



# Trust My Heart

*Carol J. Post*

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## **Trust My Heart** Carol J. Post

Grant McAllister arrives in Murphy, North Carolina, with one aim: to sell his inherited property and leave as quickly as possible. The big-city lawyer has no interest in his late, estranged grandparents or the dilapidated mansion he just acquired. After his high-profile divorce, he should be avoiding perky reporters, too. But Jami Carlisle is honest, funny, and undeniably appealing.

After breaking up with her safe-but-smothering boyfriend, Jami is determined to ace her first big assignment. A story about the McAllister estate is too intriguing to ignore—much like its handsome, commitment-phobic heir. Thanks to her digging, the pieces of Grant's fraught family history are gradually fitting into place, but also upending all his old beliefs.

The two draw closer as they share their dreams, until misread signals and misunderstandings begin to test their trust. But in the unspoiled beauty of the Smoky Mountains, there's healing and forgiveness to be found. And for Grant, this unplanned detour may be just what's needed to finally guide him home...

## **Trust My Heart Details**

Date : Published October 25th 2016 by Waterfall Press

ISBN :

Author : Carol J. Post

Format : Kindle Edition 272 pages

Genre : Romance, Christian Fiction, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance

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# From Reader Review Trust My Heart for online ebook

## Denise Hershberger says

This was my first book by Post. In fact sadly I'd never heard of her until I can across this book on NetGalley. Then it took me forever to get around to reading it and now I can't wait to read more of her books.

I really enjoyed the setting of this book and all of the fun activities the characters took part in throughout the book like hiking and white water rafting. I'm not a very adventurous or outdoorsy person so I like to read about characters doing those things!

I also really liked the characters in the book. I found them quite predictive but was expecting as much from this genre. The pace of the book was exceptional. I never felt the story was rushed or slow and really appreciated the romance.

The only part of the book I didn't enjoy was the matchmaking. I've never been a fan of matchmaking but if you enjoy those types of stories you'll LOVE this one.

Glad to have discovered a new author in one of my favorite genres.

Thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for the ecopy to read. All opinions are my own.

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## A. Hunt says

Whenever I get my hands on a romance title, I worry that it's going to be the same ol' thing. Girl meets boy-acts shy. Boy meets girl, acts like he doesn't care. Both deny feelings and become annoying before a happy ending. That wasn't the case with this one. Well, maybe it was... a little- but it was good!

? Trust My Heart, by Carol J. Post is about Jami Carlisle, returning home from college and ready to step into a full-fledged commitment with her long-time beau, Robert. The problem is, there are no sparks, no fireworks and no true love. Yeah, sure he's her best friend, but why can't she feel what she thinks she's supposed to feel with him? When she begins working for the local paper, and is given an opportunity to interview the sole beneficiary of the McAllister estate, she can't let it get away!

Grant McAllister's got a fractured heart. Unwanted by the woman (his grandmother) who left him anything, the last thing he expected was to have everything bequeathed to him. He's survived a busted marriage and is so not interested in a relationship. He's a polite but rigid and yet Jami comes into his life and things begin to change. . Somehow Jami is able to discover things about his family he never knew. She may also help him change his outlook on life.

This novel is Christian themed, so it's clean, comforting and not preachy. You love getting to know the well-developed characters and not just some perfect folks (although Jami did come off pretty near flawless), in a small town that makes things work out for the Happy Ever After. The story is fast-paced and you end up loving it so much, you don't want to turn the final page. I loved it and if you've been with me a while you know how I am about romance! I will definitely pick up more by Carol J. Post. Trust My Heart is a winner for my bookshelves.

"On to the next read!"

\*For full review: <http://bit.ly/TrustMyHeartNovel>

\*\*Novel provided by Litfuse Publicity Group.

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## **Carole Jarvis says**

Reviewed at The Power of Words: <http://bit.ly/2g1X9nu>

Trust My Heart is an impressive contemporary romance set in the small town of Murphy, North Carolina. Carol J. Post has written several highly-rated stories in the Love Inspired Suspense line, which I've never read because I'm not much of a suspense fan, so I welcomed this contemporary. There's an element of mystery surrounding Grant's deceased grandmother and the McAllister estate that I thought was well done.

The Murphy, North Carolina setting was vividly conveyed and especially appealing, as I have spent many family vacations in the Smoky Mountains of this lovely state. It was fun to see this area through the eyes of Jami and Grant as she introduced him to several local activities – including hiking, geocaching, and whitewater rafting. A humorous secondary storyline involving Bernie and Hank, two quirky supporting characters, added depth.

When it comes to relationships, past experiences cause both Grant and Jami to have trust issues and insecurities, which felt realistic based on all that had happened. Also true to life is the different effect spiritually – one relying on faith, the other pulling away. I loved how mutual respect and friendship developed initially, then wanted to shake some sense into them when they reacted negatively rather than communicating when something happened to shake that fragile trust.

Trust My Heart has a solid spiritual foundation, and my favorite part was seeing Grant slowly open up as a result of Jami's gentle witness. This is a story of forgiveness and second chances – and the characters reflect that, however much we might want a second chance, the extending of it is not always easy.

My only negative is that I would have liked more dialogue and action rather than so much dwelling on thoughts. Enjoyable story overall, though, and I hope there will be more Murphy, NC stories in the future.

Recommended.

I was provided a free copy of this book through Litfuse Publicity. The opinions expressed in this review are entirely my own.

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## **Brittany says**

I thoroughly enjoyed this book! I loved the small town setting and the various interesting characters the author introduced me to. The two main characters, Grant and Jami both had some major trust issues from past experiences in their lives. They handled those trust issues in very different ways...one leaning toward faith and one away from it.

As they both began to care for each other, things occurred which stretched their ability to trust each other at different times. Although this was frustrating to see happening, it made sense based on the hurts they had both lived through.

Trust My Heart engaged me right from the start and was hard for me to set down. I am hoping there will be future books set in the town of Murphy, NC and filled with Jami's friends' stories of love.

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

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

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## **Deana Dick says**

This story has everything a reader would want to explore forgiveness, trust, dreams, secrets and love. The characters were very well developed and I quickly was able to connect to them. The town called Murphy, North Carolina was beautifully described with words that made me want to live there. It is a nice little town with people who care about each other and maybe one or two who meddles into other people's lives. There were times that I laughed at the hijinx of good meaning people trying to play matchmaker.

Jami Carlisle is a very sweet character who wants to be the best journalist around. She just needs to find that perfect story that will explode with excitement. She has a little anxiety of her ability as a writer and I loved how the author explored her journey of following her dream. What does she do when she finds out a dark secret about Grant's grandparents? Will she ignore the hurt it could cause in order to get the big story? Jami does have something from her past that makes her not trust. Who abandoned her and caused her to feel unable to give her heart to someone? We all have probably experienced a time when our heart was broken. Did we forgive quickly or keep that bitterness rooted deep in our heart?

Grant McAllister has come to the small town for one reason. He is a very confident man who seems to be in a rush to finish his business in Murphy and get back to his life. He has the daunting task of overseeing renovations and selling of his grandparents mansion. He soon realizes it is not in good shape and finds himself stuck in the town. I did like Grant and had a soft spot for him because he seemed at times like a lost child. What secrets did his mother keep from him that will cause him to question his childhood and be one angry with his mother? While I was reading this part of the story, I kept thinking of the scripture that says, "All things hidden will be revealed." We may not like what we find out, but God has a reason for those secrets to be revealed. The story is very clean and has a great theme of faith and forgiveness. I loved the way the author allowed the characters to experience what happens when you keep unforgiveness in your heart.

The story is written with warmth and takes readers through heartache, secrets, building relationships and trust. I loved the way the characters each has doubts and hidden hurts that brought tears to my eyes. I highly recommend this book that will bring families together and show what the true meaning of forgiveness is.

"Bitterness can ruin your life if you let it. When the bible says we're to forgive our enemies, it's for our own good."

I received a digital copy of this book from the author for an honest review.

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## Tressa (Wishful Endings) says

### 3.5 Stars

TRUST MY HEART was foremost about opening ones heart to love, forgiveness, and God. It was a heartfelt and sweet story with small-town charm, friendships, and romance. If you enjoy inspirational contemporary romance, then you may enjoy this one.

#### LIKES

- I really liked these characters and not only the main characters, but the side characters as well.
- I loved the small-town charm and setting of the story, which adds a lot to the feel of the overall plot.
- The romance was super sweet, fun, and had some sparks. Those first few kisses... Just perfect. The romance was just how I like it.
- I liked that both characters had some hard things in their past and some things they had to work through.
- The story was an overall easy and quick read and enjoyable.
- I loved the old house left to Grant and could totally envision the future it should have. I'm so glad Grant took me up on that. ;)
- The inspirational moments were heartfelt and I liked seeing how the characters changed and opened up and that everything wasn't easy or wasn't resolved instantaneously.
- The side romance/plot about two other characters added some fun humor to the story and it was something that brought some laughs.
- I really liked Jami's two best friends and I'm hoping they'll both be the main focus of future stories.

#### GRIPES

- I like my stories to develop realistically. Early on in this one the two main characters were already falling in love and missing each other and they'd basically known each other for about three days, one of which they'd spent half of together. However, the author made it sound like they'd spent weeks together. Mix in the dogs who already have a routine too, but have only been with the heroine for a couple of days and it just compounded the issue. I had to ignore and move on to some, hopefully, realistic development in the relationship department.
- Both the MCs made these huge mistakes that were all misunderstandings. I got it the first time and I got how big these issues were, but I also didn't get the "I am in love and I'm so hurt, but I won't even talk to you about it" stuff. I, of course, wanted these guys to get their happily-ever-after, but I wasn't sure I felt it. You know?
- I like it when not all the little pieces tie up perfectly in the end if it makes it too perfect, particularly in contemporary fiction. This had to do with a particular character showing up towards the end of the story and the heroine getting a chance to do something about that aspect of her life, which I felt was unnecessary and made the story too perfect or less authentic. I would have been fine without that and her having just worked through things and showing that she had as she had told Grant.

In the end, was it what I wished for? I did have some hang-ups about this one, but overall, it was a story I enjoyed and the romance had some definite sparks and sweet moments. I also thought the inspirational elements were spot on. They weren't overly dramatized or preachy, but were meaningful and felt authentic.

Content: Clean

Source: Received a complimentary copy from the publisher through Litfuse Publicity, which did not require

a review nor affect it in any way.

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## **Rachel says**

This is the first book I've read by this author and I really enjoyed it. It's a nice, sweet, contemporary romance with humor, warmth, faith, a small town atmosphere and just enough drama to keep you interested.

I loved Jami's character! She's friendly, outgoing, earnest and her faith has brought her through her father's abandonment and her mother's death. Jami has forgiven her father but after several failed relationships, she struggles with the fear that was birthed from his abandonment - can she trust any man to stay? Nonetheless, she tries to stay positive and she encourages Grant several times with her attitude and her faith.

Grant has had some rough spots in his life also but instead of turning to God, he has pushed himself hard to become a big-city lawyer and have the money that he never had growing up (for which he blames his grandparents). In the process he loses his wife and pushes himself to the point of burnout. Will what he finds in the town of his estranged deceased grandparents alienate him from the only family he has left and the girl that is invading his dreams? Or will he allow it all to push him to a faith in God that will open his heart to a lifelong love?

I liked the growth of the characters in this book. Grant and Jami both have issues to work out before they can fully trust and commit to each other. Jami is pretty open and quick to forgive but Grant had some serious trust issues. I could have slapped him when he made the same mistake of not communicating and not trusting the second time around. Poor Jami!

I also liked the secondary characters like Bertie, and Jami's friends - Holly and Samantha. Bertie was a fun character who made a lot of noise and waves...lol. Jami's friends were supportive and I sensed that there may be books about them in the future. ;) I'll definitely be looking forward to reading more by this author.

\*Thanks to Litfuse for a complimentary copy of this book. I was not paid or required to write a positive review and all opinions stated are my own.\*

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## **Iola says**

Jami Carlisle is a new journalism graduate who's managed to snag a job in her tiny home town of Murphy, North Carolina. Her first assignment is to convince her friends and neighbours that she isn't marrying long-term boyfriend Robert, no matter what he's said. Her second assignment is to get an exclusive interview with Grant McAllister, heir to the intriguing McAllister estate.

Grant McAllister was burned by journalists over his divorce, and he's got no intention of being made a fool of again. But this pesky reporter won't give up, and despite everything he says to himself, he is attracted to her. And she's helping him find his history ... a history that's different to the story he was raised on.

While this is a romance, there was also a little mystery in the story.

I thought the mystery behind Trust My Heart was excellent—the subplot around the McAllister mansion and the reclusive old lady who once lived there. And I admired Jami, for her passion, her faith, and her

faithfulness. She's a great character, one who deserves the best.

It took a while to convince me that Grant would be a good match for Jami.

She was so nice! And she was so much younger than Grant that it was tempting to think she was naïve. But she wasn't: she'd just chosen to follow God and to pattern her thoughts and actions on Him. This gave her a depth of wisdom the older Grant didn't have, and convinced me they'd be a great match. She also showed Grant grace and forgiveness when he messed up (which was a lot. Men).

The other thing which convinced me they should be together was that they both had the same 'impossible' dream ... well, similar enough that they'll complement each other. I liked that. Overall, *Trust My Heart* was a sweet romance built on a strong Christian foundation, but one that didn't shy away from life's difficulties.

Thanks to Waterfall Press and NetGalley for providing a free ebook for review.

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### **Carrie Schmidt (Reading is My SuperPower) says**

3.5 stars

Carol J. Post's newest novel *Trust My Heart* is the first in a series set in one of my very favorite places – the Smoky Mountains. In fact, the town of Murphy NC and its beautiful mountain setting acts as a secondary character of sorts in this novel about finding home, learning to forgive, and daring to trust.

Bernie is a hoot! And so is Hank! I love quirky characters like this. As separate characters, they're already fun but their bickering back and forth together made them even more entertaining. The matchmaking plot that Jami and her friends hatch to get the two together didn't add much to the story – or to Bernie and Hank – one way or the other for me; I think even without it their relationship would remain interesting and well-defined...and hilarious ... and even a little romantic.

Jami and Grant have a lot of chemistry together – and a lot of heartbreak in their respective backstories. Grant especially finds it difficult to trust and the rather extreme way this affects his actions (especially concerning Jami) made me want to purse whomp him at least twice. On the other hand, he does have some pretty swoonworthy and heartfelt moments to make up for it!

*Trust My Heart* is a sweet small-town romance with a couple of quirky characters, a little bit of family mystery/angst, and a tender theme of forgiveness. While a couple of the plot threads were distracting or unnecessary, others have me eagerly waiting for more books in this series. Several of the supporting characters just quite simply NEED for their stories to be told too! The icing on the cake for me – in addition to the great characters and the swoony moments – is the NC mountain setting, one of my happy places in real life and in fiction too.

(I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book.)

See my review at [Reading Is My SuperPower](#)

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## **Beth says**

I received this book from Litfuse Publicity for no charge in exchange for an honest review of this book. The opinions expressed here are my own.

### **Book Description:**

Grant McAllister arrives in Murphy, North Carolina, with one aim: to sell his inherited property and leave as quickly as possible. The big-city lawyer has no interest in his late, estranged grandparents or the dilapidated mansion he just acquired. After his high-profile divorce, he should be avoiding perky reporters, too. But Jami Carlisle is honest, funny, and undeniably appealing.

After breaking up with her safe-but-smothering boyfriend, Jami is determined to ace her first big assignment. A story about the McAllister estate is too intriguing to ignore—much like its handsome, commitment-phobic heir. Thanks to her digging, the pieces of Grant's fraught family history are gradually fitting into place, but also upending all his old beliefs.

The two draw closer as they share their dreams, until misread signals and misunderstandings begin to test their trust. But in the unspoiled beauty of the Smoky Mountains, there's healing and forgiveness to be found. And for Grant, this unplanned detour may be just what's needed to finally guide him home...

### **My Thoughts:**

Trust My Heart is Carol J. Post's latest book and it is AWESOME! This is my first time reading one of her books and I am hooked. Carol J. Post writes with authority on: North Carolina, lawyers, journalism, the newspaper business, and estates. I found myself unable to put this book down, from start to finish I found myself in Murphy, North Carolina with all these characters. I absolutely love Carol J. Post's style of writing, I felt like I was there seeing and being a part of this book. In this book there are a great group of characters that I truly enjoyed. They are real people with messy lives and things in their lives they struggle with. I found myself truly enjoying Jami Carlisle. Her fun-loving personality and her approach to getting the story about the McAllisters was inspired. I found myself in awe of her attitude toward life, her unwavering faith in God, and her ability to share that with those around her. I truly enjoyed her. Her interactions with other characters brought lots of laughs and some tears. This story definitely has highs and lows. This book is definitely one that will stay with me for a long while. This book made me look at my relationships especially with God and where I am in the process. I am so thankful for reading this book and finding another must read author. This book is wonderful, I HIGHLY recommend this book to anyone who enjoys Christian Contemporary books, you will definitely enjoy it. I give this book 5+ STARS.

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## **Lisa Johnson says**

Title: Trust My Heart

Author: Carol J. Post

Pages: 272

Year: 2016

Publisher: Waterfall Press

My rating is 5 out of 5 stars.

Carol's writing is one that draws the reader into a book heart, mind and soul. The characters are crafted so well that they seem real instead of fictitious. The real issues in the story can be easily viewed in real peoples' lives. So, when I started the book, I didn't stop until I completely finished it. I was so touched by the story. Why? The novel is telling a story of two characters that have experienced very deep heartaches and broken dreams in their lives. Now, they meet when Grant comes to take care of his grandmother's estate and Jami is a brand new reporter sent to interview the mysterious McAllister grandson.

What comes about is a story of friendship, broken hearts and dreams, misunderstandings, friendship and a desire by Grant to see real Christianity lived out by others. Grant's view of faith and religion comes from a deep hurt in his past. Jami is one lady who shows him that real Christians are right in front of him.

Throughout the story there are many colorful and sometimes funny characters that make the book fun to read.

I have read other books by Carol J Post and it's evident to me that she writes with her heart and faith. The story bears out that hearts don't heal overnight, that it takes time and the Lord to bring healing. I loved how Jami's character believed it was important to be who she was and true to her word even when faced with a situation or two where she could have compromised. In the world of fiction, the author can craft a story that entertains, causes readers to feel as if they are right there and challenge readers too. The author accomplishes this feat very well. I really hope many will read this novel, enjoy it and then share with others this good story!

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 it on my blog. Regardless, 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."

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## **Joni Fisher says**

A 2017 RITA finalist, *Trust My Heart* delivers a heart-warming, funny romance set in Murphy, North Carolina. Jamie, small town reporter, seeks the big story about the sale of a mansion and the mysteries of the family who lived there. Big-town Attorney Grant wants to sell his inherited mansion and get back to his life and career. Author Carol J. Post captures small town life in the mountains in this charming test of wills between the persistent reporter and the attorney who doesn't want to dig into his family's past. The sparks of conflict ignite more than tension between them.

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## **Kav says**

A classic small-town romance with lots of heart. Post has captured the unique personalities of some memorable Murphy citizens. Still grinning over their antics. They provide wonderful comic relief for the angst that abounds as Grant struggles to come to terms with his family history...and his past.

Jami's dogged pursuit of a story both exasperates and intrigues him -- because he's definitely attracted to the earnest cub reporter. But pursuit of a relationship is pointless -- they live in different worlds, have different goals. And if that isn't enough to motivate caution, her naïve faith is a huge deterrent.

A mysterious family estate hoards secrets begging to be uncovered -- but once they are, will Grant and Jami

survive the fallout? An engaging contemporary love story with a twist of mystery.

My thanks to Waterfall Press and Litfuse Publicity Group for providing me with a copy of this book.

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### **Giseli says**

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

This one was not for me. Very predictable, too much fluffy. The girl should have prayed for maturity. If you like very light romance with lots of Christian influence, you may like this one.

P.s.: Consider a person good just because she is Christian is very naive!

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### **Joan says**

This is a delightful Christian romance. There are several themes running through the story, making it a romance with a little more meat on the frame.

The plot is good. Grant is a rising New York lawyer who has just inherited his estranged grandmother's home in a small North Carolina town. He's ready to put the large home on the market and then take off for a much needed sabbatical. Until he meets Jami, new reporter for the local town newspaper. She's been assigned to do a story on him and his grandparents. Her aim is to solve the mystery behind the decades old change in the couple, going from socialites to recluses. When she meets Grant, her heart realizes he is more than she bargained for.

The romance part of the plot is well done. I liked it. There were also other aspects of the novel I liked too. There is much character transformation that must happen in both Jami and Grant before a romance can blossom. Jami's father had abandoned his family when Jami was eight. She still fears abandonment by men. Grant had been convinced his grandparents hated him as he had never met them. In their house he finds evidence to the contrary, however. Had his mother lied to him all these years?

So there are serious issues which the main characters need to face and conquer. It is tough going. Lack of trust on both their parts makes for misunderstandings and hurtful situations. Only God working within can heal old hurts, bring forgiveness, and make a way for a good future.

Post has given us some support characters that are great. Bernie, an older reporter for the paper, is quite the character. She is always trying to make romance happen between others. She and Hank, the older manager of the local hardware store, always seem to be at odds. Until, that is, Jami and her friends turn the tables on Bernie and set her up for romance.

I recommend this enjoyable romance. There are good characters with great character development. There are a few good themes to think about and discuss. And readers will get to enjoy the great outdoor scenery of North Carolina.

I received a complimentary digital copy of this book through Litfuse. My comments are an independent and honest review.

