



Not Quite Forever

Catherine Bybee

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The touching and heartwarming fourth novel in the wildly popular Not Quite series from *New York Times* bestselling author Catherine Bybee.

Romance author Dakota Laurens believes that happily-ever-afters exist only between the covers of her sexy novels. But to her surprise, she finds a real-life hero when she meets a handsome emergency room doctor. The outspoken author feels an instant and intense attraction to Dr. Walt Eddy, and the feeling is mutual. When the globetrotting doctor pulls a disappearing act on Dakota, she's prepared to write him off...until fate brings a blindsiding twist to her story.

Still scarred from a past tragedy, Walt may have disappeared on Dakota, but now he's determined to win her back. For the first time in years, he knows he's ready for a new chance at love. Yet between Dakota's doubts and two sets of meddling parents, can the once-blissful couple finally create the bright, loving future they desperately want?

Not Quite Forever Details

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Author : Catherine Bybee

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From Reader Review Not Quite Forever for online ebook

Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says

I don't know what it is about this series, well, other than the lovable characters, fun plot line, and swoon worthy romance....okay, I guess I DO know exactly what I love about this series. Either way, it really does just keep getting better and better. It is to the point now that I know if I pick one up, I pretty much need to clear my schedule for the rest of the day because it is hopeless, I won't be getting anything done until I devour it all and finally put it down, satisfied at another wonderful happily (but realistic) ever after.

I love that Dakota was a writer of "bodice rippers" giggles sorry Dakota, I couldn't resist saying it! And that Walt was a stuffy (okay not really) swoon worth doctor and these two hit it off from the beginning. And while there was insta attraction, there wasn't, I repeat, wasn't, insta love. Instead it was a slow burning romance that just grew into something beautiful, even if at times I felt like bopping the both of them over the head until they both saw that they were in love with one another (especially, ahem, you Dakota. Love you girl but, really? Come on, what wasn't there to love about Walt?).

What I also love about this series is that Bybee always gives us that little look into how the couple from the previous novels are doing in some way or another (yay Monica and Trent!).

Throw in an amazing best friend, a feisty mother, and a budding romance between said best friend and another friend, and you have a winner and a read that was simply irresistible.

Well done once again Bybee, well done!

Beverly says

LIVE <http://www.amazon.com/Not-Quite-Forev...>

3 Not Quite there Stars

Dakota Laurens is a bestselling romance novel at a writing convention when she meets Dr. Walt Eddy. Neither are looking for love, but after their chance meeting decide to meet up again...just for fun.

I write books where two flawed people meet, fall madly in love, and will do anything to be with each other. I'm not looking for that, not at this point anyway. I'm happy being single."

Despite not looking for love, after getting to know each other they decide to give dating a shot. Things are going smoothly until Walt gets freaked out and backs away, causing Dakota to run. Now there are other circumstances I can't go into everything without spoiling the story, so I will just elaborate on my thoughts. It was frustrating that these two didn't communicate with each other, and I can't stand when characters runaway from their problems....which was exactly what Dakota did.

I think the premise was good: a romance writer and a doctor - sounds like a romance novel.

I don't want it to come off that this is a bad story, I just don't think it is for me. I like sweet stories, and I am

even okay with a story that is light on drama. I just felt like this story was light on drama so the author added in unnecessary drama.

While I don't hate the (view spoiler)

I think some people may like this story more, I just didn't love it.

ARC kindly provided by NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Alaina Meserole says

Not Quite Forever is about Dr. Walt and romance author Dakota Laurens. I loved both of these characters even though when they first met I felt like Lauren was king of being a bitch. But then again who doesn't have a bitchy moment?

Other than that, it's not an insta-love kind of book. No, both Walt and Dakota have dirty secrets in their past. They both live different lives and have different backgrounds. HOWEVER, they are completely perfect for each other and *Not Quite Forever* will definitely have you cheering for them to get together and to stay together. I loved everything about their story.

This book was a really fun and quick read/listen. Yes, it was a kindle audio but I did sometimes read it when I didn't want to have headphones in my ears anymore. The *Not Quite* series, in my opinion, just keeps getting better and better. I don't think there was one book that I didn't like. Plus whoever the narrator is - I just love her. These books are so freaking addicting. I can't wait for the next book because I know I won't be disappointed at all.

Sharlene says

I felt a little lost when I started this book, maybe because I hadn't read any other books in the series. It didn't take long to get sucked in to the romance! There are secondary characters, some of whom were obviously in previous books, but the best little twist was with Walt's mother, which played out very well. Walt & Dakota are smitten at first sight & trying to get together, which is tough, given Walt's job as an ER dr. He decides to back off without warning, right about the time she gets some unexpected news. She runs & he follows & they start almost all over again. I ended up really liking this story & the characters in it & look forward to catching up with the rest of the series!

Julie says

My review for this wonderful romance will be posted on Romancing the Book blog in the near future.

KathyAnne says

This was a quick and fun read... Love the fun, steamy and easy going relationship that Walt and Dakota had together...

Dakota being a best selling "smut" writer was very entertaining... especially during the book convention in the beginning of the story where she met Walt. He was at a medical convention in the same building and didn't quite know what to think about all of the pictures of half-naked men everywhere. Lots of giggles... And, good looking men probably should not wander around Romance book conventions unsupervised... just FYI! :)

Walt has a tragic past that had him running for the hills when things were becoming more serious than he thought he could handle with Dakota. But, life has it's own way of bringing people together in the most surprising ways. He had some work to do to win back her trust... that's all I can say really without revealing any spoilers.

I did like the ending a lot... very touching and sweet... made me smile...

My favorite of this series though is book three... Not Quite Enough... that one was a little more suspenseful and emotional whereas this one was more light hearted.

ARC was provided by Montlake Romance via netgalley

www.ktbookreviews.com

Jess says

Review posted: Happily Ever After - Reads

Blog rating: B

Dakota Laurens is a well-known and extremely popular romance author who draws fans everywhere she goes. It's at a book convention where she meets Dr. Walt Eddy, who's presenting at his own convention on emergency medicine in disaster areas. They hit it off and as luck would have it, they both live close enough that dating is possible. With Dakota's flexible writing schedule, they're able to work around Walt's demanding emergency room schedule and they start dating. Their first date is bowling (love that) and it's a perfect first date for the type of low key, easy going people they are.

Dakota and Walt are both so likable, there's nothing fake or high maintenance about either of them. Really the worst thing initially they have to deal with is Walt's crazy schedule, but Dakota gets it, and Walt makes an effort on his side when he's able to as well. Their dating goes along pretty smoothly until Walt has a patient die on the table who looks so much like Dakota it completely shakes him. This is really the only angst and problem our couple has to deal with. Walt pulls away right at a time when Dakota needs him most. They've both fallen hard for each other, but Walt becomes distant, trying to deny what's already between them and it hurts Dakota so deeply that she goes home to her family to heal her broken heart and deal with some life changing news she just received.

Dakota has a very up and down relationship with her family, specifically her mother who's more concerned with appearances in their southern town and that doesn't include having a daughter who writes "smut" for a living. But Dakota's so heartbroken, she doesn't even care at the moment and stays with her parents, hiding from Walt.

Walt realizes too late what his reaction towards Dakota has cost him and he eventually finds out where she is and goes to get his woman back, much groveling needs to happen for this to be successful. He does his part, he has a long way to go to prove that he's now in it for the long haul and Dakota, rightfully so, doesn't make it easy for him. He has a lot to prove and he does it, day by day.

What I really found myself enjoying about Dakota and Walt's story was seeing their relationship progress over a large amount of time. I like it so much more when a romance covers more than just a week or two. I find it to be more believable and it's easier to root for a couple when I can see how things are going for them over the course of many months. And overall, both Dakota and Walt are engaging, they're easy going, they don't create problems or issues out of nothing (if you don't count Walt's emergency room freak out), and they're there for each other. Dakota just gets Walt, and vice versa, and they complement each other. I found their relationship to be so easy and enjoyable.

Catherine Bybee's writing, specifically related to her "Quite" series, is well-paced, the characters are all relatable and easy to enjoy because they're likeable, there's nothing about Walt or Dakota that I found to be off putting or annoying. There's something real about them, like I'd want to be friends with them both and it made for a very nice, sweet read.

Julie says

This most recent installement in the "Not Quite" series is a gem. I thoroughly enjoyed the fast pace along with the twists & turns of Walt & Dakota's relationship. It was a joy to see Monica and Trent - their generosity and genuine goodness warms my heart. Mary was the perfect quintessential BFF to Dakota. I'm hoping that another "Not Quite" book telling the story of Mary & Glen is in the works ;)

Walt & Dakota's story isn't a simple fall in love and get married with a happily ever after ending. This is a story of two people with different backgrounds and different lives. They each have things in their past that have made them the people they are when they meet. When they come together they recognize the attraction and the hole the other fills. But, with the competing careers of an ER doctor and a contemporary romance author - not to mention parents who are less than supportive of not only their careers but their partners - their relationship is not without it's challenges. Fortunately, Walt & Dakota are both determined, strong-willed individuals who don't give up easily. They also aren't too proud to recognize or admit when they've made a mistake.

"Not Quite Forever" is wonderful romantic adventure that takes some unexpected twists and turns along the way to happily ever after. Reality is seldom a picture perfect relationship. Bybee manages to tell a realistic, and at times frustrating, love story without losing the essence of a light-hearted romance. I'm definitely a fan of Dr. Baby Daddy & Baby Mama!

FYI~ not a "clean" read. Some mature language and pre-marital intimate scenes.
Honest disclosure~ I received a copy from the author to review.

Jenny - Book Sojourner says

This was the second Bybee book I've read, the first being this book's predecessor, Not Quite Enough, which I loved. These books can easily be read as standalones. Characters from prior books may come into the story or be referenced to, which may make you want to read their previous stories, but it is not necessary.

I really enjoyed Not Quite Forever. Walt and Dakota's story is quite sweet, starting from the fun meet-cute of these two people in very different professions to the very end of the epilogue, and I loved getting their heart-warming love story. There is some important drama that comes into play, but really this is a touching story of two people who are simply meant to be together. Walt and Dakota have such a natural chemistry and companionship with each other, and though it frightens them at first, and Walt does some stupid stuff, you can't help but feel the special magnetism between them. Even ridiculous parents can't keep these two apart. I loved how the whole thing was pulled together.

Now if you're looking for a high suspense, high drama, angst-fest, this isn't that book. But what is special about Not Quite Enough is how real it felt, how honestly it approached its subjects and predicaments, and while it may not be super angst, the tension was just what it needed to be to get a lovely, touching, and completely heartfelt love story. Even the very end was just exactly what it needed to be. I hope there are more stories to come in this series, and that Walt and Dakota make an appearance.

Alima Livzletlivz says

It's always a pleasure to read Catherine Bybee....always! She takes us into a world of sweet romance, loss and forever, with a healthy dose of reality....just the kind of stuff we readers need for a rainy day. Not Quite Forever (Book 4 – Quite Series), takes us along the journey with Dr. Walt Eddy and the famous romance author Dakota Laurens to their Forever Land.

A mix up at a convention brings Walt and Dakota face to face and sparks ignite instantaneously. As different as chalk and cheese, their meeting is sweet as honey and sexy as silk and rich as velvet. Mutual attraction reels the procrastinating doctor and the over organized author into spending time with each other and into each other.

Dakota believes in romance and happily ever-afters, and the globetrotting doctor does a disappearing act haunted by a painful past. Circumstances bring them together after a short hiatus, and Walt confesses to himself his feelings for Dakota. But Dakota is already on the run from Walt to nurse a broken heart. With the support of some amazing friends and family, it's up to Walt to convince Dakota he's done running and ready to settle down.

With pages of sassy dialogues and steamy romance, disagreeable parents and nosy friends, holidays and sickness, Walt and Dakota sure tap dance around each other to finally get their forever. I love the way Catherine gives importance to the depth of relationships and the maturity of nurturing them with patience and love. The choreography of Dakota and Walt's mother's relationship was a delightful insight to read. Another charming read all the way!

Received an ARC from Montlake Romance via Netgalley for a honest review.

Catherine says

Dr. Walt Eddy... meet Romance Author, Dakota Laurens...

Is it research or chemistry?

Cocktails and Books says

Catherine Bybee never disappoints! Her characters and storylines draw you in and keep you hooked till the end.

Dakota Laurens and Dr. Walt Eddy are two misfits. Neither of these very successful people fit their family's ideal of what they "should" be doing with their lives. Dakota's life as a romance writer has very little romance until Dr. Walt Eddy shows up in her seminar room. This busy doctor has been so engrossed in providing care to the less fortunate that he has refused to become romantically involved with anyone until he meets Dakota Laurens. I loved that each of the characters didn't take themselves too seriously. They meet by accident and continued to interact because there was chemistry between them. I am so tired of the theatrics, and this book was very realistic in terms of how men and women come together.

As Walt and Dakota date the reader is really drawn into their dilemma with whether to enter into a serious relationship. I think every reader that has dated will understand the tug of war you experience when deciding whether to risk your heart on someone. I really loved Dakota because she wasn't afraid to let Walt know what he was missing. She didn't back down from his mother, and she was an independent woman in every sense of the word.

Walt won me over when he showed Dakota that she was worth more than anyone or anything else in his life. He had a great sense of humor, and he wasn't afraid to let Dakota take the lead. He knew how to apologize and went the extra mile to make sure Dakota knew she was his one and only.

All of the background characters like Walt's parents and Dakota's best friend made the story even more realistic. They added color and depth to the already interesting storyline.

This book pulled on all of my emotions anger, sadness, and happiness. You won't want to miss this

Reviewed by Michelle for Cocktails and Books

Linda Dunn chilson says

Not Quite Enough

Anyway that's the way I always feel when I finish one of Catherine's books, I am not really ready to leave the story and return to reality. This one was not an exception, I loved from start to finish and was not ready for it to be done, at least I am pretty sure we will see more Dakota and Walt when Glen and Mary's story is written.

Walt and Dakota were such a fun couple, the Dr who was afraid to love and lose, the romance writer who wasn't sure happily ever after was for her. Naked eating with Chinese food, who'd have ever thought of that, well this wonderful author did and thanks to her I may have a little problem eating Chinese again with a straight face. Catholic School Costume and 50's greaser costume to make an announcement and statement, very brilliant. And the last chapter with everyone wearing t-shirts to tell who they were and how they were related to Dakota and Walt, fun. That's about as far as I will go with any kind of spoilers, I am just hoping they were enough to make people curious enough to buy and read this book. If you have never read any books by Catherine Bybee before this would be a good one to start with, it is part of a series but each book

can be read as a stand alone so don't worry about that, but if you are like me you will want to read the rest of the series and the Weekday Brides also.

Christine says

DNF at 20%

I could not stand the heroine. The initial meeting between the hero and heroine was supposed to make the heroine appear whitty. She appeared like a b***h. Also, from the beginning I felt like the book was already trying to set me up for the next book with connecting secondary characters in the story.

MsChris1161 says

Let me just get this out, I loved NOT QUITE FOREVER and here's why; Catherine Bybee's Not Quite series is one of my favorites and that's saying a lot, because I read a lot. Hundreds of books a year. The first book in this series, Not Quite Dating was my first Bybee read and that was all it took for me to be completely hooked. I have greedily read every book she's published since then and have never been the least bit disappointed. I guess I'm trying to admit that Jack and Jessie's book made such a tremendous impression on me it might be a wee bit immortalized in my mind, and YET I'm thinking I may love Not Quite Forever just as much. Maybe more. Yeah, it's that amazing!!

I am usually drooling, okay panting, over the gorgeous and sexy alpha guy's in Catherine's books and adding them to my book boyfriend list after the first few chapters. And believe me, Dr. Walt Eddy was not different in that respect, but in NOT QUITE FOREVER the one striking difference for me is it was Dakota Laurens that truly won me over. This woman is a heroine all other book heroines want to be. She is confident, successful, sassy, fun, hilarious, comfortable in her own skin, owns who she is and what she does, is beautiful, has a huge heart and capacity to care for her friends and family. She's a whiskey drinking lady from the South and has the sass and spit to prove it.

Poor Dr. Eddy did not know what hit him, because she was irresistible to him right from the start. Of course the silly man, a dedicated bachelor no less, put up a fight over his out of control feelings. But still, the chemistry between Walt and Dakota was wonderful. They were a perfect compliment for each other and wow did the sexy times sizzle! But Dakota was just as fun in the scenes with her best friend Mary, the psychologist who just could not shut it off. (Can't wait for her story to come - hint! hint!) The first scene at the airport was hysterical.

Like all of Catherine's books there is romance, laughter, drama, awesome dialogue, characters I love, characters I want to slap, hot men I want to do! Oh, did I write that? *grin* It's impossible to not be invested in the people, the story and the issues they face as they work out there HEA, which of course they get in the end. The journey is always a page turner and leaves me with a smile not only on my face, but in my heart! Do NOT miss this one!! 5 stars

~complimentary copy downloaded from NetGalley in exchange for a honest review~
