



# The Hope Chest: A Novel

By Viola Shipman

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## The Hope Chest: A Novel By Viola Shipman

"Saugatuck, MI, springs to life in this nostalgic, gentle story of lifelong love along with the emotional support and care that families and friends can provide. "  
?Library Journal

The discovery of one woman's heirloom hope chest unveils precious memories and helps three people who have each lost a part of themselves find joy once again.

Ever since she was diagnosed with ALS, fiercely independent Mattie doesn't feel like herself. She can't navigate her beloved home, she can't go for a boat ride, and she can barely even feed herself. Her devoted husband, Don, doesn't want to imagine life without his wife of nearly fifty years, but Mattie isn't likely to make it past their anniversary.

But when Rose, Mattie's new caretaker, and her young daughter, Jeri, enter the couple's life, happiness and the possibility for new memories return. Together they form a family, and Mattie is finally able to pass on her memories from the hope chest she received from her mother.

With each item—including a favorite doll, family dishes, an embroidered apron, and an antique Christmas ornament—the hope chest connects Mattie, Don and Rose to each other and helps them find hope again in the face of overwhelming life challenges.

A beautiful story about the unconditional love and support of family, *The Hope Chest* by Viola Shipman will remind you that hope can be found where and when you least expect it.

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## The Hope Chest: A Novel By Viola Shipman Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Viola Shipman has written a graceful, touching novel that explores the temporal nature of life, and teaches us that even as we look back to sort through our personal histories, so we must look forward to find solace, power--and, yes, hope--in the future. A moving, emotionally impactful read." ?Garth Stein, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Sudden Light* and *The Art of Racing in The Rain*

"[*The Hope Chest*] demonstrates the enduring power of love and kindness...a good choice for fans of gentle, heartwarming fiction." ?*Booklist*

"Saugatuck, MI, springs to life in this nostalgic, gentle story of lifelong love along with the emotional support and care that families and friends can provide." ?*Library Journal*

#### About the Author

VIOLA SHIPMAN is a penname for Wade Rouse, a popular, award-winning memoirist. Rouse chose his grandmother's name, Viola Shipman, to honor the woman whose heirlooms and family stories inspire his writing. Rouse lives in Michigan and writes regularly for *People* and *Coastal Living*, among other places, and is a contributor to *All Things Considered*. To date, *The Charm Bracelet* has been translated into nine languages.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### Eva Solares:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book might be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the publication untitled The Hope Chest: A Novel can be great book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

##### Benita Newton:

Typically the book The Hope Chest: A Novel has a lot of information on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of help. The book was written by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research prior to write this book. That book very easy to read you can find the point easily after reading this book.

**Wanda Davis:**

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**Andy McNeil:**

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