



Always and Forever

Betty Neels

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Always and Forever Details

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From Reader Review Always and Forever for online ebook

Fiona Marsden says

This is a later story with a heroine without any skills and training. Amabel is running her mother's guest house while she is away when Dr Oliver Fforde is stranded overnight during a storm. It seems to be a one off event but somehow he keeps turning up.

Amabel is cast adrift when mum brings home a selfish step-father who ill-treats the animals and somehow Oliver helps her out in various ways.

As is common with Neels, there is an evil other woman who feels threatened by Oliver's interest in the plain but lovable Amabel and this leads to more opportunities for Oliver to rescue her.

Oliver is one of Neels oblivious heroes who doesn't realise his feelings until well down the track even though he find himself thinking about Amabel at odd times.

A nice little read but not as satisfying perhaps as her nurse heroine romances who were less browbeaten.

Hannah Victoria Katherine says

I did not particularly like this story. I almost did not finish it. I wanted to slap the heroine upside the head and tell her to get a spine and deal with it. She just waits to be rescued by the hero with tears in her eyes. I can't stand charcters who act like they are useless and can't take care of the bumps of life.

Liz Michaels says

3.5 a sort-of Cinderella story. The heroine was a bit too much of a pushover.

Laura says

Amabel is a good heroine, and I liked that the H/h were friends. The fact that Oliver continued to save her over and over is not the most modern storyline, but it was handled well.

Robin says

A very sweet, charming tale. Perfect for fans of Jane Austen.

Hopefulpuffin says

Rolls and brief mention of a Rover

It's a Neels. RBD, mousey heroine. Wicked OW. Lots of animals - often in baskets and on leads. Need I say more?

Leona says

One of my favorites by Betty. Even though he isn't dutch ; -)

Amara says

Dear god. How cold and frigid this book is. A hero who constantly thinks of her as "plain" and a heroine that must've been Cinderella in a past life.

aem says

Another Betty Neels happy ending!!!

Caro Charmie says

Siempre a mi lado (traducción Harlequin Jazmín) Debo admitir que tuve mis dudas a la hora de calificar con estrellas? no sabía si darle 4 o 5 hasta q me dije es Betty Neels seré generosa con ella, no está mal qué me gusten tanto algunos de sus libros. Esta novelita que nos compete es especial, tiene como protagonista a Amabel Parsons y el dr de turno es Oliver Fforde. Ella tiene 26 años, tiene bellos ojos más no es atractiva ni bella. Viste mal y es muy sensata. El punto es que es una chica trabajadora de su casa y amante de sus dos mascotas (un perro y un gato). Es el cariño a sus dos mascotas la que la lleva a huir de su casa ante el posible y probable sacrificio de estos animalitos por parte de su padrastro? La historia de amor entre Amabel y Oliver comienza con una amistad mutua para luego devenir en un profundo amor. Él será en todo momento su amigo protector. Debo decir que finalmente con esta novela LLORÉ ? si señoras lloré porque me dije cuánto más va a soportar esta muchacha ??? huye de su casa, termina en un pueblo donde no conoce a nadie, la echan a la calle con perro y gato incluidos, nadie le da asilo ni trabajo, no tiene donde pasar la noche? entonces se refugia en una iglesia y allí se queda sola pensando que hará... hasta que... bueno no diré más léanla y lloren también.

Megzy says

Another winner by Betty Neels.

She is not a nurse but he is a doctor. I didn't think her mom was going to turn out to be as selfish as she ended up being but I guess she had to have some similarity to the man she married to while on vacation to see her older daughter in Canada... In the mean time she left her younger daughter right out of school all

alone running her bed and breakfast in the middle of nowhere. No wonder her new husband had the audacity to expect Amabel to wear three hats.. the day laborer in the new garden center, a cook and a maid at the house.

The story also has a malicious OW and a venomous BF of the OW.

I love Betty Neels stories that have animals as secondary characters.

Pamela Shropshire says

Amabel Parsons is an Araminta who is running a B&B single-handedly while her mother/partner is in Canada for the birth of a grandchild. Among the various overnight guests are our RBD, Oliver Fforde, and his mother.

When Mum returns from Canada with her new husband, Keith, Amabel quickly realizes she must leave; Keith doesn't like her (and her mom is a TERRIBLE mother for letting him treat her daughter so badly), he hates the family dog, Cyril, and Oscar, the cat, and threatens to have them put down.

So Amabel sneaks away to an aunt who lives near York; she gets a job in York working in a shop that belongs to a friend of the Veronica. Note: the Veronica - Miriam by name - and Dolores are very believable in this book. I know and loathe women who behave like them!

Anyway, Miriam persuades Dolores to sack Amabel, and she and her animals are left homeless. She takes sanctuary in a church, which is where Oliver finds her. No, he doesn't know he's in love with her yet; he's at the stage where *She Was Always on his Mind*, to paraphrase Willie Nelson.

As Fate Would Have It, his aunt has recently had a stroke and needs a companion; this will kill two birds by giving her a job and a home and she will be accessible for him to see her regularly.

But Evil Step-Father is lurking in the weeds. He calls Amabel, tells her that her mother is very ill, and guilts her into coming home - smart girl that she is, she leaves Cyril and Oscar at Lady Haleford. Of course, mum isn't really ill; Keith just wants slave labor.

Oliver to the rescue one final time. D&P& Kisses!

I really, really loved this book. It had everything essential to TGB. Plus, the denouement took up several pages! My favorite scene in the book is at Christmas: Oliver gives Amabel a gift and tells her that next Christmas will be different. The gift is a lover's knot brooch.

Reread December 12/13, 2016. I suspect this may become an annual Christmas reread. There are so many delightful bits.

Geography:

The village of Bolton Percy, where Aunt Thisbe lives.

York.

Animals:

Tiger is Oliver's dog and accompanies him just about everywhere.

Cyril is Amabel's dog and Oscar is her cat. She leaves home because her new step-father is an ARSE and wants to have the animals put down.

Tiger, Cyril and Oscar are actual characters in the story. Oliver and Amabel carry on important conversations with them, like this one:

"‘Am I being a fool?’ he enquired of Tiger, whose gruff rumble could have been either yes or no..."

And observations like this:

"‘Oscar is in the kitchen,’ he observed. ‘What a sensible animal he is. Mrs Twitchett and Nelly have already fallen for his charms.’"

"Oscar, that astute cat, knew on which side his bread was buttered, for he settled down primly on the old lady's lap and went to sleep."

People. Yes, stepfather Keith is a jerk and Mom is a selfish pig for treating Amabel like a slave with no life of her own. But as a positive, we have Lady Haleford, and her housekeeper, Mrs. Twitchett (who reminds me of Tabitha Twichett in the Beatrix Potter. Even minor characters, like the nice girl at the patisserie in York help to balance The Mean Girls, Miriam and Dolores.

And this scene. This!

"He got up to go presently. It was still snowing and he had some way to drive still. She went with him to the door, and Tiger, reluctant to leave Cyril and Oscar, pushed between them. Amabel bent to stroke him. ‘Go carefully,’ she said, ‘and I hope that you and your family have a lovely Christmas.’ He stood looking down at her. ‘Next year will be different!’ He fished a small packet from a pocket. ‘Happy Christmas, Amabel,’ he said, and kissed her." *sigh*

Michelle says

Lovely

If you enjoy your romances clean, light, fluffy and vintage then you will enjoy the wonderful work of Betty Neels

Kaycee ♥? says

This book was not my cup of tea. But it was an okay read, though.
