



Nobody's Darling

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Billy Darling never enjoyed being a wanted man until the day Miss Esmerelda Fine marched into the Tumbleweed Saloon and pointed her derringer at his heart. Lucky for him, she's a mighty poor shot. Instead of killing him, she hires him to find her runaway brother. He should turn down her offer. He should resist her charms. But he doesn't. Because there comes a time in every man's life when he's got nothing left to lose...but his heart.

Nobody's Darling Details

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From Reader Review Nobody's Darling for online ebook

Saly says

This one was lovely with such a great hero. I found the town, his brothers, his mother, all of it so charming. Our hero comes looking to kill the hero, who she thinks murdered her beloved brother & then shenanigans ensue. The last 20% with her going off to England felt very unnecessary to be honest but I liked this.

Widala says

What a delightful story! Lovely characters and great storytelling. Loved the interaction between Billy and Esme, how their love grew. The side characters were also interesting.
It drew a lot of emotions from me. It's funny in some places, touching, heartwarming... The way the story flowed made me couldn't put it down.
The epilogue a bit cheesy but it brought a feel good ending.

Mary Kathryn says

I didn't really like the end of this book but I still gave it 5 stars. It had a little bit of everything in it. It made a laugh a lot and it even made me cry in a few parts and it had a dog(I love a book with a dog as long as the dog doesn't die). I loved, loved, loved Billy!!! Any man who has a dog that follows him around has got to be great. I did feel like the end was a bit rushed. I wish it was a little bit longer to wrap up the story better.

Luli says

Historia sencilla y muy divertida que te va a hacer pasar un buen rato si no le pides demasiado.

Los dos primeros tercios de la historia han sido muy entretenidos, los protagonistas encantadores y sus diálogos no han tenido desperdicio. Si no fuese porque al final se me ha hecho un poco larga por culpa de las intrusiones de los personajes secundarios, que hubiese sido mejor que se hubiesen quedado en el tintero porque lo han hecho todo un poco aburrido, pesado y fuera de tono con el ritmo que llevaba la historia...
¿Por dónde iba?, Ah, sí... Si no fuese por todo eso se hubiese llevado más estrellas.

Pero aun así la recomiendo si queréis leer algo entretenido, divertido y sin complicaciones. Ah... y con un poco de paciencia hacia el final. Yo era lo que necesitaba en ese momento.
:)

This is a lighthearted and funny story which will show you a good time if you are in the mood for something light and uncomplicated.

The first 2/3 of the story has been so entertaining. The MC's are lovely and their banter is hilarious.

If not for the last third that has dragged because of the secondary characters' intrusion, who would have been better out of the story since they have only made the story more tedious and boring and they didn't belong in a so funny plot... Err... What was I saying...? Ah, yes... If not because the aforesaid I would have rated it higher.

Even so I would recommend it if you want to read something funny, unserious and light. It was what I wanted at the moment.

:)

Ingela Hyatt says

Esmerelda Fine left her comfortable home in Boston, and travelled to Calamity, New Mexico with only one purpose in mind: to kill the man responsible for her brother's death. Billy Darling: the youngest brother of the Darling Gang and a wanted man. Esmerelda had memorized every black and white detail of his wanted poster, prepared to kill the bastard first and ask questions later. But when she marched into the only saloon in the one horse town, she never expected she would meet eye to eye with a gunslinging legend nor that his wanted poster had done him a grave injustice.

Never had she met such a dangerously handsome man with glittering grey-green eyes, nor a man who's skill with a gun was such that she never even saw him draw his Colt .45. Even more alarming was his sensual southern drawl, and the claim that he had never heard of Bartholomew Fine III. Now sitting in a jail cell, Esmeralda wonders what is more grievous: having shot at a man who many not have killed her brother, or finding herself inexplicably attracted to a dangerous outlaw.

Billy Darling may have had the name, but he had nothing to do with his older brothers and the Darling Gang. In fact, he had always longed to be apart of the right side of the law. Now U.S. marshal Winstead has hired him to find Bartholomew Fine and in return, he will carry a badge of his own. Torn between his unreasonable attraction to pretty yet prickly Miss Fine, and the U.S. marshal that could fulfill his life long dream, he heads out with Esmeralda in search of her brother turned outlaw. But will Esmeralda's passion and love be enough to keep Billy Darling from taking in her brother, or will she loose everything: Bartholomew and the gunslinger of her dreams?

I am not one for Western Romance, but this book is so superbly written. Brimming with excitement, danger, sizzling sensuality and humor, it holds a special place in my heart. Once again, Teresa Medeiros regals us with her wonderful talent.

Carol *Young at Heart Oldie* says

Where would you find a saucy pair of bluebirds, a violin case, a derringer, a collection of dime novels, an ornery mule, a US marshal's badge, a French crème puff, a cantankerous old English duke and a Wild West Show?

Well, look no further than Teresa Medeiros's wonderful, madcap western romance, *Nobody's Darling*. It's a

testament to Ms Medeiros's brilliant writing that a story peppered with every conceivable western cliché can still be fresh and vibrant. It's a sheer delight from beginning to end.

Billy is just the perfect hero. He's tough, dangerous and unpredictable because he needed to be to survive, especially with his four older brothers around!

"From the moment I was born, they were bigger than me, stronger than me, and meaner than me. If I wanted to survive, I had to prove I was smarter, crazier, and a better shot.

But what makes him so adorable is that vulnerability he hides so well. There is a poignant moment when Ma Darling tells Esmeralda how Billy taught himself to read but his brothers laughed at him and stole his books and burnt them. He was willing to suffer his brothers' bullying to satisfy his hunger for learning. Despite his reputation as a ruthless gunslinger, he does have his own code of honour, never having shot anyone other than in self-defence. I love his humour and how tender hearted he is.

...he hadn't hesitated to champion a sad-eyed, flea-bitten basset hound whose hunting days were over.

The heroine is often overshadowed by the hero but not Esmeralda. She may appear prim and proper but she soon shows that fiery spirit and independent nature that make her more than a match for Billy. It is easy to appreciate just how much she had sacrificed so that her brother, Bartholomew, could pursue his dreams and then to find out how selfish and ungrateful he is.

I love her best when that redhead's temper comes to the fore such as the scene where she confronts the pipe-smoking, shotgun toting Ma Darling.

Esmeralda sighed. "It has been a very long, very trying day, and you, madam, have just succeeding in exhausting my patience. Now are you going to step aside and let me bring him in the house or am I going to have to shoot you?"

They say opposites attract and there's certainly wonderful chemistry between these two whether they are arguing, kissing or making love.

There's also a wonderful bunch of quirky supporting characters who all add richness to this fast-paced story and I love Ms Medeiros's trademark humour, both visual and verbal. This is one of my favourite scenes where Esmeralda is accosted by her 'suitors'. It conjures up such a hilarious picture.

As they appeared on the stoop, the shouts and cursing dwindled to an expectant silence. It seemed the entire male population of Calamity had turned out to gawk at his companion. Billy even spotted Dauber and Seal in the crowd, their eager faces scrubbed free of trail dust and their hair slicked back with enough bear grease to fry an elephant.

As he ushered Esmeralda onto the sidewalk, the men retreated to a respectful distance. A shoving match between two grizzled sodbusters broke out on the fringes of the crowd.

"Git back! I done seen her first."

"Shit, Elmer, ye're nearsighted as a prairie dog. You aint seen nothin' in nigh twenty years."

"I see good enough to know ye're nothin' but a yellow-bellied, two-timin' old sonofa-"

"Gentlemen!" boomed Horace Stumpelmeyer, the recently widowed town banker. "I urge you to remember that there is a lady present."

Both men immediately snatched off their dusty hats and clutched them to their hearts. A stripling cowboy, still young enough to have a chin furred with peach fuzz, lifted his hand. Esmeralda ducked as if she

expected to be pelted with a rotten tomato. But he only smiled shyly, revealing a mouthful of crooked yellow teeth, and thrust a bouquet of wilted ragweed beneath her nose."

I also liked the Epilogue which I thought was quite original.

VERDICT: ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTFUL

RATING : ★★★★☆

Elizabeth May says

I dug through my collection of older romances this week whilst being stuck inside with the worst (THE WORST) hay-fever of my life, and was so delighted when I came across my Medeiros books! I remembered this one being a favourite, so I hunkered down with some tea and gave it a read. I found it every bit as delightful as I did when I first read it (though I'm going to pretend that silly epilogue doesn't exist).

Ian says

Nobody's Darling is a fun, often funny, occasionally laugh out loud funny Western Romance about a woman whose greatest weapon is her singing voice and a man who would love to be a law man if he could only stop being an outlaw.

I really enjoyed pretty much everything about this book except the ending which didn't quite work. Take out part three and the epilogue and this would have been a 5 Star book for me.

Crista says

So I'm not a western girl. I don't typically watch them, read them, or like them. On impulse, because I like Russell Crowe, I rented 3:10 to Yuma and really liked it a lot. It was then that I opened myself to reading one. *Nobody's Darling* was a perfect choice!

This book really has it all. Likeable characters, witty dialogue, plenty of tension between the H/H, and a fast paced plot. The book is split into 3 parts. The first 2 parts are excellent, and are what give this book the high rating. The stage is America in the old west. Gangs, Gunslingers, Outlaws run rampant and Billy Darling is one of the most infamous. Esmerelda Fine "hires" Billy to track down her missing brother, and this book is about their journey to do just that.

Esmerelda is a heroine that one will soon not forget. She is fiesty, strong, independent, and thouroughly enjoyable. She made me laugh in many places and I was cheering for her and Billy the whole way! Billy Darling made this book unforgettable. The rough and tough outlaw that can't stand to see a woman cry. His protection and love for Esmerelda was really touching and his belief that he wasn't good enough for the

beautiful Esmerelda was heartbreaking.

I didn't like part 3. The location switches to England, and I wish it wouldn't have. I felt the ending was contrived, unrealistic, and disappointing. Usually this would have me flinging the book across the room, giving it no stars, and swearing off an author, but not in this case. The majority of the book is just too good for that. Billy is a favorite of mine now, and for that matter..so is Esmerelda. I wish they could've had a stronger ending, but the epilogue is sweet and "covers" some of the damage done by part 3.

I highly recommend this....even if you don't care for Westerns!

Lyuda says

This lighthearted western should've ended 2/3 of the way to make it a very good one for me.

It starts with an actual bang when Miss Esmeralda Fine storms into the Tumbleweed Saloon in a small dusty New Mexico town of Calamity wanting to avenge for her dead baby brother and arrest the person who "did it"- William (Billy) Darling- our hero. Since the town's sheriff is not inclined to arrest him, Esmeralda decides to take matter in her hands and shoot the villain. Lucky for Billy, Esmeralda is a poor shot and he lives to see another day. When the evidence pointed that her brother is alive, Esmeralda hires Billy to help her find him. And thus begins their wild-west adventure and their romance.

The first half of the story is perfect. The protagonists' pull-and-push courtship sparks with humor and witty banter. The improbable twists and turns of the plot were amusing. I was busy underlining one hilarious quote after another. I was laughing out loud. It was so good. But then it became all too much - too much goofiness, too much silliness; the improbable situations became more so to the point of being farcical. I gradually lost interest, started to skim, repeatedly set the book aside.

Unlike other reviewers, the epilogue actually worked for me. It was sweet and inventive. I just wish it had come much sooner.

Danette Steward says

10 stars.

This will be one of my all time favorites-- right next to a few Kleypas and Garwood books. You HAVE to read this one!! I had a stupid smile on my face and laughed the whole time.

He came into her jail cell and stopped near enough for her to divine the dark gold hue of his hair, the sun-burnished strands that brushed his shoulders, the tawny stubble shading his jaw. But his eyes continued their maddening shift between gray and green. He was taller than she'd realized, lean and lanky without an ounce of wasted fat on his broad-shouldered frame.

She held her breath as he reached out his hand. But instead of throttling her as she'd feared, he caressed a fallen curl from her cheek. His calloused thumb lingered against her smooth skin.

"Holler," he said.

"Pardon?" she whispered, believing she'd misunderstood him.

"The sheriff promised to come running if you hollered. I think it might be a good idea."

She drew in a shaky breath. "I may have swooned beneath the weight of extreme duress, sir, but surely you haven't mistaken me for the hysterical sort of female who screams at the slightest provocation."

His lashes swept down to mask his eyes as he lowered his lips toward hers.
Esmerelda screamed.

puppitypup says

Western Romance *Finally, a real hero!*

There is nothing better than a well-written Western/Romance!

I remember once, years ago, a friend asked me what I liked to read. She just about fell off her horse laughing when I told her. I thought that was a little unfair, after all we lived in the West, and we were out on the trail with our horses, wearing our cowboy boots and hats, no less! Anyway, at the time, I was embarrassed to admit to my love for Western/Romance. No longer, at this point, I can bravely say that it is, hands-down, my favorite genre.

I love this book! It's funny, it's romantic, we have a cranky grandfather that finally comes to the rescue, a rascally band of brothers, an endearing old dog and an immensely likeable hero.

This one is a keeper, I highly recommend it!

The book is clean in terms of language, except for taking the Lord's name in vain once. There are two intimate scenes, easily skipped.

Serban Georgiana says

Ce lectura placuta !

Mi-a placut cartea,pentru ca autoare a stiut cum sa o dozeze ,si sa dea cate putin din toate:intriga,suspans,pasiune,umor,iubire,devotament.

Faptul ca actiunea se petrece in "Vestul Salbatic" este o alta palcere,pe care o apreciez.

Ca personaj principala masculin avem un barbat atipic genului historical romance,si anume un pistolar proscris,in persoana lui Bully Darling.

Doamne ce mi-a mai placut de individ,cat de complax si totodata minunat a fost construit acest personaj.
Nici protagonista nu este mai prejos.

Esmeralda Fine este nepoata renegata a unui conte.Ea pleaca in cautarea ucigasului fratelui sau,dar curand descopera ca cel invinuit pe nedrept,este singura persoana care ar putea sa o ajute in gasirea acestuia.

Mi-a placut cam tot la aceasta carte, exceptand ultima parte (intoarcerea la Londra, si reîntâlnirea lor).

4.5 stele dau acestei carti, pentru ca mi-au placut personajele, dar si toate situatiile amuzante create de Teresa Medeiros.

Fani *loves angst* says

This was a great book that I had trouble putting down for the most part. I loved the bantering between Esmeralda and Billy, their love for each other and their chemistry. The story flowed easily between humor and heartache, tenderness and passion. I especially liked the 2nd part, where Esmeralda and Billy work together as a team and cover each other's backs, staying loyal and true. I felt that the book should have ended there and that the moving of the stage to England was an unnecessary filler that only managed to blow out the steam that had already built and move the focus out of the main couple. It wasn't bad, but it wasn't in parr with the rest of the book and I was sorry to be left with that last impression in mind.

What I seriously disliked was the epilogue. It's a rare occurrence that an epilogue can create such a strong reaction in me; either positive or negative. At least we learn that they lived happily ever after; but the reason to try and squeeze another romance for the protagonists' great great granddaughter in 5-6 pages is beyond me and had me confused.

Ronyell says

“Nobody’s Darling” was the first romance novel that I have read from Teresa Medeiros and it has got everything that you would expect from an adventurous western romance story: adventure, romance, sexual desires and hot cowboys! For all you romance fans, “Nobody’s Darling” is surely a romance novel that you just can not put down!

Beautiful English aristocratic Esmeralda Fine has traveled to America to find her brother, Bartholomew’s, murderer and she meets up with a notorious outlaw named Billy Darling, who she believes killed her brother. Even though Esmeralda tried to kill Billy Darling, she later on ends up hiring Billy when she realizes that her brother might still be alive to find her brother. Little does Esmeralda know is that she is about to go on the biggest western adventure of her life!

Oh my goodness! I will admit that when I first picked up this book, I thought it was going to be boring, but imagine my surprise when I found this book to be so **DELICIOUSLY EXCITING!** I have to tell you that Teresa Medeiros has definitely done a great job at not only providing out dishes of adventure and suspense for western adventure fans, but also provides lots of romance and forbidden sexual desires that would make anyone swoon with pleasure! The best thing about this book is the characters themselves, especially Esmeralda Fine and Billy Darling. Billy Darling is the pure embodiment of a hot cowboy/outlaw that everyone wants to meet up with! Teresa Medeiros takes great care in describing every inch of Billy Darling’s body from his golden hair to his muscular body in such a sensual manner that it would make your hairs stand on its end! Another character that I really enjoyed was Esmeralda Fine herself as she is shown to be an extremely headstrong character who does not let anything get in her way and Teresa Medeiros has done a great job at using Esmeralda’s last name (Fine) in definitely her appearance according to Billy Darling himself as she is described as the most beautiful woman to ever grace upon the town of Calamity. Now onto the core of this story! I love the way that the story is set up as a “good girl falls for the bad boy” scenario,

with Esmeralda being the good and proper girl and Billy Darling as the bad yet good looking cowboy/outlaw and even though they have a love/hate relationship, I love the scenes where they have intense and romantic moments together and let me tell you, the moments between them are definitely **SIZZLING!**

For those of you who do not like strong language and sex scenes, I have to warn you that this book has a bunch of sex scenes and strong language and it might offend many people who do not approve of sex scenes and strong language.

“Nobody’s Darling” is definitely the perfect western romance story full of rollicking western adventures and sexual scenes that will send shivers of delight throughout any romance novel fan! Even if this book has its fair share of sex scenes and strong language, I would still recommend this book to romance fans everywhere!

Review is also on: Rabbit Ears Book Blog
