



I Do

Elizabeth Chandler

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Weddings are the perfect place to fall in love...

Jane is not looking forward to being the maid of honor in her cousin Stacy's wedding. To make matters worse, Adam, the biggest jerk at Tilson High, is going to be the best man! The last thing Jane wants to do is walk down the aisle with him. But the more Jane gets to know Adam, the more she realizes that he's actually a very cool guy. And now she finds herself wishing that the wedding would last forever...

I Do Details

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Contemporary

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Kirsty Hoggons says

I generally enjoy reading teen reads such as this one because they are really easy to read and I can get through them quickly. I normally read them when I want something light-hearted and fluffy. However these books are normally very predictable and this one was no exception. Don't get me wrong, I have no problem with that in this genre but it was a little bit frustrating waiting for things to happen when I knew it was inevitable. I love how the lacrosse team acts like big brothers towards Jane because I have always wanted to have guy friends who would do that for me (I am still waiting haha!). Plus I am an absolute hopeless romantic so books about weddings always make me ridiculously happy! I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a light, easy read.

Favourite characters: Josh and Adam

Least favourite characters: Daniel

Megan says

Lacrosse! Nice leader-type guy. Stubborn, great, smart, non-girly girl. What's not to love? Hate relationship.

Nada Adel says

I've read this book ages ago. I can't believe I found it on Goodreads.

Chachic says

Originally posted here.

Based on the summary, you can totally tell that it's a love-hate relationship, right? I'm such a sucker for those when it's done well. Jane is a sports writer in the school newspaper and her snark is in full force when she writes about the male varsity lacrosse team. She's frustrated that the team isn't maximizing its full potential and she doesn't understand why. Enter the team captain, Adam. He proves that he isn't a dumb jock by writing a letter to the editor in response to Jane's articles. Needless to say, these two don't get along. The fun starts when Jane suddenly gets drafted to become her cousin's maid of honor and it turns out that Adam is the best man. Sparks fly, swoon-worthy scenes turn up and there's even a one-on-one lacrosse match between these two. I also liked the secondary characters in this book, which is saying something considering that it's such a slim book and there's not a lot of room for development. Here's a conversation between Jane and her grandpa that I really liked:

"Things change when someone special comes into your life. Both sides have to give up things. The one thing you don't give up in a good relationship is *you* - whatever makes you most *you*."

"It's been my experience," he continued, "that when you're with the right people, you feel more like yourself than ever. There's a happiness, and a feeling of coming alive to yourself and the other person, that's like nothing else."

I don't know if I'm biased because I read this when I was younger and it's been a favorite ever since but I really love this book. While reading this, I didn't even know what lacrosse was. Well, I know it's a sport played in the States but I've never seen a game. I've reread my copy so many times that it's not just yellowed with age, it has become battered. I want to get a better copy but sadly, the book is out of print and it's not that easy to find copies. If any of you get a chance to read this, please let me know because I'd love to know what other people think of this book. Oh and if you've read this, did you like it as much as I did? :)

Kai says

This is such a good read!

I thank whoever it is who wrote the first review for this book. This deserves five stars! It's such a short and sweet read but I am satisfied with how it ended. It's so romantic. I haven't read anything like this for quite some time now. I laughed, I giggled and I felt all bubbly inside. Elizabeth Chandler's such a wonderful author.

I'm not even halfway through the story and I'm already screaming and melting inside. There's something about the way Elizabeth Chandler wrote the cat and mouse fighting between them that made me fall in love with both Adam and Jane. I'm spazzing here and I'm not even halfway done reading.

One of my favorite scenes was when Adam saw Jane's bruises because of the Lacrosse game they played.

I can relate to Jane so much since my dad's been a sports addict since I can remember.

Plus having a grandpa like Jane's sure sounds fun. I wish my grandpa was like him.

Nina Ardianti says

Elizabeth Chandler never disappoints me.

Jadi, belakangan ini saya lebih suka membaca buku yang memberikan efek heartwarming dibandingkan yang twistnya muter-muter. Jadi ketika pertama kali menemukan buku Elizabeth Chandler berjudul Love at First Click, walaupun ceritanya sederhana banget, tapi saya langsung suka sama cara menulisnya dan mencari bukunya yang lain.

Kemudian ketemulah buku ini. Walaupun pertama kali dipublish pada tahun 1999, tapi ceritanya masih relevan banget sama keadaan sekarang. Dan memberikan efek seperti yang diharapkan. Heartwarming banget.

Jadi, kalau ingin membaca young adult yang realistik, buku ini salah satu yang direkomendasikan. Percaya deh :)

A. says

What does this book want me to do, weep??? Because I did, and I still got that pinched tight feeling messing up my heart, like dang, wow, my heart's a thing I'm kind of attached to, you know, I need that junk to do its business. It's doing its business a little too well, maybe!

Where *Stolen Kisses* (Love Stories #37) is weirdly bittersweet and *The Day I Met Him* (Love Stories #5) is a GOD-BLESSED ROMANTIC COMEDY MASTERPIECE THAT HAS DESCENDED FROM ON HIGH TO LIFT MY VERY SOUL TO THE ROM-COM HEAVENS, *I Do* (Love Stories #35) is this beautiful, quiet character-driven thing about, geez, family and friendship and, yes, love in all its many forms. *Stolen Kisses* and *The Day I Met Him* both had frankly unmemorable supporting casts (a problem with many short rom-coms) but *I Do* does have some fairly well-developed supporting characters given the Love Stories line's obvs editorial restrictions, primarily in Stacy (Our Heroine Jane's cousin who's due to be wed) and in Coach Gryczgowski aka Grizzly (Our Hero Adam's lacrosse coach who just moved in next door to Our Heroine Jane). But the rest of the characters are really surprisingly strong or at least clearly defined, so that nothing they say or do comes across as Because The Plot Decrees but rather as a natural progression of that character's personality and role. And that's nice!!! I loved the supporting cast a LOT in this book, from Jane's friends to her extended family to the lacrosse team and Adam's largely unspoken but v noticeable difficulties with his stepfather and stepbrother (Travis, to whom Our Heroine Jane's cousin Stacy is engaged).

OK, I'M BACK!!! I had to take a break to dance out my feelings in the bathroom to Wonder Girls, you know how it is. So, probably the first thing you'll notice about this book is also what will most likely put you off it, which is that it's written in first person from Jane's perspective. IDK why so many people hate first person POV so intensely? But I will say this, *I Do* does a FANTASTIC job with it, like, a truly stellar job of it. The book is very intimate and Jane comes through very strongly, but Chandler also very deftly shows the reader, through the actions of other characters and also through Jane's varying familiarity with said characters, etc., how other characters are thinking and feeling without telling you such. Or: Adam's intense, immediate feelings are obvious to the reader though not to Jane, in a way that makes sense; and ofc given Jane's close relationship with her cousin Stacy, Jane would notice Stacy's and Grizzly's mutual attraction before even Stacy does. What this means is *I Do* is - well, I said intimate earlier, and I think that's really the best way to put it, is that it's intimate. It's cozy and it's sweet and with a few brief exceptions it never really stoops to telling the reader what's going on and how Jane or any of the other characters feel, but it lets the the heart of the book show you. It's very sweet and somewhat delicate, and there are a l-o-t LOT of gorgeous little scenes that kind of stick you in the chest, very lightly.

Jane's character is especially strong and I was very pleased with how she's treated from start to finish. She's a no guff kind of gal, hugely into sports with aspirations of being a sports writer (like her grandfather before her), and she's never punished for this, and Adam never, like, talks down to her for being into something traditionally coded as masculine (vs simply athletic). The actual athletic scenes in the book are very well written, in such a way that it makes sense to the reader without familiarity with the sport in question (men's lacrosse) but also so that it's obvious that Elizabeth Chandler really does understand the sport. The visuals are clear and well-presented, especially in a truly excellent scene in which Jane goes up against Adam in a one-on-one lacrosse showdown. (She loses, sort of, but not in a way that's like OH OF COURSE THE WOMAN COULDN'T COMPARE! Rather, Jane hasn't played lacrosse in years, and yet she still manages to prove herself able on the field.)

Adam's also delightful - he's serious and kind of grumpy, but he isn't mean and he doesn't make fun of anyone (particularly Jane), and actually he's pretty sweet! All of the romances in the book kind of follow a similar thesis, that friendship and shared interests form a stronger foundation than, you know, clashing repeatedly and arguing a lot over base incompatibilities (such as Travis needing control over everything and Stacy's sentimentality), and that's what winds up making Jane and Adam's romance so kind, that they very quickly - once they give each other a chance - become friends, and it's that friendship that opens them up to romance.

AND OMG I ALSO REALLY FRIGGING LOVE THE BACKGROUND ROMANCE BETWEEN STACY AND COACH GRIZZLY, wow!!!! Like, shit, I would TOTALLY read a novel about them, omfg. Stacy's high-energy and a softie and she loves Perry Como and crafts projects and she gets excited about things she doesn't even normally care about just because people she loves are excited about them, and Grizzly's sweet and a big softie, too - tender-hearted's what Jane calls him and it's true - and he dotes on his cat and does yardwork and he's passionate about lacrosse and coaching but he's also really laid-back. And it's like, even though most of their little romance occurs off the page, it reads powerfully; just through the reader's familiarity with and knowledge of these characters from Jane's POV, we know how they'd fit together and how they'd enjoy each other's company. Also during Stacy's wedding, Grizzly stays home listening to the Perry Como Christmas album he and Stacy listened to the day before, and I KNOW THAT CHRISTMAS ALBUM, AND IN MY HEAD I HEARD PERRY COMO SINGING "HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS" AND I STARTED CRYING ON THE FRICKING HAMMOCK BECAUSE THAT IS THE SADDEST, MOST LONGING-FILLED CHRISTMAS SONG EVER WRITTEN OR RECORDED BY ANYONE, even with Perry Como trying to make it cheerful and fun, like, somehow that makes it even more agonizing to listen to like you're trying to put on a happy face while you're singing about everyone being far away from you and you're pretending like your troubles are gone and just wow, stab me in the heart, it'll go faster. But ofc that ends beautifully, too, and omgggggg WHEN JANE AND ADAM FINALLY

Well, okay, I've probably spoiled enough of this book, but. It's a very good book. Very, very good. Very sweet, very kind, very lovely. Definitely recommended.

Only real complaints: soooo many straight people omfg, and IDK why Tom is explicitly introduced as African-American but no other characters are described thusly (e.g. "Marnie's [white/Asian-American/etc.]")? So, like, is everyone except for Tom (and presumably Pablo, who has no lines I can remember off the top of my head) white? Ehhhhh.

Kelly says

(3.5 stars)

This was nowhere near Elizabeth Chandler's other work in this series, Hot Summer Nights, which - in spite of its cheesy name - is a wonderfully and endearingly told coming-of-age novel, as much about the affections between two sisters as it is about a really winning first romance. I cried buckets and loved it - even when I reread it in my 30s.

Like Hot Summer Nights, this one gets off to a slow start. Chandler has a writing style that is really difficult to connect with upon first read - it doesn't flow for me from the first sentence, and not because it's clunky. It's like switching your brain to enter a world with a slightly different beat or color scheme, and - once you're

immersed - she's got you hook, line and sinker.

This was cute, dealing again as in Chandler's books with serious issues aimed at teens (in this case, abandonment, falling on relatives in hard times, career ambitions, love vs money), but also portrays teens (seniors in high school) as young adults who like to shoot hoops in their driveway, but also think about the future and work hard to achieve their dreams.

I loved that this was about sports (lacrosse) and of course the relationship between Jane and Adam. This was very much a case of Pride & Prejudice! Or 10 Things I Hate About You or Much Ado About Nothing. It had Shakespearean overtures. It was cute, funny and very charming... but simply pales in comparison to Hot Summer Nights!

Nerissa says

My childhood friend gave me this book when I was 15. She was rather obsessed with the Love Stories books. I think this was the first contemporary romance book I had read back when I was in high school. The only books I read constantly back then were children's classics. So this has a very soft spot in my heart. What a nice romance book this is. I love Jane. After reading about women like Jo March, Anne Shirley, and even Mary Lennox, it was nice to find that Jane could hold her own too. She's not perfect, but I like passionate women that goes after their dreams... and often times, get the boy too.

Also, I could never forget the Coach's cat named BIG MAMA. The part in the book that I remembered the most was when Adam's teammate said, "Now we don't have to run through Grizzly's old neighbourhood yelling, 'Big Mama, Big Mama.'"

Kristel Villar says

I couldn't remember how many times I've read this book. My passion for writing fiction wouldn't be the same without Elizabeth Chandler. She's my idol. I've always admired her works ever since I was in high school, and this book is my favorite among all her works. It tells the story of Jane, a sportswriter for the paper, and lacrosse varsity team player Adam, who didn't get along very well until they suddenly became involved with Jane's cousin and Adam's stepbrother's wedding. Jane is a very lovable character. She is independent, witty and unafraid to do and say things that she wants. Adam is very mysterious. He's the perfect jock who is unaware of the attention he gets from his admirers. I also love that he's a jock who can write. The sub-plot on Jane's cousin, Stacy, is also so good. That way, the book is not focused on Jane and Adam's story. I will keep on re-reading it until I get old.

Zoe and the Edge says

I'm a Chandler fan. I love her humour. I love how she can paint such interesting characters. While she creates bitter tension between the hero and the heroine, she can also make their relationship sizzle and crackle with their flirtation and attraction.

Adam and Jane don't get along. The Goodreads synopsis for this book isn't very good. Adam's the captain of

the school's lacrosse team. Jane is the reporter for the sport and she freely criticises the team's slip ups much to the chagrin of Adam. Initially they're really hostile towards one another. But when they get thrown together, they engage in some great banter and interaction. The problem with these two is that they care about each other and misunderstandings result in them getting hurt.

Jane is a lovely heroine. She's intelligent, aggressive, and straight forward. I liked that she freely voiced Adam's thoughts and freaked him out.

Adam's very serious, and I loved his gentle side.

Ari says

I don't know why I didn't write a review for this book.

It is one of my favorite romantic YA stories with the cutest characters ever - one of those stories that gives you butterflies in your stomach.

I plan to read it again one of these days, and then I will write a proper review for it... Until then, just keep it in mind if you want to read something cute ;)

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Karlie says

This is my favorite teen romance novel. I have easily read it eight times and each time it pulls my heart strings.

Myra Sullivan says

I enjoyed this book more than the last one in the "Love Stories" series. It was a lot more fun and I thought Adam was a better character overall than Jake (in the last book). The surprise towards the end was an interesting twist, and the romantic tension was aww-worthy. :) Like the book before it though, I thought the ending was rushed and wished that more detail could've been added. I tend to enjoy books more when the lead characters get together about halfway through and then work on some other conflict, rather than the entire book revolving around the issue of them getting together and then having it happen on the very last page. There was also quite a bit about men's lacrosse (Adam is the captain of the team, and Jane covers sports for the school paper) and while I usually hate sports-related books, I was able to keep up with this and actually ended up loving it. For some reason my initial mental image when I thought of lacrosse was ice hockey (no idea why) and I couldn't get that out of my head throughout the story. If anyone asks, I'll probably say Adam's a hockey player. :P Overall, a quick, fun read. :)

Lesley says

OMG!! Best Love Stories EVER!!! Who can give this book any less than 5 stars??!!?! Adam and Jane!! Whooo!!! <3 I think I read this book at least 5 times!!
