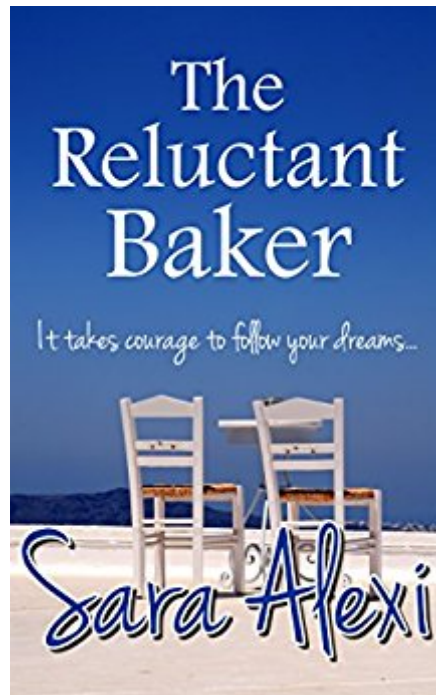




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The Reluctant Baker (The Greek Village Series Book 7)



Synopsis

WARNING: THIS NOVEL WILL MAKE YOU WANT TO ESCAPE TO THE SUN! Submerging you in the rich culture of life in a pastoral Greek village, *The Reluctant Baker* throws you in amongst its colourful characters going about their daily lives as the donkeys bray and the sun shines. Burdened by his job working unreasonable hours in the village bakery owned by his mother and father-in-law, Loukas is a loyal young man who wants to please his in-laws but feels life is passing him by. So when tragedy strikes the family, a way out from his hopeless situation seems even further away. Also looking for an escape, nineteen year old Ellie overcomes her timid ways to break free from a pre-planned life and overbearing father by heading from England to Greece, with only a few belongings in a rucksack. Checking herself in to the new hotel near the village, she ends up disrupting more than she bargains for as her presence in the village shakes foundations to the core. As two young souls search for a better life, can Loukas find a way to start over without letting his in-laws down? And will finding the path to true love and happiness prove to be impossible for Ellie? In an uplifting story of resilience conquering adversity, this tale of young love, scandal, jealous neighbours and a plot to bankrupt the new hotel before it has opened its doors will leave your feet barely touching the ground.

Book Information

File Size: 2600 KB

Print Length: 325 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Oneiro (March 10, 2015)

Publication Date: March 10, 2015

Sold by: Â Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00UC703PS

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #114,561 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #64

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Customer Reviews

My heart ached for Ellie - growing up in the home of the vicar she experienced the harshness and rigidity that comes from religion rather than a loving relationship with God. A visit to the warm and sunny Greek village with its blue skies and warm inviting friendships begins to transform Ellie's self-perception. She discovers true love but can she persuade herself to find her true self instead of being "responsible"? I read this book in one sitting - could not put it down. Truly a joy to visit my old friends in the village again!!

The Reluctant Baker follows Ms Alexi's Greek Village series with many of the same characters (Stella, Mitsos, Juliet, etc.) finding yet another unhappy English woman discovering love in the arms of a delectable Greek man. Of course this is accomplished only after dealing with a number of social/cultural obstructions for both main characters. Ms. Alexi captures the essence of Greek village life and its close association with the natural rhythms of the land, as well as the effects of the economic challenges of contemporary Greek life. Hope there are more of this series on the way. We visit the Peloponnese for several weeks every fall, so it is lovely to be transported back there by these novels, from our home in the Pacific Northwest.

As always, Sara Alexi delivers the goods. Sara has a deep understanding of people and her insights never fail to draw me closer and closer to the Greek Village. I read these books over and over. The books have created a "real" place in my mind and the "real" inhabitants live within it. They all have their stories and each book makes me more hungry for another. The people's lives intertwine and each novel is a delightful offshoot which enhances our knowledge of the characters of the older novels and provides a great stand-alone read.

This is another great story from Sara Alexi. I always look forward to reading Sara's books as I know her characters seem so much like real people and her stories draw me in. This book is no exception. It is a complicated romance and as you learn more about the female lead, you wonder how she can trust any man again. The contrast between Greece and England is perhaps a little overdrawn - I am sure it doesn't rain all the time in England, does it? But I think some people are

meant to live in the sun and heat and others thrive in cooler, wetter climes. And although I live in the former sort of climate, I look forward to travelling to Greece some day and maybe finding a village a bit like the one in Sara's stories. There were a few minor proofreading errors, hence the 4 star rating.

Another great book in the Greek Village series. Keep them coming, Sara.

This book continues the fascinating exploration of the intertwined lives of people who live and pass through a dreamy Greek village. Sara Alexi's characters are always complex, fully flesh and blood humans that I quickly care about. She tackles difficult psychological issues with very direct honesty. Another book in this beautifully written series that I couldn't put down as soon as I started. Sara Alexi is my new favorite author and I hope she writes many more books in this sumptuous series that I've fallen in love with.

Sara, I finished The Reluctant Baker today in the car on the way to my Mom's!!!! There are not enough stars in the sky to rate how much I like this one. Thank you for again transporting me to my virtual Vacation in Greece. I so enjoy the connection I feel when I read your books!!

I have been reading the Greek Village series of books by Sara Alexi for a couple of years now. I have enjoyed each one. The book picks up with a person in the village and develops the characters of this person and those close to him. It is always a fun and interesting read. This book is about a young man who works for the baker and his wife, parents of his deceased wife. He feels very stuck in this job. As the story develops, we learn of his relationship to the others in this small Greek village on the Mediterranean Sea. There is a love interest of course.

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