



## Secret Santa (Holiday and Party Romantic Comedies Book 1)

*Sabrina James*

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A light and fun read...gave me some of the warm and fuzzies you would expect from a holiday read.—*At Random*

**This sweet holiday romantic comedy from Sabrina James makes things perfect any day of the year.**

## HOLIDAY CRUSHES ABOUND

Noelle, a hopeless romantic, just knows that her gifts have to be from her senior crush! And geeky Froggy thinks the game is the perfect way to get super-popular Celia to fall for him...except she thinks his gifts are from Jake, the school's resident bad boy, and starts to crush on him!

## SECRET SANTA MIX UPS GALORE

Romantic mishaps abound but all is revealed the night of the Winter Dance, when there's more than one surprise waiting for everyone under the mistletoe! So bring a little Christmas spirit into your life today. This funny sweet romantic comedy is perfect for the holidays and all year 'round.

## HOLIDAY AND PARTY ROMANTIC COMEDIES—THE NORTH RIDGE HIGH SERIES

SECRET SANTA

BE MINE

SPRING FLING

PARTY GIRL

REVIEWS OF SECRET SANTA

4.13 average rating this edition, 8 ratings, 1 review, added by 32 people, 89% of people liked it.—Goodreads

4.2 out of 5 stars (17 reviews)—Amazon

If you're looking for something to hang on to the Christmas spirit, flip open Secret Santa, and look forward to a bumpy and laughter-filled ride.—*WPL Teens*

A fantastic romance chick lit novel that makes you smile and your heart warm."—*The Teen Reviewer*

**\*\*\*\*\* Great read! ... I could not put it down. –Bridgett, Verified Purchaser**

## ABOUT SABRINA JAMES

One of the reasons why Sabrina James loves writing romantic comedies is because she loves reading them and watching them! Two of her favorite romantic comedies are *Clueless* and *Legally Blonde*. When it comes to "classic" romantic comedies, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, starring Audrey Hepburn, is her absolute favorite. Has anyone ever worn a tiara and black dress better?! Sabrina has always been a huge reader. As a teen, some of her favorite authors were Beverly Cleary, Judy Blume, R.L. Stine and Lois Duncan. When she got older, she devoured the novels of Danielle Steel, Jackie Collins and Sidney Sheldon. Her books appeal to

fans of Rachel Hawthorne. Sabrina currently lives in New York City, with her cat, Miss Thing, and an apartment way too small for all her Pop! Funko figures – she can't stop buying them! Sabrina loves to hear from readers. She can be reached at: [sjamesauthor@yahoo.com](mailto:sjamesauthor@yahoo.com).

## Secret Santa (Holiday and Party Romantic Comedies Book 1) Details

Date : Published December 19th 2017 by The Evan Marshall Agency (first published October 1st 2007)

ISBN :

Author : Sabrina James

Format : Kindle Edition 350 pages

Genre : Holiday, Christmas, Young Adult, Romance, Contemporary

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**Sabrina James**

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## From Reader Review Secret Santa (Holiday and Party Romantic Comedies Book 1) for online ebook

### Priyanka says

This book was really cute. The only reason this is not a 5 star review is because for the most part the characters all act like middle schoolers when in actuality they are supposed to be high schoolers. I only found that mildly annoying. I guess it's better than the sex-crazed, acne-infested teenagers that a lot of high schoolers are. Now I sound like I hate the book. Don't get me wrong, it was a really cute story full of little kid drama that I thought was funny. Most of the characters were likable and they were definitely well thought out and you either like them or you don't because they all have something to say. The book made me laugh out loud at times. There were "plot twists" that I saw coming a mile away and there were things that really threw me for a spin and made me think "wow I did not see that coming". And right now, 10 days before Christmas, the perfect time to read it. I got to read about the characters drinking hot cocoa while drinking hot cocoa. I got to read about the characters playing in snow while looking outside and thinking "wow why is it 70 degrees in December, Ohio weather you freak, you?" But my point, you should pick this book up today and read it because it's cuter than Robert Downey Jr holding a puppy in each arm. Have fun and I hope you enjoy reading this as much as I did :)

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### oliviasbooks says

2014: How time flies by... I'd never have guessed without consulting Goodreads that it had been exactly five years since I last treated myself with this utterly fun, ultra-light'n fluffy, overly sweet, cliché-laden, multi-voiced piece of YA Christmas romance. And I wonder when the appetite for that kind of candycane overdose will hit me next. In a year or two?

An interesting tidbit to note is that Sabrina James' syrupy YA chicklit concept works - at least for me - *only* around Christmas time. When the other novels featuring students of North Ridge High assaulted my YA-seasoned senses, I felt quite irritated and ran quickly out of patience with the amounts of sheer silliness, stereotypical behavior and boring, daily-soap-style life-crisises. But when reading "Secret Santa" in December, I welcome the sticky stuff with glee. The glittering, fragrant props and the winter wonderland scenery served at the right moment seem to provide the icing on the cake that makes it savoury. Strange, huh?

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### Adrienne says

When North Ridge High School decides to hold a Secret Santa exchange, it creates all sorts of mayhem. Noelle is determined to be her crush Charlie's Secret Santa, but draws his brother's name instead. Celia is thrilled to draw Jake's name, since she has a crush on him, but his friend Froggy likes Celia and is hoping to use his opportunity as her Secret Santa to reveal his feelings. Lily is determined to give Connor great Secret Santa gifts purely because she enjoys the spirit of Christmas, but she keeps giving him things he doesn't like and makes Connor's girlfriend jealous in the process.

This book was pretty much dreadful. I picked it up wanting a light, fun read for Christmas time, and while it is light, it wasn't much fun to read because of the style. The writing was awful, the description of clothing was

overdone, and the guys in the book pretty much all sounded like teenage girls. (I doubt, even if a guy were insecure and jealous of another guy that he would call the guy a hottie and discuss his dimples and cleft chin). I kept reading, hoping that the ending would make up for the rest of the book, but it really didn't. Even though things worked out just as any reader would have predicted, the ending was rushed and overdone and had me rolling my eyes, wishing I hadn't wasted my time.

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## **a & says**

I could have sworn I've never read this book in my life and that's probably true that the first time I read this book WAS actually THIS time. Yet, I knew the entire plot.

This book takes cliches and predictable plots to a whole other level. Everyone I thought would end up together DID end up together. Everything I thought was true WAS true. And everything I thought would happen DID happen.

I know I know at this point you might be shaking your head and saying "but Amy maybe you DID read this book and forgot it."

Friends I tell you that is impossible: I've had this book on my tbr since I made a Goodreads in 2012, and I RELIGIOUSLY use my account to keep track of all the books I've read. I also have a reading log/journal started in 2010 and its not there either.

And lastly the only reason I wanted to read this book is because I read Be Mine in sixth grade/seventh grade and I was obsessed with it so I'm sure I would have remembered if I read it.

This was a cute story but the plot was all over the place and there were too many girls and too many crushes and too many different POVs. At the end of the story there were five couples. Not to mention all the couples not involving the people who didn't get any POVs.

And my biggest bone to pick with this book is a cliché I ABHOR. And that is having main characters named Noelle or Noel in a Christmas themed book.

\*I read this book because I'm going through a phase where I'm reading a lot of the books I wanted to in my childhood but never got around to reading until now.\*

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## **Chelly Wood says**

Such a cute story! Just right for teenage girls. There's a snarling mean girl, romantic moments for the nice girls, and plenty of Christmas spirit.

The book is written sort of like a television show. We get to see several characters' stories from each of their points of view. At first it's a little confusing, but you get used to it after a while. I saw some reviews where readers said this really bothered them. Maybe the trick is to stay inside the book for a long period of time. If you read this book over the course of several weeks, I could see where you'd forget who's who. But I read the whole thing in a day, and by page 50, I pretty much understood which character was which.

The romance is top-notch and perfect for teenage girl readers. Not too racy, but peacefully romantic. The premise behind the story is this: a "secret Santa" exchange is going on at a high school. Both girls and boys

draw names from hats, then they spend the week before Christmas break leaving surprises for their secret Santa person. Some kids drew the name of their boyfriend/girlfriend; other kids drew the name of their crush; still others drew names they wished they hadn't. But in the end, it all works out, and the right people end up with the person they should--romantically speaking. Who that person is, sometimes turns out to be a nice surprise though.

I'll be adding this book to our school library's bookshelves when fall rolls around. And I'll recommend it to lots of girls too.

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## **Jenifer says**

This book reminded me why I hated high school - Drama, drama, drama!

Meet Noelle, she's in love with the boy next door Charlie. Problem is Charlie has never looked her way once romantically. She thinks that by using the Secret Santa exchange she can change all that. But first, she's got to become his Secret Santa.

We also meet Lily, Noelle's best friend in the whole world, who believes that love is only going to bring her heartache. Will the Secret Santa exchange change her mind?

Then we meet Celia, Amber, and Shawna, the three most popular girls in school. Celia is the new girl, who transferred from California earlier in the year and somehow got pulled into the gravity that is Amber. She has a crush on bad boy Jake, and is sure he's the one leaving her those amazing gifts, but is it really him. Amber is the self-absorbed Queen Bee who only cares about her image. Her plans for her Secret Santa...drop her current boyfriend, Simon, for him and that will be his great gift. Shawna is Amber's oldest friend who goes along with everything Amber wants. However, unlike Amber, Shawna isn't wanting to upgrade her current boyfriend, Connor, for an older guy. She just wants to do what she wants but is afraid of what Amber will do.

Then there is David and Froggy (also known as Freddy - The nerds at the school who just want a girl to notice them this Christmas. David is up for any girl, but Froggy only wants one, new girl Celia.

So there is the set up for the majority of the main characters. Even though there are several different characters you don't become confused as to who is who in the story. Each character has their own quirks and personality so it is easy to keep them apart.

There were also some moments that were kind of funny. Not necessarily in a laugh out loud way, but more in an amusing way. With everyone not knowing who is who during their Secret Santa exchange everyone begins to draw conclusions which are kind of funny as well.

However, this book has some flaws with it that I think are valid.

For example, the entire school was participating in the exchange and from what we can see anyone could pick anyone. The chances of getting someone in your own grade were slim because of that. The other thing that bothered me about this was that the school must be very small if everyone is expected to know everyone else. How could a freshman know a senior or a sophomore know a senior or a freshman if the school wasn't so small. However, the author clearly states that the school is a small suburb of New York City. I don't know much about that area, except that it has a lot of people in it. The chances of everyone knowing the person they pulled for the Secret Santa was slim.

Also, the drama was getting crazy. It seems unlikely that a school would participate in a Secret Santa exchange without thinking that girlfriends and boyfriends would get jealous when seeing their other getting presents from an unknown individual. It would lead to fights and other problems that the school would have to take care of. The chances of it running smoothly are very low.

Overall, I thought the book was cute and when it came to how the teens would react it was realistic, but the actual set-up didn't seem realistic to me.

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### **Laurence R. says**

This is such a short book! I must have read it in less than two hours. It's actually super cute, so I'd recommend it!

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### **Maddy Estherby says**

I read this every year and it's pretty cute!

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### **~Tina~ says**

**Secret Santa** was a really adorable read. I liked Lily, Ryan, Celia and Froggy the best. Noelle was annoying and delusional, but I guess she's was okay in the end. Charlie and Amber were just awful but i was glad to see Shawna turn things around.

A wonderful, confusing and fun read that is perfect for the holiday season!

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### **Little Bee says**

Secret Santa has been on my To Reads list since last year. I decided to give this book a go as I have been in a winter/Christmas read mood. I read all 368 pages of this book in one day. I could not put it down.

The theme of this book is unique, and though I have not read many Christmas books in the past, I feel it is very original and entertaining. The story takes place during a one week period at North Ridge High School. A memo is passed out indicating that the school would participate in a Secret Santa and the big reveal would be that Friday at the big Christmas dance. The story follows the point of view of multiple students, each who are excited for the opportunities it brings. This story brings about new relationships, realizations, destruction of friendships, and all the high school drama none of us miss.

The character I liked least was Noelle. She lives next door to her childhood love. She draws his little brother, who is the same age as Noelle, as who she will be Secret Santa to. Noelle takes it upon herself to leave little gifts for the brother that she loves and gets upset when friends point out that what she is doing isn't healthy.

This is a Christmas romance, new relationships form by the end as each character learns more and more about their secret crushes/Santas. There are a lot of twists by the end and I was happy with every single one of them. This is all-in-all, a very cute read that does not take long. If you love Christmas as much as I do, you

will surely enjoy this book as well!

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## **Linh says**

With the Christmas dance less than a week away, the students of North Ridge High are participating in a school-wide Secret Santa exchange. Everyone wanted to get the person they liked, eager to have a chance to confess at the ball. However, things did not go as planned. Noelle wanted Charlie's name but got his brother, Ryan instead. Celia suspects that Jake was her Secret Santa, but it was in fact Froggy who had her name. Lily, who had Connor's name, tried her best to get him good gifts, and she attracted the attention of Simon in the process. Meanwhile Shawna felt that Connor's Secret Santa was threatening their relationship and drags David with her to uncover who had Connor's name. Needless to say, confusion and laughs ensued.

While the premise of SECRET SANTA was decent enough, the book tried too hard to squeeze so many characters and relationships into only 350 pages. There was too much going on and such a large cast was hard to keep track of. There were around seven main characters and the constant switching of points of views was not only jarring, but it cuts scenes of character growth and prevents the reader from caring for any character in particular. Also because of the limited pages, the ending was way too rushed and everyone seemed to find happily-ever-after rather unbelievably quickly. The writing itself is pretty good, but the book is crippled by the plot and characters. This is the first I have read from Sabrina James and while it was a disappointment, it did not succeed in completely scaring me off. Hopefully her next offering would have only a few main characters, not seven to ten of them. Recommended for preteens.

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## **Jennifer Wardrip says**

Reviewed by Randstostipher "tallnankyrn" Nguyen for TeensReadToo.com

It's Christmas time and North Ridge High School has decided to take this as an opportunity to do a school-wide Secret Santa.

Best friends Noelle Kramer and Lily Norris are indifferent about this idea. Noelle takes it as a chance to finally connect and tell her longtime crush/next door neighbor, Charlie Grant, that they are meant to be together. Lily wants nothing to do with love or romance, since just before school started her boyfriend, Jason, decided to dump her for another girl.

Celia Armstrong is the new kid in town, but once she moved in she instantly became popular when Amber Davenport and Shawna Westin decided to befriend her. Unfortunately, Celia never wanted to be popular. She would rather have friends that didn't judge what she wore or made her do things she never wanted to do. Just like Noelle, Celia saw Secret Santa as the perfect opportunity to tell her crush, Jake Morrissey, that she really liked him. Even though she surprisingly picked his name out of the bag, she knew Amber and Shawna wouldn't approve of him.

Amber and Shawna both have boyfriends already, but the one bad thing about them is that their boyfriends aren't seniors. Shawna is fine with her boyfriend, but Amber wants to be able to snag an upperclassman.

All five girls have their own motives, but will they end up with what they wanted? 'Tis the season to be... confused!

SECRET SANTA will put you in the Christmas spirit, even if it is only October. A quick and quirky read, Sabrina James makes you guess throughout the entire book on how the events will turn out. The perfect stocking stuffer and/or a book you can read by the fire with loads of hot chocolate nearby.

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### **Sabrina says**

I read this novel within a week only at school. It was a quick read, came in mass market paperback and the cover looked so pretty I overlooked the fact that Christmas was long over and checked out the book. Or it could have been the reason that the author has the same first name as moi!

Anyways, Secret Santa is about sophomore Noelle and her friend Lily attending North Ridge High school who are participating in their school secret santa. Noelle is a helpless romantic, hoping, no begging that her secret santa would be Charlie Grant, her crush/neighbor since she was in second grade. But he's a senior and hardly acknowledges Noelle's existence. Lily has no interest whatsoever in romance after her heart-felt break-up with long-term boyfriend but she wants to make sure that she gets her secret santa the exact present he wants.

Celia aka Beach Girl is new to the town but she automatically gets recruited by the popular girls Amber and Shawna. Celia has no freedom when with Amber and Shawna but their friendship made Celia unattainable for new friends - even though she really wants them. She has a huge crush on bad boy Jake but she can't even talk to him without Amber being angry with her. Celia has been to all the parties, her days are always planned and even her secret santa is chosen specifically for her because popular girls aren't allowed to associate themselves with lower class people. Shawna though dislikes how she is treated by Amber but of course she never says so out of fear of being ridiculed. Both girls already have boyfriends but Amber says that she absolutely needs a senior boyfriend and that Shawna should have one too. Shawna though is happily in love with Connor but he is suddenly ignoring her...

Other characters like Froggy who is totally crushing on Celia and Ryan, Charlie's younger brother who is also a sophomore make the story more intense and real. When everyone chooses their secret santa things get heated up with romantic and real presents. But to find out who gave presents to who they all have to wait till the Winter Dance.

Secret Santa is a fantastic romance chick lit novel that makes you smile and your heart warm. It reminds us of those child crushes and times with the friends. It puts you in that Christmas mood even if you read it a month later. I strongly suggest this book to raise your spirits. Who's YOUR secret santa?

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### **Mary Kinetz says**

Cute high school romance. Received this as a Christmas stocking stuffer.

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### **Quinci says**

The book I read was Secret Santa by Sabrina James. I loved this book it was cute and relatable the characters seemed like real people and overall was a really fun read. I think one of my favorite things about the book was how interesting it was and how it kept you wanting to read more. Sometimes you would even know

something the character didn't and you would just want to yell into the book what was happening. I love it when you get so invested into the book as if it were happening to you. It was such a good book it only took me around three days to read. I would 100% recommend this book to a teenage girl looking for a fun read. My favorite character of the whole book would probably be celia because she is super down to earth and just wants to be happy. In the book she has such a kind heart and doesn't judge anyone for how they look or who they hangout with, it's all about who they are as a person and I think that she was such a fun character to read about and we should all be more like Celia. This book was so good 10/10 would recommend.

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