



Nailed

Christine d'Abo

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Warning: This show contains scenes of sexual tension.

Hosting a new TV show is a fantasy-turned-reality for diva decorator Sophia Holbrook. But concentrating on color swatches is hard when all she can think of is her studly cohost, contractor Fynn Babineau. These two may clash over blueprints and budgets on-screen, but with the lust palpable between them, rumor has it they have been putting more than just their heads together behind the scenes.... What secrets will the cameras expose? Tune in tonight to find out.

Viewer discretion advised. Mature audiences only.

Nailed Details

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From Reader Review Nailed for online ebook

Katie_la_geek says

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This review is really difficult for me to write because I am finding it really hard to think of anything substantial to say about Nailed. I actually really enjoyed this book I found it sweet, sexy and humorous. I liked the story, writing and characters but beyond that there is not much for me to say about it.

I think the reason for that is because Christine D'abo has managed to tick all the boxes in order to make this an enjoyable novella. Nothing upset or annoyed me, I found it engaging and entertaining. But at the same time I didn't fall so head over heels in love with it that I feel the need to shout about it to anyone who will listen.

There are some great characters and a nice romance to be found here. Sophia is smart and sassy with an entertaining inner voice that often made me laugh. Fynn is a real sweetheart that doesn't have a bad bone in his body. The chemistry between them was awesome but the romance was an easy one. There was no drama, no will they won't they. It was plain sailing for the both of them. The conflict came from other aspects of the story instead of the romance which made a nice change.

Nailed is a short, sweet and steamy romance that I really enjoyed.

The publisher provided me with a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

Maggie says

3.5 stars

I'm so conflicted about rating and reviewing this book. If I had to give the overall story and the main character, Sophia, a rating I would give both of them a 4-star rating. Like many I am a big fan of the home improvement shows on HGTV so I loved that Sophia was a young designer who's recently received her big break in television. I also really fell for Sophia's back story. While she's an up-and-coming, fancy interior designer now, when she was a child she and her mother were forced to live in a homeless shelter after her alcoholic father kicked them out. The project that she's working on for the TV show is the shelter where she grew up, which has now fallen into disrepair. All of that was really strong.

Then there were some not so great things. The douche-bag producer of the show, Carl, bothered me because he seemed like such a terrible human being, but also because he was just so cheesy. And there are also these production notes, from the director, at the beginning of each chapter. It wasn't uninteresting to hear what was

going on from the director's POV, but they felt unnecessary and I wasn't a fan of the weird foreshadowing (which I figured out pretty early on) that was included in the notes.

But the weakest part of the story was the romance and that's kind of what this is supposed to be. I mean, it's a "red-hot read." The concept of the designer and the carpenter on a home improvement show getting together is great, but the execution just wasn't there. Sophia and the carpenter, Fynn (that spelling!), have a love/hate relationship going on which leads to some steamy scenes, but I never understood the attraction. There were surprisingly few scenes with Sophie and Fynn together and when they are together there's sexual tension, but I didn't get any connection beyond that. Which would be ok if it was a book with the girl and guy casually hooking up, but that wasn't what was going on here. Plus, Nailed probably has the fewest sex scenes of any of the Red-Hot Reads I've read.

Bottom Line: I enjoyed the set up for the story and liked the main character immensely, but the romance and sex scenes fell flat for me. I'd like to give this a higher rating, but when it comes down to it this is a book that should be focused on romance and sex and that's where it was lacking.

I received an electronic review copy of this book from the publisher via NetGalley (thank you!). All opinions are my own.

Crystal Wright says

Disclosure: I received this as an ARC from Netgalley. Thank you Netgalley!

Nailed is a modern day fairytail, okay so no it's not but boy did it make my skin tingle. Sophia the main character recently took a job as a TV designer, and is teamed up with a sully, but oh so sexy Fynn as co-hosts of the new tv show called Impact load... I suspect pun intended. Throughout the filming of the show Sophia and Fynn get to know eachother better than that of just coworkers in the naked sort of sense, and as they progress in their relationship Sophia's past is brought into light.

Christine d'Abo definitely paints a picture with her words, and for those of you who are fans of romanace with steamy adult content this is a great book for you to dive into. From her descriptive without raunch verbage there are moments that left me as a reader both blushing with embarrassment and flushing with desire. Definitely a page turner, and short enough that if you don't have to loose a ton of sleep when you can't put it down.

Bookbeauty says

*** I have received an ARC via NetGalley ***

For a short story this is a very nice -and easy- read!

Yes, I would have preferred if the characters and the plot had been "fleshed out" a bit more, more romance, more drama, more background on the characters, more interaction, even more from the "villain"... basically more of everything!

Even though I'm not a fan of big dramas, it would've helped the story if there woul've been any -ANY- kind of action - be it emotional or physical.

I did not really understand the motivation of the villain of the story -basically the antagonist was nothing but a jerk- but I was surprised how the heroine's -Sophia- secret was revealed and rather quickly "solved". Hm. I'm happy that there wasn't a weepy or hysterical heroine... BUT waltzing through a supposedly traumatic childhood experience/memory like that didn't feel right.

But why am I giving this book four stars?

Even though the plot could've been so much more (oh, I'd have loved to read a full novel), for a short story of ~90 pages it had everything I wanted and expected: understandable plot, easy to read, steamy scenes. Plus, the slightly naive Sophia and grumpy Flynn were such a cute couple!

If you are looking for a quick and fun HEA read with a loveable couple, this is it :)

Paris says

I cannot get enough of Christine D'Abo's ridiculously delicious writing. There was so much to love about this novella and those things don't only revolve around the hot as heck sex scenes that Christine tends to write. There were some things that were pretty predictable, but that didn't matter in the least. I absolutely loved the premise; especially since lately I've been a huge HGTV junkie. I loved the idea of the designer and the contractor getting together while filming a makeover show. I appreciated the tension between Fynn and Sophia, especially when they really started getting hot and heavy.

I haven't read a story by Christine that I didn't like. She knows how to keep you engaged in the story and care about the characters even when they aren't ripping each other's clothes off. And then when that starts....oooooh dang. Christine definitely knows how to ratchet up the heat. I cannot wait to read more by her and I would love to revisit this world. Perhaps Sophia's friend needs to find love and while we're at it we can get a little Sophia/Fynn action on the side?!

Arc provided by the publisher via Netgalley for an honest review

Jennifer Kirkey says

Warning: This show contains scenes of sexual tension.

Hosting a new TV show is a fantasy-turned-reality for diva decorator Sophia Holbrook. But concentrating on color swatches is hard when all she can think of is her studly cohost, contractor Fynn Babineau. These two may clash over blueprints and budgets on-screen, but with the lust palpable between them, rumor has it they have been putting more than just their heads together behind the scenes.... What secrets will the cameras expose? Tune in tonight to find out.

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Paula Phillips says

On the lookout for a red-hot romantic read to get your blood boiling on these cold mornings as we enter into Autumn ? Cosmopolitan Magazine aka Cosmo has released their own collection of Red-Hot reads for all those female readers out there and today's book is Nailed by Christine D'Abo and in this case , that is Nailed in two different contexts. Nailed takes place at the site of a new DIY Television show where they are renovating an old historical house called Trinity House. When new and upcoming designer Sophie gets the job , she is ecstatic as not only will it bring much-needed publicity for her and put her business on the map but she has always had a dream to star on TV and in the art of show business you can't go too far with Reality TV. However what will happen when she discovers that her co-star Fynn takes a quick disliking to her ? Can she prove to him that she's up for the job even though she can't seem to concentrate when he is around her - the words "heart palpitations" jumps to mind. With the pair of them working on the show - will the job ever get done or will their personal lives start to affect their working relationship ? Find out in this quick red-hot read from the Cosmo Collection "Nailed " by Christine D'Abo.

Christi Snow says

My Review:

The premise of this book was really cute just because I could see it actually happening, having watched a few of these shows. This is a short read and I felt like it had some faults because of that.

The beginning half really felt descriptive heavy especially when it came to the shelter...way more than was needed for this length of book. I would much rather there have been more chemistry between the hero and heroine...especially in that first half. That chemistry and their tension was described a lot of the time, but a lot of those early scenes between them happened off the page and the reader was just told that things felt stilted or tense between the two. I felt cheated out of the build-up of their relationship because of that.

But in the second half, they shone. Although I will admit that there were bits from the director or from someone else on the set where their descriptions of what they were observing between Fynn and Sophia didn't match what was truly happening between them. If that was supposedly because they were hiding their relationship, then that didn't quite make it into the book explaining that disconnect. Honestly if this had been a book entirely focused on Fynn and Sophia, I would have been happy because I did enjoy the scenes where they connected...even though a lot of the time that was simply sexual chemistry combusting all over the page. I have no issue with that. ;)

There was a lot happening in this story...the reconstruction of the shelter, the making of a TV show, Sophia dealing with her past, Carl's mechanisms, Sophia trying to work out her partnership with Theresa, and then finally the relationship which was contentious a lot of the time between Fynn and Sophia and them trying to play nice in front of the camera. For this length of book, it just seemed like too much and the true chemistry aspect of the story lost out...and most of those other parts, I didn't care about because they were minor...just kind of there.

This is only my second read of one of the Red Hot Reads and I'm thinking honestly that this may just not be a format for me, which is perfectly fine. I don't regret reading this one at all. It just didn't quite live up to what I hoped it would be.

I received a complimentary copy of this book in return for an honest review.

Nicole says

Review originally posted here: <http://thebookpushers.com/2014/04/23/...>

I've really enjoyed d'Abo's books in the past, so when I read this blurb, I was all in.

Sophia is looking to expand her business while working as a designer for a charity that is near and dear to her heart. She wants to prove herself in any way she can, and butting heads with the lead contractor, Flynn, isn't how she wanted to do so. But as she and Flynn spend more time together on and off camera, the chemistry between them ignites and they are more combustible than either imagined.

While this book was fairly short, I thought it had a good pace to it. One of the things I liked best about this book was that it was very laid-back. There was no overload of emotional angst, there was no blowout due to some big drama caused by a lack of communication. Instead, both Flynn and Sophia treat their relationship like adults, once they actually commit, that is. It did take them awhile to get to the point where they could admit that ripping each other's clothes off was more than just a fling. :)

While I liked the simplicity of the romance, I did think that the little bit of "big drama" at the end was weak. I know that sometimes a portion of a book can suffer because of the limit in length, and for me, I felt as if the big revelation about a certain person in Sophia's past was the part that suffered. However, as d'Abo didn't spend a lot of time going into the details of why that person had such an impact of Sophia's life, it wasn't a total disappointment. For me, it was more of a case of I would have just liked to see more of that sub-plot play out on the pages of the book instead of glossed over.

This book was also a bit slow to build. Although it's clear that Sophia and Flynn have amazing chemistry with one another, much of the first part of the book is spent talking about the ins and outs of the TV show they are on, instead of the progression of their relationship. For me, that made the beginning of the book drag a bit, and it took awhile to get fully invested in Flynn and Sophia's relationship because of it.

All in all, I thought d'Abo wrote a cute and sexy short story. I really liked the fact that the book didn't drag out some big emotional and angst plot point, and that the few conflicts were easily resolved. While there were some things I would have liked to be flushed out more, I enjoyed the story as it was.

I give Nailed a C

Ren says

2,5 stars

I think Nailed better written as full novel rather than novella, since some plot can be develop into something

more and the relationship between h/H, Sophie Hollbrook and Fynn Babineau is too fast, the chemistry is not too good. While the sex scenes were steamy and sizzling, I wonder if 1st POV make readers don't know how Fynn feel about Sophie. IMO, better to write this in 3rd POV and alternate it to Sophie then Fynn, so I can relate to them both. What make *Nailed* interesting is just the TV show and home improvement concept.

Recommended if you want to read a quick and steamy read.

ARC provided by NetGalley and Harlequin

NomdePlumePress says

A few years ago I became hooked on HGTV for as long as it took me to close on a new house. And then I was done. I couldn't stand to watch any more of it because every improvement or option was so much better than I was able to afford, and I just wanted to be satisfied with what I'd found. But I still totally get the appeal. *Nailed* is a ridiculously fun, naughty take on the whole HGTV phenom for anyone who's looked at a low-slung tool-belt and thought, "Daaamn."

Sophia's a new designer who did a great job on the right person's house and now finds herself the host of a new home-improvement show, *Impact Load* (*snort*). Her first meeting with her co-host, Fynn the contractor, doesn't go terribly well. Because she's new, he assumes she's a publicity whore whose expectations will burden the budget and the schedule and cause countless headaches for him.

But there's more at stake for Sophia than just the show and her reputation. They're renovating Trinity House, a shelter for single mothers and their children, and a place that had been her and her mother's salvation when she was a little girl. It matters to her that she honour it and what it will become for others who need to escape difficult situations.

Fynn is a distraction, though. A grumpy, gorgeous distraction. The two hosts' animosity and attraction plays out on-screen, as noted in the director's intriguingly personal production notes. Things turn around rather quickly -- a necessity in such a short book, especially one with a compelling secondary plot. But I kind of wished the acrimony had played out just a bit longer. It would have made the turnaround that much sweeter. Still, it really made sense in the context of the story, so this is a petty complaint. I'm just greedy.

As always with d'Abo, the sex is seriously hot and seriously fun. And as always, there's a lot more going on than just romance, including some rank villainy (from a villain who's not a woman, for a change! Yay!). Sophia's journey is really lovely. Despite her youth and idealism, she's realistic and grounded, and when she's pushed she easily chooses the noble path. Fynn's a bit more of a cipher, but he has as much depth and character as you can get in a novella. And he's good with a hammer. Ahem.

This quick read was great, hot fun in a beautiful little tale of growth and renewal, written with a decidedly Canadian accent. Rockin'.

Neva

Reviewed from ARC. Published by Harlequin

Full review at nomdeplumepress.wordpress.com.

Michele says

‘I’d just had sex—fantastic sex—with Fynn. At work. On the set of a reality TV show. Had I lost my mind? If there was one way to screw up my reputation and undermine my professionalism, it was to have a fling with a coworker.’

Nailed is a straight forward sexy ride. And let me tell you, there’s a lot of attitude & lovin’ packed into this entertaining novella by Christine d’Abo.

Sophia was a hoot to read about. She knew her stuff when it came to design, but she was new to the world of reality TV, so there was bound to be some bumps along the way. She was a very tell-it-like-it-is person which is a lot of fun. And she was a little *ahem* frustrated let’s say. So Fynn was there to rescue the day. Well. After several torturous days of dancing around each other he rescued her. Their chemistry was pretty clear in Ms. d’Abo’s descriptions, but the blunt and dirty bantering is where I thought both Fynn and Sophia really shine. Funny and smexy. And boy wasn’t Fynn sexy...

See the rest of my review here:

<https://harlequinjunkie.com/review-na...>

LivesandBreathesBookBlog says

Nailed is about a young designer, Sophia, who just landed a gig on a show where they will be renovating a halfway house. This project is very important to her and not just because it's her first big job. Her co-host for the show is Flynn, a slightly famous builder. There is a lot of tension on set as the two go from fighting to doing other kinds of "ings."

Although this novella was sexy and funny, I actually felt like some issues were rushed a bit. I needed a little more in regards to her father and exactly what went down with Carl. Even with those little glitches, it's still a decently developed plot, given the length, and I really loved Flynn.

Reviewed by Lea and posted @
<http://livesnbreathesbookblog.blogspot.com>...

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Slick’s review posted on Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

4.5 STARS

Review copy provided for an honest review

A book that deals with a home improvement reality television show, yep sign me up! *Nailed* by author Christine D'Abo is about a new designer, Sophia Holbrook, taking on the challenge of remodeling the shelter she stayed in with her mother when her father threw them out of their home when she was 5 years old. She's anxious to give back to the organization that made her feel safe and loved and to make a name for her new company, but what she doesn't expect is a workplace romance with contractor Fynn Babineau or to have to confront memories from her past. Although high entertaining and at times fun, this book is also a journey of self discovery and realizing that the past doesn't have to dictate your future, that sometimes what may seem like a selfish act is truly a selfless one, and letting go of the hurt will free you to embrace the life you deserve.

I really enjoyed the game of cat and mouse that Sophia and Fynn seemed to play for a majority of this book. There was something between them, yet they both seemed to not be sure where they stood with the other and even after some pretty passionate alone time, their baggage kept them from truly being together. However, it was so obvious these two not only wanted each other but they needed each other. I found it very interesting they way they both became very protective of one another very early on yet refused to own up to their feelings for one another.

There are some twists and turns in this book, but overall the relationship between Sophia and Fynn was front and center with them turning to one another rather than struggling against one another. I liked the maturity of their relationship, they were careful to see things from all sides and they actually communicated which is often so rare in many romance books. Their fun banter was part of the reason I loved this book so much.

Nailed is for anyone who can appreciate two mature people who despite their past disappointments are able to see that loving someone doesn't have to hurt. That letting go of the past and embracing the here and now is beautiful and that no matter what, having someone there by your side can make all the difference in your life. This may be a novella but it packs a punch and author Christine D'Abo really "Nailed" this one!

Michelle says

I've read a few of the Cosmo Red Hot Reads and have found them all to be enjoyable reads. *Nailed* was no different. It was a fun, quick read. I love home improvement shows on HGTV so it was nice to see it all come together in this story. I liked Sophia's character and how determined she was to do well on the Trinity House project. She had a connection to it and it was nice hearing her back story. I did like Fynn's character too -- even though he was a jerk at times (but that was nothing in comparison to Carl!). He and Sophia didn't have the best start but he slowly came around. Sophia and Fynn had an opposites attract-angsty-aggressive vibe going for them that added to the steam factor of the story. While the book didn't have as much steam as other Red Hot Reads, I did feel like they had good chemistry with one another. Overall, I enjoyed this book and would recommend if you're a fan of the Cosmo Hot Reads and like hot, quick reads!

Special thanks to Christine d'Abo and Cosmo Red Hot Reads from Harlequin for providing this ARC via NetGalley.
