



Summer's Child

Luanne Rice

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THERE'S A PLACE IN OUR HEARTS RESERVED FOR MIRACLES...

From Luanne Rice, the celebrated author of **Beach Girls** and many other *New York Times* bestsellers, comes this powerful novel of a mystery, a love affair, and a bond that cannot be broken set in a seaside town where miracles are made...

On the first day of summer, Mara Jameson went out to water her garden—and was never seen again. Years after her disappearance, no one could forget the expectant mother whose glowing smile had captured the heart of everyone who'd known her: Maeve Jameson, still mourning the loss of a granddaughter she had struggled to protect...Patrick Murphy, a dogged police detective obsessed with a vanished woman...and Lily Malone, drawn to the rugged beauty of the Nova Scotia coast and its promise of a new life.

Here Lily hopes to raise her nine-year-old daughter, Rose, far from the pain and loss of the past. Here she will meet a gifted scientist, Liam Neill, whose life is on a similar trajectory from heartbreak to hope. And before the season is over, Lily will find the magic that exists in people we love the best...the everyday miracles that can make the extraordinary happen anywhere.

From the Paperback edition.

Summer's Child Details

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From Reader Review Summer's Child for online ebook

Donna says

This was my first Luanne Rice book, but it certainly will not be my last. I have already gone to the library and took out the book that joins this - called Summer of Roses.

I loved this book so much that I went to my computer and looked up everything about Nova Scotia. Luanne Rice writes about people and places like they are real and you don't want the book to end. I want to go to Nova Scotia now and go on a whale watching cruise and learn everything about whales.

This book explores so many complexities in life - from domestic violence to childhood heart conditions. I enjoyed reading it all and read it slowly as I did not want it to end. I wanted to read it cover to cover in one sitting, but I didn't because I wanted it to last. I have NEVER done that with a book! I was very happy to learn there was a sequel to this book.

Read this book - you will be very happy you did.

Julie Barrett says

Summer Child by Luanne Rice

This is the first story of Mara Jameson. She had gotten married and was pregnant. Then she just disappeared and years later no one had heard of her again.

Patrick Murphy is the retired state police detective who is intrigued by the reports of Maya and tries to track her down by clues left.

Her parents are dead and she had lived with her grandmother, Mauve. Mauve's best friend, Clara grew up together in the seaside town of Hubbard's Point.

At Cape Hawk Rose plays with Jessica and it's close to her birthday and she has high hopes of seeing the whale, Nanny who comes to visit her every summer.

Capt Hook is the local oceanographer and has a love interest in Lily and captain of the ferry where he has an office near Rose's mom yarn shop where Rose's mom, Lily rented the store along with an apartment for them both.

Jessica can't even tell her best friend that her birthday is the same date as Roses cuz her dad might come find them and make them go back to live with him. She has bad dreams of what he did to a dog. She is now happy to be away from him where nobody knows them.

hate how the husband they ran away from uses the internet to get others to send him money and to trick her into sending a message under one of her alias names. He will be able to track down where she is now.

Reminds me of one coming into an authors chat saying her daughter and family had gotten burnt out of their home and she loves to read. Ended up getting the author to send her books and I'm thinking to myself what's wrong with the free library? Hope it didn't happen and I do hate scammers.

Cool to have all these various stories connected by just one person. Like how the stories are all told.

Love new things this book has taught me, pocket rosary also known as chapette, i've made these for nursing home.

Also pine needle pillows-how neat of an idea!

This book follows Rose's journey to better health.

There are just a few things that link this whole book and all the characters together. What a tale!

Amy says

3.5 stars. Didn't know it had a 2nd book to it.

Marty says

Not worth the time to review

Amy says

I thought this would be an easy vacation read. lucky for me I brought several vacation reads because this book is pathetic. I gave it 80 pages and happily returned it to the library.

Rita says

Nine years ago Mara Jameson vanished. She was pregnant at the time and she became a sad statistic--missing. Now, nine years later Lily Malone and her daughter Rose are making a life for themselves in a small coastal town in Canada. Lily has formed a close bond with several women who meet at her needlework shop. Rose has met a new friend and her mother seems very reserved and secretive. When Rose's chronic health problem requires her to have surgery, the whole town steps in to help--especially Liam Neill who has been secretly in love with Lily for a long time. But retired Detective Patrick Murphy never could forget about Mara--he never could believe that she was not alive. How does he wind up in the little town in Nova Scotia where Lily and Rose live and how does he put it all together? This was a good story but not one of my favorites from Luanne Rice.

Kris - My Novelesque Life says

4 STARS

""On the first day of summer, Mara Jameson went out to water her garden-and was never seen again. Years after her disappearance, no one could forget the expectant mother whose glowing smile had captured the heart of everyone who'd known her: Maeve Jameson, still mourning the loss of a granddaughter she had struggled to protect...Patrick Murphy, a dogged police detective obsessed with a vanished woman...and Lily Malone, drawn to the rugged beauty of the Nova Scotia coast and its promise of a new life. Here Lily hopes to raise her nine-year-old daughter, Rose, far from the pain and loss of the past. Here she will meet a gifted scientist, Liam Neill, whose life is on a similar trajectory from heartbreak to hope. And

before the season is over, Lily will find the magic that exists in people we love the best...the everyday miracles that can make the extraordinary happen anywhere." (From Amazon)

A mother is on the run with her child...and I was glued till the end of the novel only to discover the story has not ended... A great contemporary romance novel.

Dana says

Leila Jamieson went missing years ago but Mark Murphy, a now retired police detective is still searching for her. Leila's grandmother, Maeve continues to mourn the loss of her granddaughter.

Lily Malone owns a needlework shop in Nova Scotia, Her 9 year daughter, Rose was born with heart defects and has to undergo regularly scheduled operations in order to survive. Rose has befriended a new girl in town, Jessica. When Rose must undergo another operation, Jessica comes up with a fund-raising idea.

The Neill family in Nova Scotia run whale watching tours. All except Liam who believes they may be harming the whales. Liam who is quite introverted has begun seeing Lily and is enchanted with her daughter.

All of these stories intertwine with twists and turns, near tragedy and hope. I enjoyed the story especially the part about the whale. What I didn't enjoy was the cliffhanger so that the reader is conned into buying a second book.

Ruthie says

i just finished reading Summer's Child by Luanne Rice... which is a bit weird because i've already read the sequel of this book last year... i recently found this book when the girls and i went to Booksale in MOA (by girls, i meant my girlfriends)..

it was good thing, though, that i already know how the short series would end.. that made it easier for me to put down the book every night so that i could get at least 4 hours of sleep before work..

ms. rice's works never fail to amaze me.. each book has a unique story but it all centers into two themes: true love and family... Summer's Child is a story of how a woman, Mara Jameson, took courage and left her abusive husband, Edward Hunter, to live a new life as Lily Malone.. but it was not a simple story with an easy "happily ever after"... lily's child, Rose, was born with multiple heart defects just after their exile away from the warm beaches of hubbard's point into the icy cliffs of cape hawk.. as unfair as it would seem for a child to have early tragedies in her life, i think that rose's illness have helped lily to overcome her tragic past.. she cannot wallow in depression over her broken marriage and missing her home and grandmother, maeve.. because of rose, lily became strong and independent.. her daughter's illness made her a mama bear who will do anything for her child..

but she cannot do everything by herself, thus she was fated to meet a kindred soul; a person who also needed healing from a broken past: Liam Neill.. he was there to witness rose's birth and has long since became her father-figure.. he has loved lily for 9 years - the whole of rose's lifetime, but knew that he cannot rush her into trusting again.. he was a gentleman through and through.. i wish that men in real life are more like him..

in the end, lily realized that she loved him back.. he was always there in their life.. through the good ones and the bad ones, liam became lily's lighthouse as she and her daughter sailed through life..

three broken persons: lily's soul, rose's heart, liam's body; met and completed each other.. they were so near to that "happily ever after" yet more trials await them in the next part of their life.. the rest of the summer awaits in the 2nd book, Summer of Roses..

Carroll Straus says

Eh...

Janjohn says

Luanne Rice never failed to impress me yet. Even though this book was "spoiled" when I was reading this because I already knew the twist because I first bought Summer of Roses before this, not knowing that Summer of Roses is the sequel to Summer's Child.

I really like it, and I like Edward Hunter's character.

LIKE LIKE LIKE LIKE LIKE! ♥

Judie Dooley says

WOW--how could I have Missed this author in all my time of readings. Wonderful story line-great characters and settings. The stories of women who have left all behind to seek refuge from abuse. In hiding they somehow find each other and form a band to protect each other and the little 9 yr old girl who was born with a heart defect. I was sad when the story ended with too many things still up in the air. Then I noticed that the story would be continued in her follow up book "Summer of Roses"--I'll have to check my shelves of books to see if I have it. I recommend it to everyone who likes love stories and stories about strong women.

Carrie says

I really liked this book...right up until the end. The end made me feel angry because it seems like a few more chapters are just missing. It wasn't even a clever ending that made you wonder about the possibilities in a creative, fun way. It just stopped. It was just an incomplete story. What happened to the grandmother and did Lily get to her in time? Where did Marissa & Jessica end up? What happened to the beluga? And was Edward ever made to pay for his crimes? So many questions left at the end that it really ruined the rest of the book for me. I've really liked all of the Luanne Rice books I've read but this one just honestly ticked me off!

OK--AMENDMENT--I JUST LEARNED THAT THERE IS A SEQUEL, WHICH I WILL BEGIN READING IMMEDIATELY.

I'm still leaving my review as is, though...the end could have been done better and it could have mentioned

that readers should stay tuned for part two.

Fizzy says

I liked this book. I really did...mostly. 'Summer's Child' by Luanne Rice was an interesting fast read. While I would initially classify the novel as chick lit it also had a touch of intrigue and a touch of romance.

Set in present day Canada in Cape Hawk, the end of the earth, Lily and her daughter Rose have made their lives there. As Marissa and her daughter Jennifer arrive things are changing for Rose as she anticipates a major surgery for her heart defects. Marissa and Jennifer are on the run, so to speak, to escape a husband/step-dad that terrorized them. A story that Lily understands as she was hiding out when she arrived very pregnant with Rose. With the support of the Nanouk Girls of the Frozen North Lily had carved a support system of friends for herself and Rose. Marissa and Jennifer are embraced by these same women as their own as well.

The story flowed well and the characters were 'mostly' believable. Marissa trusted Lily and the Nanouk girls with her own secrets. I have a hard time believing in a character that has run away from what Marissa has run from and suddenly surrounded by other women she tells them things about her situation. Having gone so far as to change names and even birthdays I don't see some of those secrets start to unravel on a first meeting. The mystery twist I figured out before it was revealed but it wasn't contrived or followed a 'formula' so that does not detract from the story for me. I did feel the romance was a bit contrived however. I am interested in getting my hands on the next book with these characters to see how it all plays out.

I rated this book 4 stars because there was some parts that felt contrived and weren't completely believable. I enjoyed this book however and would read it again.

Originally posted at <https://fizzypopcollection.blogspot.c....>

Cindy says

The ending was a major disappointment to me. I was not in this bad of a relationship but enough to really empathize. There was no finish to this story, I needed it to have an ending, a resolution. I actually feel sick to my stomach with this hanging ending.
