

Leaving Carolina

 By Tamara Leigh | Multnomah Books | softcover | 384 pages | \$

With a new city, a new career and a new name, Piper Wick, the central character of Tamara Leigh's *Leaving Carolina*, thinks she has left Pickwick—the town and the family—for good. However, when her rich uncle decides to make retribution for the family's wrongs by dividing up the estate in his will, the family calls on Piper, his favorite niece, to intervene.

Though hesitant to get involved, her uncle's intention to reveal a secret causes Piper to leave her big-city job and her congressman boyfriend to use her skills as an image consultant to persuade her relatives to leave well enough alone.

Such persuasion proves difficult due to her uncle's genuine faith, which challenges her own, and due to the influence of his godson, whom she finds both surprising and strangely alluring. As she is forced to deal with the hurtful reasons behind her leaving, Piper is challenged to forgive her family.

Leigh's characters—both good and bad—pop off the page with personality and charm. Ultimately, *Leaving Carolina* is a charming story of a family and a town turned around through forgiveness and redemption.

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