



Waiting for Deborah

Betty Neels

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A waif in need of his care... That was obviously how dynamic consultant Sir James Marlow saw Deborah. Otherwise why would he bother to keep rescuing her? Deborah knew it couldn't be because of her looks--she had carrot-colored hair and no figure to speak of. That was the only explanation she could come up with--unless he wanted something else from her altogether?

Waiting for Deborah Details

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Caro says

Esta es una de esas novelas de Betty que me hacen suspirar de lo bonita que es :3. Gracias a Caro Charmie que me la regaló y pude disfrutarla como se merece.

Stephanie says

In her quest for independence, Deborah meets Dr. James Marlow at a job nursing an elderly woman recuperating from a stroke and is slowly taken in by his kindness and concern. As she moves from job to job, Dr. Marlow is always there, somehow in the background and picking her up when things go wrong. But as Deborah falls for the brooding doctor, she begins to wonder whether what he feels for her is a romantic passion or the concern for a lost puppy.

<http://bookshelfpicks.blogspot.com/20...>

Bethany Swafford says

A very sweet romance. One of my favorites by this author.

Helen Manning says

Predictable but very sweet. Ms Neel's books are the cosy robes of literature; warm and comforting.

Kathy says

I found this story a little dark and depressing. Our heroine has a really hard time of it. She has to deal with some pretty rough situations and gets bounced around a great deal. Our hero is a bit too austere and while he wants to give the girl a chance to land on her own two feet because she is very proud, I think he waited too long for the final rescue and marriage proposal.

Michelle says

Lovely

If you enjoy your romances clean, light, fluffy and vintage then you will enjoy the wonderful work of Betty Neels

Patricia schmit says

A Cast of Interesting Characters

While the romance portion of the book is quite satisfying, the other characters are an important part of the book, and, as usual, Ms. Neels does an excellent job of weaving them into the story.

Pamela Shropshire says

Deborah Everett is an Araminta with "carrot" hair but beautiful eyes, with a nasty step-brother and step-sister. Her step-father, whom she had cared for the past two years, has died and her step-brother, Walter, makes it clear she will be getting nothing. So she takes a job caring for an old lady recovering from a stroke. It is through this job that she meets her RBD, Sir James Marlow.

Deborah goes from that job to another much more congenial, working for a friend of James's sister. When Walter and Barbara show up unexpectedly and try to force Deborah to go with them - presumably to serve as an unpaid maid or suchlike - James tells them that he and Deborah are to be married. Of course, Deborah has long since had her DR and James can't get her out of his thoughts.

James takes her to his old Nanny, Mrs. Trott, or Trotty. Deborah finds herself a job, but has to be rescued once more when she catches the measles from the children she was looking after (I'm going to ignore the fact that no one in the 1990s got the measles). Looking at her, James reflects that "it was no good -Deborah had come into his life and wasn't going to go again."

That line is reminiscent of Darcy's "in vain have I struggled" line. This was the high point of the book for me and honestly, I wish TGB hadn't wasted such a great line on such a mediocre book. Perhaps I'll pretend that Tiele thinks this about Becky (my absolute fav Neels book, The Promise of Happiness!).

Nevertheless, James thinks that Deborah deserves to make her own way, if that's what she wants. Of course, she only wants to be his wife, but it's a necessity for them to be at cross-purposes because word count.

So Deborah takes a 3-month course in shorthand (again, no one learned shorthand in the 90s - my high school stopped offering it in the late 70s), typing and word processing. She failed the course. And if that weren't bad enough, her landlady has a massive stroke and dies; her brother inherits the house and Deborah is homeless again. Sir James to the rescue once more - he takes her back to his home and then back to Trotty. He goes back to London, then rearranges his schedule and goes back to Deborah, this time for the D&P while she is still in her dressing gown. When Trotty comes in, they are kissing and Trotty tells Deborah to get dressed! I did love that!

Meh. Middle of the pile for me. I got impatient with James's dithering and Deborah was a bit of a ninny. Seriously, she couldn't pass a typing course?

Mudpie says

This 1994 book was rather depressing for me. I am really not liking this trope where the poor and destitute heroine goes from one bad job to the next; sometimes it's from a bad job to a worse one with no end in sight. But it's Romanceland so we know the hero will marry her and give our heroine a good happy ever after!

Deborah spent the past few years nursing first her sick mother, and after her death, her unpleasant stepfather. When he died, which was when the story began, her stepbrother made her stay alone in the big house as caretaker till he managed to sell it. Grudgingly giving her some money for the house, he left with his equally cold sister. It's a wonder people who were already so rich be so stingy and mean, to their stepsister who looked after their own father too.

After meeting Sir James, he was always rescuing her from ne bad job to the next.

It was funny how he found it irritating that he could not put her out of his mind, and him helping her with the job looking after Mr Oscar Trent. He turned out to be a dear, and the way Lottie teased Sir James was funny too! Though I was baffled by the sudden appearance of the step siblings here. What for do they want Deborah to return with them? Where to? Since each live show n their own posh flats, and there wasn't any elderly left for Deborah to nurse was there? It might be a weak plot device for Sir James to once again come to the rescue...

Anyway it was depressing and tedious to read what happened to Deborah.

SPOILERS

The death of the landlady was the ultimate...Must BN bring Deborah so low? And James's noble intentions to ket Deborah live a life of her choosing...so much time wasted and more anguish for her! To fail BOTH her exams!

We were never told what Sir James specialised in; neurosurgeon? Because he seemed to deal with stroke patients a lot!

I wish both Deborah and Sir James had had more time alone to "date". The time spent driving all over the places do not count!

Marnie says

The one where she's a ginger with no employable skills and horrible step-siblings, who works in various people's homes caring for sick/elderly relatives, and fails her typing exam; while he's a rich, handsome, titled, English doctor (something to do with strokes) who owns a 16th century cottage in the country and is always there to rescue her when she's down on her luck.

Mary Lawson says

In the end...bliss

I always love reading Betty Neels books. They are always romantic and a happy ending. Strong hero and

heroine overcoming obstacles.

Heather says

Ah, the trials and tribulations of learning shorthand and word processing!

Lynn Spencer says

I love Betty Neels' books and this particular novel will be like catnip for anyone who fancies a trip into Neels-land. Though written and ostensibly set in the 1990s, this book has something of a mid-20th century feel to it - down to a heroine in her early 20s who hasn't the faintest idea what one does with a computer. Indeed, even though Betty Neels wrote for Harlequin for several decades, her books all have something of a comfortably old-fashioned feel to them.

Those who have read Neels before will recognize some familiar features in this story. We have a plucky heroine, a very competent and successful older doctor (though not a Dutch one this time) who of course has loyal retainers who dote on him, and a sweet if rather abrupt romance. In this case, our plucky heroine Deborah has spent years nursing first her mother and then her stepfather. Upon the latter's death, she finds that she has not been provided for at all and her boorish stepsiblings are bent on turning her out of the house.

Fortunately, Deborah finds a position as an aide/companion to an elderly lady who has suffered a stroke. There she meets Sir James Marlow, a consulting doctor called in to see the lady who starts to become Deborah's friend and ally in the house when he sees just how much she cares for her charge. Without giving away the whole plot, I'll just say that Deborah suffers a series of employment upsets but being brave and plucky, she just keeps dusting herself off and soldiering on - qualities that endear her to James. She's not the brightest bulb out there, but she's kind, determined and good. Oh, and she has lovely eyes. Those get remarked on all throughout the text, though I did wish folks would quit harping on Deborah's otherwise being plain.

So, if you're in the mood for a sweet, old-fashioned romance, sink into this one. It's a nice comfort read.

Allison says

The usual one problem after another for the heroine and the hero that we don't get to learn much about. I'll give Betty this, she sure created heroine's that kept going at all costs.

R says

Would have been better if author didn't seem to feel it necessary to make heroine slow to learn (classes and technology). Just my thoughts. Otherwise another lovely, quite, read. :)
