



Holiday Escort

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Madeline Burnet is out of work after ten years as the highly-skilled personal assistant to the owner of a luxury travel agency. During a job interview, she meets Karen Green. The job requires skills Madeline doesn't have, but Karen offers an unexpected alternative arrangement.

She needs a fake girlfriend to help her get through the holiday season. Madeline's affections are not aligned towards women, but she accepts for the money and the chance to make more contacts.

It turns out that being a fake girlfriend can be a very confusing job.

Holiday Escort is a delightful tale involving two very different women. This story is sure to bring pleasure to the reader.

This is a novella of 40,000 words, approximately 120 printed pages.

Holiday Escort Details

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Author : Julia P. Lynde

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From Reader Review Holiday Escort for online ebook

Not Out says

Wtf did I just read??!! I'm done 73% and I don't think I can go any further than that that.

No just no.

"She couldn't pay me because then she'd have to pay taxes twice" (or something like that) what!!!!

Elena Gray says

Cute premise, but poor execution. Lynde needs an editor to fine tune and cut repeated words.

It's a short story and the two ladies have enough chemistry to make it work, but it could really use just a bit more plot to make this believable.

Siân says

It's DYE your hair, not die, and laid not lied.

C. Mack says

Cute

Okay, so I'll admit I find the boss/underling dynamic alluring and this novella certainly hit the brief.

It's overall a pleasantly written story, quite predictable and a little saccharine, but to be fair sometimes that is what is what I kind of want. I'm sending mixed messages here and I apologise...so in summary...sweet, overall well written with a pretty predictable plot which was still enjoyable.

Regan says

3.5 stars

Madeline has been a faithful employee to Henderson Travel for ten years. She's shed blood, sweat, and tears to become the perfect personal assistant. But, when Marsha Henderson retires Madeline accepts a severance package from Marsha's spiteful daughter. Out of work and down on her luck Madeline becomes desperate for a new job. With her spirits high she goes to an interview at a law office and meets the alluring Karen Green. However, Karen immediately tells Madeline she is not qualified for the job but that she had another proposal for her. Madeline meets Karen at a restaurant and is quite surprised when Karen offers to "hire" her as a live-in assistant and fake-girlfriend for the holidays.

Madeline adjusts quickly to her new pseudo-life and strives to gain Karen's praise and recognition. However, things become messy as lines are blurred and Madeline starts questioning everything around her. What's a straight girl pretending to be a lesbian to do?

Now this is no Pretty Woman- Madeline is not a REAL escort but a PG escort to public events. However, I enjoyed this story and couldn't stop reading once I started! It was such a refreshing change of pace to read such a wholesome and adorable fluffy romance. If you are searching for the perfect holiday read- you've found it!

While I enjoyed this read I wanted more- more romance and more detail. The story moves at a very quick pace and unless the reader infers the bond between both characters it becomes unbelievable. Yes two characters who live together and act as a couple will gain a certain closeness but I felt that element wasn't captured in this story. One moment Karen is paying Madeline to act as a girlfriend the next Madeline is willingly kissing Karen and having feelings- the in-between having been glossed over.

However, I couldn't get enough of Madeline's feisty attitude and wit. There is a certain scene where Karen is flirting with "some skank" and Madeline lets her know if she flirts in front of her again she will give her salmonella. Now if that isn't a representation of the true female dynamic I don't know what is! Jealousy, passion, and blurred boundaries- all inclusive when a straight girl falls for a lesbian.

Lissa says

Madeline Burnet needs a job, and Karen Green has an unusual one for her: be Karen's "fake girlfriend" for the holiday season. But the feelings that develop between them feel anything but fake.

I thought that this was going to be a cute story, and it did start out okay. The author desperately needed an editor; she reused words repeatedly within a few sentences of one another, seemed incapable of telling the difference between the verbs "lie" and "lay," and made several other grammatical errors ("complement" instead of "compliment," "die" instead of "dye," etc). Nothing pulls me out of a story quicker than poor grammar, and this story had that in spades.

The whole premise was unrealistic, I'll grant that, but there's a way of spinning a cute story. The author didn't do that, though. Madeline was supposed to be straight, but it sure didn't take her long to decide that she was at least bisexual. Everyone accepted this without question or judgment. How realistic is THAT?

And then there's the U-Haul trope. Karen and Madeline had been together for about a month, tops, and they're already talking about marriage and Karen calls her "wife" a few times. Umm. Seriously? How about taking things slow and learning about one another instead of rushing into something?

Karen and Madeline were both swinging from emotional highs to lows within a few sentences, which was dizzying to read. There is absolutely no depth to be found here; the characters are painfully one-dimensional.

And then there's the "her job is to make the money and your job is to spend it (but wisely)" thing, which Karen's mom pretty much says verbatim to Madeline (and only after a couple of months of dating!). ARE YOU KIDDING ME? This is beyond ridiculous. Madeline is made to feel guilty for wanting her own money and job. Ugh.

P. Industry says

If this book isn't written by "Robin Roseau", I should be very surprised.

That is beside the way of this review, but sets the tone. The characters are stilted and formal with one another. Both Roseau and Lynde (if they are different people) write main characters who repeat one another's full names endlessly. This bleeds into the sex scenes, which are clunky and uncomfortable; I could only lament my Kindle wouldn't skip through it faster. The sub/dom dynamics abruptly introduced into the narrative at this point only made the overall unclean impression worse; despite being about a lesbian relationship (normally a safe haven for equal and negotiated modern relationships) the power relations in these books give me the screaming waillies.

Karen hires Madison (never Maddie - only Madison) to cook, clean, and generally organize her life while she runs around being the Heap Big Executive lawyer. Through proximity and some gratuitous Tangoing, they fall in love (kinda). Maddie then becomes a housewife. Reading this felt like I was setting back feminism fifty years by association, and I am generally all for people doing what made them happy. But Maddie was clearly unhappy, and in the end gave up large parts of her self to "stand by her (wo)man". At one point Karen's mother actually says that Maddie controls Karen's happiness. By the aforementioned cooking and cleaning, etc.

I think I read the entire thing out of some masochistic desire to see how bad it would become; like a terrible car accident, it was difficult to stop watching. Even if doing so would have been for my own good.

Don't buy this book; it is truly not worth it.

Justin says

Original story? Nope. predictable ending? Yup. quick fun and enjoyable read anyway? You bet. This is a story about a fake girlfriend that turns into a real girlfriend, how many times have you seen that movie or read that book? There is a reason it is done and redone so much though, it never gets old! The thing I love about these stories is watching how emotional attachments are formed and fake feelings begin to turn into something real. It is a feel good novella and I thoroughly enjoyed it. The sex felt out of place and I didn't really think the bondage thing really fit the romantic mood of this book but all in all a good read.

Ashley Reid says

There were quite a few mistakes, but nothing that took me away from the story too much. Overall I liked it enough to finish, but I didn't love it.

Rahnuma Khan says

I didn't know why people giving this book 1 star huh... I like it and I put five star to make for those who's putting negative retting... awesome one sitting read... love it...

CLo says

A cute story.

This is not a unique story or one that will leave you thinking or anything but it is a story that will make you smile. Maddie needs a job. Karen needs a personal, personal assistant. One's straight and one is not...but them together whatta got...a story that with a Christmassy feel that will make you smile a little. Plus free on kindleUnlimited and relatively (not completely) error free.

MD says

[I mean Madeline basically becomes a 1950's wife is a very foreign thought for me, after working 10 years in a very demanding job she is ok with this new life.. The story make it seems like two women with demanding jobs can't have a love life. I don't know... to each their own, I guess but it was weird for

Musa says

I normally don't like novellas but I actually liked this one. It's light, a happy read and though length-wise it's short, but it did cramp in a story where you still see some development in the characters.

A word of warning though, the setting of this book is not entirely realistic, particularly with friends and family around Madeline and Karen being unusually receptive to their unconventional arrangement and later on their relationship. If you don't like u-haul plots, you will not like this book either.

Kurt says

So I reread this and from four stars it goes to 2.5. I only have so many books on my phone and I chose this one.

I originally rated this four-stars and I am wondering where my head was at the time as I didn't enjoy the story this time around. A straight woman is told in a job interview, "No. You can't have the job you want, you're not qualified, but what about pretending to be my girlfriend for the holidays?" This woman, relaxed smiling Madeline says "yes" for a large sum of money and moves in with Karen, this tightly wound, Type-A personality (and not much else).

Both women have a strong interest in dancing, the Tango to be specific. Karen, the boss, has a dance studio

installed in her basement. What are the odds though? The story would break down if both women didn't have this interest which makes the whole thing even more implausible. It is one area of interest in which Madeline is better than Karen however. I think, if memory serves, the Tango also appears in one of the author's other books.

There doesn't seem to be any real chemistry to the couple and one person serving the other so the one can make the money and be sexually dominant is discussed in the book but is distasteful to me.

If you really liked the tango you might like this anyway as the couple not only dance at Karen's home but Karen's friends and colleagues as well.

Dharma says

A cliched plot, but I'm glad there wasn't any obsessive "Am I straight/gay?" dilemma, and that the ex-girlfriend didn't suddenly appear on the scene. A straight-forward light reading. I liked the simplicity of the story and totally enjoyed the fun dialogue.
