

Romance Summaries

R0345u One Last Summer by Catrin Collier

A hidden past; A dangerous love and a voice to reach across the ages.

R0374u Sons & Daughters by Margaret Dickinson

Charlotte is an only child, reared by a brutal father who cannot forgive her for not being the son he desires. Loved by most that she meets, Charlotte has a gift for friendship, and it is her work as a Sunday School teacher that gives her hope - and an escape from home. When Charlotte meets Miles Thornton, she is instantly drawn to him. He is new to the area and a widower, with three lovely young sons to look after but the one thing he has longed for is a daughter. As they grow to understand one another, it seems that Miles and Charlotte have more in common than meets the eye...

R0383u The Secret Mistress by Mary Balogh

While Lady Angeline Dudley's pedigree dictates that she must land a titled gentleman, the irrepressible beauty secretly longs for a simple, ordinary suitor. No wild rakes like the men of her family, just a kind heart and good nature. So when Edward Ailsbury, the new Earl of Heyward, rescues her with unmatched civility from the advances of a scoundrel, Angeline thinks that she has found her true love. Persuading the earl is another matter entirely.

Edward has his future neatly mapped out. He hopes to wed his steadfast companion, a woman who shares his values of loyalty, respect, and decorum. But arriving in London to take his seat in the House of Lords, he is derailed by Angeline, an exquisite bird of paradise seemingly devoted to sending his predictable life into chaos.

R0384u The Wedding by Danielle Steel

Simon Steinberg and Blaire Scott are among the most respected couples in Hollywood. They have defied the Hollywood cliché and stayed together for decades. Their three children--teenage aspiring model Samantha, pre-med student Scott, and entertainment lawyer Allegra--are successful and happy. Allegra, as an attorney to the stars, has a career that consumes so much of her energy that she has little time for a private life--until a chance encounter with a New York writer turns her life upside down. Suddenly, she finds herself planning a wedding at her parents' Bel Air home.

As preparations begin, the chaos of last-minute arrangements, surprise announcements and ever-increasing anxiety brings out both the best and the worst in everyone. But while couples in each generation of the Steinberg family struggle with broken vows and new hopes, the real meaning of Allegra's wedding emerges. It is a bridge between the past and the future, an opportunity for reconciliation, forgiveness and new hope for the future, as weddings often are for us all.

R0385u Ruined by Ann Barker

Jessie Warburton was been hopelessly in love with the rakish Earl of Ashbourne for years. Tired of being ignored, she accepts the proposal of the Reverend Henry Lusty, and goes to London to stay with Mrs. Machin, her fiancé's sister. Mrs. Machin, a secret writer of sensational novels, is delighted to learn that her visitor is closely acquainted with a rake, and seeks to take advantage of the situation. To help her hostess with her writing, Jessie

immerses herself in London life, and the earl experiences a change of role, as he finds himself having to keep a watchful eye over her. In London, Jesse blossoms, and Ashbourne becomes attracted to her, but he is not her only admirer. Will Jessie make the right choice?

RO386u A Matter of Class by Mary Balogh

Reginald Mason is wealthy, refined, and, by all accounts, a gentleman. However, he is not a gentleman by title, a factor that pains him and his father within the Regency society that upholds station over all else. That is, until an opportunity for social advancement arises, namely, Lady Annabelle Ashton. Daughter of the Earl of Havercroft, a neighbour and enemy of the Mason family, Annabelle finds herself disgraced by a scandal, one that has left her branded as damaged goods. Besmirched by shame, the earl is only too happy to marry Annabelle off to anyone willing to have her.

So begins an intoxicating tale rife with dark secrets, deception, and the trials of love—a story in which very little is as it seems.

RO387u The Beach Hut by Veronica Henry

FOR SALE: a rare opportunity to purchase a beach hut on the spectacular Everdene Beach, Dorset. "The Shack" has been in the family for fifty years, and was the first to be built on this renowned stretch of golden sand... Jane Milton doesn't want to sell her beloved beach hut, which has been the heart of so many family holidays and holds so many happy memories. But when her husband dies, leaving her with an overwhelming string of debts, she has no choice but to sell.

RO388u Other People's Husbands by Judy Astley

Sue's mother told her that she shouldn't marry Conrad—that the 25-year age gap between them would tell in the end. The end is now, apparently, approaching fast. Conrad, a famous painter, has decided that it would be good to die before he gets seriously old and so spends his time sorting out his chaotic life. Sue, teaching art at a local college, finds that she has plenty of male company—other people's husbands, ones she tells Conrad all about, who are just good friends to her. But there's one she, somehow, doesn't get round to mentioning.

RO389u At Last Comes Love by Mary Balogh

Only desperation could bring Duncan Pennethorne, the infamous Earl of Sheringford, back home after the spectacular scandal that had shocked even the jaded ton. Forced to wed in fifteen days or be cut off without a penny, Duncan chooses the one woman in London in frantic need of a husband. A lie to an old flame forces Margaret Huxtable to accept the irresistible stranger's offer. But once she discovers who he really is, it's too late—she's already betrothed to the wickedly sensual rakehell. Quickly she issues an ultimatum: If Duncan wants her, he must woo her. And as passion slowly ignites, two people marrying for all the wrong reasons are discovering the joys of seduction—and awaiting the exquisite pleasure of what comes after...

RO390u Moving On by Anna Jacobs

Molly Peel has been downtrodden for years; bullied by her husband and now a slave to her two grown-up children. When she is late for her daughter's wedding after a taxi is involved

in an accident, her daughter refuses to listen to her explanations. Molly then decides to take control of her own life.

RO392u All that Glistens by Anne Baker

When jeweller Edwin Jardine gives a job to Hilda Thorpe, his daughter Jane suspects that he's been blinded to the attractive widow's flaws by her looks and her hard luck story (she's alone with a teenage daughter, Kitty). Jane's dismayed when Edwin and Hilda become romantically involved; she knows that her father deserves happiness again after the death of her mother, but must it be with Hilda? With the help of her new fiancé, Nick, Jane begins to unravel the shocking truth about Hilda's past - and soon she fears that Edwin may be about to take a step he will live to regret bitterly.

RO397u Black-Eyed Devils by Catrin Collier

One look was enough. Amy Watkins and miner 'Big' Tom Kelly were in love. But can they keep their feelings secret or face the threat of death in a community torn apart by the miner's strike?

It is 1911 in Tonypany, South Wales; starving, striking miners fight soldiers and police on the picket lines for the right to earn a wage that will feed their families, while Irish labourers are brought in to take their place in the pits, for half their pay. Handsome 'Big' Tom Kelly, an Irish worker, comes to Wales looking for a better life and believes he has found it when he falls in love with Amy Watkins, the daughter of a strike leader. At night, the miners search out the Irish men, drag them from their beds, beat them and then hang them from the street lamp posts. Can Amy and Tom keep their love a secret forever? All they want is a future together. But in a world full of hatred, anger and violence, their dream seems impossible. Until another strike leader offers them a way out.

RO405u Airs and Graces by Erica James

Ellen has been living on her own in a picturesque, if damp cottage since her husband abandoned her for the pleasures of life in Provence. She marries once for love, but is now determined that the second time around it will be for money.

Close at hand is Duncan, her not unattractive divorce lawyer who, most importantly, is single and enticingly wealthy. Then into Ellen's life comes Jo-Jo, a young homeless girl, several months pregnant, and Matthew, an artist who paints murals in country houses and criticises Ellen for being mercenary.

As Ellen plans for a future with Duncan, both Jo-Jo and Matthew know that you can't plan love...

RO406a The Affair by Santa Montefiore

A wife who has forgotten her own beauty and allure; A distant, distracted husband; A smart, candlelit dinner party, witty conversation, and a charmingly rugged vineyard owner from South Africa. So begins Santa Montefiore's powerful and poignant new novel in which a woman who finds herself in a common predicament must confront the most unlikely aspects of herself.

RO409u The accidental family by Rowan Coleman (No. 1: Accidental series)

Six months ago, city girl Sophie Mills gave up everything to move to Cornwall. All to be with the man she thinks she loves, and his two daughters who she knows she loves.

But adjusting to life as a semi-permanent mother in the countryside isn't quite as easy as Sophie imagined it would be. Designer shoes aren't nearly so readily available - not that she ever has any occasion to wear them - and her best pair of vintage Manolo's have already found their way into the girls' dressing-up box. Sometimes Sophie doesn't recognise herself; which most of the time makes her happy but every now and then scares her to death.

The hardest thing of all is making that final commitment to actually move in with Louis and the girls - she's been the longest paying guest of the Avalon B&B, St Ives in the history of the establishment. And as she tries to adapt to country life, her newly adopted family and discovering more about Louis's past, she begins to wonder if she's got what it takes to make it all work...

RO410u The accidental wife by Rowan Coleman (No. 2: Accidental series)

Both women have lived a hundred miles apart ever since Alison ran away with the love of Catherine's life, Marc. But now Alison's moving back to the town where they grew up, and they're about to find out just how different both their lives could still be. . .

RO411u The accidental Countess by Michelle Willingham

From waif wife, to cultured countess?

When Stephen Chesterfield, the Earl of Whitmore, awakes to find a beautiful woman berating him, he knows he is in trouble! He cannot recall the past three months of his life, never mind having a wife! What's more, someone is trying to silence him before his memory returns....

Emily Chesterfield is trapped in a marriage of convenience with a man who doesn't remember her. Stephen clearly thinks she is the most unsuitable countess, but she is falling for her enigmatic husband.... Can they find trust and love before it is too late?

RO419u All that Mullarkey by Sue Moorcroft

Revenge and love: it's a thin line ...

The writing's on the wall for Cleo and Gav, the bedroom wall, to be precise. And it says 'This marriage is over.'

Wounded and furious, Cleo embarks on a night out with the girls, which turns into a glorious one night stand with... Justin, centrefold material and irrepressibly irresponsible, who loves a little wildness in a woman – and he's in the right place at the right time to enjoy Cleo's.

But it's Cleo who has to pick up the pieces – of a marriage based on a lie and the lasting repercussions of that night. Torn between laid-back Justin and control freak Gav, she's a free spirit that life is trying to tie down. But the rewards are worth it!

RO420u A bargain struck by Liz Harris

Set in Wyoming in 1887, a story of a man and a woman brought together through need, not love ...Widower Connor Maguire advertises for a wife to raise his young daughter, Bridget, work the homestead and bear him a son.

Ellen O'Sullivan longs for a home, a husband and a family. On paper, she is everything Connor needs in a wife. However, it soon becomes clear that Ellen has not been entirely truthful.

Will Connor be able to overlook Ellen's dishonesty and keep to his side of the bargain? Or will Bridget's resentment, the attentions of the beautiful Miss Quinn, and the arrival of an unwelcome visitor, combine to prevent the couple from starting anew.

As their personal feelings blur the boundaries of their deal, they begin to wonder if a bargain struck makes a marriage worth keeping.

RO421u Angel's Peak by Robyn Carr

Sean has settled down in spite of himself --- he's not the cocky young fighter pilot he was when Franci left, and he wants them to try again. After all, they have a history ... but that's not all they share. Franci's secret reason for walking away when Sean refused to commit is now three and a half: a redheaded cherub named Rosie who shares her daddy's emerald-green eyes. Sean is stunned --- and furious with Franci for the deception.

News travels fast in Virgin River, and soon the whole town is taking sides. Rebuilding their trust could take a small miracle --- and the kind of love that can move mountains.

RO422u A Stitch in Time by Amanda James

A stitch in time saves nine... or does it? Sarah Yates is a thirty something history teacher, divorced, disillusioned and desperate to have more excitement in her life. Making all her dreams come true seems about as likely as climbing Everest in stilettos.

Then one evening the doorbell rings and the handsome and mysterious John Needler brings more excitement than Sarah could ever have imagined. John wants Sarah to go back in time...

Sarah is whisked from the Sheffield Blitz to the suffragette movement in London to the Old American West, trying to make sure people find their happy endings. The only question is, will she ever be able to find hers?

RO423u A Dark and Brooding Gentleman by Margaret McPhee

Sebastian Hunter has shown his last hand at the card table. Nights once spent womanizing and gambling are now spent in the dark shadows of Blackloch Hall, staring out onto the wild windswept Scottish moors. That is, until the mysterious Phoebe Allardyce—his mother's new and far-too-pretty companion—interrupts his brooding. After catching her thieving, the master of the house has no choice but to keep a close eye on this provocative little temptress....

RO424u Bittersweet by Colleen McCullough

Do bonds between sisters ever break? Edda, Grace, Tufts and Kitty didn't think so. The four Latimer sisters, famous throughout New South Wales for their beauty, wit and ambition, have always been close; always happy. But then they left home to train as nurses, swapping the feather beds of their father's townhouse for the Spartan bunks of hospital accommodation. And now, as the Depression casts its shadow across Australia, they are

bound by their own secret desires as the world changes around them. Will they find the independence they crave? Or is life - like love - always bittersweet?

RO449 Lady Of Passion by Freda Lightfoot

Beautiful and talented actress, poet and fashion icon, Mary Robinson was one of the most famous women of her time – yet she died virtually penniless, her reputation in ruins. For Mary was destined always to be betrayed by the men she loved, whether it be her father, a prosperous Bristol merchant who abandoned his family for a life of adventure, and another woman; her husband, the weak and foolish Tom Robinson, who bankrupted the family with his inveterate gambling and humiliated his young wife with his numerous affairs; or the Prince of Wales, later George IV, who fell in love with Mary when he saw her playing Perdita in *A Winter's Tale*. Mary gave up everything for her prince – her career, her husband and her independence – only to be cruelly abandoned when his affections turned elsewhere.

RO450 The Confectioners Tale by Laura Madeleine

What secrets are hiding in the heart of Paris?

At the famous Patisserie Clermont in Paris, 1909, a chance encounter with the owner's daughter has given one young man a glimpse into a life he never knew existed: of sweet cream and melted chocolate, golden caramel and powdered sugar, of pastry light as air.

But it is not just the art of confectionery that holds him captive, and soon a forbidden love affair begins. Almost eighty years later, an academic discovers a hidden photograph of her grandfather as a young man with two people she has never seen before. Scrawled on the back of the picture are the words 'Forgive me'. Unable to resist the mystery behind it, she begins to unravel the story of two star-crossed lovers and one irrevocable betrayal.

RO451 Love Letters In The Sand by June Francis

1958; Liverpool; Nursery nurse Irene Miller can't help herself falling for her friend Peggy's handsome older brother. But nothing can come of it, for Marty is married, trapped in a deeply unhappy union. Meanwhile, Irene's friend Peggy is desperate to marry her long-term boyfriend Pete. But Peggy's staunchly Catholic parents would never accept a Protestant son-in-law.

When her mother decides to remarry, her brother heads off to sea, and she loses her job, Irene feels utterly alone in the world. An unexpected job offer from America offers her a lifeline. But it would mean never seeing Marty again.

RO452 Brides At War by June Tate

1947. Excited and in love Gracie Brown leaves her home in England and moves to America with her husband Jeff. With little money and no job prospects, the couple move in with Jeff's parents whilst they find their feet in a land where promise seems to only come to those who start off far better than they have. Rich and stylish Valerie Brampton has just arrived in New York to move into her new swish apartment with American husband Captain Ross Johnson. When Valerie discovers more about Ross' life as she meets more of his family she's left feeling increasingly isolated. Uprooted from their lives in England, GI brides Gracie and Valerie must face up to their new surroundings and overcome the troubles that come their way in order to be with the men they love.

RO453 TheWesterby Inheritance by M.C. Beaton

Lady Jane Lovelace has conceived the idea of approaching the most notorious man about town, Lord Charles Welbourne, with a most unique proposition. But when he counters her offer with a condition that he thinks will halt her impudence, much to the surprise of both, she accepts.

RO454u This Ravished Land by Pamela Oldfield

Plymouth, Devon, 1501. Luke Kendal, the long-awaited son of Elizabeth and John, grows up under the loving watch of his mother and stepfather, but soon he, too, must face his trials. Irresistibly drawn to the wild Isobel, he risks all in his secret rendezvous with her.

Battling with himself, he maintains the romance is only temporary, but any easing of his conscience is shattered by the revelation that Isobel is with child. Luke Kendal must make a decision: desert Isobel and render his child a bastard or defile the family honour.

The judgment he makes will be called strong by some and weak by others, but one thing is for certain: it brings with it terrible repercussions....

RO455u Grey by EL James

Christian Grey exercises control in all things; his world is neat, disciplined, and utterly empty—until the day that Anastasia Steele falls into his office, in a tangle of shapely limbs and tumbling brown hair. He tries to forget her, but instead is swept up in a storm of emotion he cannot comprehend and cannot resist. Unlike any woman he has known before, shy, unworldly Ana seems to see right through him—past the business prodigy and the penthouse lifestyle to Christian's cold, wounded heart.

Will being with Ana dispel the horrors of his childhood that haunt Christian every night? Or will his dark sexual desires, his compulsion to control, and the self-loathing that fills his soul drive this girl away and destroy the fragile hope she offers him.

This book is intended for mature audiences.

RO456u The Wild Hunt by Elizabeth Chadwick

Wed to roguish Guyon, Lord of Ledworth, in order to protect both their lands from Judith's ruthless uncle, Judith of Ravenstow is at first terrified of the marriage bed, until Guyon shows her the pleasures of married life.

RO457u Springtime At Cherry Tree Cottage by Cathy Woodman

After years working with these beautiful animals, horse-trainer Flick has finally achieved her dream of becoming one of the few female blacksmiths in the country.

Her first job is in Talyton St George. The little cottage on the green where she is staying is idyllic, and it feels like the fresh start she needs. But she soon finds she has to work overtime to prove her abilities to the not-so-welcoming locals.

One person very much on her side though is Robbie Salterton. He's a bit of a local celebrity – a handsome stunt rider who does charity work in his spare time – and he seems to be going out of his way to look out for Flick. But is he just being friendly or does he see Flick as something more? Despite swearing off men, Flick can't help wanting to find out ...

RO458u Sunshine Over Wildflower Cottage by Milly Johnson

Viv doesn't like animals. And the feeling is mutual: animals seem to hate Viv too. So when she applies for a job at Wildflower Cottage, a tumbledown animal sanctuary which caters for a variety of unloved animals, she is not sure she will fit in. But then she catches sight of Heath, the owner, and things start looking up...

Geraldine runs the Wildflower Cottage sanctuary. She's a woman who has a secret in her past and who was drawn to the sanctuary just as Viv was. But her sanctuary is about to come under threat. Can she keep her past a secret and her future safe?

Back home, Viv's mother Stel thinks she might have found a man who will treat her right for once. Ian is kind, considerate, and clearly head over heels for her. That's what she has wanted all along, isn't it...?

RO461u Farewell to Burracombe by Lilian Harry

The day that Hilary and David have been waiting for has finally arrived and as the church bells ring out for the arrival of the bride, everyone's fingers are crossed for the day to go without a hitch. The festivities set the tone for the year ahead and there's more love in the air in Burracombe as planning continues for both Dottie and Joe's and Frances and James's nuptials. There's nothing like a wedding to bring the village together.

Times are changing in Burracombe and as young and old embark on new adventures it's time to say goodbye. But with friends like these, a goodbye is rarely for ever, so instead we'll say a very fond farewell.

RO462u Meet me at Beachcomber Bay by Jill Mansell

Love is in the air in St Cary's, but you'd never know it - the people of this seaside town are very good at keeping secrets...

The man Clemency loves belongs to someone else. She has to hide her true feelings, but when she ropes in an unsuspecting friend to help, wires start to get crossed.

For the first time in Ronan's life his charm has failed him in winning over the woman he wants. Loving her from afar appears to be his only option.

Belle seems to have the perfect boyfriend, but something isn't quite right. And now a long-buried secret is slowly rising to the surface.

The truth has a funny way of revealing itself, and when it does St Cary's will be a very different place indeed...

RO463u Till the End of Time by Shirley Heaton

1939. In Sydney, Australia teenager Cathy lives happily with her family in Sydney, Australia oblivious of the onset of WWII in Europe. In England, young Tom, devastated when his mother leaves the family home in Leeds, is determined to enlist as soon as he is of age. When, in 1941, he joins the Royal Navy, he is sent to the Far East on an important mission and, after months rescuing airmen shot down from the skies, his ship sails south to Sydney allowing the men a short respite. In one of Sydney's popular ballrooms Tom meets dance teacher, Cathy with whom he falls desperately in love and it soon becomes obvious they are

destined to be together. But what are their chances of keeping their romance alive when it is inevitable that, once the war is over, Tom must sail back to England? Will Cathy agree to follow him? Only time will tell.

RO464u The Honeyfield Bequest by Anna Jacobs

Wiltshire in 1901; Young Kathleen Keller is being forced into marriage with a man she despises by her cruel father. In an act of desperation, she runs away in a bid for a safer life, although one she might not have otherwise have chosen. But when tragedy strikes, Kathleen is left vulnerable and one man threatens the fragile peace she has made for herself.

Meanwhile, Nathan Perry works for his father's accountancy firm but yearns for something more satisfying. He is brought in to help with the purchase of Honeyfield House, intended as a safe house for women in trouble by a charitable benefactor, and there encounters Kathleen. Their lives are set to intertwine and neither will be the same again.

RO465u A Secret Garden by Katie Fforde

'What I want to know', said Lorna 'is what lies behind those ash trees at the back of the garden?

Lorna is a talented gardener and Philly is a plantswoman. Together they work in the grounds of a beautiful manor house in the Cotswolds.

They enjoy their jobs and are surrounded by family and friends, but for them both the door to true love remains resolutely closed.

So when Lorna is introduced to Jack at a dinner party and Lucien catches Philly's eye at the local farmers market, it seems that dreams really can come true and happy endings lie just around the corner. But do they?

Troublesome parents, the unexpected arrival of someone from Lorna's past, and the discovery of an old and secret garden mean their lives are about to become a lot more complicated...

RO466u Scarweather by Anthony Rolls

John Farringdale, with his cousin Eric Foster, visits the famous archaeologist Tolgen Reisby. At Scarweather - Reisby's lonely house on the windswept northern coast of England - Eric is quickly attracted to Reisby's much younger wife, and matters soon take a dangerous turn. Fifteen years later, the final scene of the drama is enacted.

RO467u The Pride by Katie Flynn

1901 Tina Rose is the beloved daughter of a wealthy Jewish family, while Edward grew up with an abusive father in the wilds of New Zealand. Despite their differences, the two fall madly in love when Edward arrives in England, looking for a better future. However, the consequences of their love affair are terrible for Tina as she is shamed by the father she adores, and Edward is sent away. Against all the odds, Tina and Edward find each other again, and despite great hardship and tragedy, together they build a dynasty strong enough to withstand some of the worst catastrophes Britain has ever known.

Meanwhile, Peggy decides that the only way to resolve the issues with her family is to escape where no one can find her. But will Irene and Peggy ever solve their problems by running away or should they follow their hearts back home to Liverpool?

RO468u Tomorrow's Path by Anna Jacobs

As a longstanding fan of bestselling author Jivan Childering, aspiring young novelist Jessica Lord is dismayed on encountering the man himself to find him aloof, arrogant and stand-offish. But, some months later, many thousands of miles away in Western Australia, Jessica's path is destined to cross with Jivan's once more and she begins to see a different side to this talented yet reserved and private man.

For his part, Jivan finds himself increasingly drawn to the unpretentious Jessica, and impressed by her single-minded determination to follow her dreams of becoming a successful writer. But following a bitter divorce, Jivan has vowed never to get romantically involved with a woman again. Can Jessica break down his emotional barriers?

What's more, Jivan's vengeful ex-wife is determined to stop him embarking on a new relationship and is prepared to go to any lengths to achieve her aim.

RO469u The Master's Wife by Jane Jackson

The Master's Wife is a historical epic set in the 1880s. We follow Caseley and Jago's voyage from Cornwall, England to turbulent Egypt as they undertake an important mission - but is their marriage strong enough to withstand the effects of loss, heartbreak, and danger that they both suffer?

RO470u Old Friends, New Friends by Margaret Thornton

Eighteen-year-old Debbie Hargreaves is heading to college in Leeds, where she'll be sharing digs with three girls. Debbie soon becomes firm friends with shy Lisa, outspoken Karen and self-assured Fran.

Over the coming months, the four flatmates will share tears and laughter and the drama of a new romance. At the same time, Debbie's birth mother, Fiona Norwood, is struggling to cope with four young children and her duties as a rector's wife.

The arrival of a new childminder should be an answer to her prayers, but Glenda's open flirting with Fiona's husband soon gets tongues wagging. Is Fiona's marriage really under threat?

RO471u In Focus by Anna Jacobs

When a new feature on Pete Newbury's popular TV programme shows his adult image digitally transformed to that of a young child, Beth is shocked to realize that he's her 'baby' brother, who vanished without trace thirty-eight years ago. But bringing their family back together after so much heartache isn't going to be easy, and she may lose the man she loves in the process . . .

RO472u Chasing Rainbows by Judith Saxton

Is love just an illusion? To the outside, Clare has everything: a beautiful home, a devoted husband and daughter, and plenty of money. But she is bored. And she is plagued by

doubts. Her husband Clive spends most of the year abroad - but what does he do after work hours? And her daughter Sally claims to spend all her time with horses and homework - but what about boys? Lonely, thwarted and unfulfilled - and against Clive's wishes - Clare takes a job managing a cafe. Her ambition is to experience real life, to escape the imaginary feelings that plague her. But when a handsome stranger walks through the door, there is nothing imaginary about her feelings...

RO 473u Jenny Alone by Katie Flynn

After the sudden and brutal breakdown of her marriage, Jenny finds herself alone for the first time in her life when she leaves the comfortable farmhouse with her four-year-old daughter.

Taking refuge in a seaside town in North Wales, Jenny finds a room in a boarding house. It's difficult at first, but as she gets to know her fellow residents, she gradually begins to see that life has much more to offer than she could ever have dreamed.

And when she meets Bill, the owner of the local coffee bar, she finally understands that she is far happier now, living on her own, than she ever was when she was married.

RO474a Christmas Candle by Katie Flynn

1939. All over Britain children are being evacuated. Eve Armstrong and her little brother are headed for Devon, where the Armstrong parents will do their bit in nearby Plymouth. Pulling out of London Eve takes a last look at the crowded platform, the shabbily dressed evacuees, and a rude little boy sticking his tongue out. She's looking forward to a change of scene.

And at first, surrounded by countryside, animals and new pals, Eve is happier than ever at Drake's Farm. Not even her daily chores dampen her spirits. It's a different world that invites fresh starts, and so when Eve runs into the boy from the station, Johnny Durrell, they call a truce and soon become firm friends.

At first the war seems a distant reality, but when new evacuee Connie Hale arrives from Liverpool every day becomes a battle. Connie is lazy, stuck up and spiteful – and Johnny's new best friend. As the conflict grows and Eve with it, will she fight for Johnny or concede defeat?

RO475 The Ship Builder's Daughter by Emma Fraser

Glasgow, 1928. Margaret Bannatyne lost both of her brothers in the Great War and is now the last remaining child of wealthy and powerful shipyard owner William Bannatyne. Without a male heir to carry on the family business, William expects his daughter to do her duty, marry well and provide him with a grandson to inherit his business.

Margaret cares deeply for her father but she has ambitions of her own: after witnessing a horrific accident when she was sixteen, she's determined to become a doctor. Her father, convinced she will never practise medicine, permits Margaret to complete her training. But he doesn't count on her falling in love with Alasdair Morrison.

Alasdair, a union man at the shipyard, has been a thorn in William's side for years, and he didn't become one of the richest men in Glasgow only for Alasdair to take it all away - even if it means destroying his only daughter's happiness by forcing her to make a heart-breaking and impossible choice . .

RO476u Monsoon Summer by Julia Gregson

Oxfordshire;1947.

Kit Smallwood; hiding a painful secret and exhausted from nursing soldiers during the Second World War, escapes to Wickam Farm where her friend is setting up a charity sending midwives to the Moonstone Home in South India.

Based on true accounts of European midwives in India, Monsoon Summer is a powerful story of secrets, the nature of home, the comforts and frustrations of family, and how far we'll go to be with those we love.

RO477u The Savage Marquess by M.C. Beaton

The handsome, wealthy Marquess of Rockingham was the most notorious rake in London, as infamous for his violent temper as he was for his intemperate ways. And Miss Lucinda Westerville was a country vicar's daughter, as innocent as she was lovely and as proper as a young lady could possibly be.

When this impossibly matched pair met, at a glittering ball, the naive Lucinda vowed not to fall under his spell. Yet, she discovers her will weakening, and her protests growing fainter with each searing touch of his lips.

Finally they had made the dubious bargain to become man and wife in name only! But Lucinda found that she had more than she bargained for... when she vowed not to love this untamed, infuriatingly attractive man... when she tried to rein her own foolishly galloping heart...

RO478 Chaff upon the Wind by Margaret Dickinson

Set in the epic years before and after the First World War, Chaff Upon the Wind, Margaret Dickinson's novel of Lincolnshire life, is a spellbinding story of courage, loyalty and love. Kitty Clegg has always accepted the hard work in her job as a kitchen maid at the Manor Farm.

RO479 The Miller's Daughter by Margaret Dickinson

Harry Forrest was desperate to have a son to take over his thriving Lincolnshire mill, but Emma is his only child. Forced by her father into a loveless marriage with a gambler, Emma is determined that one day she will prove to her father that she is his worthy and rightful heir.

RO480u My Dear Duchess by M.C. Beaton

The marriage between the handsome, dashing Duke of Westerland and beautiful Miss Frederica Sayers seemed like a logical one--until the duke discovered that his duchess could not be tamed, and the lovely duchess found that she would rather lose her spotless reputation than her beloved Duke!

-----all above in numerical order23/04/18