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Ferrell and Johnsons' "In love and war" (Book Review)

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Book Reviews



Ferrell, M., Johnson, K. R., Mayne, D., & Perry, T. (2016). *In love and war*. White Salmon, WA: Mountain Brook Ink. 279 pp. \$10.99. ISBN 9781943959013

In Love and War is a collection of four contemporary Christian romance novellas by four different authors. In “Lassoed by Love,” a woman begins work at a ranch resort, but quickly discovers she will not be working in the restaurant, as she hoped; she will be working in the stables – and her supervisor is an acquaintance from high school. In “Designed with Love,” a landscape designer, her former friend from high school, and her ex-boyfriend all compete in the same televised landscaping competition. In “Hungry Hearts,” a restaurant owner is dismayed to find that her former boyfriend is opening a competing restaurant a few stores down from hers. Finally, in “More Than Meets the Eye,” a loose adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*, a graphic designer must work closely with an acquaintance from high school on a major project. The plots and characters are different, but they have very similar moods. All could be adapted into a Hallmark Channel movie. They are full of the common elements of romantic comedies: misunderstandings, secrets, old grudges, and a “friend” or two who may or may not have good intentions, yet these issues will be resolved by the end of the story. This genre is the literary equivalent to comfort food, and sometimes a bit of comfort is exactly what people want to consume. *In Love and War* would be appropriate for a leisure reading collection and could even be advertised as a “quick read.”

Reviewer

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