

Gwen Hayes CLASSIC ROMANCE WITH A FRESH NEW TWIST

# Mr. Virile and the Girl Next Door

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Online virile.com dating columnist Dane Martin has no plans to give up his reign as bachelor extraordinaire. He has a reputation to uphold, especially with the upcoming release of his book Coming on Strong.

Holly Winters, everyone's favorite girl next door, thanks to her blog of the same name, gives advice, but she doesn't always take it. When she meets Dane Martin, every fiber of her being warns her to turn tail and run. Instead, she risks her future as an authority on relationships, jeopardizing her upcoming self-help book for women struggling to find commitment among the Virile sycophants.

Has the Girl Next Door tamed the most Virile man alive, or is she just another notch on the bedpost?

#### Mr. Virile and the Girl Next Door Details

Date : Published January 13th 2014 by Entangled: Indulgence

ISBN: 9781622664542 Author: Gwen Hayes Format: ebook 60 pages

Genre: Romance, Contemporary, Novella, Contemporary Romance, Adult, Adult Fiction, Erotica, Fiction

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# From Reader Review Mr. Virile and the Girl Next Door for online ebook

#### Amira says

This was a pretty good read. Though a novella It felt complete. When it first started I thought I would have hated Mr. Virile. He compared dating women to hunting! LOL...but man did I fall in love with him. Sweet, charming and a really cool guy underneath all that Mr. Cool rake. Holly herself was a lovely character, and very likable. What I loved the most was the premise of two rival dating bloggers getting together. It was sweet, endearing and a fun journey watching them fall for each other.

#### **Babel says**

A romantic and thoroughly sexy novella that I love, love, love.

Dane is notoriously famous for his advice to men as to how to win women over. He's even got a book deal out of it. All he wants from life is success and a long line of women to enjoy. Until by a weird twist he is confronted by his rival on the realm of virtual advice. Holly is the romantic type who despises his manufactured persona and his worldly, but heartless philosophy in relationships. She's not even his type, so short and natural and witty.

However, they agree to spend a few weeks appearing together in public as a publicity stunt. The inevitable spark gets ignited, but their hearts are entangled in different places.

What I loved the most about this novella is how cool and sexy Dane is but how quickly he is unraveled by Holly's smart personality. Of course, Holly has to fight her instincts so as not to fall into the trap of his sexiness herself. Still, she manages really well. Until she doesn't. There are several, incredibly exciting moments of intimacy between the main characters. It is also touching when Dane shows his memories of hurt, why he has become who he is. Holly wants more than a quick romp in the hay but she's willing to let both of them free. She makes a bet in the end that was as tough to bear for me as for them.

I want to quote a couple of lines that really did it for me:

"How do you know you're in love?"

"Because you want to slay all her dragons"

Oh, so sweet!

In conclusion, this novella is about raw, intense sex scenes mingled with a quirky and provoking premise, a perfectly ill-matched couple and a dream-come-true love story. In a nutshell, a challenge of wit and passion.

## **Tory Michaels says**

How is it Entangled keeps getting all the good stuff? I can think off maybe 3 or 4 books ever from Entangled that I've not liked. Mr. Virile is definitely not one of them. This novella is fantastic, with humor and real-life sprinkled all together.

I adored Girl Next Door Holly, who respects herself (and sex in general) enough that as one of her standing rules, she doesn't have sex until at least the 7th date, and she promotes that rule (and offers tons of dating advice) on her Girl Next Door blog. And, as she points out to Dane, there's no guarantee of sex on date

7...it's just a general guideline. She's not carrying around a lot of guilty/self-loathing baggage, which is refreshing. She didn't have a traumatic childhood or anything. Very nice indeed.

Dane – ahhh, Dane. Definitely a rake in need of some adjustment. Don't get me wrong, he's certain he's right about getting sex and hitting on women and has a great blog to prove it (along with a being released soon book, hence his push to keep up his Mr. Virile label). He's got a reason for the way he is, and I adored how Ms. Hayes let Dane mature over the course of the novella, including facing down his past issue.

These two are brought together by their scheming agents, which are themselves a bit of an interesting story (hopefully we'll get to see a novel/novella with the agents as the hero/heroine), as part of a bet. The two decide to go with it for good publicity. Dane of course wants Holly in bed (growing more attracted to her than his initial meh, okay reaction to her physically), and Holly thinks Dane's hot but too aware of it and is the antithesis of what she preaches on her blog.

The push and play of these two (not to mention the SIZZLING hot tension pre-sex and uber-yummy actual-sex) is fun to watch and I was cheering for them all the way. Definitely worth the read and at 67 pages, not a massive time investment. Absolute 5-star, give-me-more, wonderful novella.

Book provided by NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

# Lynn Reynolds says

Rating: 4 1/2 stars

I received a copy of this book from the publisher and the author in exchange for an honest review. I was not compensated in any way.

Each chapter starts off with a question to an online advice columnist and then the person's response.

Dane Martin is at a bar that seems to draw the hottest women – his words. He's a man that's very observant. Then you find out what his profession is and you will go "Ah!" I was very surprised when I found out how old he was – you know the saying; "you can't judge a book by its cover".

Holly Winters ends up at the same bar and then we see what they have in common. She has him pegged – and I loved her realization. She's an outspoken woman and had me wishing I were more like that. Our author shows how we women can reform men and how they think of us. So if you have the hots for a guy, you may just pick up a few pointers that you can use.

I'm sure Gwen didn't plan on it that way but some things just seemed to make sense. It made me wonder about the amount of time she spent on her research – did she go to the newspapers for advice columnists or did she look online? Whose character was harder to write – Dane or Holly?

Gwen had me hooked at our couple's first conversation – it had me smiling. She had me wanting to go out on the 'net and see if Dan and Holly's blogs actually exist. I happened to read this book on a cold, rainy, winter day and it couldn't have been more perfect – on a day like that you just want to cuddle up and read. And I couldn't have picked a better book. She knows just the right time to turn up the heat.

This is a book about feelings and as you read Gwen's story, you can't help but feel the Mars and Venus

tension going on. You'll also see that there's some innuendo going on – so make sure you pay attention so you don't miss it. As I was getting to the end of this book, "Mind of/a Man" was on GSN – you will have to check it out. It's interesting how sometimes everything just seems to fall into place as you're reading and this was one of those cases.

My biggest disappointment was when the end came and I wasn't ready for it. Our author just had me wanting more. But what's great about novellas and imagination, you can continue the story and give it your own ending. I went to Gwen's web site but couldn't see what she has in store for her readers next. That just means that we will have to be patient. But in the meantime, I hope you will add this book to your reading list.

#### **Trish says**

ARC provided by NetGalley.

Mr. Virile is the sexy, suave, Dane Martin, who knows how to pleasure a woman. He loves women. He loves sex. But he doesn't do relationships. He knows how to read women. He knows how to charm the panties off of them...literally. And he does it with unerringly accuracy. In fact, Dane helps his fellow man by giving them advice with his blog.

The Girl Next Door is the cute and snarky Holly Winters. She is looking for that perfect relationship. And she won't settle for meaningless sex. She has rules, morals, and an advice blog helping other women who are out there searching for their Mr. Right.

Completely unaware, Dane and Holly are set up by their agents. They have their own agenda. (and hopefully, their own story???) Both Dane and Holly agree to "date" to help promote their blogs and book deals.

But feelings are slowly changing during the faux dates. Dane wants Holly, true. But he starts to want something more than just sex.

And Holly wants it all...but is afraid that Mr. Virile is just after one thing.

Gwen has penned a charming, humorous, yet, short tale of two people who discover that sex with someone you care about changes everything. It is often predictable, but well written and has engaging characters.

This was my first time reading Gwen Hayes, but it certainly won't be my last.

## **DelAnne Frazee says**

Title: Mr. Virile and the Girl Next Door

Author: Gwen Hayes

Publisher: Entangled Indulgence

Published: 1-13-2013

ISBN: 978-1-62266-454-2 E-Book ASIN: B00HFUAP8K

Pages: 67

Genre: Contemporary Romance

Tags: series

Sensual Level: Explicit Overall Rating: Very Good

Dane Martin, an online relationship Guru for men. came to the bar to Meet with his agent in regards to the release of his upcoming book. Yet she acts a little furtive and then suddenly calls a couple that just enters the door. After introducing Holly Winters and her agent she acts surprised that she and her co-worker forgot an office meeting they needed and the two leave. Not need a brick to hit either of them in the head both know they have been set up. The question is why? It does not take long for Dane to Find out that Holly is the blogger of The Girl Next Door, which according to Holly is the antithesis of his blog. And that she too has a book coming out soon. She advises women on how to find a man ready for a permanent commitment, to dump the players and what signs to look for when dating someone and can not get him to commit.

Unfortunately, a gossip columnist spots them and writes how the two were seen holding hands and questions, has the the girl next door managed to take the ultimate virile man off the market or is he just looking to add another notch to his bed post? Either way it is not good for either of them. There agents, after admitting each set their client up for a blind date, although think that in order to do damage control, Holly and Dane need to date more then have the relationship fizzle out slowly. That way both seem to have given it a chance and did not play the other.

Then they find that perhaps the other is not as bad as they thought. Is the staged romance perhaps turning into a real one? This is a short novella that explores the relationship of men and women. Is he Mr. Right or Mr. Right Now? As each of the characters learns more about the other and you find that no one is as they first appear, but rather their are layers you need to go through to find the true person. You just might pass by your one and only by just seeing only the surface. Fun, light, light and humorous. You will definitely enjoy Mr. Virile and the Girl Next Door. What a way to spend an afternoon laughing at the antics of literary characters and perhaps wishing you could trade places with them.

#### Sara Strand says

Can I just come right out and say I loved these characters? I really liked Holly, mostly because I could really identify with her. She's smart, she's pretty but not in a "in your face" kind of way, and she's sarcastic. She also sometimes wrongly assumes the worst in guys. She's very much of the assumption that all guys want is to basically get in your pants and anyone worth your time will not be found in places like bars. Which, is true. I don't care what anyone says, I don't think you are going to meet your soul mate or whatever in a bar. Call me old fashioned, but no.

Then we have Dane, who we find out was not the beloved jock in high school but rather the really unattractive nerd that nobody can two glances at. He is always on the prowl and doesn't really believe

commitment is something he's meant for.

Enter in a really awkward blind date neither of them knew about until right then.

Then enter really awkward forced "dating" to drum up publicity for both of their upcoming books.

Which is really an odd way to start a relationship, but slowly they discover they not only have quite a bit in common but they also enjoy time with one another. She is falling for Dane, but she knows she'd just be a name on the list. Except that Dane is unknowingly falling for her and can't quite reconcile that with what he believes to be true about relationships.

Overall? I really liked this book. It was a fun read, it was fast, I laughed a few times, and I enjoyed reading to see where their relationship went. The bit about the tornadoes was a bit much for me, considering Holly (in her mind) remembers why she's afraid of tornadoes, but never shares that with Dane. I don't know if that was intentional or if the author let that bit fall to the wayside? It felt like an incomplete section of the book but other than that? Pretty solid little romance novel. I think you'll like it if you aren't into devoting an entire weekend to a book- you can finish this one up easily in an afternoon.

#### J says

4.5 stars. Really good short story (novella) about the relationship that develops between a male blogger and author who writes for men telling them how to get in a woman's pants, and a female blogger and author who tells her woman readers how to avoid men who are only interested in getting into their pants. Great writing, both strong characters (and he has a little nerdy secret) who finally realize that both of them aren't necessarily wrong in their approach to the opposite sex.

#### Nikki says

This was a cute and hot novella about two unlikely people finding love.

#### Sapphyria says

Dane Martin runs a website catering to the single men in their quests for relationships.

Holly Winters runs a website named The Girl Next Door, helping women everywhere avoid Mr. Wrongs while searching for Mr. Right.

Dane is currently gearing up to embark on tour for his upcoming book. When his agent requests a meeting and they are joined by another author, Holly Winters, and her agent, things just get weird - especially when both agents mysteriously disappear and Holly and Dane are forced into a rather awkward situation.

The "date" between Holly and Dane is a complete set-up; a publicity stunt by both agents. When the press become involved, tides shift, threatening the careers of both Holly and Dane. And still their agents aren't satisfied. They up the ante - Dane and Holly are to act like a romantic couple - to boost blog ratings and book

sales.

Will the awkward pairing destroy the reputations they worked hard to establish or humble the man who thought he knew everything there is to know about the dating scene?

Mr. Virile and the Girl Next Door is a very sweet, romantic novella but it also contains a couple spicy scenes. The spice was written tastefully but are explicit. I would recommend that only 18+ read about Mr. Virile and The Girl Next Door.

There is a lot packed into 60+ pages and I felt everything was executed correctly. The tension throughout was thick and believable. Both main characters are likable - even the "bachelor extraordinaire."

Content Warning: This novella contains adult scenes.

Review copy courtesy of the Publisher, at no cost, in exchange for an honest review.

# **▼**Rachel**▼** says

Mr. Virile and the Girl Next Door was full of laughs, witty banter and a fun antagonistic romance.

Dane and Holly write for opposing blogs. His, Mr. Virile which doles out advice to men basically looking to score and not much else, and hers, Girl Next Door, is advice to women on how to land a man and a steady relationship. Of course when they meet the sparks fly and the fun begins!

"You're attracted to me," he said.

"Of course I am," Holly answered. "You're an attractive guy. And you emit enough sexual pheromones to power a small city. I'm sure I'd even enjoy sleeping with you."

"Yes, yes you will," Dane assured her.

Holly rolled her eyes. "Except that I won't."

When they're caught together by accident and their pairing is flashed on a gossip site, it generates a lot of attention. Their agents see the benefits of stringing a "relationship" along, boosting readership, so Holly and Dane agree to have a few dates. You can see where this is leading. They soon realize their pre-conceived ideas about each other were off, and they begin to fall hard. The chemistry they share is through the roof!

Her breath caught as he stared at her lips. "I'd really like to dance with you, Holly." The world stilled while he trapped her in his hungry gaze. All the reasons why it was a bad idea to stay should have been yammering at her, instead, she leaned into his touch like a cat yearning to be petted.

Gwen Hayes manages to pack a heartfelt, steamy romance with character depth in a short 60 pages. She has a talent for writing witty banter that will have you cracking up more than a few times!

A copy was provided by Entangled Indulgence in exchange for an honest review.

#### Vishous says

\*ARC via Netgalley\*

This was too sweet, too normal, too... flat. I expected something more funny from the blurb and with characters such as playboy in suit (which is my very weak spot) and normal girl with a rule not to put out till 7th date and then even maybe. I expected funnier moments, more sex charged moments and not something so meh to read.

Both of them bloggers, him giving advice how to score with women, she tells what not to put up with in a relationship, but then not being in one, which is obviously some kinda cosmic rule, for people to give advice about things they do not live. He was actually ok, I had no problem with him as a character, even she was from time to time ok, but in general a bit annoying.

They have to pretend to be in a relationship, due to some things that happened and will help them in promoting their upcoming books. But since they met, they have a thing for each other. So basically just by that beginning I expected something more, but ended up disappointed.

I thought she was hypocritical, because she saw flaws in him and told him about those "flaws", and expected from him to change for her but never once considered to bypass her own really ridiculous rules. Even though she wanted... kinda...

So for those who love short, sweet and normal type of books with no angst at all, just something to enjoy for short time this is for them.

#### Gigi staub says

Online virile.com dating columnist Dane Martin has no plans to give up his reign as bachelor extraordinaire. He has a reputation to uphold, especially with the upcoming release of his book Coming on Strong.

Holly Winters, everyone's favorite girl next door, thanks to her blog of the same name, gives advice, but she doesn't always take it. When she meets Dane Martin, every fiber of her being warns her to turn tail and run. Instead, she risks her future as an authority on relationships, jeopardizing her upcoming self-help book for women struggling to find commitment among the Virile sycophants.

Has the Girl Next Door tamed the most Virile man alive, or is she just another notch on the bedpost?

Review:

This is the little story that could!

A quick read that is smart, fun and sexy!

What a great novella about two opposing blog writer's, who at the suggestion of their manager's start a fake relationship to help build their respective blog's and upcoming books.

So don't tell anyone, but I snuck and read this one while I was a work. I only meant to read a few pages, but once I started I had to finish to see what happened. Ms. Hayes writing style and story really drew me in. I love the realism I felt with Holly and Dane. The snippets you read of their blog's giving people advice were great and you can just imagine reading them in real life. The writing really is fun and smart and then the passion between Holly and Dane is off the charts. I don't want to give away to much, you get yourself a copy and read it!

4.5 stars

#### **Becky says**

This novella was so, so much fun! Well-written banter, a side romance to root for, an awkward rescue mutt, and an enemies-to-lovers romance with a he said/she said rivalry going on--very reminiscent of every rom-com movie I've ever watched and loved:)

Holly and Dane's progression from friends to lovers to something more was nicely done, and realistic. Even though it's a novella, the time frame was not at all rushed. The excerpts from their individual blog posts were a nice touch, and revealed much about their characters and mindsets.

I only have one complaint here:

"Tell me a little bit about the man of your dreams."

She sent him a startled look. "Well, he's...nice."

A huff of incredulity escaped Dane's lungs. "Nice? The man of your dreams is *nice*? Try again, this time give me some of that honesty you were talking about the other night."

"Oh, all right. But he is nice. It's not a crime, you know. I happen to like nice men."

Something pulled in his gut. "I'm a nice man."

Holly laughed. "No you're not. You're..."

"A scoundrel?" he offered.

"I was always more of a Luke Skywalker fan than Han Solo anyway."

You see my problem here, right? As if any sane person would pick Luke over Han!;)

A rating.

I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

### Geri Reads says

#### 3 stars!

A cute little novellas about two frienemies who fell in love with each other.

Holly Winters is a blogger known as Girl Next Door and Dane Martin is Mr.Virile. Their principles on dating, relationship and love are at odds against each other until their agents hooked them up on date. Of course, it was love-to-hate at first sight until they started to get to know each other.

I quite enjoyed this one. It was too short for a decent character development but the banter between Dane and Holly is gold. Plus, their chemistry is insane. I wasn't crazy about Dane. He wasn't really bad but I really prefer my heroes to be more 'I-don't-give-a-shit-about-my-appearance' alpha than a metrosexual, sort of bordering on sleazy pick-up artist type alpha. But that's just my preference and has nothing to do with this book.

Don't listen to me and try this book. This is another good in-betweener book, if I may say so myself.

ARC provided by NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.