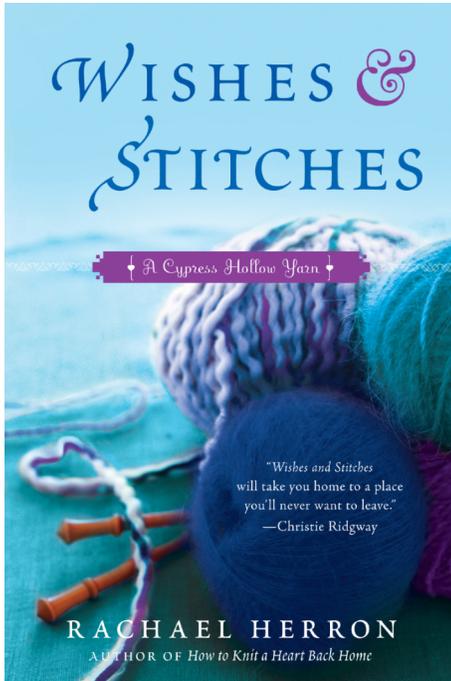


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“Wishes and Stitches will take you home to a place you’ll never want leave...warm and romantic, another Rachael Herron winner!”
—USA Today Bestselling Author Christie Ridgeway



Wishes and Stitches

By Rachael Herron

Author of *How to Knit a Love Song* and *How to Knit a Heart Back Home*

Whether or not you’ve read Rachael Herron before, you’re in for a treat with **Wishes and Stitches** (On-sale from William Morrow Paperbacks, an Imprint of HarperCollins, on 10/11/2011, ISBN 9780061841323, \$13.99), the third “Cypress Hollow Yarn.” A stand-alone novel, *Wishes and Stitches* exemplifies the “realistically eccentric characters and quietly humorous writing” (*Chicago Tribune*) that Herron is known for.

Herron’s previous novels, *How to Knit a Love Song* and *How to Knit a Heart Back Home*, earned her comparisons to Debbie Macomber, Kate Jacobs, and Gil McNeil. In *Wishes and Stitches*, Herron seamlessly marries her love of writing and knitting with a cozy story and characters who will warm your heart.

Ever since she became a doctor, Naomi Fontaine dreamed of practicing medicine in a small town. When Naomi first heard of Cypress Hollow from her dear friend and patient, knitting guru Eliza Carpenter, she knew it was the perfect place to open the free clinic she always wanted. But Naomi is having a hard time feeling like she belongs in a town where everyone knows everyone, though she’s comfortable with her patients, her awkwardness gets in the way of making new friends. When rugged Rig Keller moves to town to take over half of Naomi’s medical practice, things go from bad to worse, as Rig is just a little too familiar. Of course he charms the townspeople effortlessly--and to Naomi’s dismay, she can’t help but be charmed by him too.

After watching his brother’s heartbreak from losing his wife, Rig is not interested in anything serious—he’s here for his family and after spending years at sea as a doctor on oil rigs, it sure does feel good to have a home. So why does he find playing doctor with his new partner so impossible to resist?

Naomi, confused by how much she feels for Rig, wants to hide their relationship.. But keeping secrets is a dangerous game, and revealing hidden truths can lead to heartbreak. Rig must decide whether to risk his heart, and Naomi whether to open hers completely...

Praise for Rachael Herron's Cypress Hollow Series

*"With its realistically eccentric characters and quietly humorous writing, **How to Knit a Heart Back Home** is completely captivating."*

– **Chicago Tribune**

"Warm and fuzzy...(a) sweet, comforting tale."

– **Publishers Weekly**

"The author's love of the craft shines through with an intensity that only adds to the plot. Even nonknitters might be intrigued enough to pick up a pair of needles as they turn pages. Herron's second novel will earn her a well-deserved place in the ever-expanding knit-chick lit genre. Patrons who in the past have clamored for the novels of Debbie Macomber, Kate Jacobs, or Gil McNeil will definitely find this a good read."

– **Library Journal**

"This story is amazing. It's smart, it's tender, it's fun, and it's real."

– **Facing North.net**

"This novel is a warm-hearted hug from a talented author--and knitter. It's a sweet comfort read, with an edge of humor and irony that strikes just the right note. The love story of Lucy and Owen will stay in your heart long after the last page is turned."

– **Susan Wiggs, NYT Bestseller**

*"Want the comfort of community, the unbreakable ties of family, and a sexy but sweet love story? Get wrapped up in the warmth of a Rachel Herron book!" **Wishes and Stitches** will take you home to a place you'll never want to leave! In Cypress Hollow, a lonely woman's life is unraveled and knit whole again when family secrets come to light and a sexy man comes to town. Warm and romantic, another Rachel Herron winner!"*

– **Christie Ridgeway, USA Today Bestselling author**

"Rachael Herron seamlessly blends romance, friendship, and laughter in her wonderful second novel"

-- **Barbara Bretton, NYT bestseller**

"Rachael Herron charms with an emotional, heart-warming story of family, friendship and love in a town you'll never want to leave."

– **Barbara Freethy, USA Today Bestseller**

"Intricate and clever, Herron's knit-centric novel is as warm as the sweater pattern it includes! The delightful Abigail brings both knitting know-how and down-home sense to this story about picking up the threads of your life and creating something brilliant."

– **Romantic Times Booklovers Magazine**

"The warmth of Cypress Hollow fills each page with heart as red and vibrant as the knitted ones on the cover."

– **Barnes & Noble Romance Blog**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rachael Herron received her MFA in writing from Mills College. She writes the popular website Yarnagogo.com, which gets more than one hundred thousand readers a month. She has been knitting since she was five years old, and is known among her friends as simply "The Knitter." Rachael lives in Oakland, California.

www.rachaelherron.com

www.yarnagogo.com



A Conversation With Rachael Herron

Your writing seamlessly marries the idea of romantic storytelling with knitting. How did this concept come about?

The concept came about pretty organically. I've been a knitter as long as I've been a writer, since the age of about five or six, when I could first hold a pencil or a knitting needle. I have an MFA in writing, but I'd been struggling with what to write -- nothing felt important enough to warrant a novel. In 2006, I participated in National Novel Writing Month for the first time. An incredible online challenge, participants attempt to write 50,000 words in the month of November. The week before I started, I decided that in order to write that much, that fast, I had to write something that I loved, something that came naturally to me. I loved knitting, and I loved romance, so I put them together, and after another year of work (adding lots of words to those original 50,000) and a bit of editing, *How to Knit a Love Song* was born.

In your books, Eliza Carpenter is such a revered (fictional) figure for the knitting world. Does she have a real-life counterpart?

Eliza is truly herself, a personality that just kind of came out of my typing fingers and took over the world of Cypress Hollow, but I know that my reverence for certain figures in the knitting world came in to play for her character. Eliza is a combination of the genius of Alice Starmore, the knowledge of Barbara Walker, and the grace of Elizabeth Zimmerman. I had a blast creating someone I now look up to, something I didn't know could happen.

What inspired you to create the town of Cypress Hollow?

I love the rugged coast of California, and I've spent most of my life near it. Cypress Hollow is fictional, but I think of it as somewhere in the Half-Moon Bay area. There's a restaurant in the tiny town of Pescadero (Duarte's) that I spend time in as often as I can. Sometimes I've heard the ranchers talking in the other room, and they sound just like they do in my book. They gossip about the other ranchers, their kids, the way the valley is filling up with tourists... Sometimes I imagine my characters walking through the restaurant, and it makes me happy to know that the locals would be happy to see them, that they'd greet them by name.

Your novels are stand-alone, but characters from the past novels often make "guest appearances." Is this always planned, or does it happen organically?

Luckily, it's totally organic. The town has populated itself in my mind, and as characters appear, I write them down. But some are more persistent than others, and I can't let go of them--they pop back in as they see fit. They have real voices that want to be heard, and when they walk on, it's like a friend coming back into the room. It's a pretty great feeling.

In addition to being an author, you also run the popular site, <http://www.yarnagogo.com/> What role does knitting play in your life?

Some knitters describe knitting as being like meditation. I think this is a lovely idea, but I've been doing it for so long now that it's more like breathing air. It's just something I have to do. Ninety percent of the time, I'm not even thinking about what I'm doing -- the stitches just fall off the needles in (usually) the right order. Spinning, to me, is more meditative. It takes a bit more concentration, and it's a whole-body activity. It's calming when I'm doing it right (and a little stressful when I'm doing it wrong). So spinning is a process I'm learning, whereas knitting is just part of my life and makes up who I am. I love it.