nice as I was trying to imagine what Scotland looked like as Kate went here and there, talked about the different places she was going to while she was going, such as what the river looked like, crossing it, let alone the castle and the weather! It sounded so neat! I would LOVE to go and see castles like that! She felt pretty awesome that she had this amazing boyfriend who wanted her to live here with him in this unbelievable castle. We saw Roddy more in the beginning of this story, but he really only played a small role in this story, but the role he played in the middle was unforgettable! So unforgettable that the fans of this series NEED to read this novella or you're going to miss something huge, especially if you read the first book of this series! Hint, hint!

Kate felt awestruck at times that she was living in this castle with Roddy, the man she loved with all her heart! She had a lot of places to go and a lot of things to get done as she decorated for Christmas to get ready for their first wedding here at the castle. She talked about the decorating as she went about it, but both she and Roddy were a little worried because they did not feel they were quite yet ready to hold a wedding at the castle . . . yet. Kate, in particular, felt rushed. It was the PR company who wanted them to have the wedding now when Kate and Roddy would have rather waited until the coming Summer to have their first wedding instead of doing it now because they didn't feel the castle was exactly how they wanted it to look like quite yet.

This is a story that if I were to tell you anything more than what the description says, I will be giving you spoilers, so I'm going to stay away from ruining this for you. I will say it's well worth the read! Pick it up and take a break this holiday season! You'll be glad you did! I chose this book and bought it because it sounded interesting, and it was. I have a new author to read more books from! That is a nice holiday gift in itself!

Highly recommended!

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### Emma Crowley says

Sealed with a Christmas Kiss is a short festive novella by Rachel Lucas. This is the first time I have ever read anything by this author and I was pleasantly surprised despite one or two minor reservations. I didn't realise this was a follow up to Sealed with a Kiss until I was halfway through reading and had become involved in the lives of the islanders. Normally this wouldn't matter as you should be able to read novellas as stand-alone books but in this case despite plenty of background information being given I felt I was missing out not having read the previous story. It took me a while to warm to Roddy and Kate even though we are given glimpses of their previous storyline, I think if I had read Sealed with a Kiss I would have been more interested in reading what happens next. Instead the first half of the story felt slow and laboured and the second half was a tiny bit rushed. Maybe a full length novel would have been a better option as it would have allowed for a lot more development of both the characters and storyline carrying on from where the author had previously finished with Sealed with a Kiss.

Set on the Scottish island of Auchenmor we meet Kate and Roddy who live on a large estate with Duntarvie

House at its centre. These days Roddy is finding it hard to manage the estate and all its needs due to lack of money and the pressure to maintain the grounds and the house. In steps Kate's London friend Sian who runs a wedding website, she has run a competition to use Duntarvie house as a location for a wedding shoot in the hopes that in the future the venue can be used as a wedding location and therefore boost business for the estate. Leo and Maddy arrive from the city for this shoot but soon things turn sour when a mobile phone is discovered full of messages and voicemails to a woman who is certainly not Maddy. Before we know it the whole wedding is off leaving Kate and Roddy in the lurch knowing their house and business is at risk. This is Roddy's ancestral home and he does not want to give it up without a fight.

What happens next was fairly predictable to be honest and you could see it coming from a mile away but it was fun to read how they got to their conclusion. Even though Kate does overreact just a little bit showing her slightly selfish nature but a close friend soon knocks that out of her. I felt we learned a bit more about the various people who lived on the island but still I thought there were little gems of storylines I had missed out on having only just discovered Rachel Lucas' writing and been introduced to the islanders of Auchenmor. One thing I did enjoy about the story was the descriptions of island life and all its characters. It came across as a real community where everyone would always pull together to help solve a dilemma but also everyone knew everyone else and their business which could also be a downside. The feel good factor around island life reminded me of Scarlett Bailey's Poldore novels which I absolutely adore. I could easily see Rachel Lucas writing a series based around Kate and all her friends and I hope she does so in the future because I am eager to see how they are all getting on and maybe to explore more in-depth several other characters which featured here.

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## **Holly says**

Originally reviewed for Bookaholic Confessions

If you're familiar with the happenings in *Sealed With a Kiss* then you will already have been introduced to Kate and Roddy. Now most definitely a couple, the pair are living on the beautiful island of Auchenmor in Duntarvie House together. However, Kate has just had the perfect idea for bringing money and visitors to Auchenmor...to transform Duntarvie House into a wedding venue. Thinking it'll make the perfect backdrop for couples to tie the knot, Kate and Roddy set to work on their plan. We join the pair just as they're making the finishing touches to the castle in preparation for the first big wedding which has been booked for (gulp) Christmas Eve which (even bigger gulp) is just a few short weeks away.

However things don't exactly go to plan when the supposedly 'happy' couple arrive and a series of unpredictable events lead Kate to examining her own relationship and her commitment to both living in Auchenmor and being with Roddy ...

For some unearthly reason I'm yet to read *Sealed With A Kiss* by Rachael Lucas (I have downloaded it, it's somewhere on my scarily long To Be Read list...) but it being December I couldn't resist temptation and once realising that *Sealed With a Christmas Kiss* could be read as a standalone novel I dived right in.

I very quickly found my footing with regards to Kate and Roddy. They're both brilliant characters who you'll easily warm to and it's not difficult to pick up the jist of their back story if you're yet to read *Sealed With a Kiss*. They're hugely realistic and you'll easily bond with Kate as she loses her marbles a tiny bit at certain points in the story, truly proving that she's only human...She will make you smile and quite possibly hoot with laughter too. There's a great selection of characters to the story as a whole, I loved Jean and Maddie and constantly wanted to slap Leo...

Rachael Lucas made Auchenmor an absolute pleasure to read about and has made me want to visit myself.

She describes the island beautifully and really brings it to life; as she does with Duntarvie House too. I really enjoyed reading her style of writing and felt that the story overall flowed really well. Sometimes with novellas I'm left wanting to know more and still with loads of questions as the story whizzes by me but with *Sealed With a Christmas Kiss* this wasn't the case at all. The story progressed at a nice pace and I felt it to be the perfect length.

*Sealed With a Christmas Kiss* is an all round thoroughly enjoyable story. If you've already been acquainted with Kate and Roddy then I've no doubt that you'll lap up this sequel and love it even more. If, like me, you haven't, then you will desperate to read Rachael's previous novel in order to find out how Kate and Roddy met and the history behind their relationship.

Full of action, romance and surprises with a truly beautiful setting, *Sealed With a Christmas Kiss* is the perfect way to spend a December evening by the fire...

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### **Claire Robinson says**

#### **4 - "You only get one life," ... "Don't bottle it now." Stars!**

More Roddy and Kate and the rest of the gang from the Isle of Auchenmor! I loved Rachael Lucas's first book, set on this remote Scottish island *Sealed with a Kiss*, so when I saw *Sealed with a Christmas Kiss* pop up on Netgalley, I had absolutely no reservations in requesting it.

Duntarvie House, it's inhabitants and the rest of the townsfolk return for a festive novella, of the wedded kind, and I loved every second of it. Kate and Roddy are attempting to make the house and it's grounds not to mention the island as a whole, a destination Wedding spot, and are looking to make the first wedding to be held at the House to go off without a hitch, to ensure plenty of good publicity, and hopefully more bookings for the future.

#### **"We're not trying for perfect - we're aiming for posh shabby chic."**

As you would expect not all goes to according to plan, and Kate is left with a few decisions to make, as well as a house to get ready for *the* destination wedding to beat all other destination weddings that have ever gone before it. Stress much!

I loved this little novella, going back to Scotland, in any way, shape or form always makes me happy, and Rachael Lucas facilitated that return perfectly.

ARC generously provided via Netgalley in exchange for the above honest review.

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### **Kim says**

A lovely book that follows Kate and Roddy on the island of Auchenmore in Scotland. She's enjoying working and living there.

When they decide that the castle would make a great wedding venue- they are in a rush to organise the

perfect wedding for the first couple. But when they come to look round it's apparent that not all is well and they are left with frantically trying to find another couple to have a Christmas wedding there.

Things are very tense and will this prove to be impossible to pull off. It's a great story - perfect for this time of year.

Many thanks to the publisher and Net Galley for the opportunity to read this book.

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### **Linda says**

If you have already read **SEALED WITH A KISS**, this would be a wonderful holiday addition to your collection.

"You've got a brand new wedding venue, darling, and I'm launching a brand new wedding website...we're a perfect match!"

**SEALED WITH A CHRISTMAS KISS** by Rachael Lucas is a short, sweet romantic story set at Christmastime. Unfortunately, I didn't realize that this was a follow-up story to **SEALED WITH A KISS** until I was part way into it. In hindsight, I wish I'd read the previous book first, as I feel that I would have enjoyed this novella much more if I had.

**SEALED WITH A CHRISTMAS KISS** is set on the secluded Scottish island where the hero and heroine reside. The hero is the Laird of the estate on that isle and the couple - whose story was obviously told in the previous book - have settled into a routine. The estate is in need of funds and the plot of the book revolves around a plan to turn the estate into a sought-after wedding getaway destination. Of course, there are complications and things do not go as planned.

I enjoyed reading about the dynamics on the island along with its colorful array of supporting characters. I would highly recommend that **SEALED WITH A KISS** be read before reading **SEALED WITH A CHRISTMAS KISS**. If you have already read **SEALED WITH A KISS**, this would be a wonderful holiday addition to your collection.

My full review is posted at Reading Between The Wines Book Club. Please check it out here:  
<http://www.readingbetweenthewinesbook...>

3 Wine Glasses!

Suggested Reading Order:

**SEALED WITH A KISS**

**SEALED WITH A CHRISTMAS KISS** (sequel)

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## **Michelle says**

Loved this.

A MUST read Sealed With A Kiss and this Sealed With A Christmas Kiss.

Love Scotland.

Love Roddy in a kilt even more ❤?

This makes you feel all warm and cosy. ❤?

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## **Erin says**

Earlier this year I was fortunate to be given a copy of Rachael's novel Sealed With A Kiss – find my review here. I fell in love with the location and the characters and when I saw this Christmas novella was due to be released I was over the moon to be approved for a review copy on NetGalley so thank you to Pan for that!

The story takes us back to Duntarvie House and back to Kate and Roddy. The house and island are both going from strength to strength in terms of tourists and in an attempt to bring in more business they decide to turn Duntarvie into a wedding venue.

I am so glad to be back with these characters! I loved the whole Monarch of the Glen feel that it had and it has a really nostalgic element for me too because I used to live right on the edge of a Scottish country estate so I could totally buy into the remote countryside feel of the story! Kate is our narrator again and it's great to see her a year on now that she's settled into her new life. Roddy, handsome and rugged estate owner really reminded me of Alistair from Monarch of the Glen and I loved the sexy relationship they had, especially the little things about Roddy's interaction with Kate.

This short story centres around the idea of turning the house into a wedding venue and stress descends on the island. I got all swept up in the flurry of activity and loved seeing Kate's plans coming together. One big spanner in the works threatens to end all the fun but I loved seeing how the island pulls together in true community spirit to pull off a wedding as scheduled. I can definitely recommend both Sealed With A Kiss and Sealed With A Christmas Kiss!

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## **Arielle Deltoro says**

Review originally posted on my blog [www.LivingLifeWithJoy.com](http://www.LivingLifeWithJoy.com)

Sealed with a Christmas Kiss is a quick novella that will warm your heart and make you want to get married in a castle on an island, or at the very least take a vacation and visit one!

The story is about a woman named Kate that lives on a remote Scottish island and is helping renovate a castle to use as a gorgeous wedding venue. It's a bit run down and needs quite a bit of a face-lift but they've

got time... until they don't! It's a sweet, festive story filled with chaos, drama and love.

I've never been in love, but I've always believed that if you're having a lot of issues in the relationship leading up to your wedding, you can't expect for things to magically get better after the wedding once you're married, they generally only get worse. Kate finds herself in the position of not only organizing the fix-up of the manor, but also of being a bit of a counselor for unsure brides-to-be. I can't even begin to imagine the horror of being one month away from getting married and having so many issues with my fiancé!

This was a very sweet, warm and humorous novella filled with charming characters. I loved the scenery that the authors words drew up in my mind and I enjoyed the escapades that Kate goes through in fixing up the manor and turning it into a wedding venue. Of course things never go quite as planned but they always seem to work out in the end. I love Roddy's surprise at the end for Kate. He's truly a dream guy that will make you wish you were as lucky to find someone so amazing.

I'm excited to see that there is a novel that follows this story called Sealed with a Kiss. I will definitely be adding that to my TBR. Five glowing stars for this festive holiday read.

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### **Megan says**

Very cute follow-up to the first ("Sealed with a Kiss). And a quick read.

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### **Megan says**

I was really keen to read this book but then I started reading it and I was let down.

I just found this very hard to read and I couldn't finish it. Sad that a book I had for some reason high hopes/expectations but wasn't good enough at all.

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### **Belinda says**

- English paperback - I have dyslexia -  
Great Christmas read I loved it. Gave me in front of the fireplace a good feeling.

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### **Suze Lavender says**

Kate has moved in with Roddy and is getting used to being the lady of the manor. Roddy and Kate have big plans for their home and the tourism on the island of Auchenmor. Christmas is near and they're trying to organize a big wedding which will involve a lot of publicity. When the bride and groom to be are visiting the island to finalize most of the plans something goes very wrong. Will Kate and Roddy be able to solve the problem or is their first wedding going to be a disaster?

It was wonderful to read about Kate, Roddy and their friends on the island again. It made me quite happy to find out what would happen next in Kate and Roddy's life. Sealed With a Christmas Kiss is a feel good

Christmas novella. The island, the weather and the house itself make the story so festive and romantic. I loved every new development and had a lot of fun reading it. If you liked Sealed With a Kiss you don't want to miss this great sequel.

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### **Cora Tea Party Princess says**

#### **5 Words: Christmas, love, bridezilla, wedding, proposal.**

This was a sweet little read that I really enjoyed.

When I started this, I didn't know it was a follow-on book. If you look at the GR page it looks for all the world like a stand-alone. What's the series even called? Not that it matters, because it was pretty sweet on its own. It can definitely be read as a standalone.

I liked the relationships and the turmoil and I loved that ending. And I loved how Kate went completely bridezilla.

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### **Agi says**

Oh, I so loved "Sealed with a Kiss", so when I heard that there is going to be a short sequel to this, I couldn't wait and pre-ordered it immediately. I missed Kate and Roddy, and the island, and was so curious to see what they all are up to. I've read immediately after it landed on my Kindle but, as you can see, it took me some time to eventually write a review...

This time Roddy is finding it hard to financially manage the estate, but soon Kate's friend from London steps in: she runs a wedding website and suggests using Duntarvie house as a location for wedding shoot, keeping in mind that perhaps it would bring the interest and they could use the house as a wedding venue. Quickly, a competition is being organized and soon the first couple arrives in Auchenmor. But soon things turn out badly, when one half of the couple, Maddy realises that her fiancé Leo probably isn't as faithful as she thought he is, so the wedding is off. What now? What with the big plans to boost business with the weddings? Must Roddy give up his ancestral home?

I understand that it's a short story but there were things that were much too abrupt for my liking, for example in the first chapter Kate's friend is visiting her and in the next second she's not there anymore, without a word, and I was really confused for a while: what's happened and where are we? The ending was also too abrupt, and just how could the guests suddenly arrive if the weather was as bad as it was told? Those are just details but they make me a little annoyed because I had a feeling that I have missed something. There was just too many abrupt stops, even for a short story, and I guess that shouldn't I have read "Sealed with a Kiss", I would have problems with connecting with the characters, who - in this story - seemed not so welcoming, not so full of heart as in the first book, especially Kate and Roddy.

One thing hasn't changed though: the beautiful, vivid descriptions of the island and Kate and Roddy's friends. They were still this big, loving community, friends who stick together and you could always count on their help.

But altogether, it was great to come back to the island, and see the characters again, as they really felt as good, old friends. This novel can of course be read as a stand - alone, but I would heartily advise to read "Sealed with a Kiss", as it gives a deeper look into our characters and explains a lot of things. Nice, sweet read, a great escape for one, short, dark and snowy evening.

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