



Waiting to Lose

Dawn L. Chiletz

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What happens when you win a love you don't think you deserve?

Long distance relationships are tough and there are two sides to every story. No one knows that better than Jake Morgan and Madi Ryan. It's not just about falling in love; it's about staying together when everything in the world wants to tear you apart.

When Madi's attacker is released on bail, Jake decides he'll do everything in his power to protect the woman he loves, even if that means keeping secrets. Strange emails and photos appear on Madi's computer, warning her that Jake is not what he seems. Madi's faith in him begins to waver, especially when Jake becomes linked to beautiful actress, Allison Gregory. Although he promises there is nothing between them, outside forces push Madi's trust in him to the breaking point.

Jake is willing to move heaven and earth to prove to Madi just how much she means to him. But when everything in their lives comes crashing down, will Madi be able to trust her heart or will she lose the only man she's ever really loved?

Can two people stay together when one of them is always waiting to lose?

Waiting to Lose Details

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From Reader Review Waiting to Lose for online ebook

Donna ~ The Romance Cover says

The Contest (The Contest #1)

Waiting to Lose (The Contest #2) by Dawn L Chiletz

3.5 stars and 4 stars!!!

“She walked into his life in a contest and now he had to compete with his heart and his head to keep her away.”

So, I can now say I have read every single Dawn L Chiletz book, I started with The Fabulist, then read Confessions of a Carpool Captive and have worked backwards to this authors debut books, The Contest and its sequel, Waiting to Lose.

“You’re my steak, too.”

One thing that was abundantly clear while reading these two books is that Dawn L Chiletz’s writing has improved significantly in her later releases, but the trademark voice that I fell in love with though is ever present in this series. The Contest in particular actually screamed debut in so far as there was a lot of superfluous content and I felt that it could have been edited and trimmed a little further. But, I didn’t really care or mind because I had got so involved with this story and the characters that their day to day shenanigans became entertaining and enjoyable to read.

“With you, there are corners and edges that don’t seem to fit together. Your pieces are worn and twisted by time and hands that thought them to be damaged beyond repair. But I can see that’s not true. You just need the right hands and the right amount of patience to put the picture back in place. I’m not giving up. Solving your puzzle is the key to your heart. You should know that I plan on finding every piece until I put your broken heart back together.”

Madi is an A star student who works hard, studies harder and wants to succeed. Madi not only studies the human psyche she can read people too...like a book and this has led to many a potential relationship being over before it has even begun. Her opinion on the opposite sex isn’t fantastic but she is not closed off to the idea of romance either, she just hasn’t met anyone she has connected with or trusts. Madi though was adorable with a capital A, she is super cute, honest and has a fantastic sense of humour, her work ethic is fantastic and everyone loves her.

“With that he had given her his soul.”

Madi has a best friend called Kendra and Kendra spots a contest to spend the weekend with the one and only Jake Morgan. Jake Morgan is in a band that these two girls idolise and so Kendra enters her...and she wins.

“Jake has been amazing to me. He’s kind, thoughtful, compassionate, sincere, appreciative and humble. I’ve never met anyone like him and I’m sure I never will again.”

Jake Morgan was a sweet as Madi, he was adorable and this is why it was easy to become engrossed in their story. Jake is a workaholic though, he lives, eats and breathes music and has very little time for anything else, hence the no girlfriend...even if he does find one, they up and leave because no one wants to be second best. I loved the people that Jake surrounded himself with (bar one), this group of characters were a family united in their music not blood but the loyalty to each other was admirable and inspiring.

“I read somewhere that you shouldn’t be afraid to change because even though you may have lost something that was good, you may have gained something even better.”

So Madi meets Jake, Jake meets Madi and the rest is history, but boy does Dawn L Chiletz make you wait for the inevitable. The push and pull at times was as frustrating as hell, but totally understandable as these two navigate foreign waters to both of them. Madi is still in college, Jake is a successful rock star, one lives in Chicago, one in LA...it may as well have been the other side of the world. On paper, these two had nothing in common, total opposites, chalk and cheese and yet together...they just worked. Madi brought out the best in Jake and Jake gave Madi that confidence and belief that she was lacking.

“Doubt is like a disease. It creeps into your blood when you least expect it and feeds off the darkness inside you, causing you to bleed inwardly and crushing all reason.”

The path of true love never runs smooth especially when played out in the public eye and these two have a lot of hurdles to jump, speed bumps to navigate and curve balls to dodge. It seems love wants to test them and boy does it do just that.

“You have so much to give. I hope you find it someday. I love you, Jake, and I always will. You are free.”

While this read is sweet and swoony it was a little predictable, but the way the author delivered it made it just as entertaining. The connection that I had to the characters was on point and even I shed a few tears as these two find their feet. The banter and dialogue was fantastic and as ever Dawn L Chiletz's ever present humour was never too far away. The relationship between Madi and Kendra was beautiful and their interactions brought me to tears of laughter many times. Friendships like these are to be treasured and Dawn L Chiletz certainly brought these characters to life.

“You mean his chopstick touched food that your chopstick touched? It's liked you swapped spit. He might as well have kissed you.”

I adored this duet, inhaled it in one and a half days and couldn't put it down. It totally threw off my reading schedule but was well worth the time spent. While it does have some great plot twists that certainly got my blood pumping in ire on the whole this was a cute romance and one that was a joy to read. Loved it.

www.theromancecover.com

Kristin says

This book gave me more anxiety than the first one. There was a lot of back and forth and conflict that was beginning to be too much. I found the main character more annoying in this one as she was more insecure and doubted herself, but in the first one she was more confident and that is what made Jake fall in love with her.

Good followup to the first series. I would really like to see a book on Kendra and Rob's story though :)

Small Adventures, Full Hearts says

This was the perfect conclusion to The Contest Book 1. OMG..This book had my heart pounding. I am so shocked and floored by what happened. This book had a lot more twist and turns than book one. It was a lot more SEXY!! This book left me breathless a lot.

Jake and Madi's relationship in this book is tested big time. Their relationship was hit hard. I was fighting for them the whole time. They are perfect together. Their bond, their love, it was incredible.

You know how Jake was SOB in the first half of the last book...Well ladies he is damn near perfect in this book...Swoon..

This book was so much more than I thought it would be. It was so addicting. I could not stop reading it. There were twist and turns and I loved how it completely answered all my questions and gave me a complete vision of the after life. The book did not leave me questioning. I loved it!! And that ending.. it was AMAZING!

I also loved Ken and navy boy, or whatever ridiculous name she made up for him. They were so funny. I could totally read a book on just them.

This book was awesome. Now I know why people loved it so much. Definitely a must read series!

Alicia at Mean Girls Luv Books says

3.5 Stars

Waiting to Lose is a great follow up to The Contest. It picks up right where book 1 left off, so be aware that you have to read it. These are not stand alone books. If you have not read The Contest, stop reading this review. It does contain slight spoilers.

In this book, Madi and Jake are together and going the long distance thing. He is still on tour and she is back to school. Their relationship is still a secret to the public to protect Madi's privacy. However, the tabloids have matched him up with an actress and someone is emailing Madi fake pictures to try to break them up. This isn't the only test that Madi and Jake go through. They are still dealing with the tragic event and the ripples of it that took place in book one.

I again enjoyed the dynamic between Jake and Madi. They are just really fun characters. The author did a great job creating realistic, relatable characters. The only character I didn't enjoy as much in this book as I did previously is Madi's best friend, Kendra. Honestly, I found her to be a bitch. After her past was revealed a bit and how she is a bit damaged, i still could not like her. She just rubbed me wrong in this book.

Kendra aside, I totally recommend this series. It's light, fun, flirty, and perfect for a lazy reading day.

Mel says

Dawn has quickly moved to the top of my TBR author list. I adore all her books! Some of the commentary was big too love-dovey, but overall, I freaking loved this book! Madi and Jake's story is so full of emotion, ups and downs, love and forgiveness. Highly recommend!

Nerdy Dirty & Flirty says

Even better than the first!

I already liked Madi and Jake so it didn't take much to push me into serious crush mode!

This follow up novel hit the spot as Madi Ryan and Jake Morgan's journey continued. Their relationship had already faced some challenges but they loved each other and were determined to make it work. Jake was a musician though and much of his life was on the road. Trust is difficult in the best of circumstances and with distance, and disturbing threats looming over them; their new relationship will be pushed to its limit.

"The beautiful girl in front of me walked into my life as part of a contest. She found a broken, damaged man and put his pieces back together with her smile, her feistiness, her humor, and her boundless compassion and

understanding.”

I love this author’s writing style and this debut series has been a treat to read. The characters are real, never perfect, but always trying to do better for themselves and each other. The love between Madi and Jake is sweet, snarky and sexy – an incredible combination. This author is on my instant TBR list – can’t wait for more.

~Diane

ByoBook Club says

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~Diane

Jackie says

“Because once I let myself feel the way I feel for you, everything became clear.” This book is part 2 of The Contest, where you take a peek into the lives of Jake and Madi. Ugh, I really wanted to love this book more but I couldn’t. There were still spelling errors and there were moments where I just didn’t want to read anymore BUT there were good moments too. This book just felt a lot longer to me than it actually was (5-6 days on one book for me is RARE). A nice enough read, I was committed to their story so I had to complete it.

Beth says

4.25 No More Waiting Stars

Waiting sucks. Remember Christmas Eve when you were a kid....that waiting for sleep to come so you could hurry up and wake up. Or waiting for that cute boy to notice you. Or the next book in the series to come out. Yeah....waiting sucks. This is worth the wait.

Warning: This is the second in The Contest Series. You could read it as a stand alone, but it makes more sense to read them in order.

Madi met the sexy rock star Jake by winning a contest (Book 1). They fell in love or at least they thought they did. Now reality sets in. They have lives on two different sides of the continent. He lives the rock and roll travel the world tour life. She is a college student who wants to make it on her own. She knows he could have anyone he wants. Why does he want her?

Doubt is a disease.

Jake has many distractions but Madi is his reason to focus. With her he has found what he was missing.

Someday, I'm going to date the shit out of you.

There are still so many reasons why they don't work. Won't work. Can't work. He puts her in danger. She can't trust his words when she sees pictures that tell a different story. {Side Bar - if you are dating a rock star, do NOT google him} When Madi is left alone with her thoughts, her doubts, the results are not good.

She never realized it before, but silence was deafening When no other sounds can be heard but the beating of your heart, you're forced into hearing what it's trying to tell you. Sometimes those beats can be louder than any words ever spoken and mean so much more.

There are great side characters here. I loved Kendra and Rob. And hated Allison. Don't turn your back on her. There are Halloween costumes that get you in trouble, late night phone calls, mysterious emails, sexy bodyguards, Thanksgiving dinners, and sneaking around dorms.

I liked the first in the series, Ms Chiletz debut novel. But in this one she takes her writing up more than a notch. The story flows, the characters pop and you do not want to stop reading. Waiting to Lose is equal parts funny, suspenseful, protective and just the right touch of sexy. Don't wait.

Christine says

I really enjoyed the continuation of Jake and Maddie's story. It's sweet, a little angsty, and even has a little mystery to it. I absolutely loved the epilogue

Jennifer Dale says

I am bummed that this book didn't live up to the first book. :(Excited that it is finally over.

Overall Positive: nothing much. I did complete the story; where as, sometimes when I am at a certain point of dislike, I will just stop. So I guess you could say, I never got to that point. But Unfortunatley, I was very

close and skimmed a page here and there. I was actually glad when I looked down and saw that i was FINALLY at 95%.

Overall Negative: Everything....

** Most importantly, the lack of humor and banter. That is one of the emotions that made me love the first book. You rarely/if not at all see that emotion in this book.

Way too much -!-! of Madie's questioning on Jake's faith and love for her. In all honesty, it is understandable around the 20% mark, but after that whole scene... Nothing much happened for the trust to falter.

She continued to question.. He continues to show her love and warmth. I honestly don't see what Jake saw in Madi either. She FINALLY trusted him without a doubt at the 97% mark. Which means and you can count on, the repetitive questioning throughout the book.

**Around the 20% mark, something happens...When that one incident happens, you already know what is going on and who the culprit was. That wasn't even predictable. That was just given knowledge without being blunt. Sure wish the author had put a twist on it and led us to believe one thing when actually something/someone else happened. Most of the story is based on several incidents but they all tied together. To me these incidents were interesting but unfortunately Madie's lack of confidence and trust overshadowed it.

**Have i mentioned the lack of humor? Ugh.

**Some reviewers mentioned that the epilogue was nice. I just thought it was an extension of the book when i wished it was already over. It basically let us have a glimpse of what their future was like.

**To me this book was an epic fail. BUT i am definitely a minority... So i must not know what i am saying.

I recommend the first book but it leaves you with a cliffy... and I don't recommend the 2nd book. The choice is yours ;)

Zeia Jameson says

So you read The Contest and you want to know what happens next? It gets crazier! And awesome-er!

Waiting to Lose IS SO GOOD!

Here's what we've got:

Sexy time? Check.

Hilarity? Check.

Suspense? Check.

The feels? Check times a million!

This was probably one of the best #2 in a series I've read! The depth of the story was kicked up a notch and the plot got cranked up to 11!

Madi and Jake thought they had it figured out, but they both soon realize that neither of them thinks they really deserve each other, or that it would be best if they weren't together. Some people close to them are rooting for them and some people, to their surprise, are going to lengths to keep them apart. So, how do they decide on the right thing to do?

Protection is a strong theme in this book. But who needs protecting? And from whom? You'll have to crack open the pages to find out.

You are not going to want to miss out on this sequel. There are twists and turns that broadsided me before I even really knew what was going on that made me want to know the end that much more! Plus, there are some additions to the cast that make the dynamic of the Jake & Madi team so much more entertaining!

Read it. You won't regret it.

Mandy says

A million stars!!!

This. Was. SO GOOD!! LOVED IT! I really loved The Contest, and Dawn has out done herself with this sequel! Perfect! Jake is Fantastic! And Madi is SO freakin awesome! I loved it!

Rene says

I didn't think it was possible for me to love this one more than the first book, but holy cow did I! FAN-FREAKING-TASTIC!!! The Contest was so sweet and adorable. Waiting to Lose is also sweet and adorable but with some mystery, drama, ALOT of holy crap moments and still a ton of awwwww moments. Once again, I wanted to crawl inside the book and be a part of it. I absolutely LOVED it!!

Liz says

Continuation of Jake and Madi's story. This fellow is quite dramatic -- he's worried, he's romantic and he's so in love with Madi that it's annoying to read about.

There's a good deal of drama -- people going after Jake for various things -- and this tests their relationship.

We learn more about Kendra, who is interesting, and needs her own story.
