



Holly-Day

Celia Kyle

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Hell's demons, Satan included, have unanimously decided that they too, should begin celebrating holidays. Not Christmas, mind you, because that would just be wrong. Even demons would like to have sparkly and shiny decorations to look at, just as long as they're flame-resistant, for the festive months of November and December. So, Damon the demon, aptly named like so many other fellow demons, is sent in search of the perfect holiday decorator to jazz up their fiery Hell.

Holly Boughs, so named because of her mother's love for the holidays, is in line for this year's prestigious Best Store Window Award. They're looking for the best of the best of the best (sir!), and she believes she's outdone herself this time. She's decorated her fanny off, put on the finishing touches, and is ready to win it all. There's just one little problem: Holly is kidnapped, dragged to Hell, where she's told to do it all over again. Without melting anything in the process. Um, yeah. Talented or not, Holly definitely has her work cut out for her, because trying to please these demons from Hell is no easy task.

Holly-Day Details

Date : Published December 22nd 2009 by Liquid Silver Books (first published January 1st 2009)

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Author : Celia Kyle

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Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Romance, Paranormal Romance

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From Reader Review Holly-Day for online ebook

Pamelia Grady says

Holly Day

Holly Christmas extraordinaire - loved working as a window decorator who loved watching the joy on people faces. Along comes Mr Hot Pants - who shows up one night as Holly is putting the finishing touches on her Christmas display. Damon is astonished at the lovely work of art in each window which prompts him to ask Holly a astonishing question: Wanna come to Hell? She thinks he's just a little crazy, boy was she wrong.

Sue Riley says

Holly-Day Celia Kyle

Reviewed by SFF Dragon

This is definitely a Christmas paranormal romance with a difference and I absolutely loved it.

OK, so it's probably some kind of accolade and a great opportunity, but being kidnapped by a drool-worthy and hunkalicious pink demon who says he's Hell's Ambassador, to decorate Hell for the totally not Christmas holidays, but the demon babes were seriously scary, they had horns... and fangs... and tails.... and... things, really couldn't sing and scared Holly Boughs, window decorator extraordinaire, literally to death. It causes all kinds of mayhem, especially when smitten demon Damon Damas calls to 'on-high' to help save his love. Love? oh damn....

If you're looking for a good paranormal romance with built in stomach and facial exercises, this one will keep you laughing from beginning to end and I really can't recommend it highly enough. But, beware Damon's little demon helper, because I developed something of a soft spot for him.

Laura Greenwood says

<http://a-reader-lives-a-thousand-live...>

Title: Hell for the Holidays

Author: Celia Kyle

From: Alphas for the Holidays (Review Copy)

Genre: Paranormal Romance

Release Date: 17th December 2013

Challenges: N/A

Links: Goodreads - Amazon

Synopsis (from Goodreads): Hell's demons, Satan included, have unanimously decided that they too, should begin celebrating holidays. Not Christmas, mind you, because that would just be wrong. Even demons would like to have sparkly and shiny decorations to look at, just as long as they're flame-resistant, for the festive months of November and December. So, Damon the demon, aptly named like so many other fellow demons, is sent in search of the perfect holiday decorator to jazz up their fiery Hell. Holly Boughs, so named because of her mother's love for the holidays, is in line for this year's prestigious Best Store Window Award. They're looking for the best of the best of the best (sir!), and she believes she's outdone herself this time. She's decorated her fanny off, put on the finishing touches, and is ready to win it all. There's just one little problem: Holly is kidnapped, dragged to Hell, where she's told to do it all over again. Without melting anything in the process. Um, yeah. Talented or not, Holly definitely has her work cut out for her, because trying to please these demons from Hell is no easy task.

In all likelihood, I wouldn't have picked up *Hell for the Holidays* if it hadn't been for the Alphas for the Holidays box set. Demons aren't normally my first choice of paranormal creature, and as such I tend to read less with them in. As it was, something about *Hell for the Holidays* just didn't click with me as much as it should have done.

There were some funny moments in *Hell for the Holidays*. I really liked the way the author chose to replace references to God and Heaven with those to Satan and Hell. It worked well and really gave the world (well Hell) an individual theme.

I also liked that just being a demon didn't make someone a bad guy. There was definitely more to it than that. The author chose to humanise those that lived in hell and that really worked.

The chemistry between the two main characters was okay, but I didn't feel like either of them really clicked with me as characters, which is probably what caused my reluctance with this one.

Hell for the Holidays was an interesting read. I didn't feel like walking away from it at any point, but equally I didn't feel that it was something I'd missed out on by not reading earlier.

Rachel- Goodbye Borders says

They don't celebrate Christmas in hell. But this year Damon wants to do something special for the "kids." That includes decorating and kidnapping Holly, one of the best window decorators.

I liked the writing and thought there were many funny moments. Like any time death, die, kill was mentioned, Samael would show up (the demon of death). There are multiple demons names "Daman." However, the relationship moved too fast to be believable. Insta-lust yes. Insta-love nope! Then this major issue (kidnapping). But this kept me interested and entertained last evening.

Magdalena says

Despite this being a short story, I couldn't even get halfway through it, what with all the idiotic giggling of the female lead, etc. Just because it's written that the characters are being silly and laughing does not actually

mean that the book is funny. Funny still requires some substance. I won't be reading this author again.

Sue Riley says

Holly-Day Holly-Day Hell for the Holidays Hell for the Holidays Hell for the Holidays Celia Kyle

Varied Books says

From Alphas for the Holidays

Sh3lly (grumpybookgrrrl.com) says

I read this as part of the Alphas for the Holidays collection. This was kind of cute and funny, with a heavy dose of chick-lit.

Damon Damas, Satan's nephew and Ambassador of Hell, is tasked with organizing a hellish holiday (don't say Christmas, that word is forbidden) for the little demon kids. He doesn't get to have all the fun and procure the presents though, he has to convince someone from "the Living" to come down to hell to decorate and organize the festivities.

Enter Holly Boughs. She designs store holiday exhibits and is perfect for the job. Down below, of course, sparks fly (in more ways than one - it's HOT in hell in case you didn't know) and love blossoms between our hero and heroine.

Melich the little lower demon was kind of funny. *"Oh, my Lord, it's the Living land. Disgusting and cold and clean and, my Lord, I will tell his Lord that it is not fit for Damon demon. Not fit at all..."*

When Holly spots Damon, she loses her grip on sanity and suffers from a bad case of insta-lust. She salivates over his *"hottiness"* and *"yummiliciousness."* (Yes, that is really in the story.) See, very chick-lit.

When Holly is taken to hell, one demon says: *"It sparkles! Like those fairies in that book we read. Did you bring us a fairy?"*

Another "man" pushed the devil, that wasn't a devil, back. "Melich, those were vampires, made-up demons-"

(hehe Twilight joke there.)

The sexy times could have been a little better. This had some humorous moments. The parts OTHER than the romance were actually better than the romance was, in my view.

Laura says

Alphas for the Holidays Anthology

This was cute, until it wasn't. A decorator gets taken to hell to help with a holiday celebration. I think if this ended a little earlier and the dialogue wasn't quite so irksome (especially during her judgment) it could have easily been 4 stars.

Debbie says

Cute. Charming. Sort of like Monty Python decided to get into writing Paranormal Romances.

Christine says

Cute fun read. Good length.

I'm not sure how their happily ever after is going to work but then I am the one who always wonders how the characters take care of personal hygiene needs in stories. :P

Sofia Machado says

Cute book!

My favourite character is Satan, wow! e his sooo funny!! And nobody respects him!! AHAHA funny!!

Nancy says

Cute, fun quick read.

Marianne says

For a book about holiday decorations, I expected a bit more decorating, but nevermind... the funniest part was Samael who kept popping in every time someone mentioned, or even thought of death. Poor guy;-)

Lexie says

Hot, hilarious and rocking sums up this short story by Celia Kyle. This is one of the few times when I would have been happy whether the love interests ended up together or not because this was such a fun read. Kyle's depiction of "Uncle Satan" as a much-maligned older man trying to regain some respect was possibly the best, though I'd argue Samael's...enthusiasm for his job was equally amusing.

Holly is a feisty woman who cares about her job and Damon is resigned to help her do it. Not for His son's birthday of course, that would be wrong (on so many levels), but that commercially popular holiday with giving out gifts. Other than that storyline (which brings up more amusing tidbits in the latter fourth of the story) there's the romance between Holly and Damon that was definitely hot, but rather undeveloped. She found him gorgeous, he found her annoying, but was still strangely drawn to her.

Its only after a mishap that Damon realizes he doesn't want to be without her and Holly makes a rather unprecedented choice. Other than some token resistance the two fall into a relationship easily. In many ways I think this would have served well as an expanded novella--I would have liked to know a bit more about Kyle's unique view of Hell (or in the least seen Satan get maligned some more) and seen some of Holly's other adventures there (like meeting the Harpys).

Make no mistake this is unrepentant brain candy--deeper thinking, or religious views, should be checked at the door. It short and hot you can't go wrong with that combination.
