



## How to Love Her, McCullough Mountain Prequel

*Lydia Michaels*

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Kate McCullough has always been a good girl, but when one bad choice lands her in a heap of trouble, her entire life changes in the blink of an eye. If not for her accidental friendship with Anthony Marcelli, she'd be lost.

Captivated by her wild charm and natural beauty, Anthony pushes for more than friendship only to have Kate pull back. He's determined to show her how great they could be as a couple, but she's the strong-willed sort, and adamant that they should only be friends. Refusing to give up, he risks everything to prove her wrong—even if that means going toe-to-toe with the craziest McCullough of all—her father.

How to Love Her is a prequel to Sacred Waters that will take readers back in time and return them to a place they love—McCullough Mountain.

## **How to Love Her, McCullough Mountain Prequel Details**

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Author : Lydia Michaels

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## **From Reader Review How to Love Her, McCullough Mountain Prequel for online ebook**

### **Amy ~ Love At 1st Read says**

I'd heard nothing but great things about this series and I'm so glad I finally got the chance to start it. I love anything by Lydia Michaels. No cookie cutter formulas with her. Her books are all so completely different but they do tend to have one thing in common. She writes beautifully developed characters who are usually surrounded by great friends and/or family. I adore romances with strong family ties. I love the humor, loyalty, and deep love that comes from family. And now I know that I am going to absolutely love the McCulloughs.

Like many of Lydia Michaels' books, this one had me experiencing a gamut of emotions. Tears, giggles, anger. This had it all. I loved Kate and Anthony. So young yet so mature and strong. I especially loved Kate's development in the story. She was a typical teen who didn't think too much about the consequences of her actions. She was ready for the freedoms that graduation would bring. Moving out on her own and getting away from her big, crazy family. She'd been in a rush to break away from the chaos of her family but found herself needing that emotional security more than ever. I adored her family. Her mom was a hoot. A fiery mom but one who loves her children fiercely. Her father was so strong and tough. I cried right along with them when Kate confessed her situation to them. Especially with her father. Being a daddy's girl myself, I know how gut wrenching it can be to disappoint your father.

When Anthony came along, even though Kate was very attracted to him, she just needed a friend to lean on more than anything else. And though Anthony wanted more, he was prepared to wait as long as it took. Once he discovered the truth, he understood Kate's hesitance but it didn't change how he felt about her. Oh Anthony! There aren't many men as wonderful as he was. He was willing to share the load with her. A load that wasn't even his to bear. "It's what good men do." Neither knew what was ahead of them but they were prepared to face it together. Though theirs wasn't your ordinary start to life, they learned that love can overcome extraordinary things.

There was so much to love in this story. I can't wait to visit McCullough Mountain again. Though this book is listed as number 8, it is the prequel to the series. I liked reading the beginnings of this fun, tight-knit family first.

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### **Lucy Berson says**

Lydia Michaels has done it, AGAIN!!!

In this book, we see just how Kate and Ant met and fell in love. From the beginning of the book, my jaw was on the floor.

You can not help but fall in love with the McCullough's from the beginning. This is the type of family that you want to be around and be a part of. Add in the Marcelli family and it is a match made in heaven. Just like Kate and Ant's love and life.

There is jaw dropping shock, sadness, love and of course gut busting laughs. How could there not be with the antics of Maureen!!!

This is a fabulous read and definitely 5\*\*\*\*\* worthy!!! Highly recommended!!!!

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### **Jennie Wurtz says**

This was the first I've read of the McCullough Mountain series and now that I've finished I'm one-clicking all of them right away! I LOVED this story! Lydia Michaels has done a wonderful job writing these characters, I fell in love with everyone right away. Their banter and dialogue is flawless, and for those who know me, you know that is so important to me and can make or break a book for me. I was laughing, smiling and screaming along with everyone in the story and I just had so much fun reading it. Anthony and Kate's story takes off from the start and I didn't want to put it down until the very end. Even then, I wished I had more! I so highly recommend How to Love Her to everyone looking for a fun, entertaining journey. You can absolutely read it in one sitting, and as I said earlier I plan to read the entire series immediately. It's that good. Thank you Lydia Michaels for telling this story so perfectly.

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### **Rachel K says**

Really enjoyed this one. It's weird because Ant didn't really leave that much of an impression with me in the other books, but he's an awesome hero who I just loved!! ?

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### **Christine says**

Needed a quick brain candy break and found this on Kindle Unlimited. I had no idea Kate even had her own McCullough book. This was a beautiful prequel that made background characters Kate and Ant come alive. These two kids' journey from teens to true lovers was lovely.

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### **Ermani says**

4.5 stars

What a great novella.♥?

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### **maggieandteddy says**

Yes! Loved it. Kate was a surprise. Very gentle and sweet. I loved this prequel. It says Book 8, but IMO you can read this as an introduction to the series. I love Lydia's writing. 3rd Person POV.

No real OTT characters- oh yeah, (Mama) Maureen and--- I do have to say --FRANK. You You what did you do??Reminded me a little of what happened with Roger (my love) in Outlander.

Could, would Anthony hang in there? If you've read the other books, you know the answer. I still wanted to see how Ant & Katie started out. The McCulloughs- wow do I love this family.

Kate and Ant are 18 in this book. Kate's the eldest, so not much going on with her younger siblings.

It's all Kate & Ant's story. (There was a cute part with very young & already feisty Sheilagh & older sister

Kate.

This is a long-ish novella (180 kindle pages) or a short book. I loved my McCullough fix \*sigh\*  
Choices choices choices. love love, finding LOVE. Young love.  
I was so happy that I pre-ordered this!

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## **Sylvie says**

### **Sweet story**

Such a sweet story. We get to see how Katie and Anthony's story. Anthony is such a good man and a beautifully written love story. Lydia Michaels is an expert of storytelling. The emotions, the struggles and the experience. I really love all the McCullough love story.

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## **Tamara says**

A wonderful emotional read. Had me crying happy and sad tears from beginning to end. I'm surprised I didn't short out my kindle! Ant is a keeper!

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## **Bev says**

Very occasionally a book comes along that is just perfect in every way. This is one of those rarities. I've been in the mother of all book funks so didn't hold out much hope for even finishing How To Love Her. Not only did I finish it, but I loved. Every. Single. Word.

This is one of those books that just worked. I adored the characters and will definitely be reading the others in the series even if it's only to get glimpses of MY Anthony, who is everything I want in a hero, albeit a young one.

Absolutely loved it!

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## **Amelie says**

Oh Lydia, how could you create a series with just six siblings? What am I gonna do now that you've written about all of them?

I've always considered Ant to be a background character at best (heck, Italian Mary made a stronger impression than he did), so imagine my surprise when I found myself liking him so much, that he's now in my top 3 favorite characters (Finn will always be number 1). In fact, I think this book is almost at the top of my list (ALMOST right up there with Skin). Really a wonderful surprise. Its preview already made me teary eyed, and when Frank was having a talk with his baby girl, I was bawling. Before that, when Maureen was being her usual outrageous self while having her own moment with Kate, I could already feel tears streaming down my face. Even though I think it was meant to be a funny scene! Oh man, this family has me wrapped

around their collective finger, I tell ya. And I still can't get over how much I loved it. Ant's the perfect guy, it wasn't a clean book like I feared it was gonna be, and Kate was assertive, but definitely not unlikable.

Quick notes though: a few you're/your issues, the Claddagh ring wasn't addressed again, and the book was too short. I wanted more Kate and Ant!

8 books in and I'm still hungry for more. Sigh. I don't know what to do with myself. But I couldn't ask for a better start to the week.

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### **Shannon Ferguson says**

I'm not usually one for New Adult reads, this one may definitely change my mind on them!!!

I LOVED Anthony's character. Not many men act the way he does, and he's still young. He is the kinda guy every girl hopes and dreams of. My heart kinda broke for Kate and her situation, but her character was sweet, but stubborn, so she didn't let anyone talk her out of anything. These two together make such a sweet couple, and it was good to read about a young couple who worked through their problems and stayed together.

This book is a must read!!

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### **Ms. D. Reader says**

It's so nice to read another McCullough story!

When the McCullough series began, Kate, the oldest daughter in the family was already married to Anthony with kids. We never knew much about them as a couple or anything about their love story. I was so glad we were going to get to know this character and her husband. During their journey, I really enjoyed revisiting the charming McCullough family with their humor, earthiness, loyalty, and deep love for one another. Going back to McCullough Mountain is like putting on a familiar pair of comfy slippers.

Even though this was a young adult story, if you have enjoyed this series all along, you'll want to know what happened to Kate as a young lady that put her on the path to finding love and taking responsibility at such a young age. Kate meets Anthony while they are seniors in high school. This heroine is having a traumatic crisis when she meets Anthony. The timing is terrible, but love doesn't always wait for the right time or place. Kate is a typical teenage girl who is trying to fit in by wanting to experience the exciting discoveries that most girls try during high school. Unfortunately things don't go as planned. Sometimes your choices are not the best and consequences occur. And sometimes when your life goes down an unexpected road, something wonderful can happen along the way.

Anthony is patient and persistent and doesn't let this sweet and charming gal turn him away. Kate is trying to keep the connection at a friendship level because of her secret. She knows Anthony is special and has big plans for college. She does have feelings for him, but wants to protect his future by not allowing him to get too deeply involved. Anthony is willing to let things stay at that level just to be with her, but he definitely wants more in time. I loved Anthony! He is the sweetest, most dependable, and devoted young man you would ever want to meet. He is maturing quickly and learning to love deeply right before our eyes. I enjoyed meeting Anthony's family because his parents and siblings are a large and loud Italian family. They are a

hoot just like the McCulloughs.

Kate's parents are the same whacky, sweet duo, but also honest in their gut reactions to Kate's questionable choices. Of course they are fiercely loyal and nurturing to their daughter despite their initial disappointment. Her mother is supportive in her own blunt and emotional way, and her Dad wants to be the knight in shining armor protecting his girl in his fierce way. In the end these parents can only be there to support the tough road their daughter will be taking. Interference can sometimes make things worse, as her father learns during an impulsive reaction to events. Anthony's parents are just as protective. Both families want to help this couple find the right path, but these young people really have to do it themselves.

This was a bit of a roller coaster ride for the couple with their doubts and fears, but they stayed the course and allowed themselves to take a leap of faith and finally trust in one another. It was worth it in the end because their unexpected beginning brought them happiness, love, and a family to look forward to in the future. Thanks to Lydia Michaels for giving her fans another installment in the McCullough Mountain series. It was fun, emotional, and heart-warming. I hope we get another story in this series.

Thanks to the author for the ARC I received for an honest review.

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### **Vee Paige says**

Loved it!

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### **Emma says**

I enjoyed it = 3 "don't do this at home "stars from me, but definitely not for everyone.

This was competently written but definitely nothing inspired or inspirational. I have taken a heavy duty muscle relaxant with narcotic pain relief combo so it fit my needs pretty well. But even in my floaty state I can see the issues most of my friends would have with the messages this book is putting forth. But putting that aside for a second this story is set in the 1990s and follows Katie as she is finishing up high school and starting a new scary phase of her life. On one rather stressful day at school she walks out of one room and plows into Anthony. Ant is fairly new to school having recently moved to the area from Philadelphia. From that moment on every time he tries to ask her out she shoots him down explaining she can't date him. But he is sweet and persistent. My god is he sweet. There is pretty much nothing that this boy does wrong. Eventually they do date with the deal of ending it at the end of summer when he has to go off to university. In the end both families support their young love and we get a HEA.

Back to that "perfectness" and why I know quite a few people I know will hate this: (total spoiler so be sure before you click)

(view spoiler)

But sometimes you want sweet and who cares about the message.

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