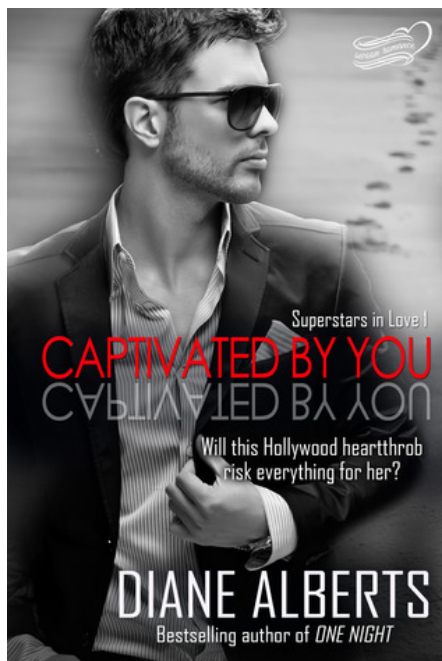




Captivated by You

Diane Alberts

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Mark Delaney is a high profile movie star who wants nothing more than to visit his sister for the Christmas holiday before his big movie premiere. When he goes back to Colorado against his agent's wishes, of course a snowstorm comes that lands his Maserati in a ditch. Stranded on a quiet road, he knocks on the door of the first house he sees—the same house that his former math tutor grew up in. Expecting to find an elderly couple donned in robes and hair curlers, he's knocked off his feet when Lacey Robertson herself opens the door. She's all grown up now...and Mark can't help but notice.

When Lacey opens the door to find a tuxedo-clad man staring back at her, she can't believe that the very same boy she pined after throughout childhood is on her porch. Having the famous star all to herself is intoxicating to say the least, but she resolves to resist the temptation of a blissful night in his arms. After all, he's probably used to women throwing themselves at him on a nightly basis...and she won't be one of the faceless crowd begging for his attention.

But when she finds out that he hasn't stopped thinking about her, despite his A-list life, will she fall into his arms for a single night of pleasure? Or will she dare to hope for more?

Captivated by You is Book 1 in the Superstars in Love Series.

Captivated by You Details

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From Reader Review Captivated by You for online ebook

Eleanor (The Book Hammock) says

Very short romance. It was a nice read, but could have been a lot better had it been fleshed out more.

Laura says

"Tonight, we just enjoy each other. No questions. No expectations of a future together. Just be mine for one night. My own personal Christmas present, delivered to my door. Mine."

Mark Delaney left for Hollywood to become a star leaving his small Colorado town and Lacey Robertson, his friend and crush behind. Home for a visit, the now famous movie star and heartthrob finds himself stranded on Lacey's door step for the night. One night packed with all sorts of fun, sexy chemistry to unwrap and explore. Can these two resolve and overcome past pangs & pains of the heart to feel, trust and surrender to their passion?

These pages did touch on a few familiar "been-there-done-that" themes for me. The hollow Hollywood life, fake celebrity relationships, and insecurities really didn't blow my skirt up or touch my heart. Plus our heroine was a bit tantrum-ish for my tastes. Now *hands up* I confess--I can throw a tantrum with the best of 'em, but her flip-of-the-hair-slamming-doors attitude rubbed me the wrong way one too many times. That said though...along with Lacey's tantrums came a headstrong sexy go-get-her-man strength and courage that made me cheer.

I had fun here. A quick sexy read that made me smile. Mark and Lacey were the perfect mix of sexy and adorable. Old high school crushes come back to town hold a special spot in my heart. They remind me that second chances are possible, hearts can heal, and that just maybe Fate is paying attention and willing to step in with a helping hand to make the "meant-to-be"s and happily ever afters a reality.

A sure-fire fun read for fans of Diane Alberts and more. Curl up with a mug of hot chocolate and enjoy. :)

Gitte TotallyBookedBlog says

This story was about getting a second chance at your first love on Christmas and it sure was a short, sweet and sexy novella. Mark is a huge Hollywood Actor who has returned home to visit his little sister for Christmas. He gets stuck in a blizzard and has to go seek shelter from the storm at the nearest house. This house belongs to Lacey, the girl from his past whose heart left with him when he left town and who unbeknownst to her has a piece of his. (This will be a series.).

"Tonight, we just enjoy each other. No questions. No expectations of a future together. Just be mine for one night. My own personal Christmas present, delivered to my door. Mine."

Marran says

such a sweet,short little story

AJ says

This is a very quick little read about mega movie star, Mark, who is visiting family in his home town at Christmas, gets his car stuck in a ditch in the middle of a snowstorm, and ends up on the doorstep of an old high school friend.

When Lacey opens the door one snowy Christmas night and finds her high school crush and first love on her doorstep, she gets the shock of her life. Inviting him in, they easily fall back into their comfortable old rapport, plus a whole heap of sexual tension. And when Lacey realises that this may be her only shot at a night with the man she has always loved, what's a girl to do?

There's a bit of chemistry, a bit of a misunderstanding, a bit of smut, another misunderstanding and a whole lot of love. There's a lot of emotion for such a short read (and maybe a wee bit of eye rolling), but as long as you don't take it too seriously you should be fine.

A sweet little story.

2.5 stars.

Fyreball says

Great premise, I thought. Hot actor returns to home town and comes across old friend, one he could have had something with once upon a time. However, the story felt rushed - this might be my error in not realizing this was a novella (I read it in a couple of hours, it was 100 pages on my Kindle). Even as a novella it disappointed, though.

SPOILER ALERT

I thought the plot was full of holes - Hero (Mark) needs to get out of town and back to Hollywood for a movie premiere. It's Christmas eve and snowing so bad that planes can't take off. But he a) has his Maserati in town (a place he doesn't go often...did he drive to CO from LA? It was supposed to be a quick trip, so wouldn't he have flown?); b) he decides to drive to LA to make it there in time for his movie premiere (what? on Christmas day? even letting that go, he's going to drive to LA? What is that, 1000 miles?); c) he has no coat or luggage in a snowstorm and d) when he knocks on Lacey's door, she doesn't immediately invite him in from the storm. I could go on...she doesn't offer him some warm, dry clothes (it's her parent's home, so her dad would have something that might fit), nor does she set him up in a spare room or with pillow/blankets on the couch. This woman either has the worst manners or the author wrote this in one draft and doesn't have an editor. Finally, contemporary romances depend on romance and sex to create chemistry. This book has one sex scene that is woefully underwritten.

END OF SPOILERS

As you can tell, I'm not a fan of the book. I can't recommend it and won't check out other books by this author. I love contemporary romances - if you're a fan of Victoria Dahl, Nora Roberts, Robyn Carr, etc, I suggest you stick to them because this book will disappoint you.

Heidi McLaughlin says

Man I was set for this high profile romance where all these wannabe girlfriends come flying out of the closet to upset Lacey. I hunkered down for an all-nighter, determined to read this in one sitting. And then it ended! Before I was ready for it too. I immediately asked Diane what was up, how could you tease me like this? You know what she did, she ran into the field laughing and pointing her knitting needles at me!

Mark and Lacey sizzle as the couple that never where even though both wanted it. Lacey gives the readers a side of Mark that he's long forgotten about.

And I loved Lacey and her determination – strong women are so refreshing!

Mark is guaranteed to make you melt!

Regardless of the length, Captivated by You is so worth the read. Grab your blanket, your steamy cup of cocoa and curl up by the fire, because this Christmas tale will have you hoping your lost love will end up stranded outside your home and find himself knocking.

Bethany says

4.5 Stars

Mark and Lacey have been friends since they were little kids. After graduation Mark leaves to follow his dream to become a movie star and leaves his friendship with Lacey behind too. They both haven't seen each until a Christmas snow storm strands Mark in his home town years later, with nowhere to go but to his old friend's house. Things get pretty interesting after that.

That was such a cute, fast read. I loved it. Diane Alberts is now officially one of my favorites. She knows what this girl likes.

Kristen says

2 1/2 to 3 stars

Captivated by You started strong and had great potential but ultimately fell short. This novella needed to be longer to effectively handle the amount of drama included in the short plot. Because of that, the drama and resolution felt rushed and unrealistic. Still, it's a sweet, sexy—if not slightly melodramatic—holiday read. If you don't mind a rushed plot, you'll enjoy this one.

Josephine says

This was a short read and a mass of contradictions.

~ **Becs** ~ says

Short sweet sexy romance.

Mark Delaney is a big-time Hollywood movie star back home in Colorado to visit his little sister for Christmas when he gets his Maserati stuck in ditch in a blizzard and has to knock on the door of the nearest house for shelter. This house belongs to Lacey – Lacey is the girl who's always had a claim on Mark's heart but he left her behind years ago when he went to Hollywood to pursue his acting dream.

It's just a short novella as they share one hot steamy night of passion together. Mark has a fake girlfriend for the sake of the paparazzi and she's called **Sylvia Day**. I'm guessing this is done in tribute to the actual Sylvia Day because I find it hard to believe that a romance writer wouldn't know the name of one of the biggest authors in the genre!

Sweet and fun 3 stars contemporary romance

Alyssa says

Review posted at Hesperia Loves Books

Captivated By You was a short & sweet Christmas novella that I thought was perfect for the Christmas season. The story started off very strong and I loved the premise, I'm always a sucker for second chance romance. However, somewhere in the middle, it took a turn that, for me, made it fall a little flat.

I loved the back story and potential that Mark & Lacey's story had. Friends, who definitely wanted more, in high school but never quite getting the timing right. They parted ways and never had any further contact. When Mark breaks down and shows up on Lacey's doorstep, they rekindle a friendship at first, until they both realize they want more. But Lacey questions why he never contacted her and, even calls him on the fact that he never planned on seeing her on this trip. If his car hadn't broke down right outside her house, he never would have stopped by. She is rightly pissed off. I liked all of this - Mr. Big Movie Star can't get what he wants without having to work a little & prove himself. All major big loves for me! Then...Lacey does an about face and they profess their love for each other after only a handful of hours. Wait...what? But you were just mad, and you didn't want to have anything to do with him, and, and...yeah, I was a little confused.

Overall the writing, characterization, romance & premise were spot on. I love the magic that Ms. Alberts creates within her books. For me it just boils down to, I wanted more. I feel we only skimmed the surface Mark & Lacey's potential as a couple, but it was only a novella. And even though I wanted more, this is still a sugary sweet romance that is sure to satisfy your romance sweet tooth and will definitely keep you entertained while reading.

**ARC provided by the Publisher in exchange for an honest review*

Kelly Hashway says

Everyone wants a second chance at the one that got away. In *Captivated By You* Mark and Lacey get just that thanks to a snow storm that keeps Mark from getting back to his Hollywood actor life and his fake Hollywood girlfriend. The chemistry between Mark and Lacey is evident from the start. They've known each other for years and secretly loved each other, but for various reason, never got together. Now, snowed in and thrown together by a twist of fate, neither can deny the feelings they've had for a very long time.

Mark and Lacey are the couple you can't help cheering on. Mark isn't your typical Hollywood movie star. While he's surrounded by gorgeous actresses, he just wants a normal girl, more specifically Lacey. And while Lacey is a schoolteacher and not famous like Mark, she isn't about to let opportunity slip by her. This is a great, quick read that will have you wanting more by Diane Alberts.

Ângela says

"See this? That day I was sick. Felt like shit and dragged my feverish ass out of bed to get my prescription filled."

She leaned closer and looked at the picture. "You look happy to me. Of course, you're wearing sunglasses so I can't see your eyes, but you look content enough."

"Yeah, because I have to look that way. If the paparazzi take a picture of me with a red nose and puffy eyes—next day they'll be calling me a drug addict. Saying I was out all night partying and snorting lines of cocaine. Next thing you know, my publicist is making me enter rehab for exhaustion."

Debbie says

Review originally posted on Talk Supe

Who wouldn't want a second chance with their first love? For Lacey Robertson, that's exactly what she gets for Christmas.

"He was rich and famous - and she was still a small town girl who used to tutor him in math."

During a winter storm, Hollywood heartthrob, Mark Delaney, ends up getting stranded on a Colorado road after his Maserati ends up on a ditch. Miles away from his sister's house, Mark ends up walking to an old childhood friends house. This isn't just any old friend he's visiting; he's walking into Lacey Robertson's childhood home. The girl who he had been in love with during high school and the woman that continues to run through his mind.

Lacey Robertson opens the door to her parents house to find, Mark Delaney, on the front porch. Eight years have come and gone since she last saw Mark and finding him walking into her childhood home is a complete

surprise. Aside from seeing him in celebrity magazines, TV shows and movies, Lacey has not had any contact ever since Mark left Colorado to pursue his dreams in Hollywood. Even though so many years have gone by, Lacey is still captivated by the boy who had stolen her heart when she was a teenager.

Will she take the plunge and go for something that she's wanted for so long? Or will her fears get in the way of finding out if her childhood crush shared the same feelings are her?

"Tonight, we just enjoy each other. No questions. No expectations of a future together. Just be mine for one night. My own personal Christmas present, delivered to my door. Mine."

Although it was fairly short, I got the conflict and resolution that I crave in romance stories. The characters were great and I really enjoyed Mark's humble attitude. Even though he's been living the Hollywood lifestyle for so many years, you still get the sense that his small-town upbringing never really left him. I sympathized with Lacey's insecurities. While most women wouldn't second guess on a chance to have a one-night-stand with a Hollywood heartthrob, Lacey is hesitant of making the move knowing she would be left more heart broken afterwards. It was nice to see these two given a second chance and not let the lost years get in the way of finding their happily ever after.

Captivated by You was quick, fun and wonderful novella. I am always enticed with second chance at love stories and Diane Alberts did not disappoint with this one. If you're looking for a quick, short, and sexy read for this holiday season, I definitely recommend picking up this novella. It's great a great story to lose yourself in for an hour or two while cuddle up with a warm blanket and a hot cup of cocoa.

**ARC provided by publisher for an honest review*
