



On Magnolia Lane

Denise Hunter

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Falling in love with Daisy was easy for Jack. But finding the courage to tell her becomes problematic when his secret feelings lead to even bigger complications.

After two years of counseling sessions with Daisy Pendleton, Pastor Jack McReady has earned a permanent spot in her life as a spiritual leader—and nothing more. Jack would never risk losing her trust by exposing the depths of his heart, but he's hopelessly in love with her.

Daisy loves her southern small-town life and her job at her family-run flower shop, but she doesn't have the thing she longs for most: someone to share it with. Her recent foray into online dating has been a disaster—until she meets TJ.

Jack could kill his friend Noah for using his initials and some indistinct photos to set up a profile on the dating app Daisy is using. But when he's finally afforded the opportunity to show her a different side of himself, he's sucked into the plan before he has time for second thoughts.

Online, Daisy shares some of her greatest fears with TJ, but in person, Jack and Daisy are spending more time together. When a devastating family secret surfaces, Daisy knows that only her trusted friend and counselor can bring her comfort. Jack wants nothing more than to be both men for Daisy, but revealing his secret will prove to be the ultimate test of Daisy's grace.

On Magnolia Lane Details

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From Reader Review On Magnolia Lane for online ebook

Cara Putman says

In On Magnolia Lane, Denise Hunter takes readers on a journey into love that plumbs the depths of identity. Daisy's perception of herself and her family is shaken at a foundational level, while Jack believes the woman he loves will never see him as he really is. In the pages of this story, Denise Hunter invites readers to explore how their perceptions may be limiting their present and their dreams. A rich read with characters I will think about often.

Molly Jaber (Cover To Cover Cafe) says

A long time fan of Denise Hunter, I was so excited to read this one. I loved the other books in this incredibly written series, and getting to read Pastor Jack's story (which I love his character, namely because my own church's pastor is Pastor Jack!) and finding out more about him and Daisy.

Once again, in trademark Hunter fashion, she blends laughter, romance, faith, grace and hope into a captivating, fun read. Her characters quickly become friends and make you feel right at home in the heart of the Blue Ridge. Each page turn, Hunter gives her readers something new and fun, making the book come to an end before you know it.

This is most definitely worthy of 4 stars and two thumbs up. You won't soon forget Pastor Jack and Daisy, nor the familiar characters of the past books. Mrs. Hunter will keep you cocooned in the heart of the story, taking you on the fun loving ride of ups and downs, laughs and quirky characters. I know this is the final installment of the series, but I sure hope this talented author will have more just like it soon!

I received a complimentary copy of this book from Harper Collins (Thomas Nelson) and was under no obligation to post a review, positive or negative.

Karen R says

A heartwarming contemporary romance in a cozy small town setting! This delightful story starts out with a fun rom-com feel, then hits on some deep issues. The third book in the Blue Ridge series, this easily reads as a standalone.

"Unrequited love was awful. No wonder there were so many country songs about it."

I was quickly smitten with Pastor Jack and felt for him in his crush on the cheerful Daisy, owner of a flower shop. What a cute pair they made when it all played out, but man, they had some big ruts in the road to get there. They're both so nice, yet very real in their struggles of singleness and living out their faith. Deep issues are raised surrounding Daisy's parents, plus the dilemma Jack finds himself in. Putting people on a pedestal is a set up for a lot of hurt sometimes. It created a perfect way to show the need for grace and forgiveness, for ourselves and others. Another important issue involved learning disabilities, and how childhood problems can carry over a negative influence into adulthood.

Highly recommend for fans of contemporary Christian romances. A solid five star read!

(I received a complimentary copy of this book from Thomas Nelson through NetGalley. Opinions expressed in this review are completely my own.)

Brittany says

What a great final book in the Blue Ridge Romance series! *On Magnolia Lane* can easily be read as a stand alone novel if you have not read the previous books. If you have read them, you will have gotten some hints of Pastor Jack McReady's interest in Daisy Pendleton. An interest that Daisy is completely unaware of!

On Magnolia Lane is Daisy and Jack's story, packed with plenty of sigh-worthy moments, along with some concerning discoveries relating to Daisy's family history, and a warning about putting people up on pedestals.

I really appreciated how the author portrayed Jack in all of his human frailty. He is a preacher who loves serving God and does not have a higher opinion of himself than he should. Yet, due to the very human emotions of jealousy and insecurity, he falls into secretly using a dating app to get closer to Daisy, seeing it as the only way to connect with her as a man and not as the preacher that she sees him as.

Daisy was such a sweet character who had her own insecurities and beliefs about herself that influenced how she lived. She also had the tendency to put people she looked up to on pedestals. When certain facts came to light, Daisy had some hard truths to face and some emotional growing to do.

This was a great story that I enjoyed from start to finish!

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...>

Fiction Aficionado says

Romances that involve an element of deception between the main characters always make me a little anxious, but in spite of my deception-related anxiety, I quite enjoyed this story. Jack was an endearing hero—confident in his role as pastor yet tentative and unsure of himself when it came to his friendship with Daisy. It was also refreshing to have a heroine who showed no signs of attraction to the hero for the first part of the story. (Not even those annoying little clichéd 'clues' that are so obvious to the reader but somehow utterly perplexing to the character!) The development of Daisy's feelings were a gradual progression, and I liked how naturally that occurred.

Even though I didn't like that there was a deception in play between the hero and heroine, the way it came about and the reason it persisted were believable. Not only that, but it worked in tandem with Daisy's discovery of a family secret to bring home a message about not putting people on pedestals. We are all fallible, capable of disappointing those we love most, and we all need to learn to extend grace to others, "*not*

because they deserve it—but because we don't deserve it either."

As for the family secret, it was an engaging addition to the plot, gradually revealing the hidden truth across the first part of the novel and following Daisy's struggle to come to terms with it and adjust her life accordingly throughout the rest of the story.

A good choice for those looking for a gentle but satisfying contemporary romance.

I received a copy of this novel from the publisher. This has not influenced the content of this review, which is my honest and unbiased opinion.

Madison says

4.5 stars

On Magnolia Lane is utterly delightful. A story about grace and forgiveness in the face of betrayal, of falling in love even if it's a little unexpected, and of community coming together to support and protect, On Magnolia Lane is so very easy to savour and enjoy.

Daisy Pendleton doesn't mind being single, but she'd really rather like to find a wonderful guy who can love her and she him. That's why she has joined a dating site and suffers through blind date setups. Jack McReady has been in love with Daisy for years, but knows she doesn't see him as anyone other than her pastor. When Jack's friends create him an anonymous profile on a dating site, Jack has a chance to show Daisy another side to the man she thinks she already knows.

The whole I'm-the-same-person-who's-been-talking-to-you-online,-whoops-sorry-I-didn't-tell-you-earlier thing is not my favourite romantic plot line but it's impossible not to fall a little for Pastor Jack and enjoy his love for Daisy. He is a man desperate to gently show her his love for her -even if that means keeping a secret online identity. Jack is kind, awkward around women and head over heels for Daisy. Watching him love her in any way he can was incredibly sweet. Daisy, on the other hand, sees Jack only as her pastor and counsellor while she searches everywhere else for love. Watching Daisy and Jack connect on deeper levels, both on the dating site and face to face as they work together, is sweet, romantic and uplifting.

Yet while Daisy struggles to reconcile her growing feelings for Pastor Jack and her enjoyment talking to TJ online, she also faces a revealed secret that shakes the beliefs she had about her family. This betrayal from those she loved most dearly is the perfect backdrop story to the story of grace and forgiveness. Daisy also struggles with self-doubt and her journey through On Magnolia Lane helps her to explore this. Familiar faces from the other books in the series and a charming small-town setting give On Magnolia Lane a wonderfully welcoming feel.

Coupled with a story of community coming together to support the young foster girls in their midsts, On Magnolia Lane combines family and friendship and messages of grace, love and worthiness with a delightful romance. It is a wonderful addition to Denise Hunter's Blue Ridge Romance series and easily my favourite of the three books.

The publishers provided an advanced readers copy of this book for reviewing purposes. All opinions are my own.

The Lit Bitch says

4.5 stars

Lately I have had good luck with reading new to me authors so when this book came up for review, I thought, why not? Plus I really liked the cover

I briefly read the summary and felt like it would be some nice light reading going into the holidays. I had a good chunk of time to read over the Thanksgiving break so I was eager to jump in and read this contemporary romance.

So one of the first things that I was a little worried about with this book was that Jack had been Daisy's counselor. When I first read that in the summary, I was like oh lord how awkward! Here is this guy you have been pouring your heart out to for years and all of a sudden he is in love with you. I would be horribly embarrassed and worried about all that I had said. However, after I thought about it some more, I was intrigued by this concept and eager to see how it played out.

One (like me) could take the stance that it would be awkward and embarrassing, but on the other hand, one could take it like—here is this guy who knows every little thought that I shared with him and he still loves me and wants to be with me. So I decided to go into this one with an open mind.

I was surprised to see that this actually worked rather well in the story. I could actually see this being a romantic comedy mini series or film or something. It's adorable, cozy, and sweet. I enjoyed watching their romance come alive on the pages and it did read very easy and didn't have a cheesy feel. The romance and humor were balanced and I loved how they both had to tackle forgiveness in their lives. I thought that element added a lot to the narrative and overall story.

Even though I thought that I would have a hard time with a pastor as the hero/romantic interest, I didn't have any issues at all. Hunter wrote believable characters with real flaws and real feelings so I had no trouble at all buying into the romance and the story. It sounds like Hunter has written a number of other books, and I can see her experience in how this one unfolded.

This book is the third book in the Blue Ridge series and for me, I didn't think it was necessary to read the other books in the series before reading thing one. The characters stood well enough on their own and they had their own story separate from the larger narrative.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book and it was just what I was looking for to read over the long holiday weekend. It read quickly and it was light, and full of humor and romance. Just what I was looking for. Readers should know that this is a Christian romance but I didn't feel like it was a preachy read at all. Even if you aren't a fan of Christian romances, I think there is enough romance and humor in this book to appeal to a wide audience.

See my full review [here](#)

Melanie says

On Magnolia Lane was different from most books I've read, as the MC was a pastor. I found myself not really liking him in the beginning, because I felt like some of his actions were a bit deceptive, but in the end I actually liked him and the romance.

I really enjoyed the subplot of Daisy and the new person in town. Surprising revelations were revealed and that definitely made me eager to read more to see how everything turned out.

All in all, On Magnolia Lane was a very good third book in this series and, if there are more stories coming, I definitely plan on reading them. I recommend this one if you like contemporary romance.

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/review it on my blog. I was not required to give a positive review, only my honest opinion - which I've done. All thoughts and opinions expressed are my own and 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."

Jen. says

Why has it taken me this long to read a book by Denise Hunter?! This book was adorable!

I went into this story knowing it was the last book in the series. I felt this absolutely stood well on its own. I enjoyed learning about the fate of the couples from earlier stories and I do plan on reading the series in its entirety.

On Magnolia Lane is the story of Pastor Jack McReady and local florist Daisy Pendleton. (A florist named Daisy! Love it!) Daisy is a member of Jack's congregation and he's fallen in love with her over their counseling sessions. Daisy is completely in the dark about Jack's feelings and only sees him as her pastor, confidant and friend.

Fed up with a series of bad dates, Daisy has decided to join a new dating app as a last ditch effort to find someone to share her life with. She's excited about the relationship that seems to be forming with a man named TJ. What she doesn't know is TJ is really Jack, who is much more eloquent expressing himself online than he is in person.

This story unfolded very naturally. Denise Hunter writes in a smooth and easy going style that keeps the

pages turning. As I read, I was filled with anticipation on when (and how!) the truth about TJ would be revealed and what the possible fall out would be.

In addition to the love story, there were two other storylines going on at the same time that blended with the entire book perfectly!

On Magnolia Lane is a sweet story filled with family, faith, friendship and forgiveness. There's a strong theme of serving and giving of oneself over the course of the story as well. I really enjoyed how it all tied together.

I recommend this book to fans of clean romance novels with a Christian world view. I'm so glad to have read this heartwarming tale! I look forward to more books from Denise Hunter!

I received a complimentary copy of this book from Thomas Nelson through NetGalley. Opinions expressed in this review are completely my own.

Deanne Patterson says

This is the third book in the Blue Ridge series and this is Jack and Daisy's story. Jack is a pastor and has no problem speaking in front of a crowd or counseling one on one. Asking a woman on a date he has admired for several years, not so easy. He is literally tongue tied. When his friends encourage him to join a dating site he reluctantly does so and when he sees Daisy is on there he takes a chance . He wants her to see him as a man not a pastor up on a pedestal. I can understand why he did it, it was a way to get to know her and her him as just a regular person but deception will not be your friend in the end! I think I would have felt the same way as Daisy did when she finds out it was him. No one is worth putting on a pedestal, none of us deserve it. We all are just humans, make mistakes and have our many faults. I loved that this took place in a small town and we get to revisit characters from past books in this series and that we are already familiar with Jack and Daisy from the previous book. When secrets long buried see the light of day is forgiveness possible and can hearts be mended?

This is a beautifully written story, the author always takes us along on a ride of forgiveness and understanding.

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I was given a complimentary copy of this book from Thomas Nelson--FICTION through NetGalley. Thank you. All opinions expressed are my own.

Amy says

This is a really sweet novel. It reads like a film. And I heartily recommend it.

Jack is in love with Daisy but he is her pastor and counsellor so that creates all sorts of problems for him. His friends rope him into an online dating site to court her and before you know it the situation is worse than when he began.

Daisy herself has to deal with secrets about her family that she has uncovered.

They both have to learn forgiveness and accept the imperfections we all possess.

4.5 stars.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from Thomas Nelson through NetGalley. Opinions expressed in this review are completely my own.

Mary Jackson _TheMaryReader says

Oh boy, I loved Pastor Jack. And Daisy was the perfect fit for pastor.

I loved the sister twist, I loved the forgiveness and the way everything turned out. Did I say I LOVED the whole story and the whole Blue Ridge Romance series.

All I can say is I LOVED this book and I gave it 5 stars and I can't recommend it enough.

The Mary Reader received this book from the publisher for review. A favorable review was not required and all views expressed are our own.

Suzie Waltner says

4.5 Stars

Denise Hunter consistently writes swoon-worthy heroes who are human. While readers were introduced to Jack McReady in the first to books of the Blue Ridge Sunrise series, this rock-climbing pastor gets the spotlight in On Magnolia Lane.

I love that Pastor Jack is a listener and that he's held a torch for a certain florist for a couple years. Hunter explores the difficulties (and challenges) of a single man in a ministry role well. I think there's a reason God pairs most pastors up while they're in college.

Daisy is a great complement to Jack. She's got a servant's heart, she's a little shy and unsure of herself, but she finds comfort in talking to Pastor Jack (although she doesn't see him as more than Pastor Jack). But Daisy's life is about to get complicated with a visitor to town, a revelation about her father, and an online relationship that has potential.

On Magnolia Lane is a romance that cautions readers against placing anyone on a pedestal. That fall is a hard one for both the person sitting on top and the person looking up to them.

Hunter has a natural knack for bringing certain issues into her stories organically. This book is no different with discussions about learning disabilities as well as infidelity. It's another must-read for fans of a good romance with plenty of sigh-worthy moments.

Disclosure statement:

I receive complimentary books from publishers, publicists, and/or authors, including NetGalley. I am not required to write positive reviews. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

Emilee says

Fun romance, sweet love story and a really thoughtful message! I loved it!

Amy says

As beautiful as the cover, this story brings together two people who share a love of God & community. This desire to serve others is not something that every person has. We've met both of these characters previously in this series from Denise Hunter, set in Georgia. They are the final 2 in a group of longtime friends. Jack, is the Pastor of Daisy's church, and someone she has looked up to and considered a good friend for many years. However, she has never seen him as anything more than that. He has been harboring a love for her the last 2 years. Being the shy and reserved individual he is, he has never shown any of that to her. Fearful of loosing her respect and friendship he'd rather endure the status quo of watching her dancing and entertaining the attentions of other admirers. As this story began I thought to myself, just how is Denise going to bring these two together?! What follows was a story so sweet & tender, unhurried in its pace, that mirrors the personalities of both Jack & Daisy. With a few surprises in store that will turn Daisy's world on its end, she may find that what she usually needed from Jack, may have just stepped up a level. My heart flip flopped in all the right moments. Completely loved this story.

Thanks to Thomas Nelson & Netgalley for the complimentary eARC. This is my honest review.
