



A Mother's Love

Charlotte Hubbard

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“An endearing romance . . . By making a space for determined women inside the Amish community and providing a satisfying conclusion to various familial hurts, Hubbard provides readers with a comforting tale of love and forgiveness.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

For widow Rose Raber, it's been a year of tragic loss and difficult decisions. She thought providing for her young daughter was the greatest challenge she faced. Until her dying mother revealed that Rose was adopted—and her birth mother is someone with much to lose if the secret comes out. As Rose struggles to reconcile the truth with her faith—and her troubling curiosity—outgoing newcomer Matthias Wagler is another surprise she didn't expect. His optimism and easy understanding inspires her. And his prospective partnership with wealthy deacon Saul Hartzler promises a possible new life for them—together. But with this second chance comes yet another revelation for all involved.

When Saul's wife unexpectedly turns up at Rose's new job, their bond as mother and daughter is instant and unmistakable. And it isn't long before an unforgiving Saul discovers the truth, threatening Matthias's livelihood and Rose's future. Now with more than just their happiness at stake, Rose and Matthias must find the strength and courage to stand strong—and trust God's enduring miracles of motherhood, forgiveness, and love.

A Mother's Love Details

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From Reader Review A Mother's Love for online ebook

Angela Brocato-Skaggs says

Rose has suffered a terrible year full of tragedy. First, her dad and husband die in a fire at the family mill, her mother's breast cancer comes back after being in remission for thirty years, as her mother lays dying she confesses to Rose that Rose was adopted and her birth mother's letters are in the dresser. Rose is determined to move forward after her mother's death for the sake of her daughter, Grace and has accepted a job in a nearby town cooking for the senior center. As she starts her job and gets acclimated it seems God has his own plans when it comes to meeting her birth mom and finding romance.

I absolutely loved that this book talked about the forbidden subject of having a baby out of wedlock. It shows that the Amish are just like us "Englishers" and have forbidden feelings before marriage. Yes, I am old fashioned and believe one should wait but I am in touch with the times and knows it happens. Unfortunately, I see it everyday taking my son to high school. Babies are never mistakes, sometimes they just come earlier than one would like. It was heartwarming to read how wonderful her life was with her adoptive parents. Never in her thirty years did she guess she was adopted. They treated just like she was their own and my wish is every adopted child was able to experience that kind of love.

Rose's determination to not depend on her church district and on herself was admirable. She had the option to let them take care of her for as long as needed but she wanted to be self-sufficient. What a beautiful trait to show her daughter. You can be true to your faith and to raising your kids as you want and still be able to work and provide for what is needed. You may not always be able to get what you want but your needs are met.

I hope you pick up a copy of this beautiful book and enjoyed it as much as I did. It is a wonderful "gut" book to show love and devotion. It is the perfect gift for the mothers in your life.

Thank you to Kensington Books/Zebra and NetGalley for a copy to read in exchange for my honest review written in my own words.

Susan says

A Mother's Love

Charlotte Hubbard

Received from Netgalley

Rose Raber lost her father and husband in a barn fire less than a year ago. Now she is sitting at her mom's bedside, as the cancer has returned due to the stress from the tragedy of losing her husband and son in law. A MOTHER'S LOVE now has her mom telling her the biggest secret of Rose's life. Everything that she thought about her life has not been true. Hold on, because you won't believe what happens next. A MOTHER'S LOVE isn't your usual Amish story and is filled with twists and turns. Once I started reading, it was very hard to put down.

Her mom tells Rose about a box that she needs to find that will explain everything. A MOTHER'S LOVE broke my heart for Rose and all she had to deal with. Thankfully her five year old daughter, Gracie, keeps her grounded and gives her the will to get up everyday. How much can a heart take before it breaks for good? Rose's definitely takes hit after hit but still she manages to try and move ahead. She doesn't want the church to take care of her so she gets a job as a cook at a senior center and this is where her life completely changes.

Matthias Wagler grabbed my heart from the very beginning. Rose tries to resist him but we all know how that goes. Gracie has Matthias wrapped around her finger almost instantly and he really tries to do all he can to help her and Rose. One night while telling Matthias what Rose has found out, Gracie over hears them and things turn very stressful. Rose tries to explain to Gracie that it is Rose's story tell and she must not tell anyone yet, but come on, she's five years old. Something is going to spill out of her adorable mouth! A MOTHER'S LOVE is filled with redemption, love, forgiveness, and second chances. There are no slow spots in this heart warming story and before I knew it, I had finished. Charlotte Hubbard pulls her readers right in, grabs their hearts and never lets them go! I can not wait to read more by Charlotte Hubbard.

Maria Thomas says

I haven't read a lot of Amish books. I tend to read more Regency era England so in a lot of ways I was confused while reading this book. It felt like the language of the book swung back and forth between old fashion & Amish to incredibly modern and not Amish? Maybe it is all accurate but I kept feeling like I was reading in two different time periods. I just don't know enough about Amish to judge accuracy.

There is a lot of angst in the book. Loss of loved ones is a big theme. The main character has lost both her parents and her husband in less than a year and then finds out she was adopted so that was the loss of an additional mother. So, much of the book feels sad. The love interest has also lost his spouse but his loss is a little less angst-y.

The religious elements of the book felt real and natural. Not a lot of preaching but an obvious theme of following God's lead.

I'm not really sure about Saul's turnaround perhaps because we aren't watching him the whole time during the three days as he processes the whole situation. It is more that we see him incredibly angry and self righteous willing to see his wife shunned and then when we next see him he is willing to reconcile and close to willing to forgive. By the next day he was awfully chipper and accepting of those who have upended his life. I was glad to see him come around. I just don't know if it would really happen that quickly.

I really liked Saul's mother. And I loved how she was more than willing to put Saul in his place.

I liked the book better at the end than I did through the rest of it. Everyone gets a HEA obviously. But it was a little bit of an angst-ridden roller coaster getting to the HEA.

Clean-no sex, language or violence except a little verbal abuse.

Kristina says

A Mother's Love by Charlotte Hubbard is a heartwarming Amish novel. Rose Raber lives in Cedar Creek with her daughter, Gracie and her mother, Lydia. The previous fall Rose lost her father and her husband in a fire at their sawmill. Now, Rose is losing her mother to cancer. Before her mother passes away she tells Rose about a stationery box in her dresser which contains letters addressed to Rose. When Rose reads the letters, she discovers that she was adopted. In the last letter in the box, Anne (her birth mother) requests that Rose not look for her. Rose does not know if she can honor that request. Rose and Gracie are at the local mercantile when they run into (literally) Matthias Wagler. Matthias is a widower who is opening a harness shop in nearby Morning Star. Rose is fortunate in obtaining a position as a cook at Morning Star Senior Center. Rose and Matthias spend more time together (thanks to Gracie), and Rose finds Matthias easy to talk to. She ends up confiding in him about her birth mother and how Anne was being courted by Saul Hartzler at the time. This information puts Matthias in a sticky situation. He is familiar with Saul Hartzler of the Hartzler Carriage Company and is entering into a partnership with him. Should he tell Rose that her birth mother is nearby? The decision is taken out of Matthias hands when Anne Hartzler walks into the senior center and encounters Rose. Rose lost one mother, but she is getting a wonderful opportunity to know the woman who gave her life. They must be discrete, so Saul does not discover Anne's secret. Morning Star is a small town, though, and it is inevitable that Saul will encounter Rose who is the spitting image of her mother. What happens when a thirty-year-old secret springs forth disrupting several lives?

A Mother's Love is well-written and has a nice steady pace which makes for easy to read and engaging novel. I found A Mother's Love to be an emotional novel (you might need to keep a tissue handy). I give A Mother's Love 4 out of 5 stars. The characters are developed and realistic. Rose is going through a rough time and we can feel her emotions (the turmoil, confusion, concern, doubt, love). I did feel that she worried too much about what others would think about her actions. Gracie is a gregarious, curious and active child who easily charms every person she encounters. She will be handful when she is a teenager. A Mother's Love is full of activity. It is amazing at how much the author packed into one story. I thought A Mother's Love had several good messages. They include that none of us are perfect (all of us have flaws), God has a plan for our lives, good things come to those that wait (aka God's timing not our own), and the power of prayer. We see how important it is to forgive a person, to have love in our lives, and the importance of faith. The ending is very special and leaves a person with a good feeling in their heart. A Mother's Love is a thoughtful and heartfelt novel.

Deanne Patterson says

This book had no slow spots at all. It really grabbed my attention so that I had to keep reading to find out what would happen next. How would you feel if what you thought was true your whole life turned out not to be. As her mother lay dying she bared her soul to her daughter,Rose. In the past year,Rose's father and husband passed away and her mother's cancer returns due to the stress of the deaths. Before her mother passes she tells her daughter a monumental secret that her and her father have kept from her. Living with Rose is her young daughter, Gracie. While Rose is quiet and reserved, Gracie is talkative,bubbly and outgoing. Things are off to a rocky start when Rose meets newcomer,Matthias Wagler. Who can resist,Gracie though? Matthias can't and her friendliness brings them together. After Rose tells Matthias what she finds out,Gracie overhears and the results are stressful and chaotic. This is a down to earth book. The people are flawed and rules are not always followed. None of us are perfect though and it goes to show how beautifully it ends with love,forgiveness and redemption.

Pub Date 28 Mar 2017.

Thank you to NetGalley and Kensington Books for a review copy for my honest opinion.

Jeanie says

A Mother's love is a love to hold onto

Rose Raber is now a widow and an orphan with a little girl of her own. As Rose says goodbye to her mother, her mother shares a secret of Rose's past. She was actually adopted and her biological mother is now married with an Amish family of her own. The mother that she has always known as kept letters of her mother to her in hopes that she would come to understand her decision to give her up but it only leaves Rose broken and with questions.

A kind widower Matthias Wagler meets up with Rose as she is getting ready to bury her mother. Seeing her need and being totally enraptured with Rose's daughter Gracie, he offers to help. There is an Amish chemistry between them including Rose's daughter that is for me pure delight.

Rose takes a job as a cook at Health Care center in the town that Matthias lives in and also where her biological mother's family lives. It is there that hearts begin to mend with the help of a precocious little girl and how motherhood heals wounds. There is a contrast between forgiveness and pride that reveals our own hearts as you share in the story. I loved it.

A Special Thank You to Kensington Books and Netgalley for the ARC and the opportunity to post an honest review.

Carol says

The Mother's Love, what can I say about such a heart rendering, tear dropping, love squeezing, GOD trusting and people depending book. heart rendering (when someone loses their father and husband at the same time then they lose their mother because of the loss of their father and husband - oy vey), tear dropping (when you have your mother on her death bed telling you a deep dark secret about your self and it is life altering - yeah that is tear dropping), love squeezing (when you have someone who is in your life that you love so much and has brought you meaning that brings you squeezes and love especially when you need it when you are depressed etc. that is love squeezing.) GOD trusting (when you are hurting in your life - and GOD is the master of your life - you trust in HIM for everything - He takes care of you - in ways that you do not realize - like sending you a man in your way - a very special man - wink wink - GOD always knows what HE is doing.) and people depending (when you start to trust in people again like Matthias, whom GOD has placed in yours and Gracie's way, and you slowly start to depend on.). Yes this book is incredible to read. You get touched on so many levels, as well as be Blessed. I received a copy of this book from the Publisher and Netgalley; all the opinions expressed in this review are all my own.

If you would like to read more of my Christian book reviews go to christianlybookreviewers.blogspot.com

Susan says

Add This to Your TBR Pile!

When you find a novel by Charlotte Hubbard, you know you are in for a treat. Each one is chock-full of romance, intrigue, and of course, Amish! What more could a reader want? Her latest release, *A Mother's Love*, is no exception.

A Mother's Love tells the story of Rose Raber – widowed with a precocious five-year-old and now caring for her widowed mother who is in her last days of her life. When Rose's mother reveals a shocking secret on her deathbed, how will she be able to move on?

When Matthias Wagler literally runs into Rose at the local mercantile, he is immediately smitten with Rose's daughter Gracie. When they keep running into one another, it seems like something more than chance is involved. And when Rose confides in Matthias, oh what a turn of events!

Will Rose and Matthias get together? How does Gracie fit into the picture? What is this secret? And is a mother's love enough to handle all of these challenges? Read and find out!

I was given *A Mother's Love* in exchange for my honest review. While storylines from previous novels are mentioned, it can easily be read as a stand-alone and they are not distracting. There were a couple of inconsistencies between the novel and actual Old Order Amish traditions that were a bit frustrating. One example of this was the fact that Gracie so well-spoken, speaking and understanding English – in real life, most Amish children at that age do not even learn English until they start school. Additionally, some of the Bible passages seemed forced (note that I am an evangelical Christian and love the Word, but it was a bit much.) All of that being said, *A Mother's Love* was a fantastic read. Hubbard's storylines were intricate and fascinating. The characters were tremendous: one meek, one charming, one stern, one bubbly, and one frightening! Definitely add this novel to your TBR pile.

Lori says

A wonderful story of love, redemption, and forgiveness.

I too am very glad that I received this Advanced reader's copy and be able to review it.

I sure do love Charlotte's style of writing. I was hooked from page one!

Gracie is a delightful little girl. I'd sure love to have energy! My how she was always bubbling and talkative. Rose is just the opposite. Shy and quiet Rose sets the course their lives and I loved how she allowed God to take charge. But, as always curiosity kills the cat they say.

I think my fave scene was when Rose realized God has a plan in his own timing.

I held my breath in another scene as I waited to see if forgiveness would be forthcoming and yay!!!!

God truly is a miracle worker if only we'd listen to him. Sometimes we try to work stuff out on our own as the bishop says and it often goes wrong or is not meant to be.

Pride goeth before a fall but only if we let it happen. I'm so glad that Saul practiced what he preached and I know that it wasn't easy for him to do. As his mother said "it wasn't about him".

Matthias is a wonderful man. I liked him from the get go. He has faith, determination and wants a family most of all

Julie Zimmett says

This is one of those books I was sad to have come to an end. I wanted to keep reading about Rose, Gracie, Matthias and Anne. "A Mothers' Love" is simply such a beautiful and touching story! From page one, it is one of those books I could not put down. At the beginning, Rose is faced with losing her mother who is dying from cancer. Both women have recently mourned their husbands, who died together in a fire. Rose is also now raising her young daughter Gracie alone. Her mother's dying words about Rose being adopted are a huge shock to Rose. As Rose starts to look through old letters from her birth mother and seek support from her bishop and others in the community she faces resistance to finding her birth mother. Meanwhile, she is receiving attention from a newcomer to town, Matthias. He is a widow also, and is extremely drawn to Rose and her little girl Gracie. Gracie is adored by all in the community. Rose eventually seeks employment to help support herself and Gracie, and in her new job, relocates to a nearby town to work at a nursing home. She and Gracie are embraced with love by the people working and living there, and one day encounters the very birth mother she was hoping to meet. Unfortunately her birth mother's husband and his reaction and anger may keep her and her birth mother from having a relationship. To avoid any spoilers, I will simply highly recommend this beautiful story to all Charlotte Hubbard fans and all Amish genre fans. Amazing and moving!

Laura says

First, the disclaimer. "I was provided a free copy of this book. All opinions are my own." That done, A MOTHER'S LOVE is a sweet story, of mother's -- with a romance tied in. :) Rose's mom is dying of cancer and with her final breath she tells Rose she was adopted, and she can find letters from her birthmom in a tin box in another room. Rose reads the letter, and finds out that her birthmom was unmarried when Rose was born, and please don't ever contact her because she's married to a man who doesn't know she ever had a baby. Rose is a mother herself to a precious little girl.

There are a lot of characters from previous series in this story but I think it's safe to say that even if you haven't read the other series you won't be lost in this book. I recognized some of the other characters because I've read most all of Ms. Hubbard's book, but the stories are not really intermingled.

Ms. Hubbard is an acclaimed Amish author and quite creative and fans of Amish fiction will devour this new book. I liked Rose and Matthias, and the way all the different mothers in Rose's life were representative and played out.

Sunnie says

This book was so good. It starts out so interestingly and continues throughout the entire book. There was not one slow spot at all. It was so well written. I was sad to see that it came to an end. I wanted it to continue. It was so engaging and so touching. The story was about people that weren't perfect, didn't follow all the Amish rules exactly and had to work through this with love, patience, forgiveness and understanding. Such a great Christian read! I hope that I can read more from this author. I can't say it's often that books

bring tears to my eyes, but this one so touched me and I could relate to quite a bit of the events that happened and also the feelings that it brought out.

Four wonderful mothers are featured in this book. Their feelings were so well expressed by the author, that you knew exactly their thoughts and knew how they were struggling to find ways to work through everything. I absolutely loved this book!

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the author for my honest review. All thoughts are my own.

Diamond Jones says

This was such a sweet and touching story. I have to admit there were times when my eyes watered up. I can't believe how much happened in this book. No one is perfect and this book shows that. I recommend this book if you are looking for a great read with loving characters.

Teresa says

A Mother's Love by Charlotte Hubbard Another fabulous read from Charlotte Hubbard. This story takes off immediately and doesn't slow down even on the last page. I couldn't put it down once I picked it up. This book is great for anyone there are no curse words and no sex. It does have some religion to it, but the sayings are straight from the bible, it does not try to push religion on you though.

My favorite genre of books is paranormal the more ghosts the better. But anytime I see anything from Charlotte I happily lay the ghosts to rest to read one of her books. Charlotte really takes you by the heart with her writing. She knows how to grab you on page one and make you wish the book never ends. Her endings never feel rushed, her story line never goes off cue, and she does not drown you in useless information or description. I have read several of her books and have not found one yet I didn't fall in love with.

In this book we meet Rose Raber. She has suffered loss more then anyone should have to in the past year. Her father and husband were both killed in a saw mill fire and her mother's cancer has come back, and she slips away as well. Left alone with her 5 year old daughter Grace, Rose must decide how to provide for her and her child. Her pastor tells her not to worry their Amish group will make sure she does not do without but Rose will not be a charity case.

Grace is 5 and way to smart for her age. She also never meets a stranger and can have even the hardest of men wrapped around her finger in an instant.

Matthias Wagler is a newcomer to town he runs his own Leather and harness. He has lost his wife and unborn baby recently. He runs smack into Rose and Grace at the store almost trampling them both. Grace instantly takes to him.

On the night before her mother's death the last lucid thing she tells Rose is to get stationary box from her bottom drawer. She did not give reasons before she slipped into a coma, just told her not to find her, which leaves Rose confused. After her mother passes she retrieves the box and is stunned by the letters inside from

her birth mother. Rose never knew she was adopted. Rose cannot put this out of her mind, even though her mother's have both stated not to try and find her. She talks to her pastor who tells her not to try and her new friend Matthias.

Grace has put out cards in all the shops in the area looking for work. One day she gets a call from a Senior Service Center looking for a cook. This is a blessing for Rose and Grace. It puts her in the same town with Matthias and unbeknownst to Rose her birth mother Anne. Even though she is bit reluctant to fall for Matthias Grace is thrilled to find out he is here. Rose runs across Anne by accident at the Senior Center when she brings lap blankets in to donate to the residents. They know immediately who each other are even after 30 years.

Now comes the trouble how can Anne and Rose have a relationship and keep it from Saul, Anne's husband?

Kim says

this is one of the best amish books I have read in a long time
