



## Somebody Wonderful

*Kate Rothwell*

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Michael McCann has a gentle way with women, and Timona Calverson is no exception, despite her ragged clothes. Though Timona may be no more than a mysterious woman, Michael is determined to keep her from harm, if only for one night. Timona can't bring herself to tell him who she really is--or that her rich family will pay handsomely for her return. She knows very little about Michael McCann, except that he is good enough to give his last cup of tea to a stranger, and compassionate enough to own the ugliest dog on earth. But the rugged Irishman's unexpected kindness has won her wayward heart--now and forever.

## Somebody Wonderful Details

Date : Published July 1st 2004 by Zebra (first published January 1st 2004)

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Author : Kate Rothwell

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## From Reader Review Somebody Wonderful for online ebook

### Hilcia says

4.5 stars.

Well... this was such a fun book! I loved that it was set in the NYC slums. The characters were wonderful and I loved the adventure of it all. The fact that there weren't misunderstandings between the two main characters due to lack of communication was a big plus. A romance that made me smile.

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### Susan says

This book was originally published by Zebra in 2004, and I'm going to give Kate Rothwell (aka Summer Devon) the benefit of the doubt and say that she has become a much better writer in the ensuing 11 years since her debut. Because this book is ridiculous. It would be easier to think that the heroine, Timona ("Timmy") is from another planet or from the future than to believe that a late-19th century heroine would act, think, or talk the way she does. She decides within about 12 hours of meeting the hero that she is in love with him and wants to marry him, she has 21st century sex-positive attitudes that are explained away because she traveled the world with her absent-minded archaeologist father and her brother told her the facts of life, she charms everyone she meets from rich to poor, she laughs in the face of danger, and of course she is strikingly beautiful. Oh, and she knows how to fight with a knife (but she still needs to be rescued by the hero several times). One extra star for the gruff but adoring beta hero Mick (although the old "I found her on the streets so she must be a whore" trope hasn't worked since **The Flame & the Flower**.)

I have enjoyed several historical M/M romance novels co-written by Summer Devon and Bonnie Dee, but now I'm wondering if I should think twice about trying another one. Oh, let's chalk the ludicrousness of this book up to Zebra's mediocrity and the author's inexperience.

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### Dawn says

1882 NYC. Poor Irish cop with a heart of gold and an eccentric wealthy woman find love but are both battling their issues with class separation.

I really liked this book. It was different. Very sweet.

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### Joan Osborne says

#### Absolutely loved this book!

Words can not describe how very much I enjoyed this story. It was a nice change from the usual aristocratic romances I normally read. Michael McCann was an Irishman working as a policeman in New York in 1882, who happened across what he thought was a young boy being accosted. After scaring off the thugs, Mick

tales her home to care for her wounds where he discovers she is not a boy at all. The young boy turns out to be the famous and rich Timona Calverson whose exploits are all over the newspapers. Timona falls instantly in love with the handsome and kind Michael, known as Mick to his friends and is determined he will be the man she is going to marry. This was such a fun read with interesting characters and an engrossing storyline. Just like Timona, I loved Mick right off the bat and I thought Timona was a fun and spunky heroine. The storyline had me turning the pages quickly to find out how it would end. I will definitely be on the lookout for more books by Kate Rothwell.

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### **Marilyn Kavanaugh says**

#### **A deft story**

An unusual heroine meets a worthy hero, two attractive people who deserve each other, a suspected villain and a supporting cast of delightful characters

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### **Kat Green says**

Would you consider the audio edition of Somebody Wonderful to be better than the print version? This is a fabulous story complete with a super sexy Irish hunk as the hero and a totally alluring woman who's free spirit and unassuming beauty break the barriers of class society had established in the 1800's in New York. These characters are so well developed and described that you cannot help but gravitate toward them. The audio edition of this book provides a 5 star performance by a gifted narrator who breathes life into the multifaceted characters written by Ms Rothwell. The vivid descriptions of the characters, their surroundings, and the detail of the plot all bring together a fabulous experience. I really delighted in listening to both of the "Somebody" audio books. Ms. Rothwell is a superb writer who makes every experience enjoyable. This series is an easy one to recommend to friends! If you haven't given it a listen yet, you are really missing out! ?

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### **Judy says**

I don't know when I've enjoyed characters in a book more than I enjoyed the H/h in this sweet story set in New York in 1882. We have an Irish policeman, Michael McCann, who rescues a young woman from a group of street toughs. Since he's off duty and headed home, he has no real option but to take the young lady to his ratty apartment and clean her up. He has reason to believe she's a prostitute, but in reality she's a wealthy and well-known young heiress who has lived a nearly unbelievable life of adventure.

Her name is Timona Calverson, her father's an eccentric archaeologist who has traveled the world, taking his daughter with him on his adventures. There's also an older brother, Griffin Calverson, who is a wealthy businessman and very protective of his younger sister along with her father's secretary, Blenheim, who is less than ethical and has his heart set on marrying Timona.

Michael McCann is at a huge disadvantage because he only knows he's got a beautiful young woman in his pitiful little apartment with one bed and he must get rid of her before he makes a dreadful mistake - in part because he's hugely attracted to Timona. He has hopes of marrying Daisy, the young lady he "walks out

with." But, Timona knows from the moment Michael smiles at her, she's met the man she wants for her very own - she has only to figure out if Daisy loves him. If so, Timona is willing to set aside her feelings and move out of the way.

The story has so many qualities that I enjoyed from Michael's protective attitude toward the people in the rundown apartment building where he lived, including the young boys who were basically fatherless, to the folks who lived and took care of business on his beat. Even though Michael was caught up in the corruption between the police force and the local gangs, having no choice but to accept his share of the bribe money, he chose to keep the money separate from his wages and use it to help the people in the neighborhood.

As Michael's life becomes entwined with Timona's and he learns her true identity, he has some difficult choices to make. Timona is a sight to behold as she gads about with her sweet, somewhat hoydenish ways making everyone she encounters fall in love with her. When Daisy shows up, the story gets really interesting. Then, when the "Calverson Team" run by Blenheim, enters into Michael's life, the story gets a bit scary there for awhile. But Michael McCann proves over and over again, that even a "Mick" from Ireland who is an honorable man, is more than a match for the evil villains. I love the fact that Timona and Michael kept their trust in one another's love when circumstances contrived to try and separate them.

Review by: Judge Tabor

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### **Jacky Faber says**

I enjoyed reading about Timora and Mick's unlikely romance. She's a wealthy English woman though very unconventional. He's a few years off the boat from a small village in Ireland. He's a policeman in NYC's very corrupt police force. He rescues "Timmy" in an alley from a gang of youths who are beating her up. Timmy immediately falls in love with Mick and strategizes how to remain with him until he falls in love with him. He is very reluctant because she is so wealthy and he is so very poor but Timmy's love eventually wins him over.

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### **Jane Stewart says**

4 ½ stars. Very enjoyable. Strong smart woman pursues honorable man who resists her.

This review is a little different than normal because I am comparing this book to another book as a way to describe why I liked it - why this book worked.

I love a strong smart heroine, but many authors do not do it well. An example is "A Bollywood Affair." Heroine Mili is smart and perfect. Hero has writers block but when he's around Mili he can write again. He normally hates women who cry, but with Mili he loves her tears. He does all kinds of things for her.

"Somebody Wonderful" is very different and does it well. Timona was kidnapped but fought the guys and got away. She was then attacked by a gang of youths but saved by a cop coming by. For her it was love at first sight. She wants to marry him. But what made this good was that he did not want her. She was striving toward the goal of getting him to love her. In Bollywood, they both were drawn to each other from the beginning and there was no goal for Mili to strive for.

Timona was so open and honest in her desire for Mick that at one point he said "Have you no pride? Have you no shame?" And she was not bothered by this comment.

**DATA:**

Narrative mode: 3rd person. Story length: 302 pages. Swearing language: moderate including religious swear words but not often used. Sexual language: moderate: Number of sex scenes: about two plus several referred to. Setting: 1882 New York and Montana. Copyright: 2004. Genre: historical romance.

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### **sunsetsylvia says**

Kate Rothwell's debut is a romance out of the line. One doesn't have the feeling to read just another romance book, but a real novel.

The characters are true and endearing, the plot is funny, sad and captivating at the same time.

Mick McCann, the young cop with the heart of gold, reminded my in some of his characteristics of Jamie Fraser from Diana Gabaldon's Outlander series. And that's about the biggest compliment I can make to a romance hero.

I bought the book because of the low price, but now I'm eager to read "Somebody to love" about Griffin as well.

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### **Julia Craig-Harris says**

#### **Enjoyable**

I really enjoyed this book. I found it to be very well written and different from what I expected, in a good way. I'd never read anything from this author before but I will now.

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### **Addie H says**

DNF 11% - interesting premise, poorly (childishly) written

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### **Linda says**

I was in the mood for a 'different' type of romance when I started this book. Lately, because so many popular authors are writing romances with similar plots, I have felt somewhat cheated. So when I started **SOMEBODY WONDERFUL** by Kate Rothwell I wasn't sure how I would feel.

This historical romance takes place between an Irish NY police officer and an heiress in the late 1800's. What little I remember from past history lessons was that the Irish were not well-liked when they arrived in America. This story follows that idea. Our hero, Mick, is not well-off financially but he manages. Though he

has used a 'stick' on his beat, he tries to treat others fairly. Only when it is warranted does he use any sort of violence. If anything he is guilty of, it is believing in some of the fundamental mores of the time. Still, he is an endearing character. Not the best looking, he is flawed but likeable and sweet in many ways.

Timona, 'Timmy', is a different type of heroine. Naive and innocent, she sees the world through filtered glass. I loved that she responded to Mick's seriousness with simplicity. She is a photographer who was raised by her father in unusual worldly settings. Well off financially, she is smart but she lacks guile; she sees the good in others first.

I was highly impressed with Ms. Rothwell's ability to create characters who don't always speak and behave the way you expect them to. Mick and Timmy's relationship is believable, they are good for each other even though it takes Mick some time to see just how good they are. The secondary characters were interesting and some deserve a story of their own. With a few sex scenes, more sensuality than graphic depiction, their love evolved.

While reading the book I found myself smiling on more than one occasion. I can't give it five stars because some issues were not resolved. Though minor, it still would have been nice to have a better understanding of why certain things happened. I won't go into detail because I don't want to give away any spoilers. In any case I enjoyed Mick and Timmy's story and am looking forward to reading Ms. Rothwell's next book in this series, **SOMEBODY TO LOVE**.

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### **Book Minx says**

Cute. Ridiculous but cute.

The crisis was a bit over the top but I enjoyed it and the resolution. The author missed an opportunity by leaving Griffin out of that scene imo.

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### **Jill Ray says**

This was a sweet and enjoyable historical romance with great, unique and memorable characters, and a well developed sense of place. The ending was a bit over the top and "madcap" but even so, I thoroughly enjoyed this book. The characters, chemistry and relationships between the many varied characters, and the wonderful descriptions of NYC, train travel, and the mid west, all contributed to an excellent historical romance! I will be looking forward to reading more by this author.

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