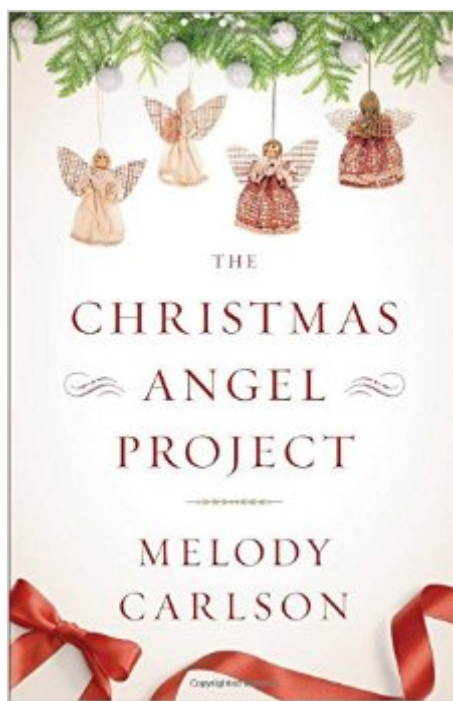


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The Christmas Angel Project



Synopsis

Perfect for readers who want a heartwarming and hopeful Christmas story. Five women from different walks of life have become close friends through their book club--enjoying one another's company even more than they enjoy the books. So when the leader of the book club unexpectedly passes away on the cusp of the Christmas season, the four remaining friends are stunned. They relied on Abby for inspiration and motivation. She was the glue that held them together, and they're sure that without her the group can't continue. When the group gathers "one last time" to open a bag Abby's husband gives them, they find Abby had made each of them an angel ornament for Christmas, crafted especially for each woman and accompanied by a sweet and personal note. Inspired by their beloved friend, together Cassidy, Louisa, Grace, and Belinda decide to commit themselves to becoming Christmas Angels to others in need. Each woman will use her life situation and talents to reach out and help others in her own unique way--little knowing that her own life and her relationships will be changed forever. Fan favorite Melody Carlson is back with another touching Christmas story sure to grip readers' hearts and perhaps inspire them to become Christmas Angels themselves.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Christmas Angel Project is this year's Christmas story by Melody Carlson. Abby Wentworth lives in Pine Grove, Minnesota with her husband, Clayton. Abby belongs to a book club (that she organized and created fifteen years prior) with her friends. Abby is actually what holds it together (the glue). It is Thanksgiving evening and Abby is working on ornaments to give to her friends. She

wanted to do something very special for them. They were there for her when she went through her cancer treatments. The next day Belinda receives a call from Clayton, Abby's husband. Abby passed away during the night from a brain aneurism. Abby was a gentle soul with a good heart (her husband and friends called her an angel on Earth). Abby will be sorely missed. Clayton gives a package to Belinda for the group. At the next meeting, each member opens her gift from Abby. They are angel ornaments created to look like each one of them. Grace, Belinda, Louisa, and Cassidy decide to become angels this Christmas. They will do something special to honor Abby and to help others. But what will each of them do? Cassidy is a veterinarian and the idea comes to her the next day. Mrs. Morgan brings in her sick cat even though she cannot afford it. Her little baby (her cat) is ill and needs assistance. Cassidy finds out that other people in Mrs. Morgan's building are in the same predicament (they are all on social security). Cassidy starts offering her services to them (at no charge), but her boss does not approve. Cassidy really gets to know the residents and enjoys spending time with them. What if Cassidy has to make a choice? Louisa is an artist and finds out that the local community center needs someone to teach an art therapy class. Maybe this would help her too.

Book clubs are a nice way to make friends. But when one friend is the glue that holds the rest together, it is hard to stay organized if something happens to that one friend. When Abby, the leader of a club of five women, dies the rest of the group doesn't know if they want to continue the club. It is right before Christmas and they feel the need to stay together a little longer to honor Abby's memory. Abby had prepared gift bags for each member of the group and after she passes her husband hands them out. Inside is a small angel ornament specific for each person. It is almost as if she knew she were fixing to die and wanted to leave something for her friends to keep them going. They decide the best way to honor Abby, who was a sort of guardian angel to each of them, is to become angels to those around them. They each use their own unique talents to help others and find that in the process they become blessed themselves. Melody Carlson puts a delightful spin on the holiday story of helping others to spread the Christmas cheer. The Christmas Angel Project is the type of story that can be read at any time of year to help us remember that sometimes the best way to help ourselves feel better is to do something for someone else. One of the characters is on the verge of depression, but after she works on her Angel project she finds that she no longer feels depressed. By helping others she has inadvertently helped herself out of the lousy mood she has been in for a very long time. That is a take away we can all use at any time of the year, not just Christmas. There are a lot of characters to follow at times for such a short book but they all come

together at the end to bring the story to a pleasant close.

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