



'THE CHRISTMAS CURE' **Synopsis**

Vanessa (Brooke Candice Nevin) is a career-driven emergency room doctor in Los Angeles who is given a rare week off from work over the holidays. She returns to her hometown to spend Christmas with her family, planning to return to Los Angeles to interview for a promotion just after the holidays. Vanessa's trip starts off with a blast from the past, as her lifelong friend and former sweetheart, Mitch (Steve Byers) picks her up at the airport.

Shortly after returning home, Vanessa learns that her father Bruce (Patrick Duffy) plans to retire and close the family's medical practice before Christmas. Having always followed in her father's footsteps – though wary not to fall in his shadow – Vanessa is sad to see the practice close. She is, however, happy to assist in the clinic alongside Bruce, her mother Martha (Kathleen Laskey), and her younger brother Kyle (Dale Whibley).

Vanessa enjoys reconnecting with her family and community at home so is saddened when her boss tells her that her promotion review has been moved up to December 23rd. With the support of her family, she strives to make the most of her short time at home and continues to help in the clinic, volunteer for her mother's charity, give her brother advice on his crush Shelly (Jocelyn Hudon) and make up for lost time with Mitch.

While spending time helping her father, Vanessa sees the personal connection he has developed with his community of patients over the years, a connection she lacks with the revolving door of an emergency room. While spending time with Mitch, Vanessa discovers that despite years apart, both still care deeply for each other. In fact, when Mitch has an accident, it shakes her so much that she risks her promotion and stays in town to take care of him for a few extra days.

After reminiscing about how they met as children in a Christmas pageant, Mitch gives Vanessa a Christmas gift he had been holding onto since they broke up a decade ago. She is touched by the gesture, but both are scared that if they get too close they will be devastated when Vanessa returns to Los Angeles.

The emotional Christmas visit to her hometown helps Vanessa realize the personal connections and family memories she has been missing. As Christmas approaches, Vanessa must decide whether to return to her waiting promotion in Los Angeles, or continue her father's family practice legacy and pursue a relationship with Mitch in her hometown.

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