

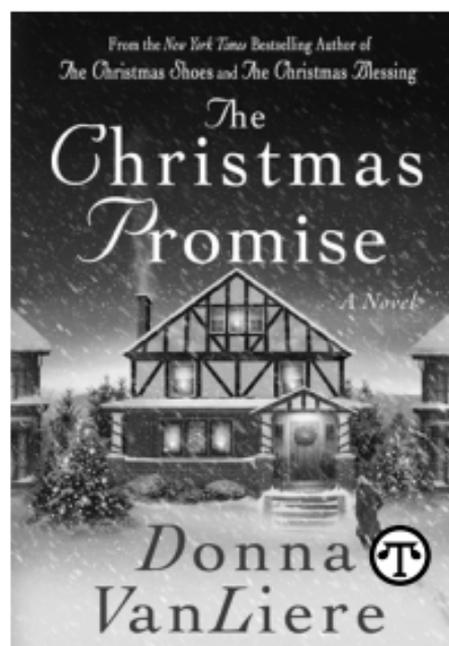


# BOOK NEWS & NOTES

## The Christmas Promise

(NAPSA)—Christmas may come once a year, but the promise of love, laughter and hope found in one inspiring new Christmas tale may deliver holiday cheer all year long.

Donna VanLiere's heartwarming "Christmas Hope" series has become a fixture of the holiday season. Her first two books, "The Christmas Shoes" and "The Christmas Blessing," became



much-loved TV movies. Her latest book, "The Christmas Promise," is yet another inspiring story that explores issues of faith and fate and reaffirms the gifts of love.

In "The Christmas Promise" (St. Martin's Press), Gloria Bailey, widow and mother of four grown children, is known to most of her town as Miss Glory for her charity work. She is saddened by the loss of her husband and youngest son, especially around the holidays, and must cope with Miriam, a neighbor who complains incessantly.

When Miriam's home is flooded, she moves in with Gloria, as does a homeless pregnant woman. None of them is sure how they are going to cope.

Chaz McConnell is a drifter, consumed by memories and guilt. Working as a night security guard, he befriends Donovan, a small boy. When Donovan's mother gets into trouble, Chaz ends up having to help.

VanLiere seamlessly weaves together each of these different lives and their stories, bringing them to a touching conclusion.

The book is available wherever books are sold.