



Bark! The Herald Angels Sing

Roxanne St. Claire

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With Christmas and a family wedding fast approaching, there's happy chaos in the air at Waterford Farm. However, not everyone in the Kilcannon clan is caught up in the magic of the moment. Matriarch, octogenarian, and beloved blogger Gramma Finnie hears the clock of her long life ticking far too fast, while her great-granddaughter, teenager Pru, feels squeezed out of planning her mother's nuptials.

But when this unlikely duo is tasked with the project of producing the "Somethings" for the wedding – and only have Christmas Eve to get the job done – Gramma Finnie and Pru have a purpose and a plan. They set off to find the perfect old, new, borrowed, and blue treasures, but it doesn't take long for things to spin out of control faster than Gramma's Toyota in a snowstorm. Detoured by a stray border collie, thwarted by nature and an elf parade, and trapped by a rifle-toting mountain man, it will take more than the power of the Kilcannon clan to save these two from a Christmas catastrophe. It will take the luck of the Irish, a love story from long ago, and a whole lot of help from the angels to make this holiday merry and bright.

Bark! The Herald Angels Sing Details

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From Reader Review Bark! The Herald Angels Sing for online ebook

Darcy says

This one was so cute! I love Gramma Finnie and Pru, they are so cute together. They have a special bond. I like how they egg each other on. For the most part it is good natured and even their adventure started out good spirited, but turned quickly. For some reason both of these reasonable people lost their reason. I thought it funny when Pru seemed to be the more level headed as things started to spin out of control, while Gramma just kept going, hoping for a good outcome.

The ending to this one had me smiling for lots of reasons, but most especially due to where Gramma and Pru were found and the company they kept.

Terri says

This is a Christmas novella to go with Roxanne St. Claire's The Dogfather Series. In it, Roxanne takes one of the youngest characters and the oldest, Pru and Gramma Finnie, for an adventure. They've both been feeling left out and despondent. Off they go in Gramma Finnie's old car. They end up finding more excitement than they bargained for, and of course it involves a dog.

I love both these characters and I loved the story from the past that Gramma Finnie tells Pru as they go along. It was a great touch by St. Claire!

Sue Galuska says

If you have been reading the other books in The Dogfather series, you will just adore this novella.

Gramma Finnie has been feeling a little down lately. As Gramma Finnie is getting older, she is reflecting back on her life and feels that she is missing some excitement. At the same time, Pru is feeling left out of all the wedding planning between her parents. Molly realizing what is happening to Pru and tells her she is in charge of getting together Molly's "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue" for the wedding. Of course in true Gramma Finnie and Pru style, they take this task to the next level and turn it into an adventure.

Their little adventure includes a lot of fun, some danger, a romantic love story and of course dogs! Just when the danger is looking like more than they can handle, the entire Kilcannon clan comes charging to their rescue.

Oh my gosh, I just LOVED this story. I laughed and cried. It was so fun hearing some of Gramma Finnie's old stories. I just adore Gramma Finnie and Pru. They make such a great pair and I'm glad they were able to find their little moment of excitement!

Bette Hansen says

It was great fun to visit Waterford Farms during the holidays. Add in a much anticipated wedding and things are hectic and fun. When Gramma Finnie and teenage Pru feel left out of all the planning they are given a very special task to complete. That's when things really get crazy!!

This book was pure fun and good times. Gramma Finnie has always been a favorite of mine so I really enjoyed this story featuring her. I highly recommend this one.

Pj Ausdenmore says

The stories in Roxanne St. Claire's The Dogfather contemporary romance series aim straight for the heart and this new holiday novella is no exception. In the final days leading up to the wedding of reunited lovers Molly and Trace (Bad to the Bone), the couple's teen daughter, the uber-organized Pru, is feeling left out of the preparations and her great-grandmother "Gramma Finnie" is feeling left out of life. When the two combine forces to find four very special "somethings" (old, new, borrowed and blue) for the wedding, their enthusiasm leads them into a snowy adventure with unforeseen, and potentially perilous, consequences that could see the Kilcannon family spending Christmas without their beloved matriarch and "General" Pru.

I adored this story. St. Claire has brought these characters to life throughout the course of this series but, for the most part, they've been secondary characters, not the main focus. In this novella, Gramma Finnie and Pru finally step into the spotlight, giving readers the opportunity to learn more about them and the special bond they share. Especially enjoyable is the window St. Claire opens into the past as Gramma Finnie shares the untold story of how she met her beloved late husband, Seamus. Moving flawlessly between 1940s Ireland and their present-day adventure, Gramma Finnie's story is poignant, heart-wrenching, and hopeful. St. Claire has a way of pulling me into a story so that rather than reading about the events within I feel as though I'm actually experiencing them along with the characters. I could easily identify with both Pru, a girl on the cusp of young womanhood, as well as Gramma Finnie, a woman in the sunset of her life, wondering if all of her adventures are behind her and after "meeting" young Finnie and learning about that part of her life, I have even more affection and admiration for this woman who is the very heart of the Kilcannon family.

Whether you've read the earlier books in this series or not, this is a short, heartwarming story that celebrates family, the joy of the season, the unconditional love to be found in a four-legged companion, and the absolute necessity of kindness. Pru and Gramma Finnie's adventure made me laugh, cry, and fall in love with the Kilcannon family all over again.

Aly says

This book made my heart happy ! :)

It's the Holidays for the Kilcannon family but it's also the preparations for Molly and Trace's wedding. Their fourteen-year-old daughter, Pru, feel a little left out because she wanted to be the wedding planner. When she confide in Gramma Finnie, the older woman admit she feels a little alone too right now. So that's how Pru and Gramma Finnie's Christmas adventure begin to find special presents for the wedding and a chance for Pru and us readers to learn more about Gramma's life story.

I don't have the words to explain how much I loved this book ! It was so much more than I expected and I can't think of a better Holidays tale for those endearing characters.

If you enjoy books with love, family and dogs, you have to read this series !

Yvonne Cruz says

You can never go wrong with a book by Ms. St Claire, and if you have come to love her Dogfather series as much as I have , this sweet and touching story will undoubtedly touch your hearts.

Molly and Trace are about to get married and their daughter, Pru, is feeling left out . While the matriarch and glue of the Kilcannon clan, Gramma Finnie, feels her life is coming to an end , as she is 87 years old, and wants an adventure.

When these two embark on a search to finding the wedding treasures, off they go in Gramma Finnie's Toyota. Little did they know the adventure was the least of their worries.

The reader also gets a chance to find out how Seamus and Gramma Finnie met, and about their lives before coming to America.

Pru and Gramma Finnie might be decades apart in age, but their love of family and their spirit is wonderful to watch. Both are strong, smart, capable, and powerful. Able to overcome obstacles while still being loyal and full of heart for their families.

A truly wonderful story for this holiday season. One that will stay with you for a very long time.

I was entrusted a copy of this book. The opinions expressed are solely my own.

Liza says

The Dogfather series of books is one of my favorites ever from Roxanne St. Claire. With each new installment, I fall more in love with the entire Kilcannon Clan.

Pru and Gramma Finnie are two of my favorite characters from this series. I love how close these two characters are and how Pru keeps Gramma young and Gramma helps Pru have fun. I love they take over finding the "somethings" for the wedding, and get to have a grand adventure at the same time. No adventure with a Kilcannon would be complete without a dog, and I loved Pru and Gramma come the aid of sweet Blue in her time of need.

I love how Gramma Finnie shares stories of the past to help everyone see the right path now. I adored reading about Gramma's sister and how she met her Seamus all those years ago. Gramma sharing these stories of love with Pru and even their new friend Cutter as they work together to save Blue (Queenie) as she delivers her puppies was perfect. You can't have a Dogfather book without a special dog, and I absolutely fell in love with Blue along with Gramma.

I love seeing all the Kilcannons come together to help each other out. When Gramma and Pru need a rescue, the Kilcannons are all hands on deck. Seriously I have so much love for this family and these stories and each one just builds on the last as they get better and better.

Bark! The Herald Angels Sing was the perfect Christmas novella for the Kilcannon clan and totally had gotten me into the Christmas spirit early. I highly recommend the entire Dogfather series and have to say Bark! The Herald Angels Sing was an absolutely perfect addition to the series.

Rating: 5 Stars (A)

Review copy provided by publisher

Karen says

"Bark! The Herald Angels Sing" is Roxanne St. Claire's 8th installment of the Kilcannon family of Waterford Farm, a Dogfather Holiday Novella. In this heartwarming story, you feel the love between a young teenager, Pru, and her 87-year-old great-grandmother, Gramma Finnie, the matriarch of the clan. We hear the backstory of Gramma Finnie, her life in Ireland before coming to America, and how she met her husband. As she reminisces with Pru about her life, they embark on an adventure. Pru's mother, Molly, is getting married and she is feeling left out of the wedding planning. Pru wants to do something special for her mom so she and her great-grandmother develop a plan. It involves driving into the Blue Ridge Mountains with snow in the forecast. Along the way, they rescue a lost dog (because a Dogfather book isn't a book without dogs!) and bring Christmas cheer to a lonely mountain man. This is the story of the love a family has for each other, their dogs, and the lengths they will go to help. It is a great holiday story and I highly recommend it!

Diane Saul says

Gramma Finnie is bored and facing her mortality. Pru is feeling left out in the planning for her parents wedding. When Molly, Pru's Mother, realizes how Pru feels she gives Gramma and Pru a special task for the wedding. They are in charge of the somethings, something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue. This leads them on an adventure. Along the way Gramma tells the story of her meeting Seamus, but things soon take an unexpected and dangerous turn.

This is another great addition to the Dogfather series. I love all the characters in this series and you will too.

Mona says

So sweet, heartwarming, heartbreaking...yes you will shed some tears. Happy and sad tears. Ms. St. Claire shows us love, loss, Christmas miracles and so much more. When Molly is preparing for her wedding she overhears her daughter telling Gramma Finnie she feels left out of the wedding preparations. So not to give herself away. Molly tells Pru she needs something special done. The somethings old, new, borrowed, and blue.

What happens next will keep you turning the pages.

See what happens.

Pennie Morgan says

My heart is so full it could just burst right now! This was the perfect story for Gramma Finnie and Pru's excellent adventure. The wedding of Molly and Trace is fast approaching and Pru is feeling left out and Gramma Finnie is feeling her age or nostalgic or just a bit of writer's block with the coming of Christmas and all the festivities and the clipping of her wings and no one letting her drive any more. When Molly overhears the fussing, she gives Pru a special task to get the special somethings for the wedding, that must be kept secret. Oh, this is all good until Gramma Finnie decides she should grab her keys and take Pru and drive to the next town over to undertake a task. Soon they are lost in the mountains, find a pregnant dog, and...don't forget the snowstorm on the horizon. Excellent adventure? Oh yea! All is well and the Kilcannon clan is not far behind.

Even if you have not read the rest of the series (and why haven't you!) you will love this one! It can be read as a standalone and enjoyed! Definitely worth spending an afternoon with your feet up and a smile.

****Received this ARC for review****

Denise says

An angelic novella just in time for Christmas traveling from the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains with glimpses back in time to the lush greens hills of the Emerald Isle itself - Ireland during the mid 1940's.

In this, one of the sweetest, most heartwarming and very first love stories of all in the Kilcannon Clan, we learn the breathtaking story of Finola Brennan, the Dogfather's cherished mother, affectionately known to all as "Gramma Finnie", and his father Seamus Kilcannon.

As Molly and Trace are finishing up last minute wedding plans, Pru their only daughter, plans the special "somethings" with Gramma Finnie that ends up taking them both on a grand and daring adventure on Christmas Eve! Special "somethings" that include "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue". Together they discover the most adorable, very lost and desperately pregnant border collie in serious need of help.

Far away from home, on dangerously slick roads during a snow storm in the backwoods of the Blue Ridge mountains with Gramma Finnie's somewhat questionable driving, things take a treacherous turn for the worse.

Don't miss this exciting adventure with Gramma Finnie and Pru that brings together the entire Kilcannon clan and their dashing cousins. Meet some new members of the family from days gone by and learn the true history and love story of the couple who started it all, Seamus and Finola.

I truly loved this novella. It was everything I could have dreamed for the beloved "first couple" of the Kilcannon Clan and then some, with a little luck O'The Irish and a lot of charm. It will pull at your heartstrings and remind you of the true meaning of love, family and the magic of Christmas. And of course, have you pulling for one very pregnant pooch and her precious pups.

*I was honored to be given an ARC by the author for an honest review.

Madison Warner Fairbanks says

Bark! The Herald Angels Sing by Roxanne St Claire

A holiday novella from The Dogfather romance series.

An adventure for Pru and Gramma Finnie. With a bonus story from Gramma's past.

Lovely, and heartwarming.

I absolutely loved this short story. Cried a bit at the happy ending.

You need to be familiar with the series to truly enjoy this.

Visionary says

Review courtesy of Romance Junkies.

Finola Brennan-Kilcannon, Gramma Finnie to her family and community, is the family's blogging matriarch. She suffers from boredom and writer's block. Gramma Finnie and her great-granddaughter Prudence embark on a secret yet special adventure: to fix a precious family heirloom. The duo finds a lost pregnant border collie on their trip only to get stranded in a snowstorm. Gramma Finnie distracts Prudence and their crotchety savior with the story of how the heirloom introduced her to her late, beloved husband while the dog births her pups. Will Gramma Finnie overcome her writer's block? What Christmas miracle will she and Prudence deliver to an alienated veteran?

Prudence Kilcannon is the teenage daughter of a veterinarian and ex-con. She feels left out of her parents' wedding preparations. Her mother tasks Prudence in finding "something new, something old, something borrowed, and something blue" for the wedding. Prudence enlists her great-grandmother to help in hopes it'll liven up her life. The project ends up stranding the duo in a snowstorm on Christmas Eve with a laboring dog. Can Prudence and Gramma Finnie help the dog return to her owner?

Gramma Finnie is a hoot. In some ways, her personality reminds me of my late grandmother. Gramma Finnie is the type of woman I want to be when I turn eighty-seven minus the Irish proverbs. I love the insight into Gramma Finnie's life in Ireland before immigrating to America. Her love of Irish proverbs makes sense now. I like the fact that age has not changed her much, especially her spontaneous reckless streak. But what I adore the most about Gramma Finnie is how she's caught up in the times, technology wise. She is a wiz with blogs and cell phones, proving age is no hindrance in learning new things.

I love Prudence's close bond with Grammie Finnie. Usually, teenagers that age do not like spending time with their elderly family members. Prudence does and often comes to her great-grandmother with any problems she cannot discuss with her mother. I like her selflessness by including Grammie Finnie in her task of finding the "weddings' somethings".

BARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING is book 7.5 in Roxanne St. Claire's dog-themed contemporary series, THE DOGFATHER. I generally do not read Christmas-themed stories; however, I did not mind it very much in this book. I adore how the author went about giving readers Gramma Finnie's love story without it being a prequel. Sure, I would have loved getting to know about Seamus's side of the tail a bit more.

BARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING is a charming holiday read. This novella is a nice filler until the most anticipated Daniel Kilcannon's book. I cannot wait to read about the Dogfather's story.
