



## More Than a Rancher

*Claire McEwen*

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Does he dare to follow her lead?

Ballroom dancer Jenna Stevens is done with all things romance. It's so much more satisfying to focus on her career. That is, until she meets Sandro Salazar; a handsome, brooding small-town chef and sometimes rancher. Jenna is drawn to him immediately, but there's no way Sandro could fit into her fast-paced, urban life.

Still, as she gets to know this reformed bad boy, she begins to wonder if maybe their two worlds could merge. One thing's for certain; Jenna will have to take the lead if she has any hope of Sandro seeing what's possible for the two of them...together.

## More Than a Rancher Details

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Author : Claire McEwen

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## From Reader Review More Than a Rancher for online ebook

### Katie says

So I really, really liked this book. For the most part I don't read romance novels. This one, however, is one that I would recommend. I might even chase down the author's other books and add them to our collection. I really liked the setting and characters. It was just a fun read.

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### Eileen says

This was a pleasant surprise and a good read. I'm finding these Harlequin Super Romances really good stories. This one took a tough subject, alcoholism, and dealt with it brilliantly. How do you handle it with a new relationship, and how do you deal with it when it is a parent. Jenna is a ballroom dancer/instructor and has never had the support of her parents. Plus she is dealing with her mother drinking a little bit too much and her father's infidelities.

her best friend is getting married and she goes out to visit her in Benson, CA and ends up lost. Lucky for her she gets rescued by a young boy named Paul. At her friend's home she runs into Paul again along with his older brother Sandro. He is trying out new recipes on his friends Jack and Samantha and lucky for Jenna she is there too. Somehow Paul talks his brother into taking lessons with Jenna in San Francisco while he is at cooking classes. Sandro and Jenna spend time together, and even if it isn't the best timing, they are attracted to one another.

It was a complicated story just like it would be in real life and maybe that is what spoke to me. Having to juggle all these balls and find what would truly make you happy. Jenna and Sandro were in two different places in their life and locations and didn't know how a budding relationship could work between the two of them. Without giving too much information they seem to find a way. Not a complete HEA but you know that they've taken steps to find a way to work together.

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### Sherry Bohrmueller says

I received this book from the author for an honest review.

This was a wonderful story of Jenna and Sandro. I love how they met but didn't fall in love right away. They struggled with some major issues but still got their happily ever after. It was a very enjoyable story where the characters jumped off the pages and struggled with realistic issues.

The story was so well written and flowed so well that it was hard to put the book down. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book.

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### Cecile says

Some authors are one-hit Wonders and others never hit one out of the park. Claire McEwen is neither of these. This is her second book and it's just as engaging and vividly written as her first.

McEwen has a knack for creating memorable and three-dimensional characters, complete with complicated histories and internal struggles. She is a master at conveying feeling and drawing the reader into the psyches of her characters. She also has an amazing ability to so colorfully create a scene it's as if you're there -- be it in the park, in the ballroom, or at the ranch. Another fun read from a truly talented writer. I'm looking forward to reading her next book!

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### **knots says**

The first chapter is magical. But unfortunately the rest doesn't live quite up to my expectations. Pros include a flawed hero who's trying to put his life together. He's bending over backwards trying to build a relationship with the heroine -he suggests that she start a dance studio in his town, or that they can try a long-distance relationship. It is hard to warm up to Jenna since she shoots down all his suggestions. Because of her insecurities and failed relationships she finds it hard to trust him and take him up on his suggestions. The hero has quite valid reasons (addiction among others) which prevent him from living long term in the city. She however proves quite inflexible and reluctant to accept him as he is. This seems curious since she has no compunctions about keeping up her relationship with her 'supposed' best friend Tess who makes a pass at our hero. Why this double standard? The hero's family seems realistic but the heroine's family interactions seem very artificial.

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### **Kari Lemor says**

I loved Claire McEwen's debut book *A Ranch To Keep* and was excited and eagerly awaiting her next installment of *More Than A Rancher*. The wait was worth it. Again the characters were very three dimensional and got you wanting things to be just perfect for them. Plus we got to see a little bit of the hero and heroine from the first story. I always love revisiting old friends. But the main characters of this book had their own hurdles to cross and we saw them do it with emotion and feeling. This writer has a very nice writing style that is descriptive without being overly so and her stories flow so well you can glide right through them. There is a third in this series and I'll be impatiently waiting for it to be released. I'm sure it will be wonderful as well.

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### **Debbie Herbert says**

This was a wonderful romance and written in a very elegant style. I admire the way this author has such high emotional conflict, yet still manages to show why J & S are so right for one another. I also thought she did a marvelous job with a hero that had a sordid past. She wasn't afraid to go after the alcoholism issue and handled it with realism and sensitivity. The subplot with Jenna's father also tied in perfectly with the romantic main plot. 5 stars!

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### **Terri says**

I loved this book so much. The love between Sandro and Jenna was so beautiful to watch. As they were both going through a rough time with their families not believing in them, they were so drawn to each other.

Sandro thought the best place for him was in a small town. Jenna believed her life belonged in a big city. When you get to the end you will be surprised about what happens in the end and you will also love this book. It is a Must Read kind of book. More Than A Rancher by Claire McEwen.

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### **Summer says**

There seems to be a mandate in romances that the hero and heroine must meet as close to the first page as possible, so it was kind of refreshing to wait just a little for the hero's introduction and instead, get to know Jenna a bit on her own first, establish her character apart from Sandro and their love story.

Ballroom dancer Jenna, is kind and compassionate, but she isn't perfect, I particularly liked the moment where she was at her worst, when late in the book Sandro makes a confession to her and she isn't anywhere near as understanding about it as you'd expect from a heroine in a romance novel, she reacts like someone might in actual life, like, whoa, wait a minute, this might all be a bit much for me to handle.

I really enjoyed the realistic aspects of the story, whether it was that reaction from Jenna, how Sandro's rock star chef status spiraled out of control on him, or the ending, the ending may have been the thing that I appreciated most, that the author didn't rush her characters, she left them right in the place they were ready for, hinting at what their future might hold.

If you're looking for a romance with some family drama and strong pacing, the conflict digging deeper as it goes along, then definitely check this one out.

I received this through a Goodreads giveaway.

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### **Cheryl Sanders says**

This is the story of Jenna and Sandro. Two people who meet, are attracted to each other, couldn't possibly make it work because of geography and careers but it didn't stop them from trying.

A love story about heartache, addiction, unsupportive families and sacrifice. There was so much more going on in this story but you'll have to read it to find out. This story was very good but it left me with a question or two at the end.

Received a copy in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Carol MacInnis says**

I won this book from a contest on Goodrads.

Jenna Stevens' family has never been supportive of her choice of work as a ballroom dancer, teacher as well as she competes, calling it her 'hobby' and to look for a real job. Jenna has just been told by her current boy friend that he has been cheating on her for their entire relationship. From her cheating father and now her 'second' cheating boy friend, she feels there is a pattern in the making here. So she decides to swear off men.

Jenna's best friend and her fiancé, Samantha and Jack, invite Jenna to Eastern Sierra from her home in San Francisco to help Sam with her wedding plans. They tell Jenna that Jack is investing in a four star restaurant in Benson with his good friend Sandro Salazar and that Sandro is cooking for them tonight to try out some of his food for the menu.

When Sandro and Jenna meet, the electricity between them is instant but like Jenna, Sandro is swore off women. But the force between them makes it difficult to keep their hands off each other. Unfortunately their jobs are geographically incompatible, but for Sandro even more so due to the skeletons in his closet. Will Sandro be able to reveal his hidden fears to Jenna before they lose each other or will they be destined to live out their dream jobs alone and heartbroken?

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### **Peggy says**

~ARC FOR HONEST REVIEW~

Overcoming battles are hard. Overcoming self demons are hard. Trying to love someone who is sure is never easy. But will it happen with these two, can it happen? A easy to follow, well written storyline that you won't put down once you start.

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### **Kate Vale says**

Jenna Stevens is a professional ballroom dancer. Her family thinks she needs to get a real job. Sandro Salazar, the oldest of four sons, of a sheep rancher, is a chef. He fell off the drugs and alcohol wagon in NYC and has come home to get clean, having concluded that big cities are not for him.

Jenna meets Sandro and his youngest brother, who wants to become a dancer. She offers to teach him, so Sandro brings him to San Francisco, where he meets with a friend and former colleague making it big with his own restaurant.

Although Sandro and Jenna want to be together, their respective back stories are major barriers. She could never make a living in a tiny little town in ranching country, and he's allergic to the temptations of big cities. How can they get together?

What follows is a story that weaves together their respective back stories and their hopes for the future.

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### **Lia Riley says**

More Than a Rancher is a book that deals with love, life and harrowing addiction. Contrasting rural and city life, the book captures wonderfully the nuances and quirk of San Francisco while showcasing Sierra Nevada ranching communities. This is my second time reading Claire McEwen and she's a one-click author for me now. She's a fresh voice who creates believable characters and transportive worlds.

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## **Brianne says**

I absolutely enjoyed reading More Than A Rancher by Claire McEwen. McEwen captures your hearts and attention with the feisty dance Jenna Stevens who knows exactly what she wants ... or doesn't want in a man ... At first she doesn't want Sandro Salazar, as she has just come out of a heartbreak relationship and from her first impressions – Sandro is exactly the man that she can't be with ... but the fire and desire between the two cannot be ignored.

McEwen's writing is so easy and flowing that it makes reading More Than A Rancher a pleasure and you will instantly fall in love with both Jenna and Sandro. The connection the two characters have is undeniable and the romance is more than swoon worthy. McEwen has a knack for romance and it shows with her wonderfully written and supercharged romantic book More Than A Rancher.

Sandro will have you sizzling with his romantic gestures, the sizzling connection between the two – and let me tell you the scene at the beach will leave you wanting more. Sandro and Jenna have this undeniable chemistry that McEwen captures in such grace, it will leave you breathless. Their road to love to isn't easy and it's always charming as they will have to overcome their demons, family demons, and McEwen even touches on the battles of addiction.

A Great Read ~ And a MUST to add on to your To-Be-Read Shelf

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