



Baby Baby: Chicago (Love in the City Book 1)

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A happenstance romance about a case of mistaken identity, a billionaire with a second chance at life, and the young doctor who changes it all for him.

Surrogacy...

This hadn't been the plan for Chicago native Johari Russell. But then again, neither had raking up thousands of dollars in medical school debt. Desperate, she accepts the money for her education from sources she probably shouldn't have, and now, finds herself waiting to meet with one-half of a happy couple with the intention of carrying their future child. This is the new plan for Johari and once she makes one, she sticks to it. She never intended to have such a strong connection with the prospective father of the future child, or for his brown eyes to tighten her tummy in ways it probably shouldn't.

And why did he look so familiar to her?

Cancer...

Illness nearly ended Alexander Ricci's life before it barely began, a life of opulence, thanks to the successes of his late father and one that's also very much under the microscope due to his own accomplishments or, erm... indiscretions. He and his brother Asa have been dubbed the "Princes of Chicago" by the media, a direct result of a long stint of playboy debauchery. But, at least for Alexander, that seems so long ago. The face of the tabloids had been one before the life of an altering diagnosis, before chemo and now that he's cancer-free, he just wants to leave that man and his previous legacy behind. The people in his life don't make it easy, though. Especially, after he meets a young woman who makes him not only want for more out of his life...

But demand for it.

Alexander wasn't supposed to meet Johari in that café. She was there for someone else, but it seemed that fate, destiny, had other plans.

So how could they both ignore it?

Baby, Baby is a standalone, BWWM contemporary romance with no cliffhanger and a happily ever after. This is a tale of fate and second chances. Find out what happens when two people throw all logic out the window and go by the beat of their hearts!

Baby Baby: Chicago (Love in the City Book 1) Details

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Author : Victoria H. Smith

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From Reader Review Baby Baby: Chicago (Love in the City Book 1) for online ebook

Jennifer says

It was okay. I think it had the potential to be a good book but it was slow, incredibly slow, and I never felt the connection between the characters. I never felt why they loved each other.

Shauntavia McIntyre says

I love this book, it had me in tears towards the end. Their first meeting was memorable and kind of awkward because she thought he was part of a gay couple that she was trying to interview to be their surrogate for them but she met Alex instead. I was happy on the same that he found out he was cancer free that time he met Johari. The way that both him and his brother judged her because she used the money in the account that he set up for her when their relationship started as a business arrangement it turned out so much more. They had some close calls with his ex coming between them putting more doubt in Johari's head about her relationship with Alexander and why he was acting the way he was acting, her going to look for him getting hypothermia when she got lost looking for him at his family's country cabin putting both Johari's and the baby's lives in danger. I didn't understand why his ex went through Jo's family records telling his mother that about the baby and that Johari's brother has Down syndrome in the beginning.

Nadine Evans says

So much to enjoy

This story really drew me in and I wish I could have given this five stars. There is so much potential in this story and the storylines that would have been worth exploring, really great storylines. However, they were not followed through and as a result left to just linger waiting to be picked up and some eventually were, while others appeared to be wrapped up too quickly. It's almost like this could have been a fully formed novel about the subjects the author chooses to include or a series. I want to support an author whose stories really bring me into the world they create, so when reading this story I came across issues with grammar that required I re-read sentences in order to understand what I was reading, it was a little difficult. I hope she can fix the issue because I will definitely read more of her stories and I hope you do to.

Deloris says

APB Perspective Review:

I just didn't buy it, how did they fall in love? There is a good story to tell here, but I did not feel the author completed it in this book.

Karen's Bookshelf says

Alexander Ricci has a second chance at life and he's not going to waste another minute. That's why when he's approached in a cafe by a strange woman offering to be his surrogate, he takes her up on her offer. Johari Russell has worked hard to achieve her goal of becoming a doctor. Now that she's in the home stretch she's not going to let anything stop her now, not even debt. That's why she's in a cafe looking for a stranger to offer up her services of carrying his baby. Nothing but fate has brought these two together, and nothing but fate and a once in a life time love will keep them together.

This was a very emotional and passionate love story that will have you falling in love right along with Alex and Jo. These two are up against some tough odds with jealous ex's and interfering family members. The author did a great job in describing how Alex and Jo felt about all they were going through and making you feel the emotions as if you were going through these situations yourself. At times I was disappointed in how Jo handled herself, but you don't know how you would react unless you're walking in her shoes, so I gave her a pass when at times I felt like I just wanted to scream, "REALLY". This is a wonderful love story and I give it 4.5 stars.

Ashley Smith says

Really enjoyed this read, second chance stories are always my faves. Nice job Victoria, looking forward to more.

Katara Johnson says

What started out as them meeting over a misunderstanding blossomed to true love. I love how the author shows both characters looking for something else out of life and love helps keep them centered ! Can't wait for book two!!

Cathy says

Very much enjoyed this story! May contain some spoilers so read ahead at your own risk..

This story, as the description says, is about a graduating medical student who tries to become a surrogate in order to pay down some of her mounting debt. However, the client she ends up interviewing with, and becomes a surrogate for, is not the client she was supposed to meet and is instead one of the richest men in the city who finally got a clean bill of health very shortly before their meeting. However, what started as a business arrangement between the two soon becomes a relationship built, mostly, on love, trust, and respect.

However, it's the "mostly" that sort of gets me. There were a couple of situations where I felt like they could have avoided some of their conflicts if they just communicated with one another. This aside, I do think this was a solid story and I was definitely sad when I got to the last page.

As always, I can't wait for Victoria's next story!!!

Mspraise50 says

Unfortunately, this is my least favourite story by this author. I found the story very slow and unromantic. The relationship felt like an on again off again relationship. The other thing that I found very surprising is how many times Johari allowed Alexander's ex to mess with her head. The woman lied to her several times and yet she kept sharing her business with her and allowing her to mess with her relationship.

This was just an okay read for me.

Dee says

loved, loved, loved this very enjoyable read and story. there was a bit of confusion at first, i must admit, but it was a curiousness that sucked me into the story, not make me want to put the book down. i think hearing from alexander first is what threw me off as the majority of books i've read start from the female pov but when i realized the book was written from both pov's, all was good with the world again. there were holes, yes, which at the time re-introduced that confusion, and i had to create my own version of what i thought might/should be the narrative, but all in all, i thoroughly enjoyed this story about surrogacy, mistaken identity and love. hope to read more about alexander and johari (beautiful name) and definitely recommend it to others. not my first rodeo with ms. smith, and won't be my last.

velvetgypsy says

A nice enough read but not enough romance to suit my tastes!

Rosie J. says

I voluntarily reviewed an Advanced Reader Copy of this book.

My interest was piqued when I learned Victoria Smith was writing a billionaire surrogacy love story. I knew it would be a story of greater depth than some of the ones I usually come across.

Billionaire Alexander Ricci meets Johari Russell during a case of mistaken identity. She thinks she's meeting with her potential future baby daddy. Before he can clear up the misunderstanding, she starts talking a mile a minute about being his surrogate, though he does try to interrupt her. Her surrogacy proposition appeals to him enough to warrant further discussion, so he gives her his business card to contact him. Since his near-fatal brush with cancer, Alex finds that the idea of being a father appeals to him.

The problem with the story line begs the question ... **Why choose Johari?** Attractive billionaires don't have a problem finding willing candidates to have their baby -- no IVF required! We're asked to believe that it's his desire to have a bi-racial child with a black woman, rather than his former girlfriend, model, actress, athlete

or a woman within his social circle.

The initial and subsequent meetings between the two main characters wasn't insta-lust, which I appreciated. Sometimes, the slow burn works, too. However, there was still not enough interaction between the couple for them to fall in love. They would spend time together and then something negative would happen. They wouldn't speak to each other for a week or two, thus breaking the bond they were forming.

There are situations that happened, once revealed (read the book) that aren't believable -- neither Jo's reaction nor her mother's reaction rang true to me. Also, the mother-daughter tension wasn't explored fully or explained. At times, I wanted to shake Jo for putting her trust in the wrong person.

I did love Johari's relationship with her brother Javan and her ex-boyfriend, Jared. I liked the dimensions that Victoria added to Jared's character. I loved Jo's determination to be a doctor. I liked this story and it just needed (imo) a few tweaks for me to rate it higher. I'm a VHS fan and I'm really excited to read a possible story featuring Alex' brother, Asa. Victoria's books always go on my "must read" list and this one is no exception. ***This story is definitely worth reading.***

Pearline says

So it's rare for a book to make me emotional but this one did. The author does a wonderful job of taking you on a journey that illustrates the challenges of being sick. The hope and the disappointment of the disease coming back and it's impact on the family. I actually had some tears by the end of this book because you can actually feel the disappointment and fears the main characters are experiencing. The book ends on a semi happy ending but if you want more closure get the additional epilogue from the authors website. I'm crossing my fingers hoping the author continues this story and gives a story to Asa.

Patricia says

It's soo beautiful!!!!

It's soo beautiful!!!! It was so touching. There's no word that can really express how I felt after reading this book. Jo and Alex was so amazing and good for each other. I'm about to read the next book in the set.

Meka♥books says

3.5 stars
