



## Rosemary Opens Her Heart

*Naomi King*

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**Another spring reminds the Amish of Cedar Creek, Missouri, that for everything there is a season.**

Zanna Lambright is finally marrying Jonny Ropp, and friends and family have come from far and wide to celebrate. Among them is young widow Rosemary Yutzky, mother of toddler Katie, whose husband was tragically killed last fall. With a willing heart Rosemary has taken over care of her in-law's family and continued to run a baked goods business from home, but privately she still mourns her lost Joe...and is unprepared for the changes that are coming...

Rosemary's father-in-law wants to merge his lamb-raising business with Matt Lambright's—a move that will require the Yutzy's to relocate from their nearby town to Cedar Creek. Moreover, it will bring Rosemary into constant contact with Matt, who is making no secret of his romantic interest in her. The challenges of contemplating a future unlike any she expected are overwhelming for Rosemary. And although Matt is strong and kind, his courtship is so persistent, she often wants to run the other way. As Rosemary struggles to see beyond her immediate joys and sorrows, will she embrace the outpouring of welcome and support from the people of Cedar Creek...and accept this new chance to open her heart to a more abundant life?

## Rosemary Opens Her Heart Details

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Author : Naomi King

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# **From Reader Review Rosemary Opens Her Heart for online ebook**

## **Brenda says**

After reading "Abby Finds Her Calling" the first book in the Home At Cedar Creek series I couldn't wait to read this one, and I must say I wasn't disappointed!

This book takes off right where the last one left off. It's the wedding of Zanna Lambright and Johnny Ropp. With many in attendance including Zanna's jilted beau James Graber, thing is James realizes that now that Zanna is married it's time to move on with his life, and hopes that God will reveal his plan to him sometime soon. He is unsure though whether he will ever be ready to court again or perhaps it might be his fate to stay single. Abigail Lambright who is known as Abby to her friends is described as love and sunshine, a wonderful person to be around. She has decided though that she would rather remain a maidel rather than pretend to love a man just to get married. James has always considered Abby a good friend but could there be more in store for this couple?

At the age of twenty-two Matt Lambright has some money in the bank and an established flock of sheep and is ready to move past his rumspringa and settle down, if only he could find the perfect girl to settle down with. When he notices an Amish woman dressed in black he just can't keep his eyes off of her. That woman is Rosemary Yutzy, who is still mourning the loss of her husband Joe. A strong, determined woman, she wants to be the best mother she can be to her young daughter Katie, while helping to take care of her in-laws while running a small business. Matt feels drawn to Rosemary, but can she let go of the past to embrace a new future?

Even though this is the second book in the Home At Cedar Creek series it can easily be read as a stand alone work, although if you enjoy well written Amish fiction you won't want to miss a single book in this series. The author creates memorable characters that are so easy to like, which are struggling with real life issues that are easy to relate to. It is so hard to choose one favorite character, because they really all stood out. Rosemary was such a strong character, it was so easy to see why it was hard for her to move on from what she had hoped her life would be. I found myself swept away with this story, and was anxious to see what God had in store for each character. A great series with a positive inspirational feel, that easily transported me into the lives of the characters. Naomi King who also writes under the name of Charlotte Hubbard knows how to create a memorable story that always leaves me wanting more. On a scale of one to five this series easily gets a six from me because it's just that good!

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## **Meagan Myhren-bennett says**

Rosemary Opens Her Heart  
Home at Cedar Creek Book 2  
By Naomi King

Rosemary Yutzy is still grieving over her husband Joe. But when she attends a wedding in Cedar Creek change that she never expected is about to come yet again into her life in the form of Matt Lambright. For Matt, Rosemary is everything he has ever wanted in a wife but can he convince her.

Meanwhile Abby Lambright may be about to have her lifelong dream finally come true when James Graber starts paying attention to her. James realizes that Abby and not her younger sister Zanna is the true match for his soul.

When Rosemary's father-in-law decides to merge his sheep breeding operation with Matt Lambright's, Rosemary is left with a choice. Should she move with her father-in-law and young sister-in-law to Cedar Creek or should she stay in Queen City to be near her mother and sister. Can Matt help her determine the course her heart should chart or will his attentions drive her away from the new life she could have?

As Rosemary, Matt, Abby, and James navigate the paths of the heart, the community of Cedar Creek must deal with a death that will change the entire dynamics of the community.

As Rosemary learns to open her heart to all God has for her, she rediscovers the peace and joy that life has to offer.

Rosemary Opens Her Heart is set in Missouri and explores the Amish community that lives there.

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### **D.J. says**

I hope you've read the first book in this series... it's definitely my favorite way to read continuing stories. Although each book can be read as a stand-alone, it's much better to enjoy the story, as it continues.

In the beginning of this book, Zanna and Jonny are wed. Abby and James finally have a chance to court—or do they? Well, you'll have to read the book to find out what happens with Abby... and James, too.

Abby's nephew Matt sees Rosemary at the wedding, and takes to her right away, but Rosemary wants nothing to do with Matt—or any other man, since the death of her husband. Rosemary is a sweet, caring widow, who cares not only for her daughter, but her father-in-law and sister-in-law. What happens with Rosemary... and Matt... is also in the book.

I don't mean to be difficult; I just want you to read it for yourself.

Charlotte (writing under the name Naomi King) paints another realistic picture; I was thrilled to be back in Cedar Creek—and I'd like to stay there until Abby's future is settled. My interest was most definitely peaked—so much that once again I couldn't put down the book until I had finished it.

I've probably already said more than I should have—so I'll leave the rest of the story for you to read for yourself. You're going to LOVE it!

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### **Patricia Kemp Blackmon says**

This book starts out where book one left off, which is at Zanna Lambright and Jonny Ropp's marriage ceremony and celebration with family and friends. This newlyweds act as matchmakers pairing up young Amish men and women in hopes of the possibility of the couples will be a good match that would end up in courting leading to marriage.

Two such couples stand out from the rest. Abby Lambright and James Graber were both surprised to be

paired up for dinner by the bride and groom. Then Matt Lambright and Emma Graber were paired up which surprised Matt and was wishful thinking for Emma. Especially since Matt had not taken his eyes off Rosemary Yutzy the beautiful young widow that was leading around her three year old daughter. Matt was sure this was love at first sight. The only problem was that Rosemary was still in love with her deceased husband. No matter how hard she tried to discourage Matt refused to back away. He had even found he had a tenderness in his heart for her child.

The Good Shepherd was mentioned many time in this book. One man in particular appeared to walk the walk of a good shepherd.

The story is mainly focused on these two couples and their pursuit to happiness and their faith in God to lead them at this important time in their lives. There are many obstacle to overcome, family members to think of and their goals as far as their business and livelihoods. For instance, Abbey has her sewing business and working in the mercantile with her brother Sam. James has his Carriage/Buggy building business that keeps him very busy. Not to mention his parents that need a lot of care. Then Matt has sheep that need constant care. Then Rosemary bakes and sells pies to local stores and bakeries. She also has a house to run for her father-in-law and to care for her young sister-in-law.

The author put this story and these couples together like a quilt with so many intricate pieces to even count. When she got the pieces all laid out and put together, it was a beautiful story to behold. She created her characters to have faith in God along with the wisdom to trust God with their prayers. Part of that wisdom was to follow the advice of their church leaders when challenges arose. The author had to have had a lot of wisdom and faith in God herself to have written such an endearing story.

I highly recommend this book.

I rated this 5 out of 5.

#### Disclosure

I received a free copy of this book from Penguin Group/Pump Up Your Book Publicity Tours for review. I was in no way compensated for this review. It is my own opinion.

**If you found this review helpful vote yes or no here.**

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#### **Ruth Hill says**

This is the perfect sequel to the first in series, and it was so nice to see characters that I recognized and read about the community at Cedar Creek yet again! If you follow my reviews regularly, you know that Amish fiction is something I delight in reading, and Naomi King (who also writes as Charlotte Hubbard) is one of my favorite authors of this genre. I tried to figure out why I like her writing style so well, and I think that this is what I discovered. I love the fact that she writes about the strength of the Amish women. So often, we tend to think of Amish women as being meek, mild, and not having their own opinions. Not so with the characters in this author's books! I also enjoy the romance because it is sweet and genuine without being sickening sweet. And who can get away from the fact that the faith of the author is woven so well into the story. The characters don't just give lip service or speak forth Scripture flippantly. They live what they believe, and even though I am not Amish, I can learn a lot from them.

If you have not read the first in the series, you can still jump in and read this book. Naomi King will catch you up on everything. However, you will probably appreciate the story after reading the first in the series. And now I can hardly wait for the sequel to this one so I can see what happens to Abby! But at least I was glad to see returning characters finding love, respect, and success--both great and small.

This book has something for just about anyone who enjoys clean romance. You will find humor, romance, tradition, and lots of good food! Can you gain weight by reading about the fantastic breads and desserts that the Amish women are always baking? This book is an absolute delight--almost like spending time with good friends.

I was sent a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review. I was not financially compensated, and all opinions are 100 percent mine.

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### **Shirley Hailstock says**

Naomi King's second installment in her Home at Cedar Creek series involves widow Rosemary Yutz, content to remain single and rear her toddler daughter, Katie. But Matt Lambright is looking for a wife and when Rosemary walks into his line of vision at a wedding, he knows he's found his love.

Convincing Rosemary proves difficult, however. She's running a baking business, taking care of her in-laws and her daughter. Still nursing the memory of her dead husband, Rosemary has no time or inclination to court. Yet her heart thuds at the thought of Matt.

Naomi King has given us another character to be proud of in Rosemary Opens Her Heart. And who wouldn't want a handsome man like Matt pursuing her? Rosemary is an Amish steel magnolia – strong, intelligent and able to carry her burdens with an immodest heart. So pull the covers up and settle in for a story that will not only warm your heart, but fold you in a emotional quilt that will make you smile and hug the book to your chest as you slide down in the bed.

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### **Gayle Pace says**

#### **REVIEW**

We are at the wedding of Zanna, Abby's sister, to Jonny Ropp. Zanna had gotten pregnant by Jonny Ropp during their Rumspringa. They had a little boy they called Harley. James Garber thought Zanna was going to be his betrothed. He is attending the wedding anyway. James had forgiven Zanna and they are now friends. Then we have Rosemary Yutz, a young widow with her toddler Katie. She attracts attention from the bride's brother Matt while at the wedding. Matt becomes very persistent in pursuing Rosemary. She begins to think it might be time to start living again.

James had known Abby most of his life but he never really paid any attention to her. He was only interested in Zanna. Sometimes we seek things and don't even look right under our noses. Rosemary is just an all around sweetheart who would help anybody with anything. She has moved in with her father-in-law, Titus, and his teenage daughter, Beth Ann to take care of them after her husband passed. Abby is having a hard time letting go of her husband. Rosemary still wears the black mourning dresses even though enough time has passed that she could wear brighter colors. On the cover you see her in a colored dress. What changed for Rosemary to allow her to let go of her mourning? Rosemary seems to stay away from dealing with difficult

situations. She always finds other things to do or somehow remove herself from the conflict. She has no idea what she actually wants and needs. She has always taken care of everyone else and put herself aside. She is scared and aloof when Matt starts to show her some attention. The answer seems to lie in the little one, Katie. Katie helps her momma realize what a good man Matt is. That is until James becomes interested in Rosemary and little Katie. Will Rosemary begin living again? Will she marry Matt or will she marry James.? What will happen if she marries, will they live with Titus or build on the land that Rosemary owns? Many questions to be answered and the best way is for you to pick up a copy of ROSEMARY OPENS HER HEART. Follow little Katie and you'll fall in love with her. Decide for yourself who is the best man for Rosemary, Matt or James? Another sweet Amish read from a talented writer. Thank you Ms. King for sharing your talents with us.

The Amish live a quiet, peaceful, loving life. But they have their trials and tribulations also. They love and grieve just like us all. They rely on God to help them find the answers.

I would give this book 5 STARS.

I would give the cover 4 STARS

I was given a complimentary copy of ROSEMARY OPENS HER HEART by Naomi King from Manic Readers for my honest review.

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### **TAMMY CUEVAS says**

When young widow Rosemary Yutzy attends the wedding of Zanna Lambright and Jonny Ropp, she attracts the attention of the bride's brother, Matt. Although Rosemary is still mourning her late husband, Matt's persistent courtship causes her to begin to see the possibility of a second chance at love.

This is a very enjoyable sequel to Ms. King's Abby Finds Her Calling. Although I recently wondered if I could be at the end of my fascination with Amish fiction, this novel convinced me otherwise. Although the setting is in the Amish community in Missouri, the themes of loss and love are universal.

5 stars

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from the publisher through the Pump Up Your Book book review bloggers program. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. 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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### **Book Him Danno says**

I am an official Amish Romance fan. I wanted to read this book, the second in the series, to see if my favorite characters from the last book got together or not....well this book has a bit about those two, but it focuses on a completely new character. Rosemary.

Rosemary is a young widow who comes to Cedar Creek for a wedding. She meets Matt and he falls for her the moment he sees her. She takes a bit more convincing, well quite a bit at that. She is head strong and yet follows her views as an Amish woman. She has a young daughter and wishes the best of her and she cares for her husband's family now that he is gone. So she feels she had plenty on her plate without the added romance Matt is proposing.

I look forward to the next book to find out what happens, you get a pretty good idea, but I like a bit more concreteness sometimes. I also want to know what happens to Abby. Will she find happiness in a relationship or will she stay single? Either way I think Abby will find the happiness she seeks, but having a family of her own would be something she would love.

The author does a fantastic job of letting the reader into the world of the Amish and I feel that I would love to be friends with many of her characters in Cedar Creek.

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### **Kathleen (Kat) Smith says**

"Some of us have dealt with disappointment this past week, and it seems to me that instead of making lemonade from such lemons, maybe a pan of lemon bars - or a lemon meringue pie! - would be a better way of chasing off our negative moods. We have to take the sour with the sweet, and when you bake up a pie or a batch of lemon bars, you spread happiness along with your treats. I wish you someone wonderful to share them with this week. ~ Abigail Lambright"

Abigail or Abby as her friends call her is the epitome of sunshine and hope when you meet her. She will always find the silver lining in the most desperate of situations and those who can call her a friend, know that they have found a true treasure with her friendship. Abby is finally beginning to look for love among her closest childhood friend, James Graber, who has miraculously survived a bad relationship with her sister Zanna. Zanna has found love among another and left a jilted and lovesick James behind for another. Now it seems that everyone but James and Abby can see that they are truly meant to be with one another and can look past their friends relationship and find something more meaningful inside.

The last thing that Rosemary Yutzy wanted to do was to attend a wedding in Cedar Creek, Missouri. It would just be another constant reminder that she was still a widow living with her daughter Katie and fighting back the memories of the life she had hoped would be her future with her husband Joe. But when a hunting accident robbed her from a life she dreamed of, she resolved to spend all her time and energy raising Katie and taking care of Joe's dad, Titus and his daughter Beth Ann. But then again love has a way of popping up just when you least expect it and in the most unusual of places.

Matt Lambright couldn't help himself from staring at the young Amish girl dressed all in black. He thought she was just about the most beautiful girl he had ever seen and it became a mission of his to find a way into her heart and make her fall in love with him. When opportunity presents itself with her father-in-law, Titus to merge a growing lamb-raising business that would benefit them both immensely, he tries to curb his over enthusiastic approach to getting to know her. All he manages to do is scare her off. After all she is still grieving the loss of one love and can understand why she might be as skittish as one of his lambs about jumping in too soon. Will they find a way to make it all work out?

I received, *Rosemary Opens Her Heart* by Naomi King, which is the second book in the *Home at Cedar*



Creek Series, compliments of Pump Up Your Book Tours for my honest review. I read the first book in the series, Abby Finds Her Calling, and couldn't wait to see what would happen to poor James at the conclusion of that novel. It was completely worth the wait!!! Naomi King also writes under the name, Charlotte Hubbard so for those of you that love Charlotte's books, you'll want to grab this series as well and fall in love with the wholesome and heartwarming characters of this wonderful close-knit community of Amish people. You can't help but find a character you can completely relate to in this series, whether its an issue of learning to trust again after facing great pain like Rosemary or James, or even the ever optimistic Abby who finds at times, that a smile isn't always easy to find when you need it the most, but she gives it her best effort. I would easily rate this book a perfect 5 out of 5 stars. You can read this as a stand alone but you will want to go back and read Abby Finds Her Calling to see how it all began!!!

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### **Rhonda Gayle says**

Naomi King has written a lovely Amish tale of a young woman who opens her heart to love again after losing her husband far too soon, leaving her alone to raise little Katie. Katie charms all around her and especially Matt Lambright, who also notices her mamm's gentle smile and loving ways. Abby has finds her chance for love with James. You will definitely find many enjoyable hours reading to see how things turn out for these young couples. It is a story of commitment and families taking care of each other. It was wonderful to see young Beth Ann sewing so willingly and skillfully for the family as well. Readers are sure to finish reading this book with a smile on their faces, as I did.

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### **Sheila says**

I liked this book, but I wish I would have read the book that came before. I felt like I couldn't connect to all of the characters as quickly because there was a lot of back story that wasn't there, and it felt like I should have already known about their history, but I didn't. It took me longer to get into the story. I love this author's writing, but this is a book that will be enjoyed more if you have read the first book in the Home at Cedar Creek series.

As far as the story, it was a journey for the young Amish widow Rosemary who had lost her husband and had a young daughter. Then we meet Matt who is looking for love, and falls immediately in love with Rosemary the first time he sees her. He comes on very strong and actually scares Rosemary a little. She says she isn't ready for a new relationship. Matt doesn't give up, but ends up winning over her daughter. This in turn wins over Rosemary.

The other storyline involves characters Abby and James. Abby has loved James for a long time, but he first fell in love with her sister, Zanna. I almost loved this part of the story the best. It was great to see how James's eyes are slowly opened to what a wonderful women Abby really is. It made me so glad to finally see James realize that he was in love with her.

In conclusion, I really love reading about the Amish people. They have their heads on straight and live good lives of industry and high values. They put family and God first in their lives. This is why it is always a breath of fresh air to read a novel about them. Naomi always gets this part right portraying the Amish. I would always pick up a novel written by this author. She also writes Amish romance novels under the name of Charlotte Hubbard and I have reviewed her books under that name. If you like books about the Amish,

you will like Rosemary Opens Her Heart, but I highly suggest reading the first book in the series first, because you will know all of the characters better, and won't feel like you are coming into a movie half way in.

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## **Tara Lee says**

I love Naomi King's novels. Rosemary Opens Her Heart is no exception. I love her portrayal of the Amish communities and culture and the way that she spins her stories together with romance are just fantastic.

Rosemary was a bit frustrating at first. Here is this handsome kind-hearted man who is interested in her and is incredibly kind to her little girl. And here is this town full of kind-spirited Amish folk who are more than happy to welcome her into the fold. Why is she so hesitant to let people love her? Why is she so hesitant to accept that maybe, just maybe, it doesn't matter to everyone that she has a child to take care of so courting her and eventually marrying her would mean that they would accept the responsibility of a child as well?

She was frustrating... at first. But then when you remember that it's been just about a year since her husband died, you forgive her a bit. I can't imagine losing a spouse that way and if I did... I don't expect I'd really be interested in receiving affection from anyone either. I probably wouldn't be interested in moving away from the only home we'd had together and leaving behind everything that reminded me of him either. Not for a long while at least.

But Matt is persistent. And gracious. And he's full of love and has such an amazing heart that eventually he could win over even the most stubborn of women if you ask me. He's a little in your face, but I think it's just because he's young and enthusiastic. Matt knows when to appear patient (even if he's anything but) and to lay off no matter how hard it is. And in the end, persistence pays off.

Abby is the kind of person I would want as a best friend. She's so sure of everything and always seems to have an answer for everything... She's quick to offer advice to anyone who needs it or she can point you in the direction of someone who can help you if she can't do it herself. She's sweet and loyal and just seems to me like an amazing person. Silly James Graber for taking such a long time to get his act together.

Abby is the perfect friend for lonely Rosemary. She reminds Rosemary that there are people who are kind and compassionate. And she reminds her that, while she may be mourning now, there is a time to mourn and then a time to let go and let the light shine again. She goes out of her way to make sure that the Yutzys feel at home in Cedar Creek.

The book was wonderful. The characters, as always, are just lovely. Reading Naomi King's novels always makes me want to start baking pies and cookies and they make me want to figure out how to sew and make clothing. Haha. They also make me wish I knew more about the Amish lifestyle and the people in the Amish communities.

Like I said, I love her novels. Every one of them I've read. The characters become like friends and family and when you read a new book with old characters, it's like coming home. I highly suggest you read them!

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## **Wendy Hines says**

I really enjoy well written Amish fiction. I live close to an Amish community so it is always interesting to see how well researched the author is. Rosemary Opens Her Heart is wonderful. In fact, I loved this book! I want to read the whole series now! This is the second book, but I'm planning on going back to get the first.

There is just something about the simple life that sings to me. Rosemary is a great character whom's struggles are real, physically and spiritually. She still loves her late husband and knows that she could possibly come to love Matt, but she's not ready. She will do what is expected of her by her in-laws, and she knows that there is something special about Matt, but is it the right choice for her and Katie?

A heart-warming story that is clean, simple and just beautiful. I couldn't put the story down, I was so immersed in Rosemary's tale. If you enjoy Amish fiction, I'd recommend Rosemary Opens Her Heart. It's an excellent read!

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## **Maureen Timerman says**

We begin this story at the wedding of Abby's sister Zanna to Jonny Ropp. Attending the wedding is a young widow and her daughter Rosemary Yutzky and toddler Katie. Also attending is the fellow who thought Zanna was going to be his wife...James Garber.

We find that the paths we have chosen for our lives are not always the ones God has for us. Things change, sometimes it is hard for us to understand.

When James was interested in Zanna, he couldn't see Abby, even though he had known her most of his life. Abby is such a sweetie, and you hope that she will end up with James.

As soon as Matt see Rosemary, he is smitten. You seen young Katie steal his heart. Can Rosemary let go of her deceased husband, and accept a new life? She has such a good heart and is taking care of her father-in-law Titus, and his thirteen year old daughter, Beth Ann.

As we travel along on this journey we encounter a number of Amish ways of life...weddings, funerals, baby showers, quilting bees, helping with packing families who are moving away and also those moving among them. We see the panic in some families that their husbands will be chosen to become a preacher for life.

I so enjoyed this story and wanted to move in with them, become a member of the family. Even when some not so nice things are said, you find the person apologizing. Don't miss this wonderful insight into Amish life and romance.

I received this book through Pump Your Book Virtual Tours, and the author, and was not required to give a positive review.

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