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Chapel Springs Revival (Chapel Springs Series Book 1)



Synopsis

INSPY Awards Nominee With a friend like Claire, you need a gurney, a mop, and a guardian angel. Everybody in the small town of Chapel Springs, Georgia, knows best friends Claire Bennett and Patsy Kowalski. It's impossible not to, what with Claire's zany antics and Patsy's self-appointed mission to keep her friend out of trouble. And trouble abounds. During an early morning discussion at Dees 'n' Doughs bakery with their ladies group, all Chapel Springs entrepreneurs, attention is drawn to the slackened tourist trade. With their livelihoods threatened, they join forces to address the town's revitalization in hopes of drawing back the tourists. No one could have guessed the real issue needing restoration is their marriages. Claire, a pottery artist, stumbles through life with her foot in her mouth. When she became a Christian, she thought life and her marriage would be included in the new creation part. But her thighs are just as big and her husband, Joel, is as ornery as ever. She's become nothing more than a sheet-changer, a towel-folder, a pancake-flipper. Her life is humdrum and she's tired of being taken for granted. Patsy has plans for her empty nest, plans that include a cruise ship. However, her husband, Nathan, continues to work long hours, and he's not talking about slowing down. In fact, he's not talking much at all. She's asleep long before he comes home each night. At first she thought it was just because of tax season, but now she's not so sure. Something other than work seems to keep him late at the office every night. With the lines of communication closed, she'll have to find another way to reach him. With their marriages as much in need of restoration as the town, Claire and Patsy embark on a mission of mishaps and miscommunication, determined to restore warmth to Chapel Springs and their lives. That is if they can convince their husbands and the town council, led by two curmudgeons who would prefer to see Chapel Springs left in the fifties and closed to traffic.

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Customer Reviews

This review is for the whole series. The stories of the various characters were well developed and believable. The setting (North Georgia) was wonderful, as the towns of Young Harris and Hiawassee were some of the surrounding locations. I was pleased that the presence of God was so much of the stories. Some may not want to read of the influence our Heavenly Father has on us, but I was uplifted by the references each time. At times I wanted to shake Claire for speaking out so quickly, but that was part of her personality. These books were well worth my time and were inexpensive on Kindle.

There's so much to LOVE about this book! The characters are true-to-life (I've compared myself to several) and interesting & really interesting. And the town . . . what a wonderful, colorful, delightful place to live . . . at least after Claire, Patsy, Lacey, and the others work their magic on it. After being declared "drab and dreary", the ladies decide the town needs a bit of sprucing up, so they decide to get the other shop owners involved & and give Chapel Springs the revival it needs. Weddings, marital issues, business concerns, friendships & you name it & the girls are knee-deep in it. I have a feeling they're up to the challenge, but maybe you should read it for yourself and see. When faced with adversity (including or marriages in need of some excitement & or at least encouragement), instead of throwing in the towels, they're determined to find a solution. Let me encourage you to read Chapel Springs Revival . . . it may be just what you need & to help you find the encouragement to face your problems head on! Ane Mulligan brings Chapel

Springs to life with humor, love, and lots of great characters. This is an excellent debut novel and the first of [hopefully] many Chapel Springs stories. Stay with me for my review of the next book in the series, Chapel Springs Survival! God bless you!

In the words of Happy Dayton, Claire Bennett is a hoot! As long as Claire is anywhere nearby the small town of Chapel Springs there'll never be a dull moment. Even better, her best friend Patty is always right there, laughing with and at her, always standing by her side, even when she gets herself in trouble. After being married for over twenty years, Claire wonders if she didn't end up with the right man. Her questions and attempts to find out bring her more trouble than she bargained for. Ane Mulligan is excellent at putting the reader in the mind of the characters. You'll love Claire and all the folks from Chapel Springs. I found myself laughing out loud every chapter! If you're looking for a fun summer read with an encouraging message, I highly recommend Chapel Springs Revival.

Claire Bennett and Patsy Hannah are two delightful ladies you just have to meet. Claire and Patsy are the two main characters in Ane Mulligan's debut novel, Chapel Springs Revival. Although fictional, you may discover, if you live in a small town, that you already know them. Their quirky but tried and true friendship tickles the funny bone and warms the heart. The two BFFs not only sense the need for a makeover of their tourist town, but it seems the luster in their marriages has also worn off. Each faces a different issue with her long time marital relationship, based on misunderstandings fueled by assumptions and lack of communication. The close bond between the two friends leads Patsy to serve as klutzy Claire's protector from her many mishaps, almost to a fault. The descriptions are real enough to make the reader feel she could step right into the pages of the book and join the girls for a cup of coffee and a delectable donut at Dee's Doughs Bakery in Chapel Springs. The author's research is apparent in her portrayal of the professions of her characters, who pursue two different facets of the creative arts. Despite the hilarious scenes crafted throughout the book, Ane tackles some not so humorous topics. Lessons are learned about relationships, facing reality, and dealing with life's disappointments with a healthy dose of laughter. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes stories centered in a small town that deal with the hard facts of marriage, the devotion of true friendship, and a heaping helping of sometimes outrageous humor. Ane Mulligan has definitely captured my interest as a novelist and I look forward to reading more work from her.

I relate to Claire and her ending up with laughs from her friends. I read this book last, it was such a good treatise on loving relationships, family and long time friends This series is well worth your time. I wish there were more to come.

One laugh-out-loud moment after another; and spiritual content as well. The second book brought me to tears at the end. I just started the third book last night. Can't wait to see what is in store in this one.

Quirky, sweet, fun characters. I just couldn't really get into it. The main character was a little too much of a bumbler. The story had some good sub plots. I just couldn't quite connect. I sped read the last half of the book to get through it. I appreciated the clean and charming, family oriented elements of the story.

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