



## Lip Service

*Susan Mallery*

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Skye Titan's wealthy father thinks he can *still* dictate his daughter's choice in men. Now widowed and a single mother, Skye isn't the yes-girl she once was. Especially since the love of her life is back in Texas after eight long years. He won't like the answers to the questions he's asking. About why she left him at the altar. And about her eight-year-old daughter.

Former Navy SEAL Mitch Cassidy comes home to find nearly everything different. His wounds from battle have changed the way people treat him. His cattle ranch is suddenly organic. But time hasn't touched his desire for Skye—or the sting of her betrayal. Forget lip service. He's asking that luscious mouth of hers to reveal *the truth*. But will Mitch be able to put the past aside to help Skye get out from under her father's thumb...and help himself recover from a broken heart?

## Lip Service Details

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## From Reader Review Lip Service for online ebook

### Songül says

Y?ld?z konusunda bonkör davranm?? olsam da :) bu aralar içinde oldu?um kitap okuma tutuklu?umdan beni kopard??? ve ak?c?l??? ile etkiledi?i için hakketti?ini dü?ünüyorum..Skye ve Mitch aras?nda geçmi?ten gelen hesapla?malar ile bunlar?n aras?nda ya?ad?klar? bir nefret dalgas? kitab?n ak?c?l???n? etkilemi? diye dü?ünüyorum..K?zkarde?lerin birbirlerine olan ba?l?l?klar? ve her durumda kenetlenmeleri güze i?lenmi?ti..S?k?lmadan keyifle okudu?um bir kitap oldu , ?imdiden serinin son kitab? olan Garth ?n hikayesini merakla bekliyorum..Umar?m görecektedir kadar ya?ar?m..:))))))

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### Sarah says

20/1 - 3.5 stars. It's amazing how much faster you can read a book when you're not highlighting passages with editing errors in them every few pages. Just because it was such a relief to read a book free of mistakes I've rounded it up to four stars, probably more than the plot/characters warranted. Mitch was such a self-absorbed, angry bastard at the beginning that I took pleasure in his downfall. Skye was so far under her father's thumb (and not just at the beginning, she was still thinking of bowing to his parental pressure right at the very end of the book) that I just couldn't respect her, and that made it hard to like her. If that doesn't sound like a promising introduction to the main characters in a romance then you might be in the same boat as me. I also had a problem with the condom-free sex that happened in the opening chapter. That scene reminded me of the westerns of the eighties, but this is much more recent and so doesn't have the excuse of "STIs were a new thing, so no one worried about what diseases (let alone children) you might be contracting from your partner". Skye's older sister and her hero were secondary characters in this book and from the way Lexi talks about their father I think her book would be more up my alley. No doormats for me. This isn't the 1800s (or earlier), or a country known for its arranged marriages, fathers don't order their daughters to marry old guys for their connections and daughters don't reply with "Yes, Daddy dearest.". I will definitely read more by Mallery (I think my dislike of these main characters was just an anomaly), fortunately since I have another seven of her books on my Kindle. I paid \$1.85 for my Kindle edition.

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### Leah says

Skye Titan owns her own foundation and plans parties for her father. She is the "good daughter" and her father thinks that he can continue to run her life. He did the same to her years before by making her marry a man she didn't love and leave the man that she did. Amid the family tragedies that have been occurring lately, Skye learns that said love of her life, Mitch Cassidy, has returned, injured after many years as a Navy SEAL. Skye has missed Mitch and hopes that they can be friends upon his return. However, Mitch still harbors an intense anger towards Skye and what she did to him all those years ago. He does nothing but insult and hurt her when she tries to reach out to her, and furthermore, he demands a paternity test for her young daughter, Erin. After learning Erin is in fact not his child, he ends up in the hospital. During his stay, Garth, Jed Titan's illegitimate child and the man devastating Skye's family, comes to visit and enlists Mitch's help in bring the family down. After getting to know Skye once again and learning how Garth has hurt her, he stops working with Garth. Little does he know, Skye has heard everything he said to Garth and leaves, damaging their relationship further. After many apologies and an explosion that damaged Izzy Titan's eyesight, Skye and Mitch have a talk, during which she confesses that she never stopped loving him. Then, Pete, the man who saved Mitch's life, dies and Skye attends the funeral with Mitch, bringing them even closer.

The two have them have just started a new relationship when Jed tells Skye that she will marry who he tells her to or else he will take her daughter away from her. In a heartbreaking moment, Skye hurts Mitch once again in order to protect her daughter, the most important thing in her life. In the end, Mitch comes to Skye's rescue and calls Jed's bluff, and the two of them, and Erin, live together in happiness.

This was a very, very emotional book for me. I mean, hell, I was probably crying through most of it. I cried when Mitch insulted her after they had sex the first time, when he agreed to work with Garth, when Skye heard him talking with Garth, when Jed threatened to institutionalize her and take her, when Skye hurt Mitch and told him she needed a man who was whole, when he came to her rescue at the end, when he called her a whore in the beginning. So, yeah, I was a crying mess during this book.

I love Skye, even more than Lexi, and the fact that she's a strong woman who protects those she loves. I was kind of hoping Erin was Mitch's but knew she really was Ray's, just like Skye. I loved when she told Mitch that she'd loved him all those years when they were at the hospital, and I loved when she accepted his missing leg when she finally saw it, even though he expected her not to. And I absolutely loved when she threatened Jed at the end.

I really wanted to beat Mitch up for a while when he was being a jackass to Skye because, while I can understand his anger to a certain extent, I felt he took it too far sometimes. I love that he loved Erin and did anything for her. I was positively ecstatic when he and Cruz decided to work together, and when he and Lexi found out that all Jed's doctors were fake. He was a real sweetheart once he got past his anger. It did bother me a little bit, though, that no one ever told Mitch that Skye left him the first time because Jed threatened him and let him keep thinking it was all about not losing her father's love.

Izzy irritated me a lot with the T.J. thing, especially when she slept with him "for Skye's own good." I still like her, though. I freaked out when I read about the explosion, and if Garth didn't do it, and for some reason I believe he didn't, then who the hell did?!

T.J. was a bastard, sicko, scum-sucking pig. I should have suspected he was working for Garth. But, it's no matter because I didn't like him anyway, especially with the messing with both Skye and Izzy. I love that, when Mitch told Skye that T.J. was working for Garth, she and Lexi started rumors about him.

Garth...grrr. What is with this guy! I want to beat his face in, and I hated when he approached Mitch about helping him.

Jed-Can he die, please? I knew he was a horrible person and father from the first book, but I was horrified when he threatened Skye and then said his children were useless to him. I say, let him rot in a federal prison or something!

I love Dana and I love that she did something illegal to try to stop Garth after the explosion.

Erin is the cutest thing ever. She's funny, smart, utterly adorable. I loved when she was mad at Mitch because he made Skye cry. And I loved when she asked him to talk at her school and how she introduced him to her class. I love how she played a large part in making Mitch realize that he needed to change.

Pete died! So. Un. Fair.

I loved Mitch's physical therapist, Joss. I loved how he was a hardass with Mitch but also helped him, and I thought he was funny in his sarcasm. And I loved when he gave Mitch the brochure for the class and told Mitch he thought he would be a great listener/instructor.

## Stephanie says

Good story just too much anger in the book for me. I understand why, but I think it will be the least enjoyable in the series. Also it has a very abrupt ending. I know it is 2nd in a series, but come on just a little epilog would be nice.

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## BJ says

"Lip Service" is the second installment of the Lone Star Sisters series by Susan Mallery. I like Ms. Mallery's books. Her characters are well written and interesting and the love stories are sexy and well thought out. Lip Service is about the second sister, Skye Titan and her "hero" is ex-Navy Seal Mitch Cassidy who owns the ranch next door to the Titan's ranch, Glory's Gate. He has come home to heal after an explosion while overseas in battle caused his leg to be amputated. He was Skye's first love, but her father caused them to break up and she married someone else, but is now a widow. This book continues the secondary story line started in "Under her Skin" involving the Titan Sister's half brother and the fact that he is trying to destroy the Titan family. It also chronicles Mitch's efforts to come to terms with not only losing his leg, but also changes on his ranch made in his absence and the fact that he is still in love/hate with Skye. All together a very satisfying read. I gave this romance 4.5 stars.

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## Jill Dunlop says

Skye Titan fell in love with the neighboring rancher's son when she was just 18 years old. Only her father put the kibosh on their budding romance and Skye was left with no choice but to leave her feelings for Mitch behind and marry the man chosen for her by her father. She had a daughter with him and they had a nice marriage, albeit a passionless one for several years until he died leaving Skye a young widow. Mitch did not take being dumped by Skye very well and left his Texas home to join the Navy. He became a SEAL and saved lives on a daily basis, until he lost his leg to an explosion. Now he is back on his ranch, bitter and angry with the world. He wants to make Skye pay for the hurt she has caused him only his passion for her still hasn't diminished over the years, nor hers for him.

*Lip Service* frustrated me dearly to no end. It has nothing to do with Mallery's talent as a writer. She is extremely competent, but if only her characters Skye and Mitch could be too, would this book have been a better reading experience. The first part of the book, Mitch is a complete and utter ass to everybody he encounters, his own family and of course Skye. He is bitter and angry and feels like he has nothing to live for. Skye is frustrating because she has no backbone when it comes to her father, Jed. She is constantly trying to prove herself to him, even though it is obvious to the reader that nothing Skye does will ever be good enough for Jed. She just needs to get away from him because he is a poison in her life. Skye needed to come to this conclusion much sooner than she did in the book.

The real kicker that made me want to throw the book at the wall came towards the end of the story. Skye finally manages to win Mitch's trust back and not two seconds later she is off repeating the same mistakes that she made eight years before. Once I could understand, but twice pushed me passed tolerance. I was extremely disappointed with Skye's growth in the story. On a positive note, I am curious to see how the plot with Skye's half-brother Garth will turn out. I am not sure I want to devote anymore time to this series, as the first two books have been less than stellar reads. Maybe I'll wait and see what the word on the web is about Izzy's book (#3).

## **Kath says**

I was surprised that the first book in this series got better ratings than this one did. I liked this book quite a bit better than the first and think this is more like a 3.5 rating.

The story of the 3 sisters continues and this one centers on Skye, who is a 26 year old widow with an 8 year old daughter. Married a much older man 18 out of the feeling of obligation to her father. At the same time, she dumped Mitch, the love of her life.

In this story, the mystery of the bastard brother continues and the sisters continue to react to his wrath. You also find what a jerk her father really is.

Finally, Mitch returns from the Navy after losing his lower leg in an explosion. He's still adjusting and hasn't been home since leaving Skye 9 years before. He's never gotten over that and is pretty cruel to Skye (but I think with good reason).

Like the storyline of Mitch dealing with his injury and thought it was almost better than the romance part of this book. Again, a light read, but worth it if you are looking for something less intense.

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## **Ally says**

I have similar feelings to Lip Service as I did to Under Her Skin only sadly this time the sister relationship between Izzy and Skye was rather painful as they fell out over a man who was playing them off against each other due to their Father Jed and also due to Garth their other brother that they never knew about and who has been causing trouble for the Titan family.

Again I didn't like Mitch but could understand the point of view he was coming across from. Skye and Mitch dated for a while and although it was serious and they both agreed to get married as soon as Skye's father dictated that Skye should marry one of his business friends Skye did as her father asked and left Mitch which led him to join the Navy and lose his leg so in the end Mitch blames Skye for everything that has gone wrong in his life.

Mitch comes back to Titanville bitter and miserable and half the man he was before he left. Because he lost his leg while fighting in the Navy. He causes Skye and her daughter a lot of hurt and problems before he gets his act together and by then it's nearly too late as he's gotten involved with Garth and Jed has another man for Skye to marry.

The only plus point in this book is that Skye manages to learn to stand up for her self and refuses to do as her Father wants her to even though he threatens to blackmail Skye by taking her daughter, Erin away from her.

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## **Auntee says**

This book featuring middle sister Skye Titan is #2 in the "Lone Star Sisters" series and would have been just about perfect for me if not for the often aggravating actions of the heroine. This woman was your classic

doormat when it came to her dealings with her bullying, callous, bastard of a father. God, how I hate this guy! I just can't understand how his daughters put up with him running their lives, or have *anything* to do with him for that matter. He's controlling, manipulative, and an ogre, and doesn't show them an ounce of love--so why don't they cut him out of their lives? And they're all successful in their own rights and certainly don't need his money--are they that desperate for the crumbs of affection he throws their way? Well, I've resigned myself to not being able to understand this, because Susan Mallery is such a fabulous writer that I can overlook this irritating character flaw of Skye's (she is the worst when it comes to being under her father's thumb and needing his approval) and focus on the rest of the story, because it was that good.

Skye's a recent widow (after marrying her father's hand-picked man instead of her true love--more about that later) with a young 8 yr. old daughter, and lives at her father's mansion. She has her own job running a successful, non-profit foundation for needy children, but also acts as her father's social secretary, party planner and hostess. Her life's not perfect but she's happy enough. But now that she's a widow, her father's at it again, trying to match her up with another of his hand-picked men that he wants as a son-in-law. Will he ever quit trying to run her life?

Skye's first love, neighboring rancher and former Navy SEAL Mitch Cassidy, is finally back home after 9 long years away. Skye dumped Mitch a **day** after agreeing to marry him 9 years ago, and Mitch has *never* gotten over it. He was so devastated he joined the Navy, and never wanted to return home. But after being injured in battle, he has no choice. Not only does he have to come to grips with his disability, but he has to finally deal with his lingering feelings for Skye. He's angry and resentful about his life and the way it's turned out, and carries a *huge* chip on his shoulder. When he finally sees Skye again, he tries to deny that he still hasn't gotten over her. He wants revenge and he wants to hurt her as she hurt him, and he sets out to do that. But can he look himself in the mirror if he hurts the only woman he's ever loved, and if he's honest with himself, still loves?

This book picks up where *Under Her Skin* leaves off, with Skye and her sisters Lexi and Izzy still battling the man who wants to bring down the whole Titan family, and especially their father Jed. I'm still having trouble believing that this guy is free to do and say anything he wants about the Titan family, and can't be prosecuted. True, they're having trouble finding direct evidence to link him to any of the misdeeds and half truths that are smearing the family's reputation, but come on! With all their money and power they can't stop this guy? But by the end of the book and after all Jed's machinations against Skye and his uncaring attitude toward her and his other daughters, I was about ready to have Skye and her sisters join forces with this guy and help to bring her father down! I'm afraid Susan Mallery may have made the character of Jed so unlikable that I'm now rooting for who is supposed to be 'the villain' to bring him down!

Now for the good parts--I loved Mitch and Skye together! Even when he was angry with her and tried to hurt her, I still liked Mitch. I could understand what he was going through and even though it was a bit immature, after what Skye did to him I can't say that I blamed him. He was vulnerable and tried to protect his heart. And even though Skye apologized to him and didn't blame him for his feelings, I'm surprised that she didn't tell him *everything* about why she broke up with him. I kept waiting and waiting for that to be revealed, but it never was. I loved the smoldering passion between them, and even when they thought there was no future for them, that they couldn't have what they once did, you just knew that they would find their way back to each other. Their love scenes were both fiery hot, and tender and loving.

I also liked how the author took us through Mitch's emotional and physical journey after being disabled and how he finally accepted that this was what life handed him and he'd better learn to deal with it. I liked the scenes with his gruff physical therapist, and the group therapy session (I wish she showed more of them). I also liked the relationship he developed with Skye's daughter (or is it his?) Erin--very sweet and just what each of them needed.

This would have been a five star read for me, except for the fact that I had a hard time totally respecting the

heroine. When she hurt Mitch *again* ! near the end of the book, I was just about ready to tear my hair out! But when she finally, *finally* found her backbone, I breathed a sigh of relief. Thank God! I was praying that Mitch had the ability to forgive her again, because at that point she finally showed some strength of character and even though I wanted to slap her silly, I still wanted them together.:)

Once again, the book ended rather abruptly, with no epilogue. Irritating, but a good device for getting you to hunger for the next one, Straight from the Hip, youngest sister Izzy's story who is facing a big physical challenge of her own. I'm looking forward to it.

So to sum up, if you're looking for a fast paced, good, hot contemporary series and you like to read about sisters who don't always get along, but have each other's backs, then you'll enjoy this one. The characters aren't perfect, and the HEAs aren't easy to get to, but they're well worth the wait. I love Susan Mallery's writing, and even though I was often irritated with Skye, I love this series and can't wait for the next one. 4 1/2 stars.

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## HÜLYA says

A?kin ?ki Yüzü Susan Mallery.

Orjinal ad? Lip Service Goodreads Puan? 5/3,91 Benim puan?m 5/4,5

Serinin ikinci kitab?n? daha cok begendim.Ama kad?n karakterin ba?lardaki ki?iliksizli?i yüzünden puan? da k?rd?m..

Konusu daha sert idi. Lexi ve Cruz'un hikayesi beyaz dizi tad?nda idi daha romantik idi. Irak sava??ndan dönmü? sava? gazisi Mitch Cassidy ve Titan k?zlar?n?n ortanca olan? Skye Titan'?n hikayesi idi..

Skye ile Mitch'in hikayesi daha gerçek sert bir hikaye idi.Babas?n?n etkisinden kurtulamam?? ki?ili?i oturmam??..Annesi neredeyse gözlerinin önünde intihar etmi? bir genç k?z idi Skye Titan..Bu durumdan da faydalanan bir sözde baba deyim yerinde ise tam bir karakersiz idi bence...Nefret ettim bu karakterden.Ailesini çocuklar?n? kendi ki?isel ç?karlar? için kullanabilen bir baba profili vard?. Skye'in hayatta kalan tek ebeveyni olmas? üzerindeki etkisini güçlendiriyordu..Skye Titan babas? ne derse yap?yordu..

Yer yer kad?n kahraman?m?z Skye 'in babas?n?n etkisinde fazla kalmas?na çok sinir oldum. Skye sadece babas? istedi?i için sevdiği adam? b?rakip yaslı? bir erkek ile evlenir.. Özellikle baz? yerlerde gençlik ve toylu'unun etkisi ile ki?iliksizce davranmas? beni delirtti diyebilirim.Babas?n?n Mitch Cassidy'den ayrıl?p ya?ça büyük bir adam ile evlenmesini istiyordu..O istedi Skye yapt? hem de en i?renç bir ?ekilde..

Hayat?m?n a?k? dedi?i adama çok ac?mas?zca ihanet etmesi ondan hamile kalmas?.Evlilik teklifi eden sevdi?i adam? yüz üstü b?rakmas?..Çok sinir oldum çok ki?iliksizce karakersizce yap?lm?? bir davran??t?..Bence..

??te bu yüzden Mitch bence dokuz yıl sonra kar??la?t?klar?nda az bile yapt???n? dü?ünüyorum..A?a?lamas?n? da bence hak etmi?ti..?hanet bence ili?kiyi darmada??n eden bir davran??t?r geriye dönü?ü de neredeyse imkans?zd?r..

Bu ayrıl?ktan sonra Mitch orduya yazıl?r ve SEAL komodosu olur.Son kat?ld??? Irak Sava??'nda da aya??n? kaybederek geri döner.Arada dokuz yıl geçmi?tir. Skye ise kocas?n? kaybetmi? 8 ya??nda bir k?z? vard?r.Babas? Jed Titan ile birlikte ya?amaktadır..Mitch'den ayrıl???n?n a??rl???n? hala içinde

ya?amaktad?r..Kocas? öldükten sonra da herhangi bir gönül ili?kisi olmam??t?r..Babas? ona yine evlenmesi için bir koca ayarlam??t?r..

?Lk kitab?m?zdaki Lexi ve Cruz ni?anlanm??t? ve Lexi bebek bekliyordu.Üvey a?abeyleri Gart yine i?ba??nda idi..Titanlar? özellikle Jed Titan'? mahvetmeye yemin etmi? bu adam planlar?'n? uygulamak için her yolu denemeye kararl? idi..Bu sefer de Titanlar? içten y?kmaya kararl? idi...

Bu yüzden planlar?'na Mirch'i de katt?...Skye'a dü?man plan Mitch hesapla?mas?'n? bu yönden de denemeye karar verir ama çok geçmeden pi?man olacakt?r..

?imdi serinin üçüncü kitab? ?zzy'nin hikayesi var s?rada ama ben 4.ve son hikayede ki Garth ve Dana'n?'n hikayesini daha çok merak ediyorum..Yard?msever Dana Titan k?zlar?'n?n hem savunucusu hem de arkada?? idi..Bu macera bence daha heyecanlı? olacak..

Kesinlikle tavsiye edece?im bir seri..Susan Mallery'i o kadar çok sevmezdim bu seriyi okuduktan sonra kesinlikle takip edece?im bir yazar ...

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### willaful says

This is a well-written book, but I almost packed it in halfway through. Not only is it painfully dark, but the main characters are very hard to like: Mitch is bitter, self-pitying and mean, Skye is easily manipulated and ridiculously defensive. Both recognize their faults and grow, but I thought it took a little too long, with only a brief moment of happiness at the end. But props to Mallory for taking the story in a less obvious direction than expected, and for writing fallible human beings. Despite its darkness, I'm intrigued by the series and dying to find out how the bad guy will be redeemed.

This could be read as a stand-alone but would probably be enjoyed more in sequence.

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### ????ηı?ı says

3,75

?lk kitap kadar olmasada okunurlu?u yüksek bir kitap. Beklentim zaten dü?üktü ba?larken iyide oldu hayalk?r?kl??n? u?ramad?m diyebilirim.

Izzy? ve en çok Garreti merak ediyorum. Bu kadar kötü gösterirken Garreti nas?l dönece?iz onun taraf?'na bekleyip görecez umar?'m çok beklemeyiz.

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### Edna says

Ahhh, this book annoyed the hell out of me. I rolled my eyes at Skye and Izzy the entire time. Erin seemed like more of an adult than those two. In addition, Skye wasn't too interesting. It took her forever to grow a backbone. Jed once again was a complete ass. I'm amazed by how horrible he was and I wonder how the hell he turned out the way he did. Okay, actually I don't care. Besides all that I just didn't feel invested in the relationship between Skye and Mitch. I've read better reunion/first love stories. One more complaint and it's about a character that we didn't even meet in the story...Pete. Was there any point in him being killed? I was

a bit pissed off at that. Sigh. All I wanted to read about was Mitch and Erin. They were very cute together and one of the few good things about this book.

I saw that book 4 is about Dana and Garth. With all the crap Garth has pulled thus far I'm curious as to how he'll be redeemed, what happened to his mother, the whole backstory to the overall plot of these books.

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### **jenjn79 says**

I didn't like this one as much as the first book in the series. I didn't enjoy the romance and characters as much...the heroine annoyed me a lot. But it was still a decent contemporary romance.

Series Note: this is the second book in Susan Mallery's Lone Star Sisters series. These books should be read in order because they are heavily intertwined.

#### Summary:

Skye Titan has pretty much spent her life trying to please her father. She abandoned the man she loved and married a much older man her father picked out. Now, she is her father's hostess, living at the family home and still doing what he wants. Skye knows he doesn't deserve her loyalty. She is nothing but a commodity to him. But she can't help but what her father to love her.

Things in her life have already been getting mixed up with an enemy popping up to make trouble for her family. But to make matters worse, the one man she's ever truly loved is back in town. It's quite clear to Lexi that Mitch hasn't forgiven her for what happened between them, but the two can't seem to stay away from each other and the flames reignite quickly. They'll have to learn how to forgive each other, though, and Skye will finally have to take a stand against her father if they want a future together.

#### Review:

Like the first book in this series, I thought the romance was completely and utterly predictable. Right from the start, I knew almost exactly how it was going to go. And I was right on nearly every count. Which made the romance a little boring. It needed something unique to it to catch my attention.

It also didn't help that I found Skye irritating. She just came off rather wimpy and a bit clueless. She didn't appeal to me, as a reader. Which then made the romance not as interesting. I did like Mitch, though. I was much more interested in reading about his post-war-injury struggle, his anger at Skye, than most of the other stuff in the book.

As for the continuing storyline of Garth and the attacks on the Titan family...well, I can say that right now, Garth seems like a total soulless creep! I'm a bit baffled by the fact that he is going to end up the hero of book 4. Talk about a jerk! Should be interesting to see how that goes!

Overall, this was a pretty average book. I didn't hate it, but I was mostly indifferent about it. It's worth reading just to keep going with the series storyline.

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### **Lady Allison says**

In the second book of the tale of the Titan sisters, we learn about Skye's story. She's the "good" girl. Her mother's favorite and her father's hostess, she's done what she was supposed to her entire life. Not because

she wanted to, but because she feared that if she didn't she would lose whatever semblance of love she had from her father. Having already found her mother in a bath tub of blood, this was a very real fear and made her cooperate mindlessly with Jed Titan, her manipulating father. However, through this process she lost a part of herself. When she was younger, she was in love with a man named Mitch. He was her entire world and she wanted nothing more than a life with him - but when the time came, her father told her she was to marry someone else & well seated in her fear, she obeyed & left the only thing she had come to count on.

Mitch went away to become a SEAL, but he got seriously injured in an explosion and was forced out of service by amputation. So, he's back home. Pent up with anger & blame with no where else to put in but on Skye, the catalyst for his pain.

I really enjoyed watching Skye & Mitch patch things up between them because they are such an important piece of each other. Skye was accepting & patient with Mitch's disability & resulting anger. She understood where he was coming from and he needed someone to lean on. When Jed asked her to marry someone AGAIN, I was *so* proud of her for not caving in. For standing up for her life. But when she succumbed to the fear, the words she threw at Mitch cut to the quick. It was intensely painful to watch, but intensely gratifying to see them both realize their mistake & come back from it.

I really liked Erin, I thought she was such a sweet child & I love how she broke Mitch down simply with a look or telling him he was her "hero". She is the glue between those two, and the readers can trust Mitch will take her as his own.

I more than dislike Jed, I really hate him. To use a *child* against his OWN child...\*shakes head\*

The writing was a lot better this time around and I really liked how she was able to connect with the readers emotionally this time around. Definitely looking forward to the next one.

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