



## Until There Was Us

*Samantha Chase*

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Megan Montgomery has always been the careful type. Except...one time at her cousin's wedding when she threw caution to the wind and had the steamiest hook-up of her life. But that was two years ago— why can't she stop thinking about it? So when Megan accepts a job at her cousin's company, she does everything she can to avoid Alex—knowing he'll shake up her carefully crafted world.

Alex Rebat's been living a good life. He loves his career and friends, but like Megan, hasn't been able to stop thinking about their passionate encounter. And once Megan moves to town, Alex makes it his personal goal to show her that maybe it's time to start taking a few more risks...

## Until There Was Us Details

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## From Reader Review Until There Was Us for online ebook

### Sofia Lazaridou says

Until there was us in a new chapter in The Montgomery Brothers series. And I don't mean that it's just a new story. It's time for the Montgomery cousins to get their stories.

I liked the characters both main and secondary and I will suggest to dive into this world even if you haven't read another book in the series. The book can be read as stand-alone, but you might get the urge to read the rest of the series. I am hooked and I will continue reading the series. Megan's brother seemed like an interesting person and I want to see how his lady will bring him to his knees. He lives in another city though and that might be a problem since we might not see the city and the characters that have gotten into our hearts. That will be bad because I got invested and I loved the matchmaking uncle, aunt, and mother. I miss this kind of series and I am glad I found another one after the Bennett family series.

The book gave me more feels than I was expecting. Alex's friendship with Danny made me tear up a little and it made me sad. Alex was always the supporter and I hated to see him crumbling. I liked what Megan did to bring him back and at that moment I knew that she had completely won me over. That and her hobby cemented the deal for me. I loved both of them and how they completed each other. They had a good relationship and they learned from their mistakes in the past and their failed try at a long distance relationship. Megan was one of the good heroines. She took care of herself, she was trying to do the best and when the time came, she knew what she wanted and what she didn't.

For me, the book was great and I loved the story. I think you should buy it and see for yourselves.

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### Book Lover says

Alex has been friends with the Montgomerys since he was Zach's PT. He is loved by all. He is too good to be real. He is there for everyone, adjusting his schedule to his clients needs even if it disrupted his plans. He is a fixer. I did like some of his romantic gestures.

Megan has been trying to get her father's acknowledgement and approval of her chosen career for as long as she can remember, without success. She has been killing herself working 80+ hour weeks, having no social life, and basically isolating herself even at work.

Alex and Megan met and had a secret weekend fling during Zach's wedding 2 years ago. Alex wanted to continue seeing her long distance, but Megan blew him off after 3 months of struggling. Despite this, they each still thought about the other frequently. Megan accepts a job with Zach and moves to town. She isn't sure what to do about Alex and doesn't let him know she's back in town. Alex is thrilled when he discovers she back and hopes for a second chance.

Megan "melted" at least 8 times in this book. I don't know how my eyes didn't roll right out of my head. Once or twice ok, but there are so many other ways to say this. This story seemed to go on forever. It moves slowly and is frequently repetitive. I just couldn't connect to the characters. And Megan's secret? Seriously? Once again rolling my eyes. I had to force myself to finish.

I voluntarily reviewed an ARC provided by NetGalley and the publisher.

## **Evelyn says**

Reviewed for [www.buriedunderromance.com](http://www.buriedunderromance.com)

UNTIL THERE WAS US is the seventh novel in the successful Montgomery Brothers series by Samantha Chase. As a fan of this wonderful series and this author, this story of second chances hooked me immediately and I polished off the book in one sitting.

Instead of a Montgomery brother playing the lead in this story, we get the story of Megan Montgomery, a workaholic who, up to this point, has managed to avoid getting swept up in the family business. When asked to join cousin Zach's branch of the business as the IT specialist, however, she agrees to take the position even though it involves a cross-country move from New York to Portland. While she won't admit that it had anything to do with her acceptance of the job, Megan knows that, in Portland, she will have to come into contact with sexy Alex Rabat, Zach's best friend. Megan and Alex had a secret (or was it?), steamy two-night stand after meeting at Zach's wedding. Megan felt that the fling with Alex had been so out of character for her that she let the long-distance romance quickly fizzle out.

When Megan and Alex meet again, it's obvious to both that the incredible attraction between them is still there, but Megan tries to avoid Alex. She claims that getting involved with Alex will negatively affect her ability to do her job. Alex does not give up, and he does everything he can to pull Megan out of her comfort zone and back into the fire of a sizzling relationship with him. Can he succeed?

I thoroughly enjoyed this delightful story of Megan and Alex. I especially liked that Megan and Alex were not your typical romance novel characters. Megan was not overtly beautiful, or at least she didn't feel that way. She was most comfortable wearing sweats and little or no make-up, and she preferred to work over almost any other activity. None of this mattered to Alex who still thought she was beautiful. I also liked the way the author chose to write their romance. At the beginning, their attraction was purely physical, and their early encounters were definitely R-rated (but not the near-porn you find so often anymore). As their love for each other developed, the author gave them some privacy by moving the love scenes behind closed doors and into the imagination of the reader. Nice touch.

Without going into spoiler territory, there is one very emotional element to Alex's story that was very difficult for me to read because I had a very similar situation in my own life recently. While I, sadly, was able to connect to this story in a very personal way and the entire scenario left me in a puddle of tears, it was so realistically and sensitively written that I doubt there will be any readers left unmoved,

UNTIL THERE WAS US can easily be read as a standalone novel and an introduction to this series, but after reading it, I would highly recommend that readers that have not been following this wonderful series, start at book one and binge your way through the earlier novels. Samantha Chase is a wonderful storyteller, and she has masterfully crafted all the Montgomery family stories. You will not be disappointed!

I voluntarily read an Advance Reader Copy of this book and all the opinions in this review are mine.

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## **Carvanz says**

Megan and Alex had had a wild weekend two years previous but things turned sour on them when trying to do the long distance relationship thing. Now Megan has taken a new job and is located in the same town and with the same friends/family as Alex. After clearing the air regarding their past decisions and actions, things take off pretty quickly for this couple. Megan struggles to live a life outside of work and Alex is determined to show her there is more than just a computer and software updates.

I enjoyed watching this couple together and with their friends. They were both adorable and equally likeable. The secondary characters were great and there were scenes with a baby and then a rabid animal that had me grinning wildly. The heat level is medium, in my opinion, but the chemistry is real as is the relationship between Megan and Alex.

This is a nice low angst read that didn't really have any serious drama driving it but is perfect when you're looking for something sweet and romantic to slip into. Altogether, a completely enjoyable book.

I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced copy of this book provided by NetGalley and Sourcebooks. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

Dual POV

Safe (view spoiler)

Triggers (view spoiler)

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### **Bette Hansen says**

Loved, loved, loved this book! The Montgomery Brothers series were the first books I read by Ms. Chase and they made me a huge fan. So when I saw that we have more coming in this series I was over the moon. After reading this book I can say I was NOT disappointed! We get to meet a whole new cast of characters as well as catch up on some of our past favorites. In this book we meet Megan Montgomery. She's reserved, careful, a planner. The one thing she didn't plan was the unforgettable passion filled weekend she spent with Alex Rebat. Two years later she's going to work for her cousin and that means she may see Alex again. Surely he's forgotten her by now. Right??

This is one you don't want to miss. I highly recommend it.

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### **Jaime Fiction Fangirls Book Review says**

#### **3.5 Stars**

This was a very low-angst, sweet second chance romance. I can't say this is a couple that I fell in love with easily because, frankly, I didn't relate to either one of them.

Megan is a major workaholic and is not good at personal relationships. In fact, she blew her chance at a possible relationship with Alex Rebat two years ago because she's so career-focused. Don't get me wrong, career-focused is awesome but when it takes over every other aspect of your life, it's not so great. As you read, you'll learn that Megan has a secret that she doesn't share with anyone because she fears their judgement. Honestly, I thought it was a bit of a stretch that this "secret" was such a big deal to her. I get it, her father disapproved, but I really didn't get why she needed to keep it such a secret from EVERYONE else in her life.

Alex was a good guy, who loved the outdoors, and who was ready to finally settle down and start a family but just couldn't seem to find anyone who he was interested in the same way that he was with Megan Montgomery two years ago. The worst part is that he can't even talk about it with anyone because nobody else knows that they were involved. Then he finds out that Megan has just moved to the same city as him and

that he will be seeing her a lot because her cousin is one of his best friends.

You can feel the chemistry between them from the very first moment they are reunited but Megan is still focused on work and not ready to commit to a commitment. Alex still wants MORE from her and makes it his goal to loosen her up and introduce her to her new hometown with full hopes that they can pick up where they left off so long ago. What proceeds is a very slow and frustrating burn as Megan very slowly starts to open up, while somehow Alex begins to shutdown. It starts to feel like these two will never be on the same page.

Overall, I liked this story and I'm happy with the direction it took in the end. I'm not sold on the secrets and traumas that were preventing them from giving into their HEA but I can't deny that the whole premise of the Montgomery family heads as matchmakers makes my heart happy and it's why I just can't get enough of this series.

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### **Beth says**

Megan attends her cousin's wedding where she hooks up with a groomsman, Alex. They both go their own way but haven't forgotten each other.

Years later, Megan returns and Alex will do what it takes to convince her he's the man for her.

Chase provided a great balance of family drama and romance creating a fun and entertaining contemporary romance.

This is a book of second chances. With all second chances, you can't wait for the characters to communicate their true feelings and just let it happen.

I received this ARC copy of **Until There Was Us** from Sourcebooks - Casablanca. This is my honest and voluntary review. **Until There Was Us** is set for publication May 1, 2018.

My Rating: 4 stars

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Itunes: <https://itunes.apple.com/do/book/unti...>

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## Ruthie Taylor says

~~I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads ~~

This is the 7th in the series - and if you are a Montgomery fan then you will definitely enjoy this book. As well as Megan getting her HEA, we also catch up with Zach and Summer ... previous beneficiaries of William Montgomery's matchmaking!

This time though, it is wife and sister-in-law who decide that they know how to find Megan a match ... well really they saw her with Alex at Zach's wedding 2 years ago and start plotting. Little did they know that in fact the two of them recognised their attraction to each other. Sadly work and the small matter of living 3,000 miles apart came between them, but now Megan has moved to Portland too.

Megan has put a lot of pressure on herself to succeed and prove her father wrong about her abilities, and has become very focussed on her performance. Moving to Portland and working for Zach is an attempt to make some changes. She knows that she is likely to see Alex, but has no idea whether he has forgiven her neglect of him.

As we discover, Alex is still harbouring some serious annoyance at her behaviour. He does not understand how she could put work before a relationship, but he cannot deny that he still cares for her. As he gets to know her, he realises just how her priorities are skewed by her beliefs about work. He also knows that she is the one, so he makes some compromises and is patient. Megan is a lovely person, just rather lost, so it is both fun and very moving watching the two of them fall in love with each other.

They both have to deal with issues, and I have to say that Alex's relationship with Danny caused me to cry more than once. Beautifully written and so important to the whole story.

Another great match up - and surely Christian deserves his chance soon?

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## Linda says

This second-chance-at-love romance is teeming with delicious sexual tension...

They'd gone walking through the garden that was lit with twinkly lights, and Alex had surprised her with a kiss. And that was the moment she knew she wasn't going to her hotel alone.

Until There Was Us is the seventh installment in Samantha Chase's Montgomery Brothers series. I've thoroughly enjoyed other books I've read by Samantha – and impulsively decided to dive into this one without reading any of the prior books. Sadly, in hindsight, that wasn't the best decision with this book because, while I enjoyed it, I feel that I would have liked it lots more if I'd had a prior connection to the characters. This is the second-chance-at-love story of workaholic computer whiz Megan Montgomery and sexy physical therapist Alex Rebat.

Megan and Alex met and hooked up - which was totally out-of-character for Megan – at her cousin's

wedding. For three months, the two tried to keep the magic sizzling between them even though they lived on opposite sides of the country. However, when Megan stood Alex up when he'd flown three thousand miles to see her, all appeared to be over between them. As the story opens, in a game-changing move, Megan has accepted a job with her cousin which just happens to be located near Alex. Even though Megan refuses to admit it, the image of Alex and her tangled up together refuses to budge from her mind... and she held out hope of seeing him again. Unbeknownst to Megan, Alex can't seem to move on either.

I liked Alex from the start but it took me most of the book to warm up to Megan. Thankfully, she redeemed herself in the end as their wonderful and surprising HEA was happily in sight. Supporting characters played big parts in this tale – and there's lots of cute baby and baby-in-waiting moments.

Following please find a few of my favorite quotes from Until There Was Us:

Alex whispered her name as he gently pressed his lips to hers.

Oh...

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His name was a whispered plea before she said, "Promise to not let me leave tonight."

Lifting his head, Alex gave her a wicked smile. "Sweetheart, that was never going to be an option," he said before he silenced her with another kiss."

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Alex stood and stretched. "You know it's required that when you go on a beach vacation, you have to wear a bikini, right?"

She came to her feet and considered him for a moment. "I did not know that. But I'm not sure that's the right look on you."

Until There Was Us is teeming with delicious sexual tension. Unfortunately, it took me a bit to get into the story and the characters. Normally, I love, love, love Samantha's books. Because of my experience, I'd recommend that this book not be read as a standalone. Even so, Until There was Us is a well-written contemporary romance. I hope to read this series from the first soon as I do want to catch the other characters' stories.

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## **Maree Repa says**

Five Amazing Stars

Meeting Again

I was absolutely thrilled to receive the seventh book, The Montgomery Brothers. This most wonderful book is set on Megan Montgomery and she meets another gorgeous guy. Now years later she has to deal with meeting him again. I completely adored this marvellous romance!!

Stumbling through the crowds at Portland Airport. Megan carried her bag, whilst still reading her messengers on her mobile, it was difficult. Meeting up with cousin, Summer Reed, with her newest and baby, Abby who were sitting in a car outside. Megan was completely nervous. Now the Megan had already left her past job now she was hoping to get another one with members of her family. Finally they arrived at Summer and Ethan's home. Summer was just so excited to see Megan again.

As Megan told Summer she still hadn't dated anyone for years. How it was just so hard with her working so many hours a day. She just wasn't interested in anyone. But now moving to Portland. Everything looked up.

She might have a chance to see Alex Rebat again. He was just so special. She could never forget when they first meet.

As Alex finally saw Megan again, he was shocked. She originally had lived so far away, but now she was finally here. He still had feelings for her too, like when they met at the wedding.

I simply adored this marvellous most beautiful and romantic book. I completely loved all the fabulous characters. Such a wonderful and enjoyable book as well!! Congratulations Samantha Chase!!

\* I recommend this book to everyone!!

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## Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

4.5 stars

Two years prior at her cousin's wedding Megan Montgomery shared a passionate weekend with her cousin's friend Alex Rebat and while they both felt something between them, living across the country from one another had their relationship fizzling before it got started. Now Megan has moved to Portland to work for the family's company and that puts her in Alex's hometown. *Until There Was Us* is probably one of the more emotional books in this series, and it was pretty damn perfect.

Megan is a certified workaholic and she became that way trying to gain her father's approval and because following a break-up work was her refuge. She didn't think twice about moving to Portland and having family around and meeting up with Alex again gives her hope for someone special in her life. Alex was good for Megan encouraging her to get out of her comfort zone, to realize her worth, and to take time to enjoy her life. Megan made Alex feel complete in his life; while he loved his work as a sought after physical therapist, and he enjoyed his friends and family he felt something was missing until she once again enters his life.

I loved these two together and they just seemed to mesh well from the start. While Megan was a bit worried about what Alex saw in her, he was good at making her see he felt like he was the lucky one. All in all their relationship was pretty easy, not a lot of drama between them and while Megan's job created some stress Alex was a good sounding board. When Alex's life turned inside out, Megan proves to him that she will do anything to help him through the tough times.

Sweet and sensual, but with a lot of heart and emotion, *Until There Was Us* was a fantastic romance from start to finish.

## **E-Reader Addict says**

Sadly, I'm tapping out a 35% with this one...

I read romance novels, so clearly I'm a romantic at heart. But apparently I'm also a cynic, because starting out this book and discovering the main family - men included - are a bunch of matchmakers had me rolling my eyes. Confession: this is my very first Samantha Chase book. But I see her books all the time, so I decided to give her a chance. This book had me a little concerned from the beginning of the prologue. It didn't get any better for me when chapter one began.

Sometimes you read a book and you could swear the hero, heroine, and supporting characters are actually real people. Other times they seem like plastic caricatures of people, and have me wondering if anyone would really act or talk like that. The latter is how I felt about the characters in this book. Much of the character development was revealed through awkward conversations - often by one character talking about another when that person wasn't there. It just seemed an odd way to build a story, and I couldn't muster up the interest to keep reading (especially when I have SO MANY other books to read right now).

I really wanted to like this book. I know Samantha Chase is a prolific, popular author - there is a whole shelf of her books (with multiple copies of most titles!) at my local library, so clearly the demand for her books is there. I love the covers of her books - they are romantic and sweet looking. And the plots seem lighthearted and fun. But I just couldn't get into this story. Maybe it's because I'm coming in so late in the series and thus not emotionally connected with anyone in the stories. However, I believe any single book in a good series should be able to stand on its own and pull a reader in and compel them to read ALL the books in that series. And this one didn't. For whatever reason, this author's writing style just doesn't work for me. There's nothing terrible about it, so maybe I'll give another book by Ms. Chase a try sometime in the future.

I gave it four days and kept feeling like I had to read. That's not how I want to feel about a book. So I'm moving on. And quite frankly, I'm a little proud of myself for getting over my "I start a book I must finish it" mentality. Life is too short to read a book that I'm not enjoying!

*\*thank you to NetGalley and SOURCEBOOKS Casablanca for providing an ARC in exchange for an honest review*

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## **DJ Sakata says**

Favorite Quotes:

Her phone beeped, and she let out a small whine. "That sounds like reality calling."

...her mother was a firm believer in short engagements and long marriages. Basically she believed in fairy tales.

I wasn't flirting with anyone. I was merely being polite to the woman who has the ability to spit on our food.

You realize that every time you talk about your trip into the woods, your encounter with what I'm guessing was a squirrel gets wilder and wilder right?

### My Review:

I was stunned when I counted over thirty Samantha Chase books on my Read list at Goodreads. Although I regret to report that this one is undoubtedly the least entertaining and my least favorite of that collection. I struggled through most of the first half and had difficulty remaining engaged as the storyline seemed rather repetitive and progressed in extremely slow and tiny increments. Nor could I connect or work up much feeling for the unsympathetic main character of Megan; other than for her love of Double Stuffed Oreos she was rigid, cold, and difficult toward the delectable and perfect BFF of Alex, whom I totally adored. I seriously considered a DNF as over a hundred pages in - I couldn't comprehend why a sexy, sweet, and romantic man such as Alex would be expending so much thought and effort to forge a connection with her, given her avoidant personality and chilly attitude. Alex had the patience of a saint while I wanted to give the prickly Megan several hard pinches and maybe even a few choice whacks to the head with my Kindle. But I stayed the course and was rewarded for my patience as the second half of the book marked a vast improvement over the Hallmark Channel blandness of first. Glimmers of amusing humor and steam helped to perk up my interest and once the frosty Megan began to thaw, I enjoyed their sweet romance.

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### **.Under the pages says**

Review available at [Under the Pages](#).

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### **Charlotte Lynn says**

Megan and Alex met at a wedding, hooked up, made promises that they didn't keep, and moved on with their lives. Well, they tried to move on but neither was very successful. Megan got a new job and moved to the same town Alex is in. She knew that they would run into each other since they had the same friends but wasn't sure how she would feel when she saw him. Alex was surprised when he walked into his friend's house and Megan, the girl he hasn't been able to get out of his head or heart, was there. I loved how they circled each other, were cordial, and how they didn't really know how to react to each other. Their being together again was not quick, easy, and relaxed. There was worry, frustration, and embarrassment before they could figure out how to be together. It was real, with feelings, with doubts, and wonderful.

I loved how stand-up Alex was. He didn't just jump back into a relationship. He questioned Megan on what she wanted, expecting complete honesty. He was also there when she needed him but did his best to give her space so that there would be no regrets or quick decisions that would come back to haunt them. Alex also was great at pushing her from her comfort zone, pushing her to be outside, pushing her to change her habits, and pushing her to accept her feelings for him while not pushing her so hard that she ran from him.

The Montgomery Brother's are wonderful. All so sweet, sexy, protective, and loving. Alex and Megan's story is the perfect addition to this series. It is wonderful that each book is its own complete story but you do get to catch up with the characters from the other books in this series. I believe that you can pick up any book in the series or pick them all up and read them in any order thoroughly enjoying them all.

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