



Fearless in Texas

Kari Lynn Dell

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He'd step in front of a bull to save a life
But even he's no match for a girl this Texas tough

Rodeo bullfighter Wyatt Darrington's got it all figured out. The perfect car, the perfect job, the perfect looks—the perfect lie. He may be on the fast track to the Hall of Fame, but he knows he'll always be an outsider to people like Melanie Brookman. Texas-born and bred, with the arena in her blood, Melanie's come to see Wyatt as her personal enemy, and that suits him just fine—this way, she'll never realize the truth.

He's been crazy in love with her for years.

Melanie's always been a fighter. Fiercely independent and tough as nails, she's stood up to everything that got in her way—including Wyatt. But now her infamous temper's got her on the ropes, and there's nowhere left to run but toward the man she swore she'd never trust...and this time, there's no denying just how hot he makes her *burn*.

Texas Rodeo Series:

Reckless in Texas (Book 1)

Tangled in Texas (Book 2)

Tougher in Texas (Book 3)

Fearless in Texas (Book 4)

Mistletoe in Texas (Book 5)

Fearless in Texas Details

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From Reader Review Fearless in Texas for online ebook

Stephanie Jenkins Ortiz Cerrillo says

Another great addition to the Texas Rodeo series. Melanie Brookman is what I call a true Texas woman, very independent, tough, has a quick temper, (which isn't a good thing but it often goes with these other traits) smart, loves horses, cattle, rodeos, cowboys and tries like heck to not ever wear her heart on her sleeve. A quick temper lands her in trouble and in the path of Wyatt Darrington that she has tried for five years to avoid.

Rodeo bullfighter, Wyatt Darrington, appears to everyone to be a man with a perfect life, wealthy, smarter than most, handsome, has everything he wants in life including his dream job. Well almost everything, he hasn't found the woman to share his life with. Growing up in a privileged wealthy family a rodeo cowboy is about the farthest thing from how he was raised could be. He is very much an outsider to the world he's chose to work in and his best friends are part of. Wyatt has been hiding some big secrets from his friends and particularly Melanie. So what was he thinking by offering Melanie to promote his new bar. How will he keep his secrets from her. It is just another instance of Wyatt always going to everyones rescue.

A great read and I can't wait to see what happens and who the next book is about. I never read the spoilers, blurbs or reviews on a book that is by an author I love. I like to go into the book not knowing what its about. So I'm hoping Kari Lynn Dell brings on more rodeo action in her next book.

Susan Gorman says

Fearless in Texas by Kari Lynn Dell

The air sizzled during the first few pages of Fearless in Texas as Melanie Brookman and Wyatt Darrington dance at a friend's wedding. The couple acknowledges their attraction but decides not to give into it. An affair would only lead to complications. Kari Lynn Dell's descriptive writing and smart dialogue immediately drew me into this superbly written character driven story.

Five years later.....

Melanie let her temper guide her and as a result her career and her love life has taken a tailspin. She accepts a job offer from Wyatt and leaves Texas for Oregon. There is so much more to Wyatt- he's not your typical bullfighter. I adored reading about this driven, well connected, complicated man. In exchange for Melanie's help in reopening his bar, Wyatt has promised to help Melanie find her estranged brother. Wyatt's promise is a key element in the storyline. The promise draws the couple together and it has the power to tear them apart. The plot choice made the novel a compelling read.

Loved that both Melanie and Wyatt were older and had history. Melanie is a fun character—it took me awhile to figure out this feisty, headstrong woman. Melanie's emotions rule her heart and she misjudges situations; these actions provide insight to her. In contrast, the twice divorced Wyatt appealed to me. Loved Wyatt's relationship with Grace, Gil, Louie and his dedication to his rodeo clinic. After five years, the sexual attraction between Melanie and Wyatt is still present in every conversation, text and meeting between the couple. The couple tries to keep their feelings in check but eventually passion overwhelms them.

Fearless In Texas is a well-paced sensuous read with two dynamic lead characters. Loved the chapter when Wyatt and Melanie hike along the Coyote Ridge trail and are forced to stay overnight in the woods because Wyatt has reinjured his ankle. I could imagine Melanie helping the injured Wyatt out of the ravine, telling

him to lean on her and setting up their campsite. The Truth or Dare game they played by the firelight provided interesting insight into both characters. Wyatt correctly guesses Melanie's fear of the dark. The secondary characters added to the storyline and provided just the right amount of humor and insight. The author balances the storyline by providing insight into the competitive world of rodeo. The author shows through the characters of Melanie and Grace how much practice, determination and strength it takes to compete in this venue. The conclusion of the novel was excellent. The author made several surprising plot and character choices which kept me reading.

This is the first book by Kari Lynn Dell that I have read. I bought book one in this series based on the authors relatable characters, strong storyline and descriptive writing style and I can't wait to read it!

Babs says

Melanie has really messed up with time but dating a client whom she finds out is married. Everyone throws her under the bus but her best friend sends Wyatt to watch out for her.

Melanie doesn't need Wyatt to watch her she wants more, but he is complicated. Wyatt lets Melanie help with his bar that is failing at the moment.

Can these two work together and not fight?

These two characters were fun to read about. They each had issues to work out and they work well together. It keeps the readers turning the pages.

I voluntarily read a copy of this book.

Brandee (un)Conventional Bookworms says

4.5 Stars

This series just keeps getting better! Dell excels in entertaining and poignant storytelling. I was eager for Wyatt and Melanie's story and Dell delivered a one that kept me glued to the pages. I can't wait to see who's next. ;)

In my review of *Tougher in Texas*, I said this about waiting for *Fearless in Texas*:

"...since the stories keep getting more entertaining, I *know* it'll be worth the wait."

And guess what? Dell DID NOT DISAPPOINT! Seriously, this series just gets better and better! I think I'm suffering from a book hangover. Dell delivered another compelling story with characters that are brilliantly brought to life. I'm chomping at the bit for the next installment!

Highlights:

*Character Development

Dell excels here and this might be her best yet in this department. (it's a toss up between Melanie/Wyatt and Shawnee/Cole) With Melanie, we have this extremely intuitive gal who makes an art out of reading people. But she isn't so good at turning that talent on herself. With a little help, she does and she isn't all that fired up at what she sees. She does become introspective whenever she's sorting things out so to see her use that introspection on herself, be along with her as she decides on what to change and how to change it and then watch her execute was inspiring. In Wyatt, we have a man who yearns for a connection...a community...a family. Learning his backstory made his behavior and his actions understandable. But it saddened me that despite having the community and family he longed for with Joe and Violet, the Jacobs family, and the rodeo, he still felt like an outsider. Witnessing Melanie give him his heart's desire was...well, heartwarming.

*Secondary Characters & Side Plots

Dell has crafted quite a colorful cast and they along with the side plots add depth and complexity to the story. They also make me debate with myself over who I hope to see in the next installment. From Louie and Gordon, Helen and Rowdy, Grace...gosh! There's so many wonderfully drawn characters and then I get to spend time with some whom I've already met as well. *sigh* I love them all.

*Setting

Up to this point, this series has spent most of its time in West Texas and as I've said, Dell captures life in West Texas well. This installment, due to Melanie's need to "get the hell out of Dodge", was spent in and around Pendleton, Oregon. What are the odds Dell would pick another place I'm familiar with? And she nailed the description of the town and the landscape. She's really about to put you there and I love that. Also, the rodeo took a bit of a back seat here but it still had its place and we get to spend time with the horses, cows, and rope. =)

*Thought-provoking

I mentioned this in my review of *Tougher in Texas* but this I'm mentioning it again because it's worth saying. The **Texas Rodeo** series is romance but the romance is secondary to the story, in my opinion. I like that Dell has her characters take deeper looks at themselves, consider their mistakes and learn from them, figure out what they want in life and how to go about making that happen. And a common theme seems to be never, ever denying yourself love.

I suppose *Fearless in Texas* had a little different tone since the rodeo wasn't front and center but it was every bit as riveting as its predecessors. Dell wove together a cast of characters I couldn't help but love with a story that kept me captivated. I can't thank Anna enough for turning me on to Dell!

Parker continues impressing me with her ability to keep the pace just right and deliver on all the emotions. And for the most part, she keeps her voices distinct. She's become a favorite narrator of mine, honestly. And I'm once again anxious for the next book in the series!

I received an eARC from the publisher via Netgalley as well as a complimentary audio copy from Tantor. This did not affect my rating and my review is provided voluntarily.

Monique says

What a wonderful feeling to discover an author who charms you with her exquisite writing, her outstanding storytelling abilities, and utterly unforgettable characters!

Melanie Brookman and Wyatt Darrington had last met five years ago while attending a wedding. The air surrounding them crackles with their attraction, and what might have happened if Wyatt had let them, if he didn't live in Oregon, she in Texas, if it weren't for her brother Hank ... Melanie was a champion roper who drifted into a marketing career, and doing right by her brother Hank has defined the paths she has chosen all her life. She is fierce, driven, and when her legendary temper gets the best of her, Wyatt offers her a temporary job in exchange for providing her with answers as to Hank's whereabouts.

Wyatt is a fabulous hero: he is pushing forty, a golden boy who has succeeded at almost everything he does, except his personal life, and his backstory was unlike any I have read before. He exudes charm, yet he is a man of few words who has a tendency to retreat into himself when cornered. He is burdened by secrets, and stuck in all sorts of convoluted relationships. Melanie must have been a very difficult heroine to write; a touch more and she would have been unpleasant, but Ms. Dell's mastery made it so that she wasn't. Melanie is incredibly real, flawed, and ever so relatable with her short fuse and sharp tongue; she is also somewhat older than we are used to: she is thirty four.

What amazed me almost immediately was the exceptional quality of the writing: Ms. Dell's uniquely descriptive voice bring every setting into sharp focus: I could see that blue sky, the chill in the air, the rodeo life, the animals, images crystal-clear in my mind. The dialogues seem to originate naturally from the characters themselves, seemingly without any outside intervention. Every word was perfect, every sentence enchanting, every paragraph riveting; the whole narrative infused with intelligence and genuine emotion. *FEARLESS IN TEXAS* is as intricately crafted as the best murder mystery, with a plot twist towards the end I never expected. It was a very daring move from the author, whom I applaud for this realistic turn of event. *FEARLESS IN TEXAS* is such relief from the banality of most contemporary romances these days. Although it is book four in the Texas Rodeo series, as you can see, it stands perfectly on its own, but when I think at what I missed prior to *FEARLESS IN TEXAS*, I could just cry! And to say that I cannot wait for the next book in this series would be a major understatement, because it will be epic!

I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

Anna's Herding Cats says

Reviewed for herding cats & burning soup. (posting to blog 4/23/18)
Amazon: <http://amzn.to/2o3wUma>

Fearless in Texas. So, yeah. The hero... isn't a cowboy. And the book takes place... in Oregon. So, the cover is a bit special this time. Hot but, erm, yeah, okay. lol

The Gist: Melanie needs to escape town after shit hits the fan and winds up agreeing to put her professional skills to use saving Wyatt's floundering bar. The two have kind of been at odds but both needing each other in different ways agree to work together... for now.

Mel and Wyatt were fiery. They are rocking that love-hate thing. They absolutely love to rile each other up which was entertaining as all hell. They're so perfect for each other, too, when they could just stop themselves from being punks. lol

Mel is a headstrong heroine. She goes full force into everything and doesn't back down. Loves fiercely but battles a temper that gets the best of her now and again. I didn't always love how she handled herself but liked her overall.

And Wyatt. Yall. He's nearing 40 and has never felt like he had a community connection or that anyone would ever pick him when things were on the line. He's always stayed on the outside looking in, almost. He's a total giver even if it's behind the scenes and others don't know it's him. He's brilliant and crafty. And NOT a cowboy. He's a bullfighter but that's it. Doesn't do cowboy gear, doesn't have a ranch, isn't a fan of any of that. He's clean cut and polished. And can't ride a horse other than for proper showing. NOT A COWBOY! lol

I did like them both. And them as a couple. Seeing them let down their guard and try to stop sniping at each other long enough to actually get things done and find out more about the other.

So why only a 3. I don't know. The other books flowed so nicely but this one felt rougher. Like it needed a bit more polish to it. And I had issues with the "white guilt" "white privilege" crap that kept sneaking in. Gag and eye roll. I also had some trouble with a trope used. I hate a secret baby trope and somehow this managed to have a secret baby even though neither the hero nor the heroine actually have a child so that was weird and not my favorite thing

Overall, I enjoyed Fearless in Texas. There were some funny moments and some incredibly endearing ones as they each deal with their own issues. I just wish I had clicked with this one like I did the previous three. I had to fight a feeling of being out of sync with the book nearly the entire time. Something was just off this time.

Isha Coleman says

Melanie and Wyatt have a history. From acquaintances to enemies, attraction has always meandered in the shadows. Their issues reach the boiling point when secrets start to reveal themselves little by little. What seems complicated is relatively simple, if these fighters give up the battle and surrender to their hearts. Ms. Dell checks all the boxes for any romance lover. Tempting, engaging, feel good read.

Veda says

I carried this book around for several months before reading it, because I hadn't read the previous book, and I knew I had to read them in order. When I finally was able to read this book, I wasn't disappointed, once again I was drawn into rodeo life. I was there, I could see the pain, love, and smell the smells of rodeo. Only a person with a passion for rodeo, can make you feel that way, and Kari Lynn Dell didn't disappoint me. I was drawn into this story and was upset that I couldn't read until I was done. I learned not to start an awesome book when you are moving from one state to another. I kept wondering what my new friends were doing, and if they were okay.

I can't wait to read the next book.

Tonya Lucas says

Ever so often I'll stumble on an author that rocks my world.

Last summer a new author exploded into my life, when I read Reckless In Texas.

I had sworn off authors who wrote about Rodeo, because growing up in that realm, no author I've ever read knew what they were writing about. Then I read Kari Lynn Dell's book and I was catapulted back into my world. She got it and gave it due justice!!!!

Now I'm on the 4th book in this series. Fearless In Texas, with it mysterious storyline of a character, who had been teasing us since the 1st book.

Wyatt Darrington, unique to say the least, is quite a character that needed his story told. Wyatt not fitting the norm in the rodeo world, which he resides in as a professional bullfighter, but it actually works for him and his amazing personality.

Melanie Brookman, Texas born and arena raised has always just been right there worming her way under his protective reserve and secretive desire.

This book has kept me on the edge of my seat from the beginning, scratching my head, tapping my chin, and trying to jog my memory, as to what I missed before. It's that captivating and mysteriously written.

This book is beyond phenomenal, it's deep, inquisitive, and certainly shows Kari Lynn Dell's ability to write exceptional books with a classic-scholar depth.

Char (1RadReader59) says

This was a story of friendship, family, and love. But with a host of errors and secrets to keep you on your toes. We have Melanie Brookman the daughter of world famous and most respected tie-down roper and horseman, on the professional circuit, Johnny Brookman.

As an infant all the way through her young adult life she lived the horse woman's life. Then working for Jacobs Livestock. Before moving on to college to become a marketing for the good old boy network. Who thought they could treat her like a second-class citizen. Not only working her more hours but giving her their work then taking the credit.

The final straw coming when she knew she was giving up all her precious time and once again having to cancel dinner plans amongst other things to stay to work. But when her boss pawned her off on a client. When after several meetings being single adults they start seeing each other she finds her boss holding it over her head, her so-called affair with him.

You see he was married. He boss knew it and arranged the setup and never tells her he knew Michael Miller's wife. Being who she is she gets even causing trouble for herself. But when all her friends come into play they even her play the field on her behalf even though she's out of there on a grand exit plan.

She is offered a job by the most unlikely person she could ever think of. But everyone agrees it will be good for her to leave home for a while. Since this is a consulting job to help Wyatt with Darrington's the World famous pro bullfighter's new bar. Who has become a part of the Brat pack like she has?

You see they're part of the Brat Pack ~ The Brookman siblings (Melanie & Hank), The Sanchez brothers (Gil & Delon), The Jacobs sisters (Violet & Shawnee), and their cousin Cole-dragging in Wyatt with him (Joe's BFF). I give this: 5 +++++ stars. Provided by netgalley.com. Follow us at www.1rad-readerreviews.com.

Glenda Kinard says

Omg I give up this author Kari Lynn Dell keeps making me love each book even more just when I think I can't love her books even more she does just that!! I don't know that I've ever been blown so away by books as I have been this Rodeo Cowboy series!!! I will love KLD books forever!! I could probably write this review on and on but I won't!! I do love Melanie and Wyatt and certainly can't wait till next book by this amazing author Kari Lynn Dell has blown me away!! BLOWN ME AWAY!!!

Jerri says

Can't fight what the heart wants

Wyatt and Melanie go through so much turmoil to arrive at undeniable passion. The story is a long and torturous one. Saddle up and hang on. Kari Lynn Dell has put a lot of emotion into this one. The series just gets better and better. Don't shortchange yourself, read all of the series. Rodeo written by a knowledgeable professional. Characters with such depth you want to meet them. Best series out there, bar none.

Ruthie Taylor says

~~I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads ~~

This is the fourth book in the series - and I have to admit the first that I have read. I did not feel the lack of the previous books, but I am also sure that I would have understood some of the other relationships better if I had. I may also have known Wyatt and Melanie's natures sooner. I have added them to my tbr pile, so that I can catch up.

The suspense or twist in this book is all based around one event, which has lasting ramifications. It is a while until we find out what it is, and also why it is such a big issue. I love how Mel reacts and how she rationalises everything. As we get to know more about Mel and Wyatt, we can see how suited to each other they could be. As they allow themselves to enjoy each other physically, but continue to hold back on their feelings, it is incredibly frustrating - but Ms Dell ensures we know just how they both really feel!

There are some great insights into the world of rodeo, and unusually from a female competitor's viewpoint at times. The school and training regime are also a good at bringing the world that these two live in to explain what is important to them. And the bordello bar is an inspired way of getting the two of them to spend more time together.

I will definitely be looking out for more in this series.

Book Lover says

Melanie and Wyatt have been dancing around each other for the last 5 years. Attracted but constantly butting heads and arguing. "Though if she were honest, it was usually her taking the shots and Wyatt deflecting them - but he did have a killer backhand return."

Melanie used to be a roping rodeo champion but got sidetracked by a marketing career. She is headstrong, outspoken, and has a very poor brain to mouth filter. Her latest outburst was responsible for the loss of her reputation, job and career. Her friends send Wyatt to make sure she doesn't do anything else stupid and he ends up offering her a job. He wants her to use her marketing skills to make his newest acquisition, a bar, a successful venture.

Wyatt is much more than he appears. He's not your typical bull fighter. He is not a cowboy hat, jeans and boots guy, preferring ironed dress shirts, dress pants and tasseled loafers. He comes from a wealthy, religious family that he left behind due to their blatant hypocrisies. He has strived to make his life mean something by helping others and giving back. He is well connected.

As Wyatt and Melanie spend time together, their attraction goes from smoldering to exploding. I just loved Wyatt. He was a friend to everyone but didn't feel he was worthy of their friendship in return. He had been in love with Melanie for years but just knew she would never return the feeling, so he "...continued to live off the crumbs she tossed..." and helped her behind the scenes whenever possible. Melanie irritated me at times with her attitude but she eventually figures it all out.

The one complaint I have is that the cover model in no way reflects Wyatt's description.

This is the fourth book in the series and another hit. I really enjoy this author's ability to pull out your emotions and get you invested in the characters right from the beginning. I'm already anticipating the next book in the series!

I voluntarily reviewed an ARC provided by NetGalley and the publisher.

MiekeReads says

Fearless in Texas is just as good a book as the first three in the Texas Rodeo series. This is Wyatt and Melanie's story and it was a fun one to read.

This book can be read without reading the other books in the series but I think it is better if you have read the first three.

In the past books I didn't dislike Wyatt, but I found him a little bit off putting. He is someone who seemed to think he always knew best and he didn't care if you disagreed with him, he'd just manipulate the situation until it turned out the way he wanted it. In this book, he is much more likable. He is not really someone who sees himself as infallible in his judgement, as much as someone who cares deeply for the people around him and is unable to stop himself from trying to help if he can.

Melanie is likable from the past books and is very likable in this book too. She is someone who has worked

hard for her success and keeps driving herself, even when she is unsure that it is all worth it in the end. She has spirit and cares deeply for her family and friends as well.

I enjoyed the relationship development between the characters and I loved the secondary characters as well. I'm really looking forward to the next book in the series.

I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys romance.

I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review.
