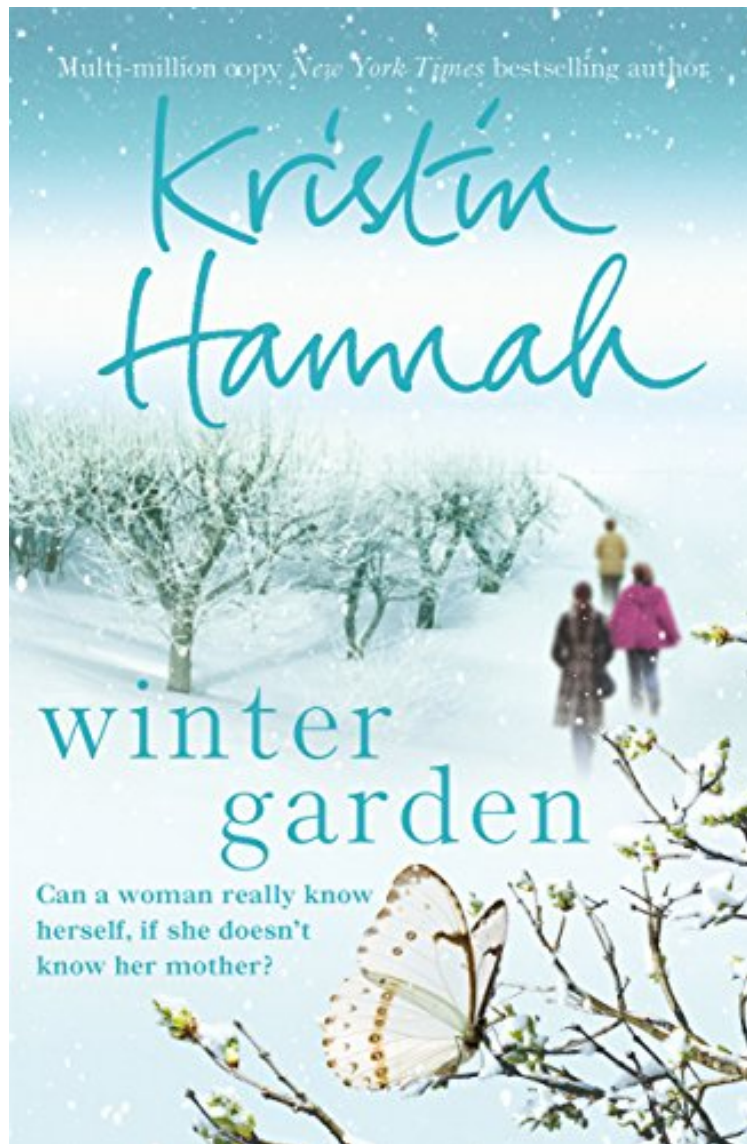


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## Winter Garden (English Edition)

Von Kristin Hannah

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**Von Kristin Hannah : Winter Garden (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Winter Garden (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Tolles Buch, gute Autorin Von Kindle-Kunde Habe jetzt schon einige Bücher von Kristin Hannah verschlungen und finde die Bücher wirklich großartig. Lieferung war top und das Buch eben auch. 3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Tundra Trek to Sunshine Von BeatleBangs1964 "Mother, you had me, but I didn't have you. I wanted you but

you didn't want me, So I got to tell you, Goodbye, goodbye." -- John Lennon, 1970

Kristin Hannah, a gifted chick lit author (and I LOVE chick lit) has done it again. She has written a compelling story, set in Washington State and created a cast of memorable and plausible characters. In short, Kristin Hannah is a genius. It's as simple as that. The story opens in 2001, when sisters Nina, (b. 1963) and Meredith (b. 1960) are facing major life changes. Nina, a photojournalist is in Africa doing a photo shoot while Meredith remains near the home she grew up. She, her husband Jeff and two daughters Jillian, 19 and in med school and Maddie, 17 all pitch in to help Meredith's parents. Her father was at the end of his life when the story opens and the sisters have a poor relationship with their mother. Meredith traces the turning point in their bad relationship to an incident involving a play she and Nina put on in 1972 when they were 12 and 9 respectively. At that point, Meredith vows that she will never listen to another fairy tale their mother tells EVER again. "Children, don't do what I have done, I couldn't walk and I tried to run. So I got to tell you, Goodbye, goodbye. Mama don't go, Daddy come home." -- John Lennon, 1970 from "Mother"

This story is far deeper than the snow, which is used metaphorically as well as realistically throughout the story. Nina and Meredith's mother is from Russia and the wonderful references to Russian food and culture make for a culturally sharing experience. The sisters' father eventually dies, but after he extracts a promise from his daughters to get their mother to tell one particular story in toto. They promise, but keeping it is what makes up for a large part of the story. They have their work cut out for them. Meredith is the efficient, take charge personality, a quality that was probably inculcated in her from an early age as being the older sister. Nina, having written getting love from their mother as a lost cause embarks upon a successful career that requires her to travel for extensive periods of time. She has a loving boyfriend who is good to her and good for her, as Meredith's husband Jeff is a good man. The sisters travel in different orbits - Meredith as trying to do everything she can for her widowed mother, even making some very difficult decisions. Nina, globe-trotting and rising in her career only to hit some rough spots when their father died returns to the family homestead to make equally difficult, yet very different decisions. Meredith and Nina examine their approaches to adult relationships and both wonder why their father Evan married their mother Anya. They both had warm, loving relationships with their father (the apple orchard is a symbol of fruitful love as they have an apple orchard on the family property) and the snow is a metaphor for their mother, whom the girls understandably feel is cold and distant as an Arctic tundra. Her blue eyes, unlike those of a Siberian husky, radiate coldness as opposed to a loving, playful side. Anya is very much like an Arctic tundra. Both sisters have more in common than they realized. Meredith's husband feels rebuffed by Meredith and I just loved it when he challenged her by saying he was on her "to do list" because she appeared to approach everything in life as a challenge to be checked off. Nina, whose boyfriend Danny is a very loving man wants her to make a commitment to him, yet she teeters on the precipice of doing just that. knows why Evan married Anya, nor why Anya seems to hate them. The girls' father knows a very different Anya and a story that is far deeper and one that travels much further than either daughter can imagine. A loving, tolerant man, Evan understands Anya and spent his life trying to encourage the girls to do likewise, despite her aloof demeanor. The promise he extracts from his daughters does change the world and the tundra starts to thaw.... "Little darling, I feel that ice is slowly melting. Little darling, it seems like years since it's been clear. Here comes the sun, here comes the sun, and I say it's all right, it's all right." -- George Harrison, 1969

Anya's story is the foundation on which the story eventually rests. Without giving anything away, let's just say this novel is one that is well worth the trek through the tundra and well worth every page. The story the girls finally hear has a profoundly meteoric impact on their lives and their view of the world. It closes with an epilogue of the characters in 2010, which leaves readers with a sense of fullness and satisfaction. John Lennon's classic "Mother" and also the George Harrison classic "Here Comes the Sun" underscore this book. This is truly an outstanding novel about relationships and how secrets divide and are usually uncovered over time. What makes this book special is the development of the characters; their compelling story and the writing itself. I highly recommend this book.

0 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Das Titelbild ist das Beste an diesem Buch. Von BrittaHM Ich gebe es zu, ich habe mich vom Titelbild bezaubern lassen - und von einigen Rezensionen. Ich habe das Buch nicht zu Ende gelesen, weil es mir einfach zu langweilig war. Der Schreibstil ist nicht dazu angetan, dass man sich in der Geschichte verliert und jedes Kapitel hat sich wie eine Pflichtübung angefühlt. Ich habe gut ein Drittel gelesen, weil ich gehofft habe, dass man vielleicht nur schwer in die Geschichte rein kommt, aber es wurde immer schlechter. Ich mag generell Geschichten nicht, die zwischen Vergangenheit und Gegenwart hin und her springen, aber das ist bei diesem Buch noch das geringste Problem. Ich möchte meine Freizeit nicht damit verbringen, psychopathischen Menschen dabei zuzusehen, wie sie ihre Beziehungen kaputt trampeln, weil sie nur um sich selbst und ihre eigenen Probleme kreisen und angeblich "nicht anders können". Schade um das Geld.

**Kurzbeschreibung** Sometimes when you open the door to your mother's past, you find your own future . . . Meredith and Nina Whitson are as different as sisters can be. One stayed at home to raise her children and manage the family apple orchard; the other followed a dream and travelled the world to become a famous photo journalist. But when their beloved father falls ill, these two estranged women will find themselves together again, standing alongside their cold,

disapproving mother, Anya, who even now, offers no comfort to her daughters. On his deathbed, their father extracts one last promise from the women in his life. It begins with a story that is unlike anything the sisters have heard before - a captivating, mysterious love story that spans sixty-five years and moves from frozen, war-torn Leningrad to modern-day Alaska. The vividly imagined tale brings these three women together in a way that none could have expected. Meredith and Nina will finally learn the secret of their mother's past and uncover a truth so terrible it will shake the foundation of their family and change who they think they are. Every once in a while a writer comes along who navigates the complex and layered landscape of the human heart. For this generation, it's Kristin Hannah. Mesmerizing from the first page to the last, *Winter Garden* is an evocative, lyrically written novel that will long be remembered. *Pressestimmen* 'Movingly written and plotted with the heartless skill of Greek tragedy. You'll keep turning the pages until the last racking sob' Wendy Holden, *Daily Mail* 'A gripping tale of family love, grief and forgiveness' *Sunday Express* 'A guilty pleasure' *Daily Express* 'A moving coming-of-age story' *Heat* *Werbetext* From the author of acclaimed national bestseller *Firefly Lane* comes a haunting, heartbreakingly beautiful novel that illuminates the intricate mother-daughter bond and explores the enduring links between past and present.