



Dark Star

Roslyn Hardy Holcomb

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Tonya Stephens is a woman who has it all. Not only is her career as the author of a very popular mystery series smoking hot, she also has a thriving business and a robust love life. Then on the night of her greatest triumph a ghost from her past appears; Nate Randolph, the man who left her long ago with nothing but a web of lies as a memento. His reappearance is particularly devastating as he comes bearing tales even more preposterous than the ones he told before. Before she can say Raymond Chandler Tonya finds herself on a South Pacific island knee-deep in a Byzantine intrigue too bizarre to be fiction. As a pawn in a chess match of murder for fun and profit she has to put her trust in a man who subjected her to the worst betrayal. This time there's far more at risk than a broken heart. Will she survive this high stakes game, or will he let her down again, costing her life?

Dark Star Details

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From Reader Review Dark Star for online ebook

Joyfully Reviewed says

Tonya Stephens is celebrating the release of her latest novel in her hit series when she thinks she spots the only man she ever loved. That can't be the case; it's been years since Nate walked out of her life he surely wouldn't chose now to walk back in. Nate Randolph's career as a secret agent has come back to haunt him. His nemesis knows his weakness; the only woman he ever loved. Nate will do anything to protect Tonya including kidnap her and take her to an undisclosed location to keep her safe. She may hate him now but Nate is determined to get back in her good graces and hopefully her bed. Can Nate protect her from his enemies and work his way back into her heart?

Dark Star is a fast-paced romance. Things start off quickly as Tonya is unknowingly stalked by danger and Nate. I really like the chemistry between Tonya and Nate. The times they spend together are lovely. Towards the end of Dark Star I got lost a little. Not confused, but unsatisfied with the direction the plot took. There is nothing wrong with the way it went but it felt disconnected from the relationship between Tonya and Nate. It almost felt like two different stories to me. So while I enjoyed the romance between Tonya and Nate the parts with the action and the separation of the couple left me discontented.

Reviewed by Miranda for Joyfully Reviewed

Tara Taylor says

It wasn't rock star but it was ok for a quick read the glue that bound them was more like eyelash glue than gorilla glue it was kind of weak

Deloris says

I finished this book yesterday , I really wanted to read this story because I loved Rock Star so much, I was not disappointed. I loved The relationship between Tonya and Nate. The action and drama in the book were really good. This is not the story that Rock Star is this is a very different story this is Nate and Tonya story. You catch up with Callie and Bryan in this book I feel another book coming at least I hope so. There are loose ends with Derringer and Rashonda that I must find out about ,I think their story will be hot!

OOSA says

Lost In the Stars

Imagine giving yourself fully to someone only to learn that they have disappeared without a trace; without as much as a goodbye. This is what Nate does to Tonya only to show up again ten years later with danger chasing at his heels.

I thought “Dark Star” was a fast paced book with plenty of things going on. One minute you were reading about an author (Tonya) celebrating the release of her novel and the next minute you’re reading about love and murder. Roslyn Hardy Holcomb did a good job holding her readers’ attention. I wanted to keep reading more to find out how the book would end. Unfortunately, I did find errors throughout the book. It was not enough to take away from the story, but it was enough to be noticed. I would recommend this book. With this said, I definitely will be looking for another read by Roslyn Hardy Holcomb.

Reviewed by: Sabrina

Savannah- Quad Motherin' Book Readin' Diva says

It was..good. lol Not GREAT, but good. The heroine left a bit to be desired and I didn't feel like their history was completely fleshed out, logical or resolved. But it was a decent read.

Sophia says

I saw the blurb on this one and thought it sounded really good so I got it while it was a free book. I am ever so glad that I did. It was a good romantic intrigue that had both a down home and international feel to it.

Tonya is a mystery writer who after several years has finally hit the bestseller list. With the help of her bestfriend, Callie and Callie's famous rocker husband, Bryan, (Cassie and Bryan's story is told in another book, Rock Star) her entrance to the scene is done with pop and style. Just after she has her big bestseller release party in a New York gallery, things start heading south quickly.

A ghost from Tonya's past, Nate Randolph, her one-time lover who disappeared on her without a word twelve years before returns to tell her she's in grave danger and its because of his line of work. He spirits her away against her will and without any real explanation. There is a lot of pain and heartbreak that this man caused when he left and now Tonya is stuck with him protecting her for the near future. They had something good in the past and Nate realizes that this is his one opportunity to make things right and get a chance at a future.

The plot on this one stirred my interest from the beginning when I was introduced to Tonya, her friend and her mother. The characterization and dialogue had me smiling because I could just picture the strong personality who was Tonya's mother. The exciting moments when Tonya is in danger and both she and I, as the reader, have no idea what is going on were well played. While I was just as irritated as Tonya was with Nate for not just saying what was going on, I have to confess that it did build up the suspense and interest for when he finally did spill his secrets. It was pretty much what I thought it was, but then there was the next moments when the relief of knowing was overshadowed by the drama of wondering how Nate was going to get them out of the fix when it seemed that the villain was holding all the cards. I was glad the story moved perspectives a few times even though it was mostly told from Tonya's point of view.

Tonya and Nate were good together. I enjoyed that the author managed to convey the hurt, anger, fear, and attraction in such a way that Tonya's reactions to Nate's reappearance were believable. She held off being with him, but not so long that it just got frustrating. I liked that she wasn't coy or manipulative. Like I said, I found the relationship was well-written.

I enjoyed this introduction to the author so I plan to go back and read her other story Rock Star and I hope she plans to write Roshanda and Deringer's story. I recommend this to those who enjoy their romantic suspense with the romance taking the lead role.

Discordia says

Good read. I wouldn't say it was one of those books I couldn't put down, but it also did pain me to read it.

Kimberly says

A great suspense romance from Roslyn Hardy Holcomb. This story is about Tonya, Callie's best friend from Rock Star, and Nate her former college sweetheart. I really enjoyed this story with its combination of romance and suspense. I loved how Nate and Tonya had to find their way back to each other through the circumstances of the story. I really liked learning more about Tonya as her career as a writer has made her famous despite being an introvert. I think a lot of readers will be able to relate to her character. Nate is a complicated hero who has had a complex life in the years since he and Tonya have been apart. He has a lot of secrets because of his job. I liked that the unfolding of the story lets us know things through the memories of the characters as well as the two of them getting to know each other again.

This is a quick read that is very satisfying story

Ingrid says

Slow, weird, ridiculous yet, very boring. I haven't read a plot--if one could call it that--this thin in a long time.

Brandi says

More like 3.5 but I can live with 4 stars. Not quite as good as Rock Star; really felt like something was missing.

Anika says

I really wanted to like this book but sadly I wasn't able to. I know that most people love this book.

For a book that seemed to be an attempt at romantic suspense it was surprisingly lacking in suspense. We didn't really meet the villain until halfway through the book. The plot was really, really, really, really far fetched. It might have worked, if the execution had been better. I think this story would have been significantly improved if it had gone through a good developmental edit.

I can't say that at the end of the book I really cared one way or the other about the hero and heroine; I felt no chemistry between them. At first I was confused who the hero was because of the introduction of another guy who liked her before we met the hero. When I realised the hero was Nate I was baffled that he had two nicknames for the heroine a) onion and b) little sister and these were used throughout the book. Maybe it was explained but I couldn't for the life of me understand these nicknames, neither of them are romantic and the last one has incest vibes. Not really the sort of thing you want to bring into a romance novel - unless you're Virginia Andrews!

The pacing of this story was really off. There were a lot of random detailed description and random scenes that did not drive the story forward so I couldn't see the point of it/(them). Some of the scene transitions were poor. I also noticed some sudden pov changes which served to drag me out of the story because I needed to reread the paragraph to work out what was going on and who was speaking. It didn't help that often the characters would sounded very similar.

Another thing that threw me off was the author's choice of simile's and turns of phrase e.g. "They frolicked in the cave like a pair of frisky otters", "That woman is five miles of bad road", "weapons and such".

I wasn't entirely sure if the names were a joke or if they were deadly serious. One of the characters was called Deringer and the villian had the nickname the Rooster. If this was a comedy or some kind of satire, it is clearly not my cup of tea. Too far fetched and yet strangely boring. It may well be yours. If so, enjoy!

AH says

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