



Chances Are

Barbara Delinsky

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Chances Are Details

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Author : Barbara Delinsky

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From Reader Review Chances Are for online ebook

Kelly says

First of all, had I known this book was a revamp from 1985, I would not have even given this book a thought. Romance novels from the eighties just don't do it for me. Born in 1990, I can't relate to them often.

My issue with this book is not that I can't relate to it. On the contrary, after I finished Chances Are, I found the copyright and was shocked. It didn't make any references (to my knowledge) that alluded to the age of the book.

My issue isn't even that it was poorly written. The author is obviously well established in the writing world. The story flowed well and the writing style was nice.

My issues with this book are the characters.

In my opinion, the characters were undeveloped, inconsistent and all around awful.

All of the characters acted as though they were 16 and 17 years old. But in reality, they were in their 30's and 40's.

The main character, Liz, has insecurities like nothing I've ever seen. Granted she did have reason for these insecurities, but still at 30 something years old, I'd like to think that at some point, you learn to deal with them better. But at the same time, she's one of the best in her field of work. A field in which she need serious confidence to be able to pull off. How can she have debilitating insecurities, but still have the confidence for her job?

Donovan, the love interest, is this sweet, soft spoken hippie man that will do just about anything for anyone. But at the same time, he views everything as a game. He views the people in his life as pieces in his games. He envisions the end game in which he always wins. Again, two very different qualities for one person. It doesn't make sense.

Now that is not to say that it doesn't happen. I'm sure it does. But it didn't flow with these characters.

There are some books out there that you read and then afterwards you think "Man, that was kinda awful, but at least I was entertained." I did not feel that way at all. It started out slowly and quite a bit confusing and then ended so quickly and superficially.

I do not recommend this book.

SPOILER ALERT

I can't even begin to understand Donovan who claims to love Liz after only knowing her for such a short amount of time. Not only that, but this man FORCES HIMSELF ON LIZ AND MAKES HER KISS HIM (while she pleads over and over for him to stop) AND THEN LATER HE FORCES HER TO LIVE WITH HIM UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT HE'LL CALL THE POLICE ON HER FOR SOMETHING SHE DID (while she pleads over and over for him to stop). AND THEN HE FORCES HER TO UNDRESS IN FRONT OF HIM WHILE SHE'S CRYING HYSTERICALLY (WHILE SHE PLEADS OVER AND OVER FOR HIM TO STOP). In the same chapter she realizes she's in love with him.

I'm sorry, but I don't buy it. A man who is supposed to be wonderful and sweet and have great intentions DOES NOT MAKE A SOBBING, FRIGHTENED, WOMAN UNDRESS IN FRONT OF HIM AND TELL HER THAT IF SHE DOESN'T, HE'LL TURN HER IN TO THE POLICE. And she certainly doesn't fall in love with him that night. I was livid the whole time reading this book.

I'm not going to even get into the fact that Liz brother is seeing a therapist for some serious issues and while she's constantly telling him that he has to talk to the therapist more, not once does she think "hmm we had similar lives, and issues, maybe I should see a therapist too."

I would not recommend this book to anyone.

Cheesecake says

[and why on earth she pays for him to get therapy but doesn't do so for herself is a stupid mystery. Maybe because it allows her to remain a virgin at 30??? (hide spoiler)]

Barb says

Liz Jerome is an expert at public relations. Well, at least in business. When she is hired to do some damage control for a company owned by Donovan Grant, the dividing line between professional and personal suddenly disappears. Donovan catches her off guard with his subtle come-ons and his humorous teasing. But being his playmate isn't on Liz's agenda. She is determined to block his every move, to resist the sweet confusion he arouses in her. Donovan threatens her safe, isolated world...making her want things she can never have.

Some things in life are meant to be shared, others not so much. But when Liz allows her past to make her life unchangeable, its time to make a change. Loved the plot of this story, and loved how Liz is validated in the end. 5 stars.

Pam Marcola Duff says

Creepy male slimball rapey type of male character. Could not get through it. It's not even a romance. It's terrible

Kari Gulbrandsen says

beautiful woman believes she is a "dog" because she was abused by her father. Meets dashing executive who immediately falls for her, but she does not believe it and has to be victimized so she can believe it ... and, ok .. I was completely sucked in ...

Best quote (page 210)

Her eyes clouded. "I feel scared. Scared that it's all a fluke, too good to believe. Scared that you'll tire of me in a few days or a week or a month and that you'll see me for what I am."

Meagan says

I blame this on my mom. She listens to a lot of audio books and we ended up listening to this on a drive to Philly. There was a lot of yelling while listening because the "hero" of the book is a jackass. He thinks that he will be able to get answers and believes that the woman wants to be forced into kissing.

The only reason I finished the book was to annoy my mother and to prove a point to her. Plus I didn't want to start a new book that I wouldn't be able to finish. I doubt very much that I will pick up another book by this author.

Jen says

Whiny girl meets forceful man. I hate to put it that way cause she has a reason for the way she acts, but it's hard to read. And he crosses the line in so many ways, I just didn't find anything I enjoyed about it but the end when she finally sees her worth.

Nikki says

I have never felt more disgusted when reading a book. Donovan is not a man that women should be attracted to, nor is he something who deserves love. He takes a girl who has clear psychological problems and puts her in a new dress and all of a sudden she has confidence, because we all know that women are so shallow and single minded that a new dress makes all the difference. On top of that, she is too scared to get her ears pierced, seriously, if he is going to save her from something make it worthwhile. I am usually a fan of Barbara Delinsky but after reading this book I felt dirty and ashamed that a wonderful female writer could create such a helpful and uninformed woman who we as a reader are meant to connect to. This woman was so one dimensional and pathetic that no one could enjoy reading a book this depressing. This book moves the women's movement back 100 years and teaches women that they have nothing to offer but their bodies. Horrible, horrible book and I will question myself before reading another of her books as it has completely turned me off.

April Suter says

Liz considers herself a plain woman and cannot understand why this business associate is flirting with her. Donovan owns many large companies and she is just a public relations representative. Donovan needs her to help dealing with a devastating event in his organic lettuce business. He also finds himself needing Liz for other personal reasons.

A little hot title from the 1980's.

A picture of the twin towers are on the cover.

249 pages

Kate says

Nothing like her other books I've read. I THINK it was supposed to be a romance, but holy fuck. The man in question was a creepy, rapey, blackmailing asshole.

Nidofito says

Ok, this was both good and bad. I liked the story itself and its theme of helping someone with a psychological problem and making them bring it out in the open and try to help with it. However, I did not like how Donovan treated Liz. When a woman says no repeatedly, when she is screaming and shouting and is vehemently refusing your advancements, you stop. You do not force her into kissing you or whatever. And you absolutely do not (!!!) make her undress in front of you when she is quaking like a leaf and wishes she were rather dead than do what you've forced on her . That is not love; that is cruel. Cruel, cruel, cruel! There are always other ways to approach someone. Donovan should be glad he was lucky to have his way work because if it hadn't, I'm afraid Liz would've been completely lost forever.

Sharon Eikenberry-Deary says

A wall flower who was always told by her father and indirectly by her brother. Elizabeth is a PR professional who works in NY for her friend Karen. Karen assigns her to an account of Donovan Grant a form college friend. She is hoping that Elizabeth will come out of her shell with him. She is still work and won't give an inch to him. She knows something is going on because she feels it. Through so many changes she finds more friendship in a different way, letting the past go, unconditional love, and still being able to have her self respect and her professional career . A life she had only dreamed about coming true

Tbird0123 says

slow burn, the reveal was anticlimactic. Main female lead was supposed to be so smart and yet didn't see a third option...just yeah...ok, I'll sleep with you. For her to have core values and family connections and loyalty, she accepted a little too easily. I have read this author before and became extremely invested in the characters, this may have been one of her earlier attempts.

Teresa says

It was good!!

Carole says

This book is so bad I'm embarrassed to admit that I read it - but I'm hoping I'll save someone else from

making the same mistake if I review it.

This was a new release in our library and since I generally like Barbara Delinsky I picked it up. But it turned out to be a re-release of a book written in 1985 - and it was awful! The only redeeming thing I can say is that is showed how much we've advanced since this was written. The scenes were appalling by today's standards - NO MEANS NO! This guy kept going no matter how terrified the girl was - and that was considered romantic??? Thank goodness we no longer think that way.
