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As "Love Me Tender" plays in the background, Debbie Carmichael determines to salvage her family's restaurant, Sweet Sal's Soda Shoppe, when her father's health fails. Teen heartthrob Bobby Conrad agrees to perform at a fundraiser concert. But just two weeks before the highly publicized event, Bobby backs out of the benefit. Enter Johnny Hartman, a young, unknown singer to take Conrad's place. Debbie soon realizes the twists and turns leading up to the concert are divinely orchestrated. And it isn't dreamy Bobby Conrad who has stolen her heart - but the tender love of Johnny Hartman.

Love Me Tender Details

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Author : Janice Hanna , Janice Thompson

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From Reader Review Love Me Tender for online ebook

Laura says

First, the disclaimer. "I purchased a copy of this book. All opinions are my own." That done, LOVE ME TENDER is a cute story set in the 1950s when rock music, corner diners, and poodle skirts reigned. I enjoyed this book even though I wasn't born (or even thought about) during this decade, but I still remember malt shops and some of the music from this time period. Elvis Presley? The Beach Boys? Okay, I'm not sure about them but Presley is mentioned in the book.

News of the decade is included as well as celebrity gossip - who marries who and who's leaving who and who doesn't care any more. . . as well as fashion news and of course a group of boy crazy girls -- what could be more fun? I laughed out loud about Dad having a temper tantrum about gas reaching the outrageous price of 50 cents a gallon. And McDonalds was debuting....

And that actually is sad that the fun, family operated malt shops and corner diners were run out of business by McDonalds...

I am not really big on celebrity news and gossip and never did go crazy over whoever was hot when I was a teen (Donny Osmond is one) so I really couldn't relate to the girls in this book and the heroine and hero are hardly ever together, but the book is good, well-written and laugh-out-loud funny.

Raeche1 says

Cute book. :) A lighter read, with some good messages to it. Didn't care for the repeated "Follow your heart" phrase or the constant kissing before any commitment, but otherwise it was a very sweet story! One I enjoyed. It was fun reading a book set in the 50's, with all its music references. :)

Emma says

3.5 Stars. (3 stars for those who aren't as interested in the time period/setting as I am.) I was excited about this book because of the backdrop and time period... one of my favorite decades to read about it and there are few books written in it. Overall, the story was sweet and wholesome. The fangirling was oh-so relatable. I loved Johnny and Debbie.

The writing of this book, however, was not quite up to par. I don't know if it was on purpose or not, but it was written in a very tongue in cheek type of way for readers in the 21st century ("A cordless phone? They could never imagine something like that!"). There was also some extremely predictable phrases and cliches repeated throughout the book. The storyline was not heart stopping or anything, but it was simple and cute.

I'm definitely glad I read the book. I loved the spiritual content. I loved the sweet romance. I loved the lighthearted story to read before bed. And again, I loved the era.

Lindsey (Books for Christian Girls) says

About this book:

“As “Love Me Tender” plays in the background, Debbie Carmichael determines to salvage her family’s restaurant, Sweet Sal’s Soda Shoppe, when her father’s health fails. Teen heartthrob Bobby Conrad agrees to perform at a fundraiser concert. But just two weeks before the highly publicized event, Bobby backs out of the benefit. Enter Johnny Hartman, a young, unknown singer to take Conrad’s place. Debbie soon realizes the twists and turns leading up to the concert are divinely orchestrated. And it isn’t dreamy Bobby Conrad who has stolen her heart - but the tender love of Johnny Hartman.”

Series: Part of the “*When I Fall in Love*” series. (Six books written by six different authors.)

Spiritual Content- Revelation 3:8 at the beginning; Prayers; Many Scriptures are quoted & mentioned; Many, many, many talks about God; 'H's are capital when referring to God; Church going; Mentions of those in the Bible; Mentions of Church going & Hymns; Johnny is a Pastor's kid.

Negative Content- Minor cussing including: a 'stupid', a 'wimpy' and three forms of 'dumb'; A script has swear words which Johnny won't read them.

Sexual Content- two barely-above-not-detailed kisses and three semi-detailed kisses; A couple forehead & cheek kisses; (Married couples kiss as well); Wanting to kiss & embrace; Noticing; Touches (semi-detailed); Embraces (barely-above-not-detailed); Hand Holding; Heartthrobs, crushes & swooning; Boys are called ‘yummy’, ‘dreamy’, and ‘cute’; Love songs; Love, falling in love, & the emotions.

-Debbie Carmichael, age 19-20

-Johnny Hartman, age 21

P.O.V. switches between them

Set in 1957

316 pages

Pre Teens- One Star (and a half)

New Teens- Three Stars (and a half)

Early High School Teens- Five Stars

Older High School Teens- Five

My personal Rating- Five Stars

Oh. My. Goodness. I love it. I absolutely love it. I can't even think where to start with this review. Ahhh!

Okay, how 'bout: Very, very, *very* rarely do I give a book five stars on My Personal Rating (Goodreads

actually tells me that I've given more 1-star than 5-stars). *"Love Me Tender"* is getting five stars from me

plus a recommendation to every teen girl who has ever fangirled/swooned over a famous boy. I did cringe.

few times remembering a wasted year of my life over all that. But, truly, that's what makes this novel so

great...it makes the teen who's reading it, notice how silly and how *not* waiting on the Lord it is to fawn over a guy like that... "While she had been chasing Mr. Wrong, her heavenly Father had placed Mr. Right directly

in her path.” . (pg. 279)

Every time after I finish a book by this author (Janice Hanna is also Janice Thompson, for those who don't know) I pray that she keeps writing! She is just so good!

Link to review:

<http://booksforchristiangirls.blogspot.com/2013/07/review-love-me-tender.html>

*BFCG may (Read the review to see) recommend this book by this author. It does not mean I recommend all the books by this author.

Tashawna says

Love Me Tender was a really sweet love story set during the 50's!

Not only was it the cutest little romance I've read this year, but I totally got an education on the 1950's! :D Everything from malts, red lipstick, Elvis Presley, poodle skirts, crazy fangirls, and cute old fashioned romance, it's all here! It was a great book. Now I need to try a 50's style soda shoppe! :D

And Johnny Hartmann.... <333 *sighs* Now that's a real guy! ;D He wanted to follow God, and he wrote Debbie the sweetest songs! He was just awesome. :) And what he's wearing on the cover? That's how guys should dress nowadays! No more skinny jeans! ;P

I didn't particularly like the Hollywood atmosphere... it was definitely interesting, but I like the small town setting better. ;)

Yes, anyhow, it was a super cute story!

I recommend *Love Me Tender* ideally for ages 15+ (though younger teens could read it as well)

Rhian Denise Nieto says

I enjoyed this book with the exception of ONE THING. DEBBIE.

I couldn't stand her! Omg. There was a part where she kisses Johnny and then talks about another guy. LIKE WHAT? It pissed me off so much I gave up on her.

I loved that it talked about God, the Bible and spirituality.

It honestly read like a Christian nonfiction book and I didn't mind. Those were actually my favorite parts and pretty much the main reason I'm giving this 3 stars.

Carly says

I am a huge Elvis fan, so any book called Love Me Tender is going to get my attention. I am also a fan of Janice Hanna (a.k.a Janice Thompson), so I was really looking forward to reading this book. I became a fan of Janice's after reading her Weddings by Bella series. If you've read those books, you know that Janice has a terrific sense of humor and a wonderfully sentimental writing style. When I first started reading Love Me Tender, I was slightly disappointed that it didn't have the humor I was expecting, but as I got more into the story, I realized that this story is different and my disappointment turned into delight.

Love Me Tender is a warm and nostalgic tribute to all the things that made the 1950s a time to remember. Even though I was not around in 1957 I really enjoyed all of the nostalgia, music and history in this story. I felt like Janice really enjoyed writing this book and that she put a lot of her heart into it. That really spoke to me and made me enjoy the story that much more. I highly recommend Love Me Tender. It is a wonderful and relaxing story that I really did not want to end. Thank you Janice for another wonderful story.

Dawn says

This was cute. It was rather predictable, but still a cute story. I particularly enjoyed reading the columns from the Hollywood Heartbeat magazine.

Xila Toro says

11 or 12+

Oh. My. Goodness. I loved this book. It got a bit cheesy at times, but once I got past that it was so adorable. You really get sucked in. It's a super cute book and I would totally reread it. Would definitely recommend. There were a couple kisses and close talking, but it was very innocent and cute. A good romance for younger kids. No violence or language. It also had the great theme of how we sometimes idolize celebrities and how that affects us spiritually. Great great great read.

Janice Sisemore says

Love me tender

What a cute story. This is set in the 1950's, enjoyed hearing about them complaining about the raising prices. Back when Elvis first started. They have a fundraiser for the local ma and pop dinner. They try to get all the girls latest heartthrob, Bobby, to play for it but one time he can do it and the next he can't. Bobby agent is going to get a singer name Johnny to do it. Read the book to find out what happens. I received this book for a honest review. Recommend it.

Michelle says

I read this book almost straight through, but I had to stop to go to church on Sunday or I would have finished it instead. This author has an amazing gift. She is able to deliver a clean, but very romantic story every time. Her characters are endearing, but realistic, yet her stories are soft and tender. That's the best way to describe her books. Tender romances that will make your heart pound.

I couldn't help smiling as I read this book. The chapter beginnings where they quoted the Hollywood Heartthrob magazine was cute, too. In fact, I ended up reading little snippets of the story to my husband, who found them funny, too. Like...they say that soon we'll be paying 5 cents for a gallon of gas (hehehe...my husband remembers that and yes, he was a young teen in the late 50s) and he remembered minimum wage went up to a dollar. Seriously. I found those added historical tidbits to be especially fun and felt that they really added to the setting. I felt like I was hanging out in the fifties, but without the golly gees, and the aw shucks on every page.

One secondary character I also fell in love with was the agent's son. He was so cute in his many attempts to get his dad to represent him in the biz and land him a sweet role on television or in a movie. Hilarious! Every single scene where he piped in was adorable. I also found his motivation particularly touching, especially when he shared that with Johnny.

Speaking of Johnny, he was the ultimate hero. He reminded me of the character DJ in the author's other series when it came to his love for Jesus. They were similar, yet different. Same with Bobby Conrad. I loved getting to know these characters and how the author showed they were human, too, making all the starry-eyed girls seem a bit over the top, but it fit the story. I remember seeing old television snippets where girls were crying over Elvis, The Beatles, etc. so I know they really did act that way.

Anyway, I adored this story and as is typical every time I read this author's romances, I sighed with pleasure. She has a unique voice in romance and it's one that I can't get enough of, hence the five star rating. Hey, I loved watching Happy Days when I was a kid. If you did, too, then you'll love this one!

serena482* says

My rating 2.5 stars. Well.....It was just to lovey and stuff. I should have known since the title is Love me Tender. *shrugs* The girls in it were.....weird. In my opinion. And i kind of felt like a certain two people fell instantly in love and then all lovey dove. I don't know, I just didn't love it. It was an interesting story, but just to lovey for me. But don't let that from stopping you, because I have very different tastes then a lot of people.

Deborah says

I adored this book all the way through from start to finish. Simple but very sweet.

Everything about this book is so my style. I love the time it takes place, the location, and just every small detail that was put in the story to make it more to that decade. Did I mention how much I love the 50s? I will say though that the romance was very cheesy and it got on my nerves at times, but it all played out very well.

I definitely recommend this awesome story. There is a good amount of hugging and kissing, but it's not too graphic. I felt pretty comfortable reading it. You just have to keep in mind that it does go with that decade. Probably good for 15 or old.

Shantelle says

This book was so cute, I think it deserves five stars! ^_^ I don't read much books from this era, but it is certainly enchanting! From poodle skirts and Sweet Sal milkshakes to starlets and Elvis Presley's "Love me Tender", this book made me feel bubbly and smiley. It just has a captivating touch.

Journeying with budding star singer Johnny and small-town waitress Debbie was extremely fun. I got the inside scoop on all the "Hollywood Heartthrobs" from back then; and also watched these two, dreamy young people realize what was truly most important in star-crowded California.

Not a novel to miss! *Love Me Tender* was like going to the beach with a strawberry milkshake and watching an era passed play before your eyes.

Jerry says

Ever since I randomly discovered the *Weddings by Bella* trilogy at my local library, Janice Hanna (aka Janice Thompson) has become one of my favorite authors. Her books are as entertaining as well-made cinema, and the squeaky cleanliness makes them even more fun. This 1950's romantic comedy was funny and touching in all the right ways. What keeps it from getting a perfect score was that every chapter started with a long quotation from a fictional magazine. It made for interesting reading at first, but it got slightly annoying after a while. Other than that, "romcom" fans should pick up, read, and enjoy!
