I’d like to introduce you to Donna Everhart (Farmgirl Sister #7913). Donna is the USA Today bestselling author of Southern fiction with authenticity and grit, including the Southeastern Library Association Award-winning The Road to Bittersweet and her most recent novel, The Moonshiner’s Daughter. Her fifth novel, The Saints of Swallow Hill, comes out January 25, 2022. She lives with her husband in a small town just an hour from where she was born and raised in Raleigh, North Carolina. Please visit her online at DonnaEverhart.com.

Dear Farmgirl Sisters, Welcome to the Farmgirl Book Club! If this is your first visit, here’s how it works...

In each issue of MaryJanesFarm, we suggest several new books, usually coinciding with a different theme and always the kinds of reads that are fun to share and discuss. You pick whichever one tickles your fancy—whether that’s all of them, or just one, or something that’s not on the list at all. Then we all get together at Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub to talk about what we’re reading.

Happy reading!

Donna Everhart
Farmgirl Sister #7913

Once in a Lifetime
by Mary Monroe
A touch of holiday magic turns a chain of unexpected events into a year-round gift of love and a second chance at life in this heartwarming tale about an untraditional holiday season gone awry. In a year full of lockdowns, who hasn’t dreamed of flying off to a faraway place? That’s exactly what free-spirited Vanessa Haye plans when she books her very own Christmas in Paris. But when her passport is accidentally sent to the ever-prudent Judith Guthrie, a small gesture of kindness between these two completely opposite women results in Vanessa saving the life of Judith’s younger brother. An inspiring and earnest story of paying-it-forward, I found that this playful yet thought-provoking novel made me want to give a big hug to those I cherish the most.

Santa’s Sweetheart
by Janet Dailey
Janet Dailey brings us to the charming small town of Branding Iron, Texas, a close-knit community where the holidays are a very big deal. But the only thing 6-year-old Maggie wants for Christmas is to find a girlfriend for her widowed dad, the town Sheriff, As she considers the available candidates, she zeroes in on her pretty schoolteacher, Miss Grace, and contrives a plan to get them together. It doesn’t matter if Grace isn’t looking for a relationship or the grownups soon realize what Maggie is up to and insist on thwarting her plans. Maggie—and fate—can be very persistent. A heartwarming story filled with a touch of holiday magic turns a chain of unexpected events into a year-round gift of love and a second chance at life in this heartwarming tale about an untraditional holiday season gone awry. In a year full of lockdowns, who hasn’t dreamed of flying off to a faraway place? That’s exactly what free-spirited Vanessa Haye plans when she books her very own Christmas in Paris. But when her passport is accidentally sent to the ever-prudent Judith Guthrie, a small gesture of kindness between these two completely opposite women results in Vanessa saving the life of Judith’s younger brother. An inspiring and earnest story of paying-it-forward, I found that this playful yet thought-provoking novel made me want to give a big hug to those I cherish the most.

The Twelve Days of Snowball
by Kristen McManagh
This whimsical, heartwarming holiday novel is told in part from the perspective of a mischievous, matchmaking bundle of feline fluff named Snowball, and if that doesn’t put a smile on your face, I don’t know what will! It’s Christmastime at the Weber Haus B&B, and Snowball is taking her job as the mountainside inn’s official greeter, watcher, and matchmaker very seriously. This year, she’s determined to work her magic on the inn’s kind new manager, Sophie — even if it means having to cooperate with her least favorite human, Daniel!

Santa Cruise
by Fern Michaels
When four women who were best friends in high school reconnect at their 15-year reunion, they realize that even though their lives have taken them in wildly different directions, there’s one thing they do have in common: They’re all still searching for Mr. Right. Somehow, when it comes to romance, the success they’ve achieved in all other areas of their lives has proved elusive. So, when Frankie suggests they spend the holidays together on a weeklong singles’ cruise, four tickets aboard the Medallion of the Seas are officially booked. If seven days and nights trapped with hundreds of lonely fish in a singles-cruise dating pool doesn’t sound like your idea of Christmas magic, you are not alone! But it sure makes for a sweet, funny, escapist read that will make you grateful for the kinds of girlfriends you can count on.

Christmas at the Amish Bakeshop
by Fern Michaels
This heartwarming holiday novel is told in part from the perspective of a mischievous, matchmaking bundle of feline fluff named Snowball, and if that doesn’t put a smile on your face, I don’t know what will! It’s Christmastime at the Weber Haus B&B, and Snowball is taking her job as the mountainside inn’s official greeter, watcher, and matchmaker very seriously. This year, she’s determined to work her magic on the inn’s kind new manager, Sophie — even if it means having to cooperate with her least favorite human, Daniel!

Once in a Lifetime
by Mary Monroe
A touch of holiday magic turns a chain of unexpected events into a year-round gift of love and a second chance at life in this heartwarming tale about an untraditional holiday season gone awry. In a year full of lockdowns, who hasn’t dreamed of flying off to a faraway place? That’s exactly what free-spirited Vanessa Haye plans when she books her very own Christmas in Paris. But when her passport is accidentally sent to the ever-prudent Judith Guthrie, a small gesture of kindness between these two completely opposite women results in Vanessa saving the life of Judith’s younger brother. An inspiring and earnest story of paying-it-forward, I found that this playful yet thought-provoking novel made me want to give a big hug to those I cherish the most.

Santa’s Sweetheart
by Janet Dailey
Janet Dailey brings us to the charming small town of Branding Iron, Texas, a close-knit community where the holidays are a very big deal. But the only thing 6-year-old Maggie wants for Christmas is to find a girlfriend for her widowed dad, the town Sheriff. As she considers the available candidates, she zeroes in on her pretty schoolteacher, Miss Grace, and contrives a plan to get them together. It doesn’t matter if Grace isn’t looking for a relationship or the grownups soon realize what Maggie is up to and insist on thwarting her plans. Maggie—and fate—can be very persistent. A heartwarming story filled with a touch of holiday magic turns a chain of unexpected events into a year-round gift of love and a second chance at life in this heartwarming tale about an untraditional holiday season gone awry. In a year full of lockdowns, who hasn’t dreamed of flying off to a faraway place? That’s exactly what free-spirited Vanessa Haye plans when she books her very own Christmas in Paris. But when her passport is accidentally sent to the ever-prudent Judith Guthrie, a small gesture of kindness between these two completely opposite women results in Vanessa saving the life of Judith’s younger brother. An inspiring and earnest story of paying-it-forward, I found that this playful yet thought-provoking novel made me want to give a big hug to those I cherish the most.