

Letters for Emily

By Camron Wright

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You are so young. You may wonder what an old man like me could teach? I wonder as well. I certainly don't claim to know all the answers. I'm barely figuring out the questions...Life has a strange way of repeating itself and I want my experience to help you...My hope is that you'll consider my words and remember my heart.
Harry Whitney is dying. He has Alzheimer's disease, and he knows his "good" time is dwindling. So he compiles a book of poems for his favorite granddaughter, Emily, hoping that his words of hard-won wisdom will heal the old wounds that are tearing his family apart. But Harry's poems contain much more than meets the eye -- clues and riddles that lead to an extraordinary cache of letters and a promise of hidden gold. As Emily and her family uncover Harry's secrets one by one, they learn unforgettable lessons about romance, forgiveness and hope that might hold them all together.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
In this tearjerker of a debut novel, author Wright delves into a family's struggle with a dying parent's mental illness, a marriage breakup and a mysterious legacy left for a seven-year-old granddaughter. Widower Harry Whitney is old and dying. Alzheimer's disease is taking its toll, and he wants only two things to die with dignity and to be remembered as the good man he once was, not as the drooling, cranky old coot he is becoming. His children are estranged, their marriages on the rocks, and his only true friend is his granddaughter, Emily. After Harry dies, his daughter-in-law, Laura, finds three identical homemade books filled with Harry's poems and stories. As she and Emily discover, each poem and story contains a secret, coded password linked to computer files. The files each hold a special letter to Emily confessions, revelations, advice, even a hint of hidden gold. After Harry's son and daughter read the letters, too, they begin to realize that Harry was a pretty amazing father after all. Wright's word picture of old Harry slowly dying and knowing it is powerful and gripping, as are his vivid portrayals of nursing homes, adult children making tough decisions for elderly parents and the insensitivity of the medicare system. His melodramatic characterizations of husbands and wives involved in divorce proceedings are less successful, but Harry's letters to Emily are eloquent enough to make this a worthwhile read overall. 12-city author tour. Agent, Dorian Karchmar. (Jan.)Forecast: Originally self-published, this novel was a regional bestseller in Utah. It lacks a seasonal hook, and so may not catch on as easily as its close cousin, The Christmas Box, but it is otherwise equipped with all the key trappings of grassroots success including a blurb from Mary Higgins Clark and poems by Wright's grandfather, the inspiration for the book.

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From Library Journal
Before losing his mind to Alzheimer's, Harry Whitney composes a book of poems for his favorite granddaughter that he hopes will heal the entire family.
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From Booklist
Inspired by Wright's memories of his own grandfather, this first novel primarily revolves around Bob, Laura, and their seven-year-old, Emily. Moving toward divorce after 11 years, neither Bob nor Laura has a real reason for the impending separation. Meanwhile, Bob's father, Harry, who felt he had Alzheimer's but really suffered from depression, has died, shortly before Bob and Laura had scheduled his admittance to a nursing home. Going through Harry's house, which he had built many years before, Laura finds a book Harry had written on his computer, *Poems of Life*. Wright cleverly develops the story from the poems, each of which contains a clue to opening a computer file of Harry's. Each file contains a letter for Emily about an event in Harry's life. Each letter tells Laura and Bob something about Harry and his wife, Kathryn, and Emily something about how to handle a problem likely to come up as she grows older. Figuring out the clues and gradually learning who Harry really was reconciles Bob and Laura. *William Beatty*
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harold Felix:

This book untitled Letters for Emily to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, that is because when you read this publication you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book shop or you can order it through online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, as you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to you to past this guide from your list.

Adelina Foreman:

The book untitled Letters for Emily contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains the woman idea with easy way. The language is very clear and understandable all the people, so do certainly not worry, you can easy to read the item. The book was published by famous author. The author will bring you in the new period of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can wide open their official web-site and also order it. Have a nice examine.

Clarissa Holland:

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Catherine Graziani:

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