



Hard to Fall

Marquita Valentine

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Wedding bells are ringing—and tempers are flaring—as the *Take the Fall* series continues in this sweet, sexy novel from the bestselling author of *After We Fall* (“This beautiful story kept me transfixed until the very end.”—Krista Lakes).

As a hardworking, hard-partying firefighter, Hayden Walker values his career and his freedom. But as the eldest son of a U.S. senator, he agreed long ago to follow in his father’s footsteps and run for office, and that means settling down and marrying the picture-perfect wife. Hayden just isn’t ready for that sort of commitment . . . not with women like beautiful, curvy Saylor Dean—the naughty bridesmaid he recognizes the morning after his buddy’s wedding—tempting Hayden to stay single forever.

The unwanted love child of a well-known politician, Saylor has always felt isolated and alone, her only solace the animal shelter she runs in Forrestville. Then she meets Hayden at her best friend’s wedding. During their impulsive and unforgettable night together, Saylor feels desired like never before—only to wake up and find that Hayden doesn’t remember his drunken proposal, or their hasty marriage, or *her*. But when the truth comes out, Saylor finds it’s a lot harder to fall out of love than in love.

Praise for the novels of Marquita Valentine

“*Take the Fall* is a sexy, emotional, heartfelt read. I adored this book and can’t wait for the next!”—*New York Times* bestselling author **Monica Murphy**

“A sexy Marine and a second chance at love? Sign me up! Marquita Valentine does it again.”—*New York Times* bestselling author **Sawyer Bennett**, on *Take the Fall*

“Crackling with tension, intrigue, and romance, this story has it all. Your heart will pound, you’ll laugh, you’ll *feel*, and you’ll definitely swoon.”—*New York Times* bestselling author **Katy Evans**, on *When We Fall*

“*When We Fall* is beautifully written and so full of sexual tension I was holding my breath. I literally didn’t put it down!”—*USA Today* bestselling author **Lauren Layne**

“I fell in love with sexy cop Hunter Sloan on page one, and this beautiful story kept me transfixed until the very end. I can’t wait to read more by Marquita Valentine!”—*New York Times* bestselling author **Krista Lakes**, on *After We Fall*

“*After We Fall* handles sensitive topics exquisitely, leaving the reader aching for more.”—*USA Today* bestselling author **Jen Frederick**

Includes a special message from the editor, as well as an excerpt from another Loveswept title.

Hard to Fall Details

Date : Published October 18th 2016 by Loveswept

ISBN :

Author : Marquita Valentine

Format : Kindle Edition 219 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Hard to Fall for online ebook

Laura says

ARC Provided by the Publisher and NetGalley

This book didn't work for me, and I was not able to put my finger on it for a little while. And, while I had overall issues with the pacing and the characterization...I really didn't like the hero. When you first meet Hayden, well, he comes across as not quite the romantic hero of your dreams. And, I was never really able to get past this...first impressions and all.

It is hard to be specific without spoilers, but it really comes down to the belief that the hero is not a good romantic lead, well, it is tough to get past that.

There were parts I enjoyed, parts I did not. But the first meeting of the hero lingered through the book for me. I definitely skimmed parts of this book.

I am not able to recommend this book.

***This and other reviews also featured on "I'm A Sweet and Sassy Book Whore"
<http://www.imasweetandsassybookwhore.com>***

XxTainaxX says

I liked Saylor and Hayden together but for the life of me, I couldn't understand the nonsense Saylor spewed in the beginning. I consider that I find myself very rarely in that position.

I get being "quirky", but then there's what that chick was. Frankly, I was annoyed by her sometimes. Once she stopped trying so hard, I liked her a lot more. Hayden and she had great chemistry and their love scenes were scorching hot. As an individual, I would've liked for Hayden to stand up for himself more when dealing with his family. The plot was ok. The secondary characters were strong. The writing was done well. I would definitely follow the series as the previous were excellent even if this one wasn't hit out of the ballpark for me. Safety: No OM/Sharing. The hero starts off having sex with OW. Yes, it is explicit. h was a V. No rape or abuse.

ARC received in exchange for an honest review.

Jen says

4 Sweet Stars

"I want to kiss you again." But he runs his hand through his hair instead. "You make me feel like . . .

things can get better for me. Like my very own ray of sunshine.”

Hayden Walker's life was planned out before he even took his first breath; Follow in the rest of his family's footsteps and go into politics. Unfortunately for Hayden, the fact that he's happiest being a firefighter and staying out of the spotlight seems to be of little importance to his father, who's decided to give Hayden one year to get himself together and formally throw his hat into the political arena.

Saylor Dean's life has been a lonely one for the most part. Sure, she's got a mother that loves her and has done her best by Saylor, but always knowing she was unwanted and unacknowledged by her douche of a politician father has created a void that never seems to go away.

When Saylor and Hayden meet and hit it off at their respective BFF's wedding, Saylor's sure she's finally met a man that plans to stick around. So what happens when Hayden wakes up and has no recollection of the awesome night he shared with Saylor?

I don't want to beg him to stay with me. I shouldn't have to, but for far too long the people who matter to me, the ones who claim to love me . . . or want to get to know me, leave.

This is the fourth book in the *Take the Fall* series and it can most definitely be read as a standalone. After finishing it, I have to say *Hard to Fall* is one of my favorite books of the series. There's a quirky sweetness to Saylor that I found endearing without being fake or contrived. It's a super fine line between quirky heroine and flat out annoying and luckily Saylor managed to stay on the right side.

Oh Hayden. I'm not to shy to say I flat out adored him. He could've easily been written as an uptight snob and it would've been cliché but probably still worked for the story. Instead we get a down to earth, level headed hero that never seems to lose his cool, even when some fairly large and in charge surprises are thrown his way. Though he came off a tad malleable at the beginning, he eventually proved he did indeed have a backbone.

Throughout the story, whether the two were trying to get to know each other or making it work and falling in love, Saylor and Hayden were fabulous together. And hot. All kinds of hot!

Hayden knew deep down Saylor was the girl for him and my man did not disappoint. This series just gets stronger and stronger so my fingers are crossed Marquita Valentine keeps it rolling along.

ARC provided by the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review

Esther says

Rated it a 3.0 -3.5

Short review on my irritations of this book.

It was okay. Had a hard time with the hero being drunk and not "remembering". Really, all that transpired between him and the heroine and he didn't remember ANYTHING!!!

And the heroine, she just came across a little too, I don't know, ditzzy!!

I felt the story line to be a jumbled and inconsistent at times. The chemistry between the two was average at best. It was an okay read I guess to pass the time.

Nicola says

This series has gone from strength to strength and Saylor and Hayden's romance is up there with Hunter and Evangeline's as my favourites of the series.

This could quite easily have been overplayed with familial drama, but Marquita Valentine balanced it perfectly with the romance. Hayden is from a wealthy family and his father *The Senator* expects him to follow in his footsteps and leave his position as Fire Chief for a career in politics: something Hayden doesn't want. Saylor was raised by her mother, a well known actress, and regardless of the fact her mum loves her, she's lonely, feels abandoned because her dad was never interested and devotes herself to running an animal sanctuary. But when their best-friends get married...well it leads to a night she'll never forget and he struggles to remember.

"I have never met a girl like you before."

"Maybe that's because I'm a woman."

"No maybe about it."

I loved Saylor and Hayden, individually and together. She's fun and quirky to his calm and collected, and they compliment each other so well, and it's this chemistry that leads to some very heated action between them.

The first book in the *Take the Fall* series really didn't work for me, but I'm so glad I persevered as each of the subsequent books have been a pleasure to read. And, with mention of Hayden's family linked to a past royal scandal, I'll definitely be reading the spin-off series next year.

Copy received courtesy of Loveswept via NetGalley for an honest and unbiased opinion.

Jessica's Totally Over The Top Book Obsession says

4 Love me some Hayden Stars

Hard to Fall was the 4th book in the Take the Fall series, and can be read as a standalone. I really enjoyed this book. Hayden was sexy, over the top protective, sweet, all alpha and a fireman. God I have a weakness for yummy firemen and Hayden was very yummy! I adored Saylor. She was so quirky, smart, and a total star

wars geek. Saylor was funny and made me smile many times throughout the book. I loved Hayden and Saylor together. Every minute they were together. Their relationship was very sweet, high on passion, and lower in drama. Hayden was just so supportive. He just loved, and cherished her. He was all in no doubts or push/ pull. I loved that! I also really enjoyed how supportive Hayden's parents and Saylor's mom was. I swooned all over the ending. I love books that make me feel warm and fuzzy on the inside, and that was this book all the way. This book was a lighthearted, very sweet read and I enjoy every minute!

<http://jessicasoverthetopbookobsessio...>

Soonya says

[I t

Lady Heather says

Publication Date: October 18, 2016

Author: Marquita Valentine

Series: Take the Fall

Genre: Contemporary Romance -Adult

"A copy of this ARC has been provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review"

4.5 stars!

This story was so good!

Love this series, the author's voice and characters.

Each story has it's own unique characters from all different backgrounds, and the author masterfully brings them all together to make a perfect ensemble.

The lead female character (Saylor) is one of my all time my favorite characters.

She had integrity, intelligence, loyalty, independence, and was quirky and sassy.

Saylor still managed to remain true to herself despite feeling like she lived in the shadow of her mother.

She was a perfect match for Hayden.

Another great addition to the "TAKE THE FALL" series!

Tanya (Girl Plus Books) says

3.5 STARS

In this fourth outing in the Take the Fall companion series, Hayden and Saylor take an unconventional path to happily ever after.

Firefighter Hayden Walker takes pride in his work and loves what he does. Among his friends he's known for his easy-going personality and his womanizing. Privately, he's feeling immense pressure from his father to leave a career he loves and instead enter the world of politics, something he has zero desire to do. With his father issuing an ultimatum, Hayden feels obligated to keep a promise he made to his father years ago.

Saylor is passionate about the animal shelter she owns. With a famous actress for a mother and a politico father she's never met, Saylor is happy to live a quiet life out of the spotlight. Her turn as a bridesmaid leads to a night with sexy groomsman Hayden. But she doesn't know what to do when a very hungover Hayden has no memory of their night together... or their quickie marriage.

Hayden and Saylor are characters that were introduced in *After We Fall*, the third book in this companion series. I enjoyed both of them as secondary characters and was excited to see them get their own story here.

Hayden was an alpha male without being an alpha jerk. I loved his openness with Saylor and his sense of duty to his father and family, even when it went against what he really wanted. I also loved that even though he made concessions with his father he did so with a sense of fairness and compromise and he was always willing to stand up for Saylor.

As for Saylor, I enjoyed her quiriness and that she didn't try to hide it or change who she was. She had a good head on her shoulders and while she didn't always make the best decisions, she was trying to do the right thing. Even though I appreciated Saylor's quiriness, she had a way of technically answering questions without really answering and at times I grew frustrated with her. She was purposely evasive, although technically honest, and it often created unnecessary misunderstandings.

I really enjoyed Hayden and Saylor's relationship and their willingness to see where things went and be open to the possibilities. Hayden, in particular, was so open to his developing feelings for Saylor and I loved the care and concern he had for her. It was easy to become invested in their story and see how they pulled together in tough situations. Despite a lightning fast, and unexplained, conclusion, I thoroughly enjoyed *Hard to Fall* and hope there's more to come in this series.

This review was originally published at GIRL PLUS BOOKS.

Note: This title was provided to me in exchange for an honest review. This does not change my opinion of the book or the content of this review.

Irene says

4 stars

Hard to Fall was a beautiful and heartwarming read.

Hayden and Saylor were such fun, sweet, likable and relatable characters. They made me laugh, they made me swoon and then swoon some more!

They had a strong attraction and their chemistry was off the charts.

I loved them together and was very happy they got their much deserved HEA.

Hard to Fall is a well written romance with lovable and endearing characters that will leave you full of happy feels.

The Take The Fall series has been a wonderful read, each book can be read as a standalone and I highly recommend them all.

Purchase links for Hard to Fall ~
Amazon: <http://amzn.to/2212MDW>
iBooks: <http://apple.co/1V2wAzz>
Nook: <http://bit.ly/1XwAcrv>
Kobo: <http://bit.ly/1qqkVO4>
Google: <http://bit.ly/1SgNQk5>

A big thank you to Random House - Loveswept via NetGalley for the advance copy.

Maddie says

According to me a Prologue or the 1st Chapter of a book is THE reflection!

SO it must capture my attention from page 1 I will continue a few more chapters to give the Book a fair chance to change my mind!

My review!

Before I start I love this cover *wink*

I am adding the synopsis at end of the review and only a few chapter lines the book is not finished yet and is in Proof read mode!

In This novel you get idealistic individuals hiding a loads of secrets!

Michael Bolton - When a man loves a woman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmfOz...>

Chapter 1

OKAY Chapter one and I was sold LOL!

She leans in to whisper,

“I forgot to wear panties today, but considering how wet I am right now I think that’s a good thing, don’t you?”

Lyla smiles seductively, of her hands brushing right over the growing bulge in my pants. “How delightful. The rumors don’t begin to do you justice”

“I’m not fully there, yet.”

Her eyes widen and her cheeks flush, this time with lust. The flowers, if you please.”

Ah, fuck it. I grab her hand. “Who am I to deny a lady?”

“Always knew I liked you”

For the next thirty minutes

I allow Lyla to use me like an erotic playground just for her. By the time I roll on a condom and enter her, she screams my name so loud that I have to cover her mouth with my hand.

Type of Characters and my choices according to pictures :

Hayden

Saylor

Relationship development

Whitney Houston - I Have Nothing (Official Video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FxYw0...>

Saylor:

I always wanted a family. One with a mom and dad ... a couple of siblings. I’d settle for one, actually. Someone I could confide in, fight over stupid things, and conspire with against our parents. We’d live in a cute suburb where the neighbor's had cookouts and ride our bikes in the street.

Unfortunately, no one listened to me on the day families were being handed out. Besides, who’s going to fall in love with someone like me?

Hayden:

Actually, I love every part of a woman’s body, but breast are my favorite and Saylor’s are mighty fine as they fill out her T-shirt.

Chapter Development

A few paragraphs → I loved

My heart is pounding so hard in my chest that I barely hear his question. Panicking, I blurt out the first thing that comes to mind “To pick up a stray that one of your guys found this afternoon”

Oh sweet Lord, I’m such a bad liar.

He runs a hand over the back of his neck, his forehead creasing.

“No one’s mentioned anything about a stray”

I nearly drop to the floor with relief.

“Maybe because you don’t like them”

Epilogue! →

Whitney Houston - I Will Always Love You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JWTa...>

Recommend to the following type of readers: →

Over 18 etc.

Why my rating?→

Don’t be foolish read the book!!!!

Will I read it again?→

OH YES

My feelings while reading this: →

To the Author

FANTASTIC – Well written and HOT AS HELL :D

Synopsis

Wedding bells are ringing—and tempers are flaring—as the Take the Fall series continues in this sweet, sexy novel from the bestselling author of After We Fall (“This beautiful story kept me transfixed until the very end.”—Krista Lakes).

As a hardworking, hard-partying firefighter, Hayden Walker values his career and his freedom. But as the eldest son of a U.S. senator, he agreed long ago to follow in his father's footsteps and run for office, and that means settling down and marrying the picture-perfect wife. Hayden just isn't ready for that sort of commitment . . . not with women like beautiful, curvy Saylor Dean—the naughty bridesmaid he recognizes the morning after his buddy's wedding—tempting Hayden to stay single forever.

The unwanted love child of a well-known politician, Saylor has always felt isolated and alone, her only solace the animal shelter she runs in Forrestville. Then she meets Hayden at her best friend's wedding. During their impulsive and unforgettable night together, Saylor feels desired like never before—only to wake up and find that Hayden doesn't remember his drunken proposal, or their hasty marriage, or her. But when the truth comes out, Saylor finds it's a lot harder to fall out of love than in love.

Praise for the novels of Marquita Valentine

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“A sexy Marine and a second chance at love? Sign me up! Marquita Valentine does it again.”—New York Times bestselling author Sawyer Bennett, on Take the Fall

“Crackling with tension, intrigue, and romance, this story has it all. Your heart will pound, you'll laugh, you'll feel, and you'll definitely swoon.”—New York Times bestselling author Katy Evans, on When We Fall

“When We Fall is beautifully written and so full of sexual tension I was holding my breath. I literally didn't put it down!”—USA Today bestselling author Lauren Layne

“I fell in love with sexy cop Hunter Sloan on page one, and this beautiful story kept me transfixed until the very end. I can't wait to read more by Marquita Valentine!”—New York Times bestselling author Krista Lakes, on After We Fall

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Includes a special message from the editor, as well as an excerpt from another Loveswept title.

ARC Received via Netgalley for honest opinion

P&M Blog = Book Monsters:

<https://bookmonstersblog.com/>

Mine

<https://coyoteuglyswaggerbookblog.wor...>

(~v~)♥♥

Time to put on my reading glasses

A BIG Thank you to the author! :D

Chris C - A Midlife Wife says

I love this series! Actually I have loved every book I have read by Marquita Valentine. She knows romance and how to tantalize the reader to completely suck you in.

This book is a fun, quirky read that offers characters so different from the rest. They are perfectly matched with Hayden and Saylor. Different, yet they completely belong together. Hayden is the only one that understand the quiriness of Saylor and he keeps coming back for more.

Hot and sexy with delicious twists, Marquita Valentine brings us this amazing standalone that is so beautiful and delightful to the every end.

Chalk up another one for the books and a steamy one you need to read for a wonderful diversion. So good!

1-Click Addict Support Group says

A one-sitting read. If I was asked to describe *Hard to Fall* that's where I'd start. Doesn't matter that I was on a plane—even if I hadn't been, I'm not convinced I'd have been able to set it aside for longer than a few minutes. Sexy and engaging, with a little bit of suspense, it was easy to get sucked into this book and this couple.

Hayden and Saylor were really adorable together, all awkward and sweet banter, heat and happiness. The way Marquita Valentine created their romance was so good—and while it was predictable in some ways, in others, I found myself surprised (and pleased) by the turn of events. Saylor was, at times, a little frustrating to me. Her behavior, choices and quirks made me want to roll my eyes at her, and yet, I still found myself rooting for her.

And absolutely rooting for Hayden. He was an alpha, without being an 'alphahole', and he made all the right moves. I loved his reactions, how he embraced his need for Saylor, his dirty talk, and how he took so much in stride. It was charming and swoony and HOT, and it made it hard *not* to fall for him.

For this whole book really. I closed it with a smile on my face, pleased that I had the company of these characters and this story on my flight, and looking forward to more from Ms. Valentine in future. ~ Beth, 4 stars

Dali says

A charmingly sweet and sexy read.

“Wise, you are.”

“In love, I am.”

As the illegitimate daughter of a politician and a famous Hollywood actress who was determined to protect her from her father and the media, Saylor Dean grew up loved by her mother but feeling a bit insulated, unwanted and without a family to call her own. Mostly, her friends are of the furry variety at her animal shelter, but after meeting and having an unbelievable night with Hayden in which he makes her feel cherished at her best friend's wedding she doesn't want to let him go, even when he doesn't remember his drunken proposal and marriage.

At barely eighteen Hayden Walker had promised his senator father he'd follow in his footsteps. After years of serving the public out of the spotlight as a firefighter and proud of the fact that he's gotten his position as captain on his own merit without his family's money or name, he isn't interested in the pursuit of politics much less having to settle down for it. But when the sexy Saylor leaves an impression after his best friend's wedding can he convince her to help appease his father? Will the secrets she's keeping from him shatter any hopes of a happy future together?

“I want to kiss you again.” But he runs his hand through his hair instead. “You make me feel like . . . things can get better for me. Like my very own ray of sunshine.”

After reading several of her books, I can count on Marquita Valentine to deliver sweet and sexy stories with quirky heroines and alpha male heroes who adore them. Hard to Fall delivers just that.

I just loved Saylor, she was adorably geeky and such a nice caring and loving person even if a bit naïve and insecure with too many secrets. I really felt for Saylor and her lack of self-worth, she felt invisible and I really wanted her to be with someone who loved every single odd bone in her body. I'm probably in the minority but her love for all things Star Wars, Star Trek and pop culture in general, made her instantly likeable to me and provided me with loads of laugh out loud moments.

“Fire captain, right?”

“Among other things...”

“Are you in the Army, too?”

“No.”

“Marines.”

“No.”

“Star Fleet Academy...”

“Kirk, even the rebooted one, has nothing on me.”

Hayden was a harder sell altogether. I wasn't a fan of him not standing up to his father nor his womanizing and partying ways, but I've always appreciated reformed bad boys. He also has good work ethic and level head especially regarding his family's money and I really liked that even without him remembering his wild night with Saylor, on some level he knew she was special to him and pursued her almost relentlessly which was sexy and fun to watch.

“You want different, as in weird?”

“I like the beat of your drum...”

“I'm really flattered, but my track record with guys isn't exactly the best and you're on in a long line of dudes who couldn't handle the beat of my drum...”

“Did you ever consider that it was the guys whose track records sucked and that maybe your drum beat doesn't need to be handled?”

Saylor and Hayden made me laugh and smile and fan myself as they get to know each other. Their

relationship and plot in general was unconventional and moved a tad fast, but they both want love and acceptance, they have incredibly hot chemistry and they're great together being what the other needs while falling in love with each other.

“We can stay just like this, sunshine. All the time. You say the word and I’ll spend the rest of my days as your sex slave.”

One last non romance or even plot related comment, I really REALLY appreciated that Marquita mentions organic and environmentally sustainable products. I don't know if it's because it's "en vogue" or if it's a cause true to her heart, but I believe that being conscious about our environment and including it in her work is commendable.

Hard to Hold is book #4 in the Take the Fall series by Marquita Valentine. It is a sweet and sexy contemporary romance. Told from both points of view that has a hearts and flowers epilogue ending.

* I was given an ARC of this book courtesy of the author via NetGalley. The excerpts are from that copy. *

More reviews * Stalk us on FaceBook * As well as Twitter * Pinterest Board for Book Teasers

Dilushani Jayalath says

Kindly received an ARC from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

Unpopular opinion coming through!!!!

I did not like this book. Maybe cuz I started the series from this one? I don't know. It just didn't sit ok with me. The story and characters didn't appeal to me. It was nice enough for me to give it a 2 star but not good enough to give more than that. The beginning was super hot and the first chapters I completely loved it but the flame ran out after a few chapters.

But one thing I have to admit is the amount of hotness was above charts!! I guess that's why I gave it 2 stars, not cuz of the story :D

I have two more books of Ms. Valentine sitting in my kindle which I'm sure I'll read very soon.

Happy reading peeps!
