



The Snowflake

Jamie Carie

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Christmas 1897. Ellen Pierce and her brother are determined to reach the Alaska gold rush. But when ice stalls their steamship, all seems lost, until Buck Lewis makes a decision: he'll lead all who dare to follow on foot toward Dawson City.

Buck is determined to leave behind a heartbreaking past. No amount of ice or weather will stop him. But he never counted on a *woman* joining a dangerous wilderness trek--or on falling in love with her.

As their journey unfolds and Christmas approaches, Ellen and Buck discover that the greatest gift of all can't be wrapped in paper and tied with a bow. It comes from, and is received in, the heart.

Come share in a soul-deep romance that gives a joyful reminder of a redeeming God who makes us each unique, yet loves us all the same.

The Snowflake Details

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Author : Jamie Carie

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From Reader Review The Snowflake for online ebook

Ronie says

This novella by Jamie Carie was a very sweet, heart-tugging story. Carie accomplished in a few pages what many authors do not accomplish in an entire full-length book! I really liked Buck and appreciated the ending Carie fashioned.

Brittany says

I enjoyed this novella that ventured into the harsh Alaskan landscape. The Snowflake was unique and well-written. The characters were fairly well-developed for a novella and the storyline was definitely different than those I have read before.

I found it to be an easy and quick read. It was a bit predictable in parts. However, there were a few things that surprised me. Ellen and Buck were both likeable characters, although I didn't feel extremely connected with them, but their budding relationship was sweet. The mental illness that appeared to plague Ellen's brother added an extra level of danger to the already arduous journey.

The Snowflake is a good choice for those looking for a Christmas or winter story different than many other choices out there. (3.5 stars)

My thanks to B&H Publishing Group for the complimentary copy of this book that I received in exchange for an honest review.

You can read this review on my blog at:
<https://brittreadsfiction.wordpress.c...>

Julie Graves says

Ellen Pierce and her brother are on their way to the Alaskan gold rush. Ellen promised her mother on her deathbed that she would watch over her brother. Ellen's brother is jealous of any man that looks at her. He is not well in his head. Ellen lives in fear of him, never knowing if he will have a "normal" day or if his eyes will have that empty look that she knows means the day will be most difficult. Ellen feels that she has been rejected by God. She feels that the burden of her brother's care is on her and that her life will never be normal.

Buck Lewis is heading the same way but for a different reason. His mission is to find the man that shot and killed his wife. He is determined to bring the man to justice.

When the steamboat that they are on becomes locked in the ice of the Tundra all seems to be hopeless. Buck proposes to take whomever wants to go on a 200 mile trek in the bitter cold to Dawson City. Of course Ellen's brother wants to go. He cannot be reasoned with. Buck is nervous about taking a woman on the trek but they set out. The going is not easy and they lose several lives in the course of their trek.

Ellen and Buck are attracted to each other. Buck is reserved though. He cannot understand how he can have feelings for another woman. His wife has only been gone for 7 months. Plus there is his mission to find her killer. They make it to Dawson City. Ellen collapses and a kind woman named Kate takes her in to nurse her. When Ellen comes around she soon discovers that she is staying in a brothel! Kate is the owner of several such establishments and saloons. Ellen immediately sets out to find work for herself and a place to live. Buck decides he must continue on his search for his wife's killer. On parting Ellen asks Buck to promise to be with her on Christmas day.

Having no success in finding a place to live or work Ellen takes Kate up on her offer of dancing with lonely men for a dollar a dance. She is an instant hit with all the men because of her compassion and caring for them. She listens to their stories and she promises that she will pray for each of them if they would like her too.

Will Buck be able to keep his promise to Kate and be back by Christmas? Will he find his wife's murderer? Will Kate ever feel that she is loved by God and that he hears her every prayer?

The Snowflake is a quick read. I was able to read it in a couple of hours. The characters were engaging, but being a Novella they weren't developed enough. There were hints of what had happened in the past but not overly detailed. For those that like romantic short stories this will be a perfect read for you!

Cathy says

Exciting story with lots of romance, adventure and drama. The heroine was a brave woman and the hero was courageous. They battled the Alaska wilderness together and it was so good to see their poignant HEA. Highly recommend :)

Amber Stokes says

Full of adventure, romance, and some rather deep topics, The Snowflake is a novella with a beautiful cover and an intriguing story! Right from the start, I was drawn in through the epigraph:

"They say that every snowflake is different. If that were true, how could the world go on? How could we ever get up off our knees? How could we ever recover from the wonder of it?" (From Jeanette Winterson, *The Passion*, 1987)

Talk about powerful! I appreciate the themes throughout this book of love (God's love, and romantic love), uniqueness, and being non-judgmental. And I've loved stories with this sort of setting for years: the Yukon, mining towns, gold rush, etc. For a short story, The Snowflake sets forth quite the journey!

However, the other side of that token is that this book could probably be continued/extended. I think The Snowflake would make a great full-length novel, especially because the two main characters (Buck and Ellen) could use some more time to get to know each other.

Also, a big issue at the beginning of the story is Ellen's brother's state of mind, and the way that this "issue" is resolved is a bit disturbing and leaves the reader wondering about Ellen's heart attitude (although she did have her share of suffering). There's just so much going on in the first part of the book, and I'm not sure it

was completely explored in a way that fully satisfies.

All in all, though, The Snowflake shows the wonder of forgiveness and love, and it's a story that is hard to put down!

With thanks to Linda from Mocha with Linda for my copy of the book, which I won during a giveaway on her blog.

Allen Steele says

A quick book, that was an easy read. A woman who is charged with her emotionally unstable brother travel to Alaska in order to find Gold. The brother dies, & she realises she has never lived for herself, but the Lord shows her the way and eventually everything turns out the way God wanted it. She struggled with her faith but finds a deeper relationship with God...GOOD BOOK.-RECOMMEND0

Joelle says

The Snowflake

By: Jamie Carie

4 stars

Reviewed by:Angels

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<http://angelswithattitudebookreviews-...>

Book Blurb/Synopsis-

Christmas 1897. Ellen Pierce and her brother are determined to reach the Alaska gold rush. But when ice stalls their steamship, all seems lost, until Buck Lewis makes a decision: he'll lead all who dare to follow on foot toward Dawson City. Buck is determined to leave behind a heartbreaking past. No amount of ice or weather will stop him. But he never counted on a woman joining a dangerous wilderness trek--or on falling in love with her. As their journey unfolds and Christmas approaches, Ellen and Buck discover that the greatest gift of all can't be wrapped in paper and tied with a bow. It comes from, and is received in, the heart. Come share in a soul-deep romance that gives a joyful reminder of a redeeming God who makes us each unique, yet loves us all the same.

Our Review

This was a touching story about a brother and sister who set out to be part of the Gold Rush. Being stuck on a stream ship and ice-locked they decided to venture out on foot with a part to make there way. This trip will

make you or break you its not for the faint at heart and the most enduring will survive. Ellen is living in hell with and abusive brother and this trip is not making it any easier as he is a weak individual and not only does she have to survive herself she has to look out after the brother who should be looking out for her. She made a promise to her mother to take care of her brother but, in doing so has sacrificed a life of her own. On this trip Ellen sees a glimpse of hope in there guide Buck perhaps there is someone out there who will love her after all.

I had mixed feelings about this book whether to give this read 3 or 4 stars. Ellen loses her brother along the trek to safety and nearly her own life. Once in town she is taken in by a women Kate who owns a brothel and nursed back to health. My problem with the story I guess is I did not like the turn of events that happen once this party reached safety. Here is a young frighten girl left alone in the world to fend for herself without anyones help. It seemed that once they were to safety she was on her own a know one to look out for her. They all seemed to have built a friendship and a closeness on the trip and Buck obviously seem to care for her just up and left without seeing her settled first all the sake of hunting the killer of his dead wife!

Ellen's belief and God and her kind heart and spirit saw her through her trying time. No matter what has happen to her she hasn't lost faith in God and is still wishing for her happily ever after. A touching story of endurance. Just proves that only the stronger survive. You had to love Ellen with all her strength and compassion for others this story could have ended and totally different way.

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Laura says

Title: THE SNOWFLAKE
Author: Jamie Carie
Publisher: Broadman & Holman
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ISBN: 978-14336-6936-1
Genre: Inspirational/historical

Christmas 1897 in Alaska isn't exactly easy. Ellen Pierce and her brother Jonah are alone in the world, and Jonah is convinced he wants to strike it rich panning for gold. So, he and Ellen take off. When the ship gets struck in ice, it becomes apparent that the passengers have only two choices: They can stay onboard ship until spring, and likely die of starvation, or they can start hiking across the countryside to Dawson City, and possibly die from either the elements or starvation.

Since doing something seemed better than doing nothing, Jonah and Ellen join Buck Lewis as he starts leading them across the wilderness. The passage is not easy, and someone is stealing rations. But Ellen starts developing feelings for Buck. Will they survive to find love? Or will Jonah manage to keep them apart?

THE SNOWFLAKE is a novella by Ms. Carie, that reminds me in a way of The Call of the Wild. Sort of. Maybe because the characters in the book behaved a lot like the characters in the movie, which made the book come alive for me. Ellen is held back in many ways from her mentally challenged brother. He is also abusive in many ways. But despite her difficulties, she perseveres and even comes out ahead in spite of it.

Buck is a true Alaskan hero. Rough, rowdy, and strong. He is a leader, capable of taking control of many and keeping them in order as they made the trek. I had to admire both his courage and strength many times in this book.

If you are looking for a different sort of holiday novella this season, then THE SNOWFLAKE is definitely one to consider. Written in partially first person and in third, the story puts you deep in Ellen's character, and Buck's. \$14.99 hardcover. 256 pages.

Kara says

This short novella tells the story of Ellen Pierce and her brother, who are en route to reach the Alaska gold rush in 1897 when their steamship is stalled in the ice. Rather than stay with the ship and face possible starvation, Buck Lewis, another passenger, leads those who are willing on a dangerous wilderness trek to reach Dawson City. Ellen and her brother join the group. Ellen, as the only woman in the group, must struggle to survive, and then make her own way in an unfamiliar Alaskan frontier town. The story switches between Ellen and Buck's perspectives as they each struggle with the circumstances they find themselves in and their growing attraction to each other.

The Snowflake was a quick, enjoyable read. It's a sweet, inspiring story, and Ms. Carie did a great job of portraying an Alaskan frontier town. I felt that both the plot and characters could've had a bit more depth, but then again this was not meant to be a full length novel. I thought the discussion questions at the end were a great feature and found them quite insightful. All in all, I think this little book makes a great way to spend a cold evening after a busy day this holiday season, enjoying a cup of something nice and hot.

Thanks so much to Julie Gwinn at B&H Publishing for providing a review copy to me!

Read more: <http://homewithpurpose.blogspot.com/2...>

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Ginnie says

Jamie Carie Succeeded in packing a lot into a little novella.

Ellen is traveling with her brother Jonah to the Klondike Gold rush.

Their ship gets stuck in ice and winter is coming on so they have two choice. Stay on the ship with few provisions all winter, or hike into Dawson City.

The climax had some surprises and was well written. The emotions and the Christian walk are also portrayed well.

Lauren says

The Snowflake is just like the cover suggests- a cute, hopeful, and quick read perfect for the holiday season.

The Snowflake tells the tale of Ellen Pierce and Buck Lewis, two people who haven't been truly happy in a long time. For Ellen, she has to deal with her patronizing, ill-mannered brother day in and day out because of a promise Ellen made her mother before she died. Buck is still dealing with the results of his wife's death a few months prior. Thrown together on boat destined for the Alaska gold rush, Buck and Ellen meet and sparks fly, that is until Ellen's brother gets in the way. Though, after a tragedy that leaves them deep in the Alaska wilderness occurs, Ellen, Buck, and everyone else on board is depending on each other to survive the trek to the next town. Will they make it alive? Better yet will Ellen and Buck get the happy endings they deserve? Only time and more pages will tell in this deeply romantic read!

While The Snowflake is considered to be a novella, it never once felt that Jamie skimmed on character and plot development. She actually had just the right amount to the reader fully invested in Buck and Ellen's story from the get-go.

And talking about those two, they had to be one of my favorite parts of the story. Ellen was a girl who may have appeared weak on the surface was truly a brave person deep down. I mean, she was the only woman and one of the only people in the story who made it hiking across Alaskan outback alive. That takes guts. Buck was a strong guy with a leader type peresona, though he was still a sweet-heart deep down. And when you mixed the two of them together, they were an adorable couple. I also loved the add-on of Ellen's friend Kate as well because the sceanes of them together always added a touch of humor to this mostly serious story.

While the main plot of this was predictable, it still held my interest the whole time. I found the part of the story that took place in nature to be extremely good because I was always amazed to see how one person could manage to make it through those type of harsh conditions alive.

Furthermore, Jamie's writing was always up to par, making this one story that could easily be finished in a few hours.

In all, The Snowflake is a great read, one I would suggest to readers out there looking for a book to put them in the holiday mood.

Grade: B+

Beverly Frisby says

Set in the gold rush days of Alaska, "The Snowflake" quickly immerses the reader into a tale of romance, survival, and faith. The novella centers around Ellen Pierce, who against her better judgment, is accompanying her brother Jonah on a steamship bound for Alaska and the gold rush. Ellen promised her dying mother that she would always take care of Jonah, who is suffering from a mental disorder that can quickly change him from almost childlike to mean and abusive. When their steamship gets stalled in ice, it seems as though all passengers will have to wait out the winter aboard the ship, hoping the supplies last. Then Buck Lewis decides he will lead all who dare to follow him on foot toward their destination - Dawson

City.

Buck has a heartbreaking past that he is trying to leave behind and to do so, he must make Dawson City - no matter how much ice or snow is thrown in his past. What Buck had not counted on was Ellen joining the trek to Dawson City due to Jonah's insistence.

Buck has a strong belief in God, but the tragic death of his wife is warring with his faith. Ellen felt God had abandoned her much as her earthly father had years ago. As the two struggle to survive the cold, hunger, Jonah's growing illness, and other dangers, they find their attraction for each other growing.

Jamie Carie's story is rich with passion, characters with depth, and historical fact. Her words paint such a vivid picture that you can almost feel the snowflakes "cold, heavy, lung-filling, air-robbing beauty." I love the comparison that Jamie makes about us to snowflakes in that the story "...gives a joyful reminder of a redeeming God who makes us each unique, yet loves us all the same."

This is a remarkable book and I recommend it to everyone.

Katie says

The Snowflake took me by surprise. From the cover of the book, it looked like a sweet book about giving and having the Christmas spirit. However, only a few pages into this book and you discovered that it is far from this. Its 1897 and Ellen has been all but forced by her brother to journey with him to Alaska during the goldrush. When their ship becomes frozen in the waters, Ellen and her brother set out with a handful of others to trek across the territory to reach Dawson City. Buck Lewis, a man who has guilt riding firmly on his shoulders, heads the expedition. With Ellen the only female among them, he decides to keep an eye out for her along the way. But Ellen perseveres and pushes on right along with the men to reach Dawson before hunger and the cold claim her.

This is a sweet story about a young woman's trek across Alaska soil and of her survival once she reaches Dawson City. I was instantly drawn into the story with Jamie's descriptive writing. My heart went out to Ellen, trapped in a life of caring for a brother who scared, harmed, and degraded her at every turn. And once she reached Dawson City, her troubles were far from over.

There is almost nothing that I need to point out. At one time along the trek to Alaska, Buck holds Ellen close against him near the fire after she almost died that day. When the men all huddled together to stay warm that night, she remained beside Buck and shared his blanket. Nothing inappropriate happened and when you are cold to the point of nearly being frozen, propriety and proper behavior is thrown at the window – its stay warm or die. Once she reached Dawson City she ends up staying in a brothel until she regains her strength. She was sick for days after reaching the settlement so didn't notice. But as soon as she did, she left the brothel. She ends up being a dance-hall girl, but of respectable character – all she was paid to do was dance with the men who came into the parlor for drinks. Jamie did a great job of writing these touchy subjects and keeping the book clean.

The love story between Ellen and Buck was rather sweet, if a little hurried. Since the novella is so short, I can understand why it went so quickly. Buck's promise to Ellen and the way he keeps it is so touching and sweet. Ellen knew she had found a diamond in the rough when he kept his promise to her, even though it had cost him a lot to do so. The characters in The Snowflake were developed very well and I enjoyed learning about the characters throughout the book. If you want to snuggle close to the fire for a few hours and read a sweet story full of depth and love, then this is just the book for you!

Christy Lockstein says

The Snowflake by Jamie Carie is a short novella perfect for the Christmas season. Ellen Pierce has spent most of her life caring for her brother Jonah, trying to protect him from the world while keeping herself safe from him. His obsession with her has kept them moving often to keep her away from any man who may be attracted to her, but there's nowhere to run from Buck Lewis when they are all on a ship trapped in the ice on the way to Alaska. Buck leads a group through the icy winter snows to Dawson City where he can continue tracking his wife's killers. The journey through the snow will take the lives of more than one of the travelers, but it will bring Buck and Ellen together as the two lonely souls find solace in each other. But Buck's desire for revenge pulls him away from her, leaving Ellen to make her own way in a strange town. Will he return in time to fulfill his promise to come back to her for Christmas? Carie is a talented writer of historical romances and while this plot may seem at first glance a bit of fluff, there is great depth in Ellen's guilt over Jonah, the demons that haunt him, and Kate's history. I hope that Carie gives Kate and Lucky a book of their own. This quick read is perfect for the busy holiday season and with a message of God's love for everyone, even lonely exiles.

Courtney says

Jamie Carie has really done an amazing job with the character depth in "The Snowflake". This was an amazing book!! It captured my soul right from the beginning and had me eager to keep reading.

It was Christmas of 1897 and Ellen had lost pretty much everything important to her in her life. She was traveling with her brother Jonah to reach the Alaska gold rush. When tragedy struck the boat they were on they decided to travel to Dawson City on foot with her brother and some other men aboard the ship. They met all kinds of struggles along the journey. She soon became close with a man named Buck! Buck had his own heartbreak to deal with too but a connection still formed. All Ellen wants this year for Christmas is to not be alone, will that wish come true?!

I really connected with the story of Ellen and Buck. Sometimes when you go through a tragedy it is hard to see what God's plan is for your life and it's hard to have faith when you've been shaken so badly. I've never been so involved with the characters as I was with this book, in some parts my heart felt torn and broken and I literally cried and other times I rejoiced when they rejoiced!

This book is full of surprises, amazing love, God's faithfulness and grace!! I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a sweet romance and a story of God's healing power and forgiveness, you will not be disappointed. I am new to the world of reading. I just enjoying reading, all the time and now I can't stop! I had never heard of Jamie Carie before but I won this book from an interview she did on a blog and I was clearly not disappointed!! I am excited to read the other books Jamie Carie has wrote!
