



The Irresistible Blueberry Bakeshop & Cafe

By Mary Simses

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The Irresistible Blueberry Bakeshop & Cafe By Mary Simses

*** Tune in to the Hallmark Movies and Mysteries channel on October 2nd, 2016 for the premiere of *The Irresistible Blueberry Farm*, based on Mary Simses' bestselling **THE IRRESISTIBLE BLUEBERRY BAKESHOP & CAFÉ** ***

A high-powered Manhattan attorney finds love, purpose, and the promise of a simpler life in her grandmother's hometown.

Ellen Branford is going to fulfill her grandmother's dying wish--to find the hometown boy she once loved, and give him her last letter. Ellen leaves Manhattan and her Kennedy-esque fiance for Beacon, Maine. What should be a one-day trip is quickly complicated when she almost drowns in the chilly bay and is saved by a local carpenter. The rescue turns Ellen into something of a local celebrity, which may or may not help her unravel the past her grandmother labored to keep hidden. As she learns about her grandmother and herself, it becomes clear that a 24-hour visit to Beacon may never be enough. **THE IRRESISTIBLE BLUEBERRY BAKESHOP & CAFE** is a warm and delicious debut about the power of a simpler life.

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The Irresistible Blueberry Bakeshop & Cafe By Mary Simses Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In this bittersweet debut, Simses tells the story of Ellen Branford, who sets out to investigate her grandmother's mysterious past and ends up finding herself. As she lays dying, Ellen's grandmother extracts a promise from Ellen: that she will deliver a long-overdue apology letter to the man her grandmother jilted back home in Beacon, Maine, nearly six decades earlier. After leaving her fiancé in Manhattan, Ellen heads to Beacon and promptly falls through a rotted pier. A strong rip current catches her and she is saved from drowning by local boy Roy Cummings, who pulls her to safety and lands them both on the front page of the local paper, gaining Ellen much notoriety as the Swimmer. Fighting her budding feelings for Roy, Ellen digs deeper into her grandmother's past, unearthing not only her grandmother's jilted hometown crush but also a whole host of new questions. The answers that come to light will drive Ellen to make a choice that will change the course of her life. Agent: Deneen Howell, Williams & Connolly. (July)

From [Booklist](#)

Ellen Branford, type-A Manhattan attorney, is completely out of her element in Beacon, Maine. Her hotel has terrible cell reception; restaurant menus feature meatloaf, fried food, and clam chowder instead of the seared tuna and chicken breasts she's used to; and big-city anonymity is a completely unfamiliar concept. Although she's only supposed to be in Beacon long enough to hand-deliver a very private letter from her recently deceased grandmother, Ellen soon discovers a more complicated story behind her grandmother's seemingly simple small-town life. Completely transfixed by the new mystery, Ellen realizes that the tiny town of Beacon might have more to offer than she originally thought. This charming, tender first novel emphasizes the power of simple pleasures, comfort food, and undeniable chemistry. Fans of the leads in the movies *The Proposal* and *Sweet Home Alabama* will recognize a kindred spirit in high-strung, perfectionist Ellen, and the novel's small-town setting will appeal to loyal readers of Mary Kay Andrews, Elin Hilderbrand, and Jan Karon. Simses' story of emotional discoveries, shifting priorities, and new beginnings is a delightful beach read. --Stephanie Turza

Review

"If you liked *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, or the Nicholas Sparks novels, you will devour *THE IRRESISTIBLE BLUEBERRY BAKESHOP & CAFE*. Mary Simses can write evocative detail that puts you right in the scene, with dialogue that always rings true."?James Patterson

"This charming, tender first novel emphasizes the power of simple pleasures, comfort food, and undeniable chemistry. Fans of the leads in the movies *The Proposal* and *Sweet Home Alabama* will recognize a kindred spirit in high-strung, perfectionist Ellen, and the novel's small-town setting will appeal to loyal readers of Mary Kay Andrews, Elin Hilderbrand, and Jan Karon. Simses' story of emotional discoveries, shifting priorities, and new beginnings is a delightful beach read."?Booklist

"Basic ingredients, well mixed-and good to the last crumb."?Good Housekeeping

"Delightful.... Simses has crafted a wholesome love story, infused with the pull-and-tug of romance and elements of mystery and enhanced by humble, low-key themes and conflicts."?Shelf Awareness for Readers

"Like the tastiest piece of pie, *THE IRRESISTIBLE BLUEBERRY BAKESHOP & CAFE* is mostly sweet with a touch of tartness and has a richly constructed crust to contain all its ingredients.... Simses'...depictions of the charming qualities of small town life, the healing abilities of comfort food, and the redemptive power

of love will win the hearts of readers, as will the subtle sprinkling of humor and intrigue. Fans of Nicholas Sparks, or even the romantic offerings of James Patterson, will approve."? **John Valeri, *Examiner.com***

"With details that dovetail nicely into the plot and an assortment of quirky characters, THE IRRESISTIBLE BLUEBERRY BAKESHOP & CAFE mixes up an authentic Maine setting with an entertaining story."? **Beverly Meyer, *The Free Lance-Star***

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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