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USA Today Bestselling Author  
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**HELENKAY DIMON**

*Everybody's happy...*

**When  
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Happen to  
Bad Boys**

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## **When Good Things Happen To Bad Boys**

*Lori Foster , Erin McCarthy , HelenKay Dimon*

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# When Good Things Happen To Bad Boys

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**"Playing Doctor" is written by Lori Foster.**

Attitude makes a huge difference in bed. It could be Axel Dean's motto. The sexy physician likes his women with sensual moxie, and Libby Preston definitely seems to fit that bill. There's that naughty grin. That hot bod. Her eager kisses and cheeky insults. Her...admitted virginity. Whoa. Okay, cue cold shower. Axel may not be an honorable man, but he has his limits. Except Libby won't take no for an answer. She's determined to have someone show her what she's been missing, and suddenly, Axel can't bear to think of Libby playing doctor with anyone else...

**"Lady Of The Lake" is written by Erin McCarthy**

Pro baseball player Dylan Diaz is pretty sure he's going to hell. When you rescue a drowning woman from a lake your first thought should be, "Are you okay?" not, "Can I make mad, passionate love to you?" But the minute sputtering kindergarten teacher Violet Caruthers is on Dylan's boat, that's all he can think about. Maybe it's the potent combo of a nun's personality inside a stripper's body. Maybe it's the way she drives him crazy with desire and laughter. Or maybe, Dylan's finally found what's been missing in his life, and he's not about to let go...

**"Hardhats And Silk Stockings" is written by HelenKay Dimon** Hannah Bridges is the most infuriating woman architect Whit Thomas has ever met - and the sexiest. If he could just get the tough contractor to stop proving herself at every turn, they might have time to discuss more important things, like his hands on her...blue prints. What Hannah needs is a night of pure bliss that's all about her: no regrets, no control, no limits. Now, in a private room where pleasure is the only goal, Hannah is about to receive a delicious education in total ecstasy...

*Join three of today's hottest romance authors for a trio of sinfully sexy stories where good things come in deliciously bad boy packages...*

## When Good Things Happen To Bad Boys Details

Date : Published April 1st 2006 by Kensington (first published January 1st 2006)

ISBN : 9780758209337

Author : Lori Foster , Erin McCarthy , HelenKay Dimon

Format : Paperback 269 pages

Genre : Romance, Anthologies, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Fiction

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**McCarthy , HelenKay Dimon**

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## From Reader Review When Good Things Happen To Bad Boys for online ebook

### Maura says

Average out on this anthology is a 2.66 - so we'll say 2.5.

Playing Doctor - Lori Foster - 4 / 5 - Libby Preston is 21, a virgin and trying very hard to become a nurse so she can get out from under the control of her uncle Elwood, chief of staff at the local hospital. Axel Dean is 35, a doctor, very experienced and avoiding commitment with everything in him. He spots Libby at a party, where she's working, and the sparks fly. But he slams on the brakes when he finds out she's a virgin. But he can't get her out of his mind and all the things he thinks should keep them apart, don't seem to matter much anymore. This was pretty hysterical at times. I loved the reunion, when Libby finds out, most unfortunately, that the man she hooked up with at a party and whose name she never got (Axel) is in fact a gynecologist. The age difference didn't bother me; it was emphasized initially, but then later used for humor. They were an amusing couple. I was put off a bit by how quickly the romance turned serious, especially given Libby's plans for a career.

Lady of the Lake - Erin McCarthy - 2 / 5 - Violet wants to have a baby and that's why she was with her dolt of a boyfriend in the first place. She ends up dumped in the lake after falling out of his boat and is picked up by sexy baseball player Dylan Diaz. After some discussion, he offers to father her baby the old-fashioned way. But after being together, Dylan doesn't want to go separate ways. He wants Violet and their baby in his life. But Violet wants to stick to the agreement - the baby will be hers and no pressure on Dylan at all. I have no doubt I'm in the minority here, but Violet felt like a selfish, mercenary woman. It felt like she examined guys toward their suitability for being a sperm-donor rather than for their own worth. And how she walks away from Dylan after he asks to date her and then her sending the form asking him to give up parental rights...that came across as really selfish and inconsiderate. And Dylan forgave her WAY too easily.

Hard Hats and Silk Stockings - HelenKay Dimon - 2 / 5 - Hannah's construction company is working on Whit's family's house and she is stubborn and insulting to Whit. But even though she appears to hate him, Whit has caught her checking him out. So he's determined to find out what passion lies beneath the ice. He arranges to get trapped with her in a secret sex room down in the basement so they can spend two nights exploring the attraction Hannah keeps denying. I wasn't really bothered by Hannah's behavior or attitude. In fact, I think she had a perfect right to be angry throughout this story. Whit was a perfect sleaze who wanted to get into Hannah's pants, found she wasn't receptive despite the attraction and so tricked her into being alone with him so he could get laid. And it pissed me off that he got mad at Hannah for not letting it go - it wasn't like he trapped her down there so they could get to know each other or so they could start a long-term relationship. Nope, all he wanted was to have sex. It just so happened he developed feelings, but only after the fact. His intentions were devious and if I were Hannah I'd be questioning the kind of guy who could do that. Oh. And it totally squicked me out that they were going at it in a room full of sex toys that used to belong to his elderly aunt and uncle...who knows what's clean, where they've been and what other fluids must be around? Was the room sterilized?

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### Tracey says

I was in the mood for funny romance and I got exactly that.

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## Kezermeyer says

*When Good Things Happen to Bad Boys* is another collection of short stories in Brava's Bad Boys series, and probably my favorite.

### "Playing Doctor" by Lori Foster

Axel Dean is a responsible, respectable doctor in his professional life, but in his personal life he's a fun-loving playboy who enjoys no-strings-attached fun with mature women who know the score. Enter Libby Preston, a hot, young... virgin? DEFINITELY not Axel's type. But that doesn't stop her from getting under his skin, and working her way into his heart.

This was a fun, sexy story with delicious byplay between the hero and heroine and wonderfully steamy sex scenes. Axel's shallowness was a bit unlikeable, but it was satisfying to see the two halves of his personality come together. Short stories frequently suffer from poor pacing, but this one is a great example of pacing done perfectly.

### "Lady of the Lake" by Erin McCarthy

Professional baseball player Dylan Diaz and sedate kindergarten teacher Violet Caruthers may not seem like a likely match, but when Dylan fishes her out of the lake on his birthday, the sparks fly from the beginning, and Dylan begins to think she may just be the best birthday present he's ever had.

Another well-paced short by one of my favorite authors. This story was strong throughout, super steamy, nerve-wracking but ultimately very satisfying, and had great characters you really rooted for. Delicious, and a great match to Foster's contribution.

### "Hardhats and Silk Stockings" by HelenKay Dimon

Hannah Bridges is a prickly, sharp tongued contractor with her guards up, but Whit Thomas, the architect who owns the historical house she's currently renovating for the city, sees past her bluster to the sexy, vulnerable woman underneath. But can he convince her to give him - and them - a chance?

This was the weak link of the three, but still not a bad short. The sex scenes were pretty well done and the pacing was good. Unfortunately it was a little hard to get behind Hannah... she's too much harshness and fear, and not enough likability. Whit's character is better, but still lacking something that puts the reader squarely behind him.

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## Kathy says

### Playing Doctor – Lori Foster

Libby Preston & Dr. Axel Dean – she's the niece of chief of doctors and he took her in when her mother died (no dad)... and he is hard on her because he does not want her to be flighty like her mother... she works to support herself as much as possible and goes to school to be a nurse – and when uncle needs her services, she

is expected to help out... at one of his parties, she is there as chief caterer/server... and Dr. Dean (gynecologist) can't keep his eyes off of her... he follows her outside... they have an encounter, she has an orgasm, but when he realizes that she is a virgin, he pulls back... she decides that she needs sex, makes an appointment with a random gynecologist and it's him... she embarrassedly kicks him out of the exam room – he hasn't been able to forget her, so he goes to her home that night (now that he has an address)... he won't leave, they talk, they make love... and she has pneumonia – and he cares for her... learns about her ... and he falls in love (and vice versa).... ahhh

#### Lady of the Lake – Erin McCarthy

Violet Caruthers & Dylan Diaz – She is a nerdy kindergarten teacher (with stripper breasts that she generally hides) and wants to have a baby... she's been with a nerdy scientist guy, and about to propose that they have non condom sex so she can get pregnant, and she'd not expect anything from him... they are fishing, his friends invite themselves along... and she falls off the boat going to get water, and no one notices... Dylan is a pro baseball player, large loving family (in another state), and it's his birthday, and he's lonely – no friends nearby, tired of one night stands or people who just want something from him... so he's sailing on the lake... and sees something in the water, and realizes it is a person... and she's alive... he pulls her in the boat... tumbling her onto his crotch... and during their time on the boat, they get to know one another – a time outside time... and he takes her to his apartment... and he offers to be the father of her baby... and they have sex... she gets pregnant... she tells him to get lost... she misses him... he misses her (though he always wanted more with her)... and as he decides he's making his case again, she realizes she wants to try... ahhh

#### Hardhats and Silk Stockings – HelenKay Dimon

Whiteman 'Whit' Goodard Thomas & Hannah Bridges... Whit, rich, owns a historical house... Hannah, not good in school, mother 'kicked out' of family, but mom dead, and grandpa giving her a chance to make good by giving her one of his historical specialty construction companies to see if she can make a go of it... she serious... Whit wants to play... he manipulates things to get her locked (with him) in his deceased uncle's sex room in the basement of the historical house... after a bit of talk, they're going to have sex... she puts the handcuffs on him, and stretches out the encounter.. they don't' have the key... his brother and her cousin unlock the door to find him naked and cuffed... she (in the bathroom) hears their banter... and that he planned to lock them in... is embarrassed and feels used... storms out... a couple of weeks later, after he is working hard (after the workers go home) to work on the houses so that she can meet the deadline, she realizes his heart is in the right place ... and ahhhhh

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#### Julianna says

Reviewed for THC Reviews

"4.5 stars" overall

**Playing Doctor** by Lori Foster - *Playing Doctor* is the final novella in Lori Foster's *Dean Brothers & Friend* series. Playboy Axel Dean is the last man standing, as his brother and best friend have both succumbed to the bite of the love bug. Axel, however, has no intention of falling in love or marrying. He's having far too much fun being single and playing the field. In fact, he's a bit of a man whore, taking a different woman to his bed almost every week. Because of this, I wasn't sure how I'd feel about him as the hero of his own story, but Lori Foster really redeemed him in my eyes. I liked that Axel had a few scruples left. He won't sully virginal women, although the way in which he goes about turning Libby down when he finds out she is a virgin definitely lacked the finesse for which he's known. It was fun to watch Libby take him down a peg or two and make him squirm. It was even more enjoyable to see him not be able to stop

thinking about Libby, even though she's not his usual type and hits his "Won't Go There" list on multiple counts. He's even a little jealous and can't stand the idea of some other guy initiating her into sex. What really made me like Axel though, is how he makes sweet, passionate love to Libby and just can't seem to resist her or get enough of her, but best of all, I loved how tenderly he cares for her when she gets sick. He definitely proved he's a very bad boy who can be very good when the right woman comes along to reform him.

Libby can definitely go toe to toe with Axel. She's a little mouthy and usually not afraid to tell it like it is. She's fourteen years his junior, which might be a little off-putting to some readers, but I didn't mind. She has a sympathetic past in which she had to grow up fast, so she's more mature than most women her age would be. Still, her youth and virginal status make Axel put the kibosh on their halfway-there garden tryst pretty quickly. Even though Libby was rather humiliated by that, she can't stop thinking about the hot doc. Normally I'm not a huge fan of heroines who are in a hurry to lose their virginity, but at least Libby wasn't really even thinking much about sex until Axel came along. She also admits to herself, after their first time together, that she didn't expect the feelings to be so strong and would have a hard time sticking to their casual sex agreement if Axel decides to bail. I have to give her credit though, for being mature and realistic about the situation, knowing what she might be in for, if she allowed herself to get involved with him.

So overall, *Playing Doctor* turned out to be another very enjoyable novella from Lori Foster. Axel's best friend, Cary, and his now-wife, Nora (*Some Like It Hot*) got a little page time in this one too. They both have a hard time not rubbing it in when it becomes obvious that Axel's finally fallen in love. *Playing Doctor* was a nice way to wrap up the series. Now I just have to decide which of Ms. Foster's works to try next.:-) *Playing Doctor* was originally published in the *When Good Things Happen to Bad Boys* multi-author anthology, but is soon to be reprinted (Dec. 2015) in the single-author anthology, *Give It Up*, along with its two companion novellas. **Star Rating:** \*\*\*\*1/2

***The Lady of the Lake*** by Erin McCarthy - *The Lady of the Lake* is the third novella in Erin McCarthy's *Bowling Friends* series. It pairs the geeky Violet with hot, sexy baseball player, Dylan. The two meet when he rescues her from where she's treading water in the middle of Lake Erie after accidentally falling off her boyfriend's fishing boat. Unfortunately, her boyfriend is even geekier than she is and got so wrapped up in fishing and chatting with his friends that he didn't even notice she was missing. Enter Dylan, who becomes Violet's knight in shining armor. Of course, being saved by a hot guy is great, but Violet is painfully shy and self-conscious about her body. She's a very sweet heroine, and when Dylan starts hitting on her, she can't believe that someone like him would want someone like her. Aside from her overly endowed chest, which she's spent most of her life trying to hide, she thinks of herself as pretty ordinary right down to even wearing glasses. She's basically a prim librarian in a stripper's body. When Dylan finds Violet, she's extremely upset and disappointed, not just because she realized she's so unnoticeable that her boyfriend left her in the middle of a lake, but also because she wants more than anything to have a baby and was counting on his sperm to accomplish that. Violet's self-consciousness is very endearing and relatable. She's also very sympathetic, because she has no idea why her girlfriends go on and on about how great sex is. She doesn't even like sex, because it's never been good for her, not that she's the type to sleep around though. Overall, I really liked Violet a lot, and was pleased to find that I correctly predicted that she would be my favorite heroine of the series (thus far anyway).

Dylan is a sweetheart too. The day they meet is his birthday, but he's not feeling very celebratory. Most of his adult life, women have thrown themselves at his feet, but that's not what he truly wants. He's spent the last year celibate, simply because he realized that his sexual encounters had turned into nothing more than two bodies joining together with no feelings attached. He longs for someone who wants him and loves him for himself and not just for his money, or prestige, or for the bragging rights of having had sex with a

celebrity. When he realizes how sweet and innocent Violet is, and most of all, that she doesn't want anything from him like most women do, it makes her incredibly attractive to him, so much so that he impulsively offers to father the baby she so desperately wants. I admit that it takes some suspension of disbelief to buy into the idea of two strangers agreeing to make a baby together the same day they meet, but this story was very light-hearted which made it easier to not take it too seriously. Also, it's definitely all about the fantasy, and what girl who's a plain Jane geek wouldn't want a hot guy to give her all his attention and show her exactly what she's been missing in bed. I also loved that Dylan wasn't satisfied with just making a baby, he wanted to be there for Violet and make a commitment to her, regardless of whether he got her pregnant or not.

Kindra, Ashley and Trish, all three of Violet's best friends, along with Mack and Luke, the heroes from the first two novellas were there for Violet as she awaited the results of her pregnancy test. I was a little disappointed with what Trish pushed Violet to do toward afterward, but at least, Violet realized it wasn't the right thing and admitted it to Dylan. I suppose in her defense though, Trish thought she was just looking out for her friend's best interests, so hopefully, her actions won't taint my reading of her novella ("It's about Time" from *Bad Boys of Summer*) which is the next and final one in the series.

Usually lack of believability in any romance is a downside for me, but *The Lady of the Lake* ended up being a really good read. I liked and related to Violet so much and loved that Dylan treated her with such care, it would have been impossible for me not to have fun while reading it. Not to mention, it was off the charts hot without quite stepping over the line into erotica. Overall, it was another great novella in this, so far, very enjoyable and steamy series. **Star Rating:** \*\*\*\*1/2

***Hardhats and Silk Stockings*** by HelenKay Dimon - *Hardhats and Silk Stockings* is the first novella in HelenKay Dimon's *House Rehab Men* series. It's the story of architect, Whit Thomas, who has been hot for Hannah Bridges, the lead contractor working on refurbishing a historical family home of which he is part owner. She doesn't even seem to like him, usually either ignoring him or throwing barbs his way, but he suspects that if he can just get her alone for a while, she'll sing a different tune. That's why he conspires to lock them in his late uncle's secret sex dungeon for the weekend.

Out of the two main characters, Hannah is the best developed. She's pretty much alone in the world, except perhaps for her cousin, Cole, who seems to look out for her. She also has a grandfather, but he's a hard-ass, who doesn't show her any affection. He gave her the construction company to run, but also set her up to fail by giving her more jobs than any reasonable person could complete in the time frame allotted. If she doesn't deliver, then she loses the company. Hannah is determined not to give up though, and is working her butt off to prove herself in a man's world. She also struggled through school and doesn't consider herself to be very smart, which is partly why blue collar work appealed to her. It gave her someplace where she felt she could belong. She's attracted to Whit, but because of her background, she's not very amenable to being involved with a guy who's both intelligent and rich. As a result, she's extremely prickly and stand-offish toward him for most of the story, even after they've had sex. Granted he did kind of trick her, and I understood where she was coming from, but she wouldn't even give him a chance to explain for quite some time. Even after they talk a little and even after she realizes that he's trying to help her bring in her jobs on time, she still gives him the cold shoulder, until an eleventh-hour turnaround at the very end of the story. I really felt like she should have given him the benefit of the doubt, especially after she found out how he was helping her, but she remains skeptical of his motives until his brother, Adam, intervenes.

I don't feel like I got to know Whit as well. He's apparently a talented architect and owner of historical properties. He's also had a thing for Hannah for quite a while, ever since seeing her picture at his friend and her cousin, Cole's house. He cajoled Cole into telling him all about her. Since she won't give him the time of

day, he essentially tricks her into coming down with him to the secret sex dungeon that he'd accidentally found but that she didn't know about yet. I had mixed feelings about this. I could feel a connection between them while they were locked in the room together, which made me a little more forgiving of Whit's trickery. However, when Adam and Cole show up, their conversation makes it seem like Whit's intentions weren't so good after all, like he just lured her down there to have sex and only changed his mind and truly started caring for her after Hannah opened up to him a bit. I'll admit that maybe I'm misreading the situation, and Whit's generosity in helping Hannah meet her deadlines afterward did show that he had feelings for her.

I also have somewhat mixed feelings about the way in which the story progressed. The first few chapters, while Whit and Hannah are locked in the secret pleasure room, really drew me in. Hannah telling Whit about her life was touching, and their sex play was hot and steamy with a little fun handcuff action. However, my anticipation of them being locked in together for an entire weekend with lots of intriguing sex toys at their disposal, was dashed when Adam and Cole showed up unexpectedly. I suppose there was some humor in the situation, but after that, the story was too much talk and not enough action for my taste. There was also a bit too much arguing between Whit and Hannah, because of Hannah being upset over Whit's subterfuge. Later another almost love scene is interrupted by Adam again. I found this all rather frustrating, and wishing that Whit and Hannah would have stayed trapped in the basement for as long as Whit had originally intended. I think it would have given them more time to explore their feelings for one another and to build their romance, as well as some added opportunities for more love scenes. As is, there's only the one, and while it was pretty good overall, I felt like there could have been more. They also go from Hannah being angry with Whit for days on end to her embracing the idea of being with him and then declaring her love, which was perhaps a little too quick to be entirely believable. Still, *Hardhats and Silk Stockings* was reasonably entertaining, which is why I gave it four stars. It was my first read by HelenKay Dimon, but I'd be open to reading more from her. The *House Rehab Men* series continues with novellas for both Cole and Adam, both of which can be found in the anthology *Hard As Nails*. **Star Rating:** \*\*\*\*

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### **Tina says**

Fun little novellas full of sex and romance. Good beach read.

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### **Lisa Kay says**

★★★★☆ "Playing Doctor," by Lori Foster - Fun little dilemma for man-whore hero doctor who falls for a virginal nursing student. Worth a smile or two from the talented LF.

★★★★☆ "Lady Of The Lake," by Erin McCarthy - Implausible, but totally fun, with two likable leads.

★★★★☆ "Hardhats And Silk Stockings," by HelenKay Dimon - The set-up was not my cuppa...(I wouldn't want anyone to lock me in a room for a week-end, regardless of how hot he was), but may be yours.

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### **Cheesecake says**

Playing Doctor by Lori Foster

(I have a different anthology with this story so I haven't read the others in this one)

Anyways, it's short and sweet.

Axel is the older man, a doctor (34) and Libby is the younger woman he lusts after (21). She is a lot of things he wasn't expecting and it was fun watching him find out the truth. Not that she was hiding things from him, far from it, it was more that he kept making assumptions.

They are instantly attracted to each other at her snobby uncle's party. He thinks she's on the catering staff and at least a few years older than she is. She is quite level headed for such a young woman.

I liked that there was no real angst. Everything that I worried was going to go wrong went the other way because Axel was pretty honest with himself about his feelings for Libby, and Libby was no push over.

Only 3 stars because it was a little tooo easy and a little tooo insta. But it is quite short.

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## Jm says

Tendres provocations est un recueil de trois nouvelles, déjà édité il y a quelques années et que l'on a plaisir à (re)découvrir.

Dr Oeil-de-velours de Lori Foster est une nouvelle racontant l'histoire d'un médecin et d'une élève infirmière qui se rencontrent lors d'une soirée organisée par l'oncle de la jeune fille. Après quelques baisers et caresses échangés, Libby avoue à Axel qu'elle est vierge. Paniqué, le médecin lui demande de se rhabiller et lui annonce qu'elle est beaucoup trop jeune pour lui. Ils se retrouvent quelque temps plus tard et Axel, qui n'a pas réussi à se la sortir de l'esprit, essaye d'en apprendre plus sur elle.

Une histoire plutôt mignonne dont le format court permet de passer un bon moment. Les deux héros sont parfois un peu clichés, mais les répliques de l'héroïne et la plume de l'auteur relèvent le tout. Les scènes sensuelles sont également bien écrites (ce qui est le but principal de ce genre de lecture). Une agréable lecture, sans prise de tête.

Une bien curieuse sirène d'Erin McCarthy. Lorsque Dylan Diaz, joueur de baseball pour les Indians, repêche ce qu'il pense être un cadavre, il ne s'attend pas de tomber sur une petite beauté en mal d'enfant. Violet, institutrice de maternelle, rêve d'en avoir un et elle avait prévu de convaincre son petit ami Frank lors d'une balade en bateau. Sauf que cet agréable moment s'est transformé en cauchemar quand Violet est passée par-dessus bord et que Frank ne s'en est même pas rendu compte. Heureusement que Dylan l'a secourue et lui a offert généreusement de l'aider.

Si l'on passe le côté pas vraiment crédible de l'histoire, Erin McCarthy nous offre une jolie romance sensuelle. On apprécie de découvrir en même temps que Violet les talents de Dylan et l'on est touché par l'envie de ce dernier d'en apprendre plus sur sa partenaire. C'est mignon et nous avons droit à une agréable lecture.

Port du casque obligatoire d'Helen Kay Dimon. Dans cette histoire, nous suivons sur un chantier Whit, architecte, qui a décidé de séduire Hannah, l'entrepreneur en charge de rénover sa maison. Pour se faire, il a concocté un plan où il est prévu qu'ils se retrouvent coincés dans une pièce un peu particulière le temps d'un week-end.

Hannah et Whit sont deux personnages à fort caractère, mais ils sont également attirés l'un par l'autre. Ce petit imprévu, totalement prévu, est donc l'occasion idéale de se découvrir et de tenter un rapprochement. Les échanges sont savoureux et la tension entre les personnages est forte. Cette nouvelle est totalement aboutie et l'on passe un agréable moment. Celle-ci est ma préférée du recueil.

Nous avons donc avec Tendres provocations trois histoires agréables, sensuelles et sans prises de tête. Parfait pour se détendre au soleil dans le jardin.

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## **Jane Stewart says**

One good story, Two not so good.

4 stars for THE LADY OF THE LAKE by Erin McCarthy.

I enjoyed this story. Shy school teacher Violet sees herself as undesirable. She wants to get pregnant and raise a child alone. Famous baseball star is looking for something more in his life. Their meeting and subsequent actions are fun to watch.

For a list of my reviews of other Erin McCarthy books, see my 3.5 star review of “Flat-Out Sexy” posted under 3 stars 11/11/08.

2 stars for PLAYING DOCTOR by Lori Foster.

Axel is a 34 year old gynecologist. He falls for 21 year old Libby, a virgin. She gets pneumonia, he stays with her while she gets better. He likes being with her, loves her and then marries her. The surrounding plot and action weren't that interesting. Nothing was interesting about the guy other than his physical appearance. It was readable but I don't recommend it.

2 stars for HARDHATS AND SILK STOCKINGS by HelenKay Dimon.

Whit is an architect. Hannah is a contractor. Whit hires her. He lures her into a sex toy room, and they are locked in for awhile. She handcuffs him. Her cousin comes in, and she discovers that Whit planned it. She's mad at Whit. Later Whit helps her on her other contracting jobs with his own crew. They get together at the end. The plot and action were too weird for me. I also couldn't get into the characters very well. Readable but not recommended.

For all three stories: Sexual content: not evaluated, as I recall probably strong. Setting: current day U.S. Copyright 2006. Genre: contemporary romance.

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## **Hina says**

From Amazon.com:

**Playing Doctor** by Lori Foster (4 Stars)

Attitude makes a huge difference in bed. It could be Axel Dean's motto. The sexy physician likes his women with sensual moxie, and Libby Preston definitely seems to fit that bill. There's that naughty grin. That hot bod. Her eager kisses and cheeky insults. Her admitted virginity. Whoa. Okay, cue cold shower. Axel may not be an honorable man, but he has his limits. Except Libby won't take no for an answer. She's determined to have someone show her what she's been missing, and suddenly, Axel can't bear to think of Libby playing doctor with anyone else...

**The Lady of the Lake** by Erin McCarthy (4 Stars)

Pro baseball player Dylan Diaz is pretty sure he's going to hell. When you rescue a drowning woman from a lake your first thought should be, Are you okay? not, Can I make mad, passionate love to you? But the minute sputtering kindergarten teacher Violet Caruthers is on Dylan's boat, that's all he can think about. Maybe it's the potent combo of a nun's personality inside a stripper's body. Maybe it's the way she drives him crazy with desire and laughter. Or maybe, Dylan's finally found what's been missing in his life, and he's not about to let go...

### **Hardhats and Silk Stockings** by HelenKay Dimon (2 Stars)

Hannah Bridges is the most infuriating woman architect Whit Thomas has ever met -- and the sexiest. If he could just get the tough contractor to stop proving herself at every turn, they might have time to discuss more important things, like his hands on her....blue prints. What Hannah needs is a night of pure bliss that's all about her: no regrets, no control, no limits. Now, in a private room where pleasure is the only goal, Hannah is about to receive a delicious education in total ecstasy...

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### **Linda Sims says**

Three short stories about bad boys, I really enjoyed this, if you're looking for a lighthearted sexy read this fits the bill. All three tales have engaging characters as well as cute plots. If I have to pick out a favourite it has to be Erin McCarthy's story. It was such a sweet read. This is the sort of book that I think is ideal to read on holiday.

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### **Skylar says**

#### **Playing Doctor**

4 out of 5

I thought this was a perfect beginning to this anthology. Libby falls for Axel (and vice versa) the first time they meet at a party. She is a virgin, but at first, Axel doesn't realize that. When Axel learns, he is determined to not use her as a one night stand because he believes she deserves better than that. As time goes on and they meet again at a not so great location, he realizes that he wants more than just a one night stand with her. I thought the writing was great, and to me, honestly it wasn't too predictable.

#### **Lady Of The Lake**

5 out of 5

This was by far my favorite story in the whole book! I thought the writing was superb and the story was even better. Violet is found by Dylan in the lake. He asks her on how she got into the lake, to which she replies that her boyfriend forgot about her and she fell out when she bent over to get something. He falls for her instantly. She wants just one thing, and Dylan offers to help her with it. I won't spoil the whole story for you. Honestly if you were to pick up this book for this story only, I wouldn't think any different of you.

Now here is where we hit the trouble

### **Hardhats And Silk Stockings**

1 out of 5

Nope, nope, nope, and nope again. This story lost me almost from the beginning. To me it just went all over the place and had no real flow. This story should honestly not have been the book, I skipped most of it, it was that bad.

So in other words, this book is pretty good. I would just skip the last book.

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### **Loucy says**

3 nouvelles vite lues, vite oubliées...

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### **Kathy Davie says**

Three cute stories in this anthology of romances.

#### **The Stories**

**Lori Foster's "Playing Doctor"** was my favorite with a play-the-field doctor who falls in love with an about-to-graduate niece of the chief of staff. Ya know it's gotta be love to survive the mess that Libby falls into and all that Dr. Axel Dean wants to do is take care of her. Well, that and lots of sex.

**Erin McCarthy's "Lady of the Lake"** was a sweet encounter between the shy, brainiac kindergarten teacher who just wants a baby and has to fall off her jerk boyfriend's fishing boat to find the love of Violet Caruthers' life — Dylan Diaz, a pro baseball player.

**HelenKay Dimon's "Hardhats and Silk Stockings"** only fits the first half of the title when Hannah Bridges, a building contractor, fights her attraction to Whit Thomas (architect) with handcuffs and insults. It's a cute story, but Hannah was just a bit too defensive for me. Dang, girl. I certainly got a kick out of Whit's creative attempt at seduction with his uncle's sex room!

#### **The Cover and Title**

The cover is colorful but blah. A solid white background with the authors' names in bright pink, the first five words of the title in a cobalt blue and "Bad Boys" in orange. Whoopee.

As for the title, I suppose. It's really only Axel Dean who has a real reputation as a bad boy but it's certainly true in these three stories that *When Good Things Happen to Bad Boys*, these three men get it in spades.

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