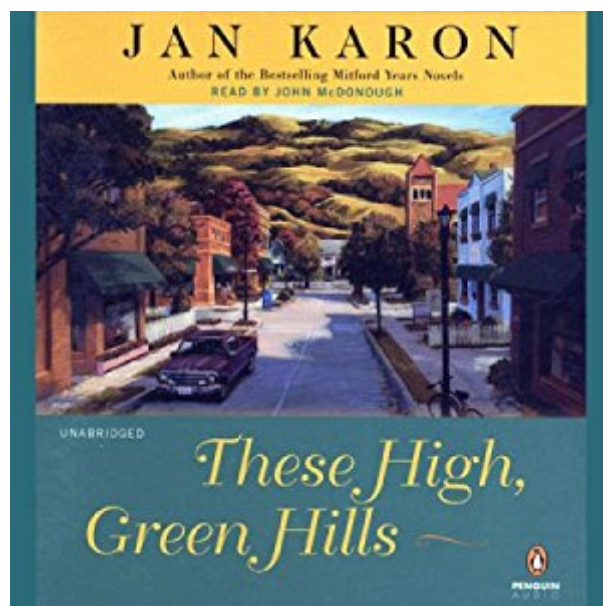


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# These High, Green Hills: The Mitford Years, Book 3



## Synopsis

For years, Mitford's sixtysomething rector has been happily married to his parish. Now, he's also married to Cynthia, his vivacious next-door neighbor. For Father Tim, life in Mitford has never been so full of surprises. His wife is "aging" his already ancient kitchen walls, not to mention burning his draperies. The mountain boy he's learned to love as his own makes a heartrending decision. And the agony of mastering the church computer system is as boggling as the pandemonium that breaks loose when his quiet rectory becomes a nursery. All this, however, is small potatoes compared to what happens on a wilderness camping trip that sends him home a changed man. In *These High, Green Hills*, Jan Karon takes her readers on a heartwarming and hilarious visit to Mitford, where her lovable characters always inspire laughter, tears, and fresh hope. For more about the heartwarming town of Mitford, read *At Home in Mitford* and *A Light in the Window*, available at your local bookstore. Jan Karon left a successful, award-winning career in advertising to write about characters drawn from her North Carolina childhood. She lives in a 1920's cottage with Bennie, an orange cat the size of a mobile home, and a dog named Rosie Potter. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There is just something special about Mitford, North Carolina. Jan Karon has created a magical yet ordinary place, with memorable, endearing characters. I love these novels and enjoy each and every trip I take back. In the 3rd installment, things are looking up! Father Timothy and Cynthia are settling into married life, and she marvels at having a soul mate after Tim's 60-plus years of

bachelorhood has yet to stop amazing him. Their first year will definitely be an adventurous one -- a camping trip gone awry; a 90th birthday party for Timothy's favorite parishioner, Sadie Baxter; the opening of the new nursing home, Hope House; as well as a few newcomers to the Mitford community. And of course all of our favorite characters, like Dooley, Mule and Fancy Skinner, and J.C. Hogan, and places, like The Grill, The Porter Place, and Fernback are back in full swing. Reading these books feel like the best a family reunion has to offer. A helpful hint for those who are reading the books in order: Book 6 actually fits in between book 2 and 3 -- it is a detailed story of Timothy and Cynthia's wedding. I read it before reading *These High, Green Hills*. I suggest doing this if you are the type of reader that likes things in chronological order. I can't wait to continue on with the series. There is a certain beauty about these books, a calming, soothing beauty that makes me want to pack up and move to Mitford! Although not novels of huge, twisting, turning action, Jan Karon manages to turn the ordinary things of life into great milestones. I applaud her and the rewards I receive every time I visit.

Living in a small town myself I could give each character a face in this wonderful series (*Mitford Years*) by Jan Karon. After reading *Home in Mitford*, I went to check out *A Light in the Window*, the second of the series, and found the book missing from the local library. I found out my neighbor had it and begged her to please let me have it while she finished another book she was reading. You can do this in a small town. The *Mitford Years* are the most heartfelt and relaxing books I have ever read. Jan has a way of speaking to your heart and making you feel very much a part of Mitford. Jan please don't stop here, your books are absolutely the best ever. These books have renewed my faith in God and made me value my friends even more.

The *Mitford* books, and now a *Whitecap* book, have been a surprising and wonderful stroll through a different layer of life than most people experience -- or at least take note of. *A New Song* continues a great tradition. Everybody knew from the beginning who took the bronze statue, but it was a very moving chapter when it was resolved, even if one is a little dumbfounded that Fr. Tim didn't figure out who took it. My questions: So is it in bk 6 or 7 that Lace and Dooley make it to the altar? Will Dooley's birth father be there? Will Buck punch him out? Will Morris be the organist? Will Fr. Tim be there, or will he (or Cynthia) have gone home (could we stand the poignancy)? Thanks for the great and fresh spiritual writing, Jan Karon. And thanks even more to my own mother, for sharing this series with me.

Having always been a homebody, I identified right away with Father Tim & Cynthia when they left their precious Mitford to go to Whitecap. What an adventure they had. I enjoyed every sentence of this book. Are there really people like Father Tim and Cynthia in this world? How I wish I could be their friend and neighbor. I gleaned scriptural knowledge and human knowledge from all of Jan's Mitford books. The ending of "A New Song" has me baffled indeed. Who is the man in the pearly white shirt? Could it be an angel perhaps? I will sit and sleep restlessly waiting for Jan's next book.

I have zoomed through the first 4 Mitford books and am now midway through the 5th. The characters grab you and transport you to a town where I think, deep down, we would all like to call home. Father Tim is a "real" person with very human characteristics. Yet his basic goodness will restore your faith in humanity. The theology is not shoved down your throat, but rather is grasped between the lines. All the characters are memorable. Cynthia and Dooley in particular help shape the wonderful story line. The huge dog, Barnabus, who is disciplined only by hearing Bible verse, worms his way into your heart. I am so glad I discovered this series, and I recommend it to absolutely anyone!

This book was recommended by a friend and from the first page I was hooked. I moved right along with the rector and his wife and loved their new parish and missed their old one even though I hadn't met the folks in Mitford. I felt like I had been a part of their lives since the beginning. Ms. Karon draws you into the goings on and by the books end you want to know more about your friends.

A New Song continues the delightful travel through the rest of their lives of Fr. Tim and Cynthia Kavanaugh. Those who think that the cryptic ending indicates that Fr. Tim has gone home to the Lord are in error. At least the author says so in several interviews I have read. "Why would I do that?", she asks. The next book is to be the story of their wedding. This was passed over rather quickly in an earlier book, but now we will get to attend. Moving to the coast of N. Carolina from the mountains to be the interim priest at St. John's, Fr. Tim find a church and a community much in need of him and God's healing grace. I won't detail all of the new characters or what has happened to some of the Mitford people. Buy it, enjoy it, and savor the wisdom and insight that it contains.

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