



Stella and Dane: A Honky Tonk Romance

Deanna Roy

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Sometimes your future has to wait on a bad boy

A nontraditional romance from the desk of five-time USA Today bestselling author Deanna Roy

Stella is one step from leaving her honky tonk town when bad-boy Dane roars down Main Street on his prized Harley-Davidson. Their dangerous romance keeps the locals talking, but when Dane is arrested after a deadly bar fight, the couple discovers their love runs deeper than their reputations.

Fans of “Baby Dust” will enjoy reading the backstory of their favorite characters in an edgy romance that moves from Stella’s small town bordering the Ozarks to the famous Missouri State Penitentiary, proving that the best kind of love is the one that endures.

-- “Deanna Roy has created a tuck-at-your-heart yet edgy nontraditional romance. The star-crossed lovers are destined for a host of insurmountable problems in a rural Missouri town where one of them is home-grown, and the other an intruder viewed with suspicion.” -- Loretta Giacometto, author of Free Danner

Stella and Dane: A Honky Tonk Romance Details

Date : Published July 14th 2012 by Casey Shay Press (first published July 14th 2011)

ISBN :

Author : Deanna Roy

Format : Kindle Edition 260 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance

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From Reader Review Stella and Dane: A Honky Tonk Romance for online ebook

Michelle [Helen Geek] says

08/20/2013 --

Overall Rating = 3 Stars

Book Cover / Book Blurb / Book Title = 1 / 3 / 3 = 2 Stars

Writer's Voice = 3 Stars

Character Development = 3.5 Stars

Story Appreciation = 3.5 Stars

Worth the Chili = 3 Stars -- [\$2.99 when released]

Well, I'm not real sure what to say about this one. I liked it, but it is a strange one. It bored me in places, it touched me in others and it was just strange overall. One thing I liked and liked quite a bit was the second chance aspect.

A few things stood out for me when reading this one:

1 -- The characters were downright quirky. I couldn't decide if I liked them. I couldn't decide if they were really stupid people or in the wrong place at the wrong time. Either way, I do think I'll remember both Stella and Dane. And with the number of books I read, this is saying something.

2 -- ****spoiler alert**** The whole prison experience. I thought the author did this very well. I also think, to put this in a romance, takes courage. In the very short time Dane and Stella were together, they fell very deeply for each other. They really couldn't think of not being together at the end of this whole mess. It seemed to work for them and I'm glad. Although, many wouldn't consider anything for these two as being an HEA.

Now, onto things I had issues with:

1 -- Something that didn't work so well for me with this one is the ending. I felt rushed. The middle of this story was soooo... boring. I couldn't figure out where the whole thing was headed and put it down for a few days. Then, we speed up and rush the later part of the book. I absolutely hate when authors do this. Almost like they only just realize they have a deadline. Or, even worse, she got bored with the whole thing, rather like I did [middle of this read]. Then, she turned the gas up, and it was interesting again and then ***poof*** it's over! What? So not good for this reader.

2 -- Another not so good, the whole "small town" premise outlined in this book seemed very contrived. I was about 60% still wondering about the purpose of the story. Is there any message or are we just walking along on the road to nowhere? In the end, it really doesn't matter.

3 -- The epilogue sucked! The author does warn us to read another book, the first in this series, and you'll get it. What? Seriously not happy me. Not at all. I didn't even bother to read it. She tells me I probably won't get it, so why bother? So, I didn't.

Overall, a pretty strange read. I did enjoy it, but didn't realize I enjoyed it until it was over. One of those terrible coffee drinks that, once over, you want another just to see if it really was terrible or just minimally good.

Happy Reading!

ARC provided by Patchwork Press via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review!

Becca ~BS BOOK REVIEWERS~ says

Stella & Dane: A Honky Tonk Romance by Deanna Roy

I am on the fence with this book. I really wanted to like this book but it's a hard review. It is a progressive book that takes place over years; to be honest I got bored reading it. I can sum this book up in a paragraph. It wasn't that it was a bad book, just not my style. I was expecting more or a pivotal moment so I kept reading and reading and reading. That moment didn't come. I also didn't like that Dane was with Darlene and then decided he wanted Stella and they both knew.

To see the rest of this review click [here](#)

Brenda Demko says

It was unlike anything I have read before. The characters and circumstances were unique and interesting.

I felt many emotions throughout the book. Everything from happiness for Stella when things started to look up for her, to anger at the injustice and prejudice of the town towards Dane, to frustration when it didn't appear things were going the way that I wanted, to sadness when Angie died.

I enjoyed Stella and Dane and would recommend this to anyone looking for something different to read. It is a long way from the usual romances that I read.

I received a copy of this in exchange for my honest opinion.

Chrissie says

This isn't the type of book I'd usually read. Romance isn't really my thing but I'm so glad that I got this book. Very rarely do I find I get carried away with the characters. Dane (the main male in the book) does something that prolongs him seeing the love of his life (Stella) and I actually said aloud 'Oh for goodness sake, Dane' and I woke my husband in the process! The twists and turns were wonderfully written, and I really enjoyed it. Another great book, thanks Deanna Roy!

Alexis Sky says

I was given a copy of this book for an honest review. And honestly, I did not enjoy this book. Too much happened and not any of it good. It was a depressing, horrible read. The writing wasn't that great and the

plot- come on- so infuriating. I read it through hoping there would be an ending worth all of it and NO there wasn't. VERY DISAPPOINTING!

Wendy says

I enjoyed Stella and Dane: A Honky Tonk Romance.

The author had my emotions on a roller coaster ride from laughing to shedding a few tears. She captured the hurt and pain of losing someone close to you.

22 year old Stella wants to leave her honky tonk town forever until bad-boy Dane arrives on his Harley roaring down Main Street. One very hot moment on the towns water tower, between Stella and Dane, causes an uproar which leads to a fatal confrontation resulting in Dane going to prison. This ultimately tests their love for each other.

A moving and passionate contemporary romance I look forward to other novels by this author.

Kellie Williams says

I absolutely loved this book.

Maria says

I received a complimentary copy of this book as a part of a blog tour in exchange for a fair and honest review. You can read the entire post at my blog:<http://queenofthenightreviews.blogspot...>

Living in a small town can be a wonderful experience if you're in the right town. There's a sense of community, a group of hard working people and usually a willingness to help your neighbor or the older woman in town who's alone. Unfortunately there are some small towns that give small towns a bad name - the ones full of prejudice, judgement and nosy neighbors. Stella & Dane by Deanna Roy is set in one of those small towns, the kind you don't want to live in and want to escape if you were unfortunate enough to be born in it.

Stella is a young woman who hates Holly, Missouri, the small town where she's grown up. Plotting her escape is just one of the ways she spends her time between working and climbing the town's water tower. The only reason Stella hasn't left town is because of her love for her Grandmother Angie; who's dying of cancer. Stella can't get along with her parents, especially her mother Vivian, and her older sister has already married and fled town. Her best friend, Janine, is her closest confidant.

Just when Stella thinks it's time to formalize her plans, a new man arrives in town on a Harley and Stella's instantly drawn to him. I'll admit I had a hard time liking Stella at first, she has a tendency to jump into the

frying pan before she thinks and she's immature. Her decision making skills are almost non-existent and she's pretty self centered at the beginning of this story. Fortunately, Stella does a lot of character growth during the story - I was happy with the person she becomes by the end of the book.

Dane is a "Bad Boy" on a Harley, he's got a quick temper, falls in love too easily and acts before he thinks. He's immediately drawn to Stella and will do whatever it takes to have her. Deciding Holly is too small for the both of them, Stella and Dane begin to make plans for their departure. Only Dane's insane jealousy, and bad judgement end up landing him in a world of hurt. I'll admit I had issues with Dane's character too, he's really got bad judgement and he's never learned to listen to other's advice. When a bad decision leads to him being placed in jail, Dane worries he'll not only lose the life he's dreamed of but also lose the woman he loves.

Will Stella realize Dane's the man she wants in her future forever? And will she wait for him to become a free man? You'll have to read Stella & Dane to find out. If you like intense and emotionally filled reads, then this is the book for you!

Heather andrews says

I liked the cover so I got the book, but the book kind of didn't hold my expectations they way I wanted, I mean the story was well written and I loved Dane but I just felt like it wasn't for me. Dane I just loved him from the start, "this would be crazy," he whispered. "And maybe not even possible. Should I let you down now? Get to know you proper?" He's honest, "I'm not," Dane said. "On Tuesday I was dating Darlene." He reached for Stella. "And today it's Stella." Stella's mom she was oh my God I wanted to punch her every time there was a scene with her in it, "about time you got here," Vivian snapped. "I'm guessing you decided to stay out all night again even though your grandmother was cold in a coffin." As I said the book was well written just wasn't for me it just didn't do it.

Books Mom says

I wasn't sure what to expect with this story, but it had "honky tonk" in the title, and I'm a sucker for country. I didn't realize it was set in the recent past (1980's) but it was fun to revisit the decade of my youth. The author had the time down pat and I completely enjoyed the walk down memory lane.

Right up front I have to say that this was not an easy read. Both the hero and heroine are less than truly likeable to begin with, and the story itself is filled with so much emotion and angst that I was wrung out by the end. The author has a fantastic voice, though, and some serious writing chops so even though this wasn't my usual reading fare, I wasn't even tempted to put it down at any point.

Stella isn't a nice girl by any means. She feels a bit spoiled (though, really she isn't) and she doesn't really think twice about going after a guy who's already with someone else. To be fair, Dane certainly doesn't flinch at cheating either and without this love triangle, the story wouldn't have happened. They're incredibly far from "hero" material, but thankfully during the many years this book spans, they do some growing up, learning and changing.

I loved the town -- a typical small town where everyone is in everyone's business. It was filled with well-

drawn, colorful characters (I truly loved Stella's boss and her perfume store) and even a place that was a character in itself (the water tower). The descriptions of people and places was lush and full without being overbearing and intrusive. The author has just the right touch with her words and I was so impressed by her skill.

If you're into emotionally charged stories full of growth and happy-ever-after love by an author who seriously knows what she's doing, I can highly recommend *Stella & Dane: A Honky Tonk Romance*. While it may not have been the kind of book I usually enjoy (I prefer a good laugh to a good cry), and while I probably won't read it again (I'm still exhausted from my first trip through), it's a really good story with a great ending.

sue says

I did like the premise of the storyline I just couldn't give it any more than 3 stars as I couldn't relate to the harshness in this book.

Her Grandmother was dying and she didn't even shed a tear? I found that very strange, and then again, maybe not if she could have sex with someone else's boyfriend! I found her quite devious and cold hearted and as for HIM, he just made my blood boil.

The murder charge was interesting and the getting results even more so.

I suppose all in all, with that being said, I didn't give up on the book, it was like one of those movies that you just had to sit through until the end hoping that you came away with something for the hours you spent on it. I did.

I found that the author told the story well, it was the characters I couldn't relate to.

Kathleen says

Twenty-two year old wild child Stella has been planning her escape from her small Ozark Mountains hometown of Holly, Missouri, for a bigger city for years. She even has a binder filled with photos and postcards of cities that holds her interest: St. Louis, Houston and New York. The only thing that has kept Stella from leaving is her beloved Grandma Angie, who has terminal lung cancer. Then a hunky bad boy on a Harley named Dane strolls into the perfume shop where she works and has her thinking maybe it would be worth staying in this one-horse town after all. Only problem is Dane has hooked up with a local skank named Darlene, but that doesn't stop the mutual attraction between Stella and Dane. One very HOT rendezvous on the town's water tower between Stella and Dane will cause a ruckus in the small town where everyone knows what goes on, and it will lead to a fatal encounter that will send Dane to prison and test the bonds of their love for each other.

Stella & Dane: A Honky Tonk Romance is a moving contemporary romance story that will take you on an emotional roller coaster ride. Set in the small Ozark Mountains town of Holly, Missouri, this passionate story is told in the third person narrative, and engages the reader to follow Stella and Dane's long journey of love and devotion. This isn't your ordinary love story, it has so much raw emotion, intensity, drama, passion,

twists and turns that keeps the reader riveted as Stella and Dane overcome many obstacles along the way.

Rich in detail and vivid descriptions, the author easily transports the reader to the scenic Ozark Mountains and small town life in Holly, Missouri. As a fan of reading about small southern and mid-western towns, I really enjoyed the descriptions of the small town setting, I could close my eyes and picture the town of Holly with it's Main Street and shops and of course the water tower (that incredible scene will forever be in my mind... lol). If you're from a small town, you certainly can relate to the quaint environment, simple living and small town mentality of the townsfolk. I especially loved that the story takes place during the 1980s, there were so many memorable things from that decade mentioned in the story (like big hair and Aqua Net hairspray, songs from that decade, and the fashion style - jelly shoes, mini skirts and off the shoulder flashdance sweatshirts), it was like taking a fun stroll down memory lane.

The author has created a cast of characters who are realistic, intriguing, complex people who are easy to relate to. I loved Stella and Dane's characters, they simply intrigued me from the start. Their strengths, flaws, wildness, and passion won me over ... I just love reading about wild childs and bad boys! You can't help but feel for them as they work through the hard times and obstacles that come their way, cheering for them and hoping that their love for each other will prevail. I also enjoyed the supporting cast of characters: quirky Beatrice the perfume shop owner kept me in stitches; Grandma Angie simply stole my heart, I loved the special relationship she shared with Stella. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the characters I didn't like: skanky Darlene, every town has one of these women; and Vivian, Stella's overbearing and insensitive mother annoyed the hell out of me. The character's dialogue and interactions throughout the story made it a dramatic and entertaining read.

Stella & Dane is an amazing love story that simply captivates you from the beginning and holds you captive until the conclusion. This emotional story packs a powerful punch, the passion and intensity of Stella and Dane's love is inspiring and will resonate with you long after the last page has been read.

Disclaimer: I received a copy of the book from the author in exchange for my honest review and participation in a virtual book tour event hosted by Goddess Fish Promotions.

<http://jerseygirlbookreviews.blogspot...>

Katie says

WARNING: This ~~fant~~ review contains spoilers that I felt were necessary to explain why I didn't like this book. Also, this is a prequel to *Baby Dust*, but can be read as a standalone.

1.5 Stars!

Description:

Stella is one step from leaving her honky tonk town when bad-boy Dane roars down Main Street on his prized Harley-Davidson. Their dangerous romance keeps the locals talking, but when Dane is arrested after a deadly bar fight, the couple discovers their love runs deeper than their reputations.

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This review was tough to write because the first 80% of the book annoyed the *crap* out of me and I didn't



like it at all, but then the last 20% was actually ok.

Let's start with **The Good:**

- The writing was decent, and I didn't have any problems with it besides some errors in grammar.
- The last 20% of the book made me root for the couple and it had a nice ending. Probably because they're separated at this point so they can't be together and mess things up even more.

**The Bad/What Seriously Annoyed Me/This is Probably Going to Turn Into a Rant, Sorry:**

The characters had no personality, except for being infuriating, annoying, and mean. I can't even count the number of times I swore at them for being so stupid or despicable. When Stella and Dane met, he already had a girlfriend—which he was only using for sex by the way!!!—but Stella still tried to get with him. *That's so messed up!* And after they saw each other for like 10 minutes, they met up and had sex! I have 3 major problems with this:

- 1) Dane just cheated on his girlfriend! And Stella knew he has a girlfriend but pursued him anyways! What the fuck man!?
- 2) They didn't even feel bad about it!
- 3) They just met! Why are they having sex already!? It wasn't some one night stand, which would be understandable, but they were starting a relationship!! Just...NO!

So they're both assholes. And the sex scene wasn't even good! It kind of sucked actually.

When Stella found out her grandmother was going to die *she didn't cry* (WHAT!?). But when Dane didn't say what she wanted him to, *then* she cries!!! I can't even... What is wrong with her!? \*Shakes Stella like a crazy woman\*

Besides what I mentioned above, Dane just seemed like an total ass 90% of the time. And a boring ass at that.

*"On Tuesday I was dating Darlene.' He reached for Stella. 'And today it's Stella.'"*

*"If some girl pulled a number like this on his Harley, well, there'd be payback."*

What a charmer, right?

*And...*

At times, there wasn't enough detail and it took away from the story.

It was written in third person, which I *don't* like, and it could've easily been in first person with dual POVs.

Stella had only known Dane for a week and she already *loved* him! NO! And she loved him enough to wait **12 YEARS** for him while he was in **PRISON** for **KILLING SOMEBODY!!!** I just...

There was nothing I liked or enjoyed about this book. Not the setting, the characters, the dialogue, the plot... the reason I gave 1.5 stars was because of the last 20% and because the writing was ok.

\*Breathes heavily from ranting so much\*

Ok, I'm done. To sum it up, it pissed me off, annoyed me, and the only reason I read the whole thing as because I got it from Netgalley. Sorry to the author, but I'm always honest in my reviews.

*\*I received this book from Netgalley for an honest review\**

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### **KyBunnies says**

This was a great short read. Sometimes the author had me laughing and a few other times I was crying my eyes out. The author captured the hurt and pain of losing someone that is very important to you. The author has a great way with creating a story.

Stella is only interested in leaving the one-horse town she lives in. The only thing holding her back from leaving is her grandmother. Then hot-shot Dane rides into town and Stella thinks for a minute that maybe there is something interesting in town.

Dane came to town to be with his brother. He had no other family after his mother passed away. His father is not in his life and it is just him and his brother. Dane is actually a great motorcycle mechanic.

Stella and Dane remind me of being back in high-school dating that guy who everyone said was bad news. You remember the one that you parents told you to stay away from. Take a trip down memory lane while reading Stella & Dane by Deanne Roy.

Thanks for a great read.

The bunnies and I give this book carrots.

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### **Jessica Figueroa says**

3.5 stars

~ I received an arc for an honest review ~

I was just getting to the epilogue when find out that in a way this is a book two? Or just a Prequel from another book ( Baby Dust ) So I would recommend you lovely readers to check that out first before getting to this. If you choose not to read Baby Dust thats fine because this book still good.

Stella is a girl from a small town and was about to leave when she finds a hott bad-boy looking guy came into town on his motorcycle. Stella and Dane have an instant connection but he is already with another girl. They both end up hooking up and getting caught and rumors spread causing trouble. Dane winds up getting the unwanted attention from his no ex-girlfriends older brother, who also has the hots for Stella. Everything seems to be going against them and when they finally work on making it out of town Dane gets in trouble the his ex's brother and ends up serious trouble. Now Dane has to things to work out in out and has to do time. Will their relationship last?

"It happened. We can't change it. All we can do is decide where we go from here."

I enjoyed this book it was intense at times, emotional in others. I loved that there was more than one point of views. I loved how dedicated they were after only knowing each other for a little while. Overall I enjoyed this short book and think you lovely readers would like to check it out :-)

