



Commitments

Barbara Delinsky

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Available as an e-book for the first time, *New York Times* bestselling author Barbara Delinsky's classic novel, *Commitments*, about the ties that bind and the love that remains.

Sabrina Stone is struggling to be a good mother and to do what's best for her young, handicapped son. When she meets investigative reporter Derek McGill, who's doing a feature story about special-needs children, Sabrina is immediately struck by his tenderness toward Nicky...and an attraction between her and Derek that cannot be denied. Three months after their fateful first visit, Sabrina learns that Derek has been convicted of murder. He swears he's innocent, but Derek ends up in prison all the same.

Meanwhile, Sabrina's marriage is on the rocks. Her husband, Nicholas, is in denial about their child's diagnosis--and is unable to comfort Sabrina in any meaningful way. Against her better judgment, Sabrina reaches out to the one person who seems to understand her: Derek. But how far will Sabrina go to maintain a connection with a man behind bars? As their relationship escalates--and she experiences a passion she has never known--Sabrina finds herself willing to do whatever it takes to save Derek...and herself. But is their commitment worth the risk?

Commitments Details

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Author : Barbara Delinsky

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From Reader Review Commitments for online ebook

Sara says

good

Petie McCarty says

Listened to this as an abridged audio. The narrator, Joyce Bean—as always—did a superb job! She always makes books better!

An enjoyable listen/story. Would have liked a little more of the hero/heroine emotional and physical backstory to explain their choices and attraction but still very good.

Beth Pearson says

I enjoyed this book from the beginning. You've got Sabrina with her crappy husband and crazy hard child to take care of (mentally handicapped). You've got Derek, an investigative reporter, doing a story about the parents of handicapped kids and the special challenges they face, institutionalizing the kids, etc.

Then you have Derek, in prison for murder and Sabrina visiting him because he seemed to be the only person who connected with her on the challenges of mothering her son.

I enjoyed the growing chemistry--especially since there are prison rules to follow so it can't be a typical romance novel where they fall into bed together. The growing awareness and then sexual tension was fun to read.

There is lots more to the book after that. I've read a couple other of Delinsky's books and this one is the best written, genuine conflict, etc. of what I've read so far.

Kendra says

This book was fantastic! I couldn't put it down. The connection between Sabrina Stone and Derek McGill was intense and HOT! The story took some surprising turns and the one thing that I struggled with was how the story went abruptly from being about a mother struggling with her brain-damaged son to Derek McGill's plight for justice. Otherwise, the story was beautiful and though some of it might have been a stretch of wishful thinking, it was relatable. The love scenes were, again, HOT but so tastefully done. I deducted a star just because of the abrupt change in plot. I would've given it a five. Now, I'm off to find more of Delinsky's older works!

Bronwyn Rykiert says

Investigative reporter Derek McGill wants to interview society wife & mother (her son is severely handicapped) Sabrina Stone for a story he is doing for his TV show Inside Outside but she is reluctant so they only spend a short time together but it is enough for Sabrina to realize what a caring man Derek is.

Sabrina next meets Derek in a maximum security prison – he is there after being convicted of murder, a murder he did not commit. Sabrina believes he is innocent and wants to help him. They come to love each other over time and her visits to him, so when he is let out on parole after 2 years they get married. Derek wants revenge on the man who put him in jail and Sabrina is there to help him.

This book was slower pace than others I have read by Barbara, so different from the charge of reading Facets, but an okay read all the same.

Kelli Morton says

So boring!!

Judy Churchill says

This is one of my favorite Barbara Delinsky books. It's a story of revenge and how it eats the soul. An unlikely love grows while the anger and fury for revenge grows. As the anger plays out more energy is released for more productive paths. A newfound peace settles in.

Sharon says

Tough subject, totally unresponsive child, I can't imagine what that would do to a good marriage, let alone the one that Sabrina finds herself in. And the fact that her husband stays at work isn't surprising. What a rotten thing. They were financially stable and had an empty home. Poor Sabrina. When approached by Derek, an investigative reporter who wanted to do a piece on the medical condition, choices made and difficulties experienced, she agreed to be interviewed. Turned out that Sabrina was charmed by Derek's willingness to even hold her child. Her husband seemed unable to understand that the boy wasn't going to "snap out of it" and suddenly become normal. Life was very hard for her, duties for her son filled her days and despair filled her nights.

On his side, Derek was involved in an investigation of a local businessman that got more and more tangled until he finds himself in the dead of night in a dark parking lot in a circumstance he has no tools to deal with. The justice system dealt with it and Derek went to jail for murder.

One day when Sabrina was on a drive to check out a permanent facility for her son, she spontaneously turned at the prison and found herself Derek's only visitor. As awkward as that was, something was happening between them.

An interesting read, I learned a lot more about what it would be to live with an unresponsive child and the desperation that comes with it. There's an interesting level of complexity on the Derek story about corruption and politics.

Something I did appreciate about this book was that none of the characters were poor, a refreshing change as desperation is often accompanied by poverty. I enjoyed this book.

Lola says

Sabrina cares for her brain-damaged son by herself--her husband is never home. She meets Derek for only a short while but they both feel a connection. Then she's headed for a divorce and Derek is in prison. She goes to visit him. Their connection grows and they see each other after his release from prison. He's angry and out for revenge because he believes he was set up for the murder he committed in self-defense. Sabrina helps Derek search for files he believes exist that will show the man he suspects had previously been involved in the death of a judge. They travel, interviewing people, & are unaware that they are being followed.

Diana Donnelly says

Have read many of this author's books. This was published in 1988 so it's one of her earlier ones. It's about a couple who have a retarded son. From day one her husband is in denial of his child's situation and I soon developed a true hate for the fellow. He was a miserable individual to put it mildly. A journalist comes to visit her wanting to do a story about her son. She knows her husband would never consent to such an interview and sends the man on his way. Months later she hears that this journalist is in prison for murder. He was framed but he actually did kill a man. Sabrina had not forgotten his visit and the impression he made on her. She decided to visit him in prison, read on "For the rest of the story. The author did a fine job with the novel.

Rebecca says

I truly didn't know what to expect going into this book....but as I got more into it, the more I dreaded picking it up again. I don't have a lot to say ... It just wasn't my favorite by Baraba Delinsky. I felt the storyline was too bland. The characters I found annoying at times and while at one point I truly had compassion for Sabrina, towards the end I couldn't stand her. I had similar feelings toward Derek as well. I personally wouldn't recommend!

Wendy says

A good read

Mindy J says

I really enjoyed this story ! There was plenty of romance , mystery , and just the right amount of “steam”. I

liked the way Sabrina and Derek's relationship builds . I understand (from the point of view of a nurse who works with special needs kids) Sabrina's struggle . Really good story .

Twobchelm says

Derek and Sabrina meet under unusual circumstances. Dealing with revenge that sent Derek to prison and Sabrina who had a severely handicapped child found comfort and trust in each other.

Nicolette Coetzee says

Only one story line makes for a fairly average and monotone book.
