

Before beginning her dream job as sous chef in one of Seattle's hottest new restaurants, Josie Avery takes a summer position cooking at a lakeside lodge in the remote Alaskan town of Ponder. Josie falls for the rustic charms of the local community—including Jack Corcoran, the crotchety keeper of Ponder's famed sourdough starter, and, in particular, the quiet and intense Palmer Saxon, a famed master swordsmith.

Josie and Palmer become close during the long Alaskan summer days, but Josie knows that, come fall, she'll be returning to reality and the career she's worked so hard for. Palmer, on the other hand, would like nothing better than to make Josie his wife and to keep her in Ponder. But Josie can't imagine abandoning her mother back in the Emerald City and sacrificing her career to stay in this isolated town—not even for a man she's quickly coming to love.

Fate has other plans. Josie misses the last boat out of town before winter sets in, stranding her in Ponder. As the holidays approach, Josie and Palmer must grapple with the complications that arise when dreams confront reality, and the Christmas magic that can happen when they put their faith in love.

**DEBBIE MACOMBER**, the author of *Cottage by the Sea*, *Any Dream Will Do*, *If Not for You*, and the Rose Harbor Inn series, is a leading voice in women's fiction. Thirteen of her novels have reached #1 on the *New York Times* bestseller lists, and five of her beloved Christmas novels have been hit movies on the Hallmark Channel, including *Mrs. Miracle* and *Mr. Miracle*. Hallmark Channel also produced the original series *Debbie Macomber's Cedar Cove*, based on Macomber's Cedar Cove books. She is also the author of the cookbook *Debbie Macomber's Table*. There are more than 200 million copies of her books in print worldwide.

**LAUREL RANKIN** grew up on the east coast and is now a Los Angeles-based actress, singer, and voice-over artist. Her intense love of reading and storytelling led her quite naturally to the world of audiobook narration.

**LUKE DANIELS** is the award-winning performer of over 500 audiobooks. Luke's narration has earned him multiple Earphones Awards and Audie Award nominations. His background is in classical theater and film.



READ BY LAUREL RANKIN  
AND LUKE DANIELS

Running Time: Approx. 5 Hours • Unabridged

Executive Producer: Dan Zitt • Director: Christina Rooney • Cover design: Lynn Andreozzi  
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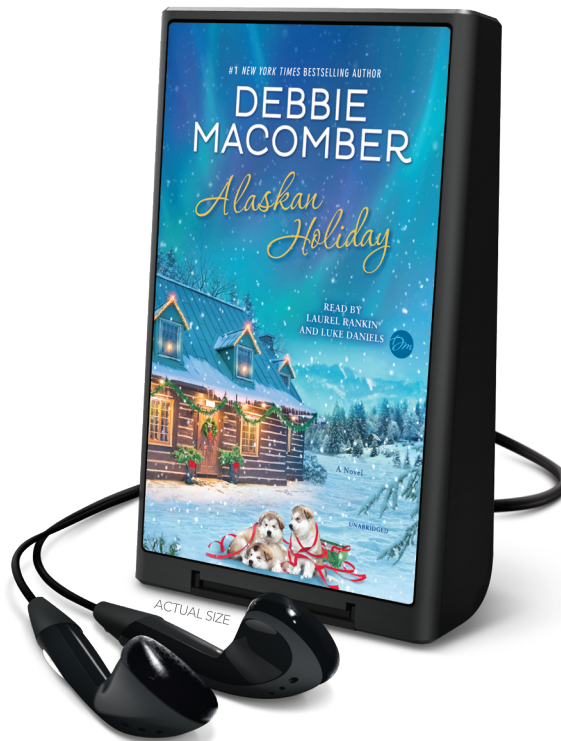
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ISBN 978-1-987146-02-8



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