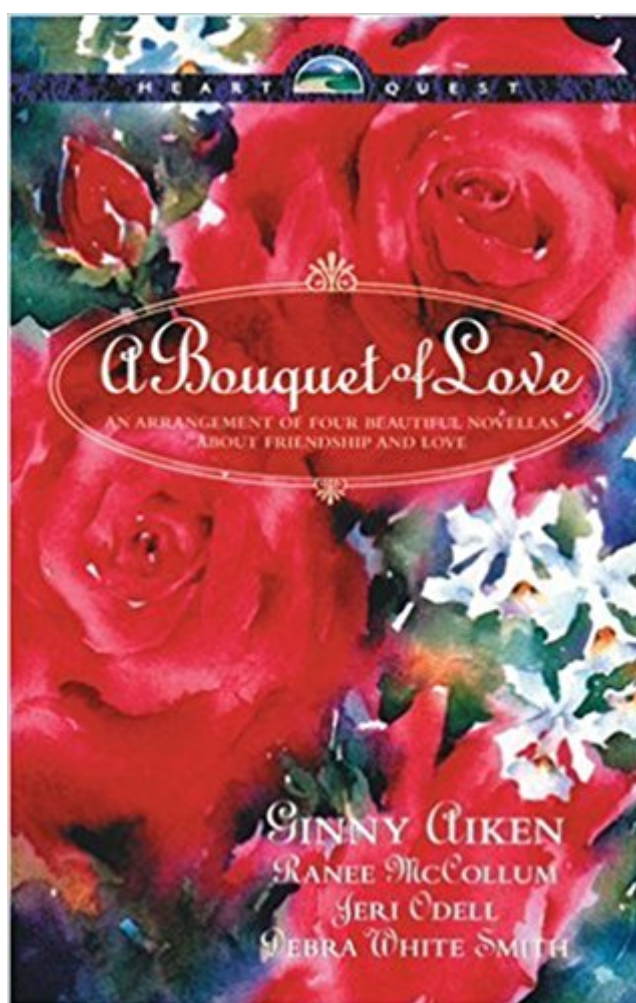


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A Bouquet Of Love: The Wrong Man/His Secret Heart/Come To My Love (McCoy Sisters #1)/Cherish (HeartQuest Novella Collection)



Synopsis

Ginny Aiken, Raneë McCollum, Jeri Odell, and Debra White Smith's *A Bouquet of Love* contains four romance novellas set in contemporary America, each featuring the gift of a very special bouquet. Strong biblical themes echo through each story as readers learn of God's forgiveness, the importance of communication and honesty in marriage, seeking God's will through reading his Word, and the importance of a person's internal qualities. Romance fans will enjoy the diversity of themes and the distinctive styles of these four gifted writers.

Book Information

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#7535 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Religious & Inspirational > Romance
#33513 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Stories & Anthologies > Anthologies

Customer Reviews

Tyndale's new collection of love stories featuring Christian couples (after *Reunited*, LJ 11/1/98) proves to be a mixed bag. Aiken's "The Wrong Man" and Raneë McCollum's "His Secret Heart" feature lighthearted love stories, yet the collection takes a turn to the dark side with Jeri Odell's "Come to My Love" and Debra White Smith's "Cherish," which present more complicated tales of marital discord. All four stories are straightforward romantic tales of women struggling with questions of faith and love; none stands out as spectacular. Libraries should wait for a more balanced collection. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The Wrong Man by Ginny Aiken
After several baby announcements from her friends, Carrie is beginning to feel like she'll never get married and have children of her own. So she joins a dating service and meets several men - all annoying and totally wrong for her. Then she decides on one

more man - and gets the wrong one! Brad is home sick when he gets the message on his answering machine. In his sickness, he deletes it, not realizing the message was about to change his life! This is a short and sweet (about 80 pages) short story that gives us a glimpse into the romantic beginning of this couple who thought Carrie had the wrong man! There's nothing earth-shattering - just a darn, sweet story in which the couple focuses on God. Four stars

His Sweet Heart by Renee McCollum
This was a very sweet Valentine story about a geeky computer nerd and a sophisticated accountant. She begins to see him in a new light instead of the clumsy, stuttering guy who owns the computer software store beside her tax business. But then a third man enters the picture when she turns off his lights in the church parking lot. Oh, what a story! This story is VERY predictable. I don't think there's really any secret on what's happening here. But I still enjoyed this sweet short story. Five Stars!

Come To My Love by Jeri O'Dell
When his wife dies, Harrison can feel nothing but relief. She had lured him into bed and marriage, and now she made no secret to her many affairs. Telling her mother bold-faced lies about Harrison didn't help in the aftermath of her death either. That's why old childhood friend, Kolby was such a God-send! But they never planned to fall in love. My heart ached for Kolby. The author did such a good job writing Kolby's character. I also enjoyed the relationship she had with her parents. So sweet! Three Stars

Cherish by Debra White Smith
They'd been married for several years, but now all she wants is out. Worse, the day she plans to leave her husband is the day she discovers she's pregnant. But Joe didn't want children and he gave her nothing out of the marriage. All Belle wanted was out! Joe is shocked when he arrives home with a dozen roses to discover a note and his wife's wedding ring on the kitchen table. He's filled with anger and grief over the fact that his wife was so miserable in the marriage. It's going to take a lot of work to save this marriage. The author did such a wonderful job in bringing these two back together! Sometimes you just need time away from each other - time to deal with your problems from a distance - before you can move forward. A very sweet story. Five Stars

"The Wrong Man" by Ginny Aiken finds Brad and Carrie in a comical relationship based on mistaken identity. Carrie is fighting her attraction because Brad has made it clear that he's not looking for a serious relationship. But as they get to know each other, Brad realizes that his plans and God's plans may be slightly different. This is a neat story with good romantic build-up, but the end comes too abruptly.

In Renee McCollum's "His Secret Heart," Gwen and Adam have worked next door to each other for years. Adam has a crush on Gwen, but she's only seen him as a "computer geek". Now, that she is developing a relationship with a mystery man from church, she is beginning to see Adam in a different light. Will Gwen choose the man she's never seen? Or the man she is now

seeing with new eyes? This is a terrific story about not judging a book by its cover! It inspires me to take a deeper look at the people in my life instead of relying on superficial impressions. Jeri Odell's "Come To My Love" chronicles the tale of Harrison and Korby, childhood friends who are reunited when Harrison is widowed. Korby still sees Harrison with innocent eyes, but Harrison only sees his mistakes and how unworthy he is of Korby's love. Will they overcome the obstacles that face them, or say "goodbye" for good? This is a truly sweet story of how God's plan for our lives doesn't cease to exist because of our detours. It also does a really good job of encouraging the reader in the fact that God still uses broken people. "Cherish" by Deborah White Smith tells the story of Belle and Joe, a married couple in a rut. Belle feels less than cherished, and decides to leave the relationship the same day that she learns they are expecting a child. This is a beautifully told story about forgiveness and making an effort to enhance your relationships beyond flowers and gifts.

This book was great for on the run readers. The novels are short and to the point, but are still genuine and portray a message. I finished the book in two days while traveling. Check this one out!!
=)

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