



If you like ...

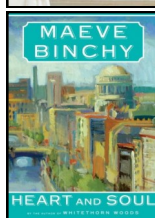
# Kristin Hannah

you may also enjoy these heartwarming stories of women's lives, relationships, and friendships, often set in small towns, and the characters realize they want more out of life.



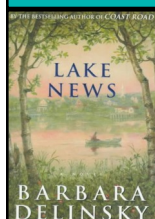
## Joy for Beginners by Erica Bauermeister

Six women gather to celebrate their friend Kate's recovery from cancer, where she strikes a bargain with them: to celebrate her new lease on life, she'll do the one thing that's always terrified her, but if she does, each of them will also do one thing that they'd find difficult.



## Heart and Soul by Maeve Binchy

Given the difficult task of building an underfunded clinic in an Irish community caught between the past and present, Dr. Clara Casey finds her task complicated by her problematic personal life, her colorful and diverse staff, and the difficult patients they serve.



## Lake News by Barbara Delinsky

After being unjustly accused by a reporter of having had an affair with a newly-appointed Cardinal, famous singer Lily Blake returns to her home town to recover and escape further attention from the press. There she forms an unlikely alliance with a big-city reporter whose career ended disastrously, sending him to the same town to edit the local newspaper.



## Love Walked In by Marisa De Los Santos

Cornelia is a sprightly little thing who's stuck in a rut managing a coffee shop and watching her beloved film classics in her spare time. Then, right out of the movies, "love walked in," looking just like a modern-day incarnation of Cary Grant. Martin seems to be perfect for Cornelia, until she meets his ten-year-old daughter, Clare, whom he had failed to mention.



## The Land of Mango Sunsets by Dorothea Benton Frank

Miriam Swanson has spent her entire life playing by the rules, and what has it got her? Husband Charles left to marry and raise children with his longtime mistress; Miriam barely speaks to her two grown sons. Aching for a change, Miriam flies off for a weekend at the family beach house on Sullivan's Island, lush location of many good memories.



## The Saving Graces by Patricia Gaffney

A story about true friendship follows the lives of the Saving Graces--Emma, Rudy, Lee, and Isabel--four very different women who find strength in the love, loyalty, and courage they all share.

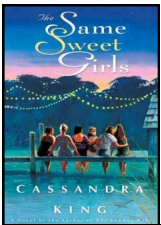


## A Summer Affair by Elin Hilderbrand

Reluctantly agreeing to organize a children's benefit at which a rock-star ex-lover is performing, Claire Danner Crispin finds her efforts complicated by her clashes with a fellow organizer, her best friend's catering mishaps, and a new relationship.

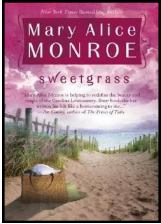
Created by J. Lockhart & Updated by D. Brooks— 01/12 — Annotations courtesy of Novelist and the WCPL Catalog





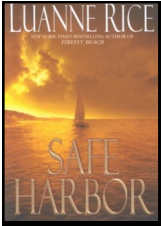
### *The Same Sweet Girls* by Cassandra King

Every two years, a tight-knit group of Southern women, friends since college, come together for a reunion to renew their relationships with one another, each of them having an incredible story to tell about the course their lives have taken.



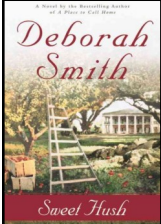
### *Sweetgrass* by Mary Alice Monroe

When his domineering father, Preston, suffers a stroke, Morgan reluctantly returns to help run Sweetgrass, the aging family plantation, even though he said he'd never go back. Mary June, Morgan's mother, has grown estranged from her husband, but his stroke causes her to take a hard look at their past. Amid all this emotional chaos, Morgan's Aunt Adele is trying to force them to sell Sweetgrass to developers.



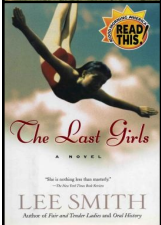
### *Safe Harbor* by Luanne Rice

Dana Underhill, a successful artist and sailing instructor living in Normandy, is heartbroken when her sister Lily perishes in a sailing accident. A year after the tragedy, she returns to Connecticut, intending to take Lily's daughters back with her to France. Travel plans change, however, when Dana encounters Sam Trevor, a marine biologist and former sailing student.



### *Sweet Hush* by Deborah Smith

Hush McGillen, a young widow and single mother running a successful family orchard, finds her life turned upside down when her college student son Davis elopes with and marries the rebellious daughter of the President of the United States.



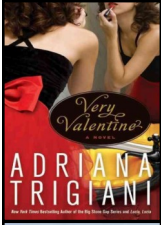
### *Last Girls* by Lee Smith

During the summer after graduation from Mary Scott College in Virginia in 1963, five friends built a raft and floated down the Mississippi, ostensibly to honor Huckleberry Finn but also to commemorate their friendship as they set out on their own. Fast forward to 1999. The four surviving members of the group book themselves on a luxury steamboat cruise from Memphis to New Orleans, carrying a box with the ashes of their recently deceased chum.



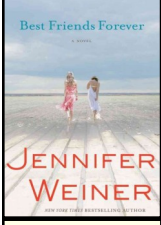
### *Beachcombers* by Nancy Thayer

Reuniting on Nantucket to start a business and keep an eye on their father's new romance, three sisters work, gossip, and squabble while struggling with respective approaches to their responsibilities and losses.



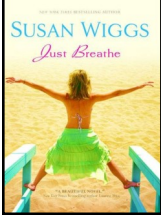
### *Very Valentine* by Adriana Trigiani

Valentine Roncalli, adrift after a failed relationship and an aborted teaching career, becomes an apprentice to her 80-year-old grandmother, Teodora Angelini, at the tiny family shoe business. While Valentine struggles to come up with a financial plan, and shoe design, to bring the Old World operation into the 21st century, her brother, Alfred, is pushing Gram to retire and sell her building.



### *Best Friends Forever* by Jennifer Weiner

Juggling the politics of broken families, heartbreaking betrayal and shaky self-esteem, two girlhood pals—ugly duckling Addie and wounded beauty Valerie—reconnect after their high school reunion, where Valerie exacts a long-in-coming revenge on smug former beau Dan Swansea. But the payback gets more complicated when police chief Jordan Novick, nursing a crush-at-first-sight with Addie, is called in to investigate Dan's disappearance.



### *Just Breathe* by Susan Wiggs

With Chicago and her marriage in the rearview mirror, cartoonist Sarah Moon flees to the small northern California coastal town where she grew up. As she comes to terms with her lost marriage, Sarah encounters a man she never expected to meet again: Will Bonner, the high school heartthrob she'd skewered mercilessly in her old comics.