



Tempt Me If You Can

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In the heartwarming yet sizzling sequel to The Man Must Marry, Ben Sinclair falls for the one woman he had never expected to love—and learns about the son he never knew he had.

He'll play by her rules until she falls for him...hook, line and sinker.

When an anonymous letter stuns shipping magnate and confirmed bachelor Ben Sinclair with the news that he has a teenage son, he's determined to make good on the past. But Emma Sands doesn't trust him.

The beautiful, fiery blonde has raised her nephew in the peaceful woods of Maine since he was five, and just because fifteen-year-old Michael is the spitting image of his tall, handsome father doesn't give Ben the right to march in and change their lives forever. Or so she thinks, until his return mysteriously unearths a dangerous small-town secret.

With Michael's help, Ben will do whatever it takes to prove to fiercely independent Emma that he can be the fearless protector she never knew she wanted... and the passionate lover she always thought she could resist.

Tempt Me If You Can Details

Date : Published February 23rd 2010 by Pocket Star (first published February 1st 2010)

ISBN : 9781416595441

Author : Janet Chapman

Format : Mass Market Paperback 342 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Suspense

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From Reader Review Tempt Me If You Can for online ebook

TinaMarie says

Ben returns to Maine after he finds out he has a teenage son. His son is being raised by his Aunt. Emma crushed on Ben long ago and is now afraid he will take his son away from her. All that and drama with loggers versus Environmentalists and their clashes and the mystery.

BookLover says

“Try as I might, I can't read your mind. But I do know mine. You belong to me, Emma Sands, just as much as Mike does.”

I originally read this early last year and I found the re-read delightful. I seem to be drawn to the comfort of re-reading my favourites lately, despite the **HUGE** pile of new books in my to-read pile. I am a **BIG** fan of Janet Chapman. She is one of my favourite authors and I love diving into her make-believe worlds.

Tempt Me If You Can is the second book in the *Sinclair Brothers* trilogy. In this book, we reconnected with perpetual bachelor Ben Sinclair, who had just found out he had a 15 year old son that had been kept from him. He set off to Maine to try to build a relationship with his son, Michael. There, he encountered Michael's aunt, Emma Sands and life got even more complicated.

**“Is that a piece of moss I see sticking to your shirt?” the boy asked.
Emma gasped so hard, she started coughing.”**

I loved Ben, Emma and Michael. They made such a great team, despite all of the secrets and misgivings. I found Emma's way with Michael to be so endearing, even more so given Michael's fierce protection of his aunt. Michael's matchmaking skills though not at all subtle, were hilarious.

**“Ben sighed in relief. "It would help if you would at least give me a hint. Who's the guy she's suppose to be in love with?"
"You haven't figured it out yet?" Mike narrowed his eyes, making them barely visible inside all the swelling. "Exactly what happened when you found her in the woods?"
"I'll write you a letter explaining what happened and leave it in my will."
"You tried to seduce her, didn't you?"
"Goddammit! Your aunt tried to knock my head off. I couldn't get close enough to seduce her!”**

Emma's lackluster attempts to fend off Ben's advances were comical. She didn't really put up much of a

fight, but I loved all of her reactions to Ben as he lost his patience while she continually put herself in harm's way while danger loomed.

“Beaker growled low in his throat, and Emma instantly warmed to the dog. Without even thinking, she patted his head to let him know she approved of his courage. Even if she had fangs the size of Beaker's, Emma wasn't sure she would have the nerve to growl at Ben. Clearly startled, Ben looked at Atwood. "He can't growl at me," he told his "secretary." Atwood smiled. "He just did.”

I think I will probably have to dive right into book three, Jesse's book, which happens to be my favourite of the three Sinclair brothers.

K. says

4.25

That feels right. Would've loved a little more of characters hashing things out. But otherwise still the magic that Chapman produces.

SheLove2Read says

For me Janet Chapman is an auto buy author. Not because she's all that but because I know I will come away with a good, solid, satisfying read.

Tempt Me If You Can is just that kind of read. It's the second in the Sinclair Brothers series and is the story of Ben and Emma. Years ago Ben came to a small logging town in Maine to aid environmentalists who were attempting to keep loggers from clear cutting old growth forests. While he was there he had a short lived romance with Kelly. Fast forward 15 years later....Ben receives a letter stating that he has a 15 year old son named Michael and isn't time he came and met him?

Ben is floored. He never knew Kelly was pregnant and he certainly never knew he had a son! Determined to get to the bottom of what's going on, he heads to Maine only to find that Michael has been raised by his aunt Emma for the last 10 years and Kelly is nowhere to be found - by anyone.

Emma has raised Michael since he was 5. Well, really even before that because Kelly was never really a mother to Michael. She's had him in her care since she was 19 years old and is in essence, Michael's mother. While she never told Ben that Michael existed, she also never disparaged him to his father and made sure he knew who he was and where he came from. Her view was that when Michael was old enough to make a decision of his own, he could seek him out. (This is probably the only major gripe I have about the storyline. I cannot see keeping a good person from their child.)

This is a smart, sexy, emotional read that is very satisfying. The relationship between Ben and Michael is both parent/child and man-to-man. Michael is an old soul and while he may be only 15, his maturity level is way beyond that, thanks in part to his upbringing by Emma. There is never any drama between the two but

there are definitely a few teary moments for the reader as Michael and Ben bond. Michael has an unusual yet extremely loving relationship with his Aunt Emma, or Nemmy as he calls her. Watching Emma go through the emotions when she thinks she is "losing" Michael is heart rending. As for Ben and Emma, the romance is slow to start but ignites with a passion when lit. Ben is definitely an alpha male but he's not a chest beater and his attempts to be dominant over a strong willed Emma are somewhat comic yet touching.

Throw in a one-antlered lovestruck Moose, a protective German Shepherd and a town full of colorful characters and you come away with a very nice afternoon read.

A-/B+

Shani says

4.4*

Mackenzie says

Book 2 in the Sinclair brother series I found is much better than the first. When Ben Sinclair, CEO of Tidewater Shipping receives an unsigned letter stating that he had a 15 year old son living in Medicine Gore and it was high time he met him.

After investigators proved it was true, Ben arranged to go "in disguise" to check out his son (who he didn't know he had) and his Aunt Emma who had basically raised him as his mother Kelly disappeared 10 years ago. Emma runs Medicine Creek Camps, a hunting and wildness recreation spot for tourists.

Although Ben wants revenge for loosing out on the first 15 years of his son's life, he finds that is much harder to do. Emma has provided Michael with as much love and support as if she was her own. She has even put her life on hold in order to raise him, and Ben has to admit, she has done one heck of a job.

Emma and Michael recognize Ben right away, but play along with his charade as he slowly finds his way into their life. Emma is afraid he will take Michael away, but Michael has stated clearly that his aunt will remain a very important part of his life.

Ben's past catches up with him (15 years ago in Medicine Gore he was protesting logging practices) and he learns that not only do the locals feel he left a pregnant teen aged girl, but he also broke a dam causing a huge landslide that killed Kelly and Emma's father.

The story comes together as we see Ben working at becoming a true father to Michael, figuring out the town mystery as to what happened all those years ago and how to win the trust and love of independent Emma.

Debbie Dodd says

I enjoyed reading.

Aarann says

This is one of those books that I've re-read several times now and is a bit of a go-to for me.

Ben Sinclair has found out he has a 15 year old son. It's not *quite* a secret baby plot, since the mother is the sister of Emma, our heroine, but... yeah... it's pretty much a secret baby plot.

Surprisingly though? Not much angst to it. Emma's sister told Ben to eff off when he asked her to marry him, then never bothered to mention the baby. Ben is pissed, but knows it wasn't ultimately Emma's responsibility to track him down, especially since she was maybe-kind-a-almost-sorta under the impression her sister had told him and he had run anyway (the book kinda waffles on this -- in the end, I just went with it).

Anyway, so Ben immediately goes to see his son in the most ridiculous Clark Kent disguise ever. Of course both Emma and Michael (the son) see right through his amazing disguise of... beard and go along with his charade for a while. It doesn't take Ben long to figure out that not only does he want his son, he wants the aunt too (duh, cuz it's a romance) and he goes all caveman, but in a high powered businessman vs. country-girl-Emma-could-definitely-kick-your-butt kinda way. It's all very sappy, featuring an alpha male, a woman who believes she's losing the nephew she thinks of as a son, and one of those obnoxiously well-behaved insanely intelligent plot moppets serving as a 15 year old -- although I have to admit, I've seen far worse cases of plot-moppetry in Romancelandia than Michael. At least he's not *totally* perfect.

Mid-way through the book there's a light bit of suspense that really felt out of place and shoehorned in. Maybe if the author had included hints of it from the beginning, but I'm honestly not positive she planned it, or if she did, couldn't figure out a way to put it in earlier so it didn't feel so sudden.

I didn't find this quite as compelling as I did in the past, but I've also begun to fall away from romances a bit in the last year or so. But I still enjoyed the crap out of it and it's still a go-to when I haven't read it in ages and need a comfort read.

Mimi says

Tempt Me If You Can is Book Two in the Sinclair Brothers trilogy. This one stars Ben Sinclair who finds out he has a 15-year-old son that he never knew about. Determined to get to know Michael and to find out what happened to Michael's mother, he heads off to Maine where he meets Michael's aunt, Emma Sands, and sparks begin to fly. Facing danger and several surprises, Ben, Emma, and Michael must deal with these issues before they can reach their HEA together. Another great romance by Janet Chapman.

Cruth says

That was fun. Light angst. Light suspense. But all fun. Happy people who like their lives and are willing to

join them together.

Caitlin Peterson says

This is a new author for me, and I'm so happy I randomly picked this book off the shelf at the library! I ran the gamut of emotions in this book, and I honestly think that's a sign of true talent in an author. I cried in parts, laughed in some, and bit my nails in suspense at others. The characters were so strong and well written, and I absolutely fell in love with the little family they became.

The mystery wasn't too hard to figure out, even for me, and it was definitely secondary to the romance. I thoroughly enjoyed myself with this book, and will definitely be reading more from her!

Cornelia says

It would have been a random ok read except for the 2 times where he forces himself on Emma. I don't care that she is lready half in luv with him.

I have liked the #1 and intended to read this one shortly after but it took me a couple of years to read this one. I had lost interest in the book. Now I am done with this serie and mgybe this author too

Michelle (Undeniably Book Nerdy) says

Tempt Me If You Can is the second book in the Sinclair Brothers series by Janet Chapman. I didn't read the first book and there is not need because but this book is a standalone. This book tells the story of wealthy businessman Ben Sinclair who received a letter from an anonymous source saying that he fathered a son fifteen years ago. So, after doing some investigating and finding out the letter speaks the truth, he left New York for Maine. There, meets his son Michael and Emma Sands who was sister to the mother of his child who had mysteriously disappeared.

My favorite scenes in this book are ones with Ben and Michael, his son. I really enjoyed reading those scenes and I thought they were really sweet. However, the pacing of the book was really choppy and the telling not so smooth--least of all the build up of Emma and Ben's relationship. They went from hating each other to trying to get along for the sake of Michael and suddenly Ben wants to marry her. I just didn't feel that gradual change of feelings between the two. The one sex scene they had felt tacked on for the sake of having a sex scene in the book and it was lukewarm at best. I also didn't like how Ben manhandled Emma in the beginning--for that matter Emma got hurt a lot in this book. From being attacked by a violent suitor to plane crashes to being chased through the woods by the villain--this lady suffered but then again I thought she's on the verge of being TSTL. I could keep going on of things I didn't enjoy so much but suffice to say there were too many things going on (especially that mystery that suddenly popped up about two thirds into the book) that bordered on in the absurd with choppy scenes and a hero and a heroine I didn't really feel a connection with.

I give this book 2 out of 5 stars.

Phoenix77 says

Have you ever received a notification from the library that a book you had on hold came in but you cannot remember when you requested the damn thing?

For the life of me I don't know how this book came up on my radar or why I was interested in reading it at that time. Since my choices were borrow it or pay a fee to the library I grabbed it figuring it was worth a shot.

We've got a fake-Alpha hero (bossy and possessive with nothing to really back up either behavior), a horribly weak "strong" heroine and a whole lot of things happening to these two that seems to come out of the blue but suddenly mean EVERYTHING to the characters. To make matters worse for a book less than 8-years old it's horribly dated. Most of the Hero's behavior borders on harassing and he practically bullied the heroine into marrying him.

Someone remind me next time to think before making a request at the library!

Taracuda says

I'd give it a 2.5 stars if I could. I didn't really DISLIKE it, but I didn't really like it, either.

Basically, guy finds out that he has a son and goes to meet him. Son is 15, but has wanted to meet his dad for years. In fact, he asks to call him Dad by day 3. And Son is amazing- smart, tall, handsome, yadda. Not even too scarred by being left by Dad (who didn't know Mom was preggo) and also by Mom (who we think has R-U-N-N-O-F-T but is really D-E-A-D as that's the only reason anyone would abandon awesome kid).

SO Son is being raised by Aunt. Who has been in love with Dad since she was 15. And then Aunt and Dad fall in love and have earth-moving sex (although that's really the earthquakes of Maine) and thwart the bad guy with the help of a one-antlered bull moose.

None of that is what got me, though. What got to me is that Dad was an Uber-domineering-Alpha-Male who basically didn't listen to a damn thing that Aunt said. Like "don't kiss me." And even though she's supposed to be this tough-as-nails outdoorsy business owner, she is just kind of goes along with what ever he says. He officially announces that she's his, and they're getting married. I kept waiting for him to get caught peeing on the wall to mark his turf.

There are also some random plot elements that could have been handled better. Dad walks home after Father-Son bonding to discover that Wanna-be Suitor is actually trying to attack Aunt. Dad kicks his ass....and then...that story line just vanishes. There are a couple other moments like that in the book, too.

I think it would have been a much better if it had stayed a romance, not a romance/mystery/adventure. It was trying to get too many plot elements and didn't do justice to any of them.

Additionally, I abhor the repeated use of the phrase "that little minx" in any work of fiction.

Barbara ★ says

I usually love Ms. Chapman's books but this one just didn't do it for me. I'm not loving Ben Sinclair - he's a bit of a pushy jerk. And Emma Sands is rather independent and successfully doing her own thing until Ben arrives. Then she allows him to dictate what she can and can't do with her business. It just seem like someone with her personality would stand for. Though I loved Michael.

Natalya says

89/234 Enjoyed Mike's character of an old man teenager and the outdoorsy vibe. Romantic plot seemed to have resolved itself pretty quickly so no reason to stick around past a third

Sandra Walker says

Wonderful, I really like books by this author.

Jim son of Jim (formerly PhotoJim) says

A solid 3.5 stars for me. This is the second of the Sinclair books and the second I've read. I thought the role Ben played running his company was certainly underplayed but liked the interaction between Ben and Emma. And of course Mike was uber-cool. Since I like hiking and camping, many of the settings appealed to me as well.

You don't need to read the first book but they are loosely related.

Jill says

FYI this book is easily read without reading the first in the series. This book I really really liked. It was good, much better than the first because this had some suspense. There's supposed to be a bit of a mystery that involves some coordinates, but that's no mystery that a 5-year-old couldn't figure out from the get-go. But there's still suspense anyway, and I really like the characters. I wonder if #3 brother Jesse will get a book??
