



The Little Flower Shop by the Sea

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Poppy Carmichael, 30, certainly never intended to own a florist. But when she inherits her grandmother's beloved flower shop on the beautiful Cornish coast, Poppy has no choice but to return to the pretty harbour town of St Felix where she spent much of her childhood.

Returning to St Felix brings back sad memories for Poppy. But when she makes new friends such as local flower grower Jake, a young widowed father of two teenagers, Poppy begins to overcome her fears, and discover for herself what's so special about this little flower shop by the sea.

The Little Flower Shop by the Sea Details

Date : Published May 7th 2015 by Sphere

ISBN : 9780751558616

Author : Ali McNamara

Format : Paperback 432 pages

Genre : Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Romance, Fiction, Contemporary

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From Reader Review The Little Flower Shop by the Sea for online ebook

Lisa Houston says

What a lovely book. Ali McNamara's 1st book ive read. Seem they are all set in Cornwall these days. Loved the story in the book. The main character Poppy. Loved reading of her return to the shop she inherited from her Granny. Finding out why she acted so strangely around flowers for the owner of a flower shop. Would recommend this lovely feel good summer book.

Best Crime Books & More says

Ali McNamara's books are like a breath of fresh air. I read a LOT of Crime, Thriller and Mystery's so when I have a break from the genre I always want a book that is the complete opposite. Thankfully Ali McNamara's books not only tell wonderful stories, they manage to transport you to a whole new world. In this case St Felix in Cornwall. By the halfway point in the book I was already wondering whether I could squeeze in a quick weekend down there at some point during the summer.

Our leading lady Poppy Carmichael isn't the standard issue girl next door in terms of looks. She always dresses in black and has a serious chip on her shoulder. I fell in love with her immediately. She has been left her Grandmother's florist down in St Ives, and she makes her way down there not knowing what to do. Her first instinct is to race back to London after selling up.

What actually happens is that she runs into quite a few of the locals and before she knows it, has agreed to give the shop a go and stays on in ST Ives. Not only is Poppy a fabulous character but as usual in a McNamara book all the secondary characters are fabulous too. Amber, Woody, Jake and some other locals add to the charm of both the story and this seaside town.

I was rooting for Poppy, as we realise very early on that there are reasons for her strange behaviours' and phobia's, only we are made to wait to find out exactly why. The story was told in such a way that you had enough of each part of the story without it being ruined. I loved everything about it from the setting, to the characters to the story itself. It seems that Ali McNamara has produced another cracking book that is the perfect getaway from real life.

Karen Mace says

This was Book #2 in my #20booksofsummer challenge.

Loved every single, flowery minute of this one!! Just the perfect read and what I love about Chick-Lit when it is done so well! Full of wonderful characters that are so perfectly described that you immediately warm to them all, and a wonderful setting that is so easy to picture in your mind and makes you want to live there!.

It is the story of Poppy who inherits The Daisy Chain, a flower shop in the west country village of St Felix,

after the sad death of her beloved grandmother. Poppy used to visit St Felix throughout her childhood but her visits grew more rare over the years as her memories were just too painful. The shop has been run by a group of the local women since her grandmothers death, and they are a little reluctant to see a 'newbie' come in and take over, especially one who has no interest in flowers despite it being a family tradition! Poppy soon learns of the magical background of the shop and how it has helped the community over the years. The healing and magical powers of flowers are also featured highly in this story and this is a lovely touch

Throughout the book a variety of characters are introduced with their own really interesting tales to be told, and it all blends in so well that I just hope there will be more tales from St Felix in the future as they've become like friends while I was reading! And yes there were tears from me too, and that is always a good sign of how much a book connects with the reader if it can bring you to tears!

So if you are looking for a wonderful book to escape in to, this is the one I'd highly recommend!!

Agi says

"The Little Flower Shop by the Sea" is Ali McNamara's 6th book, if I'm not mistaken, and I can proudly say that I've read all of them. Nevertheless, I was starting this book a little uncertain, because as much as I love Ali's "From Notting Hill..." series, I had not so brilliant relationship with her stand - alone novels. But I can now easily state, that her latest release is a wonderful story that I enjoyed so very much!

There is a great cast of characters in this book, and there is this incredible sense of community that I so love in my books. The characters were so vivid and colourful, and all of them had their own personality and felt like real people, with their stories, their history, that often was so heart - wrenching. It was really great to see how all of them were developing, especially our MC Poppy who, named after the flower, didn't want to have anything with flowers. Nevertheless, being in St Felix brings back all the nice memories from her childhood, and no matter how much she doesn't want to stay there, the place grows on her so much again, and she feels happy there. Is she going to conquer her demons?

Also, the people of St Felix that welcomes her back so warmly were a great addition to the story. And not only people, but also dogs and monkey! Yes! Miley the monkey was an extra character, and I loved all the scenes with her, she was so greatly described that I could see her cover her ears or eyes.

I also loved the descriptions of St Felix, the sense of community that I've mentioned before - this place was truly charming, the atmosphere there was so cosy, and I'd love to spend my holidays there and try some pasties from the lovely duo Ant & Dec. Ali has captured the atmosphere of this little town perfectly, the neighbourly kindness, but also the neighbourly messing about.

We knew from almost the very beginning that Poppy had some issues and as a result she has been almost fifteen years in the therapy. We know it has something to do with her brother and flowers but of course we must wait a respectable bit of time for this secret to be revealed. Nevertheless, the author has done this brilliantly in my eyes, because she didn't mention it too often to make us tired with the waiting, and in the meantime she has added some really significant scenes or sub - plots that took our minds away from this particular secret. Really great job.

There is a lot about flowers in this book, and as much as I'm not into the whole flowers - thing (although I'm

not as extreme as Poppy, I do like a big, nicely scented bouquet of flowers), I did enjoy all those descriptions, and the information about how each flower means something totally different. I loved how each chapter was dedicated to different flower (had no idea there are so many of them!), and how the descriptions of those flowers fit the content of this chapter. I wouldn't also say no to this extra special bouquet made only for me by Amber, a bouquet that would cure all my troubles.

You know, it was a truly complex story, full of feelings and emotions, and as much as it is on the light side, the author also writes about some much more important issues that often made my heart breaking. It has enough twists and turns and a very promising romance. I have a feeling that there are some loose ends left that are in need to be tied up, but maybe we are for a sequel there? But still, it was really a lovely novel, a novel that has everything that I am always looking for in a book: relatable, likeable heroine, a story, it's full of emotions and it makes you both laugh and shed some tears. The author also tried to stir some problems adding Caroline to the plot, and as much as I appreciate it, this sub - plot was a little far - fetched, too obvious and too predictable, and I'd love a little more resistance from her, that it didn't end such easily and without protest. This, and the end that seemed much too rushed for my liking, and especially Stan being introduced to his new family - it was too important to be so left out, as Jack and his children are significant characters to this story, and the book has lost its impact somewhere in the middle, the pace slowed clearly down - those are my only "buts". Other than that, it was really a delightful, sunny and light read that I truly enjoyed, and it brought back the feeling of summer, with just the right mix of romance, laugh and tears, and I am already waiting for a new story from Ali.

Copy received from publisher in exchange for a review.

Zarina says

<http://www.pagetostagereviews.com/201...>

Despite being named after a flower and her entire family being in the floral business, these colourful and fragrant parts of plants are Poppy's worst nightmare. So when after her grandmother's passing she unexpectedly inherits the old flower shop in the seaside town of St Felix she is fully prepared to waltz in there to take stock and sell the place to the first person who offers a decent price for it. From past experience Poppy knows that she's not cut out for sticking with a job for a long period of time anyway, so she might as well cash in when she has the chance.

What she isn't prepared for is the flood of happy memories that engulf her as soon as she revisits St Felix, the town where she spent many a carefree summer holiday with her brother when they were still kids. The high-street looks a little more run down than she remembers it to be and she doubts that Mad Stan the Pasty Man still lives up in Treclarlan Castle, but other than that little has changed from when she last set foot in the place when she was a teenager.

However, after a chance encounter with a monkey by the name of Miley, and her very handsome owner, Poppy suddenly finds herself willing to try to return The Daisy Chain shop to its former glory. And despite her peculiar reservations about flowers, and a big secret she is hiding from the townspeople and her new friends, the incredibly welcoming community on the Cornish coast might just be what Poppy needs to finally be able to work through her issues and find happiness again.

This novel is SO good you guys! I loved Ali McNamara's previous books, especially the fun and imaginative *Step Back in Time*, but *The Little Flower Shop by the Sea* is on a whole new level of awesome. The charm of the seaside town just pops of the pages and the cosy atmosphere was amplified by the incredible cast of heartwarming characters that live and work in St Felix; from baking duo Ant & Dec to cheeky monkey Miley, and from the gentle Amber who carries her own secrets around to the incredibly handsome Jake and his amazing children.

I am actually quite gutted that St Felix is a fictional setting as otherwise I would seriously contemplate moving there myself. It's rare to find that real feel of a community in today's day and age and Ali has captured this longing for simpler times and a neighbourly kindredness beautifully on the pages of her book. Poppy may have been broken when she arrived, but the town and its inhabitants have a healing effect on her as she blossoms into someone who really fits into the community at St Felix.

I feel like I'm not doing the novel justice at all, talking about how sweet and cute it is, when in actual fact it is far more complex and well written than that. There were moments I cracked up laughing (they mostly involved Miley) and others where my heart broke for the characters as many of them, in particular Poppy, Jake and Amber, had far too much hardship to endure for one lifetime. And then there were times I felt an intense anger bubble up inside of me and they, unsurprisingly, all involved the horrible Caroline.

The Little Flower Shop by the Sea is just sheer summer-read perfection all around; it will make you laugh, it will make you cry and it will make you want to reread all of Ali McNamara's previous books. Heartwarming, charming and utterly delightful from start to finish, this is her best novel yet!

Kathy Kugelman says

What a quaint, delightful read! I want to head to St. Felix right now. An idyllic village by the sea with healing powers and a help thy neighbor community. You can't get any better than this. Great characters and two loveable pets. It is a place for starting anew and healing. There is romance and intrigue. This one has it all. Of course, the little flower shop by the sea and how it reflourishes and provides some major magical powers is it at the core. Highly recommend.

Jane Gregg says

I was in need of a break from relentless, heavy-going, sad books and so I grabbed this off the "recommended by staff" display at the local library. Don't be so judgy, ok! Anyway - yes, it was light, fluffy, not particularly well written and in no way substantial. It did have a nice bit about dogs, so... Dogs. I love them. And Cornwall. Small moments of redemption, I guess... A solid MEH.

Ava says

I like the idea behind this story, but I hated the main character Poppy. She was not likable and her story was very weak and transparent. I was loudly yelling at her, while reading, the things she said and the way she behaved just got me so frustrated. I wish the author went more in depth with the story, it felt very rushed and we jumped forward in time, without any explanation.

Anja says

'The Little Flower Shop by the Sea' is about Poppy Carmichael, who is supposed to inherit the old flower shop of her recently deceased grandmother. Said flower shop is in the little harbour town St. Felix in Cornwall, where Poppy and her family spent their summers when she was small.

At first Poppy doesn't really want to run a flower shop, because she has kind of a flower-phobia and really hates their smell, but as time passes the flowers do their magic and she begins to fall in love with St. Felix (and its citizens) once more...

This was a really nice summery read. I loved St. Felix and would love to go there, but I think it doesn't really exist, which is such a shame. Also the people who live there were lovely and really likeable. Another lovely thing was that each chapter has a flower-title, for example: 'Daffodil - New Beginnings'. So with each chapter you get to know the meaning of a new flower and at the same time see what the chapter might be about. That was really cute.

At the beginning of the book I didn't really like Poppy to be honest. She is about 30 and dressed and sometimes acted like a pubescent teenager, which was quite annoying at times. But throughout the book it got better and I liked her more and more.

So all in all, Ali McNamara didn't disappoint! As always. ♥

Rosiemae Burton says

This book stood out to me against other that are similar in the genre due to the fact that it didn't just focus on a love story. It has elements of family, friendship and adjusting to a new town. I loved McNamara's writing style and I actually found myself liking all of the characters within the novel. The ending was slightly predictable for me but overall, a very enjoyable read.

Kim says

The perfect book to read on a Cornish beach- or even if you are dreaming of travelling down to Cornwall. Due to a car breakdown I had a couple of extra hours on the beach and lost myself completely in this book.

An absolutely wonderful set of characters are brought to life and bring a lovely variety to the book. You felt like a part of the village community.

Poppy inherits her grandmother's flower shop which has run down whilst she was poorly. Her mum sends one of her florists over from America to help with the artistic flair in the shop and she's a fascinating character interested in auras and the language of flowers. Both women have secrets to hide- what will be revealed over the course of the book?

Little Flower Shop by the Sea provides everything for a great summer read- a pretty little flower shop where you can imagine the heady aroma as you walk in, surrounded by the beautiful blooms, new friendships and

sparks of romance abound and a lovely dog called Basil just wraps up the total bliss.

I really hope we'll get to return to St Felix.

With many thanks to Net Galley and the publisher for a copy of this book.

Allie says

I received a free copy of this book in a Goodreads First Reads giveaway.

We used to holiday in Cornwall when I was young and this brought back some lovely memories. My first Ali McNamara book, it's certainly not going to be the last.

Poppy arrives in the Cornish seaside town of St Felix, where she has reluctantly inherited her late grandmother's flower shop. Poppy is unhappy and defensive, nervous of crowds and flowers but she slowly warms to St Felix and makes some friends there. Poppy needs to face up to events from her past and open up to other people if she is to find any real happiness - can she allow herself to do this.

This is a lively but also gentle, heart warming story with a genuinely likeable main character in Poppy - The setting is wonderful and the other characters are amusing, entertaining or rally rather touching. i really liked Bronte and Charlie and would have liked to have seen a bit more of them with Stan. Loved Woody the local PC as well.

The animal cast were fab, Miley and Basil, take a bow. I both laughed and cried with this book and will no doubt remember it for a long time to come. It's a keeper.

Rebecca says

Originally reviewed on <http://beccasboooks.blogspot.co.uk/2...>

First of all, I just have to comment on the sheer gorgeousness that is Ali McNamara's cover for *The Little Flower Shop by the Sea*. It reminds of a watercolour painting that you'd pass by and, seconds after, have to return to in order to admire some more. It really is beautiful and paints the most perfect, picturesque image of St Felix, the Cornish harbour town in which this novel is set. The cover caught my eye immediately, swiftly followed by the enchantment of such a whimsical title, and once I'd read the blurb, I couldn't wait to begin. It sounded like I was in for a real treat with *The Little Flower Shop by the Sea* and that's exactly what this turned out to be. So much warmth, so much heart and emotion. It was a wonderful read, so much so that I wanted nothing more than to step inside and linger at Poppy's side for a while, just to breathe in that fresh, St Felix air for myself.

I've always been rather fascinated by England's magnificent coastlines. No, they're not tropical paradises prodded with palm trees and exotic blooms, but they're stunning in their very own right. Ali McNamara chose such a fitting setting for Poppy's story to unravel in, especially considering the emphasis on numerous blooms and natural beauty which St Felix had in abundance. Ali's descriptions of St Felix brought the setting beautifully to life for me as a reader. I was able to imagine it all in my mind clear as day, the narrow streets,

the boats bobbing on the water down in the harbour, the smells and sounds. The author touched upon each and every one of my senses, whisking me right away to Poppy's side as she stood outside of her grandmother's flower shop as the novel began. With such pleasing descriptions and an obvious hesitancy in Poppy, leading to a need to understand why she was feeling that way, I really couldn't wait for the plot to truly open up and reveal itself to me.

I was very curious about Poppy from the moment the author introduced her to me. As the novel begins, Poppy arrives in St Felix and finds herself outside of The Daisy Chain, the flower shop which was previously owned by her grandmother before she sadly passed away. Surprisingly to Poppy, her grandmother chose to leave the flower shop in Poppy's hands, despite Poppy having never shown an interest in her family's long line of working in the flower business. Even having been named after a flower, Poppy has a dislike for flowers that runs deep through her veins, for reasons kept unknown to the reader until much later on into the novel. I was intrigued to see how this situation would play out. I mean, if you don't like flowers, working in a shop based solely on that very thing probably wasn't the best of ideas. The author ensured that the reader was aware of something bubbling just beneath Poppy's surface. There were mentions of Poppy feeling uncomfortable, wary, nervous... She was obviously hesitant about even stepping inside the shop, a shop rammed to the rafters with memories that she wasn't certain she was ready to revisit. There was a deliciously mysterious edge to Poppy that had me wanting to know more about her background and past. Something had happened before that moment, something tragic, and due to my eagerness to find out what that something was, I raced through this novel.

While Poppy deals with her issues, life continues in St Felix around her. It was beautiful, watching how Poppy swallowed down her reservations and took on the shop despite her worries and troubles. It was almost as if the town of St Felix worked its magic on her from the moment she arrived and gradually began to bring her back to life. Ali McNamara added so much warmth and magic into the plot, I was utterly enchanted by what was revealed to me. At the beginning of each chapter, there would be a specific flower present, and then the meaning of that flower would follow. It was a lesson in itself, and such a charming way of continuing with Poppy's story. This emphasis on blooms and meanings held me completely captive and I couldn't wait to see what else was in store for me as Poppy began to meet and engage with secondary characters throughout the novel. I loved being introduced to each and every one of them and watching as each character's life became entangled with another. I took a particular liking to Jake, who supplied The Daisy Chain with its blooms. It became clear that Poppy wasn't the only one trying to come to terms with her past, and I couldn't help but to see Jake and Poppy as kindred spirits. They needed each other more than they realised, and I felt like I was holding my breath as I watched the friendship blossoming between them. There were so many wonderfully engaging characters for me to enjoy within this novel, all bringing their own excitement and colour to the plot, reeling me in even further while doing so. It was a complete pleasure to lose myself within St Felix and all of the beautiful things that it had to offer. It was warm, comforting, and the perfect place for anyone to escape to.

The Little Flower Shop by the Sea was an utterly delightful novel written from the heart and overflowing with emotion and warmth and all of those things that somehow seem to comfort and hold you while reading. It was beautiful in the way it was written, in the way it was told and in the way the characters developed from beginning to end. With such a charming setting and a gorgeously evocative emphasis on nature and how it can heal, this was a wonderful read by Ali McNamara.

Becca's Books is awarding The Little Flower Shop by the Sea by Ali McNamara with four gorgeous cupcakes! I've not yet read much by this author, but I know I have a few paperbacks hidden in my to-read pile somewhere which I'm now eager to hurry towards! This was the perfect novel for me to curl up with as I watched the rain lashing the windows and the grey clouds roll by overhead. I was transported to St Felix, and

