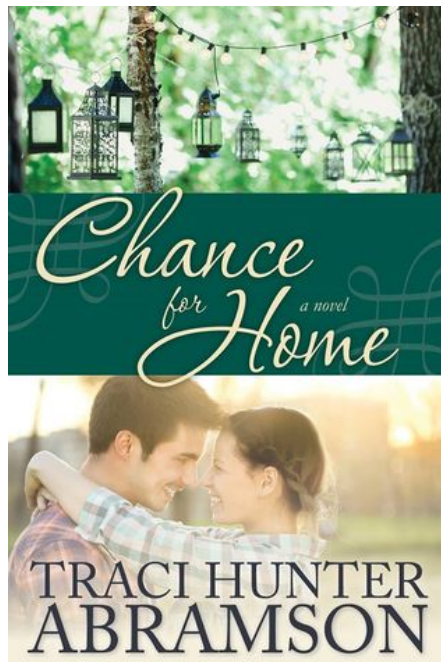




Chance for Home

Traci Hunter Abramson

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Beautiful pre-med student Kari Evans believes she's found the man of her dreams—right up until the moment she discovers he's a two-timing cheat. Desperately gathering the pieces of her broken heart, she realizes that what she needs most is space to reconsider her future. A summer in Washington, DC, with her professional baseball player brother, Ben, sounds like just the change of scene she's after. But if complicated romantic entanglements are what she's trying to escape, she's out of luck. Ryan Strobel has had it with spotlight-seeking women. As third baseman for the Washington Nationals, he's dealt with more than his fair share of opportunistic admirers—but his ex-fiancée, Brandi, may be the worst. When the woman refuses to take no for an answer, Ryan's teammate Ben offers a crazy solution: Ben's sister will pose as Ryan's new girlfriend. Though an unlikely pair, Ryan and Kari find themselves getting surprisingly comfortable with the charade. Soon, the line between fact and fiction is blurred, and the very real feelings that develop between the couple are undeniable. But when faced with the interference of conniving exes, family objections, and the reality of their very different lives, are Ryan and Kari destined to strike out in the game of love?

Chance for Home Details

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From Reader Review Chance for Home for online ebook

Lisa (Bookworm Lisa) says

4.5 stars

This was a great book to get my mind off of being sick. It would be a great book at anytime, but I appreciated the escape it brought to me.

Kari and Ben are very likable and a cute couple to read about. Both have faced bad relationship break ups in the recent past and their relationship begins as a friendship that turns into something more. I really hated it when the exes showed up and threw them a "curve ball". But I loved how they were able to begin to trust one another and come to a common understanding.

At the moment I feel like I am living at the baseball field. My son plays league ball and I spend hours waiting for them to warm up and then play double headers. For me, that added an extra layer of appreciation for the book. I enjoy baseball season and reading about the sport and the fun of the game was a bonus. I loved how Kari would tell Ryan to "have fun" while he was playing.

This is a second book with some of the characters. It can be read as a stand alone, but for me it was fun to catch up with characters that I enjoy.

This is a clean book with some kissing and stalking.

Source: I received a copy from the publisher to review. All thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.

Donna Campbell says

Loved it

I absolutely loved this story! It probably helped that I love baseball but you don't have to like baseball to enjoy this story., I really enjoyed all of the characters. This was a really sweet, clean romance.

Kelly says

This is a cute and fun read. It was easy to get into and hold your attention. I liked how easy going Kari and Ryan were. It was easy to cheer them on!

While Ryan is a professional baseball player, the story isn't centered on his playing. It is more on learning to balance that "job" with Kari's time. Kari wants to be in the medical profession and wants to finish her pre-med. But because of her ex, she is out of her internship for the summer. So she went to stay with her brother and his wife, Maya (who is also her best friend) for the summer and helps Maya. Maya is on her last round of chemo. Kari has learned a lot from helping her and wants to do something to help others.

Kari isn't one to want to be in the spotlight. She is comfortable helping out and just living life and helping others. Ryan is more of a private person and doesn't like that women want him more because of his celebrity status. His ex keeps getting in the way of Kari and him. She is awful! Kari's ex is also a no good person!! I like how Kari deals with him when he shows up for the very last time! Oh how she made me proud!

There was a mention of a store called Furniture Affair in the book. I thought it sounded like a bargain but it was way too much for me! Insert sad face.

I loved the integrity of both of the characters. I admire them! Where as some would think that boring, it was kind of refreshing to see that!

The gift that Kari give to Ryan is the theme of the book. I loved it.

The Best Things Happen at Home.

If you like baseball, Washington D.C., reading about meddling and ill willed ex's, girls who stick up for themselves, helping others, medical stuff, big homes, relaxing with your family and friends and someone important to you, than this might be it for you!

contents: kissing and one episode of violence (but when it is given you will cheer for it) hehe

Marlene says

Actually, three stars for a good vacation read. Other than that 2.5.

Jenny says

This was such a fun book to read. I really enjoy Traci Abramson's books.

Julie Carpenter says

When your boyfriend lies to you, what do you? Especially when you find out he's a cheat and his dad ruins your plans for the summer?

What happens when your ex-fiancee won't leave you alone? She keeps appearing and causing problems with your friends, their wives and the press. No matter how many times you say no, she's there causing problems.

To answer those questions...if you're Kari, you pack up and head to stay with your brother(who happens to be a professional baseball player) and his wife(your best friend). If you're Ryan, a professional baseball player, you take the offered help of your fellow teammate, and have his sister pretend to be your girlfriend. And Tah Dah!!! Problems solved, easy peasy!

Ok maybe not quite all easy peasy as it sounds but it makes some great fun and a juicy entertaining book that

will suck you right into the pages. I always enjoy the fake boyfriend/fake girlfriend scenarios. I have seen Traci's name for years and years and always think how great her books looks and as I was reading this, I thought that I might have read one of her books over the years. But I went and checked out her list of books and nope, I haven't yet. So this was a first and let me tell you, I was really impressed. The storyline was so well written out, the characters were solid and well developed, the struggles and angst of the story were very believable and enjoyable. It was a fabulous read! Great job Ms. Abramson!!!

I really fell in love with Kari and Ryan. They had such a sweet relationship, and watching, ahem, reading, that blossom and grow was great. It wasn't an instant love and yet the way the author told their story, you could feel the emotions of meeting someone and connecting with them right away. The rush of liking someone leading into really getting to know them and falling in love. Lots of great feels in this novel.

So I have figured out that this book is a companion read to Chances Are. A Chance for Home can definitely be read as a standalone but I'm thinking I need to go back and read that story because I fell in love with the characters from it, Ben and Maya. Ben is Kari's brother and Maya is her best friend. Another great read to add to my list!

If you are a baseball fan, then I think you'll enjoy this book. I loved those scenes and could picture the game happening and the fans in the stands. So fun. I played softball from when I was younger into high school, not on school teams but community or church teams. Then in college when it was time for creating your own teams to play in the coed tournaments, I played then and loved it! (I'll just brag a little and say our team did really awesome and was one of the top 5-it was coed though and not collegiate level but hey, it was a blast)!

Content: Squeaky clean! Loved it! I would recommend for older YA, like 15/16 years old and up. Some sweet and swoony kisses.

I received a copy from the publisher, Covenant Communications, via NetGalley. All thoughts and opinions in the review are my own.

Happy Reading!!!

Amy says

3.5 stars

Cute cover, and an easy read makes this one a good pick for a day at the Park or the Beach. I would have liked a little more in-depth of a plot, or letting us in on a little more of the emotions of the characters. It felt like a really long novella, in simplicity of story line and how easy and quickly the two main characters find each other.

A different and interesting storyline, the reader will enjoy the book. The supporting characters make a necessary addition to what is a fairly linear plot. I loved Ryan's Mom and the challenge she brought to the relationship. The insight of both her and Kari's father was also much needed.

Heavy on the baseball lingo, as you would expect, as Ryan is a major league baseball star - as a non baseball fan that left me a little less interested also. If you love baseball, that will also appeal to you as the reader.

Overall I enjoyed the story, set mostly in Washington DC, a clean contemporary romance read.

Thank you to Netgalley & Covenant Communications for the eARC. This is my honest review.

Kathryn says

What a sweet, clean, realistic story about finding love and balancing out dreams for the future! I loved that Kari has a good right hook for her cheating ex.

Sheila says

Chance for Home is a contemporary romance that is easy to get into and keeps you reading. With the two main characters being so likable, you can't help but want to see a happy ending which of course doesn't happen at first.

Both Kari and Ryan have ex's that didn't treat them well and they also won't leave them alone. Kari is nothing like any girl Ryan has ever dated before with him being a rich, successful, major league baseball player. He's used to girls wanting him for his fame and money. Kari is down to earth and doesn't chase Ryan and basically this throws Ryan for a loop. I loved the interaction between these two characters as they get to know each other and realize how opposite they are from their previous romances. Throughout the story Kari and Ryan learn many lessons in sacrifice, humility, seeing others point of view, and of course allowing love in their lives. There were many fun things that happened that bring Kari and Ryan together and I'm not telling you about it because it would spoil your reading experience.

This romance is for when you want a quick read to escape your busy life and it will make you smile and sigh at all of the nice kisses. It's a clean romance with a great realistic love story and characters, and just enough angst to have you cheering them on to win in the game of love. Share this novel with all ages from older teen girls to your grandma because they'll all love this story.

Lyndsie Davis says

It was cute, but I didn't love it like I loved Chances Are. That one caught me by the heartstrings. This one felt a little forced, and trite in places. Still a cute, light read, though.

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

Traci Abramson is best known for her suspense novels, but not long ago she made the jump into clean romance and I'm so glad she did. This is the second book and while I guess it isn't a series, characters from the first book are in this book as prominent secondary characters. So you don't have to read these books in order, but you might want to just for the backstory.

Hello, BASEBALL! I love when books encompass things I love. Like music or books or chocolate or baseball! :) In this book Ryan is a professional baseball player and is good friends with his teammate Ben. Ben has a sister, Kari, who is conveniently available to help Ryan out of a bit of a sticky situation. From there, the two develop a friendship that leads to more. Kari spends a lot of time at the baseball field and I

wanted to be there with her.

Kari is an easy girl to like. She has a go with the flow attitude for the most part which is important with Ryan's spotlight career and extra unwanted attention. Kari and Ryan encounter bumps in the road, but nothing too over the top of unbelievable. The whole story felt real and was easy to settle in with. I really enjoyed it! It hit the spot and satisfied my craving for a sweet romance.

Jacob Proffitt says

While not marked as part of a series, it's clear that Kari's brother and best friend are a recent romance and I eventually connected the dots to the book Chances Are. It's obvious that Abramson looooves Ben and Maya and they feature prominently here. Yes, because Kari moves in with them for the summer, but I can't help feeling like Abramson was jumping at the chance of extending their epilogue, too.

I got to 60% or so before I finally ground to a halt. The initial friction with the book is simple craft—Abramson moves her characters about like stiff puppets on wobbly strings with every action over-directed. And the dialogue features lots of incidentals including pleasantries and conversational lubricant that we all speak but tend to get trimmed out of better-written stories as the pace-killers they are. Still, Kari is an interesting character and Ryan had potential to be more so I kept going.

Which is when the second hurdle hit. Their relationship progresses relatively quickly with few real bars in their way. So it became more than a little strange how stand-offish Kari remains. This is where my missing faith tag came in (with a vengeance, in this case). Kari eventually claims she's "an old fashioned girl" but as explanations go, that's severely lacking. They have the "exclusive" talk by their second date and in non-religious land, that generally means it's time for sex to happen. Or to be at least immanent or, you know, possible. So they both stopped feeling real because there's no reason for them not to be extending their intimacy and both Kari's assumption of how the relationship would (wouldn't) progress and Ryan's casual acceptance of it (as if, of course! that's how things would go) violates any sense of current reality. I mean, I get the not having sex part because that's important in my own religious tradition. But *for that very reason* I'd expect some care over matching up expectations in a discussion so that they'd be on the same page and not cross-communicating. I mean, Kari puts Ryan off a couple times (with things like leaving his apartment door open while they're alone so that "nothing will happen") and a normal guy (particularly a studly baseball player) would be thinking she can't possibly be into him. And not because she won't "put out" but simply because she's sending signals that faith-bound people would see as principled but that outsiders would read as beyond not interested and into keep-away territory.

So the missing faith dragged it down further. And then Ryan's mother happened. I'm not sure what Abramson was trying to do with Ryan's mother, but she's irrational to the point of idiocy and a raging jerk besides. I think we're supposed to be in awe of his caring so much for his mother because he gets all concerned about her post-operation recovery and has to jump through the dumbest hoops set up outside of a circus to do so. His mother insists that she should return to her third-story apartment (in a bad neighborhood, no less) after her knee-replacement surgery despite her doctor's concern and her son being a rich guy with lots of cash to get her something better. She's not just immobile and shouldn't be walking up stairs, but she needs to make it to physical therapy appointments three+ times a week. So insisting that she'll "be fine" and "can do for herself" is beyond simply stubborn and into a mental break with reality. It's so persistent that I began to wonder if Abramson was trying to convey a darker issue in that relationship. I mean, did she resent her son's success and thus didn't want to rely on his arranging her care? Or was this some kind of manipulative punishment for some wrong he'd done her before he made the big-leagues? *And then* mom meets Kari and she's rude and mean and Kari goes all doormat and Ryan gets all apologetic and I was just done. This isn't how real people behave. Or, at least, not ones I want to spend time with.

So yeah. Clunky writing with stilted dialogue and characters that make no sense for a variety of reasons (from missing faith to simply unreasonably antagonistic) put me out of the book. Add that it's another Covenant Communications book and they want \$11 for the ebook and I'm not sure who the audience might be. I see that the first book has a more reasonable ebook price. So maybe start there?

Susan K says

Romance, clean.

Fun romance, Kari and Ryan were a fun couple and very entertaining 'fall'. The setting with the medical issues, the baseball games, fans, players and the media made for a fun romance and great read. I will say, I enjoy T. A. action novels more, but this was still a good read. Kari and Ryan had a growing relationship throughout the novel. The chaos of Ryan's schedule made for fun moments, but also caused some moments where they had to learn to trust one another and communicate. I always love reading about genuine, honest, characters, with real sincere hearts. They truly wanted an honest relationship, with hope for a 'home'. Kari's giving nature, her genuine desire to help others, and reach out to those who needed her help, and Ryan's respect, admiration, grew as he saw her interactions with his friends, family, and others. They both grew over the course of the novel, and both learned about each other in a meaningful way. Little things added up to bigger ones for them. They had chemistry for sure that convinced them to hope, but truly the comfort of 'home' was what made it work for them and for me. The small simple moments that added up to something big.

I did say no violence, there is one scene where a punch is thrown and connected, but I consider that mild in the context of what and how it happened.

Fun, lovely read!

Alisa says

This book kept me company on the plane ride home from LA yesterday. I loved Kari and Ryan!

Kari has lost her internship when she breaks up with her cheating boyfriend -- whose father happens to be on the internship committee. So she goes to Washington DC to stay with her brother Ben and his wife (and her best friend) Maya.

Ryan is a professional baseball player - and Ben's teammate and best friend. He has no plans to reconcile with his ex-fiancee, Brandi. She liked the fame and lifestyle more than she liked him, and Ryan knows that he wants more than that in a relationship. So when Brandi shows up trying to reconcile, Kari does Ryan a favor by posing as his girlfriend. Being Ben's sister and best friend, and with Brandi lurking in the background waiting for a break-up, they end up spending a lot of time together.

They quickly discover that they are crazy about each other, but with his crazy schedule as a professional baseball player and her dream of going to medical school, they need to figure out if it's even possible for things to ever work out between them.

Even though this is a spin-off from Chances Are - which is Ben's and Maya's story - it is a standalone. I didn't read the first book, but now I want to so I can get their back story.

Content: Clean

Katie W says

This is a companion book to Chances Are and tells the story of Ben's sister, Kari. She is young, but very driven. When a cheating boyfriend leads to the loss of a summer internship, she moves in with her brother and his wife, who is also her best friend, to regroup and a romance is the last thing she expects to find.

Kari reminds me of my daughter, with her love of the medical field. The way she is able to balance her time, think of others, and support her loved ones is amazing. I've mentioned before that I read to escape and this is one book that swept me away! I felt like a third friend and fell in love with Ryan right along with Kari--who wouldn't? He's not your typical Pro athlete (an MLB player) and the way he treats his mother shows a lot about his character.

This isn't a completely fluffy romance. Both Ryan and Kari have past baggage to deal with, which leads to conflict. They're both at different points in their lives and their goals don't seem to be heading in the same direction, but they both have similar character and integrity and that's what matters, isn't it? This is one story that captured my attention and didn't let go. I really like this author's writing style and I wasn't ready for it to end.

Content: mild romance (kissing); one moment of mild violence.

I received a copy through the publisher, which did not affect my thoughts or opinions in any way.
