

REINDEER GAMES

MEET THE CAST

A spoiler-free guide to friends, family, reindeer & one very opinionated cat

MISTLETOE IS NEVER JUST TWO PEOPLE

Neve and Caleb may be at the heart of Reindeer Games, but Mistletoe has never been a town where a love story happens in isolation. This summer brings back familiar faces, introduces a few newcomers, and gives three four-legged characters plenty of opportunity to steal the scene.

INSIDE THIS READER EXTRA

Meet the people and animals surrounding Neve and Caleb — without giving away the twists, reveals, or where anyone's story ends.

Family complications • committee chaos • familiar friends • reindeer personalities • one store cat

NEW, RETURNING, AND DEFINITELY NOTICEABLE

Evan Winters

Caleb’s younger brother left Mistletoe determined to build a bigger life somewhere else. He ended up in Washington State, working in tech and co-founding a start-up. Now, after the company’s collapse, Evan is back home for what he insists is a temporary reset.

Evan is smart, ironic, quick-minded, and harder to read than Caleb. He carries the restless energy of someone who has spent years moving too fast — and the slightly rumpled look of a man who has not quite figured out what comes next.

RELATIONSHIP	Caleb’s younger brother
AGE	Early thirties
BACKGROUND	Tech and start-up life in Washington State
VIBE	Sharp, restless, dryly funny, guarded

EVAN IN ONE LINE

He came home to catch his breath. Mistletoe has a way of making “temporary” plans complicated.

A VERY CONCERNED VISITOR

Milo Hart

Milo is nineteen or twenty, deeply committed to animal welfare, and absolutely certain the summer Reindeer Games deserve a closer look. He comes to Mistletoe from outside Alaska already convinced the reindeer need someone on their side.

He is earnest, intense, idealistic, and impulsive. His compassion is real. So is his tendency to decide he understands a situation before he has all the facts. Unfortunately for Milo, he is about to meet Neve Kringle — a woman who takes reindeer care very seriously.

MILO IN ONE LINE

He cares a great deal, knows less than he thinks, and is not afraid to act on either fact.

IT TAKES A COMMITTEE

Planning the Reindeer Games

A summer event in Mistletoe needs more than reindeer. It needs permits, budgets, promotion, practical people — and enough coffee to get everyone through the meetings. Alongside Caleb and Martin, these four keep the public-facing games moving.

Lana Bright

MARKETING ENERGY

Mid-forties and originally from Portland, Lana moved to Mistletoe after falling hard for the town at Christmas. She owns a heavily themed vacation rental and brings websites, flyers, social media, travel blogs, influencer ideas, and an enormous faith in branding to the committee.

Gloria Woodward

CIVIC COMPETENCE

The mayor's assistant and the committee's practical municipal link. Gloria keeps meetings on track, coordinates permits and town requirements, and makes sure nobody forgets why the games matter to Mistletoe's very real infrastructure needs.

Bert Jones

BUDGET REALITY

Mistletoe's bank manager and the calm voice asking what everything costs. Bert supports the event, but his job is to keep enthusiasm attached to arithmetic — especially when the committee's bigger ideas start gathering speed.

Max

COFFEE & CALM

Owner of The Cozy Caribou Café, Max is friendly, observant, and easygoing. He rebuilt the café into one of Mistletoe's favorite gathering places, and he brings the same steady hospitality to the committee: useful, welcoming, and never louder than necessary.

THE COMMITTEE IN ONE LINE

Someone has to dream it, permit it, budget it, and caffeinate it.

WELCOME BACK TO MISTLETOE

Familiar Faces

Readers who have been with the series from the beginning will recognize plenty of people around town. Their roles are smaller this time, but they help make Reindeer Games feel firmly rooted in the Mistletoe readers already know.

Sadie Wexford-Kringle

SNOWFLAKE SUGAR • MARTIN'S WIFE

The heroine who helped turn Mistletoe into a year-round Christmas town. Sadie is now firmly woven into the community and joins the Reindeer Games committee as one of the people who understands both the town and the Kringle world.

Martin Kringle

TOYMAKER • SANTA • NEVE'S COUSIN

Martin gives Neve a family base in Mistletoe and helps bridge the cheerful public festival with the more private side of the real Kringle reindeer tradition.

Rosie Plum-Kringle

SNOWFLAKE SUGAR • CALEB'S CLOSE FRIEND

Warm, optimistic Rosie remains one of Mistletoe's emotional anchors. She is now married to Jack, co-owns Snowflake Sugar, and is one of the people Caleb trusts most.

Jack Kringle

CHOCOLATIER • FROST MAGIC

Rosie's husband and Martin and Neve's cousin. Jack's Jack Frost-style abilities are a reminder that Kringle magic comes in more than one form — even when he is busy making chocolate.

Nora Kringle

MARTIN'S TEENAGE DAUGHTER

Nora keeps the younger generation of the Kringle family present in Mistletoe. Her exact role in the summer games remains small, but she is a natural part of the family orbit around Neve and the reindeer.

Mildred King

MISTLETOE LIBRARIAN

Mildred is not on the committee, which may be just as well. She is more useful as a quiet observer — the sort of librarian who notices what is happening long before anyone thinks to explain it to her.

THE REAL STARS OF THE GAMES?

Meet the Reindeer

Neve may be the trainer, but the reindeer are characters in their own right. Two in particular show just how different personalities can be inside the same herd.

Dagny

THE STEADY ONE

Dagny is Neve's most reliable reindeer: calm, unflappable, and a natural leader. She brings order simply by being there, anchoring the herd with the same quiet steadiness Caleb brings to Mistletoe.

TEMPERAMENT: Calm**ROLE:** Herd anchor**BEST MATCH:** Caleb energy

Pikku

THE MISCHIEF MAKER

Pikku is younger, restless, mischievous, and always ready to make life more interesting. Where Dagny settles the herd, Pikku supplies the unpredictability — which makes the resemblance to Neve hard to miss.

TEMPERAMENT: Restless**ROLE:** Mischief**BEST MATCH:** Neve energy**DAGNY & PIKKU IN ONE LINE**

Every good herd needs someone who keeps things steady — and someone who makes sure things never get too steady.

Neve would never call either of them “just reindeer.”

AND THEN THERE IS THE STORE CAT

Mouse

Mouse is the elderly tabby who has claimed Winters General Store as her territory. She naps by the register, sleeps in the sunny front window, patrols the stockroom when the mood strikes, and accepts affection only when she decides it is appropriate.

Locals and tourists adore her. Mouse appears to regard this as their problem.

HOME	Winters General Store
SPECIES	Elderly tabby
FAVORITE PLACES	The register, the front-window sun, and the stockroom
AFFECTION POLICY	Available strictly on Mouse's terms
UNOFFICIAL ROLE	Quiet supervision of Caleb, customers, and probably the entire town

MOUSE IN ONE LINE

Caleb may own Winters General Store. Mouse has never seen any evidence that this gives him seniority.

THE CAST IN ONE LINE

Between a returning brother, a marketing whirlwind, old friends, a determined young activist, two very different reindeer, and a cat with standards, Neve and Caleb have very little chance of keeping their summer quiet.

PICK YOUR EARLY FAVORITE

Team Dagny, Team Pikku, or Team Mouse?

Welcome back to Mistletoe.

The Reindeer Games are about to begin.