



Twice by Chance

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As a teenager, Addy Monroe had a life-changing experience—although technically the “experience” was happening to someone else in the steamed-up backseat of the taxi stuck in traffic next to him. Six years later, at a club in LA, Addy meets rock singer Zak Roscoe—the man who unwittingly taught him who he is—and gets a shot at experiencing Zak for himself.

A private and guarded person, Zak finds Addy’s determined advances both annoying and intriguing, and he allows himself to be seduced for a night of pleasure. Unfortunately, some old habits die hard: Zak’s postcoital nature leaves something to be desired, and Addy quickly realizes that sometimes fantasy and reality don’t have much in common. If wishes were second chances....

Twice by Chance Details

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From Reader Review Twice by Chance for online ebook

Sheri says

Sexy stranger. Instant attraction. Pushy pursuit.

Confirming his attraction to men, Addy suffers from insta-lust when he catches a sneak peek at a gorgeous stranger gettin' in on with another man in a neighboring cab inching along in rush hour traffic.

Apparently he has been scouring the entire city of Los Angeles to find this mystery hottie, hopeful they will cross paths again. Six years later his luck strikes true and he finds the man who consumes his dreams rocking the stage at a club.

And then, we have a classic case of insta-love.

He confronts our mystery man, Zak, and throws an offer on the table he can't refuse.

Part two of his plan is to proceed to try and crawl under his skin. To say he is persistent and determined would be an understatement. Addy doesn't take easy hints and is firm in his conclusion that they are meant to be together. Pushing the limit, he finally finds himself second guessing his chase of this slippery free bird. Their banter was fun, but then it almost became a distraction. I'll give Addy props for going after what he wants; he certainly is a man with no regrets.

The question becomes, should Addy let things be, or was it love at first sight and they truly are meant to be?

2.5 crazy-coincidental-carefree stars

Lisa says

When he is 15, Addy is in the back of a car and looks across the lane to see a taxi with 2 men making out in the back. His eyes meet the eyes of one of the men.

6 years later, Addy is at a pub and he meets the man from the cab. A man that has fuelled his dreams and fantasies for the last 6 years.

He engineers a meeting and the 2 of them spend the night. However, in the morning, Zak is not very personable and Addy leaves.

Some angst in this story as Zak slowly realizes that he wants a relationship with Addy.

A sweet, easy to read story.

Vivian says

Aahhh...The benefits of tenacity. Of course, it always involves a little hearth thrashing beforehand, but Addy goes all in to win this second chance. Zak, as the unsuspecting prey is in for a surprise.

One quibble: It is *inconceivable* that someone in LA does not have a driver's license unless they've "lost it" due inappropriate behaviors. Not a commute friendly city--at all.

Favorite quote:

"The more in love you are, the more amends you have to make in the end to make things work, even for a day."

Valentina Heart says

This review was originally written for Hearts on Fire Reviews and can also be found there.

Right away, at the very prologue, I was riveted to my seat with eyes firmly focused on the screen and the freaking hot scene happening at the back of a taxi. Addy experienced a life changing moment as he watched one man debauch the other in the most sexiest of ways. The gorgeous stranger even while dressed captivated Addy, and became the driving force behind his future fantasies. A stranger who licked the other while seductively winking at a fifteen-year old in the next car. Oh yeah, it was very hot. I can totally see how a teenager remembered it even years later.

Six years after the event, Addy sees the man himself again, and refuses to let the opportunity slip by him. His flirting is direct and pushy, his smile promising and the overall attitude demanding. He knows he must have Zak for real this time, even if it's just a one night stand.

But Addy's heart doesn't quite agree, and despite Zak being a guarded asshole come morning he is still Addy's wet dream and an aspiring future. They dance around each other, with Addy wanting more than Zak can give and Zak going against himself to avoid the future he's pretty sure he doesn't want.

This was a solid four for me for good two thirds of the book. I loved Addy's sharp tongue and his witty retorts when he was with Zak, but I also adored his gentle and sensitive side, where his brave front crumpled and he showed he pretty much just wanted love. Since the book is from his point of view we don't really get to know Zak to the same extent, but I still liked him. His shields were interesting even when crumbling around him and his fake, carefree attitude endearing.

So like I said, four stars for a good part of the book. But then the ending came, and their dance got rushed and sex became the focus of the story. When I wanted to know more about the couple and how they functioned together, they pretty much got reduced to primal urges, exactly the thing Addy fought against from the beginning. Now maybe his conflicts were resolved and he felt free to indulge in his fantasies, but I needed more substance between them and sex distanced me from their original, explosive connection. The ending while probably fitting, came at a wrong place for me and I can't help it but feel their tale is far from being over.

The writing was almost poetic and suited me very much making the overall rating just half a star below four, after all, the book is just too good to get three stars. Susan Laine is a new author for me, but if this experience is anything to go by, it won't stay that way.

Sadonna says

3.5 stars. I have to admit that this story was not at all what I expected. I really liked Addy - and the story is told from his point of view - but I was surprised by his actions at times. I wasn't sure what he thought he wanted to get or was going to get from Zac. I would have liked to see more of Zac's life and story here which might have explained some of his reactions and behaviors. I was left feeling like I didn't get Zac's motivation.

That being said, I really liked the writer's style and storytelling ability. And Zac and Addy are very hot together. I notice that this is a #1, so dare we hope for #2 soon?

Ricardo says

Not very good

Natalija says

3.5 out of 5 stars

I won Twice by Chance in the Paul Richmond giveaway at Joyfully Jay. I'm sorry for taking so long to read it, but I completely forgot about this book until the other day when I saw it on someone's shelf. Anyhow, back to my review.

All in all, this was truly a pleasure to read. It's fun and witty, but it's also intense and emotionally affecting. With not so much happening plot-wise, Twice by Chance is definitely a character-driven novella with two wonderful heroes that couldn't be more right for each other. I wasn't really fond of Zak, but at the same time I rooted for him and Addy, because it was obvious that he needed someone who would not give up on him, no matter how indifferent he wanted to appear or how bad he thought he was at relationships. Addy's attempt to mask his vulnerability with wit and audacity just broke my heart and made me cheer for him even more.

With that said, I definitely recommend taking a chance on this book.

Susan says

Addy accepts that he is gay when, at age fifteen, he sees two men making out in the back of a taxi. He spends the next 6 years fantasising about one of the men (Zak) until the day he runs across him in a gay club. When Addy goes home with Zak he hopes it will be his dream come true.

This is not a typical romance story. Zak is a very insular person and he protects himself by not allowing anyone to get close to him. He sees Addy as a definite one-night-stand and acts accordingly through their first night together. Addy feels differently. At times it was almost painful to watch Addy continually putting himself out there only to be shut down by Zak. His faith in the fact that Zak has feelings for him that he can't even admit to himself is mostly unwavering for such a long time. He continues to try to chip away at the shell Zak has built around himself even when Zak's behaviour is pretty appalling.

A few times I found myself willing Addy to walk away and protect himself but he kept bouncing back and continuing in his quest. Zak was a much harder character to like but he still gave occasional glimpses of the man hidden inside of him.

I'm glad that Addy had the support of Zak's friends and his brother and I would love to know more of Zane's story.

Nic says

The beginning of this book set up for an interesting scenario as 15 year old Addy witnesses two men making out in the back of a cab which confirms he definitely likes men! The scene, and eye contact with the man in the back of the cab, makes such an impact on the young Addy, that he can't forget and fantasises about the man for years. Eventually Addy runs into Zak and gets to enjoy the man in person.

While an enjoyable story, this was a difficult relationship to believe. Zak is not exactly likable - he avoids relationships and treats Addy poorly after their one night stand. But Addy is persistent and keeps chipping away at Zak. This is the part where I struggled as I couldn't fully understand why Addy was interested in Zak, why he wanted the second chance.

Zak is 'no good at relationships' but Addy gets under his skin and eventually he can't deny his feelings. While I wanted them to have a happy ending, and eventually Zak does open up to Addy, it feels more HFN, with not enough insight into the relationship to really believe it will last the long haul.

I now publish all my m/m reviews on my blog so if you want to see all my m/m reviews in one place come visit at [Because Two Men Are Better Than One!](#)

Valérie says

2.5 * : trop léger

Cette romance MM avait pas mal d'atouts pour être parfaite mais deux points vraiment négatifs du moins pour moi, m'empêchent d'être satisfaite de cette lecture. Le premier c'est que c'est trop court, à peine deux cents pages donc nous avons une relation qui va à la vitesse de l'éclair et du coup n'est pas vraiment crédible et le deuxième point découle directement du premier: les personnages. Comment voulez vous (enfin moi surtout) rentrer dans une histoire quand en l'espace de si peu de temps deux hommes changent pratiquement de personnalité au point de devenir différents sans avoir vraiment eu une évolution à travers un conflit, un problème enfin bref un événement qui explique ce changement d'attitude.

Dans la première partie Addy apparaît comme un gamin capricieux et gâté, immature, il a fantasmé durant six années sur Zac après l'avoir aperçu dans un taxi avec un autre homme dans son adolescence. Lorsque, par le plus grand des hasards il le croise à nouveau dans une boîte de nuit, il va non seulement le draguer mais s'offrir à lui, j'aurais compris si c'était juste pour une nuit afin d'enfin concrétiser son fantasme de la même façon qu'on satisfasse son envie d'un objet que l'on désire fortement et qu'enfin on est l'occasion de se le procurer. Mais là ce qui m'a gêné c'est sa façon de s'imposer à Zac, de l'obliger à lui demander plus. Il s'introduit dans son intimité pour la seule raison qu'il croit être ce qu'il a besoin ! Puis il se transforme en Calimero larmoyant qui se plaint par ce qu'il n'a pas réussi à obtenir plus de son joujou et paf il a le cœur brisé...

Zac quant à lui est amusé au départ par ce jeune homme étrange qui lui fait du rentre dedans et va jouer le jeu mais c'est un solitaire qui ne s'attache pas, ok pour une nuit de baise mais c'est tout. Sa réaction devant l'envahissement de sa vie privée par Addy est compréhensible et sa réaction normale, par contre quand quelques pages plus loin après l'avoir viré il le contacte de nouveau et se transforme en homme sensible prêt

à essayer une relation plus conventionnelle, alors là non franchement c'est du grand n'importe quoi...

Rien n'est crédible dans ce récit, le potentiel était là mais il manque de la profondeur, une étude plus poussée des caractères de chacun. La seconde partie est un peu mieux mais toujours trop superficielle. Au final 191 pages, 3 scènes intimes d'environ 5 pages et environ 20 dialogues de 10 mots... Pas assez consistant pour me satisfaire et pourtant un rocker et un vétérinaire c'était plutôt une bonne base.

Violet Nightfall says

È il primo romanzo di questo genere che leggo, anche se forse, data la brevità, sarebbe meglio chiamarlo racconto. L'ho trovato intenso, i personaggi ben caratterizzati, anche quelli più marginali. Inizialmente non mi aspettavo molto da questo romanzo e l'ho letto unicamente per via della trama, diversa dal solito. È anche vero che ultimamente non riuscivo a leggere nulla, quindi cercavo qualcosa di diverso, carino e non troppo impegnativo. "Non c'è due senza... te" è tutto questo, simpatico, romantico, una lettura scorrevole senza troppe pretese.

Si legge in un soffio, peccato per gli errori di traduzione in cui si incappa spesso come ripetizioni di parole o tempi verbali sbagliati, articoli multipli, etc...

Per quanto riguarda i personaggi ho amati i fratelli Roscoe, agli antipodi l'uno dell'altro. Addy è un ragazzo dolcissimo invece, alcune volte fin troppo sicuro di sé ma molto introspettivo e di certo non stupido. Insomma una lettura meritevole, l'autrice riesce a coinvolgerti nel suo mondo, nei problemi dei suoi personaggi con naturalezza.

Ottimo!

Simsala says

There they are again - glowing red dots in my eyes...
Incapable of saying it "nicely" I'll just let it go.

Second star is for the writing...

Mango says

I read this book a while back. I don't write reviews for books, this is my first review and I just had to write one for this one. This story was so intriguing and believable, I had to finish it in one go and sacrifice my sleep. I don't understand what people didn't like about it. For me, it's a 5 star book. It is a story of a person who knows he wants from this another person. It may seem unrealistic to some that how can he love someone so much even without knowing him. But that's life people as much as you want to love someone who is not a douchebag, you just sometimes fall in love with one and regret why that happened. At least this one had a happy ending. I liked both Addy and Zak. They were fun. If you like emotional but not so emotional funny and sweet novels, you should read this one. It made me sad, it made me smile and in the end it made me happy:D

Natalie says

This is the second story I've read by this author, and while the plots are interesting, I don't enjoy the flowery, over-the-top writing. This story started out strong, but I hated Zak's hot-and-cold behavior, so much so that I didn't believe that this relationship would last very long.

Da'ad says

Loved it so much. They rocker's character was a bit blurry sometimes, but you actually manage to like him even while he's being an ass. And he's hot! The sex is great, intense somehow and I enjoyed how engaging it was. Heh. The romance developed beautifully for me, as well as the plot. Beautiful, heartening, emotional, and just the right amount of angsty. Yummy all the way through. Laine is now a new favorite!
