



Searching For Moore

Julie A. Richman

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I lost the love of my life when she disappeared without even a goodbye.
It was the 80's – there was no internet, no Google, no cell phones.
If you wanted to disappear, you could.
And she did.
She crushed my soul.
A friend just told me he saw her on Facebook.
And now I'm a keystroke away from asking her the question that's haunted me for two decades.
“Why did you leave me?”

Two decades after she broke his heart, sexy entrepreneur Schooner Moore uncovers the truth and betrayal his life has been built on when he Facebook friend requests college love, Mia Silver. Determined to win Mia's love once again, Schooner embarks on a life-altering journey that could cost him everything.

This is the first book of the Needing Moore Series trilogy and is not meant to be read as a stand-alone. Book 2 - Moore to Lose and Book 3 - Moore than Forever are currently available.

Julie A. Richman's latest stand-alone novel, Bad Son Rising, releases September 12, 2014.

Searching For Moore Details

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Author : Julie A. Richman

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Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Searching For Moore for online ebook

Smitten's Book Blog says

I absolutely loved this book! I loved Schooner. I loved Mia. I loved the surrounding characters. I loved the flashbacks. I loved the here and now. It's original and addictive.

5 Mooreish stars See what I did there? ;)

I am fuuuuurious at Julie A. Richman for leaving me dangling from that cliff!! Oh my goodness. Talk about cliffhanger. The good news, ladies, is that we only have to wait two weeks for book #2. Thank God!!

So, this book is a second chance love story between Schooner Moore and Mia Silver. Nineteen-year-old Schooner, from California, is the perfect All American boy. He's blonde, blue eyed, tanned, athletic, gorgeous, intelligent and wealthy... He lives up to everybody's expectations of the man he should be. Upon arriving at college, Schooner meets two girls who both have a huge impact on his life.

CJ. His female counterpart. Beautiful, blonde, former prom-queen. For Schooner, dating CJ is the obvious thing to do and within days they become an item.

Schooner and CJ. Like Ken and Barbie come to life. They were the epitome of every out-of-stater's fantasy of what the quintessential California boy and California girl looked like. Schooner and CJ. They were beautiful and they looked like they belonged together.

Then there is Mia. Little, quirky, sixteen-year-old Mia, with her glasses, curly dark hair, clogs and mischievous Devil smile. Mia fascinates Schooner from the moment they meet.

Mia and Schooner develop an easy friendship and when CJ and half the student body leave on educational trips for Interim, Mia and Schooner find themselves working together on an assignment. After a few weeks in their company, Mia and her slightly oddball friends have Schooner questioning the image he's worked hard to live up to and the person he really is.

He was the All-American Boy. Handsome, polite, top student, great athlete, buddy, boyfriend, son, soon-to-be frat brother. Schooner kept everyone happy. Schooner Moore had no fucking idea who he really was.

Long story short... Mia and Schooner find themselves enveloped in an intense romance that will set the bar for every relationship for the rest of their lives.

Fast forward. It's been twenty four years since Mia Silver has seen or spoken to the gorgeous Schooner Moore. Until she receives a Facebook friend request from him. And suddenly, a past that Mia and Schooner had both forced themselves to forget is now forcing them to remember.

"I've waited a lifetime. A lifetime. You are mine. No one is ever going to take you from me again. No one is ever going to touch you again. No one. Ever."

Ok, let's deal with the elephant in the room, first. Yes, our hero is called 'Schooner'... No, I don't get that either. Nooo idea why. But just ignore that. It kinda works for him. He's so confident, so utterly perfect that he might be the only person in the world that can totally make being named after a sailing ship work in his favour.

Back to the good stuff... I could *not* put this book down. It was that good. The writing is fabulous and engaging. I knew I was going to like Julie A. Richman's writing style within the first page. It's adorable, deliciously sexy, heart warming, heart breaking, it kept me on my toes, it made me smile, made me laugh, made me gasp. It has twists that I didn't see coming. The dialogue is fantastic. The surrounding characters are brilliant. It even has a wicked witch... it had everything I want in a book.

Schooner and Mia did not just look like they belonged together, Schooner and Mia belonged together.

It has a hero to die for. Schooner has to be up there on the top Book-Boyfriends list. If you like yourself a sexy rich BB, you will love Schooner Moore. He's stunning, ripped, protective, a little bit controlling, smart, strong... *sigh* There's a devastating scene in this book where my heart shattered for Mia, and Schooner is perfection personified. Did I mention that I love him?

"Christian Louboutin made you cry. So I bought you Jimmy Choo's."

And Mia is possibly one of the coolest protagonists ever! She's funky, quirky, ballsy, a little bit weird and I want her to be my friend. She's so real and loveable. She isn't one of these irritating, needy, dramatic characters that makes you roll your eyes and shout at your e-reader. She's just super cool, in all her weirdness. You'll love her.

***"I love you."
"It's smoochal."***

Let's talk about CJ. Aaaaaarrgh!!! What a loathsome, despicable character. She literally ruined the lives of two wonderful people, with absolutely no remorse. You don't actually get to meet CJ on many occasions, you read about her and you learn about her through Schooner and Mia, but her page space is limited. However, you will still hate her and despise her every breath.

My heart broke for the time that Mia and Schooner lost. It was so sad and even when they reconnected, I found it so sad that they had missed so much of one another's lives. I felt so sorry for both of them. So much had been lost and each of them had been through such traumatic times.

"I wanted you to be my first."

I have one minor complaint about this book that I just need to quickly touch upon... The accidental blow job???? Errrr??? Sorry, what?! Puhleeease! As if.
Ok, that is all.

So, like I mentioned, this book ends with a huge cliffhanger. I was so engrossed in the story that I hadn't realised I was that close to the end of book. And when I clicked to the last page and it ended, I was like 'WHAAAAAT?! NO!!!' I'm *so* glad I didn't read this any earlier, because it's going to be hell waiting just two weeks for book #2, so I certainly couldn't wait any longer than that.

I highly recommend that everybody go read this book. I really want you all to go and read this, so then I can chat to you about Schooner Moore!

***"If you want me to tell you that I love you, I will do that - but I don't think those words even begin to describe what I feel for you and I don't know what the right words are."
"You just said them."***

I know lots of you are going to want to wait until *Moore to Lose* is out, and I totally understand that, but please add this to your TBR lists and get on at as soon as book #2 is released. *Moore to Lose* will be released on September 30th and I will be grabbing it as soon as possible! In fact, I might even get on my knees and beg the author for a cheeky ARC. I'll let you know how that goes. ;)

"till we meet again."

Searching for Moore Statistics

Steam Rating (out of 5): ♥♥♥♥

Ending: Cliffhanger

Series: ✓

Reading Order:

Book #1 - Searching for Moore (Needing Moore #1)

Book #2 - Moore to Lose (Needing Moore #1)

Can this be read as a standalone? No

Themes:

First love

Second chance

Warning. This book includes...

Sexual content

Writing: Great

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Sophie **2 Greek Girls Reading says**

****5 "It's Smoochal" Stars****

Shooner Moore is a man who spends his 43 year old birthday feeling lonely, even though his wife has planned a party for him. An old friend mentions something from their college years and Shooner gets down in his memory lane, getting lost in his thoughts about the girl who stole his heart back then. A girl he was never able to get over with, even if he got married and made a family.

Mia Silver was barely 16 when she enlisted on the Californian college. A true New Yorker, she was never like the other fake barbies that were dressed in dresses. Her parents had met with Shooner's family on their first day and they asked him to keep an eye on her and take care of their daughter.

Different events made Shooner and Mia bond, but then one day this bond was suddenly broken. Now several years later, is the truth going to see the light of the day? Is anything going to change if it does? Will they find their way back to each other?

This book was **wonderful!!** I really loved the story, the timeline set up for this, the 'then' period and the 'now'

period. I really am not sure which I loved the most, but I'll say that I truly enjoyed Schooner's & Mia's love story!

There are so much I want to say, but I don't want to spoil anyone. I'll just say that this book has many layers and many life-changing events. I loved everything about it, so this is a five star read from me & it's recommended to everyone! :)

~IreneOust~ says

I was just thrilled to see that the main character is 43! This little tidbit of info is what *really* made me want to read this book ... :)

Jennifer Kyle says

Dnf 50 percent ...

✪Lil says

******4 utterly romantic stars******

This must be one of the most romantic and at times heart-breaking stories I have ever read!

I was pleasantly surprised with this book, as I had in mind something completely different with the FB references mentioned in the blurb.

Schooner

Blonde guys are not really my thing, so I improvised a bit, but I appreciate a man who knows his tennis!

Mia

Even though immature for her age at times, she was a really good heroine.

I expected something huge as a reason for their separation.

There were various scenarios going on in my head, but I guess I have been reading many mindfucks lately and this book was something else entirely.

Still, this book has one or two of the most evil characters I have read lately.

I cried so much while reading this! And they were not necessarily happy tears but they were still coming from good emotions.
Does that make any sense?

Oh, and let's don't forget one of the hottest shower scenes! I put it up there along with the shower scene from Lady Luck ;)

All in all, this book managed to keep me engrossed and invest myself in the characters and their story. I really look forward to reading what the future will bring.

P.S. The ending is a massive cliffhanger, consider yourself warned!

Julie says

Holy crap! What just happened? I LOVE, LOVE LOVED this book! Now I NEED book 2 - my stomach's in knots from the cliffhanger at the end - not sure how I'm going to endure the wait!

Mia Silver and Schooner Moore meet as college freshman. Mia is a quirky New Yorker while Schooner is the quintessential blue-eyed, blond California boy who everyone naturally thinks is beautiful. He is desperate to please his family by being someone he thinks they think he should be - he has the gorgeous blonde bombshell girlfriend and a bright future as a college tennis star. It's not until he takes part in a class group project with Mia and her "misfit" friends that he can really be himself. He and Mia become close and fall in love. Blonde bombshell girlfriend be damned! Or not...

Of course fate doesn't smile on Mia and Schooner and they are driven apart for 24 years until good ole Facebook reconnects them again. I don't want to go into too much detail because this is a book that begs to be devoured. Julie Richman has done a fantastic job getting us to will Mia and Schooner to be together despite their prolonged absence from each others' lives, that when they do find each other again, everything seems to be going too well that you have to wonder what's going to go wrong. Are they truly destined to be apart? The entire second half of the book had me ridden with angst because I just knew fate would mess with their happily ever after. And it bloody well did!

Thank you, Julie, for this story. It was wonderfully written and now I desperately need to find out what happens - please don't keep us waiting too long!

Raquel says

[the part when Mia gets sexually assaulted and then right after she has sex

Jenny - TotallybookedBlog says

3.5 stars

Jenny: Well, Gitte I was checking through my notes and thinking back on this book about friends to lovers and second chances....oh there was so much I loved! Really loved. It was emotional, beautiful, sad, funny and the ending made me gasp, what a cliffhanger! Getting to know Schooner, Mia and CJ all the way through their college years and watching them mature, going through their ups and downs, was such a wonderful journey and I was enjoying this book so much, not to mention how much I loved this authors writing style.

Then.....about 70% or so in something happened..... There was a section of the book that lost me completely and I really hate that this happened because I was originally so engrossed in this story and really relating to these characters. What happened was this. The author introduced a real life celebrity element into the story which caused me to detach from the story and made me feel like I was reading a gossip mag for a while there. Taking me out of fantasy and putting me into reality caused me to feel like I was no longer a part of Mia and Schooner's world.

The world this author had so beautifully created was snatched from me and I so wish all the Hollywood interacting hadn't have happened because this was a heading towards a 4.5 star read for me up until that point. Once I disconnected I found it really hard to get drawn back into their world and this saddened me. What about you?

Gitte: I was loving the story of Schooner, Mia and CJ. I have to say though that the name Schooner just made me cringe. I think Mia's friend said it best:

"Schooner?" Seth mouthed. "Schooner?" and muttered "Are you talking to a boat?" – Seth

I thought this was a really different read, you meet them as young adults and you get their beginnings. It had emotion, tragedy and young love. It was a heartbreaking journey. Then we meet them as adults and see the impact that tragedy has had upon their lives. I was mesmerized by the great writing and the story as this Author challenged an issue that is very personal to me.

However, and I agree completely with you here Jenny, then the story of these remarkable characters was cheapened and quite frankly turned into something banal for me. It turned into a who's who and the real world invaded my fictional one through what could have been a snippet out of a celebrity gossip magazine. I was gutted, I really was. The story lost me and I actually had to put it down for a while. What was a 4.5 star read for me too, suddenly was no longer so, as I personally do not subscribe to the whole Hollywood adoration and gossip world. It doesn't interest me.

I do not like it in my fiction. So yeah, really disappointed, however this is my personal opinion and I'm sure I am in the minority.

Jenny: It is a shame because I instantly connected with Schooner and Mia. How could I not.

Schooner was the good looking, completely lovable, all American boy who graced the covers of magazines everywhere. Known for his good looks, killer smile, boyish charm and warmth, he went through life living up to other people's expectations.

Throughout college Schooner lived by the rules expected of him, not by the rules he expected of himself and this thought process followed him through to his mature years where he was trapped in a society he loathed and into an unhappy marriage. Living a façade to please everyone else.

He originally meets Mia while at College and finds a kindred spirit in this lovable girl. I loved Mia and her

beautiful soul, her free spirit and devil may care attitude.

I loved her as much as Schooner loved her. This girl allows him to express himself without mockery and judgement and allows him to smile...really smile for the first time.

She was infectious and beautiful, the total opposite of his girlfriend CJ. Hmmm CJ, oh how I loathed this "perfect" homecoming queen who was anything but...she was ice cold, poised, vindictive but to those around her she is seen as the perfect companion for Schooner.

CJ is very much one person on the outside and quite the other on this inside. They are seen as the beautiful couple, and wow CJ made sure she snagged him!

Schooner! Well, I just adored this man. He had so many facets and was full of personality..... he could be a pretty naughty boy – he was kind, gentle, loving, selfless yet on the other hand could be forceful, possessive and quite alpha....yes I loved the night and day of this man and how he continually tried to make everyone else happy at the expense of his own happiness.

Gitte: I completely connected with Schooner and Mia, they were really well written characters. Young Schooner was lush, no other word for him. His charm was a killer as was his smile. The expectations of others weighed heavy on his shoulders as he followed the path that was laid before him, realising it was not the one for him, wanting to change it but wanting to please everyone too.

Pegged by society indeed; he was fighting for change and when given the opportunity he went for it no matter what costs. This opportunity arose when met Mia.

Mia was just gorgeous but she was also the kind of crazy, funny girl that called a spade a spade no matter what the consequences. This girl was indeed a free spirit Jenny. She is the only one who sees Schooner for who he really is, she sees his true smile. Mia was the complete opposite of the kind of girl Schooner was meant to be with, well according to society and CJ.

I hated CJ with a passion, she was a bitch; she was the Barbie to Schooner's Ken if public opinion was to be adhered to.

Sometimes fate is a bitch until karma kicks in.....

The mature Schooner was proper alpha, naughty and cheeky yet still had his heart of absolute pure gold. This man had my heart melting into a puddle on the floor one minute and beating out of my chest the next with his dirty talk and his passion.

Jenny: I loved everything about sharing the college years with Schooner and Mia. It really allowed you to connect with them before they reconnected in later life and for the author to have us believe in and love Mia, even though she is "the other woman" was pure genius on the authors part and we have to give her kudo's for that because we really did love this girl.

Mia and Schooner stole the show, stole my heart and I loved that we saw so many sides to the mature Schooner, some were quite the revelation

As you can see I really was loving this story. I was invested and I was involved. There were tragedies and scenes that broke my heart. Unexpected events I didn't see coming and the story flowed along so well, I couldn't help but be swept along in the magic of Mia and Schooner.

Then...ruh roh...the Hollywood celebrity happened and it lost me and I was completely gutted the story went down this path. Mia and Schooner stopped being characters and for me,I was thrown out of their world and brought into real life. When I give myself over to a book I like to be totally consumed and immersed in the story and its characters.

I want to close off everything and everyone around me and be part of "their world". Once elements of the

“*outside*” world are brought into a story as heavily as they were in this one, where the characters are actually interacting with the outside world, I am no longer in that place and I become disconnected and that’s exactly what happened with this book.

It absolutely saddened me because this story had me in such a great place and then it was dashed. This is definitely a personal feeling and one that will probably not be an issue for many readers, but for me it was. I do look forward to book two and following Mia and Schooner’s story because we were definitely left with a cliffhanger!

I’m interested to know Gitte, was the “*Hollywood thing*” issue for you and did this impact your enjoyment of the rest of the story?

Gitte: This Author’s brilliant writing had me siding with the other woman which was both surprising and a testament to the writing and Mia’s character. The fact that we experienced them from the beginning left such a mark that it let us connect to their characters, believe in them, sympathise with them and love them so many years later.

Yes, absolutely Jenny, this was an issue for me, as I said I loved this story until the Hollywood-gate turned it into something else. It probably won’t bother the majority, but it did me and is the reason for why I just didn’t enjoy it as much.

I wish those scenes had been cut out and instead gone straight to the ending which was an intense and emotional cliff-hanger. I will say though that on the majority this was one beautiful and heart breaking story with so much depth and passion.

Ashley says

0 Stars- don't be fooled buy the 1 above. That is a legit "ZERO" stars.

There were so many reasons I wanted to like this one...

And yet, so many more I detested it.

Anybody got a soap box I can borrow!?!

I'll start with this gripe ----> "Baby Girl" was used 95 times. I didn't pull that figure out my kaboose. I literally searched it. ¡NINE...FIVER! At 32 I felt the beginnings of a petit mal seizure. At 64 we had gone to alert level grand mal. Crap on a cracker! If that moniker ever worked for me it does NOT NOW, nor will it ever.

Smoochal was cute the first 2 times. Beyond that- pass the eye bleach & zophran please because I threw up in my mouth.

Okay, so Schooner (yep, like the boat) & Mia get together while CJ, his girlfriend (who is slut-shamed most of the book) is doing an interim semester abroad. However, they don't feel it's cheating since he hated CJ anyway & they only have oral sex. Not full intercourse... Yep-Classy- proceed with your high morals. OOOOOHHHH, and let's not forget that when JetSki goes to break up with the GF he hates, so he can 'honestly' be with his cheating counterpart/soulmate---- the OG GF girl rapes him with a forced BJ. Since she used the deep throat techniques he taught her- he came in like 5 minutes. Well hell, there went that break up. Guess, I'll just STAY with the girl I hate & hide from my soulmate for ONE MONTH before I try to talk to her. (Makes perfect sense)

Before that there's a scene when he (The Man named after the watercraft) practically rapes CJ (his GF he hates but stays bc her beauty compliments his beauty) in her parents home because she had the audacity to give him a red Christmas jumper to match her family's in the Christmas photos. To say I was skeezed the hell out is putting it mildly. (I mean, how dare she give him a seasonal sweater!) WTF? Seriously? But don't call Detective Benson because guess what Ladies... She was "wet". All was well in their reindeer fun. Bring on a Easter cardigan!!

As an aside there was an actual GANG RAPE (this one was billed as such) that took a virginity. And came out of nowhere. And the victim had no long term trauma or emotional scars to speak of. And did not attempt to prosecute. As a matter of fact once her stitches were removed she went ahead and broke the terms of unofficial cheating to legit cheating. Oh and let's not forget that she is 16 at the time & he is 19. Therefore, we can add statutory rape to our list of sexual offenses. Okay, someone should seriously sound the Law & Order Gung-Gung now.

*"In the Criminal Justice System the people are represented by two separate, yet equally important groups. The police who investigate crime and the District Attorney's who prosecute the offenders ... **THESE ARE THEIR STORIES!!!!***

Another super weirdo inclusion was IRL celebrities. Mia & The (~~douche~~) Canoe bump into Katie & Suri Holmes while walking through the streets of NYC. Throw in every other A & B Lister celeb REAL names and you have the recipe for a head scratcher. It was just so odd these REAL people were used to perpetuate this story. It felt like serious infringements were made, but that isn't an accusation- just MHO. I honestly don't know if using real people's names in works of fiction without their consent is allowed? Or maybe she has the whole list of LA & NYC celeb's consent?

The book could have been approximately 23,673,854 words shorter (okay that one is a tad bit of an exaggeration) and been complete...and yet... We get to end in my oh so favorite way... **AN OLD SCHOOL DOES SHE DIE/DOES SHE LIVE/DID SHE KILL THEIR UNBORN CHILD CLIFFHANGER.**

I give this an overall 5 stars for hitting **EVERY SINGLE LITERARY PET PEAVE I HAVE EVER POSSESSED.**

Mazel Tov.

****In this author's defense- she does fully disclose the cliffhanger ending. I proceeded with the purchase against my better judgment bc I knew at least all three books were released.***

Good news though- book one is free if you want to give it a read! Normally, I will NOT bash a free book, but I have a guilt-free pass bc I also bought (and paid for) the whispersync companion. Best part about that is the narrator sounded just like Nathan Lane in the Birdcage! (I ADORE THAT MOVIE so I tried to pretend he was talking to Robin Williams & taking his pirin tablets)

rant over

throws kindle in traffic

deactivates FB account

Brandi Money says

I have three words for you - SCHOONER FLIPPING MOORE!!! OK...so I actually have more words for you. This book is very likable and unique. I love how the author goes from the present to the past and back to the present. While doing so, she makes this book enjoyable for any one ages 18 and up. The book starts off with a dapper looking 43 year old, Schooner Moore. He's athletic, well-kept, fashionable, sharp and successful. The book then takes a quick turn back to his college years. There you will meet Mia, love her! You'll also meet CJ....I'll keep my opinion to myself...not really, I despise CJ! The author gives us a taste of reality and it's not all rainbows and butterflies, love at first site. I strongly recommend this book. I am looking forward to the next book! Congrats, Julie on your debut novel!

AJ says

“This is just the start. You know that, don’t you?”

I love a good second-chance-romance! And while this wasn't as epic as I was hoping for it to be, it was still an enjoyable read featuring two characters with a soul-deep connection, lots of swoony moments, some angst, and a nice amount of sexy time.

Before I get started on the review though, I need to take a moment to WTF over the hero's name – Schooner. Really? I have never heard this name before, and it took me a bit to get past it because it sounds ridiculous and it is NOT sexy. At all. But that's a minor issue, because Schooner himself is gorgeous!

We meet Schooner when he is 43 years old and living a life that is making him miserable. On the surface he has what looks like the perfect life – beautiful wife and children, wildly successful business and enough money to make him very comfortable. But with the exception of his children and his business, he is unhappy. When a memory of his College life is triggered, he thinks back to the one girl that got away, the love of his life – Mia.

Flashing back to Schooner starting College, we see him as a 19 year old who has come from a happy and privileged life. Revered for his good looks, he has lived his life keeping everybody around him happy. But he has no idea of who he really is. And then along comes Mia. She is a little bit shy, but she's comfortable with who she is and she lives her life the way she wants. And over one incredible summer, Mia makes him come alive, allowing him to just be, and inadvertently helping him find himself as they fall and fall hard for each other.

“I have never felt for anyone what I feel for you. This is the first time in my life I have felt that I can really be me in a relationship. And you still like me. And that amazes me.”

... “I have never felt so connected to another person”

It's definitely a rollercoaster of a romance, but there's no denying the bone-deep connection that they have with each other, so when Mia packs up and leaves at the end of freshman year with no explanation, leaving no way of getting in contact with her, Schooner is shattered.

24 years later, and Schooner tracks Mia down on facebook. One friend request, one instant message, one phone call and one question - *“Why did you leave me?”* - and both of their lives are changed forever. They quickly uncover the reason behind their separation, and waste no time making up for lost time when

Schooner ditches his wife, flies out to see Mia and they realise that all that they had between them in College is still there.

“You are mine. No one is ever going to take you from me again. No one is ever going to touch you again. No one. Ever.”

I love the relationship that Schooner and Mia have as adults. They are both now in the 40s, are very aware of all that they lost, and that makes them so much more appreciative of what they have together, and so much more determined to hold on to it. There are dramas thrown in here and there – Schooner’s son is not happy with Mia’s presence in his life, and then there’s the wife from hell who refuses to let go – but they are in love, they are happy, they are HOT, and they are functional! They talk about everything, they deal with the issues that they need to face and there is no holding back between them. It’s gorgeous to see.

I appreciated the flashback to their College years. Parts of it were slow, but seeing the beginning of their love story was sweet and provides a good set up for the reunion to come. Although I was a squinty eyed through a lot of their early relationship. (view spoiler)

I loved the second-chance-romance storyline, and loved seeing Schooner and Mia together, but I did have some issues with the book. The writing is a bit overly poetic at times – I have an issue with overly flowery writing, so that one is totally on me! But seriously...

Mia was momentarily lost in his eyes swimming through the turquoise blue waters to that island where lost souls find happiness.

!!!!!! OK, moving on... The first part of the book is told primarily from Schooner’s POV, and the second half from Mia’s, although the POV frequently shifts – even within one paragraph. The story is slow going in parts, but I was happy that the reunion wasn’t a drawn-out, angst-fill affair. I would have liked to have seen a little bit more building up of the big moment, but it just happened, and then there is lots of time to see them finally start to build the life together that they always wanted, although Schooner’s constant use of the pet name “*Baby Girl*” was a little excessive. I found the celebrity aspect of the story a little eye rolling – they are both in careers that bring them in touch with celebs, and when they run into Katie Holmes in the street and stop for a catch up, Mia sits down for a chat with SJP and Matthew Broderick, and then Schooner calls Heidi Klum his ‘girl’, it got a bit much. And then there’s that huge cliffy at the end that, while it ties in with the story, seemed a little bit overkill. I’ll pick up the next book at some point because I’m curious to see where the story goes from here, but I’m not as excited as I probably should be.

So yeah... I liked it, but I didn’t love it. I’m happy that Schooner and Mia found each other again, and I love the life that they are building together, but I just didn’t connect with it as much as I wanted to.

3 stars.

Barbara says

DNF at 40%

Why the hype?

I don't know is it just me since everyone else loved it, but I had to give up on this book, I was bored and I hated the main character Schooner.

I have never heard that kind of name. It was really weird, but I got over it later. However, he was such a coward, afraid to be himself and I just didn't like him at all. Not even a little.

The story itself wasn't engaging. I liked couple of very funny scenes with him and Mia, some where really cute and made me gasp, but that wasn't enough for me to continue reading it. Lately I'm very picky, I have a huge TBR pile and I don't have enough time to read just okay books.

I hated him(view spoiler)

Quotes I liked

"You look really hot in cuffs." He could feel the heat rise in his face and in his jeans.

He stared at her and leaned close to her ear, where he hissed, "Now is not the time to give me a raging hard on, Mia."

"I think you've figured it out already," he smiled down at her.

"Figured out what?" She asked.

"That I'm crazy about you."

"I have spent my life acting, Mia. I'm good at playing a lot of roles. I'm just not really good at being me."

She cocked her head to the side, taking in what he was saying, but not really understanding it.

"And then you came along. And I could be me. I have never felt so connected to another person or so happy."

All the quotes are taken from their past, because he married CJ at the end. I don't know what had happened and I wasn't interested in finding out the hows and whys. **Schhoner, I don't like you! I don't know what happened between you and Mia, but you could have married another woman.**

Now..on the next book! I hope it will be a great one.

♥Sharon♥ says

Not sure what to say about this one.

I started it a few weeks back. It was my supposed to be my "in between book" but after a bit of time I set it aside because I just wasn't feeling it.

I picked it up again yesterday and read through it but in the end I just never got invested in Schooner and Mia.

There are some pretty great reviews out there for this one so I am sure it was a matter of "it is me and my mood" and not the book. :)

Marsha,Marsha,Marsha It's always Marsha says

5 Can't Wait for Moore STARS

Purchased this book last night and read it until I finished it. From the first chapter, it was very hard NOT to be invested in these characters.

What is so very impressive is that it has the appeal for 20 somethings up to 50 somethings! We are taken from the present day where Schooner is 43 years old and has no clue what the hell his world has become or who he is. He's living a "plastic Barbie/Ken existence" with CJ until his old college friend, Beau, reveals that Facebook has revealed a name from the past: Mia Silver.

Our story then goes back 24 years to the freshmen year of college and the story of Schooner, Mia, CJ (gag) and a rag tag of supporting characters. This part of the story is SO poignant and real and honestly and truly feels like an honest to God college experience. Not the normal frat, drunk parties that so many of these NA books rely upon.

On the first day, Schooner, an All American blonde Californian, sees blonde Barbie CJ and their eyes meet...but Schooner ends up walking over to his parents who are talking to a Mr. and Mrs. Silver and their daughter Mia. From the first (not an insta love), Schooner is drawn to her quirky, free loving, who the hell cares attitude. And on top of that, she's only 16 and a freshman. They have both been pigeon holed into "groups": the popular vs the geeky, freaks.

From that moment we are taken on a story of the self discovery of Schooner Moore. This honestly is Schooner's story. His need to find out "which mask he's supposed to wear." Within two weeks, he and CJ are the "power couple", but he is constantly seeing moments of Mia and her happy go lucky infectious love of life and he is left wondering. The reader can literally feel Schooner's "need" to find "more."

Enter the four week Interim where students take one intensive course and some are abroad. CJ takes a course that takes her to Europe and Schooner is left with an intensive "American music culture" course. Upon entering his first day, he sees Mia and lopes up to sit with her. He is immediately brought into "her world" with her two gay friends and these unlikely 4 end up working on an amazing music project. I want to interject at this point that Julie incorporated an incredible music repertoire through this Interim. It was brilliant and a true college experience. During these 4 weeks, Schooner becomes someone else - he becomes

the real Schooner. He discovers her friends are just...normal kids, and Mia is a slice of pure happiness that he soon craves. One of my favorite quotes is during this time:

He didn't need to pretend with them. He could be Schooner, and they actually liked him. It wasn't work to fit in with them.

By the end of these 4 weeks, Schooner is hopelessly entwined in Mia and the two are feeling young love. The four have formed a close bond and Schooner is at the Who Gives a F*ck point. But with all stories, there is a defining moment when that bubble bursts. CJ returns, it begins to unravel quickly. Schooner makes a mistake, and his self doubt of not being good enough for Mia causes a true lack of communication: they act like normal teens at this point and he does end up hurting Mia.

From this point to the end of this freshman year, misunderstandings and hurt and something unconscionable happens to Mia. It is this horrific incident that brings Schooner back into her life, determined to right the wrong and never leave her again.

With vows of love and forever and Schooner planning on going to NY for the summer to be with Mia, CJ steps in to tear apart these two and thus begins the 24 year separation.

Back to the future. Schooner uses FB to contact Mia again and what follows will pull at the heartstrings of ANY reader. Their reunion is amazing, filled with tears and joy. We are at 50% of the story and the remainder is the story of trying to find one another again, working on starting their own life now, navigating the hate of CJ and his son Zak, moving and starting a business in NY and working to make Mia safe for the future.

I simply cannot reveal anymore but know this: this book is worth your time. It will take you on a roller coaster of emotions and tears and anger and the revelation that one can find a first love and reunite for a future.

The cliffhanger was not expected. And it's brutal. And right now, I'm thinking of asking Julie if I can move in with her and help get this finished. I know this much: Schooner and Mia deserve EVERY single bit of HEA they can get.

You are mine. No one is ever going to take you away from me again. No one is ever going to touch you again. No one. Ever.

♥ Jx PinkLady Reviews ♥ says

An OK listen. Certain parts I really liked but some parts were a little twee but maybe it's because I listened to the audio rather than read the book.
