



Where Two Hearts Meet

Liz Johnson

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In her kitchen at Rose's Red Door Inn, executive chef Caden Holt is calm, collected, and competent. But when her boss asks her to show off their beautiful island to impress a visiting travel writer and save the inn, Caden is forced to face a world much bigger than her kitchen--and a man who makes her wish she was beautiful.

Journalist Adam Jacobs is on a forced sabbatical on Prince Edward Island. He's also on assignment to uncover a story. Instead he's falling in love with the island's red shores and Caden's sweets.

When Caden discovers Adam isn't who she thought he was, she realizes that the article he's writing could do more than ruin the inn's chances for survival--it might also break her heart.

Where Two Hearts Meet Details

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From Reader Review Where Two Hearts Meet for online ebook

Beth Erin says

Like many Anne enthusiasts, I've often dreamed of traveling to my dear literary friend's island home yet haven't had the opportunity to make that happen... until now! No, I'm not talking about hopping a plane or hitting the road, my preferred method of travel (less hassle and the price is just right) is through the pages of a good book (actually three in this particular case).

While I didn't pick this series up right away, the rave reviews and the appearance of an auburn-haired lady (and bold green accents) on the cover of the final book expelled all my "too good to be true" hesitations. I had the rare pleasure of devouring the entire series in quick succession and I have to say it made for a lovely PEI literary vacation!

While the Prince Edward Island Dreams series is a great read for all fans of Christian contemporary fiction, it is an extra special adventure for those of us who love Anne, Gilbert, and their island home. I highly recommend this entire series! Once you experience one story, reader friends, you will want to read them all!

I won an ARC of this book in a giveaway. The opinions expressed are my own.

Staci says

Where Two Hearts Meet was the second book in the Prince Edward Island Dreams Series. It was a sweet romance between a 27 year old woman insecure with herself and a man running from his past. I enjoyed how their romance very slowly blossomed. The main female character Caden is a bit beyond the weight she'd like to be and doesn't see her own beauty. Adam is a reporter that spent time with the Marines and has scars from that as well as from alcohol abuse.

I found this novel to be much stronger than the first in the series.

My gratitude to Rel of Relz Reviews and Publisher Revell for a complimentary copy of the novel.

Heidi Robbins (Heidi Reads...) says

So charming. I love the Red Door Inn and the great people in the community on PEI. We met Caden in the first book of the series as the bubbly and friendly baker that brightens Marie's day, so I was thrilled to see that the second book in the series featured her as the main character. There's a lot going on beneath that cheerful mask though- insecurity, vulnerability, and fear. I loved the layers to Caden's personality; even though she has struggles and often feels like a mess, she does have a quiet confidence and is accepting of herself and her flaws. Adam is dealing with some hard stuff, and in the Red Door Inn and Caden's friendship he finds a place to rest his spirit and a safe place to begin to sort things out. Adam is super friendly and appealing to Caden who has never really dated, but his charm didn't win her over so much as his persistence ;) There is great romantic tension that steadily builds and amazing special moments that Caden and Adam share. While this book can easily be read on its own, there is a subplot that is continued from the first book dealing with inn owner Marie and her father and their finances, and reading the books in order will give you a better sense of the history of the inn and Marie and Seth's characters.

(I received a complimentary copy of the book; all opinions in this review are my own)

Madison says

The day I started reading this book I made a batch of cinnamon (and apple and coffee) scrolls. It was just a coincidence, but a very nice one, especially when the first line of *Where Two Hearts Meet* is: "There was only one thing better than the smell of freshly baked cinnamon rolls in the morning. The taste of freshly baked cinnamon rolls in the morning."

This book made me very hungry - for cinnamon rolls, lobster pasta, muffins, eggs Benedict, you name it. I was reading this just after eating dinner thinking about what meal I could eat next. But it also made me hungry for sea air and small towns, rugged coastlines and good friends.

Caden is the executive chef at Rose's Red Door Inn. She loves her job, but the future of the B&B may be in danger if they don't find a way to increase their bookings. When Marie discovers that a travel writer will be staying at the Inn, she and Caden are sure it is the handsome Adam Jacobs. Marie asks Caden to make sure Adam sees the best of the Inn and Prince Edward Island, and they forge a strong friendship as they spend time in Caden's kitchen and exploring the Island.

Caden is my kind of character. She loves to eat just as much as she loves cooking. She has lived in the same town all her life. She knows everyone and everyone knows her - but maybe too well, because sometimes all they see are her flaws. Her self esteem is extremely low. She's never been kissed, never dated anyone, isn't sure anyone would ever want to date her. But she's not a depressing character to read. Caden is sweet and kind and good natured. She dances and sings in her kitchen. She's fun to be around. And that brings us to Adam, because to Adam, Caden is the light to the darkness that has been clouding him for far too long. She teases him and shares her days (and food) with him. And he sees Caden for the wonderful person that she is - inside and out. Their friendship is beautiful and it was wonderful see them develop that friendship into a romantic relationship.

It was great to return to Price Edward Island and the Red Door Inn. Marie and Seth are secondary characters in this book, Seth especially only makes a couple of appearances but there are plenty of other familiar faces to catch up with, and some new ones too. While the books in this series do have their own story lines, the underlying threads of the story are best understood if the books are read in series order.

The only thing I had a problem with was Adam's guilt about his time with the military which resulted in the deaths of a number of people and yet every time it is mention only one person is the focus of that guilt and grief. Seemed strange he only felt guilty about one of them dying and not so much the other. But aside from that this is a beautiful book, and I am looking forward to continuing the series.

The publishers provided a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Find more reviews on my blog [Madison's Library](#).

Beth says

Where Two Hearts Meet is one of the sweetest, most endearing contemporary romances I have read this year and dare I say, in a long while. It's not often that I find another contemporary romance author to add to me

list. Liz Johnson's style is reminiscent of Melissa Tagg's style – who is one of my most favorite contemporary authors. Her writing is similar in tone, but Liz Johnson has a unique element here, in that the setting is Prince Edward Island. I immediately felt at home at the Red Door Inn and, more specifically, in Caden's kitchen, drawn by a special element that the author has weaved within the pages of this story. Whether it is fragrant French press coffee, sweet cinnamon buns, or a traditional lobster dish, I was so drawn to Caden's love of cooking – and Adam's acceptance he found in her kitchen at the Red Door.

The romance is so tastefully done and, in a word, adorable. There is no high drama here, just a simple, touching tale of two people whose worlds appear to be at odds, but their connection somehow crosses those boundary lines in a realistic way that left me cheering for their happily-ever-after. I literally would look up from the page to realize that my face was stretched into a silly grin and a sigh had just escaped my mouth visualizing some of these scenes. The setting provides a charming, fresh backdrop to the story, and the descriptions of the town of North Rustico are a perfect complement.

Caden is a likeable, relatable character. My connection with her was instant. Her confidence in the kitchen is such a great foil to her insecurities in other parts of her life. I could easily empathize with her lack of self-esteem and her tendency to downplay her own accomplishments. Adam is a dear character as well. His past regrets make him a layered character, and he still has a deep sincerity about him, ever more evident the more he and Caden interact. The secondary characters are by turns charming and thought-provoking, whether it was the inn's proprietor, Marie and her husband Seth, or the sweet, older couple at the inn for an extended summer stay, who have an inspirational story of their own, and whose wisdom and kindness provide a moving addition to the story.

If I have any issues about the story, it's probably just that I wished for a deeper look at the friendship between Marie and Caden – although this could be partially because I haven't read Marie's story (yet), so just felt like I wanted to know her better. Perhaps the high pressure that they both found themselves under due to the Inn's finances kept this from happening, but there were times that I just wanted them to open up to one another. The other thing, and this isn't really a complaint, more than it is a wish for closure – but I really wished that Bethany's character, who is so off-putting throughout the story, was touched on a bit more toward the end. However, there is more to come from this series, so one never knows who might come back in a later book.

All of the elements combined to create one satisfying read – the romance is nearly perfect and the plot is both simple in ways, yet full of life's complexities, and most importantly, a well-woven, gentle spiritual thread brings all of the pieces together. Liz Johnson is a new author to me, but after finishing *Where Two Hearts Meet*, I will definitely go back and read the first book in the series and will wait for book three with eager anticipation.

I was provided an advanced copy of this book. The opinions expressed in my review are my own.

Rachel Brand says

I went through a bit of a reading slump this year, but I couldn't put off reading the next novel in the Prince Edward Island Dreams series. I mean, it's a romance novel set on Prince Edward Island. And I'm the girl who still owns the complete *Anne of Green Gables* boxset on VHS. And DVD. And, of course, all nine of the books in the series. This is my thing, even if it takes me over a week to finish a book right now.

I really, really enjoyed the first book in the series, *The Red Door Inn*. I got totally sucked into all the drama of renovating the inn and enjoyed meeting the secondary characters who resided in North Rustico. I wasn't

desperate to read about Caden, but this book definitely won me over, and I think she may well be my favourite character in this series. Sorry, Marie! Maybe it's because I've been watching a lot of Gilmore Girls lately (for the first time—I know, I'm super late to the fan club) but she reminded me a lot of Sookie, with her bubbly personality that shrouded her hidden insecurities. It was encouraging to read a romance novel with a heroine who wasn't stick thin or perfectly curvy, but also who wasn't desperate to lose weight. Caden might have had her doubts at times, but I was relieved that she didn't spend half the book berating the way she looked. She felt real, and I loved it.

Readers who are returning to this series for the details about the inn will be pleased to find that most of the novel takes place at Rose's Red Door, albeit mainly in the kitchen. I loved all of the descriptions of Caden's baking and cooking, especially her cooking classes with the local teenagers, and her attempts to create an amazing dish for the lobster cook-off. I spent most of the novel craving cinnamon rolls and fresh coffee, as well as basically anything else that Caden baked. Although it's evident to the reader that Caden is fantastic at what she does, she has her worries that she's not good enough for the inn, and that she might get replaced by someone better if it helps Marie and Seth draw in more customers. At times I wished Caden would just talk to Marie about her fears, but as the story developed, it became clear that that isn't the kind of thing Caden would do—that she's the kind of person who dwells over things but isn't bold enough to face them head-on and possibly cause conflict. So although it bugged me, it felt consistent with her character, and what we learn about Caden's backstory.

Adam Jacobs also has his own secretive backstory—which is much more mysterious than Caden's—and again, I did sometimes find myself wishing that he'd just talk to Caden or his brother or anyone about his struggles. Adam was probably even more reserved than Caden, and a lot of the novel is about him figuring out how to deal with his past and move forward while still honouring the people he's lost. Just like Caden's desire to prove herself through her cooking, Adam is determined to redeem his past mistakes through his journalistic writing. It was quite interesting learning about the inn and Marie's connections through Adam's eyes, even though I knew about most of her secrets from the first book in the series. It was fun to view North Rustico again through the perspective of a newcomer.

The romance between Caden and Adam is incredibly sweet, but not annoyingly or unrealistically so. They were cautiously adorable, and they're probably one of my favourite couples from this year's batch of romance novels—and I read a lot of romances. Although they had their arguments over misunderstandings and withheld information, they resolved them pretty quickly and were, on the whole, a really relatable, lovable couple. I rooted for them right from the start, even if I wasn't sure how they were going to mesh their very different lives together. The growth of both characters was fantastic, in addition to the way that their romance developed.

I don't really have any major complaints about Where Two Hearts Meet. Bethany's character felt a tiny bit like a caricature, but I did wonder if she'd be the focus of a future book, and maybe we'd get some insights into why she behaved that way? Marie felt a bit cold and standoffish at times, but I was aware that we were only seeing her through Caden's eyes and that she was going through a stressful time with keeping the inn financially stable. I did love the other secondary characters who visited the inn, particularly the elderly couple who bestowed so much wisdom on Adam. As with the first book, the setting and additional characters really bring the story to life.

Honestly, I just loved this story. The romance was slow and sweet, but it never felt boring. I really cared about Caden and Adam—both individually and as a couple—and their character arcs kept me thoroughly engaged throughout the entire novel. When I reviewed The Red Door Inn, I mentioned that it didn't quite have all the elements necessary for (what I consider) an Absolutely Perfect Romance, but Where Two Hearts Meet definitely fulfilled all of the criteria. I can't wait to see what Liz does with Natalie's story in the next book in the series. Summer 2017 can't come soon enough!

Review title provided by Revell.

Michelle says

I am loving this series by Liz Johnson! I have always wanted to visit Prince Edward Island and this book takes you right into the heart of it. I love the inn setting and I really enjoyed Caden's personality. I thought it was fun and also realistic to life. There is some humor that is a great addition and really the characters are what make this story. Great writing I can't wait until the next book!

Five stars.

"Thanks to Revell for the gift of this book. All opinions are my own."

Melanie says

I can't believe that it took me a year to start Where Two Hearts Meet and then I finished it in a day! Once I started, I didn't want to put the book down and I became engrossed in the story.

I really enjoyed how the MC was a chef; it was fun seeing Caden make dishes and reading all about the food. I also thought that Adam was a great character. He had some difficult choices to make and yet I think he made the right one in the end.

All in all, I thoroughly enjoyed Where Two Hearts Meet. I think the previous book, The Red Door Inn, is still my favorite, but this was a great continuation. I definitely recommend it if you enjoy contemporary romance.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received one or more of the products or services mentioned above for free in the hope that I would mention/review it on my blog. I was not required to give a positive review, only my honest opinion - which I've done. All thoughts and opinions expressed are my own and I only recommend products or services I use personally and believe will be good for my readers. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Rissi says

Change is just what Adam Jacobs needs. Luck hasn't been kind to him, and Adam certainly has no time for God in his life. This leads him to a small bed and breakfast on Prince Edward Island. There he meets Caden Holt. On the outside, Caden seems to have it all together. She's living her dream through her work as

executive chef of Red Door Inn, and has a loving family supporting her. But underneath this Caden conceals a person looking for one final achievement, an accomplishment that would put the struggling inn on the map.

As with her debut (Revell) novel, Liz again captures a special kind of magic with *Where Two Hearts Meet*. The story is pleasant and the writing style suits my reading tastes beautifully. It's an easy-going style that isn't difficult to read nor have I ever felt as if I needed to "push" myself to flip the pages. The story is simply there (if this makes any sense), waiting to unfold without forcing itself on its reader.

This follow up novel picks up where *The Red Door Inn* let off. We catch up with its protagonists, Marie and Seth, as Johnson follows their journey with their passion project, the Red Door. Primarily this is, of course, Caden and Adam's story, but as a larger picture frame job, this is also a heartwarming series about family. Those you share DNA with and those you establish for yourself. This is such a story and then some. The characters are unforgettable. I loved Caden's internal struggles as a reader because they're so relatable; putting on a "together" personality while beneath it all, questions linger. Is this good enough? Am I doing enough? How can I challenge myself, grow, change? Then there is Adam.

Adam is the right man for this story. He's got a messy history. He's got a broken history. Two emotional weights that make him a dimensional, complex and curious hero who I wanted to know more about. He won me over without trying, and I respected him all the more for the way he loved Caden. Their story was the perfect one to enjoy when I did.

Another favorite element added to the many other things I loved about *Where Two Hearts Meet* were the scenes in the kitchen, which were many and fitting for the tale. It was a cozy setting that offered so much insight into Caden's and Adam's lives, both separately, and as a couple. Then there was that almost kiss! That's all I'll say about that. For obvious reasons.

Where Two Hearts Meet is a special story. It has everything the best contemporary novel should and proves it's more than a piece of contemporary romantic drama. It proves historical novels aren't the only genre to have hidden depth. In other words, Johnson's novel again enchants and entertains without sacrificing its emotional strengths. ♥

Sincere thanks to the publisher for providing a complimentary copy of this book.

Review text is © Rissi JC and first appeared on Finding Wonderland (Dreaming Under the Same Moon), RissiWrites.com November 2016!

Dawn says

My Thoughts:

When I met Caden in the first book, I wanted to know more about her. So when I saw that her story was going to be the next book, I was thrilled.

I have to admit that this one was hard for me to get into. I'm not saying that I didn't enjoy it, just that I had a hard time getting into the book. Still as the book went along, I was swept away into the beauty of both the story and the setting of Prince Edward Island.

I enjoyed getting to know both Caden and Adam. I loved seeing what came out of Caden's kitchen and watching Adam fall in love with her.

I'm looking forward to the third book in the series.

I received a complimentary copy of the book as a part of the Revell Reads blogger program. I was not required to like the book, only give my honest opinion.

Recommended to fans of women's fiction, Susan May Warren, Julie Klassen, Becky Wade, Melissa Tagg

Rating - 4 stars

Caitlyn Santi says

I really enjoyed the first book in this series when it released earlier this year, and I must admit that Caden was my favorite character in the first book and I was so looking forward to her story! And I am thrilled to say that it exceeded every single one of my expectations! I loved this book even more than the first one! I really wish that Caden was real because I would love to have her as a best friend! I related to Caden in so many ways. As a curvy, single, never been kissed, twenty something woman myself this book totally and completely touched my heart, I felt like it was written just for me! I also loved how Caden listened to show tunes while she was cooking! I have read literally a few hundred Christian romance novels over the past few years and I can only recall one other where the heroine was beautifully curvy, rather than a stick figure and super model glamorous. Thank you Liz Johnson for writing a book that featured a beautiful heroine with a healthy and realistic body type, it was such an inspiration to me personally and I really think that every woman should read this book!

I cannot begin to describe how completely I was swept away into this book. I didn't think it would be possible but I think I fell even deeper in love with PEI while reading this book!

I loved every single moment of it, as evidenced by the fact that I finished it in about 24 hours!

I loved the romance in this book, it was so awesome that while there was definitely plenty of physical attraction between Caden and Adam, that was not the main focus of their relationship, I loved that their relationship was not rushed and that they became best friends long before they fell in love and shared their first kiss, and wow, what a kiss it was! :D

Where Two Hearts Meet was just total awesomeness on so many levels, I loved every single thing about it! It's definitely one that will have a permanent spot on my keeper shelf!

I received a copy of this book from Revell publishers. The above is my completely honest review, all thoughts and opinions are one hundred percent my own.

Missy says

4.5 Stars

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Where Two Hearts Meet was a great addition to the Prince Edward Island Dreams series. I was captivated right away with the characters, plot, and writing. As the second book in Liz Johnson's debut series, this particular book follows the Red Door Inn's chef, Caden Holt and her story of finding love, self-acceptance, and most importantly; grace.

After learning her beloved Red Door Inn is facing financial hardships, Caden makes it her mission to help save the bed-and-breakfast. Her boss, Marie, informs her that a travel writer will be visiting the inn and that the good press will be beneficial in saving their business. When a man, Adam Jacobs, arrives and mentions that his editor made his reservations, the two women are convinced that he is the writer that they need to impress. Shy Caden is given the task of showing Adam around in hopes that he will write a glowing review. On top of that, she is stressing over finding the perfect Lobster recipe to prove herself as a chef. Despite her work load, Caden is unexpectedly placing one more task on her agenda; falling in love.

One thing that made me adore this book so much was fact that I related to Caden. Through her, I was able to learn from this book just by witnessing the heroine growing and developing confidence. Adam wasn't any better off. Plagued with regret and guilt, the journalist had to work on overcoming those grievances in order to put the past behind him. Together, the two were able to grow and find the grace they both desperately needed.

I read **Where Two Hearts Meet** in one sitting. The combination of romance, mystery, and the gospel, was the perfect blend. While this book can be read as a standalone, to fully understand the origin of the Red Door Inn, I suggest reading the first book in the series, **The Red Door Inn**. I look forward to reading the next installments and any additional books Liz Johnson writes.

Sincere thanks to Baker Publishing Group for providing me an ARC copy of this book for reviewing purposes. All thoughts are completely my own and I was not compensated in any way.

Linda Klager says

For anyone who likes L. M. Montgomery books and the scenery of Prince Edward Island, this is the book for you. My daughter bought this book at a local Christian book store. We did not realize that it was book #2 in the series, but I believe that you can read all three of Liz Johnson's books as "stand alone" novels. After my daughter finished reading I was very interested in reading it. We both want to read all three books in this series.

Caden grew up in the PEI area. She has a great love of the land and loves to cook with home grown ingredients. In the beginning of the book she was very shy. I liked how the author developed her character to be the woman God created her to be.

The book was very up to date with what is happening in the world today. Adam had some very difficult things to work through. He had to learn to forgive himself.

I highly recommend this book.

Amy says

As always when I pick up a book by an author that is 'new to me', I hesitate a little, especially since this is book 2 of the series. However, the big pull for me is the location. Nothing's better for me than reading a book based in a location I love, and this one is set in the Green Gables shoreline of Prince Edward Island. HELLO?! Yes! Only a little bit obsessed with Anne of GG here!

What we have is a sweet, gentle paced story about two people, so polar opposite, that you'd almost find a connection unbelievable. It works here. Throw in the location, and the rich secondary characters who play such a major role in the development of the 2 main players, while having a minor role in the plot, is well crafted.

Caden Holt, chef for the struggling Red Door Inn (feature of book 1 in the series), can count on one hand the number of days she has been away from PEI. A home girl, with a history of feeling like she's never been important to anyone, has left her with self esteem & confidence issues. She is quite at a loss to how she can help the Inn, and her friends who run it. Not one to over indulge however in her weaknesses, she is quite content, living on the Island, and loves her hometown and its people. Kind, caring and always willing to help another, and talented chef in the Inn's kitchen, it doesn't take long for journalist Adam Jacobs to notice her. Besotted with her cooking, and intrigued by the woman herself, Adam is on PEI on a joint mission to write an article that he hopes will redeem him from extreme guilt, and forced sabbatical by his boss Garrett.

Handsome and self assured, Caden is convinced there's no way in a million years, he'd take one look at her. This story is about redemption, forgiveness, and finding inner courage to step out of the boundaries of your comfort zone.

I loved it. Thank you to Netgalley & Revell for the ARC. This is my honest review.

Denise Hershberger says

I've been looking forward to Caden's story ever since reading the first book in the series. Since I'm not the world's best baker or cook I'm always intrigued by characters that are. I loved getting to know her better in this story and watching her character develop through the pages was delightful.

Caden isn't a picture perfect woman and that is the best part about her. She isn't a size 2 but she is beautiful. And thankfully Adam comes along to prove to her that beauty isn't about what you weigh or what size you are. And the delicious treats and coffee she always has for him certainly don't hurt anything either! I really appreciated a real life character with personality flaws too. There were times when I wanted to scream at her because she didn't give herself enough credit for things but I felt like by the end of the book she was getting over some of her fears!

I really liked Adam too. He had a couple really cheesy lines that were fun and were good to balance out the more serious parts. I appreciate characters that have pasts that haunt them. I found myself very proud of what he had already overcome when the book first started but by the end of the book I was overwhelmed by all the growth he experienced. I really liked the theme of grace throughout this book. I so often read books about forgiveness and that is important too but grace covers so much more.

And of course the love story was wonderful too. I liked that it wasn't perfect or completely easy. I also loved some of the minor predicaments that Johnson threw at her characters. Made for a fun story. But of course I was also glad when I got my happily ever after at the end.

The best cameo type appearance in this book were the show tunes that Caden listens to as she cooks. I love two of the shows she listens to but you'll have to read the book! I'm not sharing which two :)

Lovers of Prince Edward Island, lighthouses, beaches, and romance will love this book. I would recommend this book for readers who also enjoy Irene Hannon's contemporary books.

I received a free advanced copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for my honest review.
