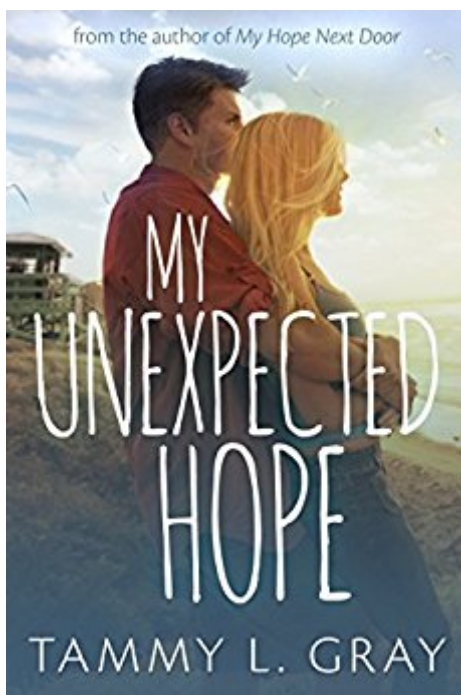


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My Unexpected Hope



Synopsis

After a year of grieving her divorce and living a life permanently stuck on pause, Laila Richardson is finally ready to have her own happy ending. Then a listing for a quaint cottage in another town answers her prayers for a fresh beginning—•one that will bring her closer to her new boyfriend, Ben. Unfortunately, in her small town of Fairfield, Georgia, letting go of the past is virtually impossible. No one wants to see her move on, including the man who destroyed her heart to begin with. Chad Richardson has spent years in misery but finally has his life on somewhat stable ground. When he learns his ex-wife is dating, he knows it's time to go back and fight for the life he abandoned. Bolstered by his newfound sobriety, Chad has every intention of winning back the woman he loves, even if that means facing old demons that are waiting for him to fail. Passions run deep as two souls searching for a second chance find the courage to let go of old patterns. Can they recognize that their dreams are still possible, even when forged from a broken past?

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Customer Reviews

Four and a half stars for Laila and Chad's story in *My Unexpected Hope*. It's been several months since I read Katie and Asher's story in *My Hope Next Door*, so a few chapters into MUH I went back and skimmed thru the MYND to refamiliarize myself with all these characters, since their lives are so intertwined. Ms. Gray portrays, so heartbreakingly well, the stark life of an addict and those who love them, and are loved by them. Laila kicked Chad out, changed the locks, and divorced him over a year ago, after he broke promise after promise about his addiction to booze and drugs. Chad flees to Atlanta, several hours away, because he's in debt to the local dealer and everyone knows what happens to those who don't pay up! Even though cutting ties with Chad was a desperate life saving move, Laila is still so fragile inside, and is almost ready to move to the neighboring town to make a fresh start with Ben, the kind, quiet, solid Christian man she met at church in the new town. He doesn't know everything about her past with Chad, and she's trying to keep her two lives separate. But, as things go, Laila's two worlds collide when Ben shows up at her job and someone contacts Chad and he returns -- sober and trying to stay under the radar of Slim, the drug dealer, but desperate to win Laila back. There is so much pain in these lives that you long for a safe place for each of them to find peace, and hope. Ms. Gray does a good job of maneuvering us through all the minefields that could lead to happiness. Her characters are maturely fleshed out and the story is well developed. I stop just short of 5 stars due to some last minute plot machinations that strain the bands of believability. This story will wring you out like your grandma's old time washing machine, but in a real good way! Hope there is another book coming for this series! Would love to hear what happens to Cooper, who we first met and seemed all but unredeemable in MHND, but was a good friend to Chad in MUH.

Absolutely wonderful! A great story about second chances. It's a wonderful look at how a willingness to forgive can help move a life or lives forward. Wonderful character development. It wasn't a case of a quick fix. You felt the genuine hurt of the heroine. You felt the sorrow of the hero for the obvious pain he had caused. The characters had to grow and work through real emotions and hurts and real life to get to a place of common ground. You can relate to the characters and the story is believable. No sex. Genuine relationships being built on changing hearts and overcoming past hurts and mutual respect for one another. Thank you to this author for showing that reconciliation can be a possibility when all of the elements are there.

Just finished this book and it was a little hard to read because it mirrored my past in so many ways.

It is hard to overcome some difficulties because of things that happen to us that are out of our control but it is so positive to read about people who can turn their lives around trusting God and truly be happy. Loved the characters and the story, great read, couldn't put the book down.

Once again Tammy delivers an outstanding story that will leave any who reads it forever changed. Her ability to draw you in and connect with the characters amazes me. I am left with a deeper sense of God's grace and His unfailing love. His plan is always redemption and her books always portray this. My Unexpected Hope gives me a renewed hope for the forgiveness and redemption needed in my life story. Can't wait for your next one Tammy. Oh, you got me at the ending...absolutely amazing!!!!

An intimate look at the struggles a couple face, with addiction, with being in love but unable to beat addiction, with society's expectations. How they work to overcome it, how they are tested. A masterpiece.

A very real look at how addictions can affect all types of relationships. I found myself really rooting for Chad. Just a warning - this book will suck you in and you won't want to put it down!

Tammy writes in a way that makes me feel as if I'm living the lives of her characters. I become part of her stories, they are that realistic. Chad & Leila have to go through a lot of difficulty in order to find their way back to each other, and it all comes down to a firm foundation of faith in Jesus. Thanks for writing this book, Tammy, for giving us a happy ending, but not making it easy to get there!

I could not put this book down. Heartbreaking and yet bringing such hope thought this beautiful story of redemption. Greater is God who is in us than he that is in the world.

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