



The Sweetest Taboo

Carole Matthews

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A story of love, life and going completely la-la in LA, from the internationally bestselling author of *Bare Necessity* and *For Better, For Worse*, Carole Matthews.

One girl in love with two guys...

Isn't that the sweetest taboo?

Sadie Nelson knows that falling in love can be big trouble - especially when she discovers that the best things in life are *never* free. Her heart starts causing trouble when she first lays eyes on Gil McGann, the sexy and powerful Hollywood producer at the London Book Fair. In no time, Gil is whisking her away from her dead-end job and drizzly old England to join him in the land of the perfect suntan. Then there's Tavis Jones, an irresistibly endearing -- and criminally good-looking -- actor who's soon pulling her heartstrings in a different direction. Suddenly the choices facing Sadie in the home of the famous and the desperate-to-be-famous are enough to drive a good girl insane -- especially when no-one is quite what they seem to be. It's not great to find out that Gil has a sticky ex who won't let go or that Tavis's uncertain orientation may permanently cast him in the role of "good friend". With her real life turning rapidly into a mad movie plot, what does a slightly crazed woman *two* much in love do?

Lights, camera, action...

The Sweetest Taboo Details

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From Reader Review The Sweetest Taboo for online ebook

Sandra Sinfield says

I loved this book! It starts with a once high flyer city trader now an exhibition helper - handing out leaflets... She gets spotted by a movie producer (! Of course she does!) - and is invited to Hollywood. And she goes. What's lovely is that as everything goes wrong, she grabs at every possible opportunity that arises - the chance to share a flat, a crazy new job, all sorts of new friends... I found this tale witty, readable and I loved every moment of it. If you want to kick back and relax - this - this will do it!

Natasha ?? says

I usually love Carole Matthews books but this one was not up to her usual standards to be honest. It was just too unrealistic for my liking, she ran away across the ocean to be with a guy she met only once in her life??? I mean seriously now... That to me just sounds like pure desperation and I am sure no one in real life would ever act like that. I get it's just a book but still, this was really bad quality for me. I am sad that I have to genuinely write this for one of my favourite authors. Will be giving this book to charity, good luck to whoever buys it.

Erica says

Well, I'd never heard of Carole Matthews before, and then I read two of her books in a row. Unfortunately I found this one to be the weaker one.

Sadie used to have a job in the high-flying banking world, until she was laid off. Since then she has been forced to grab every temporary job that's offered to her in order to make ends meet. During a stint of handing out leaflets at a book fair she is approached by Gil McGann, a Hollywood movie producer who is on his last day in London, and they end up spending the night together... sitting on a sofa and talking, then falling asleep.

This marks the start of their rather unconventional romance, which ultimately results in Gil sending Sadie an open-ended ticket to Los Angeles because he misses her too much. Sweet, right? There's just one problem: Gil hasn't actually got round to divorcing his wife yet.

To his credit, he's not the type of guy who knowingly messes around with another woman while still being married. He does genuinely seem to want to move on with Sadie. Unfortunately he's also a spineless idiot who ends up continuously being manipulated by his almost-ex-wife, which makes it hard to root for him and Sadie getting their act together.

Sadie herself I found a bit... Well, I'm not sure what I thought of her really. I didn't dislike her, but I can't say I really liked her either, and as the book progressed, the situations she ended up in became progressively more convoluted and groan-worthy. She meets a drop-dead-gorgeous young actor, Tavis, and throughout the rest of the book she constantly bounces between him and Gil, never getting anywhere with either of them even though they are both crazy about her.

The writing in this book was excellent, I have no qualms with that. The problem lay with the content. It was enjoyable on the whole, but it just became increasingly difficult to suspend my disbelief, and the ending was rather meh.

Read if you don't want to think too much, have no problem with cringing your way through a book and can handle the very British atmosphere that permeates it, for all that it mostly takes place in Hollywood.

More reviews at Silk Screen Views.

Dhini says

I gave it 3.5 stars.

Although the book is quite entertaining, but lots of things in the story that doesn't make sense. This book tells the story about Gil McGann who is deeply in love with Sadie Nelson in only one meeting, which makes him able to ask Sadie to come from London to LA to see him. But when finally Sadie comes to LA, Gil was not quite "bold" left his "crazy" wife (Gina) to start a normal life with Sadie. Sadie always be the second woman for Gil. This situation makes Sadie met Tavis, a handsome 2nd class actor, who was always willing to accompany her and makes her smile. And eventually Sadie realize that she is in love with him.

Nicki Kendall says

One of my fave Carole Matthew's books. A feel good fun read and romp through LA.

Margaret Galbraith says

Another goodie from Carole. This is just my 'go to' author when I want that feel good feeling. Nothing too heavy but still a good read. This one was one of those 'will she, won't she' books and it drove me mad at times. If I'd met the characters I think a couple including Sadie would have had a good kick in the butt. You know how this will own out but getting there was lots of fun. Well done again Carole ... Made me smile

Yuliya says

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Lori Whitwam says

4 stars instead of 3, purely because the ending has a unique, non-cliche twist.

Sadie's life in England is not going well, and when she meets handsome Hollywood movie producer Gil, and he asks her to come to California, she takes the leap and goes. However, nothing goes right. Her luggage is

stolen, Gil fails to pick her up from the airport, she has nowhere to stay, and Gil's not-so-ex-wife won't go away. Gil keeps trying to make things right, but he manages to botch things at every turn. Sadie finds a job, a place to stay, and meets handsome-and-probably-gay actor, Tavis, who becomes her best friend and confidante. Enjoy the ride while Sadie tries to figure out if she really has a future in California, or if her best interests and dignity would best be served by heading back to London. There are some interesting characters, and this is a good addition to the "chick lit" genre.

Nina Levison says

Another light holiday read

Alexandra Gillgrass says

As a huge fan of the Carole Matthews books anyway I didn't hesitate at picking this one up, without even reading the blurb. I started to read this book as a sort of break from all the heavier things I'd been reading, mostly non-fictional. At the heart of this, is a pure chick lit read.

It has everything you would want in a chick lit book. Sadie is really likeable as the main character and am always pleased with all the Brit references, as she's in America for 90% of the book. It does have the somewhat stereotypical scenario of there being a love triangle, but if you read the book you'll know it's not your average triangle, which makes it a lot more interesting.

The book has a good pace, and is really easy to read. I feel like giving it 3 stars is too harsh, but 4 stars is too much. It's definitely worth reading if you want something light hearted and refreshing. But I wouldn't say it's one of those books that you just HAVE to read.

All in all a really enjoyable book, a very girly read with everything you could want!

Veronica Widya says

well, kalo menurutku sih ceritanya lumayan sebenernya.

Yang aku suka dari buku yang ditulis sama Carole adalah cara nulisnya, karena enaak banget dibacanya, jadi seru dan ga ngebosennin. Walo bisa aku akui, ada banyak selipan di buku ini tentang hal yang ga penting.

Kalo satu dua hal aja sih ga masalah, tapi kalo terlalu banyak, jadi kesannya malah ngelantur. Bener kata Christian, saking terlalu banyak yang diceritain, jadi agak sedikit melenceng dari cerita.

Sebenarnya kalo penulis mau menceritakan beberapa hal dalam buku, itu malah akan memperhidup cerita dan karakter itu sendiri. Tapi kalau terlalu banyak, kesannya jadi kaya buku komentar.

Hmm, untuk ceritanya sendiri , kayanya ini tipikal Mrs Carole yah. Love at first sight. Pas buku for better for worse juga gitu, cuma bedanya kalo di buku itu akhirnya bener happy ending, sedangkan ngga kalo di buku ini. Tapi anehnya pendapatnya bertolak belakang, kaya dalam buku For Better for worse, mereka mengalami banyak rintangan sebelum hidup bahagia, sedangkan di buku ini.. sang aktor malah bilang, "terkadang jika dalam hubungan ada banyak rintangan artinya mereka ga ditakdirkan bersama"

hmm,, jadi emang kalo ada banyak rintangan dalam hubungan berarti ada 2 kemungkinan:

1. mereka memang ga ditakdirkan bersama dan rintangan itu semacam pertanda
2. itu hanya cobaan untuk mengetes sampai sejauh mana mereka saling mencintai well, bagus juga.

dan, jujur ajah endingnya udah ketawan sih Sadie ama siapa. Apalagi si Gil kaya ga bisa ngelepas istrinya. Si Gil sendiri katanya udah ga mencintai istrinya dan dia udah muak, tapi kenyataannya walo dia ada rasa suka sama Sadie, dia tetep ga bisa ngelepas istrinya, entah karena kasihan ato dia emang masih ada rasa. jujur aja, aku sebel banget sama karakter Gil yang plin plan.

Kayanya dia masih ada sedikit rasa sama istriya dan alasan dia mau berpiai karna istrinya uda selingkuh berkali-kali sama orang lain, dan itu alesan yang bikin dia mau bercerai.

Karena kalo dia emang udah lupain istrinya dan bener-bener sayang sama Sadie, dia harus dengan tegas menolak istrinya apapun yang terjadi, Karena dia ga mungkin dong ngurus mantan istrinya terus?

Tapi aku cukup suka endingnya! ^^

Alice says

Mlle Alice, pouvez-vous nous raconter votre rencontre avec Happy End à Hollywood?

"Je vous ai déjà parlé de cette petite collection Marabout que j'aime beaucoup, notamment avec le Prince Charmant Met de l'Autobronzant, ou encore avec Cinq Filles, Trois Cadavres mais plus de Volant. Celui-ci m'a fait de l'oeil à ma dernière visite en librairie."

Dites-nous en un peu plus sur son histoire...

"Sadie n'a pas grand chose qui la retienne en Angleterre actuellement, alors quand elle croise ce magnifique producteur américain et qu'il lui propose de le rejoindre sans attendre à Los Angeles, elle s'embarque pour le rêve américain sans penser que cela pourrait tourner au cauchemar."

Mais que s'est-il exactement passé entre vous?

"Sadie arrive à Hollywood et les catastrophes s'enchaînent... Enfin, en théorie. Parce que moi, si je prends un avion pour L.A. et que je me retrouve là-bas sans rien ni personne, je ne pense pas trouver: 1. une adorable personne qui m'héberge gratuitement le soir même puis me trouve une collocation dès le lendemain dans une super chouette petite maison avec sa non moins adorable fille, 2. un merveilleux job dès le lendemain de mon arrivée et 3. un homme sublime et riche près à m'emmener sur Rodeo Drive illico pour refaire entièrement ma garde-robe vu que j'ai perdu ma valise. Bref, les problèmes sont plus imaginaires qu'autre chose et Sadie semble aimer se les créer. Si au début ça peut-être amusant, quand le même ressort revient sans cesse, ça devient juste lassant."

Et comment cela s'est-il fini?

"Vous avez déjà compris que c'est une petite déception, même si ça reste tout de même léger et que ça se lit

facilement. Cela dit les complications jouent leur rôle et amplifient l'attente de l'heureux dénouement que j'attends donc avec impatience, sauf qu'ici au final, Sadie ne fait pas le bon choix selon moi..."

<http://booksaremywonderland.hautetfort.com/reviews/the-sweetest-taboo-by-carole-matthews>

Kim says

This book was first published in 2003 and is set mainly in Los Angeles, particularly around Hollywood. The story is about Sadie Nelson who has two men in her life and is finding it hard to choose between them. This is the lowest rating I have given a Carole Matthews book and that is for two reasons: firstly, unlike most other Carole Matthews books I have read, including some of her earlier work, this one seemed a little dated and that detracted from me making a quick connection with Sadie's character; Secondly, Sadie at times seemed a bit dim and hence another reason for being unable to empathise with her so much. On a positive note, though, Carole's style of writing is easy to read, amusing and believable which all go to make it an otherwise enjoyable read.

Green25 says

Judul: The Sweetest Taboo
Pengarang: Carole Matthews
Penerbit: Gramedia Pustaka Utama/Chicklit

Sadie Nelson jatuh cinta pada pandangan pertama pada Gil McGann, orang yang baru sekali ditemuinya di London yang kemudian mengajaknya untuk pergi dan tinggal dengannya di Amerika.
Kok bisa-bisanya percaya sama orang asing yang belum lama dikenal begitu aja...

Belum lagi ternyata si Gil udah punya istri dan masih tahap cerai, tapi masih ngajak Sadie untuk tinggal bareng???

Tapi, seenggaknya karakter Travis yang awalnya dikira Sadie homo masih menarik.
Overall, ceritanya mulai agak menarik habis masuk tengahan keatas.

Tricia says

I enjoyed this book as it follows our heroine overseas from drab London to sunny Hollywood. It took a bit of a leap when our heroine understands her new potential lover's invitation to 'come to California' as her understand him to say 'move here forever', but I guess that is exactly the kind of misunderstanding that happens in real life all the time. The tension between the main characters and the other people in their lives was believable, and I felt that the story moved along at a good pace. The writing was very good, and I fully

enjoyed the book for what it was. It probably helped that I was in need of a good light read.
