



## **Deliver Me**

*Farrah Rochon*

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Monica Gardner is starting over. The brokenhearted St. Louis native has nothing left at home any longer: her future is being an ER doctor at a New Orleans hospital. Her first day makes for a bumpy start as she continually runs into Dr. Elijah Holmes - a man who could make her change her mind about finding true love.

## **Deliver Me Details**

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Author : Farrah Rochon

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# From Reader Review Deliver Me for online ebook

## Jackie says

Women of Color in Romance Book Club read for February 2018.

Have to say that I found this, Rochon's first published book, a real disappointment. Its heroine, Monica, is an ER doctor who moves to New Orleans after breaking up with her boyfriend of 6 years. She and the hospital's hot player Ob/gyn, Eli, immediately start snarking at each other, but when Monica needs his help on a charity benefit for the hospital, Eli says he'll help—if Monica pretends to be his girlfriend.

They are both physically attracted to one another, which seems to be all that draws them together. They fight far more often than they enjoy each other's company. Monica is slow to give in to her attraction to Eli, given his reputation as a player (which doesn't seem unwarranted). The black moment centers around a not-so-old girlfriends showing up at his house and yelling at Monica for being with "her" boyfriend, which makes Monica immediately decide to dump Eli and not talk to him about why. I really dislike romances that depend on the "keep them apart by having them refuse to talk through their problems" to generate conflict.

Other big problems:

- Problematic portrayal of mental health issues. A small one, when Monica thinks to herself "Methodist Memorial's Psychiatry department needed to make a Polaroid of that smile and pass it to patients suffering from Major Depression. How could anyone's spirits not be lifted by that man's gorgeous smile" and "Okay, Psychiatry could use both the smile and wink in their therapy. The combination could quite possibly cure every case of depression in America"(110, 111). Ah, no, that's no how Depression works...
- A bigger one: the weird, almost totally unconnected subplot about a pregnant patient of Eli's who has bipolar disorder, and who has never told her husband about it (we finally learn that the bipolar was diagnosed after their marriage, but still; I can't imagine keeping such a secret from a spouse. And why didn't he notice?? Especially as he knew her mother suffered from bipolar disorder). And I really hated the "I'm going to break up with my husband because he doesn't deserve to be saddled with a wife with a mental health problem" line that the pregnant woman took, even though that silly type of self-sacrificing is a staple of traditional romance. Though this ableist line of thinking is finally dismissed by book's end, it's a horrible way of thinking to include without contesting it for much of the book.
- And why was this subplot a part of the book in the first place?? What did it have to do with the main story? The only connection I could see was that the pregnant woman, Amanda, started having delusions that her husband was cheating on her, and Monica has the same fear at book's end about Eli. So are we supposed to feel reassured about Monica and Eli's relationship, because Amanda's fears of her husband cheating are all just a delusion? Given Eli's past behavior with women, it doesn't seem too far-fetched to think that once he falls out of lust with Monica, he might easily turn back to his philandering ways...
- Early in the story, Eli grabs Monica (his colleague) at work. In this era of #metoo, I couldn't help but think "job harassment, much?"
- The "black moment" is totally annoying, and rather out of character for Monica
- There's lots of "other woman hating" here, with not just one, but two, of Eli's former girlfriends cast as evil

Others/borderline psychotics. And a backstory featuring a selfish lover, too. YUCK!

- Finally, the resolution to the silly black moment—there's no real resolution to Monica's fears that Eli is cheating. Just because a guy does something nice for you, that doesn't mean he can't also do something hurtful to you...

- Oh, and almost forgot: the charity event features a bachelor auction. With men of color. And the event is held AT A PLANTATION....

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## **Rebekah Weatherspoon says**

A light, fun read. I want more about the heroine. Just like her adventures through life. She was fun.

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## **Marikka says**

content warnings: childbirths on page, emergency childbirths, BAD MENTAL ILLNESS REPRESENTATION, "crazy ex-girlfriend," sex without a condom in the same area code, bipolar disorder, repeatedly pressuring a secondary character to have sex

If I wasn't reading this for the group that is not a book club, I would not have finished it. Eli is a dirtbag and stays one. Monica is okay until she loses all reason. The women are all in that "crazy" category. In the end, I think I liked Alex, but only because I wanted him rescued from all these terrible characters.

There are a lot of tropes thrown around, but none really work. And the biggest flaw is that the book just really has poor characterization. These characters could never be real people, you never connect with them, and I wanted to leave them.

And the subplot of the pregnant couple with a failing marriage might actually be a harmful depiction of mental illness and bipolar disorder. That whole thing was terrible and unnecessary. And with this being a reissue, I'm startled it wasn't removed or vastly corrected. For anyone with a mental illness, I'd steer very clear of this book.

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## **K.J. Charles says**

Just not my cup of tea, I don't enjoy the player type of hero. It's an oldish book and the interactions and the tropes kind of show it. But I liked the heroine a lot and the author's style was enjoyably breezy so will try something more recent.

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## **Joan says**

2% Rotfl! Woman in labour with a breech birth. Super Doc arrives while she is screaming in a contraction, rubs her abdomen, makes a five inch slit and out pops a baby. No anaesthetic, no operating theatre, ...

3% A woman who was in the running for a Nobel prize for her research on abdominal cancer? There isn't one abdominal cancer.. the term refers to a multitude of cancers - inc . stomach, liver, pancreas,rectum, colon, bowel. One person was researching ALL those?

Do the research. Its not hard to Google 'abdominal cancer' and 'abdominal cancers'. There is no excuse for sloppy writing. Your readers deserve better.

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## **MJ says**

DNF (07/17)

God, I just really dislike all these characters... and the story too.

The plot sounds alright (which is why I picked up the book), but all the characters just come across as whiny, assholes. Even the support characters are irritating as hell. The only one who I can't say straight out that that I don't like is the brother Alex, and that's likely only because he hasn't actually said much.

The story itself is just fluff (that's why we love these kind of books), but the way it's being written is just grating on me for some reason. There seems to be lots of 'telling instead of showing' in FR's writing style. There's nothing 'fun' about their interactions, they are just brittle and only tend to highlight that each of the characters are self absorbed assholes. The whole blackmail thing is just starting and it's just 'blah'. If you are going to write an asshole blackmailing someone, do it. But the author seems to spend a lot of time trying to convince us that these two 'are really great people', but they are so far from that that it's not even interesting.

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## **B. Love says**

I thought nothing could blow me away more than this wonderfully written story, then I checked out the reviews. For the love of all things literary pleasure, do not let the one star reviews fool you! This story is AMAZING!

My reviews are based on a five point system.

I give one star for each of the following -

Hero/heroine chemistry

Overall approval of the storyline

Flow / consistency

Character development

Relatable/likable hero/heroine

First of all, Farrah followed the traditional romance formula beautifully. She gives you internal and external conflict, tension, those cutesy get to know you moments, sensuality, a black moment... and ROMANCE. What more could you possibly ask for???

The chemistry between the main characters had me all over the place emotionally. I loved the push and pull. I loved how their inner conflicts had them both pulling away and denying what was inevitable - their union. The storyline was cliché but uniquely done. The attraction, tension, and sensuality made this classic plot different and entertaining. I thoroughly enjoyed the flow of this story. Normally I find myself skipping through separate chapters just to get to the ones that focus on the couple, but that wasn't the case with this one. The only thing that threw me for a loop was the chapters revolving around Amanda and Jeffrey, but I'm assuming we will see more of them in the rest of the series? The characters were well developed and relatable. I didn't see anything wrong with Eli's past. I can see if he allowed that to keep him from Monica, or if he was disrespecting her or cheating, but we all have a past.

Overall, this was a beautiful love story about two souls who refused to allow past partners and failures to keep them from love. I enjoyed this book so much that I'm recommending it to my readers and buying the entire series in paperback form.

100 out of 100 stars!

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### **Kim says**

I really liked this book. Monica and Elijah were great characters. Their attraction to one another was apparent from that first elevator ride, and just gained momentum from there. I will say it was great to read about New Orleans post Katrina. Having never been there before, this book gives you some very descriptive details about the city, and just reading it really can help you paint a good idea of what the town is now like. New Orleans was a wonderful back drop for this book. I can't wait to read more about the Holmes clan.

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### **JadeShea says**

Freebie on Amazon! I'm glad it was free, because I probably wouldn't want to purchase it. It was overall an okay book, but there were things that really didn't make a lot of sense to me, and got very annoying.

It starts with Monica moving to New Orleans to get away from her ex, and to just start a new life. There she meets Dr. Eli. They end up making a bargain to help him get rid of his mother's match making ways, and to help Monica's career.

But neither one of them realized that sparks would fly when they "pretended" to have a relationship. They know now that what they have is real, and they want to give it a shot.

I really didn't like Monica at times. She drove me nuts when she wouldn't talk to Eli towards the end. And then the ending was slightly disappointed, they didn't really talk about what happened they just forgave each other. I also didn't like the whole psycho ex girlfriend part, and the relationship between Amanda and Jeff. That really had no impact on the story at all, and it was slightly confusing. I won't be continuing this series, but it was an okay read to pass the time.

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## **Raquell Barton says**

### **Great start**

This novel is a great start to a 6 book series about a family in New Orleans. Elijah and Monica were so great together. I liked that they started off not liking each other - well she didn't like him - but that eventually changed when she got to know him. If you like a sweet contemporary romance with a little spice this ones a great pick.

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### **Jess says**

I was doing okay with this until the end. I've got a pretty low tolerance for stories where one party decides something about the other and then they just go off without bothering to talk to someone about it. Was there mildly damning evidence of cheating? Sure. But if you had any actual faith in the relationship you were building, you'd actually talk to the other person before running away like a child.

And I really didn't get the addition of the couple dealing with bipolar disorder during pregnancy to the book. I liked that story, but they didn't mesh well at all.

It did make me hungry, though. So there's that.

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### **Jen says**

Deliver Me was a fun, quick read, and if it weren't for the last quarter of the book, which didn't match the rest of the book in tone or consistency, I probably would have given it four or more stars.

Monica and Eli are both likable characters, she is an overachiever looking for a place to leave her mark and he is a hotshot obstetrician who's already left his on the New Orleans hospital where they meet.

Their chemistry is clear from the moment they meet; even as he uses some seriously poor judgment and does something stupid, it's clear she rattles him. And he rattles her with his self-confidence and charm.

His family also charms her--and vice versa--and Eli 'uses' this to suggest they agree to a mutually beneficial relationship to keep his matchmaking mother at bay. But it doesn't last long; their chemistry is too strong and they actually communicate--go figure--about their feelings and begin a true relationship. Their banter is fun and witty, and both seem to bring out the best qualities in the other.

Unfortunately, about three-quarters of the way through the story, Monica reacts very out of character, freaking out about a situation and jumping to conclusions when, just weeks earlier, she handled a similar situation in the exact opposite manner--calmly and giving the benefit of the doubt. And her reactions cause a rift in the relationship that Eli cannot seem to bridge.

And then, suddenly, the story is over. There is a quick Happily Ever After, but it felt ridiculously rushed and didn't match the tone or pace of the rest of the story. Nothing is really resolved.

Additionally, there is a secondary couple that the reader gets glimpses of--I was certain the ending would explain exactly why their story was included so heavily, with their very own chapters. But things never came full circle. I never quite understood WHY Amanda and Jeffrey were there at all.

\*Free on Amazon\*

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### **Jenica says**

The book ends RIGHT AS THEY FIGURE OUT THEIR ISSUES. What the heck, Farrah? Other than that, this book was great, but that ending killed me!!

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### **Blow Pop says**

[ like what happened with the funds they were raising? How much did they raise?

Did he finally get rid of Alicia? Did they ever clear up that misunderstanding? (hide spoiler)]

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### **~Mindy Lynn~ says**

Amazon Freebie 7/3/17

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