



Flipped!

Inés Saint

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Filled with storybook architecture and rich with history, the town of Spinning Hills, Ohio, has seen better days. Now the Amador brothers are determined to restore the neglected community to its former glory. But it takes more than a hammer and nails to make a house a home...

Perfumer Holly Bell has a nose for scents and a head for dreams. A former military brat who longs to put down roots in Spinning Hills, she's been saving for years to buy a certain ramshackle Craftsman for herself and her young daughter. For once in her life, everything's going according to plan—until a real estate flipper steals the house out from under her! She can't afford to outbid him—but she can't seem to stop thinking about him either...

Dan Amador isn't back in Spinning Hills to stay. Checking on his brothers and renovating one house in the family tradition will be plenty until it's time to move on. Yet what seemed easy turns out to be anything but, especially when it comes to the gorgeous single mom who lives next door. Before he knows it, Dan seems to be creating the house of *her* dreams. He doesn't believe in the kind of fairy tale ending Holly longs for—but he can't deny that her stubborn optimism has found its way into his heart...

Flipped! Details

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Lorelei Frank says

Must read! I love this book. Laugh , cry, smile.... it all in this story. Can't wait to read more of series!.

Book Gannet says

I'm a little torn about this book. On the one hand there were parts of it that I really enjoyed: Holly, her daughter Ella, her grandmother, Dan's brothers, the other fun friends and family members in town; the renovation of the house; Holly's business; Spinning Hills itself. And then, on the other hand there's Dan, who has more than a few jerkish moments. I don't care if he had his reasons in his emotionally stunted childhood, his superior (and incorrect) snap judgements made him look and sound like an ass.

More on that later. Let me first talk about those good things. And there are many. This is a lovely small town romance of the type I thoroughly enjoy. Holly is a warm heroine with a gorgeous little girl and a successful business. She's had her troubles in the past, but she's on the right track now and her next goal is to buy the house of her (and Ella's) dreams. Except she gets gazumped. But instead of turning bitter over it (I might have) she instead tries to help out, because Holly's a good person and tries not to waste energy on things she can't change. I liked her a lot.

The story itself is full of humour from the opening scene, right up to the end. I loved the three women running the bakery. There's a magical one, a pious one and a sceptical one, they rarely agree on anything, but they're kind and fun and dole out invaluable advice whether people want it or not. Then there are Dan's younger brothers, Sam and Johnny, who are funny and supportive and tease in the way that only family can. I loved getting to know both of them and cannot wait to read their books.

Which brings me back to Dan. Eh. He waltzes in to the story so certain that he is right and Holly is wrong. He doesn't care that owning the house was her dream, he just assumes she's a terrible mother and that her business is an empty indulgence. He also mocks her expertise, and although he does come around on these things throughout the story, I never really feel like he genuinely apologises. It's just that Holly chooses to be the better person and forgive him, even when he doesn't really deserve it. I hate a hero who undermines the heroine or doesn't believe in her. He's so scathing of her hopes and dreams for the house at first that it made a very bad impression on me.

For the most part, however, he does improve. He'll never be a favourite hero of mine, but he's tolerable by the end. Sure, he makes another huge judgemental mistake, but the ending is almost cute enough to make up for it. The rest of the characters, the setting of Spinning Hills and Holly definitely do. In all this is cute and warm and funny and everything I could expect from a small town romance, though the hero in this case wasn't for me. It might also have been nice to have seen a little more of the work on the house, but what I did read I enjoyed. I definitely want to return to Spinning Hills soon – even if this book did leave me singing Toto's *Africa*...

(I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.)

Kerry says

I was provided a copy of the book from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. From the first meeting Holly and Dan do not get along. It might have to do with Holly and Dan buying the same house. Holly's dream of raising her daughter in that house are dashed, when Dan's last minute higher price sealed the deal. It is a historical home and she had so many plans for it. Dan is also the brother of one of her best friends Johnnie, so they will be seeing a lot of each other. Holly hopes to convince him to restore the home the way she envisioned. Dan is also trying to help his brother restore a lot of the homes in the area to revitalize the town. I like the development of Dan and Holly but also look forward to the rest of the books in the series.

Sarah Perry says

I couldn't. get past my disconnection to the characters. I still think the setting is quite charming and may give the characters another chance in the future. For now, I had to put this one down and move on to the next.

Jess says

Eventual functional co-parenting, FTW!

But really, this was cute. Weird, in that it's set in a Dayton suburb, but very cute. I liked the couple and their conflict, and I liked the community that it developed a lot more than I usually like the ones in small town contemporaries.

I definitely want to read the rest of this series.

? Kimberly says

Coffee Dates with Flipped!

First Date: Holly Bell is a single divorced Mom and has the night off. She decides to take an unauthorized walk into "her" future home after learning the bank accepted her offer. Holly has big plans for the rundown Craftsman and has spent the last five years saving to realize those dreams. The events that unfold have me giggling and annoyed when we discover Dan Amador has outbid her and now owns the house. These two have chemistry but I would not exactly call it sizzling, unless thoughts of frying up Dan are romantic. I have a feeling we are in for a ride.

Second Date: I love this quirky little town. Dan is a bone-headed idiot at the moment, but I have hopes. The banter between Holly and Dan slowly develops into friendship and more. Saint weaves in wonderful secondary characters from the other Amador brothers to Holly's daughter. We get plenty of banter as Dan makes some assumptions that quickly get him in trouble with folks. It was fun watching him make amends and discover how wrong he was. Holly is a perfumer and I liked her snark and independent streak. Saint does

a wonderful job of fleshing out Dan and bringing me around to liking him.

Third Date: Growing pains, a little two-step and some "ah ha" moments had me flipping the pages, swooning a little and losing myself within the story. When I began reading, I did not realize this was the first in a series. In fact, I often felt like I had missed something regarding secondary characters and eventually stopped reading to see if this was perhaps the third book in a series. I was surprised to find it was the first. Secondary characters piqued my interest but felt information was lacking. I enjoyed the romance, which was slow burning and offered passionate kisses and eventually some heat.

Copy provided by publisher. This review was originally posted at Caffeinated Book Reviewer

Andrea says

This was a really enjoyable story. It had great characters and a great plot. It was a little slow at times, but still worth the read. Plus it was clean.

Claire - The Coffeeholic Bookworm says

Oh boy, this book sure found its way to my heart. Dan Amador and Holly Bell are two interesting characters that excited and gripped me at the same time. Their past is actually intertwined, their present is clouded and confusing, their future could be promising one. One was left as a child, the other ran away with her own. A house brought them together, almost tore them apart and would soon be instrumental in their decision in life. But one thing is for sure, Dan's life was flipped, the moment he saw the girl with a lime-green mask and hurricane hair. Holly's world was also flipped, the moment she lost her dream house.

I've got so many feels from this book. It was beautifully written and thoughtfully narrated. There were a lot of times when I found myself imagining I was Holly and could feel the intensity of her actions. There were a lot of times too, when I want to hit Dan in the head and give his stepmom a lesson she couldn't forget. And there were times, still, when I just wanted to spend an evening drinking beers and listening to the Amador brothers singing on stage. In more ways than one, I can say, I got also flipped.

Ines Saint roused me with her swoon-worthy story. She has her way of connecting the book's characters with the reader. Flipped is well written for a chick lit and there are several hilarious scenes, making my whole reading experience fun and lighthearted and riveting. There's a lot of great things I can say about the author, but if I have to sum it up, I can only come up with one statement. Ines Saint is impressive and a whole lot more!

??Trea says

This book was great! The characters had great chemistry, but were a bit stubborn about their attraction at times. The secondary characters were well written, and I desperately wanted to get to know them better. Also, I LOVED the setting! This was set so near my hometown that I could recognize the landmarks she mentioned!! I totally geeked out about that! I was also able to easily envision everything mentioned about the neighborhood. I didn't really care for the twist at the end that caused more conflict for Holly, but I could understand why it was included. All things considered, a great introduction to the author, and I am eager to

read more from her!

Jack Vasen says

This is a fairly average romance story without the mystery that made Perfect Paige enjoyable. Dialogue is OK with some wit and humor.

I really hated Dan with a passion for a good part of the book. Holly is a cute, quirky girl who like fun. Dan's ridicule of her continues well into the story and it shows him to arrogant and judgmental without looking past the surface.

Holly is also intelligent, industrious and caring with a little dose of forgiving thrown in. Unfortunately her quirky, fun part got bogged down a little with her past insecurities.

BTW house selling doesn't work like that. The bank so screwed up.

Elizabeth Palmer says

Ines Saint's delightful novel *Flipped!*, the first in a three-part series featuring the handsome Amador brothers, is not your typical category romance. Saint's writing, in this and in her previous two novels, encompasses so much more than two people bucking the odds and falling in love. In the tradition of Luanne Rice, Saint presents an entire cast of well-developed, multi-dimensional characters, and creates a vivid setting for them to live in. Holly Bell, the heroine, is a strong willed single mother determined to make her dreams a reality. Tough-but-tender Dan Amador isn't afraid of anything—except letting a woman past the walls he's built around his heart. Spinning Hills, Ohio, is a charming old town in the process of gentrification (helped along by Holly and the Amador brothers). The strong conflicts and engrossing plot in *Flipped!* are enhanced by Saint's use of sensual elements and fairy tale allusions. Holly, a perfumer and successful businesswoman, creates signatures scents for her friends in the same way the author creates her characters' unique personalities.

I wish I could visit Spinning Hills. I'd enjoy a slice of crabapple pie at the bakery, listen to the Amador brothers play at the local tavern, and peek in the windows of Holly's refurbished Craftsman house. Fortunately there are two more single Amador brothers, and two more books to enjoy in the Spinning Hill series!

Genesis pimentel says

I'm so sorry for such a bad rating

I don't think I have much to say about this book. It's a cute adult romance. Set in a small town. I felt the story was very rush, I think the author tried to incorporate a lot of external elements and it ended

up not working very nicely. I felt as if forcing my self to read and I did find myself skipping lots of pages because there just wasn't a lot to get my attention.

I liked the characters though, I found Holly to be very well written but Dan wasn't my favorite he was a massive jerk from page 1 and then suddenly had a change of heart after a while? even then he was a jerk. and believe me I'm all about loving a-hole in books he was just not likable. That's the thing that made me not enjoy it. There was just no chemistry to me in this book.

On the other hand I loved Ruby and all the old ladies. I loved his brothers and i found Ella's characters to be... Idk.

Over all it was cute. I wouldn't really read it again but I did feel there was lot more potential underneath that wasn't handled properly. Only if the things would have slow down and have each situation have and ending not just rush things to be fixed.

As I always say, Don't knock it till you try it. You might love it!

And its super cheap.<3

Micah Persell says

This book hit so many of my guilty pleasures. I'm obsessed--*obsessed*--with HGTV, and I've never read a romance with house-flipping as the backdrop. I didn't even know that could be a thing! I was so stoked! I could not put this book down from the moment I picked it up. I loved Holly, a quirky heroine with witch-like eyes and a grandmother who believed in everything supernatural--love most of all. Dan was the perfect alpha hero with a big ole soft heart and a painful past. There were some masterful strokes of the pen in this book--tiny layerings from Saint that led to big conflict at different points. I cannot wait for the next brother's book!

Erika says

This book is like a distilled Hallmark Channel movie: sweet, straight-forward, and only mildly ridiculous. The relationships between family and community are the most beautifully rendered part of the story - along with a fairy-tale perfect small town.

While the background characters are fantastic, some behavior of the main characters seems suspect. It's difficult to believe in renovations that do not have unexpected delays due to rot or wiring or bad luck. Characters who are self-employed but still have ample spare time. A dog terrier that does not bark, dig, or require walks. I would have liked to see more gritty renovation details to better highlight the sweetness of the relationships.

Overall, this is a great rainy day with a mug of hot cocoa book.

Kristine Ruiz says

There was up and downs threw this book but I liked it for the most part, it's one of the first that I have been able to get threw in a while, the characters were great and I loved reading about them . The writing was good and I was able to follow and understand what was happening
