



Holiday Hostage

Kelly Fitzpatrick

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Holly has just finished up a gruelling day as Mrs. Santa at the mall. She's in no mood to spend the Christmas Eve holiday with her kooky sister, her sister's new boyfriend and his zany family - or her sister's boyfriend's single brother. Being kidnapped to do just that wouldn't be her second choice.

Ryan has cut ties with his criminally inclined family after they robbed the bank he worked at, causing him to lose his job. He especially doesn't care to be fixed up against his will with his brother's ditzy new girlfriend's sister. Until he comes face to face with her.

Holiday Hostage Details

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The UHQ Nasanta says

I'd read this short story once before and didn't think too much of it aside from the fact that it was sort of stupid but funny. However, the author's decency to thank me for even rating it made me resolve to reread it and see whether I missed something the first time - and if not, to at least review it.

The problem I had had with this short story was basically a matter of personal taste. I found Ryan's family (and Lydia) gauche, and although I appreciated reading about a family with a background so completely unlike my own, it ultimately turned me off. Yes, I admit it. I'm a snob. I also thought the "fight" scene, the way it started and the way it ended, was poorly written. "No Nose" was clearly a caricature of a typical crude bully who thinks he can claim any woman he wants, and this portrayal of the character lowered the believability of the start of the fight scene. How he quickly gave up made the "fight" scene seem even more contrived.

What I *did* like about it was the humor. The short story *was* pretty funny, especially Holly's phone conversation (and mental dialogue) with her sister, Lydia. I also liked Ryan. He seemed pretty sweet, and as the baby and the sport of the family, it was rather cute to watch him around his family. I thought that he and Holly made a cute couple, mainly due to their mutual exasperation with their blood relatives. While I did not end this story believing that their relationship would last, I could believe that they had a fair chance of it.

If you have 5 minutes and are looking for a cute, funny holiday story, this might work for you.

1st Read: March 26, 2011 - 1 star

2nd Read: May 15, 2011 - 2.5 stars

Sarah says

HA HA HA! What a funny short, free read (off Ellora's Cave) this little gem was! I'm now off to see if I can find anything else by this author.

D.V. Berkom says

Sooooo cute! I'm still laughing! Holly's a great character, ala Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum, and the stuff Fitzpatrick throws at her is too funny. Quite the interesting way to partake in a blind date...I especially like the Sullivan family, and would agree that Fitzpatrick should develop these characters into a longer piece. Keep 'em coming!

Lori Lyn says

Very fun read! Don't let the title fool you - it's not an erotic romance but is a really hysterical story of two completely wacky families. ;)

Gwynlyn says

When you sister thinks a petty criminal is the man of her dreams, strange things are bound to happen. Getting kidnapped into a blind date isn't on Holly's radar, however. Cute, funny, with characters familiar to most of us (even if we don't admit it,) *Holiday Hostage* proves Christmas can turn the strangest relatives into elves and the freakiest circumstance into a miracle.

Delaney Diamond says

This story was so funny, I'm still laughing. It's available for free at Ellora's Cave under their new line of non-erotic romance, Blush.

Poor Ryan, part of the dysfunctional Sullivan family. Poor Holly, who will probably become part of that nutty family now that she and Ryan are involved.

Dear author, if you're reading this, you absolutely have to develop *Holiday Hostage* into a full-length novel, or at least a novella.

Elisa Beatty says

A sweet little delight--totally charming and laugh-out-loud funny. Talk about your "cute meet": when Holly and Ryan refuse a blind-date set-up from their wild siblings, the two find themselves kidnapped and literally thrown together, in the back of a van full of stolen goods. A very quick read that will lift your spirits and introduce you to a fresh, bright voice in humorous contemporary romance.

Kathryn says

This was a freebie and a very funny one at that. For a short read, I certainly laughed quite a bit. The situation the author throws her characters into is more than amusing, especially for someone with similar family issues. I really wish this had been longer and if the author were to lengthen and elaborate this story, turn it into a novella or novel, then I would buy it in an instant. This is a romantic read, not an erotic read, for those who were as unsure as I was, mainly due to the title. I thought the ending was a little too forced but I guess that is to be expected in something so short. I will be looking for more from this author. Final 3 1/2 stars.

Anne Becker says

Laugh-out-loud funny. I still grin when I think about it. Thanks for a good (short) read!

Crystal says

it was a quick, clean read. In fact, I wish it was longer....a novel instead of a short story. It would be interesting to see what else would happen.

Kelli Scott says

Quick and cute.

Kaalomai says

read on my kindle for free. very short. cute and funny.

Cindi says

I thought it was a cute short story. It would have made a great full-length book. More details would have definitely made it better.

Makii says

Esta novela es muy graciosa!!!

Holly acaba de terminar un penoso día como la Señora de Claus en un centro comercial. No está de humor para pasar el día de Nochebuena de fiesta con su excéntrica hermana, su nuevo novio y su estafalaria familia, o sólo el hermano del novio de su hermana. Ser secuestrada hacía sólo que ésta no fuera su segunda opción.

Ryan ha cortado los lazos con su familia con inclinaciones criminales, después de que robaran en el banco en el que trabajaba, haciéndole perder su trabajo. Sobre todo no le gustaba que le prepararan una cita a ciegas contra su voluntad, con la hermana de la loca novia de su hermano. Hasta que se encuentra cara a cara con ella.

Cita a ciegas.... mas no se puede decir...todo puede pasar...uno puede terminar secuestrado(?) y hasta por su propia familia! y mas si esta es tan particular como la de Holly y Ryan!

t'irla ~The Bookslayer~ t'irla's Talk Book Blog says

A quirky cute story about a sister who kidnaps a sister and a brother who kidnaps a brother at Christmas so they can meet.

I wasn't expecting much at all from this book ..just read it to fill some time. What a surprise, it was a enjoyable, funny, quick read. The writing is good, I have never read anything from Kelly Fitzpatrick before but will definitely look up more of her work. Her crafting of her characters is hilarious, and real. I definitely wanted to get to know them better than this short story allowed.

Looking for a fun, quirky, quick read..pick up this festive short story. Solid 3 stars..
