



The Playboy of Rome

Jennifer Faye

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Taming the Italian playboy...

Lizzie Addler's dream of working in Italy is about to come true--that is if she can convince passionate Italian chef Dante DeFiore to keep his side of their bargain. Dante might be hotter than the Italian sun, but he's as cool as ice toward Lizzie.

Dante hasn't the time to pander to Lizzie's dreams of culinary fame--he has a restaurant to run! But as Lizzie proves herself to be a spectacular addition to his kitchen...and to his life. Dante wonders...can he keep her forever?

The Playboy of Rome Details

Date : Published March 3rd 2015 by Harlequin (first published March 1st 2015)

ISBN : 9780373743292

Author : Jennifer Faye

Format : Mass Market Paperback 256 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Category Romance, Harlequin, Contemporary Romance, Harlequin Romance

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From Reader Review The Playboy of Rome for online ebook

Carole (Carole's Random Life in Books) says

This review can also be found at Carole's Random Life.

3 Stars

I liked this book for what it was - a light, fluffy romance novel. It is a rather short book that I was able to read in just a couple of hours while my family was sleeping on a weekend morning. I read a lot of different kinds of books and every once in a while I like to read a nice, easy romance novel. This book wasn't perfect and some of the events in the story felt a little too convenient but it was an enjoyable story nonetheless.

Lizzie has had to deal with a lot in her lifetime. She leaves her job and life behind in America to take a chance in Italy working with a chef on a television show. She is determined to make things work because the person that means the most to her in the world is depending on her. When she arrives at the restaurant, she does not receive the warm welcome that she had expected. The chef that she had plans to work with is no longer able to work and has been replaced by his grandson, Dante.

Dante is not impressed with the idea of training Lizzie or the television show. To make matters worse, his grandfather promised Lizzie a place to stay while she is in Italy and he finds himself sharing his apartment with her when they are not working.

I liked the chemistry between Lizzie and Dante. They have both lost a lot and really seem to understand each other. I found the individual characters of Lizzie, Dante, and Dante's family to be very likeable. Everyone in this story has lost a lot in life and has learned to deal with things the best that they know how.

I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a quick contemporary romance. This was the first book that I have read by Jennifer Faye and I do plan to keep my eyes open for future titles by this author.

I received a copy of this book from the author for the purpose of providing an honest review.

Ruthie Taylor says

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

This is a very sweet, entertaining romance. It contains no bad language and nothing other than references to possible sexual intimacy - there are some pretty potent kisses!

I loved that it is set in Italy and the food and the countryside are beautifully described. The DeFiore family own a huge estate and vineyards outside Rome, and it is definitely a most romantic setting for these two people scarred from their pasts to understand that change and chances at happiness are possible for them too. The story is told from both their points of view, which gives us a great insight into how they don't read each other, due to their own hang ups! The addition of the pressure of complying with the requirements of the tv filming crew adds a fun dynamic.

If you like your romances sweet, this is perfect reading.

Melody May (What I'm Reading) says

Posted on What I'm Reading

I don't know where to begin with *The Playboy of Rome*, because there is a lot in this story. I guess I should highlight some of the points of the story. We have Lizzie and she has come to Italy to work with Dante's grandfather, but Massimo ended up having a stroke and needed to the family vineyard. However, he didn't tell his grandson that he was suppose to work with Lizzie. When Lizzie shows up he confuses her for extra help. Now these two feels this pull towards one another, but neither one of them wants to act on. They each has their personal reason why they shouldn't. Dante believes that his family is curse when it comes to love, so you could understand why he doesn't want to fall in love. Poor guy, was given bad info when it comes to love. Fortunately, that is all fixed by the end of the story. Now Lizzie grew up feeling unloved, because enter the foster care at young age and believed her mother would come get her. Instead was let down time and time again, so you could see why she wouldn't want to enter into a relationship and end up broken hearted.

Now that's out in the open. I loved *The Playboy of Rome*, because we have two people that have been influence by the people in there lives and both afraid to let anyone into their hearts. However, they are able to open up to one another. Okay, I shed a few tears for Lizzie, because of the whole feeling unlovable. However, she was just a bubble of happiness even though she had a rough start in life. I love that these two kind of absorbed one another. However, there were some misunderstanding on both ends. Okay, loved this story and message that even though that

"Love is like life--it's a gift not to be squandered."

Both Lizzie and Dante had to learn that love is something to be cherished and willing to embrace no matter what happens in life. Dante almost missed his chance. So, if you are looking a quick get away, take an adventure with *The Playboy of Rome*.

Copy provided by author via Tasty Book Tour.

Adina Nicc says

I received the book for free through Goodreads First Reads.

The book presents the story of Lizzie and Dante... it's your typical romance story presenting a lot of dancing around each other and a bit of dancing with eachother and the obvious happy ending.

The book presents both Dante and Lizzie as people who - because of their pasts - don't want to take chances with love. The start is good, but I can't help but feel disappointed because the book mainly presents the peak parts about their relationship... on at least two occasions their love story and the development of the relationship between the two could have been more detailed, but those occasions were passed and left behind...

I understand the need for drama in romantic stories, but personally I also appreciate a bit of depth to a story...

not just two characters thrown in a situation and a presentation of only the bad-good-bad-happy ending parts of story... I think the in betweens are also important.

Anyway, to the lovers of the genre, I recommend this book to anyone looking for a quick contemporary romance.

Laura says

I was given The Playboy of Rome for an honest review by Tasty Treats Book Tours

Lizzie had an opportunity to go to Italy and be mentor by the great Chef Massimo Bianco for a TV show. The contracts were signed and both Massimo and Lizzie are both looking forward to working together. So imagine her surprise when she arrives at Massimo's restaurant and discovers that Massimo has had a stroke and his grandson is now running the place and he knows nothing of the contract between her, his grandfather and the TV network.

First I want to apologize for the delay in getting The Playboy of Rome finished. I meant to have it done sooner but even though this was a well written book I found it very easy to put down in order to read something else and that is why I feel the need to apologize. That also makes it probable that I will not be reading The Playboy of Rome again in the future.

For some reason I expected more fireworks, seduction and hot steamy bedroom scenes but all I got was fizzling, mediocre attempts at seduction. I did like Lizzie's tenacious attitude and her passion for fighting the good fight and preparing good food, but her passion just didn't transfer to the relationship between her and Dante.

To read entire review please visit <http://lauralusbookreviews.blogspot.com>

Kortney Lah says

Who doesn't love a hot Italian chef? I know I most certainly wouldn't mind...and neither does Lizzie, the young aspiring, very pretty nonetheless, cook covering for the short staffed business. All the talk in the first half of the novel isn't as good as it was when it got to the steamy parts of the novel. The novel could have been better, but not quite as much as 50 shades of gray, somewhere in between would have made this book even more perfect. I love romance novels and this one was very good.

Romancing the Book says

Reviewed by Angela

Book provided by Jennifer Faye

Review originally posted at Romancing the Book

In The Playboy of Rome we follow the crazy relationship of Lizzie Addler and Dante DeFlore. Told from the point of view of both of the main characters made it so you could really understand what was going on in

their heads. The setting of the story takes place in Rome, Italy. I love when the author is descriptive about the setting in which the book is taking place as it really helps me to be able to put myself in the shoes of the characters. In The Playboy of Rome the author didn't seem to focus as much on the surroundings as they did on the relationship of Lizzie and Dante. With some of the settings that the book takes place in it would be nice to have that mental image of things like the family vineyard or the "city" that the restaurant is located in would have been nice.

The flow of the story was fast and to the point. The plot is revealed within the first twenty five pages of the book and then really dives into it. I wish that the author would have focused a little more on the relationship though and spent a little less time on the restaurant.

Lizzie and Dante both come to the table with their own issues and are both afraid of bearing their soles to each other for fear of what the other would think. This was the biggest growth for both of the character's being able to finally open up to a person that they finally feel they can be themselves around. It takes Dante a little longer to get their than Lizzie and at some points I did want to club him over the head but he got there eventually.

The book as a whole was an enjoyable read and I look forward to reading the sequel Best Man for the Bridesmaid.

Favorite Quote: "You do know that you're driving me crazy, don't you?"

Mona says

THE PLAYBOY OF ROME by Jennifer Faye, #1 of The DeFiore Brothers~~
Sweet, Funny, Touching, and More..

Lizzie Addler comes to Rome on the contingency of an internship, and learning from the best~~~Chef Massimo Bianco: upon entering the Ristorante Massimo something else happens. A little misunderstanding..When she meets tall, dark and handsome Dante DeFiore his grandson. He thinks she's a hostess coming to help him out, and she does that. Little does he know why she's really. He doesn't care how attractive she is, but Lizzie isn't going anywhere until he hears her out.

Italian Chef Dante DeFiore is running Ristorante Massimo while his grandfather can not. When he sees this beautiful women enter his ristorante things couldn't become more interesting, but oh how they do.

While Lizzie and Dante start working together, and letting each other in on some secrets in their lives things become complicated. They both aren't sure what's happening.

Can they make it work? Will Dante teach Lizzie? He has other things going on, which include his family for one. Now to add to his problems Lizzie is becoming something special. He can't afford to let her in. He might want forever with her, but it isn't so simple.

So take a ride with them through Rome and the vineyards. Heartfelt moments.
It will grab and not let go..

Next to follow this is Best Man for the Bridesmaid. Book two.

Highly Recommend this book..

Kaycee ❤️? says

I was looking for something light , fun and breezy to read and found this on my reader and never ending tbr. And I was ready to kick myself for not reading this one sooner. Because this was such a wonderful, fun, sweet, contemporary romance with lots of heart. The story was filled with gorgeous, swoon-worthy moments.. Everything was well executed and the book captured and held my attention from beginning to end.

I loved both of the characters. Dante... *Seriously*, he's a boyfriend hero material and utterly amazing in every single way and some. Though he wasn't perfect, he's still an incredible guy. I think I fell in love with him right along with our heroine. And as for Lizzie, she was a great heroine. She showed so much strength and courage when face with many situations.

The chemistry between them were off the charts. It was palpable and sizzling even from the first time they've met. The romance between them was slow burn and I loved that they didn't jump off the bed immediately. And when it happened, it was hot! But as soon as it happened, it's over. Because Lizzie was afraid, she never let her true feelings get involved, never let herself get attached. She doesn't want to get close to anyone in fear of getting hurt. But with Dante, her walls just keep tumbling down. I just love, love this crazy couple! Their relationship was passionate, vulnerable and as a reader, you just can't help but root for them!

Overall, *The Playboy of Rome* was such a fabulous contemporary read. The hero and heroine are both deep and wonderful characters in their own right and when brought together they light up the book!

Pat says

A beautiful American hoping to study with a Master Chef in Rome for reality TV. A handsome, charming Italian chef who wants no part of it! Full review to follow on <http://tbqspersonalbookpalace.blogspot.com>... March 23rd.

Heather Anne says

Review originally posted over on The Turning Pages

Lizzie has dreamed of becoming a chef and when given the opportunity to cook with one of Italy's most well-known chef's she jumps at the opportunity to help make her dream come true. She will also do anything to provide for her and her foster sister so that they can live a better life.

Dante is the grandson of the well-known chef Lizzie is suppose to work with, but after he has a stroke, Dante is put in charge of the restaurant and in a difficult spot when Lizzie arrives in Rome. He's on the verge of selling the restaurant so he can return to his family's vineyard to work along side his father and brother.

From the moment these two meet, they are instantly attracted to one another and can hardly stand being in close proximity to one another without their attraction getting in the way. The tensions are high when Lizzie stands her ground and demands to fulfill her end of the bargain. She didn't quit her job and move to Italy to give up & return home empty handed. Dante is stubborn & tries to stay away, but he can't help the way this beautiful American makes him feel.

The ups and the downs that Lizzie and Dante experience throughout the book, demonstrate the passion and determination they both possess. We're not only able to learn about one of the characters in a more personal way, but both of the characters. Lizzie comes from a long line of foster families and has always had to work hard to provide for herself, while Dante is living with the burden of his mother dying during childbirth. Both are able to help each other heal, in a sense, and take the steps towards making their own hearts desires come true. However, Lizzie and Dante can't help falling in love with one another along the way.

What a romance! And one that takes place in the beautiful and romantic city of Rome, makes it even better! I once again enjoyed reading a romance from author, Jennifer Faye.

Nancy Stopper says

I typically stay away from books not set in the U.S. because I don't always relate well to the language differences. But because this book being written by an American, just being set in Rome, I thought I'd give it a shot. The Playboy of Rome was a sweet story of a girl who is sacrificing herself to support her foster sister. I liked the premise of the story - girl travels to Rome, boy doesn't expect her, makes assumptions. Dante and Lizzie had chemistry from the beginning and it permeated their relationship throughout the story. I did find it frustrating that Lizzie continued to believe Dante was a playboy when he had done nothing to earn that reputation while around Lizzie. Dante's reasons for avoiding commitment were equally compelling and I really felt for Dante as he struggled to fight his feelings for Lizzie because of his belief that he was destined to live alone. In true Harlequin form, the story was tightly written and well edited. As expected, Dante and Lizzie faced a situation that threatened their happiness. I felt the reason for their estrangement was a bit contrived and one or two simple conversations would have solved their miscommunication. All in all, The Playboy of Rome was a sweet read with an expected happily ever after. Recommend it to anyone who is looking for a quick read with a hero to swoon over!

Izy says

Rating~ 3 stars

ARC was generously provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Lizzie Addler has always wanted to be a chef and now she is getting her dream come true by working with a

famous chef on a reality tv cooking show in Rome. The only problem is that the Chef is no longer capable of taking part due to the stroke he suffered.

Dante DeFiore is in the process of selling his grandfather's restaurant and going to work for his estranged father and brother in their family vineyard, which he believes, would somehow gain him the approval of his father. He doesn't want Lizzie ruining that.

Lizzie wants to achieve her dream especially since she quit her job and left her only family (her sister) to come to Rome. She doesn't want to go back empty handed. Dante reluctantly agrees to the tv show and mentoring Lizzie.

Lizzie and Dante are attracted to each other from the moment they met, their relationship was passionate and had ups and downs but they did make each other very happy.

Quibbles: Lizzie was quite impulsive and misunderstood what Dante said quite a few times. It felt like both the protagonists were in their early twenties, it gave the adult book a very NA feel to it especially in terms of how they thought and acted. The happy ending felt rushed and all the issues which get resolved fairly quickly in the last few chapters didn't feel quite real.

Overall, it was a light romantic read.

Suzanne says

Lizzie had a contract to work with the famous chef of the Rome restaurant. A TV crew would film the segments. Lizzie put everything into this opportunity so that she would have money to send her sister to graduate school. The contract included room and board so Lizzie arrived early in Rome only to find that the famous chef had a stroke and his grandson Dante was running the restaurant.

Dante was selling the restaurant. The deal was almost done. No one told him about Lizzie and her contract. He had already leased the apartment that was to be her room. And he did not have a place for her in his kitchen.

Dante was worried about his grandfather and was returning to the vineyard where he was raised to be with his family. When he called to verify the contract his grandfather begged to see Lizzie.

Catherine (The Sassy Bookster) says

3.5 Stars

In *The Playboy of Rome*, the Italian countryside provides a backdrop for romance when an aspiring chef faces off against a reluctant restaurateur over a reality show! Lizzie Alder has given up everything for the opportunity to film her reality show at Ristorante Massimo and with no back up plan, she is determined to convince Dante DeFiore to honor the agreement she entered into with his grandfather.

Dante is in the process of finding a buyer for the restaurant and the signed agreement provided by Lizzie means putting the plans to sell on hold and stepping in for his grandfather on the show. Dante and Lizzie find themselves getting to know each other and dealing with the heat between them (not generated in the kitchen!) Both Dante and Lizzie have different backgrounds but share a lot of similarities. Lizzie was a foster child who was abandoned by her own mother and shuffled from home to home until she aged out of the system. Her experiences have taught her not to trust in anyone except herself and her foster sister Jules. Dante on the hand grew up within a large Italian family but was mostly ignored. Both crave love and acceptance and Lizzie finds the family she craves in Dante's and also helps to heal the rift between Dante and his family. A few times, it felt like Lizzie was too hung up on her past as a foster child and just could not get past it, but she found the courage to overcome her issues and break through Dante's resistance. Even though the characters were in the culinary industry, I liked that the story was not overwhelmed by cooking, but rather the scenes where they cooked were just enough to enhance the story.

The Playboy of Rome was an enjoyable read with a strong and brave heroine, one who overcame adversities to achieve her dreams and find love.

I received this book for free from the Publisher in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.