



Winter's Awakening

Shelley Shepard Gray

Download now

Read Online ➔

Winter's Awakening

Shelley Shepard Gray

Winter's Awakening Shelley Shepard Gray

As the coldest winter on record blows into Sugarcreek, will three hearts have the courage to discover the life that God wants for them?

In the small Amish town of Sugarcreek, Ohio, Joshua knows what's expected of him: to work at the family store and to finally marry Gretta, whom he's courted for years. But when a new English family moves in next door—and their teenage daughter catches his eye—Joshua wonders if his future plans are too firmly set in stone.

Gretta is shocked by the sudden change in Joshua. Their arguments followed by tense silences feel too much like the frosty atmosphere at home between her parents. When Roland begins to take an interest in her, she considers what her life might be like with Joshua out of the picture. With Roland, Gretta would have steady, kind companionship...although she knows she could never love him.

When Lilly moved to Sugarcreek, she never imagined she'd be enamored with the Amish way of life—and especially with her handsome new neighbor, Joshua. But she guards a secret that will surely drive him away, one that compelled her family to leave their old home and move to Sugarcreek in the first place: Lilly is pregnant.

Winter's Awakening Details

Date : Published February 2nd 2010 by Avon Inspire (first published January 1st 2010)

ISBN : 9780061852220

Author : Shelley Shepard Gray

Format : Paperback 304 pages

Genre : Amish, Christian Fiction, Amish Fiction, Romance, Fiction, Christian

 [Download Winter's Awakening ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Winter's Awakening ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Winter's Awakening Shelley Shepard Gray

From Reader Review Winter's Awakening for online ebook

Janice says

I am reading this on the Kindle as a Omnibus edition so i have the series of Sugarcreek

This one i enjoyed how it shows that a Male & Female can be friends without being romantic even the parents didn't think that

The other storyline is with Josh & if he will marry or what will happen with him

In the future stories will be of the family & other people of Sugarcreek

Janet Giles says

I'm going to be real. The first half of this book had me HOOKED! But then it became predictable. I was secretly hoping Joshua the main male character would pick the English girl. The obvious coming of a storm where everyone is forced together and becomes friends at the end bored me. I love redemption stories but that happened way too easy and I could not get into it. Plus what happened to Lilly? She was my favorite and the character that intrigued me the most. I felt her part ended odd. The ending with their wedding bored me as well. ? wanted to love it.

Rachel says

As a harsh winter descends upon Sugarcreek, Ohio, we are introduced to Gretta & Joshua, a young courting couple with plans to marry. When a new English family moves next door to Joshua's family, he is captivated by their teenage daughter, Lilly, and begins to have doubts about his future with Gretta. While he knows he cannot court Lilly, he steps back from Gretta and she agrees that they need to think about and work on their relationship. Gretta begins to court Roland, who is steady & kind, but she realizes that her heart still lies with Joshua.

As Lilly's family begins to befriend Joshua's family, Lilly finally tells them that she is pregnant and her family moved to Sugarcreek so she could have the baby and give it up for adoption. Eventually, Lilly decides that she wants to keep the baby and begins working as a waitress in the same restaurant where Gretta works. As Lilly and Gretta become friends, a fierce snowstorm traps Gretta & Joshua in his family's store and they begin to see how much they mean to each other and no one else. Gretta and Joshua marry and Lilly's family attends the wedding. Will Lilly change her mind and keep the baby or give him/her up for adoption as her parents want? An intriguing tale of love, friendship, faith & trust. Can't wait to read the next book in the series.

Paula Phillips says

After reading Shelley Shepard Gray's series "Sisters of the Heart" I was excited to read Winter's Awakening,

the first in a new series by her "the Seasons of Sugarcreek". Now I'm not sure if it was because the theme of Amish Village wasn't what I was needing right now but I found Winter's Awakening not to be as exciting and thrilling as her Sisters of the Heart series. Though in saying all that, I still enjoyed Winter's Awakening and can't wait to get my hands on Book #2 Spring's Renewal. Winter's Awakening takes us to the heart of a small Amish town called Sugarcreek which sounds such a sweet (not to be ironic) place to live. In the town of Sugarcreek we meet main characters Gretta and Joshua whom we know what they are meant to do - marry as they have courted for years, but when Joshua starts to get cold feet and his eyes start wandering to the new girl in their village Lily, he starts to question whether his future with Gretta is meant to be and when another Amish villager Roland starts to show the interest in Gretta that Joshua has hidden away, Gretta starts to consider a What If? relationship without Joshua. Soon we see as fast as they got together both Gretta and Joshua drift apart, but when they look at the big picture are these two meant to be together and only will they with God's grace and faith will they overcome the obstacles needed.

The other aspect that I love about Christian Fiction is that at the back of the books they have a discussion guide for Readers, so that once you have finished the story -you can sit back and reflect.

Colleen says

I really loved this good, clean, romantic novel based on about an Amish and English family!! It was a good reminder there are more things we have in common with others, than different, no matter our life styles! I'm already checking out her other books!

Michelle Robinson says

I really enjoyed the last series that I read by this author and I was really excited to find this series. However, I was so disappointed.

This is a relatively new author so, I think her writing style will continue to improve. That was not even my issue with this book.

I found the language and behavior unbelievable and ridiculous about the mannerism of the Amish children. For example, one Amish boy is described as "pump a fist in the air and cheer", I don't know but this doesn't really read authentic for me. But maybe?

I had to stop reading this book and make a few notes as I read because I really had a hard time as a parent, with the way the author chooses to defend the pregnant teenager's behavior. I wondered if a teenager wrote this book???? As a responsible adult, I can see a child expressing the thoughts that are presented here but she never allows for any reasoned thoughts from an experienced adult to be a part of the conversation, even if Lily was determined to keep the child. Another perspective would seem to be responsible maybe even expected in a Christian novel.

I wrote myself a note in the middle of my reading that said I am shocked and astounded to see a supposed "Christian novel glamorizing teenaged mothers.

This quote, "Now more than ever she felt as if they weren't treating her as an adult just a child who had done a stupid thing" Well, I'm sorry but I don't know of any real adults who would have thought that getting pregnant in high school with no means of supporting the baby she had made was a real smart or adult thing

This quote sent me over the edge, "I'm keeping the baby, I don't want to give it to anyone else not even if that's what's best for the child". In our society today, this way of thinking may be popular, I hope not but a real parent, a loving parent, AN ADULT puts the interest of their child above their own. I was so disgusted by Lilly. Her thinking was infantile, which is to be expected from a teenager but then I would expect the author to not treat that thought process as the best information on the subject to hand where is some reasoning? I am not saying she should not keep her child, it if gets to that point in the story but at least PRETEND the girl cared a little about whether that was actually what was best for the baby.

I hated this book so much, which is funny because I finished the series the middle book was the best and it was just ok.

Pam Marcola Duff says

Very lovely story about personal trials and tribulations and overcoming them. Forgiveness. Beautiful story

Mahila Gail says

I loved winter's awakening! I love josh and gretta. I love lilly and the allens & I love the grabers. I even love the sugarcreek inn. I hope in the next books in this series we get to see everyone again and also that gretta's home life gets happier! I loved this book. ♥?

Debbie says

Winter's Awakening" by Shelley Shepard Gray gets 5 stars from me. It is the first book in the Seasons Of Sugarcreek Series. Gretta and Josh were courting and Greta assumed that they would get married. Then new neighbors, The Allen's moved next door to Joshua's family and Joshua begin to argue with Gretta and they decided to break up. But Lilly Allen wasn't Amish and she has a secret. Her secret is that she is pregnant and her parents want her to give up the baby for adoption but Lilly decides to keep the baby. Joshua realizes that Lilly is just a friend and begins to regrets his treatment of Gretta. Gretta begins to see a new guy because she doesn't want a marriage like her parents have, a marriage of silent. Then a winter's storm bring ice and a blackout to Sugarcreek and then things are made right again. This book had me wanting to skip to the end to see if things would work out. The characters could have been anyone's neighbors with one exception Joshua's family was Amish. I am wanting to found out more about these family in the other two books in the series and there is even a Christmas story to go along with the series.

Myrtle says

A must read. What nice reading. Highly recommend.

Aud says

Winter's Awakening: Season of Sugarcreek Series, Book 1 by Shelly Shephard Gray

I read an audio book down load from my state library...

A good read... a sweet romance a typical Shelley Shepard Gray story.. filled with heart, faith, life, and questions that needed answers.

Kate says

This was a sweet story about figuring out what God's plans for your life are, versus your own plans, and how sometimes, your life can take an unexpected turn when you open your heart to possibilities.

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

Diana C. Kobylak says

I could not put this book down. This is an Amish love story about Joshua and Greta who become too accustomed to one another leading to a break in their courting relationship—initiated by Joshua. He is smitten by an Englisher girl next door. Greta is strong in spirit and allows herself to be courted by Roland. Because of this and her self-respect, Joshua realizes he cannot live without her. Greta as well decides that Roland is not for her and realizes that no one but Joshua will ever occupy her heart. A heartwarming story where relationships are tested and three families grow close as a result.

Liane says

This book was a quick read. A little slow and repetitive in parts but a nice story of love and patience. I'm curious to read the next book in the series.

Rachel Brand says

It's been a long time since I've read one of Shelley Shepard Gray's novels, and this book has languished on my Kindle for a good couple of years now. Although I don't think Shelley will ever be one of my favourite Amish authors, I always enjoy her books, and the mention of a pregnant English girl in the synopsis intrigued me.

The storyline didn't feature anything particularly unique or unexpected, although it made for a nice change to be reading about a couple who had already been dating for a while, rather than a brand-new romance. It was kind of refreshing to read about a couple who wanted to be certain about staying together, rather than just getting married because they'd been together for a while and were of the right age to join the church and marry. Even in the "English" world, I've met couples who have stayed in stagnant relationships for convenience, or got married because it was what everyone expected of them.

Joshua's main dilemma revolves around his decision to join the Amish church. I didn't feel like this issue was delved into as much as it could have been. Although it's clear that he needs to make his own choice about staying in the church, rather than doing what his family expects, the details about why he has doubts are

pretty vague. He decides to stop seeing Gretta for a while because Lilly catches his attention, but within a couple of chapters it's clear that he only sees Lilly as a friend. This section of the story felt kind of like it was forced in order to create more conflict.

I could definitely sympathise with Gretta's desire to have a marriage unlike her parents', where the relationship wasn't steeped in bitterness and a lack of communication. It was sometimes difficult to read the sections of the book relating to her mother's unhappiness and the way she tried to control her daughter's life. Not a lot of explanation is given for her behaviour, but then again, sometimes you never find out why a parent or relative behaves in a certain way. Gretta almost falls into the trap of dating a "safe" man simply because there isn't any conflict between them, but comes to realise that disagreements aren't necessarily bad in a relationship, and that it's the way in which you deal with them that sets the tone for your marriage.

I came into this book expecting Lilly to fall for an Amish boy, or something similar, but in the end her story was more one of personal growth, surrounding her decisions about whether to give her baby up for adoption. She didn't need a man to rescue her or restore her reputation, just space and time to figure out what steps she should take next. I thought Lilly's situation was dealt with very realistically and sympathetically, and I don't know if I could have been as calm as her if I were in her position. It must be so hard to decide what the "right" thing is for your child, especially when you don't have a lot of support from family or friends. I hope I have the chance to read more about Lilly in later books in the series.

This was definitely an easy read, and just what I needed when I was battling morning sickness, sleep deprivation and a horrible cold. While some of the conflict in this book felt forced and I wished some issues had been delved into further, I thoroughly enjoyed this novel. I'll definitely be on the look out for the next book in the series.
