



Calamity Jayne and the Trouble with Tandems

Kathleen Bacus

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From National Bestselling author, Kathleen Bacus comes the next installment in the hilarious Calamity Jayne series...

What's the hardest part of learning to ride a tandem?

The pavement.

It's late July, and Tressa Jayne Turner's summer is as sizzling as Ranger Rick Townsend! But is Tressa in love or lust with the hot ranger? There's not time to find out as Tressa's boss at the Gazette, Stan Rodgers, wants his Ace Cub Reporter to cover TribRide—the state's ginormous bicycle ride across the state—but not from the sidelines. This assignment is a little more...hands on. Hands on the handlebars, that is. Not only that, but Tressa's ticket to ride is on a bicycle built for two! And at the tandem's helm? Sleazy rival reporter Drew Van Vleet, aka, "the missing link."

Could things get any worse? You decide. Tressa's parents are on the outs. Her sister is on the warpath. Van Vleet's insisting on a Star Trek theme. And Tressa is the number one suspect in a series of SO-not-funny pranks targeting reality TV star Keelie Keller. Talk about strange new worlds! Tressa is about to go where no "Calamity" has gone before—and where the ultimate wedgie is bound to be the least of this uneasy rider's worries! Hang on, folks. It's gonna be a bumpy ride. (I am a Vulcan. I feel no pain.)

Other Calamity Jayne books:

#1 Calamity Jayne

#2 Calamity Jayne and the Fowl Play at the Fair

#3 Calamity Jayne and the Haunted Homecoming

#4 Calamity Jayne and the Campus Caper

#5 Calamity Jayne in the Wild, Wild West

#6 Calamity Jayne and the Hijinks on the High Seas

What critics are saying about the Calamity Jayne mysteries:

"Fans of Janet Evanovich will be glad to see that you don't always have to go to the burgh for mirthful murder and mayhem."

- Booklist

"Filled with dumb-blond jokes, nonstop action and rapid-fire banter, this is a perfect read for chick-lit fans who enjoy a dash of mystery."

- Publishers' Weekly

"Fun and lighthearted with an interesting mystery, a light touch of romance and some fascinating characters."

- RT Book Reviews

"Throw in two parts Nancy Drew, one part Lucille Ball, add a dash of Stephanie Plum, shake it all up and you've got a one-of-a-kind amateur sleuth with a penchant for junk food and hot-pink snakeskin cowgirl boots. A word to the wise: if you're prone to laughing out loud when reading funny books, try not to read

Calamity Jayne when you're sandwiched between two sleeping passengers on an airplane...sometimes we learn these things the hard way."

- Chick Lit Cafe

Calamity Jayne and the Trouble with Tandems Details

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Author : Kathleen Bacus

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From Reader Review Calamity Jayne and the Trouble with Tandems for online ebook

Krystyna says

Not quite as simply as riding a bike

Loved it. Her boss has teamed her up with her rival to cover the annual bike race. There are two main problems, she hasn't ridden a bike in years and they are going to be on a tandem! When things start going wrong for the reality star that is also "riding" in the race, her name is constantly in the frame. Can she clear herself and find out what is really happening? Wonderful storyline that is as amusing as the previous books and the romance kicks up a notch. For a fun, light, easy, amusing read you really can't do better.

Anne says

Another great Calamity Jayne mystery! One more to read and I am caught up. Then I will be awaiting the next one!

Mehrunisa Salim says

I was so excited after reading the last book, but the second I started reading this one, I wanted to hit Jayne over the head. However after reading further, I realized that we aren't back two steps after all. Jayne really has grown as a character, just as her relationships have. I was quite proud of her. Now for the mystery, I definitely knew there was something suspicious with the right people, though I couldn't put together who is at fault for what and why I am suspicious of them, if they are the criminal etc. In other words, the mystery did keep me guessing.

SarahSmith says

I received an ARC from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

When I first started reading this series I didn't really think much about it since the protagonist, Tressa, is pretty much a moron, and not because she's a blonde, although her blonde jokes during the book are pretty funny. No one can get into that amount of trouble and still be breathing. I liked the first few books, but since she was acting like a jackass working out whether she wanted a relationship with Ranger Rick, (the answer is YES!), and getting into crazy situations where she should most likely have been killed or severely maimed by now, they seemed just ok. This book on the other hand made her seem a lot more mature, even though there hasn't been much time in between the previous 6 books. Tressa may still be insecure about her burgeoning relationship with Ranger Rick, but she eventually grows a pair and tells him what she wants. She's still a moron, in the how is she still breathing department, but at least she's funny! The waterslide scene, had me cracking up by the way.

Laura says

Calamity Jayne is back!!! Yay! I was so disappointed that the series was ending with the last book, but thank you Kathleen Bacus for finding a way to keep Tressa alive!

The Trouble with Tandems picks up shortly after the end of Hijinks on the High Seas (if you haven't read it, you should to really follow along with this book--it was originally named Anchors Aweigh). Tressa is growing up and becoming more of an adult, but trouble just follows along behind her. Or, better yet, those around her cause trouble and she is right in the middle of it and doesn't just let every little thing slide because she wants to figure everything out.

Tressa is given an assignment by her editor to not just follow the huge bicycle race across Iowa, but to actually ride in it--on a tandem bike with her nemesis, Drew, from the rival paper. Her editor set her up and everyone has bets on how long she will last on the bike. Tressa is determined to keep going even when everything goes haywire!

This whole series is a fun read. As I started reading this book I worried that Tressa would turn into too much of Stephanie Plum (indecisive with men and leading them all on), but she has the quirkiness of Stephanie without being a complete idiot. Her character is actually growing and wanting to be an adult.

This is one series that I really, really, really enjoy. I love the characters and am so happy to see more from them. I hope that we will get to see more of Tressa, Rick, and all the other quirky characters.

Tina says

This is the seventh book in the Calamity Jayne series, but it is the first book that I've had the opportunity to read. I really enjoyed the story and liked the fact that I did not have to read any of the prior books before I read this one. But now, I want to read the entire series from the beginning. I think you will like all of the "Star Trek" references whether you are a fan or not. Just be prepared to laugh out loud on occasion. This is a must read for anyone who is looking to escape into a really good mystery and enjoys the kind of characters that cause you to laugh out loud quite often.

Tressa Jayne Turner is a reporter for the Gazette, and her boss wants her to cover the state's bicycle ride. TribeRide is no ordinary bike ride. It's the biggest bicycle ride across the state in the middle of the summer, and he wants her to cover it as a participant. The biggest surprise is that the bicycle is built for two. How hard can it be? Oh yeah, and the person who is her riding partner and controlling the tandem is her rival, Drew Van Vleet. And Drew has decided that they will be dressed in "Star Trek" uniforms while riding. Yeah!

The heat and Drew are not the only things Tressa has to worry about. Her parents are having issues, her sister is not happy, and she's not too sure where things stand with her and Ranger Rick Townsend. What else could happen? She will find out because someone is playing cruel pranks on reality star Keelie Keller, and everyone is pointing the finger at Tressa as the culprit since she and Keelie don't get along. Can she and Keelie work together to find the real culprit? Or will them working together put both of their lives in danger?

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Tricia says

I think this is my favorite of the series! It's so funny and entertaining! The mystery aspect kept me guessing throughout the book, and I was partially right with my suspicions; however there were added twists that really made it interesting. I think Tressa matured a little in this installment as well, although I don't see how she is still alive and not more traumatized with everything that happened to her (in this book & others)! I really enjoyed this one and laughed out loud several times!! Loved it!!

Crystal-Rain Love says

This has always been one of my favorite series. I thought it ended years ago with "Anchors Aweigh" (now titled "Highjinks on the High Seas"). I guess something happened with the original publisher as now the series has been relaunched with new cover art through Gemma Halliday Publishing and ... there are TWO NEW BOOKS! I was freaking out when I saw this and wish I'd known sooner. It's been years since I read the last one under the original publisher but I was able to get pulled right back in. I love, love, LOVE Tressa! She is one of the funniest characters I have ever read and these books guarantee a good laugh. This entry involved one heck of a who-dunnit as well. I thought I had the culprit pegged from the start but Ms. Bacus was pretty clever when crafting this story. I finished pretty quickly as per usual, I could not put it down, and now I'm off to the next one! I RECOMMEND THIS SERIES TO EVERYONE WITH A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR WHO LIKES TO LAUGH!

Teetee says

Ah, what a treat this book was! It was fun and familiar, and I'm thrilled the author picked this series back up again! And the price, I felt, was just right too. \$3.99 (at the time of this review) for a decent sized adventure! When I first saw the cover, I had my reservations, thinking that maybe the author had started writing a Calamity Jayne young adult series or something, but I was pleased once I read the blurb to realize it is indeed for grown-ups. Hooray!

I'm not sure what it is about this series I like so much. Calamity is, I admit, somewhat juvenile in her humor but for some reason I just sit back and enjoy the ride anyways. I also get a bit frustrated with her glacial relationship with the hunky Rick. I'd like to see more development, yet if I understand correctly the author is having Tressa slow things down some. After they finally-FINALLY hooked up (in the disaster of a book-volume 6), now they are going to back up a bit and 'court' one another?? All I can say is Rick must have the patience of a saint! Tressa says she doesn't feel like she knows Rick, but from reading previous volumes I felt she did, so that frustrates me a bit. However we all know a slow burn romance really hooks the readers, so I'm assuming that's the point of this. Get the characters together too soon, and the chemistry is gone!

I enjoyed just reading up on my favorite gang, loved the biking drama and numerous geeky references to Star Trek throughout. And of course, I'm DYING to know about Manny-can't wait for those five questions! Fun series, great installment, can't wait for more! Everybody lookout, Calamity Jayne is back!

Heidi (Yup. Still here.) says

I was so excited to see a new Calamity Jayne book awhile back as it has been quite a hiatus. I certainly hope this is not the last one because I really enjoy this series. This one was a wild ride but I loved every minute of it. If you liked the others in this series I don't think you will be disappointed by this installment.

follow up I checked the authors website and it appears there is a new Jayne book due to be released this month! Woot!

Heidi says

It took me three days to read this book due to the tiny people who roam my house on a daily basis. However I also want to savor this book since it has been six years since she wrote a Calamity Jayne book and boy it was AWESOME!!

I laughed so hard I think tears rolled down my cheeks. If you loved the other Calamity Jayne books you will love this one. Everyone is in it and I was grateful the author developed certain characters even more namely the perfect sister Taylor and I have to admit you find yourself liking Taylor just as much as Tressa. The author pushes the story forward including the Romance between Tressa and Rick. Thankful she didn't do what I find most authors doing which is holding the character back from growing instead she let the Tressa mature.

The story has a sweet sub story between Tressa's parents that I think leaves an awesome message for any couple who feels things are not where they should be.

Jennifer Brown says

Fantastic book! I am so glad the author decided to write another one (and am hoping that there is more to come since she didn't ask Manny the questions!!)!! I can't think of another series that makes me laugh so much! There was a little bit at the end where it's naming the people involved and you're like, 'really? EVERYONE did it??' but then you think it's reality tv and yes everyone is involved. This book contains a little bit of everything and it is just wonderful! I definitely recommend it!!

Linda Quick says

Very funny book with non-stop hijinks. Our favorite reporter is coerced into participating in a long distance bicycle race on a tandem bike. Her partner on the tandem bike is a reporter for the competing newspaper that has gotten the better of her in the past. This strange pairing was set up by their managing editors. Of course, lots of wagering was involved regarding Tressa's ability to complete the race.

A reality star and her entourage create the setting for a real mystery and allow Tressa an important role as both villain and heroine.

This was by far the best book in the series. It has allowed Tressa to grow and mature, as well as allowing her relationship with Rick to mature.

Thank you to the publisher for providing an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Amanda Walker says

I think I've read the entire series thus far. Each one has a slightly different twist. The relationships continue to grow, the mysteries are slightly different, but the characters are the same: witty, goofy, and relatable.

In this iteration of Tressa Turner's adventures, she has been signed up by her newspaper boss to tandem bike across Iowa with her number one competitor - Drew Van Vleet from the New Holland News. Everyone is certain this will be a disaster, just like nearly everything Tressa is involved with. Just having returned from her sea cruise (which ended with a night with Townsend), Tressa is more than ready to escape her hometown (and acquire that bonus she's promised if she finishes). Chaos and hilarity ensue, as expected.

I was worried that Rick and Tressa would have another story where they dance around their feelings for one another, but I was pleasantly surprised (and, yes, somewhat relieved) to read that they took a large step forward.

These books are pretty easy reads, but they continue to be entertaining, which is why I return to them.

Tiona says

Another fun, funny ride with Calamity and gang. Kinda skipped around a bit in the middle and could have been more thorough in some parts, but a good read, nonetheless.
