



Star Struck

Josi S. Kilpack

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Delilah is a small town girl from Utah working as a nanny in New York City, saving money until her sweetheart finishes his job training out of state. Life is good for Delilah—safe, predictable and simple. But then she meets mega-Hollywood heartthrob Sam Hendricks and her world turns upsidedown. As part of a crowd-pleasing publicity stunt, Sam asks Delilah to be his date to the Oscars.

Star Struck Details

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Author : Josi S. Kilpack

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From Reader Review Star Struck for online ebook

Lisa says

This book was so much fun! It totally threw me off and surprised me. I don't want to give anything away, but it ended up differently than I expected. Which is always a good thing. It was nice to not figure out an ending. Now I just really need a follow up book! Keep up the good work and I will keep up the reading! Enjoy!

NaDell says

One of Josi Kilpack's early books that I've had for awhile in my huge stack of to-read books. It was a fun story about a celebrity who asks a LDS girl who he's never met before to come with him to the Oscars where he's nominated for Best Actor. She says no which was a shock to him. It's not good for his image (since he videoed it), so he meets with her again and they make a deal that she'll go if he can handle two weeks of really hard work on her family farm in Utah. The rest of the story is full of humor and fun and also some introspection from both of them. Fun, short, clean story.

Mummy Cat Claire says

I liked the cover enough to find interest in this book. It's described as a romance. It is not. The cover needed more horses butts, then, and only then, would it have accurately represented this book.

This book is being re-released from an original title of Star Struck.

The book opens with Sam Hendricks. Super star, A+ celebrity and he is up for an Oscar. Sam is narcissistic, self centered and condescending to others. He is the best! He is THE Sam Hendricks. That is, until he meets Delilah. Sam has this spontaneous side where he chooses the lucky lady, at random, to treat to a makeover and a night on the town as his date. Sam sees Delilah in central park and he ambushes her, then she dares to refuse him...on camera.

Delilah Glenshaw is from Big Fork, Montana. A small town where her parents own a dairy farm. Delilah is working as a nanny to earn enough money for a down payment on a house after her marriage to her fiance, Lief. Lief is gone working on CDL training and is traveling the states across country. Delilah has plans for her life...enter Sam. After Sam asks her to the Oscars, Delilah's life spirals down. She loses her job because of all the paparazzi and must move back home.

Instead of sucking it up and saving face, he begs Delilah to accept him. That's when she offers a compromise (but not really). If Sam is willing to stick out working on the farm for 2 weeks, she will go to the Oscars with him.

"You come to my parents' house for two weeks and work the farm with me and my family. Take time to learn about my world - the world that doesn't get made into movies. If you can stick it out for two weeks, without anyone in the media finding out about it, I'll go to the Oscars

with you."

Sam reluctantly agrees.

There are so many things I disliked about this book. Starting with this CDL certification. As far as I know, it does not require one to drive long haul trucking. There are CDL schools and once graduated the school will find a job with a long haul truck driving company. However, Kilpack did not write Lief's story like this.

While Lief is gone, Delilah and him only communicate by email. Strange. This book isn't so old that they couldn't have used a phone.

Delilah's parents are Rhett and Mary. Rhett owns the farm but doesn't "work the farm full-time". He only "helps out here and there" He is an insurance agent in town. Mary, doesn't work on the farm either. She works at the local bank as a teller. This is very strange for me. When one owns a dairy farm, one's family works on the dairy farm. Yes, you can hire additional workers but I'm going to go out on a limb and say that if someone owned a farm, they would not get an outside job.

There are some instances where the book could have been updated with small details. For example, Sam "snapped the phone shut". There were also a dozen typos. I think these small details should have been fixed before being re-release.

Delilah only agreed to the Oscars if Sam agreed to come work on the farm. This was her way of making a point to him. "This was a lesson he would never want to repeat - she was sure of that. It was up to her to make sure it stuck to him and never washed off."

I did not enjoy the two main characters. Sam was marginal but I really disliked Delilah. She elected herself to be his educator in the ways of life. To be his moral voice. She's up on her high horse for about half the book. She goes on about how much better she is than Sam because she doesn't need money and glamour, all the while, telling him he sucks because he has those things.

I disliked Cody as Sam's assistant. His name doesn't fit his character. Sam describes him as "a good assistant... and Cody was loyal." Once Sam went off on this tangent, I saw the writing on the wall.

Sam was quite obnoxious in his own way. He thinks he is better than Delilah and others because he can act and be nominated for awards. His money has bought him several privileges like bottled water and not having to do manual labor. However, Delilah thinks she is better than Sam because she knows how to run a dairy farm and not depend on a lot of money for happiness. UGH!

"That metal thing is called a faucet. If you lift up the lever, water comes out of it. genius, right?
I meant do you have any drinking water.
Oh, You can get a glass out of the cupboard, catch some of the water in it, and drink it directly from the glass."

As much as Sam was over the top spoiled, Delilah was worse for me. If she knows what life is all about then why treat Sam so bad? Delilah was this rude and annoying from the start. She bothered me with her superiority over Sam. I felt she should have known better than to act the way she chose. I don't even drink

tap water. Nasty!

Delilah goes on to "seriously question{ed} her punishments - but how else was she supposed to teach him a lesson?" Really? Isn't she so nice to appoint herself his teacher?

This book was hard to continue to read. I wanted to put it down and forget about all of them. About half way through, Delilah becomes softer and nicer than she was. Sam calms down about the farm and find happiness in his friendship with Delilah's mom. The book improves but it really never recovers.

By the end of Sam's two weeks, both Delilah and Sam learned about family life and what it means to belong. How spending time with others and learning how we all have bad days but still move on and grow, was the point. But it took a really long time to get there and wasn't worth it.

Overall, I almost put the book down because I hated Delilah so much. Her attitude got old really fast. She expected him to learn but she wouldn't teach, show or explain. Instead, she yelled, talked down to and insulted him. Then she blames him for not doing it right. NO! just no. There are many more examples of her terrible dealings with Sam, but I chose not to list them all. It's not just Delilah though. Sam is no saint. He is so into himself that he insults others who don't agree with him or live a different lifestyle. Plus, his jealousy is annoying. The book improves, marginally, when Delilah starts to be nice. I thought there might be redeeming qualities to this book but no, don't waste your time. There is no romance here and the reader won't want any. This book wasn't for me. I can't recommend it to others.

Content: clean except for bad attitudes.

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

I have vague recollections of reading this book way back when it was first released under a different title. It's been a long time though so most of it felt pretty new to me.

If you are looking for a romance, this story may disappoint you. It's less of a romance and more of, well, I'm not sure what I would label it as. A story of a growing friendship and learning maybe.

Delilah and Sam are both flawed and have their mean moments. Of course, those were not my favorite bits, but they both were learning and figuring things out. Both Sam and Delilah have somewhat warped ideas of how the other lives and as they come to know each other better, those perceptions change and soften.

This book was good but it wasn't my favorite. It was clean though and I really appreciate that. Josi Kilpack is a fantastic writer and I've loved so many of her books- especially her more recent ones.

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

Melanie Mason says

This was a great story full of inspiration and hope for a better world, but it really wasn't a romance.

I loved the interaction between the characters and seeing how they both changed and grew, but at the same time it felt like Sam's growth was stunted until at the very end he suddenly improved and Delilah was sort of a snob until the last couple of chapters.

I was hoping for a romance that would evolve between the two, but because of Delilah's engagement nothing happened. What I do love about that is the fact that she remained faithful to her fiancé and her values and standards despite the allure of Hollywood fame.

I enjoyed the story, but it would be better set as an inspirational fiction and not a romance. Though Sam did fall for Delilah, there was no reciprocated feelings and it left me feeling a bit short changed. The story could have added another ten chapters and really delved into how the characters grew to understand each other.

I would liked to have seen more growth in Delilah. She was already a good person, but even good people need to change and grow into better people.

Overall it was a great book and I would recommend it as an inspirational novel, not a romance.

I was given a copy for an honest review.

Tressa (Wishful Endings) says

3.5 Stars

I AM DELILAH was a well-written story with a few twists and a sweet romance. The characters all had something to prove and a deal to keep under some unusual circumstances. It was an enjoyable story with a bittersweet ending.

I really liked these characters, but was also rather disappointed in them during certain parts of the story. I really liked how the author didn't gloss over anything. Sam is shown as a selfish actor who is used to being pampered and getting everything he wants when he wants it. Working on the ranch really challenged him. I wanted him to buck up a lot sooner than he did, but eventually he got there. Then there is Delilah... She is so mean to Sam with an extra dose of stubborn. I loved her parents and I was okay with her fiance.

The plot was definitely not the usual small-town-girl falls for Hollywood actor. I liked that it was different. It also was engaging the whole way through. Towards the end I could tell where things were heading and I wasn't sure if I was going to like it... It all made sense, but it was bittersweet.

In the end, was it what I wished for? I'm still not sure how I feel about this one. It was really good and honest, but the ending didn't quite turn out how I expected it would. I'm wanting a sequel so that I can find out what happens with Sam.

Content: Clean

Source: Received a complimentary copy through ebooksforreview.com, which did not affect my review in any way.

Kelly says

I did not like Sam at first! But he changed over time, so he was redeemable. Sam's assistant was also not likable but I guess we weren't really supposed to like him. Serves Sam right picking him as his assistant in his nonredeemable phase.

I liked Delilah. She lost her job as a nanny because of Sam. He made her look scandalous asking her to be his date to the Oscars. Now she will have to go home. She was working in New York to earn money before she was to be married to her fiancé. Sam, being the famous actor with money, doesn't take the "NO" Delilah gives him. So after being harassed enough, Delilah says she'll go with him if he spends 2 weeks on her family's ranch for 2 weeks with no one knowing where he will be. She doesn't think he will go for it. But Sam doesn't back down from a challenge and they go to her family's ranch. Delilah knows he won't last long as he has never had to do anything by himself.

Sam is absolutely ridiculous at the ranch and Delilah doesn't have any compassion for him. She is a little mean to him at first. She doesn't have time for someone who can't handle her world. Eventually, someone calls her on it.

Then just when she starts to have some compassion for him, the paparazzi find them. Now, everything is upside down.

I also love their names from the Bible and the story touches a little on the biblical story and it is hilarious. Sorry, it just is!

So, if you like stories of celebrities, people changing for the better, horses, hard work, milking cows, biblical story retellings, and the Oscars, then this is for you!

Kathy * Bookworm Nation says

3.5

This was a nice read, not quite what I was expecting, but still good.

Delilah is a small town girl from Montana living in New York to save up some money to help start her new life with her fiancé Lief. Her life is turned upside down with a chance encounter with Hollywood superstar Sam Hendricks.

Delilah and I didn't hit it off at first, I get her not liking the whole Hollywood scene, I don't care for it much either, but I thought she was a little over-the-top in her dislike. I kept expecting her to say no because she was engaged, not because she doesn't like the Hollywood lifestyle. It was almost an afterthought and for the media that she gave her engagement as the reason she said no. Which seemed a little off for me. Anyway, Sam and I also didn't hit it off too well at the beginning. I was looking forward to his time spent on the ranch to hopefully bring him down to earth and give him a new perspective on life. I did think his character growth was believable, he didn't do a complete 180, but definitely was taking steps in the right direction. I don't know if I can say I ended up liking Sam by the end, but I did think he was on his way to becoming a better person.

As for the romance, just based on the synopsis and the hundreds of romance novels I've read, I was going into it thinking Sam and Delilah would fall in love and live happily ever after. While I was disappointed there wasn't more romance in the book, I was glad that Sam and Delilah didn't end up together. They really were not a good match romantically, but I did like their friendship and their overall story.

Content

Romance: Squeaky clean

Language: None

Violence: None

Religious: None - Delilah is Christian and lives by those values, but nothing overly preachy

Other: Originally published as Star Struck

Source: Review copy

Julie Carpenter says

Delilah...I really liked her character. Sam...I was really hoping at the beginning to like him and guess what? I did. I wasn't quite sure what to expect from this book with the blurb that Delilah is engaged to be married and this Hollywood heartthrob, Sam, wants to take her to the Oscars. The only way Delilah will agree is if Sam comes to her family dairy farm/ranch and experience the real world and real living for two weeks. Can Sam survive for two weeks?

He was born to famous parents and has been a spoiled and well loved actor since he was young. He has been in and out of rehab and has been clean for several years and trying his best to stay that way. Sam knows he's good looking. He knows he can cause any woman to swoon at him if he smiles just right. For the fourth year in a row he is inviting some unsuspecting common woman to be his date for the Oscars. What Sam doesn't expect is Delilah. She is not your typical swoon and hang onto his every word type girl. She isn't one to be persuaded or coerced into doing or saying anything that doesn't align with her beliefs and values. So when asked by heartthrob Sam to be his date, have carte blanche to prepare for a month in advance for the Oscars all at his expense she turns him down. Sam is pretty dumbfounded. Which it was pretty humorous to read the scenes with his thoughts that he can easily persuade Delilah, all he has to do is flash a smile and say something witty and charming and she'll be putty in his hands like every other girl. Wrong!!!

Delilah was fun to watch scheme and realize that she could make Sam work for her to be his date. She didn't let him push her around and was pretty good at riling Sam up. The work at her family dairy farm was pretty intense, especially since some of the farmhands were asked to stay away for the two weeks to allow some privacy for Sam and Delilah's family. That definitely upped the work load for everyone involved.

Now there were a couple catches to the story to give us some angst and cause the reader to wonder will Delilah go to the Oscars? Will she fall head over heels with Sam? Will she stay with her fiance Lief? Will Sam learn anything from his experiences at the farm?

I loved the hidden camera scenes and yes I even loved Trisha P. What scenes are those and who is Trisha P. you ask? Well you will just have to read to find out the answers to all the questions I posed.

I really enjoyed reading I Am Delilah. I enjoyed the fact that she stayed true to herself, her beliefs and become an iconic figure in a way. I liked watching Sam come to his own realizations about life and people

and the world. I enjoyed the way that the story wrapped up and I loved the epilogue. It sort of reminded me of the book *The Actor and the Housewife* by Shannon Hale, yet it was different as well. If you've read *The Actor and the Housewife* and read this book maybe you'll agree with me and maybe you'll disagree. This book was originally published under the title *Starstruck* back in 2004/2005. It seems familiar but I couldn't say for sure if I read it then or not. I've read almost all of Josi Kilpack's first novels (although haven't reviewed or rated all of them on goodreads yet) and I must say I love her writing. This one wasn't my absolute favorite but I did enjoy it. I have a couple of hers that I haven't read waiting for me on my bookshelf that I can't wait to get to. Love her regency novels and I am excited about her upcoming releases.

The book is a clean read with some kissing and very mild talk about not having sexual relations before marriage. I would recommend it for YA and older.

I received a review copy in exchange for an honest review.

Happy Reading!!!

Mara says

I agree with the others that this isn't a true love story. The main characters do not have a romantic relationship or fall in love.

It's a story about Delilah, a girl from a small town in Montana who's working as a nanny in NYC, and Sam, a self-centered movie star, who ends up spending 2 weeks in Montana on Delilah's family's dairy farm as part of a deal he makes with Delilah. While there Sam starts to care for Delilah and her mother and father, and he becomes less self-centered and to treat others better.

Delilah seems a little too judgmental of Sam until near the end of the book. I don't consider it a romance because you find out within the first chapter that Delilah is engaged to a guy (Lief) back home in Montana. She's working as a nanny in NYC to earn money for a down payment on a house when she and Lief get married.

I really enjoyed the book even though I don't consider it a true romance novel. I received an advanced copy of this book for an honest review.

Lisa (Bookworm Lisa) says

3.5 stars

Delilah's life has been turned upside down when movie star, Sam, picks her at random ask her to be his date at the Oscars. She is a simple, home town girl. She does not have a desire to be apart of the glamour of Hollywood, even for one night.

A simple bargain is made, for Sam to save face with his public. He will spend two weeks on Delilah's family dairy farm. He will be working and cannot use it for publicity. Delilah doesn't believe Sam will be able to fulfill the bargain, leaving her free on the night of the Oscars.

This is an enjoyable book to read. I don't think I could classify it as romance. It was a book where a smart young woman stays true to herself and her values. Delilah isn't caught up in trying to look like a star, she has simple tastes and has respect for her modesty. She is also in love with a man who can give her more than a fancy house.

The life on the farm is hard but Sam is able to see a side of life that is real. The family has a genuine relationship and love. They don't need things, they see the value of each other.

I enjoyed the book. The characters are well developed. I wasn't impressed with Sam at first or his assistant Cody. Their public persona meant more than people. I liked how Sam grew and became a better person because of his experiences. Josi Kilpack did a wonderful job at showing his evolution.

The book is clean.

Katie W says

I had "Hey There Delilah" by Plain White T's running through my head as I read this book--especially the first part. Delilah is a small town girl working as a nanny in New York City. A run-in with a famous actor, Sam, changes her world and puts her in situations that she'd rather avoid. I've always wondered how I would act if I had an encounter with someone famous, as Delilah did, and I loved how she really puts Sam in his place and treats him like she would any other person--or maybe a little harsher.

I love the way that Delilah treats Sam. She won't put up with any excuses or bologna and he gradually, and grudgingly, accepts his fate and learns to work through it and accept it. They are both great, yet vastly different, characters. Delilah's fiancé plays a fun and fair role in this story and he's a very stalwart and admirable man.

By sticking to her values and not straying from how she was raised, Delilah becomes a phenomenon and example. Too often, it seems that people conform to be what they think others want them to be and I loved this moral of the story--just be yourself and treat others with kindness and respect. Great lessons, humor, and entertaining times are abundant in this book. Although I liked the ending, it's not your typical romance. This is a good read for those who enjoy some good, clean fun.

Content: mild romance. Clean!

I received a copy in exchange for an honest review

Heidi Robbins (Heidi Reads...) says

This was an interesting book that did not follow what you would expect from a romance novel. It was refreshing that it was not predictable or formulaic, but I did miss the main characters falling in love. Rather,

Delilah and Sam inadvertently help each other reconsider their views and perceptions of the other's lifestyle. I would say Sam did the most growing during his time on Delilah's farm (which he really needed) although Delilah also learned to be a little more compassionate. I admired Delilah's standards and that she was an example of staying true to her values.

(Thank you to Ebooks For Review for a copy of the book in exchange for my honest review)

Laura says

This is a sweet story about being true to one's self despite what others expect. Delilah gets asked to go to the Oscars with Hollywood's heartthrob. She turns him down flat. The chaos that ensues is enough to change her life. Samson is Hollywood's golden boy and can't believe it when Delilah says no. Willing to do anything to change her mind, he steps into her world for two weeks.

Delilah is somewhat mean to Sam. She doesn't realize that what is everyday life to her is really not common place. Sam was raised with few values & finds a whole new world with Delilah's family.

I originally read this when it was released more than a decade ago. It is a sweet and easy read, but definitely young adult. I think my teens would enjoy it more than I did at this point in my life.

B. D. Mann says

(Spoiler Alert) I have seldom read such a different kind of romance. Most authors tend to use boilerplate plot lines and identify the male and female lead characters early on in the story. Then, still using additional boilerplate language and plot shifts, they lead the reader on a journey that culminates in an HEA ending for the pair. To my recollection, I have never before read a story where the leading man and woman do NOT find their HEA as a couple. This is not just a clean romance that keeps sex out of the text. It is a romance that glorifies high moral standards, modesty in dress, and staying true to your word, even in the presence of intense pressure to do otherwise. The cast of characters is relatively small, and each one is depicted as a real human being with flaws and failings, some more than others. I recommend this fun, clean romance to all my friends.
