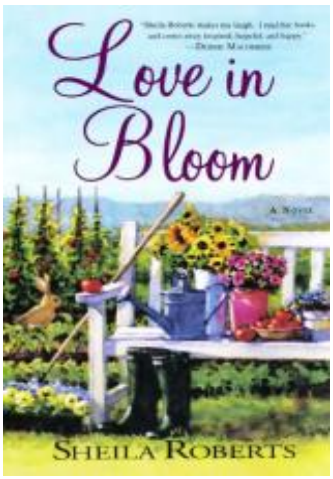
# Love in Bloom

by Sheila Roberts




## About the Book

Hope Walker survived early breast cancer at just thirty years old, but a mastectomy left her with a lot of scarring --- and some serious fears about dating. Hope owns Changing Seasons Floral, Heart Lake?s most popular flower shop. When it comes to love and relationships, she?s able to work magic through her expert flower arranging...for everyone but herself. Then one day a handsome contractor starts coming into her shop, but Hope knows he?d rather have a whole woman than someone like her.

When Hope stakes out a plot of ground at Heart Lake?s community garden, she finds that a woman can grow all sorts of things there: flowers, herbs, vegetables, and even friendship. As she gets to know the two women who share neighboring plots, they discover that they can lean a lot from one another --- not just about gardening but about life. And Hope realizes that in order to live life to the fullest, sometimes you have to take a chance on love.

## Discussion Guide

**1.** The women in **Love in Bloom** meet at a community garden. Where have you met your best friends?

**2.** With which of the women?s journeys did you most identify? Why?

**3.** Do you think Hope?s body image issues made her shallow?

**4.** Have you gone through breast cancer yourself or with a friend or relative? What were some of your fears and frustrations?

**5.** When it comes to your gardening skills, do you think of yourself as a Millie or an Amber?

**6.** Gardening is the number one hobby in America. Are you surprised to hear that?

**7.** In your opinion, should Millie have lived or died? Why do you think the author made the choice she made regarding Millie?s fate?

**8.** Jason Wells fell hard for Hope?s pretty sister Bobbi before realizing the woman he really wanted was Hope. Do you think his behavior was typical of most men?

**9.** What do you think is the underlying message of this book?

## Author Bio

Sheila Roberts is the author of more than 50 novels, including ON STRIKE FOR CHRISTMAS, which was made into a Lifetime Network movie. Also adapted for the small screen, Sheila?s THE NINE LIVES OF CHRISTMAS is a perennial Hallmark channel favorite, and CHRISTMAS ON CANDY CANE LANE debuted on TV in December 2022. The author has sold more than three million copies of her novels. Before launching her author career, Sheila owned a singing telegram company, wrote music and played in a band. A cancer survivor, she resides in Washington state with her husband, who is also an author. For more information about Sheila, visit www.sheilasplace.com.

## Critical Praise

"Sheila Roberts makes me laugh. I read her books and come away inspired, hopeful, and happy."

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