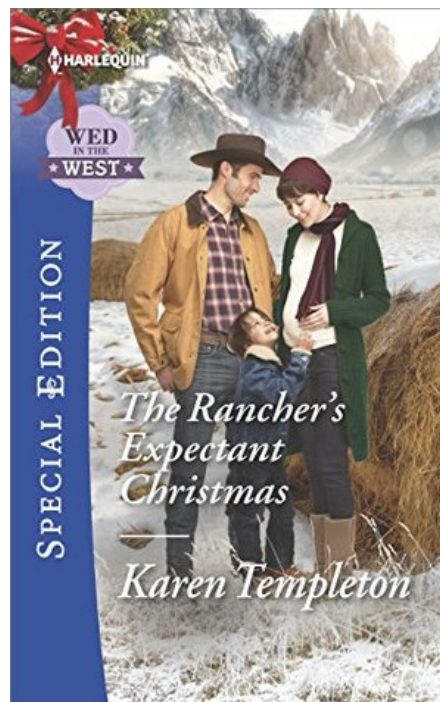




The Rancher's Expectant Christmas

Karen Templeton

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The Rancher's Expectant Christmas Karen Templeton

An unexpected homecoming

Deanna Blake is stunned at the loss of her estranged father—and inheriting half his ranch. In a strange twist, the other half goes to Josh Talbot...her former crush and one of the many sources of trouble between Dee and her dad. Not to worry. The single mom-to-be hates this place, steeped in reminders of the past she's still trying to leave behind. She'll sell her share now and ensure a comfortable future for her unborn child.

Except Josh can't afford to buy her out. Reluctantly, the handsome cowboy agrees to sell the entire operation and split the proceeds. Josh—and his young son—will have to start over. But as Dee warms to their friendship, something sparks. And Josh begins to wonder if maybe they should keep it all in the family.

The Rancher's Expectant Christmas Details

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From Reader Review The Rancher's Expectant Christmas for online ebook

Lynn Brooks says

A fun take on a reunion/friends to lovers story! I had a little bit of a hard time liking Dee because she was a bit too wishy washy and didn't appreciate him the way she should have, but I enjoyed Josh a lot!

Back in New Mexico inheriting half of her estranged father's ranch is the last place Deanna Blake thought she'd be at this point in her life but here she is. She always hated the loneliness of country living, and is anxious to sell so she can get on with her life in the big city ... which will soon include a baby!

Josh Talbot has always considered the ranch his home, and he would love to stay there running it, but he can't afford to buy out Dee's half. He reluctantly agrees that he and his young son will start over elsewhere with their proceeds from the sale, but as they all join together to get things ready to go on the market, will the happiness they come to share show them that selling and going their separate ways might not be what they really want to do anymore?

Joy says

I did receive an autographed copy from the author but I also purchased a copy of this book. It is an awesome read and you fall in love with how the story flows with Josh & Deanna, Could hardly put it down.

Nancy says

Bumped this up from a 3.5 because I liked the ending so much. Josh Talbot, single dad to Austin-4yrs. and Deanna Blake (dau of big ranch owner). The connection between the books is the Talbot family. Josh is Levi's twin. Definitely a slow read for me but KT is always a must-buy author for this reader.

Linda says

The Rancher's Expectant Christmas is part of Karen Templeton's Wed In the West series. A Special Edition Harlequin title, this book can be read in just a few hours. Which is good, because I didn't want to put it down once I started it.

Twenty-somethings Deanna Blake and Josh Talbot were close ten years ago. Closer than Deanna's widowed rancher father thought they should be. So, he farmed Deanna out with her maternal aunt and uncle, moving her off the family's New Mexico ranch and out to the East Coast to finish school and go to college.

Crushed by the loss of her budding relationship with Josh, and unable to understand why her father sent her away, Deanna makes a life for herself as an art dealer in the city. Estranged from her dad, and seven-months-

pregnant by a man who wants nothing to do with her or his coming child, Deanna receives a devastating blow: her father, Granville, has died, and she must go home to bury him and help handle his affairs.

But home includes Josh, who is now the ranch manager and who was like a son to Granville. At the reading of Granville's will, both he and Deanna are met by a huge surprise. Granville has left the ranch to them both, as equal partners. Deanna sees her inheritance as an opportunity to secure her coming daughter's future. After all, the ranch is worth a small fortune, and selling it would provide security for both she and her child. But Josh sees the inheritance as something he's always dreamed of, a ranch of his own, on which he will be calling all the shots.

Sparks fly between the two as they hammer out a plan to renovate the property and then sell it for top dollar. But the longer Deanna spends on the home place, the more she comes to realize her life back in tantalizing enticement to stay in New Mexico and make a life—with them. And really, selling the ranch might turn out to be like selling a piece of her soul.

Karen Templeton is an accomplished writer. Here she has once again finely drawn flawed characters working through problems to a satisfying conclusion. Her dialogue shines, seamlessly drawing the reader into the world these people inhabit. Templeton crafts this story with strong doses of both pathos and humor, bringing out the best in her characters, even in the worst of times.

I highly recommend this title. This is my honest review written after reading a complimentary copy of this book.

Susannah Carleton says

Very lovely book about coming to terms with one's past and opening oneself to the healing power of love and friends and family (the one we are born into and the one we create for ourselves).

Great characters, terrific plotting, a baby on the way, and Christmas.

Brava, Ms. Templeton!

SonnyMarie says

fabulous

Linniegayl says

This was a bit slow at first but I grew to like it toward the end, so I'll give it a C+.

J. says

Karen Templeton is back with a reunion/bestfriends story that has everything readers love about her romances. Wonderful emotional caring heroes, heroines who have often lost their way, scenic settings and secondary characters like children and animals who steal your heart. Add Christmas into the mix and you have a great way to get ready for the holidays or relax from the holiday stress!

Julie (Manga Maniac Cafe) says

3 stars

I don't know what it is about the author's writing style, but I find her books rambling at times. Second chance at love is my favorite trope, and it was handled well here, but without much chemistry. Josh's son had the most personality, which surprised me because the younger characters are usually not my favorite. Deanna's back and forth about the ranch drove me nuts. I didn't find her very sympathetic, especially when her life back east had blown up in her face. Her employer was an uncaring jerk, and what family she had there was not supportive of her. Not in the slightest. But once she returned to her childhood home, everyone went out of their way to make her feel at home and help her. That she would turn her back on that boggled my mind. I wish I had a support group as dedicated as she had, and she was willing to throw it all away.
