



Unexpected Daddy

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After a car accident destroys his family, Joey is left the sole caretaker of his newborn niece, Abby. The overprotective UNEXPECTED DADDY needs childcare. When bigots set their sights on Joey, in walks the answer to his prayers, Geoff.

When twenty-six-year-old Joey Beirs is summoned to the emergency room one evening, the last thing he expects to find is that his twin brother and Jeremy's wife have both been killed in a car accident, leaving him an UNEXPECTED DADDY to his newborn niece, Abby. Closing in on the end of his leave from work, Joey has to find suitable childcare for Abby. After yet another interview turns south, Joey is accosted by homophobic bigots and saved by Geoff Allread.

Geoff is in his forties, an out-of-work carpenter whose unemployment is running out, soon to be faced with working in fast food or retail to keep food on the table in the recession. He's also late to come out of the closet, a wounded man that has lost everything by admitting what he is... including his daughter from his ill-fated marriage. Geoff is good with kids and adores Abby. It's a match made in heaven. At forty-three, Geoff needs a job that doesn't mean asking if someone wants fries, and Joey needs someone that's good with Abby. But can both of them overcome their hurts and accept that the age difference doesn't matter as much as finding what they've both lost... a stable family?

Unexpected Daddy Details

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From Reader Review Unexpected Daddy for online ebook

♥Laddie♥ (Lee Lee) says

A nanny, a newborn baby and a daddy who needs someone to come to his daycare rescue. 6 more days!! Let the countdown begin!!!

Lizzie says

Remembered I read this a long time ago when I saw Phannee's review so I read it again. In general I liked this though it was too short and didn't have enough depth into the characters lives. I also felt it left a lot of loose ends. A bit more length and a little fleshing out and it would be a good story.

Cocktails and Books says

3.5 Cocktails

I picked up "Unexpected Daddy" on a lark. The blurb grabbed my attention. I love Manlove stories, especially if they seem like they'll be romantic and touch my heart. Brenna Lyons delivered that and more.

Joey gets heartbreaking news and, even as he's had the shock of his life, it gets even more shocking when he finds himself becoming, as the title suggests, an unexpected Daddy to his newborn niece, Abby. He loves her with all his heart, but he's going to have to put her in daycare soon because he's got to work. He meets Geoff completely by accident when he discovers that the lady he was going to interview flaked out. Geoff is an unemployed construction worker, and he needs work. He fell head over heels in love with Abby and becomes her...manny?

The story takes off from there, and it's very enjoyable. Joey and Geoff have quite a chemistry, and as they fall for each other, the reader falls as well. Of course, there is some angst, but it's just enough to move the story along. The sex between the men is hot and extremely well written. Little Abby is adorable and sweet and becomes the glue in their relationship. It's a quick read, but a significant amount of time passes within the book. Abby goes from fussy newborn to a happy baby eating Cheerios in her high chair. Joey and Geoff grow as well, and it was really fun to see.

I've never read anything from Brenna Lyons, but I intend to check out her other books. If they're even half as good as "Unexpected Daddy", I'll be reading more from her. I definitely recommend this one.

Reviewed by Kenna for Cocktails and Books

Candice says

[Geoff's (hide spoiler)]

Serena Yates says

This is a great feel-good book that left me smiling and reassured that sometimes stories that start with an awful shock can end well. Joey and Geoff are both white knights – each in their own way – and what I really liked was that they got to rescue each other. True teamwork requires the partners to work together, to use their individual strengths to make sure the relationship works; these two took a while to figure out the details, but they did so in a loving and sometimes even humorous way.

Joey is truly overwhelmed by the loss of his only family when his brother and pregnant sister-in-law die in a car accident. I could feel his grief and pain as he rushes to the hospital and was happy with him and for him when he found out the baby survived. But that was only the beginning. Trying to raise a baby on your own is tough, and Joey definitely struggled. He never even considered giving up though, and I loved that quiet determination.

Geoff is in his forties, divorced, and has more regrets and demons in his past than is healthy. Yet when he sees Joey being bullied, he doesn't hesitate to come to his rescue. The idea of helping Joey take care of the baby scares him, but he can't resist a second chance at raising a child. He also cannot resist Joey's charms, even though he tries. His fear of a commitment longer than "let's see how it goes for the next two weeks" made me smile, but it clearly helped him talk himself into a new and slightly scary situation.

This story is told in a series of little vignette's from the men's lives, which I really liked. It gave me a lot of insight into the men's developing relationship, and these 'highlights' were not just entertaining, but able to cover a lot of time in a fairly short book. I felt very connected to these characters and, of course, the baby was just adorable. If you are looking for a cute story to cheer you up, if you need a happy ending but want it in a modern fairy tale, and if you like reading about two loving men learning to care for each other as well as a baby, you will like this book as much as I did.

Shelley Chastagner says

Heart warming story. I really liked Joey's determination to make a a wonderful life for his baby niece Abby. Geoff's longing for the family he no longer had was tangible. I loved his inner monologue. He's a man who's lived a life and his desire for something real with Joey is beautifully played out.

Adult read

Catherine says

Firstly, I have to give major kudos to whoever designed this cover. It's moody and sexy and sweet all at the same time (just look at their hands entwined in the lower right corner!) and I just friggin' adore it! This cover promised me a fabulous story.

However, it didn't take me long to realize that the story was not going to live up to this cover.

I mean, it was *okay*, but everything about it was kinda middle of the road. It wasn't particularly sweet, or funny, or angsty, or dramatic (though it had *some* of all of these attributes in small doses). It just kinda... was. Geoff and Joey were both likable enough, but I didn't end up falling for either of them and caring about what happens to them the way that I usually do when reading a short story or novel. And, I can't lie: the May-December aspect of this romance felt a little icky given that Geoff kept calling Joey "kid" (note to authors: this is a decidedly un-sexy nickname for one dude to give to a dude he wants to screw into oblivion). The plot was interesting enough (if not wholly original), the dialogue was serviceable (if not particularly witty or engaging), and I guess I'm glad - for Abby's sake - that they all got their happily ever after, but this isn't a story that I'd ever re-read or recommend to my friends.

Emily says

Unexpected Daddy was a cute and enjoyable read. The relationship between Joey and Geoff is wonderful and unhurried. It's not instant love or even instant lust. The author shows their growing relationship, from stranger, to friend, to helper, than to lover. You see their love and feelings as they develop and you see how they cope with their different hardships and become better people because of them. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone looking for a good story. Yes, it does have sex, but the main focus of the book is on the 3 main characters becoming a family. And Ms. Lyons does a wonderful job portraying it.

Sally says

A quick, enjoyable story.

Alina says

Wow I'm totally baffled about the low ratings for this book!

I think it was super adorable! I'm usually very wary about kids in stories, but here Abby was a nice addition and not overused at all. I really liked Geoff and Joey and I'm a huge fan of age difference, so I enjoyed the book a great deal! Very satisfying HEA and overall very pleasant and sweet read!

Ericka Walden says

A short, HEA..... What where people expecting?? Felt good.....made me smile.... Kindle closed..... Cooked dinner.... Lookin up more works from the author.

CB says

Short, sweet and sexy - May to December romance. A great afternoon read.

Serena Yates says

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NOTE: This book was provided by Silver Publishing for the purpose of a review on QMO Books.

Leigh Ellwood says

Following a tragic accident, Joey assumes guardianship of his infant niece. A fruitless search for daycare leads him to Geoff, an unemployed blue-collar man who appears gruff yet has a soft spot for children. The arrangement, first borne out of necessity on both parts (one needs a sitter, one needs a job) grows into a relationship one tries to fight but cannot.

Daddy is short, just under 15,000 and offers a peek into a sweet, budding relationship between a man unexpectedly in charge of a family and another mourning the loss of his due to divorce. I would like to have seen it lengthened with a deeper exploration of the two heroes - particularly Geoff. I haven't read many M/M stories featuring older men, particularly those acknowledging their sexuality later in life. Daddy is a nice diversion, nonetheless, if you want a lunch hour read.

Jo * Smut-Dicked * says

I am pained here. I REALLY debated about the 1 star. I'd really rate this 1.5 stars - there were parts I liked though and I fervently wish GR had 1/2 stars!

This one had such promise but it just never went anywhere. It was confusing - for example there is a point where Joey tells Geoff why doesn't he do the nanny thing because Geoff is on unemployment and it is about to run out -- the problem? There is no conversation anywhere that indicates they talked about this and they JUST MET. When did this information get shared? This is an editing snafu as that is the sort of thing an editor should catch.

Much of the relationship feels like it happens off camera - and the development is just flat as a pancake due to too much telling not enough showing. This is a case where the basic concept is great - but it needed to be longer, with consistency in what the characters should/should not know about each other, and these guys NEEDED to spend time together and show that relationship - its ups and downs and how they deal with it. In some books this type of insta love works - in this one you just don't connect to the characters at all (or I didn't) and even the cute baby cannot save it.

It is a real shame. Because Lyons is, by all accounts, a very good writer. This one feels unfinished, incomplete - like it is missing pages. I cannot express enough how about 40 more pages showing depth to the characters (more back story - we don't really even know what Joey does for a living!) and relationship development so you can feel invested and care about what happens would be a critical difference maker. Geoff just screams "guy who has lost it all" but he just says it - you never really feel it from him. He seems remote, detached, and the only passion you get is in the sex scene which was good.

The decision point climax action was superb - and should have made a huge impression but it doesn't. The epilogue is really unique and almost felt like a different couple - engaged, intriguing, with cute dialogue and a back and forth that was missing before. In the end the fact that the author "closed the loop" made me up the rating a bit.
