

Edited by Astrid Ohletz and Lee Winter



Introduction

Language of Love is a diverse, festive collection of fun short stories that shows laughs, loves, and lives are universal.

Eleven lesbian fiction authors, many of whom are award winners, offer diverse tales of romance, adventure, humor, and whimsy, set against the holiday season in South Africa, Australia, England, Wales, Scotland, Germany, India, Jamaica, and the US.

Whether Christmas or Chanukah or something else is being celebrated, this disarming book offers a wonderful glimpse into women's festive experiences all over the world. The touch, taste, and smell of celebrations burst into life.

We hope you enjoy reading *Language of Love* as much as we enjoyed bringing it to you.

Astrid Ohletz Lee Winter

Table of Contents

Introduction	V
The Friend by Lee Winter	1
Deck the Halls with Bullets and Holly by Alex K. Thorne	27
Mask by Sheryn Munir	45
Love Just Is by Jody Klaire	68
Grand Market Bliss by Fiona Zedde	93
Orphans' Christmas by Cheyenne Blue	117
And The Bells Are Ringing Out by Lola Keeley	141
Paula Gets a Pony Ranch by Patricia Penn	158
Four Chanukahs and a Bat Mitzvah by Cindy Rizzo	184
The Night Before Christmas— a Cumbrian Tale by Andrea Bramhall	206
It's in the Pudding by Emma Weimann	231
About the Authors	253
Other Books from Ylva Publishing	261