



The Wishing Thread: A Novel

By Lisa Van Allen

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NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • USA TODAY BESTSELLER

“Reader to reader, knitter to knitter: You’re going to love this book.”—Debbie Macomber

For fans of Jennifer Chiaverini and Sarah Addison Allen, *The Wishing Thread* is an enchanting novel about the bonds between sisters, the indelible pull of the past, and the transformational power of love.

The Van Ripper women have been the talk of Tarrytown, New York, for centuries. Some say they’re angels; some say they’re crooks. In their tumbledown “Stitchery,” not far from the stomping grounds of the legendary Headless Horseman, the Van Ripper sisters—Aubrey, Bitty, and Meggie—are said to knit people’s most ardent wishes into beautiful scarves and mittens, granting them health, success, or even a blossoming romance. But for the magic to work, sacrifices must be made—and no one knows that better than the Van Rippers.

When the Stitchery matriarch, Mariah, dies, she leaves the yarn shop to her three nieces. Aubrey, shy and reliable, has dedicated her life to weaving spells for the community, though her sisters have long stayed away. Bitty, pragmatic and persistent, has always been skeptical of magic and wants her children to have a normal, nonmagical life. Meggie, restless and free-spirited, follows her own set of rules. Now, after Mariah’s death forces a reunion, the sisters must reassess the state of their lives even as they decide the fate of the Stitchery. But their relationships with one another—and their beliefs in magic—are put to the test. Will the threads hold?

BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from Lisa Van Allen’s *The Night Garden*.

Praise for *The Wishing Thread*

“With deft needlework, a dash of folklore, and some good old-fashioned family angst, Lisa Van Allen knits together the threads of second chances, the pleasure of giving, the complications of sisterhood, and love. There’s a bit of magic in *The*

Wishing Thread, in the words and the story as well as in the yarn.”—**Meg Waite Clayton, author of *The Wednesday Sisters***

“Rich in myth and mystery, *The Wishing Thread* explores the tangle that is being a woman—from family and friendship to romance and community. Prepare to be ensnared, enthralled, enchanted!”—**USA Today bestselling author Christie Ridgway**

“*The Wishing Thread* is a lyrical, emotional, finely knit portrayal of three sisters struggling with love, magic and sacrifice. This is the best book I’ve read all year.”—**Lisa Verge Higgins, author of *The Proper Care and Maintenance of Friendship***

“An intriguing story of three sisters tied by blood and a strange inheritance, each searching for a way to belong in that place where magic and life intersect. Wonderful!”—**Shelley Noble, author of *Beach Colors***

“Van Allen knits together this pleasantly entertaining tale as easily as the Van Ripper women knit together the often unraveling threads of people’s lives. . . . Chick-lit cozy meets magical realism with inevitably warm and fuzzy results.”—**Booklist**

“Fans of magical realism will want to pick up this enjoyable novel, which not only weaves magic through stitchery, but also weaves a realistic story about family and sisterhood and the threads that pull us back home.”—**RT Book Reviews**

Includes an exclusive conversation between Sarah Addison Allen and Lisa Van Allen. Join the Random House Reader’s Circle for author chats and more.

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Gift or curse, the magic of the Van Ripper family is in the knitting—so the residents of Tarrytown, New York, speculate. Van Allen knits together this pleasantly entertaining tale as easily as the Van Ripper women knit together the often unraveling threads of people’s lives. When matriarch Mariah Van Ripper’s death reunites her three nieces—awkwardly shy Aubrey; cynical, uptight Bitty; and free-spirit Meggie—together they must decide how far they will go in order to preserve the Stitchery’s secrets. The Stitchery, their ancestral home, located in contemporary Rip Van Winkle territory, has housed generations of Van Ripper women, whose gift for magic is intimately tied in with the beautiful items they knit. Casting spells on and off with the clicks of their needles, the sisters contend with the wishes and wants of others as well as their own deepest desires. Chick-lit cozy meets magical realism with inevitably warm and fuzzy results. --Margaret Flanagan

Review

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“Great for fans of Sarah Addison Allen and Alice Hoffman; you know it’s whimsical when you learn that debut author Allen owns a pet hedgehog.”—**Library Journal**

“Fans of magical realism will want to pick up this enjoyable novel, which not only weaves magic through stitchery, but also weaves a realistic story about family and sisterhood and the threads that pull us back home.”—**RT Book Reviews**

About the Author

Lisa Van Allen’s writing has been published in many literary journals and has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. She currently lives in northern New Jersey with her husband and their pet hedgehog.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kenny Grant:

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Mary Thomas:

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Lillian Thrasher:

Is it anyone who having spare time after that spend it whole day through watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This *The Wishing Thread: A Novel* can be the response, oh how comes? A book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these guides have than the others?

Kaye Hensley:

In this era which is the greater man or who has ability in doing something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become among it? It is just simple method to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to have a look at some books. On the list of books in the top collection in your reading list is *The Wishing Thread: A Novel*. This book which can be qualified as *The Hungry Mountains* can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking up and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

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