



Searching for Mine

Jennifer Probst

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The Ultimate Anti-Hero Meets His Match...

Connor Dunkle knows what he wants in a woman, and it's the three B's. Beauty. Body. Boobs. Other women need not apply. With his good looks and easygoing charm, he's used to getting what he wants—and who. Until he comes face to face with the one woman who's slowly making his life hell...and enjoying every moment...

Ella Blake is a single mom and a professor at the local Verily college who's climbed up the ranks the hard way. Her ten-year-old son is a constant challenge, and her students are driving her crazy—namely Connor Dunkle, who's failing her class and trying to charm his way into a better grade. Fuming at his chauvinistic tendencies, Ella teaches him the ultimate lesson by giving him a special project to help his grade. When sparks fly, neither of them are ready to face their true feelings, but will love teach them the ultimate lesson of all?

Searching for Mine Details

Date : Published February 9th 2016 by Evil Eye Concepts, Incorporated

ISBN : 9781942299233

Author : Jennifer Probst

Format : Paperback 130 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Novella

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From Reader Review Searching for Mine for online ebook

Gökçe says

Meh.

Ada Frost says

There is a reason this woman is one of my absolute favourite authors <3

Marieke (Marieke's Books & Books and Tequila) says

Searching for Mine by Jennifer Probst is the new novella in the 'Searching For series'. It's written in the style I like Jennifer Probst for, sweet and sometimes a little dramatic. Going in, I knew *Searching for Mine* was going to be a short read, but I wish it was longer in order to do the characters more justice.

"Mr. Dunkle?" His head shot up in pure surprise. She was staring at him with a focused expression that almost made him blush. Almost. Of course, she had no clue he'd been wondering about the look of her panties. He gave her an easy grin that usually charmed women within a few seconds. "Yes?"

Connor Dunkle is a 'good-time guy'. He likes to hang out with his friends, and has casual dates with beautiful women, but nothing serious. Having had his heart broken once, he has decided relationships aren't in the cards for him. At age thirty-eight he wants something more out of his professional career, a management position, for which he returns to College to earn a degree. Being distracted by a professor so opposite from the women he normally dates isn't something he has counted on.

Ella Blake is a single mother to her ten year old son and works as a professor at the local College. Her son and her job is all she has, after her husband replaced her, she moved to a different town and left everything behind. Ella has no time to date, and doesn't want to either. When she finds out her attractive student Connor is actually her new neighbor, she isn't exactly happy about that.

"Yes?" she asked with a bit of impatience. He blinked, somewhat confused she hadn't ducked her head or stuttered. Oh, this one needed a reality check. Had he ever been rejected? Or was he one of the lucky ones who slid through life unscathed by others? Huh."

When Connor and Ella find out they are living next door to each other, they slowly start to form a friendship. At college, they are still professor and student, but at home they interact as friendly neighbors who help each other out. Ella finds herself very attracted to Connor, but doesn't make a move. Although he starts to have feelings for her, feelings he doesn't understand because Ella is so unlike his normal women, Connor doesn't make a move either, until she decides to start dating again. When the couple is finally on the same page, they have a fair chance at a Happily Ever After.

This being a novella, and therefore a short story, the story between Connor and Ella falls a little flat sometimes. While their road to romance is realistic, they start out as friends and end as much more, the

characters feel under-developed. We get a full background story for Connor, but he seems a shallow man who only gives into his feelings for Ella after her make-over. Ella herself remains a bit of a mystery, small hints about the demise of her marriage are given, but nothing more.

“Will you be mine, Ella Blake?” She gazed at his beloved face and the way his eyes told her the truth, gleaming in the depths of a bottomless ocean blue. “I already was,” she said simply. She stepped into his arms and he kissed her, long and slow and sweet. When he lifted his head, Ella smiled.”

Despite my issues with *Searching for Mine*, I still liked it. I give this novella 3.5 stars.

~~ *Searching for Mine* was provided in exchange for an honest review ~~

Check out my blog: www.mariekesbooks.com

1-Click Addict Support Group says

Engaging and endearing, *Searching for Mine* was a fun, sexy little gem, and a wonderful addition to this series. I didn't know it was coming out—how I missed it, I don't know—so to find out that one of my favorite series isn't quite over yet was a big treat.

I devoured this book. As is to be expected of someone that is in love with this author's words, I sat down and read to the end in one, very enjoyable sitting. I loved that Jennifer Probst gave Nate's brother, Conner, a story—and that she paired him with a strong, take-no-prisoners woman like Ella. He needed it, and it was refreshing to see a female character that was not perfect.

Likewise, I loved that *Searching for Mine* gave us the chance to check in on Nate and Kennedy—a couple that made me laugh and smile in their brief cameos in this book.

A lovely read that will make you smile and swoon, I can only hope that this book might be one of many side novellas in the *Searching For* series. ~ Beth, 4 stars

Heather Pollock says

ARC provided by author in exchange for author in exchange for an honest review

So worth the the read!

Yes it's a short read. From the *Searching for* series. I do own a copy off all of her books.

They are awesome!!

Searching for Mine is just as fabulous.

Connor and Ella perfect romantic, sweet and funny!! They just clicked perfectly. So worth the read!

Michelle says

ARC provided by author in exchange for author in exchange for an honest review

One of my favorite series is the *Searching For Series* and I was so excited to discover that Jennifer Probst wrote a sweet installment to this beloved series. And let me just say that **I. Am. In. Love.** I absolutely adored **Searching For Mine.**

“He’d never been like his brother, craving some type of mythical connection with a woman that didn’t exist. No, he believed hard in the three B’s when it came to dating. They were part of his own personal Bible he’d created to keep things uncomplicated. Beauty. Body. Boobs.”

Searching For Mine was sexy, sweet, charming, and absolutely beautiful. I loved that Ms. Probst *kinneted* all the right elements to give readers a story built on depth, love, family, and second chances. In this beautiful tale of second chances, Connor Dunkle is 38 years old and enrolled in college. He is finally taking charge of his life to make a better life for himself. He is on his way of earning his degree but there is one class or in this case a Professor who is making it difficult to pass.

Ella Blake is a single mom and a professor at the local Verily College. Newly divorced, Ella has little time for a love life since she wants to be a good mother to her son, Luke. At home, she is a complete softy when it comes to her ten year old son but when it comes to her students, she is one tough Professor. And Connor Dunkle is the one student who is having a hard time passing her class.

“Connor made the only decision available because if he didn’t kiss her in this moment, he’d spend the rest of his nights grieving the lost opportunity of a lifetime. So he kissed her.”

As it turns out Connor and Ella are next door neighbors. And when Connor sees Ella's son being bullied by a group of teens, Connor steps in and helps him. Soon Connor finds himself helping out Ella and Luke. And as the three of them begins to spend more quality time together, feelings begin to blossom between Ella and Connor. For most of his life, Connor never thought he wanted to settle down and be committed but as he spends more time with Ella, will he realized that she was what he was *searching for*? Will another *kinnection* be made?

“She had done a terrible, awful, ridiculous thing. She had fallen in love with Connor Dunkle.”

Searching For Mine was another great addition to this amazing and sexy series. I love that Jennifer Probst gave her readers a love story between two people who didn't know what they were searching for. I loved how the love unfolded between Connor and Ella so naturally that readers could feel the real honest love that was brewing between them. I especially loved that Ms. Probst also highlighted that there is no such thing as being too old to go back to school. So if you are looking for a sweet and sexy second chance romance, then **Searching For Mine** is the book for you. As always, Jennifer continues to spellbind her readers with her magical prose of *kinnecting* the right dots for one unforgettable romance!!!

Review can also be found on Four Chicks Flipping Pages: <http://fourchicksflippingpages.weebly...>Jennifer

Probst

Jaime Fiction Fangirls Book Review says

This was a perfect addition to the Searching For series and I really enjoyed reading it.

Sometimes the makeover portion of the Kinnections experience can annoy me because I feel a lot like Nate, that it's not always necessary and can make the matches feel less authentic. However, this time around the effect of the makeover was addressed perfectly.

Connor was pretty good at playing the asshole and I worried for a minute that he wouldn't redeem himself. On the other hand, Ella was a bit uptight and I was kind of put off by her in the beginning. Really it was her son, Luke that helped bring out the softer side of both of them.

I think that my biggest problem with this book is that it was too short and I wanted more of Ella and Connor.

*I received an ARC from the author/publisher in exchange for an honest review

Michelle says

3.5 Stars

Alexandraone says

Mi è piaciuto tantissimo avrei voluto che non finisse più!

CrazyForRomance says

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Quattro stelle e mezzo

La storia di Ella e Connor non aggiunge nulla a quelle degli altri libri; qui, diversamente dai precedenti, l'agenzia viene appena accennata e troviamo Nate e Kennedy solo perché fanno parte della famiglia di Connor. Questo però non toglie nulla alla bellezza del racconto, e il lento avvicinarsi di due personalità così diverse fino alla comunione completa e alla formazione di una nuova famiglia a Verily ha il sapore dolce delle seconde possibilità ben sfruttate e senza fare rumore anche i nostri due nuovi amici entreranno a far parte della grande famiglia allargata della Kinnection, completando così il quadro generale.

Avevamo già in parte conosciuto Connor nel libro che ha come protagonista suo fratello e ce lo ricordavamo abbastanza superficiale e senza ambizioni, in pratica un bel maschione sempre pronto ad accontentare una donna in ogni sua esigenza ma senza mettere mai in discussione i sentimenti veri. Lo ritroviamo più motivato, cambiato profondamente per quanto riguarda gli obiettivi e la voglia di riscatto. L'unica cosa su cui

ancora deve lavorare è la paura di essere abbandonato che lo frena nel lasciarsi avvolgere completamente dai sentimenti. Ella gli farà capire che è degno di essere amato e che deve solo liberarsi dai pregiudizi e smettere di pensare per luoghi comuni. In tutto questo noi invece leggiamo di lui con gli occhi a cuoricino perché.. beh... anche lui è un gorilla che monta le mensole e non solo, e ha una carica sessuale davvero notevole. Mi è piaciuta moltissimo anche Ella, perché è una donna reale, non è la solita velina tutta curve e vestiti firmati, è delusa dalla vita, ha perso la voglia di piacere e piacersi, il marito che l'ha lasciata dicendole che non lo eccitava più ha come ucciso il suo lato femminile. Ma adora suo figlio e vorrebbe potergli dare una vita normale e per farlo sa che deve trovare la voglia di rimettersi in gioco. Nei confronti di Connor è inizialmente diffidente e un po' prevenuta ma dovrà ricredersi e quando poi non riuscirà più a nascondere i suoi sentimenti lascerà libera di sprigionarsi la passione e la loro sarà un'unione esplosiva. Luke è il valore aggiunto di questo racconto, è un ragazzino timido e riservato, che inizialmente è facile preda dei bulli del quartiere, ma che troverà in Connor una guida per riuscire a trovare il suo equilibrio. Continua a leggere la recensione su: [CrazyForRomance](#)

Nissa | Of Pens and Pages Book Blog says

3.5 stars!

Full Review for 1001 Dark Nights: Bundle Nine at Of Pens and Pages.

Searching for Mine is a novella in the Searching for series but works as a standalone with a few references from the series. If you've read the series, this novella stars Connor Dunkle, Nate's big brother. I haven't read the series but didn't have any difficulties getting into the story. At thirty-eight, Connor Dunkle is in his last class to finally get a degree he's worked hard for the past two years. Thing is, he's gotten Fs on the class's papers, and his plain and stuffy professor isn't giving him a break. He tried to flirt with her, charm her, but Ella Blake won't fall for it. He has to work hard his grade if he wants it.

The two were in obvious need of personality development makeovers, but fortunately there's character growth for both of them. Ella started off as this uptight, snarky, almost vicious woman who attacked Connor. She took offense to most things he said (but hey, he's a bit misogynistic at the start of the story—or maybe more than 50% of it— so I kind of get it), but as they got to know each other, they had more in common than they thought. Connor is amazing with Ella's son, Luke, and the friendship between Connor and Ella was sweet. I really like the conversations about classic literature and the talk of feminism and the patriarchy in the past. I also like how straightforward Ella is and how she took the bull by its horns with Connor. She'd probably reprimand me for my cliché description. Heh. Over all, I enjoyed this novella. It was a hate-to-love, friends-to-lovers story with just the right pace.

**Read as part of the 1001 Dark Nights: Bundle Nine anthology*

**ARC received in exchanged for an honest review.*

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Emma says

Oh Connor, Connor, Connor. I cannot tell you how excited I was to know Connor was getting his own story. For all his 80's reject douchebag persona he had going on in *Searching for Perfect*; it was obvious Connor

had a heart of gold. Under the brash exterior he is utterly selfless as exhibited by his stepping into the parental role for Nate, working three jobs to put him through school and the way he is willing to help above and beyond anyone else.

Connor has come a long way since Searching for Perfect, finally pursuing his construction dreams and getting the degree to go alongside his ambition. For someone who constantly puts themselves down, it is difficult for Connor to see the things others see so clearly. While he may not be genius IQ level like Nate (let's be honest few of us are) he is surprisingly intelligent when he isn't trying to downplay it. Compressing a four-year degree into two years takes both hard work and intelligence. Gone are the days and nights of shallow hook-ups and drinking until the wee hours, replaced by studying and maintaining a full work schedule.

Ella is probably the exact opposite of Connor on the surface, placing little emphasis on the superficial while digging for the soul-deep. While there are most definitely sparks from the start, it could be seen as an opposites attract/forbidden romance to begin with. That is until the real Connor shines through. An incident involving Ella's son, Luke, ensures Ella and Connor spend time together and develop a mutually beneficial friendship while suppressing the sparks they both feel. Their burgeoning relationship offers a level of acceptance and understanding neither have experienced before, a great foundation for any relationship whether platonic, romantic or familial.

There are lots of beautiful literary references scattered through the narrative in conjunction with thought-provoking insight into human nature as well as the way in which we respond to words ♥♥

The best thing about the plot however, was watching Connor's character growth and developing self-awareness. Self awareness can be a shocking thing at times and it can affect you on a deeply emotional level, it was a privilege to watch Connor's.

I loved getting a glimpse of Nate and Kennedy within the narrative; I love this series and want to know just what everyone has been up to since I've been away from them ♥

Natalie The Biblioholic says

At 38 years old, Connor Dunkle is set to complete his last semester of college. He's that much closer to getting his degree and qualifying for a managerial position within the construction company he works for. If only he could bring his grade up in English. It seems his professor, Ella Blake, who comes across as dowdy and repressed, really has it out for him with all of the F's she keeps handing out. Ella challenges him, both academically and personally, to dig deeper, find substance, and get real. I enjoyed every minute of this enemies-to-friends-to-lovers romance. It was wonderful to see Connor learn to see beyond the surface of everything.

Release Date: February 9, 2016

Genre: Contemporary Romance

POV: Dual - 3rd person

Steam: 3 out of 5

Book Type: Series Novella (Book 4.5 of the Searching For series)

**Read as part of the 1001 Dark Nights: Bundle Nine anthology*

Eve Recinella (Between The Bookends) says

Sigh..I don't know what to say about this one. I really didn't like anything about it at all.

The author made the heroine so bitchy, and uptight. She had thick black rimmed glasses, wore horrible to big for her clothes that didn't show an ounce of skin. Flat boots, wore her hair in a "severe" bun, and wore a garish orange shade of lipstick. This is how the hero describes her through practically the whole frigging book! In fact he only really makes a move on her after she gets a make over.

Check out this following quote..

"He stared. Speechless, his voice died in his throat and he could only look at the woman before him that was no longer Ella. She was stunning."

SOOOO..ya. Add in the fact that Connor is kind of a douche noodle through 98% of the book AND they both go on dates with other people (though nothing sexual happens) pretty much right to the end, this just didn't work for me on pretty much any level.

Lacey (Booklovers For Life) says

Originally posted at Booklovers For Life

The Searching For series is a series that I adore, and when I heard that Nate's brother Connor would be getting his own story, I couldn't wait to read it! Searching for Mine is the perfect blend of sexy and sweet. Even though it's a novella, it's a fully satisfying story that will have you smiling throughout it. I love when former manwhores get smacked by love and fall head over heels for their women, and Connor does exactly that. If you're a fan of the series, this latest installment doesn't disappoint!

In Nate's book, we saw Connor as that womanizer who never took relationships or women seriously, but he's made a big change in his novella. At 38, he's no longer satisfied with his usual hook-ups. He's enrolled in college, taking his career seriously... except there's only one thing getting in the way of his degree, and that's Professor Ella Blake's class.

Ella is a recently-divorced mom whose main focus is her young son and her job at the local Verity College. She has no patience for students who don't do their assigned reading and try to charm their way in class, so when Connor tries to butter her up for a better grade, she shoots him down, no matter that he's as sexy and good-looking as he is.

It turns out that the two of them are new next door neighbors, and when Connor helps Ella's son out with some bullies, he finds himself wanting to help Ella and Luke out more and more. And becoming more attracted to the gorgeous single mother. As the three of them spend more quality time together, Ella finds herself seeing Connor in a new light. He's a man who's hard-working, dedicated, and sacrificed his younger years to support his younger brother. The two of them discover each other in new ways, but is it possible for a relationship to work between them when Connor has been anti-relationship for so long?

“You’re an incredible woman,” he said softly. “You deserve... everything.”

Searching for Mine is another sweet, charming addition to a series a love. It’s a quick read, but it packs a punch with the wonderful writing and characters. Jennifer Probst writes the best contemporary romances – I can’t wait to read more from her!

Thanks to the author for generously providing me an ARC to review.

Quotes are taken from the ARC and are subject to change in the final version.

Amazon Ebook: <http://amzn.to/1NUaQgm>

Amazon Paperback: <http://amzn.to/1RdB2bv>

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