



Homecoming in Christmas Falls

Ciara Knight

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Eight years after fleeing Christmas Falls because of a high school prank gone wrong, Ashley Brooks receives a mysterious letter from her mentor asking her to come home. She arrives to face all she left behind—her family, her friends, and the rich boy she'd loved who would never date the girl from the wrong side of town.

Brent Donnelly, high school jock, brainiac, and dutiful son did everything right until the day Ashley returns to Christmas Falls. With one look at the girl who got away he questions all his life choices, including following in his father's footsteps in the family business.

Faced with a potentially devastating decline of tourism in their hometown, Brent and Ashley must work together to save the magic of their town, but when Ashley discovers he still has feelings for her best friend she must finally face the real reason she left Christmas Falls—to try to heal her broken heart.

Seven fabulous authors bring you this holiday romance series about a group of special friends returning to their hometown at the request of their high school mentor. Each book is a standalone, but read them all to fully enjoy the journey of these remarkable women and their emotional reunion with their mentor, an incredible woman who changes their lives and helps save a small town community forever.

Homecoming in Christmas Falls Details

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Author : Ciara Knight

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Genre : Holiday, Christmas, Romance, Contemporary Romance

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From Reader Review Homecoming in Christmas Falls for online ebook

Judy says

This is a very sweet, heart-warming, Christmas romance - you know, the type they show on a Hallmark movie. I always enjoy reading this type of "happy ending" book around the holiday season. It helps the holiday spirit. In this one, Ashley comes home to Christmas Falls after being away eight years because her former music teacher asked her to come. Her friends she had a "forever friends" type of pact with have scattered to different areas, but her parents are still in Christmas Falls and the guy she had a crush on all through school is still there and single. This is the story of Ashley's homecoming.

This was a very short read and I liked it. It was, however, totally predictable - no surprises here, but that's true of most Christmas stories, and sometimes that's just what you want to read, or I do anyway.

Thanks to Ciara Knight and Season Publishing through Netgalley for an advance copy in exchange for an honest review.

Kathy Jo says

It's been eight years since Ash left Christmas Falls without a backwards glance. Had it not been for the letter from her childhood mentor, Miss Anna Cate, she wouldn't be here now. But here she is. Back in Christmas Falls and she has no idea why. All she has to do is get into town undetected, find out what Miss Anna Cate needs, and then hightail it out of there before anyone finds out she was ever there. Easy peasy, right? Wrong! Ash should've known luck would not be on her side.

Brent has spent his entire life doing whatever his father wanted him to do. All he's ever wanted was to make his father proud. He even stayed away from Ash, the one and only girl he has ever loved. But nothing he does will ever be good enough for his father. The moment he sees Ash back in town, he knows things have got to change. He let her get away once, he refuses to let that happen again.

But before Ash can even think about a relationship with Brent, she has to first mend the ones she has been neglecting for the past eight years. Between her parents, her friends and Brent, Ash will need to do a lot of soul searching to figure out what she really wants out of life. Can she give up her life in Florida to start over in Christmas Falls? Will Brent finally go against his dad so that they can finally be together? Or will it be too late for them? One thing is for sure, Ash and Brent will not give up without a fight!

Oh how I loved Homecoming in Christmas Falls! I devoured it in one day! (It would have been hours but alas, I had to work. Boo! Lol.) I loved seeing Ash realize who she really is and what she really wants in life. I loved seeing her make amends with all the people in her life who love and care about her, even though she can't see it. And Brent! *dreamy sigh* What an amazing guy! He and Ash are definitely perfect for each other!

I have to tell you that I have been dying for this series to come out! From the moment I first heard about it, I was counting down to release day! I may or may not have squealed when all the books that I preordered started downloading to my kindle. I was going to wait until this weekend to start them but I just couldn't! I

can't wait to read the rest of the books in this series!

This is my very first book by Ms. Knight and I can tell you that I will definitely be checking out more by her!

And of course I can't forget my casting! I absolutely love these two! *dreamy sigh*

Jeannie Zelos says

Homecoming in Christmas Falls, Ciara Knight

Review from Jeannie Zelos book reviews

Genre: Romance, Women's fiction

I'd not read any of Ciara's novels before but liked the sound of this, I love second chance romances. I should have checked though as Goodreads bio says this series is " sweet romance series, Sweetwater County (rated PG), is a small town romance full of family trials, friendly competition, and community love." It is all that, sweet, easy to read, heart warming - but for me drama free, no angst and that's what I look for. My bad, I could have guessed from the description had I searched further.

The characters are pleasant, not heart-stopping in any way, not full of drama. the most drama seems to be reminiscing over Ashley's schoolgirl pranks. Brent, a charmer in a nice way, a gentleman and product of a wealthy family. He and Ashley reconnect when she returns to town.

Its an easy read, but so cute and sweet it almost made my teeth ache. If you want sweet HEA that's drama free this is perfect, but for me the downs, the angst, the drama and what make the highs, the happy bits so much better. without that contrast I just don't enjoy a story.

Its a shortish read at 159 pages, and perfect for those who want quick and easy, happy all the way. Sadly that's not me. A series I'll pass on.

Stars: 2.5/3. A good read, just not my sort of read.

ARC supplied for review purposes by Netgalley and Publishers

Heidi Robbins (Heidi Reads...) says

This book introduces readers to Christmas Falls and the girls who were friends there but have drifted apart. It focuses on Ashley and her relationship with Brent- which is sweet, but the miscommunication to create conflict was a little too melodramatic for me. It was interesting how much Ashley loved her friends but was afraid to reconnect with them. The author's writing style also wasn't my favorite- including run-on sentences and missing commas which would have made more natural pauses in the rhythm of the words. Overall it was

a decent story and because the rest of the books in the series are by other authors, I kept on reading.

(I received a complimentary copy of the book; all opinions in this review are my own)

P.e. lolo says

An interesting story that opens with Ashley Brooks returning to Christmas Falls because of a letter she received from her old choir teacher. She has not been in touch with any from the town for the past eight years including her parents. Leaving town eight years ago after being arrested along with her best friends, the book opens with her being arrested once again for an outstanding speeding ticket. Not only is that but the guy she had a crush on forever there as well. She still does. Brent Donnelly sees Ashley and sees a do over, he must chose. Does he follow in his father's foot steps or does he go after the girl he has always thought was an inspiration and full of life when she was around, and how life has become dull since she has been gone for eight years. The story takes you through Ashley's past and how she felt and how she feels now. When she goes to her parents and her and her mom finally talk and make Christmas cookies together the story really begins to shine. Now can the town and the community center be saved and does Brent want her really or does he want to follow in his father's footsteps? My only problem with the book was the ending a few loose ends, but then I realized that there are seven books, so I am guessing that you have to get to number seven to find out about the town and the community center. Overall a good book. I got this book from Netgalley.com I gave it 4 stars. Follow us at www.1rad-readerreviews.com

Kelly says

I received this book for free for an honest review. I went into this book thinking it was going to be a light hearted Christmas book that would be similar to a hallmark movie. Something light and sweet that leaves you feeling the Christmas spirit. The synopsis talks about how this book is about Ashley and Brent and their relationship. While this is partly true, I didn't buy in to their relationship. The book starts off with Ashley and 6 of her friends singing at a Christmas pageant. I feel the author tried to build too many relationships between the main character and other supporting characters. If this book was longer, it might have been able to pull it off.

Things I liked:

- Ashley and her mother overcoming problems in their relationship.
- Ashley finally growing by the end of the book. (I am a big sucker for character growth and most of the beginning and middle I was annoyed by how immature and selfish Ash was.)
- The idea of Christmas Falls.

Things I didn't like:

- The romance. Now don't get me wrong, I love a good romance book. I love high school crushes turning into real love in their adult life. Sadly, I feel the author rushed the relationship and added in drama for no necessary reason. Brent had no idea who Ash was as an adult. They never really reconnected. I am not the same person I was in high school and many other people change. In order for them to be together they really need to know who the other person is RIGHT NOW, not how they were in high school.
- I didn't like how we barely saw Ashley with her estranged friends. Maybe that is because they each have their own books, but the few times we did see her with her estranged friends it felt stilted.

-I wasn't satisfied with the ending, yes SPOILER ALERT!!! It was a HEA, but Brent and her didn't know each other and everything moved way too fast. I also didn't like how easily they just got over their problems.

With that being said, looking on Goodreads I am in the minority of not thinking this book is amazing. I think this author has talent, she just needs to flush out her characters and make sure she doesn't have too many plot points.

Carole Rae says

Starting 2018 with a Christmas book! LOL

The story follows Ashley 8 years after she booked it out of town. She ran away from her family and her friends and started a new life elsewhere. Why? A high school prank gone wrong. She thought everyone hated her and so she ran away thinking that was what they wanted. For some reason, she decided it was time to return and make amends and apologize for that night and for leaving.

Okay...I get why Ashley ran away...I guess. However, I don't understand why everyone just forgave her right off the bat. The only person she really had to win over was her mom. There was no real trial for Ashley. She just said sorry for leaving and everyone was all "its okay! No worries!" No...she ran away without a word of goodbye or anything. Coward.

The story itself was good, but I really didn't like Ashley because she was such a big coward. It took her 8 years to come to her sense and come back? That is so uncool man.

I loved Brent. Sure he forgave her for leaving right away, but it took a while for him to let her back into his heart. Good. I would be scared to love her thinking she was going to take off again at any minute. I wish the story was in Brent's POV. What was going through his mind after being abandoned? What did he do in those last 8 years? All questions I want answers to!

Kudos to the author for not making this solely a romance. She had Ashley patch things up with her friends and her parents. I really feel that it made this book a touch better because it was about love all around.

Overall, this was a good Christmas book about forgiving and loving each other. I may not have liked Ashley much, but it didn't stop me from liking the book. I'll give this....4 stars.

Shalini says

7 friends + high school + pranks + one leaves suddenly without goodbye = 8 years of no connection. Till the energy of the group, Ashley comes back to the town of Christmas Falls and sees the businesses dying out and their community centre shut off. Then begins the plan of recapturing the old magic of Christmas Falls...

The author, Ciara Knight, has written a feel good romance with the magic of Christmas spirit in a town called as Christmas Falls!! How can the story go wrong anywhere...

The main character, Ashley is well etched, she is a fun spirited prankster who leaves home suddenly without saying any goodbyes, makes a name for herself in her business, and comes back on the letter of her old music teacher. Her Prince Charming, Brent, is ready with open arms to see where the relationship goes. The rest of the friends do join in but this book is basically Ashley's story.

The story has a fast pace, no deep thinking required, and works well as a short Christmas story. The supporting characters are great but not well developed. Everybody is good in this book, no villains, no complications.

There are a few niggles, the reason why Ashley leaves home without telling anyone feels very flimsy. Her relationship with her parents which was non existent for years gets remedied in a couple of pages. I wanted more emotions, real emotions, not just the feel good factor.

On the whole the book works well as a short Christmas romance and leaves a warm feeling...

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

I guess I've read the first few books out of order! This is the first book in the series and sort of set up the background and history for the characters in this series and their common bond. I don't think that the books necessarily need to be read in order except for maybe the first and last book? Even then it's probably not needed, just helpful to the timeline.

I love the whole concept of this series with the common character of Miss Anna Cate and some cross over characters in the books. It really makes me feel like I'm part of "the" group in the small community of Christmas Falls.

Ashley is an interesting girl, misunderstood and perhaps a bit stubborn. I liked her but didn't feel an emotional connection to her. Maybe because I'm not anything like her? I don't know. I loved Brent though and his devotion to his town and to what he believed was right. He had a gentle way of nudging Ashley that didn't get her hackles up. He was smooth and seemed to understand Ashley in a way nobody else did.

I've got two more books to read in this series and I cannot wait. Fortunately, I save the last book for last!

Pascale says

- 'Brent Donnelly really was the most handsome man that ever walked into my world and left his name on my forever Christmas wish list.'-

What a welcome to receive on her first day back to Christmas Falls after being away for 8 years: being arrested! Thankfully, Brent is there to witness the whole thing and to bail her out of jail. He's always been Ash's biggest cheerleader, aside from Miss Anna Cate. The Christmas Falls series of stories centres around one recurring character, a former music teacher, Miss Anna Cate, who motivates and inspires a group of seven girls in sixth grade. Eight years after high school graduation, Miss Anna Cate sends letters to each of these girls, asking them to reunite and perform one last Christmas pageant together. None of them really want to come back, each with her own personal baggage. But, every one of them feels she wants to repay her

former teacher for her kindness over the years and they all come back... This is Ashley's story in the Christmas Falls series of clean romances.

I enjoyed the humour in this story and the fast pace. I was disappointed to find several spelling and grammatical errors, though. I received an advanced reader's copy of this book from NetGalley. All thoughts and opinions are my own. I did not receive compensation for my review.

Terri Wilson says

There is nothing better than wrapping up in a warm blanket with a cup of hot tea on a cold day while reading a good book. This book was great. It gave me all the feels and just made me feel good when I was done. To sum it up, it was like drinking the perfect cup of coffee while the house is all quiet and you can just sit and watch the snow fall.

Thank you, NetGalley for giving me this book.

L.P. Logan says

Oh how I loved, loved, loved this. It was the perfect little Christmas story for me. Now I'm off to read the rest of the books in the series. Seriously, this book made me happy.

Amanda says

This is the first book I've read by Ciara Knight. The cover is cute and the title is perfect for this story, about a woman named Ash who comes back to her hometown of Christmas Falls, TN, after being away for 8 years. Ash has a lot of relationships, and while the origins and reasons for estrangement are explained, some of the reunions are brief or only mentioned. She returns to town at the request of her former, beloved music teacher, but dreads reuniting with her parents and high school friends. Most of the focus of this book is on Ash's relationships with her mother and high school crush, Brent. I thought the scenes with her mother were well-developed and realistic. The back-and-forth with Brent, less so. I love the general plot of this book, the idea of reconnection and coming home to friends and family, and the mountainous Tennessee setting. Although the romance seemed fickle and rushed, I'll probably read book #2 to read more about the town and Ash's high school friends. I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Marsha Spohn says

Reviewed at Heart Full of Christmas

Ash left Christmas Falls immediately after graduation and didn't look back – she couldn't because it simply hurt too much. She headed for the Florida Keys, built a successful business and lived her life, even though there were empty spots that she couldn't find a way to fill. It would take a letter from a beloved mentor to get Ash to even consider returning. Miss Anna Cate believed in Ashley, and her six best friends. She'd seen

something in them all and if there was one woman in the world that Ash would do anything for, no matter how much it hurt, it was Miss Anna Cate.

Homecoming In Christmas Falls has the feel of so many small towns across the world. A place that once had a special feel to it, yet somehow modern times have passed it by in the rush to experience other things. Now the town is a shell of what it was once was – and might be again, with some planning, commitment and care. Eight years can do a lot in changing one's perspective about home and the people in our lives. This is something that Ash is going to be faced with immediately upon returning to Christmas Falls. She'd run away or been pushed out, depending on your viewpoint, from this place after one disastrous event and coming back wasn't going to be easy. She'd left behind pieces of herself, and with an adult vision, some tender encouragement and maybe some hard truths Ashley has a chance to make a difference in not only her own life but in her home town's future as well.

I enjoyed Homecoming In Christmas Falls so much on many different levels. Yes, there is the sweet budding romance between Ash and Brent – but it's more than that for me. Both Ashley and Brent have to face some hard to swallow truths about their families. Perspective is a funny thing. Sometimes you really have to step away or face something truly important to you in order to see what is right smack in front of your face. And I won't go into that any further for you need to experience the beginning of this amazing series for yourself, first hand.

I loved this story, have the entire series downloaded ready to read... and would highly recommend the Return To Christmas Falls series to any Romance reader who enjoys those real life stories that are believable because they deal with things we all face at some point in our lives. Homecoming In Christmas Falls is a delightful, insightful story that is an excellent beginning to the series. Indulge yourself this Christmas season and enjoy.

I own an e-book copy of this story.

Marcia Haskell says

Not what I expected

This review is hard for me to write, because it hit too close to home. This is a story of the young man who stayed in a dying small town and a young women who left without speaking with him or her other friends. This book is about what happens when she gets a letter asking her and her former friends to take part in a last Christmas concert.

My difficulty in writing an 'honest' review stems from one scene where she talks to her mother for the first time in 8 years and learns that no one was angry at her or hated her or wanted her to leave. When I was younger, I lost touch with my family for almost 10 years because I never tried to contact them. This chapter,in this book, rang totally true to me. And even now,50 years later, it brought back my feelings from that time. Real, you say, more than real for me. Jennifer Peel might as well have been an observer of my life.

I found this book, by an author I haven't read before now, has all that anyone expects from a novel about Christmas in a small town where romance blooms.
