



Against the Wind

Anne Stuart

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Puente del Norte -- the last place on earth Maddy Lambert had expected to find herself. Yet here she was in the middle of Central America in an embattled guerrilla camp on a mission impossible. She'd come to get her dying father, whose ideals had carried him far from home and won him the title of El Patron -- the Saint. She'd crossed a country at war only to be told that he didn't recognize her as his daughter... to find him guarded by the infamous Jake Murphy -- the man who'd stolen her girlish heart and still had the power to stir her deepest passions. Maddy, the rescuer, found herself in deadly danger. On Jake's orders she'd been taken prisoner. And as the air around her rang with intrigue and gunfire, she had little time to learn who was friend or foe, who the enemy was, and who the love was that she'd crossed a continent to find.

Against the Wind Details

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Author : Anne Stuart

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From Reader Review Against the Wind for online ebook

Shawn Fox says

This is one of my favorite authors..... Not my favorite book. Felt short and came together way too easily.

Applefruit says

This is a good book, well worth the read if you're an Anne Stuart fan. It isn't my favorite book, however, not by a long shot. Maddy got on my nerves a bit, and Jake really caused her to suffer a lot. Finally, there was too much political side story for my taste.

Missmeanie says

Kindle Unlimited

This novel is one of Anne's earlier I'm assuming due to the story timeline and way of writing. The start was interesting enough but then all the betrayals and drama came out etc then it was just confusing. still a good read to pass the time. It's free under KU so nothing to lose but time.

MBR says

So, I seem to be making my way slowly through the back-list of books published by the one and only Anne Stuart. The one thing that you can always count on with Anne Stuart; she delivers a story that will keep you engrossed, even if it is a book you want to throw against the wall towards the end.

30 year old Maddy Lambert makes her way to the war-torn country of San Pablo to meet her father who had upped and left one day with his idealistic view of the world when Maddy had been just 17 years old. Maddy had been heartbroken and devastated to say the least to lose the one person who had been distant but the only parent who had let her be unlike her mother who had seen each and every thing about Maddy as a way to pick on her. Needless to say, the 17 year old Maddy had been shy and an introvert who finds in the war-hardened soldier turned CIA official John Thomas Murphy a soul that reaches out to her and soothes her woes away. But John too turns his back on her and leaves with her father and Maddy believes herself to be well and cured of her infatuation for a man whose one haunting kiss that had practically reeked of his hunger for her still haunts her.

Maddy arrives after a bone jarring journey only to find that no one believes that she is the daughter of Samuel Eddison Lambert, not even John himself who has turned into a much more dangerous and wilder version of the man she remembers. And Maddy finds that she is as susceptible as ever when it comes to John, even when he does his best to keep her at arm's length, and even John himself cannot deny the connection that he feels with Maddy, the woman who has been haunting his dreams for the past 14 years.

Amidst half truths, trickery and a whole lot of manipulation that Anne Stuart is so very good at delivering, Maddy and John stumble from one emotionally and sexually charged scene to the next, while at all times danger is just one step away lurking behind the shadows, something that continues to drive them apart until towards the very end of the book.

For the first time ever, I have to say I am disappointed in a book that Anne Stuart has written. I liked the heroine Maddy and her courage when it comes to facing each and everyone who has hurt her and failed her in so many ways. Her vindictive mother whom I would have loved to slap a few times and her father who feels nothing for his only daughter and intends to make use of her to drive across his point even from beyond the grave, and John who in my opinion fails her in the most heartbreaking way.

John might be the least “gamma” hero that I have encountered from all the Anne Stuart books I have read so far. His emotions regarding Maddy comes across a bit more clearly throughout the story, but he is every bit as ruthless when it comes to making use of Maddy even though he keeps her out of harms way and would rather die than have something happen to her. But time and yet again, John puts everything else above Maddy’s happiness, continues to keep leaving her to face his demons and fight the wars that has nothing to do with him but he feels responsible for, and yet expects Maddy to trust him and the way he feels about her.

I wanted Maddy to wake up, grow a backbone and leave John to his life, a life that he makes room for Maddy only when he is good and ready. I am all for ruthlessness, manipulations and even behavior that some readers might not be willing to forgive. But I need to know that when it comes to that vital point of no return, the hero would always choose the heroine no matter what. Sadly, I didn’t feel that with this book.

Recommended for hardcore fans of Anne Stuart like myself who wants to devour her books and cannot get enough of them, no matter how many books by hers you read.

Rating=3.5/5

Original review posted on MBR's Realm of Romance

Quote(s) included below!

Teri Heyer says

I love reading books by Anne Stuart. I know the hero will be a to-die-for hunk who is a bit rough around the edges. I love those Alpha Males. Well, 'Against the Wind' was every bit as good as expected. If you love romantic suspense then this is a must read.

Carolyn Crane says

It was so funny to read an Anne Stuart written so early (the hero was a Vietnam vet!) But this is one of her recent reissues, and I just so love her. Most of the action takes place in a fictional war-torn Central American country. which is beautifully and vividly rendered, and the characters just pop - there is this minor character, Soledad, who I just loved.

While it's masterful in so many Anne Stuart ways, there is something disjointed about the central plot, like it's in two halves, kind of, and the first half is fabulous but the second feels illogical in parts. Still, this was a fabulous read, and I love seeing the evolution of her dark heroes. Jake, the hero here. feels like an early version of them; he is dark for a while, but she pulled back on him and let him be light, then he turned dark again in the second half, then light. It was almost as if she was testing the waters.

omg, I am kind of glad to have it off the top spot on my kindle, though because the song Against the Wind gets running through my mind every times I see this title!!

Michele Mannon says

I love Anne Stuart and was excited to see some of her earlier releases on Amazon. I just began "Against the Wind", a romantic suspense. Odd title but the content is as expected . . . excellent! No one writes bad boys like Stuart, and this one is the heroine's former crush. Keep you posted.

Alex is The Romance Fox says

Another earlier book by one of my favorite romantic suspense writers and though I enjoyed it, it was not one of my favorites of hers.

The plot was interesting and intriguing set in some fictional South American country...where the bad guys are involved in drugs and kill off the innocent poor!!!! But the storyline does have a unique premise, which I really liked.

I wasn't crazy about the hero, Jake. He was really a bastard at times towards Maddy, the heroine. The one character who did it for me was Soledad...she had the best lines...just adored her take on becoming a step grandmother!!!!

Mystery, action, romance, suspense, twists and turns, bad guys, good guysexactly what I get from this author's books.

If you're a fan of Anne Stuart you will enjoy this.

Pat says

A very good story filled with mystery, adventure and suspense. So many twists and turns, it was sometimes hard to tell if the characters were on the side of the revolution or the government. If you like action, read this book

Confessions of A Bibliophile says

Oh my god, this book made me soooo mad. Fucking Jake Murphy. Fucking Samuel Lambert. FUCKING SOLEDAD. Who I hated even at the end. Maddy made me mad, too.

But it's Anne Stuart, and her books are like crack. And you can't just stop reading even when you're furious. And here I am at 3 in the morning angry at the characters in this book and not sleepy at all.

I need to pick other kinds of books to read before I sleep. Anne Stuart's books always seem to cause a visceral reaction within me, more so than other books I read.

This review explains nothing about this story, sorry.

Stacey says

I was thrilled to discover this oldie but goodie on Amazon. Anne Stuart has an amazing ability to create sexy alpha males that are total assholes on the outside yet so damn vulnerable beneath the surface. It does me in every time. Every.Single.Time. I never fall for a character harder than I do for her men. They are quiet and deadly and I freaking LOVE them. Jack Murphy in *Against the Wind* is no exception. As for Maddy, she's not going to win the World's Best Heroine award anytime soon, but I liked her.

As usual for an Anne Stuart book there are some questions left unanswered, some events not explained in an in-depth manner. In other words, it's not perfect. Her books never are. But honestly, I don't care. At the end of the day I appreciate it for what it is: a no-nonsense approach to romance. No frills. No fluff. No dialogue dripping with sap. Actions speak louder than words. And the most important part of all--the chemistry between the H/h--doesn't fail to deliver. The tension is always bursting at the seams, and for me, that is really the main reason I read these kinds of books anyway. Have I mentioned I love vulnerable bad boys? ;-)

This was a story about reconnecting and second chances, which is one of my absolute favorite themes. It reminded me a bit of *Moonrise*.

Laylah says

Granted the heroine has some backbone, the story is a lot rough around the edges. What makes the book (and any other Stuart's book) is the ardent chemistry between the leads. You can't read her book without imagining being the receiving end of that kind of passion just once.

Angela says

3 April 2014: \$0.00 FREE on Kindle

SmittenKitten says

Against the Wind hits all the check boxes for a typical Anne Stuart romance:

- An unusual plot
 - A mature heroine, typically in her early 30s.
 - A bad-boy Hero whose morality and innocence is dubious.
 - A hero who is occasionally verbally mean/cruel to the heroine.
 - A hero who is described at some point as being lean, having long fingers or nice hands... seriously, Anne Stuart has a thing for a man's hands.
 - Flashbacks between the hero/heroine- usually the best part!
 - Rushed, strange, or OTT ending
-

Lord Rose says

Reading old contemporary books always gives me an odd feeling. Considering that this book is older than I am, in a way it almost felt like reading historical fiction. (I suppose in the same way that reading Jane Austen is considered reading historical fiction, even though it was contemporary for her.)

Anyway, I enjoyed reading this book. Anne Stuart's heroes make me happy. (Okay, that sentence looks very odd, but whatever.)
