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Come Rain Or Come Shine (A Mitford Novel)



Synopsis

#1 New York Times “bestselling author Jan Karon returns” with the story readers have been waiting for. Over the course of ten Mitford novels, fans have kept a special place in their hearts for Dooley Kavanagh, first seen in *At Home in Mitford* as a barefoot, freckle-faced boy in filthy overalls. Now, Father Tim Kavanagh’s adopted son has graduated from vet school and opened his own animal clinic. Since money will be tight for a while, maybe he and Lace Harper, his once and future soul mate, should keep their wedding simple. So the plan is to eliminate the cost of catering and do potluck. Ought to be fun. An old friend offers to bring his well-known country band. Gratis. And once mucked out, the barn works as a perfect venue for seating family and friends. Piece of cake, right? In *Come Rain or Come Shine*, Jan Karon delivers the wedding that millions of Mitford fans have waited for. It’s a June day in the mountains, with more than a few creatures great and small, and you’re invited “because you’re family.” By the way, it’s a pretty casual affair, so come as you are and remember to bring a tissue or two. After all, what’s a good wedding without a good cry? From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

I am an avid reader of Ms. Karon's novels. As a matter of fact, in the past six months I have read and re-read the entire series at least 4 times while waiting not so patiently for the release of *Come Rain or Come Shine*. There is a reason for this. I have had a very stressful year and I find visits to Mitford very relaxing. Every character in this series is complete; there isn't a one-dimensional body in the bunch. Even the nodding acquaintances have a unique and full place in Ms. Karon's stories. These books make the perfect escape. I love them dearly. Reading these novels makes me feel like I'm going home. But, her writing is also a joy to read. Her descriptions are unique and folksy, and fit perfectly with each scene and character. She weaves minor story lines through the major plot so well that, like a braided rope, the main story line is stronger, better, because it is the sum of all its parts. Which leads me to wonder, did Ms. Karon really write *Come Rain or Come Shine*? Although I loved attending the wedding, from the very first page I could not shake the feeling that this was not typical Jan Karon writing. Perhaps it is the transition from Father Tim to Lace and Dooley as the main characters, changing the voice of the narrative, that bothered me. It just seemed to me that the story was superficial, the characters flat; this book seems to skim the surface of the characters' emotions. For example in the previous books, the story of Pauline's apology would have been much more important, given more room to breathe, more of a lead up. Here, it seemed weak and watered down. It wasn't given enough space for the reader to really connect, to feel Pauline's struggle, or Sammy's struggle. A number of stories hinted at here were nothing more than a tease.

Come Rain or Come Shine by Jan Karon is the book that readers have been looking forward to for a long time. Dooley Kavanaugh and Lace Harper are getting married. They have decided to get married at their new home, Meadowgate. Meadowgate is a farm in Farmer, North Carolina. They want it to be a simple wedding (no wedding is simple). The wedding date is set for June 14. Dooley and Lace decided to make it a potluck dinner reception (asking each guest to bring a dish). Until the wedding, they have plenty to keep them busy. Dooley has to finish veterinary school and graduate. They are busy fixing up the farm (the house, fences, and barn). They have purchased four cows and are awaiting the arrival of their new bull, Choo-Choo (I am not kidding). Dooley will be taking over a veterinary practice after graduation and they will be installing a new sign that reads "Kavanaugh Animal Wellness Clinic". Lace is looking forward to her new life. She is busy looking for a wedding dress (she wants to get one for \$100), making and selling her paintings (which will pay for some extras, and creating a wedding gift for Dooley. Father Tim and Cynthia have moved out to the farm to help out until the wedding. Lace and Dooley also have a special surprise

for their parents. They have had something in the works for two years, and it is finally happening just before the wedding. Let us hope that everything goes off without a hitch. What could go wrong (rain, not enough food, surprise guests, escaping animals)? Read *Come Rain or Come Shine* to find out what happens. I was so excited when I got a copy of this book. I have read all the books in this series (and loved them). Unfortunately, this book was a disappointment. The main problem is the way it was written.

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