



The Billionaire's Reluctant Fiancée

Jenna Bayley-Burke

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After her father's untimely death, the only things Lily Harris is left with are debt, scandal, and loneliness—and her late father's business partner, Jake Tolliver, looking over her shoulder. Lily isn't interested in being another one of Jake's many conquests, no matter how attractive he is. But after weeks of frustrations, she'll consider accepting his help...until he reveals the promise he made her father.

Before Jake Tolliver's friend and mentor died, he asked Jake to take care of his daughter...forever—not that Jake had to be asked. For years, he's desired Lily Harris, and he has a well-deserved reputation for always getting what he wants.

The Billionaire's Reluctant Fiancée Details

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From Reader Review *The Billionaire's Reluctant Fiancée* for online ebook

Ayekah says

I wasn't sure which character I wanted to bean on the head more in this book from the lovely Jenna. How this woman can write characters that get right under my skin is beyond me, but she does it.

So you read the blurb and we have Lily who's father has just died, overprotected and as Austen-esque as her Masters degree thesis would carry. Jake who partnered with her father prior to his illness because the man had a way with building restoration and Jake wanted to learn from him.

Lily's father acquired some bad habits through his life although a very successful and shrewd businessman made a few very bad choices and of course didn't plan on getting sick. So he and Jake have some final business to tend to, mainly that of Lily. He makes Jake promise to look after her. Not a hardship for Jake since he's been taken with Lily since day one. Lily is petrified, knowing that everything she knows will never be the same and her father's death will leave her with absolutely nothing. Not even the roof over her head or her Jane Austen books that line the shelves.

Jake swoops in to protect Lily from the vultures at the funeral who want photos and a story, to the incredible debt. He buys the house so she has a roof over her head and proposes to her. Gives the wilting flower a deadline. She's got a lot going on. She doesn't want to marry him so she negotiates a work type set up with him, to work at the business. He accepts that. Starting her in the basics so she learns every aspect of the business.

Jake has more women friends than you can shake a stick at and of course Lily thinks he's bopped every single one of them. There is one in particular in the story who is not only abrasive, she's rude, sleazy and I wanted to choke her egoistical bitch self on more than one occasion. So Jake, being the dick brain he is lets the insecure Lily think whatever she wants about this other woman and him. Even though there doesn't appear to be anything going on. Jake acts like a real putz throughout most of the book. Yes he does outwardly show signs of caring for Lily and by the same token shuts her right off. Talk about mixed signals. The holidays are coming and they talk about them, Jake's grandmother lives in Hawaii so he suggests they go. He's got his mini agenda while there also. And once again Lily is faced with yet another woman who despite being his grandma's nurse is quite comfortable draping herself over Jake and Jake does nothing about it. Lily does speak up this time. Finally grows a lady pair.

Grandma was cool and I liked her best. She did give Lily some insight into Jake's past. There were still too many things that bothered me about Jake. I wanted him to man the hell up and stop jerking Lily around, she's got enough problems without him adding to her laundry list. The book on a whole was very much like Jane Austen and so Jenna you hit your mark on that!

****arc from NetGalley and Entangled****

I received an advanced reader copy of this book for review. The above is my honest review and the opinions are mine alone*

Kim Vanravenswaay says

The strongest emotion I felt while reading, *The Billionaire's Reluctant Fiancee*, was mad. I was mad at Jake for not opening up and setting Lily straight. And at Lily for not trusting Jake when he's given her no reason not to. Only the end half of the last chapter actually shows them being happy.

Elaine says

This is one of those stories where both main characters have been damaged by their past, making them reluctant to see and acknowledge what's right in front of them. Lily is the highly protected, naive daughter who billionaire Jake Tolliver has been in love with for years. However, he's never told her, had very little to say to her and feels unworthy because of his past. Whilst terminally ill, Lily's father asked Jake to protect her by marrying her. Jake proves to be an extremely patient man - well, either that or just too reticent to open up and admit just why he wishes to marry her. As the debts and problems her father has left to be resolved, there are some difficult decisions to be made by both Lily and Jake!

One thing you can say about this author is that she writes characters which you end up wishing you could talk some sense into! This is a dramatic story of learning to open up and trust, realising the strengths and abilities of others and of yourself. I liked how Jake was determined to give Lily the time and opportunities she needed to mature and develop herself. However, also didn't like how he didn't help correct her misconceptions about his relationships with others and his tendency to jerk her around. Nor did I appreciate her inability to trust based on her personal experiences of his behaviour, she really should have been counting her blessings much of the time! I did love Jake's Grandma - what a brilliant old lady, a real treasure! Get ready for angst, turmoil and drama in this contemporary romance!

I requested and received a copy of this novel. This is my honest review after choosing to read it.

Bec_BookMagicReviews says

losing her father was hard enough, but for Lily Harris resisting her father's business partner, Jake Tolliver, may prove even harder especially since her father asked him to take care of her. However, Lily isn't about to give into him, even though he holds all the cards. Yet, Lily isn't afraid to make a deal with the devil. Will Jake be able to win Lily over, or will Lily fight Jake every step of the way because she doesn't want to be another one of his conquests?

I have loved this series from the very first book, and I've got to say that Jake and Lily are one of the best couples of the series, as Jake is always used to getting what he wants, but Lily doesn't make things easy for him. Really, she's a feisty heroine that grew up sheltered and I liked how determined she was to make her own way instead of taking handouts from a man that promised her father she'd be taken care of. Will Jake be able to handle the heroine's demands, especially when he has some of his own? Will the heroine get what she wants?

As for the dialogue, it was entertaining due to the main characters back stories and everything these two go through on their journey to happy ever after including the heroine's need to prove herself because she won't marry someone for any reason but love; the things the hero does to get the heroine riled up that make her push back; and what happens towards the end that makes the heroine question everything. Moreover, the heroine is resilient and I could understand why she's so resistant to the promise Jake made her father. I also liked how feisty the heroine was and her determination to prove she can take care for herself. While the hero, he's confident, is used to getting what he wants, and I liked how determined he was to win the heroine over, even though it's not easy because he does things he knows will annoy her or make her jealous. Will the

things he does make the heroine even more resistant?

Overall, Ms. Burke has delivered a really good read in this book where the chemistry between this couple was intense and only kept getting better the more the heroine resisted the hero; the romance was wonderful and had me liking this couple together once the heroine gave in; and the ending had me enjoying what happens because it makes the heroine face her feelings for the hero. No way can she let him get away without telling him how she really feels. I would recommend *The Billionaire's Reluctant Fiancée* by Jenna Bayley-Burke, if you enjoy books by authors Victoria Davies, Miranda Liasson, Cathryn Fox and Kira Archer.

Monica Cardoza says

This was an interesting read. There was this cat and mouse game going on between these two characters. Lily and Jake were total opposites but they complimented each other but Jake was going to have wait some time before Lily came to her senses and realized that she was in love with Jake. He made a promise to her father and he intended to keep it. Lily had been sheltered all of her life and she is ready to spread her wings but in order to do that she is going to have to work in her father's business. She just did a deal with the devil and he intends to win. But the more time that they spend together the more she is attracted to him and the more that Jake's friend get into his head. Jake is going to have to take things slow but in the end things will work out. Lily is going to have to decide what she wants to do and if she has feelings for Jake because no one is promised tomorrow.

I totally recommend this read!!

Received ARC from NetGalley in exchange for an Honest Review

Faith89 says

This story had great potential but I found the female lead a little tiresome. I realize she was the over protected and sheltered daughter of a powerful man. Her naivety about her situation was still annoying. Pride is good to a certain point. She was wary of Jake. She didn't trust her feelings about him. Jake has wanted Lily since he met her. He is an alpha male that gets what he wants. At times he came off a little to domineering with Lily and she did not react well to that. He had her best interest at heart and was sincere in his pursuit. He didn't sugar coat anything and was upfront about things. His feeling for her ran deep and even he didn't know the extent. It was a good read for a rainy afternoon.

Ofelia says

This book was not what I expected and I'm sorry to say that I was disappointed with the story line. At first I was intrigued since Jake presented himself as a billionaire with an agenda and he required a trophy wife and Lily fit the bill. But as the story went on and we got to know Jake and who he really is which is a compassionate, caring, trustworthy and responsible individual. Lily on the other hand was just plain annoying. Yes I know she is grieving, trying to get over the shock of the things her father did and at the same time trying to find herself but the fact that she is constantly accusing Jake of cheating and being with other

women was just plain annoying. Jake has been nothing but kind to her and has respected and done all her wishes. He has not giving her any reason to doubt him and yet she does at every turn, I found that very tiresome and very off putting as a reader which made it hard to continue reading this book. I'm glad that at the end Lily came to her senses and finally admitted her true feelings to Jake even if an accident had to occur for that to happen.

*** I was given this ARC by NetGalley as an exchange for an honest review.

B. says

This romance just didn't do much for me. The heroine was so weak and tiresome that it was totally unbelievable that this dynamic, arrogant billionaire had been wanting her for so long and had been willing to shell out millions to help her out when her father died.

We meet her as Lily's father has died and his whole empire had been exposed as built on sand. But Jake is willing to step in and help her out and just wants to marry her. Goodness knows why.

We're told that she's been working on her master's thesis on Jane Austen. Did the author just pick Austen's name out of a hat? I'd think that, if an author is going to be depicting a heroine enamored of Austen, we'd get some allusions to the novels or some indication that she has some of the wit in one of Austen's novels. But no, it's just name-dropping an author that romance readers will have heard of.

The hero is so very determined and arrogant about eventually marrying Lily, but can't be bothered to tell her that he loves her and has always loved her. He allows her to think that he has no real feelings for her and plans to keep mistresses while they're married. He recognizes that his attitude is making her hate him and the thought of marrying her, but can't find a way to change this destructive path. I ended up wanting to smack both of them and tell them to stop being so stupid. It just wasn't fun spending the time it took to read the book with these stupidly behaved people.

I was given a free ARC of this book from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

Sofia Lazaridou says

The reason I am giving such a low rating to the book is the heroine which was annoying from the first page till the last. I cannot believe that something grand had to happen for her to realize that Jake wasn't sleeping with every woman he was talking to or had a thing for her. Her jealousy was cute at first, but it got very tiring. She kept doubting him and I was getting more and more annoyed because all that jealousy seemed to be the only reason their relationship wasn't working out. A terrible heroine can ruin a book, like how it happened with this book and myself. I liked how the plot was unraveling and I understood why Lily was against marrying Jake, but I couldn't give a higher rating to the book. The hero was pushy, but I liked him. He was good and he never gave me (and the heroine) a reason to doubt him when it came to other women. The book is free of triggers or things that people dislike like other man/woman scenes. All the other woman drama is in Lily's head.

Tianna★loves books★ says

This book was going so strong. I had just started loving Jake and Lily when the OW enters.

WHAT A WASTE OF GOOD BOOK.

Jenna Bayley-Burke, you could have done without the ow. Seriously!!!

Why the hell was the ow needed.

After Lily's father died with mountains of debts, Jake comes as Knight in Shining Armor. It was going good. Lily hates him still Jake loves her. A good Heroine hates but Hero loves trope was going on. Everything was going beautiful. Then enters the OW. Jake brings her to make Lily jealous. He didn't correct Lily when she says the Ow is his girlfriend or mistress. That was so bad. And it made me hate Jake.

I lost interest after this.

A Big DNF and LOST INTEREST.

Tami says

Fake relationship meets May to December contemporary romance 'Least I think I read that he was older. Weak heroine. I couldn't understand the reasoning for her initial nastiness.

This review is based on the ARC received from the author and/or the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest opinion.

PoshTomes says

I expected a romantic comedy but this book was not in any way humorous. Both characters are incredibly damaged and both have insane amounts of baggage. In a real life scenario this would not end well. It wasn't my favorite story but it was well written and well developed.

Belinda says

Love this author. And this book is just as good as the rest.

Lily and Jake are a couple destined to be together but trust issues and jealousy are always in the way. Trust to let each other knowing the truth causes them much unnecessary heartache but eventually proves to be just the catalyst to push them together.

Heather andrews says

I sometimes think Jake tries too hard, "if you want to be, I can make some calls, get you right back at the top of the list. As you should be. Whatever will make you happy. Just tell me, and it's done." I really liked this book, although I thought Jake made more problems for himself than necessary.

Linda Quick says

I enjoyed this novel, but didn't always like the characters. Lily is a young woman who has been sheltered her entire life when her father dies, while Jake is a self made wealthy man who has set his sights on Lily as his future wife. Lily doesn't know how to solve the mess her life has become, but is sure that Jake isn't part of the solution.

I enjoyed the push/pull between the characters, but found myself wanting to reach into the book and shake some sense into them - from the naive Lily and her unrealistic outlook on life, to the antagonistic Jake who refuses to explain himself and creates or exacerbates so many of the problems.

This is a worthy read, but not my favorite by this author.
