



Blue Christmas

By Mary Kay Andrews
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Introduction

It's the week before Christmas, and antiques dealer Weezie Foley is in a frenzy to garnish her shop for the Savannah historical district window decorating contest, which she intends to win. Weezie is ready to shoot herself with her glue gun by the time she's done, but the results are stunning. She's certainly one-upped the owners of the trendy boutique around the corner, but suddenly things start to go missing from her display, and there seems to be a mysterious midnight visitor to her shop. Still, Weezie has high hopes for the holiday—maybe in the form of an engagement ring from her chef boyfriend. But Daniel, always moody at the holidays, seems more distant than usual. Throw in Weezie's decidedly odd family, a 1950s Christmas-tree pin, and even a little help from the King himself (Elvis, that is), and maybe there will be a pocketful of miracles for Weezie this Christmas Eve.

Questions for Discussion

1. There are numerous vintage items in this story, such as the Christmas tree pin, the letter sweater, and aluminum trees. How does the author use elements such as these to signal the past? In what ways does the past interconnect with the present in the story?
2. When did you suspect the identity of the shop thief, and why?
3. Do you like Daniel? Is his behavior toward his mother justified? How would you act in such a situation?
4. What role does BeBe play in this story?
5. How does Elvis save the day for Weezie?
6. Although Weezie's family seems a bit eccentric, isn't it often true that the holidays can bring out family tensions and even bad behavior? Why?
7. What do you think best evokes holiday memories: music, food, decorations, aromas?
8. What actions of Weezie's embody the true spirit of Christmas?

About the Author

Mary Kay Andrews is a former journalist for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and the nationally bestselling author of *Blue Christmas*, *Savannah Breeze*, *Hissy Fit*, *Little Bitty Lies*, and *Savannah Blues*. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia. Read more about her at her website, www.marykayandrews.com.