



A Gingerbread Café Christmas

Rebecca Raisin

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Christmas at the Gingerbread Café

The icing on her Christmas cake!

Christmas is the season the Gingerbread Café in Ashford, Connecticut was made for...but owner Lily couldn't be feeling less merry if she tried. She's spent another year dreaming of being whisked away on a sleigh-ride for two, but she's facing festive season alone – again. And, just to give her another reason to feel anything other than candy-cane perky, a new shop across the road has opened... Not only is it selling baked goods, but the owner, with his seriously charming smile, has every girl in town swooning.

But Lily isn't about to let her business crumble — the Gingerbread Café is the heart of the community, and she's going to fight for it! This could be the Christmas that maybe, just maybe, all her dreams – even the someone-to-decorate-the-Christmas-tree-with ones – really do come true!

Chocolate Dreams at the Gingerbread Cafe

Chocolate...the most irresistible temptation?

The Gingerbread Café is all a buzz! This Easter, Lily and the rest of the town of Ashford, Connecticut are planning a truly decadent Chocolate Festival. Cooking up a storm, CeeCee and Lily are not just baking a batch of their sinfully delicious chocolate-dipped gingerbread men, but an excess of chocolate truffles, squidgy, cinnamony hot cross buns and melt in your mouth chocolate eggs. The Gingerbread Café staff have definitely enjoyed the tasting process!

Add in Damon's cute-as-a-button seven year old daughter, Charlie, up for a visit and Lily's perfect Easter may just be around the corner. Until her ex-husband Joel turns up demanding twenty thousand dollars... Suddenly the future of the Gingerbread Café is not so clear...and Lily finds herself eating far more of The Gingerbread Café's treats than her skinny jeans allow...

Can Lily concoct a brilliant plan to save her beloved café, convince Damon she has no feelings for Joel and still throw a Chocolate Festival the town will be talking about for years? There's only one way to find out...

Christmas Wedding at the Gingerbread Café

You are invited to the wedding of the year!

Snow is falling thick and fast outside the Gingerbread Café and inside, its owner Lily is planning the wedding of the year. Her wedding! She never dreamt it would happen, but this Christmas, she'll be marrying the man of her dreams - in a Christmas-card-perfect ceremony!

The gingerbread is baking, the dress is fitted and the mistletoe's in place – for once, everything's going to plan. That is until her mother-in-law arrives... Suddenly, Lily's famous cool is being tested like never before and her dream wedding is crumbling before her eyes.

In the blink of a fairylight, the Gingerbread Café has been thrown into chaos! Lily thought she had this wedding wrapped up, but with so much to do before she says 'I do', can Lily get to the church on time – and

make this Christmas sparkle after all?

A Gingerbread Cafe Christmas Details

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From Reader Review A Gingerbread Cafe Christmas for online ebook

Michelle says

A delightful Christmas read full of families ,traditions,love and of course gingerbread an ideal read to curl up to at the fire.

Magdalena says

A lovely, charming, feel-good read that celebrates the power of friendship and love. Thoroughly enjoyed it!

Mikayla says

I loved the first novella in this one, I found it to be sweet and very cute. I couldn't get enough of this one.

The second one was pretty average, though, I found that the vibes were a little off, but I'm unsure if it was because of a certain character or just in general.

All I have to say about the third one is that I couldn't get through it. It wasn't great, though I did skip to the end to get an idea of what went on, it was still just utterly tiresome.

Kathy says

Really nice and feel good story, perfect for Christmas time

Plum-crazy says

This is actually three books in one: "*Christmas at the Gingerbread Café*", "*Chocolate Dreams at the Gingerbread Café*" & "*Christmas Wedding at the Gingerbread Café*" which is just as well as halfway through the first book I couldn't see how on earth it was going to stretch a further 200+ pages!

There's not much to say as it's all pretty predictable - the only surprise to me was it wasn't set in the Cotswolds - although if it hadn't been for CeeCee & her southern cooking it could have easily been.

By the end of "*Christmas Wedding etc*" I'd pretty much had enough, what with the stereotypical mother-in-law to be *yawn*, the minor upsets & the romantic, handsome Damon who, quite frankly, had as much character as one of Lil gingerbread men!

Amusing enough to pass the time but would probably benefit from not being read straight after one another.

Marie says

I have nothing but love for The Gingerbread Cafe series, it's such a wonderful read! Beautiful writing which transports you right there with the characters; who are by the way completely charming!

In this trilogy there is everything you want from a series; love, Friendship, passion and all things sweet and yummy!!

I highly recommend this enchanting series to everyone because it's wonderful. It's something you would pick up to read again and again.

Amanda - Mrs B's Book Reviews says

*<https://mrsbbookreviews.wordpress.com>

4.5 stars

Yet again one of my favourite authors of 2018 manages to ensconce me in her winning combination of contemporary romance, adorable characters, a genuinely interesting story and the added bonus of a delicious round of baked treats. A Gingerbread Café Christmas, written by the delightful Rebecca Raisin, is a set of three novellas in one. These three stories all follow the likeable Lil, owner of the Gingerbread Café and her adventures in life and love in the quaint town of Ashford, Connecticut. A Gingerbread Café Christmas offers readers the perfect excuse to indulge in some yuletide reading. I guarantee it will send your heart soaring!

Three heavenly stories make up A Gingerbread Café Christmas, a 2015 publication by Australian author Rebecca Raisin. Do not be deterred by the shorter length of these stories, each one packs a real punch! Within a reduced frame, the very talented Rebecca Raisin dazzles with this spectacular trilogy. In book one, Christmas at the Gingerbread Café, we first become acquainted with dear Lil, the heroine of this story collection. Lil, along with her trusty offsideer CeeCee, fill the bellies of the local community of Ashford with their baked delights and scrumptious drinks. Lil has worked hard to get to where she is now, despite still nursing a broken heart, after her ex left her high and dry for a bimbo. When a new man in town moves in and makes his presence known, Lil must devise some new business strategies to obtain the upper hand. While this twosome try to battle it out to see who will reign supreme in the local café stakes, an undeniable attraction sparks between these two local business owners. Chocolate Dreams at the Gingerbread Café continues on with Lil's story as she contends with a money hungry ex during a local chocolate festival. In Christmas Wedding at the Gingerbread Café, it seems all Lil's dreams are going to come true as she prepares to walk down the aisle with her Prince Charming. However, a cake disaster, an upturned café and monster mother in law may derail Lil's wedding plans. Prepare to be doused with plenty of Christmas sparkle as you follow Lil on her Gingerbread Café adventures.

It was such a nice homecoming when I opened A Gingerbread Café Christmas. It was a true pleasure to be able to immerse myself yet again in the sensational writing of a much treasured favourite author, Rebecca Raisin. This three book collection proved to be the perfect pick me up, as I curled into the groves of this novel I found myself lost in the world of Lil, Damon, CeeCee and the Gingerbread Café!

If you are a lover of culinary delights, A Gingerbread Café Christmas will send you in a frenzy of sorts! My

mouth was salivating as I made my way through the delightful and scrumptious sounding treats baked by Lil and her only employee CeeCee. I guarantee this book will send you off to the kitchen and mixing up plenty of yummy gingerbread inspired dishes. The vivid descriptions of both food and beverages contained within the pages of this novel collection will have you seeking out a piece of gingerbread and hot chocolate as a side accompaniment to enhance your reading experience.

Not only is A Gingerbread Café Christmas a sensory overload in the food and drink department, it is a fantastic example of a contemporary romance novel. I loved the way in which Raisin approached the slow but steady relationship between Lil and Damon. Their romantic interlude was a pleasure to follow! The complication of Lil's past relationship and Damon's little secret, combined with his mysterious phone calls all adds to the romantic sensation of this tale. Raisin knows how to tick all the boxes in the romance department and I have nothing to fault in her presentation of this story thread.

There are a few more features that all come into play in A Gingerbread Café Christmas to ensure that this book is an evenly set tale. There are themes of friendship, loss, sorrow, betrayal, regret parenting, family politics and business ownership. Although the context of these issues is not always on the light side, the fluffy moments come from the all encompassing romance, the cooking, the tender moments of true friendship and the genuine support from the local community of Ashford.

A hint of what awaits me next time I delve into another Rebecca Raisin book closed off A Gingerbread Café Christmas just perfectly. The low key introduction of two new characters certainly had me hooked! If you are feeling in need of some holiday cheer I highly recommend seeking out A Gingerbread Café Christmas.

A Gingerbread Café Christmas is book #149 of the Australian Women Writers Challenge

Gemma says

Sickeningly sweet. Too cheesy. Everything ended too perfectly! Hated it.

Holly Botterill says

I know this is a trashy book so I shouldn't expect much, but it was just so corny and cheesy that I couldn't finish it. The characters and storyline are predictable, and the repeated use of phrases like 'mighty fine' and 'mosey on down' made me cringe. Very disappointed.

Ali Bookworm says

This was the first book I have read by Rebecca Raisin. It was 3 stories in one all follow on from each other: It was quite predictable and all leading up to a predictive ending but still a good festive read.

Samantha Tonge says

This is a wonderful, uplifting - and scrumptious! - trilogy. Raisin has a real talent for creating a cosy world, with heartwarming characters you very quickly care about. Her writing is descriptive without being slow-paced and soon hooks you into the plotline. Highly recommended but not for anyone just starting a diet!

Charlotte says

I really did enjoy this book! I was sceptical to begin with as i thought it may just be another lovey dovey book, which i am known to always go for. But I was mildly surprised.I found it enthralling and thouroughly enjoyed it. It had a lovely story line and it makes for a cute read. Ok so you can predict the end, like most of this genre, however, i would still reccomend it.

E says

Lost my reading mojo, so thought I'd read some, er, trash. Didn't help.

Sorry, the book. It was just kind of cringy - so cheesy that it stunk out the room, and the saccharine story was rivalled only by the huge amount of description that was given to describing chocolate and cake. I bought three of the series. God help me.

Simona says

The Gingerbread Café series is definitely one of my favourite book series. The series has it all: love, friendship, sweetness, passion, emotions and so much more.

The story is set in lovely Ashford, Connecticut. The town sounds amazing! Rebecca describes it so vividly and full of detail, wish I could live there with the characters. The characters are perfectly lined out and Lily the main character is very relatable. I loved following her story.

In Christmas at the Gingerbread Café she gets to know Damon and he's wonderful. BOOK BOYFRIEND ALARM!!! Hot, sweet, caring, romantic, sexy...

I adored how their relationship developed and the surroundings and their family and friends were always included in such a beautiful way.

Book #2 in this series is called Chocolate Dreams at the Gingerbread Café. It plays around Easter, so a few months later. And this book shows once more that Lily and Damon are such an adorable couple. Their relationship is deep, honest and real. There is some drama included, which is great and lots of memorable and adorable scenes.

And here we go, book #3 Christmas Wedding at the Gingerbread Café, probably my fave out of the three, if I had to pick, but they are all just incredible! I fell in love with the characters even more. It's so wonderful to see what strong bond they have and that they would do anything for each other, real friendship. The wedding

preparations and the wedding itself were amazing to read about, it came from the heart and was full of emotions and touching moments.

The atmosphere in these books is magical and unique. The storyline and the writing are gripping, fascinating, sweet, fresh, fun and so much more. This series has a lot of sparks and it definitely manages to put a huge smile on your face, a MUST-READ by a wonderful and talented author!

I had the honor of meeting this wonderful lady and she's even more amazing in person!

Love Reading Romance says

The Gingerbread Cafe Trilogy follows the adventures of Lil and Damon, which are both romantically and food-ish-ly delicious. Each of the installments can be read separately, and you'll always get a satisfying ending, but I think it's nice to see them packaged like this, so readers can enjoy the journey from Lil and Damon's first meeting as rival shop owners in Christmas at the Gingerbread Café, to their final happily ever after in Christmas Wedding at the Gingerbread Café.

Lil is the sweet, yet fiery, friend to all, while Damon is the naughty, sexy guy who loves her, even when she's not making that easy! There are a number of hiccups along the way through their romance, from problems caused by Lil's scummy ex, to those caused by Damon's meddling mother, Olivia.

By the end, Olivia was my favorite character, mostly because she is just so terrible. I do love a good villain, and who hasn't dealt with a mother-in-law from hell at some point? But like Lil and Damon's baked goods, most of the inhabitants of Ashford are sweet as cherry pie. I adore Lil's friend CeeCee, always fixing everyone else's problems, and of course Damon's daughter Charlie, whose developing bond with Lil is one of the sweetest subplots.

The gorgeous characters are what brought these stories to life for me, and I just love Rebecca Raisin's wicked sense of humor. A word of warning though: Don't read this series without some cake handy or the descriptions of the food in The Gingerbread Café Trilogy will have your stomach growling!

This is a series that will make you as hungry as it makes you happy, as Lil and Damon bake up a storm in the little town of Ashford.
