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The Innkeeper Of Ivy Hill: Tales From Ivy Hill, Book 1



Synopsis

The lifeblood of the Wiltshire village of Ivy Hill is its coaching inn, The Bell. But when the innkeeper dies suddenly, his genteel wife, Jane Bell, becomes the reluctant owner. Jane has no notion of how to run a business. However, with the town's livelihood at stake and a large loan due, she must find a way to bring new life to the inn. Despite their strained relationship, Jane turns to her resentful mother-in-law, Thora, for help. Formerly mistress of The Bell, Thora is struggling to find her place in the world. As she and Jane work together, they form a measure of trust, and Thora's wounded heart begins to heal. When she encounters two men from her past, she sees them - and her future - in a different light. With pressure mounting from the bank, Jane employs innovative methods to turn the inn around, and puzzles over the intentions of several men who seem to have a vested interest in the place. Will her efforts be enough to save The Bell? And will Thora embrace the possibility of a second chance at love?

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Customer Reviews

The Innkeeper of Ivy Hill is the first book in Julie Klassen's first ever series, Tales From Ivy Hill. I have read every single one of Julie's books, so it was a no-brainer for me to preorder this one! However, I was very disappointed to find that the end of this story leaves me hanging and the next one doesn't come out until next December! Julie wove her magic just like always, but this time, the story left me hanging in a way I did not appreciate! In all seriousness, The Innkeeper of Ivy Hill is completely fantastic, and

I'm sooo glad I added it to my growing collection of Julie Klassen novels. The only reason I'm complaining like this is because Julie didn't tie up all her ends for a one-novel "happily ever after," meaning that must be coming in the next novel or two, which is normally fine, except for that fact that I have to wait a year for it! Each and every of the characters in this novel are wonderful! I fell in love with them instantly, and I kept trying to figure out who would be paired off in the end. I still have my suspicions, especially since two of the characters we read a lot about have yet to find their heroes. That just makes me even more excited for the next book, because I can't wait to see if they end up with the men I want them to end up with! Plus, I still want to see what happens with the inn. All in all, I really loved this book, just like all of Julie's other novels, and I can't wait to read more in this series! I am so glad that Julie finally decided to start writing series, and I would definitely say that she has done a very good job of it! I can't imagine not giving this fantastic story anything other than all five bookshelves, and it also has a permanent place on my all-time favorites list. I highly recommend this novel! (This review is from my blog, spreadinghisgrace.blogspot.com)

I have enjoyed many of Julie Klassen's novels, but this one fell short. The writing is not quite up to the level of her other well crafted novels and the characters did not seem well developed. Their actions seemed flat and at times not believable. The story is slow and not very satisfying. I like this author a lot and was looking forward to enjoying the village atmosphere of this series, but I wanted to leave an honest review. Based on reading most of her past work, Julie Klassen is certainly a very talented writer.

I really have enjoyed Julie Klassen books until this one. This book is much different, boring and lacks a climax: (I hope her next book is back to her usual romantic, suspenseful fun books to read.)

This book was so slow moving. There were a lot of characters introduced, but hardly any ending to their stories. I don't like not finishing books, so I forced myself to finish this one in hopes that there would be some good in the ending. I was even more disappointed when I got to the end, only to have the author leave it completely open ended.

I really loved this book. I enjoy just about everything Julie Klassen writes, but I think this has become my favorite. I'm usually in a rush to get to the end of the book, but I didn't want this story to

end. The characters are so endearing. The town is absolutely charming. If you like British period drama you'll love this book. I'm very excited this is the start of a series. The ending set things up perfectly for book two which comes out in December 2017. That's a long time to wait, but it will be worth it. Everything in book one wrapped up nicely, but there are still a lot of unanswered questions. There are also a couple of love triangles, and I can't decide who I want to end up together. Answers please! I highly recommend this delightful book to readers who enjoy historical romance and regency England. It's a lot of fun. I received this book from Netgalley for free for the purpose of review.

This was a thoroughly enjoyable read. It was a bit different than most of Klassen's stories, but it was a sweet story to savor. This book has the slow feel of a wonderful village life with friends and foes...and perhaps a few ones isn't sure of which they are. I liked the characters in this story. Unusual for me, the main character wasn't my favorite...I believe it was her mother-in-law, Thora. She was blunt, but kind. She grew much in this story, and really comes through as the plot moves along. I'm very much looking forward to the rest of the books in this series!

This is an interesting story with a lot of well-developed characters. It is very rewarding to watch Jane's evolution from a protected "gentle woman" into a savvy businesswoman. There are several mysteries at play in the story. A couple are resolved very satisfactorily. I hope more answers are in the books to come.

This was not my favorite from Julie Klassen. I wanted very much to love this book. The writing and setting were wonderful. It's hard to believe that I am saying this but it was also just too long. It was quite slow paced. It just never picked up speed. The romantic aspects were disappointing. Jane - whom I considered the main character - had much less romantic dealings than even the other main secondary character, Thora - and even the side characters had more time spent on possible romances than Jane. It also seems to just end. I am guessing that the next book will continue with the same story as it definitely did not seem to be concluded.

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