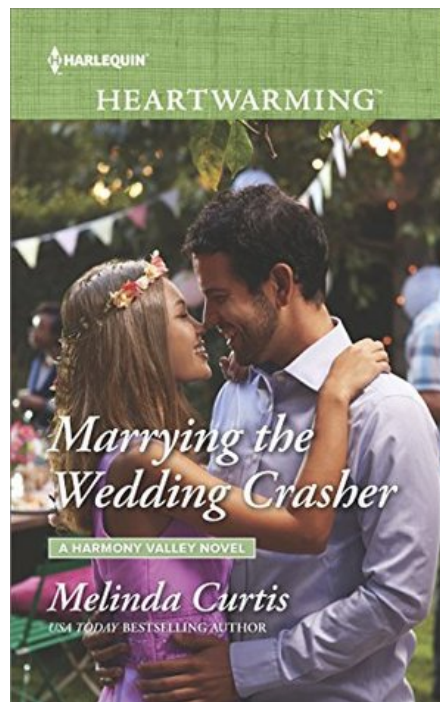




Marrying the Wedding Crasher

Melinda Curtis

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Marrying the Wedding Crasher Melinda Curtis

This bachelor's pretend girlfriend just made a shocking discovery--

She's pregnant!

Although they dated for only a month, Harley O'Hannigan just agreed to be Vince Messina's plus-one at a Harmony Valley wedding. Big mistake, given her deepening feelings for the tall, dark, unavailable bachelor. And what about Vince's long-buried family history? Then there's the growing secret that could transform this pretend relationship into the real thing...

Marrying the Wedding Crasher Details

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From Reader Review Marrying the Wedding Crasher for online ebook

Harlequin Books says

Miniseries: A Harmony Valley Novel

Marissa says

Kindle Copy for Review

I received a free, advance copy of this book and this is my unbiased and voluntary review.

Vince Messina returns to his small hometown for his brother's wedding. It is a place full with bad childhood memories of his dad and their mom leaving. He brings along Harley O'Hannigan as his plus one whom he been seeing for a month so he would not have to attend it alone.

Secrets are a bound as they reach Harmony Valley which may soon tear them apart. What started out as a pretend relationship might just turn out to be forever. A sweet love story featuring another Messina brother.

Kathleen says

Marrying The Wedding Crasher is a heartwarming contemporary romance story that follows the unexpected relationship of Harley O'Hannigan and Vince Messina.

Vince Messina needs a date for his younger brother Joe's wedding. Vince has been able to keep his brothers at arm's length about his personal life for years. But there is no getting out of going back home to Harmony Valley, California, so Vince asks his ex-girlfriend and co-worker Harley O'Hannigan to be his date after he let it slip to his brothers that he has a girlfriend. From the day that Vince and Harley met there was a strong connection and mutual attraction between them. But a misunderstanding and Vince's personal baggage and tough exterior waylaid the development of their relationship. Can a seemingly harmless wedding invitation to a family wedding change Vince and Harley's pretend relationship into a real one ... or will family secrets and emotional baggage keep them from reigniting the romance that they once briefly shared?

Author Melinda Curtis weaves a wonderful tale full of pain, angst, drama, humor, and tender romantic moments that easily draws the reader into Harley and Vince's story. The dramatic development of their relationship makes this story worth the read, as their connection is put to the test by serious personal issues in their lives. You can't help but feel for Vince as he struggles with his past emotional baggage, and cheer for Harley and Vince on as they try to move beyond a pretend relationship with a few surprises along the way!

Marrying The Wedding Crasher has an intriguing cast of characters who are realistic, flawed, and easy to relate to; witty dialogue and engaging interactions; and a wonderful storyline that will take you on a beautiful journey towards a happily-ever-after.

If you are looking for a hopeful and heartwarming love story that follows the unexpected journey of two people who learn to let go of their pasts and open themselves up to a healing and loving relationship, then Marrying The Wedding Crasher is the story for you!

Disclaimer: I received a copy of the book from the author/publisher in exchange for my honest review and participation in a virtual book tour event hosted by I Am A Reader.

<https://jerseygirlbookreviews.blogspot...>

Marjorie says

Returning to Harmony Valley, California, is always a treat. I always look forward to seeing what the elders are up to and how they handle new younger people coming to town. And for those who come back home to visit, they try and get them to stay. They know what improvements need to be made and they are too old to make it happen. Vince Messina has returned from Texas with his week-long date, Harley O'Hannigan, for his brother Joe's wedding. They had stopped dating, but Vince needed a pretend date, and Harley agreed to go along with it. The life both of them envisioned took a different turn. Neither of them is doing what they wanted to do - obstacles took care of that. The secrets Vince has kept hidden from his family are huge, enough that he left 16 years ago! Honor, pride, trust, belief in oneself, and letting others in is hard to accomplish, but it can be done. I really enjoyed this book and look forward to returning again, as there are others waiting to have their own chance at love. This can be read as a stand alone. [I received this book for free and my opinion is my own.]

Nicole says

Marrying the Wedding Crasher (2018) by Melinda Curtis is part of the Harmony Valley series, but does read as a stand-alone story. This book is set to release tomorrow, March 6, 2018, by Harlequin Heartwarming Publishers. This book will be available in all forms including eBook, and is 384 pages in length. With a full-time job and a very busy five-year old at home, this book took me two days to read. I received a copy of this novel from Harlequin Heartwarming in eBook form for review. In no way has this influenced my opinion. The opinions expressed in this review are my own. I give this novel 4.5 STARS. Marrying the Wedding Crasher is a Contemporary Clean Romance.

One day when I was seven years old, Sr. Regina, my 2nd grade teacher, gave me and my fellow classmates a brown paper bag. We were told to decorate them prettily and make sure to include our names. These bags were going to be our Valentine's Day bags! She also told us to make/buy Valentine's Day cards for our fellow classmates. I can remember vividly putting my whole 7-year old self into my bag, and later into the cards I made for my classmates. Valentine's Day arrived and I excitedly hurried to class. I could not wait to pass out my cards and then enjoy the cards I got from my fellow classmates. After the craziness that is 2nd graders distributing cards and moving around the classroom, Sr. Regina asked us all to open our bags and dig into our cards and candies. I was SO excited!!! I opened my bag and saw three cards total. No candy. Just three cards. My little 2nd-grade heart dropped, but I was ok because something is better than nothing, right? Two of the cards were the store-bought kind, and one was hand written. I was excited for the hand-written card because it meant someone took time for me! I opened the note and read, "Happy Valentine's. Nicole, you look like a clown." I was devastated. I got up, went to the back of the classroom, and buried myself behind the coats and backpacks. I sobbed my little heart out. I was embarrassed and heartbroken.

I was seven years old when someone's words crushed my heart and made me see myself differently. I became a very closed-off kid from that day forward, and I began to really hate the way I looked. I hated that I had to wear glasses. I hated that my prescription was so thick it looked like I was wearing coke bottles. I hated that my family was poor and I couldn't afford cute glasses, just glasses from the cheap section in the eye doctor's office. I then started to really look at myself in the mirror... AT SEVEN!!! I decided I hated my big nose. I hated my ugly teeth. I hated my limp hair. I hated me. It should be noted that I have a really pretty, skinny mom. The kind of pretty, skinny that the world says is perfect. I am about as opposite as you can get. Guess when I noticed that?! Yep...right after I got told I look like a clown.

I have been battling that note every day since I was seven years old.

If you are still reading this, you are probably wondering by now what this has to do with Marrying the Wedding Crasher. Marrying the Wedding Crasher is a good, solid story. It has exactly what you look for when you want a Harlequin Heartwarming-type story. The characters are well written and realistic, the plot is very engaging, and the romance is sweet. I do very much recommend it for all of these standard qualities, BUT, I really recommend this book because of what it reminded me: words are SO very important, and they can be blessings or weapons. Of all the characters in this book, I relate to Vince Messina. Vince, of course, is the perfect Harlequin Heartwarming hero — he is gorgeous, he is kind, he is all man! So, I definitely cannot relate to his gorgeousness and his manliness, but I can relate to him in regards to this “words” issue that I've been discussing. When Vince was a teenager someone very important to him said something in an emotionally-drained moment and it completely changed the course of his life. Vince was never going to be the person he was BEFORE THE WORDS ever again. After my Valentine's Day card fiasco in the second grade, I was never going to be the same bright-eyed, happy, blissfully ignorant girl ever again.

We need to be SO careful with our words. This is an excellent reminder for me as a wife and mother, but also as a teacher. The words we use can have positive effects on those around us, or they can do great harm. Ephesians 4:29 states, “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” God wants us to use our words to build others up, not tear them down!

Marrying the Wedding Crasher is a sweet romance. I definitely left the book smiling for the main characters, but I also left the book with a great reminder that I certainly did not expect. If you are looking for a well-written, sweet story that ends happily, and includes a great moral, then I highly recommend Marrying the Wedding Crasher. You will not be disappointed.

Shash says

What a great book! I loved the story – the humor, the emotion, the romance. I really enjoyed being with the Messina family. I loved the banter between them. It was fun to watch Vince and Harley try to prove they were a couple to the family.

Vince and Harley had a lot of depth to them and were easy to love. They were flawed human beings, struggling with challenges life had brought them. I loved watching them work through things and come out the other side in a better place. And together. :)

It was great to be back in Harmony Valley! Oh, the elderly residents make me laugh! They always add to the story. I'm looking forward to going back soon!

I received a complimentary copy of the book, which I voluntarily reviewed. I have given my honest opinion.

Julia David says

I love Harmony Valley. The old people are so much fun. Vince and Harley tried to make a go of it before, but Vince isn't the marrying kind. Or is he? Vince is forced to confront a lot of old family secrets when he goes home to watch his little brother get married. He brings Harley to be a buffer against his family and people of Harmony Valley who like to be match makers. Harley is dealing with her own problems, but agrees to help Vince. Is she just setting herself up for heartache?

Marcie Robinson says

“Marrying the Wedding Crasher” by Melinda Curtis is part of her Harmony Valley series and features Vince Messina and Harley O’Hannigan.

Vince hasn’t been back to Harmony Valley in years and is only back now to attend his brother’s wedding (Joe from “Marrying the Single Dad”). Having only phone conversations over the years, and to keep his brothers off his back, Vince pretended he has a girlfriend. Now, he needs to prove to them he actually does. The only person who comes to mind is Harley O’Hannigan – a woman he dated briefly. Harley, still attracted to Vince despite refusing to go out with him again, is trying to rediscover her confidence after an architectural design she created failed. She’s been working with Vince on a construction site and in exchange for Vince repairing one of her tools, she agrees to go to Harmony Valley with him.

Going home is hard for Vince because there were a lot of things that happened during childhood that Vince never shared with his brothers. He’s very protective of his family and tends to keep his emotions bottled up, hiding who he truly is.

Harley makes him want to open up and share.

Ms. Curtis has created complex characters in Vince and Harley as well as creating fantastic secondary characters in the elderly residents of Harmony Valley. In each installment of this series, this reader enjoys “checking in” with them.

“Marrying the Wedding Crasher” will make you laugh out loud and blink away tears – the perfect blend of emotions to experience when reading a book by Ms. Curtis.

Pascale says

This story depicts a strong female character in a typically male career who has been dealt an unfair hand and she struggles to get back on her feet financially. She strikes up a deal with an old flame - an exchange of services. She will attend his family wedding and he will repair a valuable piece of equipment. She must not fall in love with him. Absolutely not. Stay focused. Do. Not. Fall. For. Him. Hmm ?...

A fun, clean romance.

Jean says

I really liked this story.

Vince and Harley were both wonderful characters. Vince has always avoided relationships because of a fear that he may turn out like his father. He and Harley had dated briefly, but then he makes a deal with her to take her as his date to a family wedding in order to keep his family from hounding him about settling down. There were certainly some tense and emotional parts to the story, but the sense of family really came through. I loved all of the characters in this story, and loved getting to visit Harmony Valley again.

Carrie Schmidt (Reading is My SuperPower) says

This is such a fun book! It's swoony, yes, and truly heartfelt but there's a lot of humor too.

The town of Harmony Valley is full of quirky octogenarians with a phone chain that passes out gossip faster than...well... than gossip spreads through a small town. "Who does Irwin belong to?" Oh Irwin... I adore Irwin. The elderly man who wants to run with the bad boys and win his fair lady's heart. The scene with the motorcycle – and the scene in the beauty salon – both had me literally laughing out loud.

Vince Messina's story is revealed in layers, each more heartbreaking than the one before. A little boy forced to take responsibilities that were never his to bear. A man still defeated by the hurtful words spoken over him. A man held captive by fear. And yet, there is healing here too. Family healing as well as the slow mending of a wounded heart. Curtis does a great job of framing Vince's past pain with Harley's warmth and big heart. He grows into his Disney hair (you'll understand after you read the book) and at the center of this is Harley – the woman he's terrified to love.

Bottom Line: You will laugh a lot, cry a little, and swoon often in Marrying the Wedding Crasher by Melinda Curtis. I always love a trip to the hilarious Harmony Valley, and you'll be hooked too in a matter of pages. Vince and Harley are both strong protagonists who are easy to love and easy to cheer on. They are surrounded by a solid cast of delightful supporting players who bring even more heart and humor to the mix. A great read all around.

(I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book)

first seen at Reading Is My SuperPower

Brittany says

Marrying the Wedding Crasher is part of the Harlequin Heartwarming line that consists of sweet, contemporary novels. This book is one of a long line of fun stories in the Harmony Valley series, however, it can be enjoyed as a stand alone novel.

I really liked this book. There were plenty of humorous moments, as in all of the books in this series. Yet, there were also some deep hurts and fears that the main characters had to overcome. I really liked watching them navigate around Vince's family as they pretended to still be in a relationship. The tension skyrocketed

upon the news that Harley was pregnant! I loved this story from start to finish and the epilogue was a great way to finish the book.

I received a complimentary copy of this book. All opinions are my own.

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

Kate Vale says

Another Harmony Valley novel, in which we meet architect Harley O'Hannigan, who is asked by Vince Messina to be his plus-one at his brother's wedding. Seems simple enough, except that Vince had steadfastly avoided being with his brothers since he left home. Harley is reluctant to go, partly because she's recently broken up with Vince, convinced that he will never reciprocate what she feels for him. But when her boss knocks her around and also ruins her tile cutter--equipment essential as she makes money at the construction site, she agrees.

In the course of meeting his brothers and a group of quirky members of little Harmony Valley, Vince finally learns why Harley isn't working as an architect. Then the mayor asks for her input regarding changes he wants made that may draw more tourists to Harmony Valley. The town appeals to her almost as much as the different people Harley meets there, and when she confirms a pregnancy that Vince has helped create, she is confronted by his backing off from her--totally. After all, he's made clear he's not into marriage after seeing what it did to his parents. And becoming a daddy? Never, not if it means the disease he most fears will be passed on to an offspring.

How Harley is going to deal with all this angst, made worse when it seems everyone in town knows about the baby she's carrying before Vince does makes for a tale in which the title finally becomes clear--given that the wedding that started it all doesn't occur until nearly the end of the story.

Kelly says

When I get a book to read, I generally don't go back and look at the blurb for the book. I just jump in. I have had the book for a week before I was able to start reading it. Then when I was finished, I went back to look at the blurb before writing my review. I was kind of shocked to see that the pregnancy was the top of the blurb. To me, it was a critical point in the book, a curveball that changed the way the characters interacted with each other and their emotions. I liked seeing the shock on their faces and I had the same reaction. It was like a spoiler and I wish it wasn't handed out to everyone. Just sayin....

It took me awhile to get into the book. I don't really know why, I can't pinpoint it. But after awhile, I was all into it! I liked this couple! I was sad for them and their circumstances. Vince was plagued by his dad's mental illness and his mom's leaving him and his brothers when he was in high school. He worries that he will become like his dad. He doesn't want to get married or have children because of it. Vince puts others first but can't do anything for himself.

Harley is an architect who quit her most pivotal part of finishing up her schooling. Now she is doing tile work in homes. She has quite a vision when it comes to her architecture. She has a little secret about it that keeps her from moving forward with it.

I loved the dynamics of Vince's family. Each brother is different. They are all hard workers and they all have big hearts! They come from a small town in California where everyone knows everyone else's business and they even have a phone tree where the gossip spreads! Everyone in town knew that Harley was pregnant before Vince did! They have old women and men who like to put their two cents in at every turn. Love it!!

If you like stories with broken families, mental illness, forgiveness, protecting your family, weddings, strong family bonds, architecture, construction, and fighting for those you love then this might be for you.

Deanna Vrba says

Harley O Hannigan agree to be Vince Messina date. but she ended up pregnant...
