



Drive You Wild

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It's game on for love in the third novel of *USA Today* bestselling author Jennifer Bernard's sexy, baseball-themed series.

Kilby Catfish left-fielder Trevor Stark is a ballpark legend. With his good looks, hitting records, and played-for-the-fans arrogance, Trevor makes women lose their minds and men lose their cool. But every time the major league team comes calling, Trevor purposely keeps himself in the tiny Texas town. *Why* is heart-tuggingly top secret. Until the team owner's daughter comes to Kilby . . . trying everything up her sexy sleeve to make Trevor talk.

Divorced and disillusioned at twenty-four, Paige Mattingly Austin Taylor is suddenly starting fresh as an intern at Catfish Stadium. She should want nothing to do with the sinfully hot ballplayer her dad warned her to stay away from. But when she discovers what Trevor is hiding from everyone, she realizes there's much more to him than his face and multi-million-dollar arm. There's a heart she seriously hopes to win.

Drive You Wild Details

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From Reader Review Drive You Wild for online ebook

Wendy Bunnell says

In the universe of contemporary sports-based romance novels (of which I've read a surprising number very recently - long story), I've found that there is a continuum of wacky. In this continuum, on one end we have books which take a pretty serious view of sports, and on the other end, the sports universe is a setting for a bunch of (usually) funny but really unrealistic stuff that happens to our characters who have some remote connection to sports.

I wish I knew how to make a graph or something, but alas, my tech skills are not strong. Anyway, on this continuum, a "realistic" sports romance would be something like Heidi McLaughlin's "Boys of Summer" series, as I'm halfway through Third Base and it is like watching baseball. Now I like baseball, but this is very true to the sport. Other books on this end of the realistic sports continuum include Sarina Bowen's hockey books - realistic travel schedules and as far as I know, very few aliens and criminals subplots.

On the other end of the spectrum lives Susan Elizabeth Phillips, whose "Chicago Stars" series of books are a great romp, but their connection to sports (in the books I've read) are tenuous at best. The characters are too busy being wacky to actually attend games. These are fun, but seriously, sports, I'm not sure.

And then we have the middle of the continuum - books that are serious about their sports, with descriptions of actual games, and the events and results of those games matter to the characters and the plot. And this book lands right in the middle. We have actual minor league baseball. And we have some wacky "hiding from the mob" plot that explains why this superstar athlete has sabotaged his career at just the right times to avoid being called up to the Major Leagues. For this book, there are really three plot lines: the baseball plot, the side plot, and the romance plot. This book goes 2 for 3, which is batting 667, phenomenal, but could have done better.

1. The baseball plot is really well done. I liked his teammates, the descriptions of the team, the game summaries. Really well done.
2. The bizarro subplot about Trevor and his sister hiding from the Detroit area mob was . . . less good. Made very little sense. Hmmmm.
3. The romance - back to good again. Both characters came in hauling significant baggage. Paige was fresh off a divorce and Trevor's been jerking around for years, avoiding making any connections that could expose him to the big bad W gang. There is chemistry and obstacles, and everything you'd expect. The emotional journey was well done. The physical heat was a little weird though, as they skimmed over big chunks of them coming together. It reminded me of the Seinfeld episode when Jerry yelled at Elaine for "yada yada-yada" sex. This is a romance. You don't yada yada sex. I get it though, as they needed to summarize because these two were having copious amounts of sex. Yeay them!

The characters were really good. And about the characters, here's my favorite part of all - they treat each other with respect and neither one throws some type of toddler tantrum and refuses to speak to the other. Hallelujah! Seriously, how many damn romances use "the silent treatment" as a plot device drives me over the bend. Paige has a right to be mad at Trevor a couple times, but she acts like an adult. Love Paige.

There is wackiness, including Paige's former all-star pitcher father who owns this minor league team, a mom from I don't know what planet, and a marketing campaign for the team that involves the World's Hottest Outfield. But all of the wackiness falls within the realm of possibility (live is wacky), and mostly made sense.

I liked it. I just wished that the hiding from the W gang subplot had made more sense.

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Kitty & Slick's reviews posted at Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

Kitty's 5 star review

They say there is no crying in baseball. Well, Jennifer Bernard threw that myth right out of the ballpark. Not only did I cry, but I balled like a baby. Trevor Stark and Paige Taylor tore me apart and then put me back together again, piece by piece.

I was blown away with Trevor's story. The big, bad ice man is actually a truly romantic, extremely sexy man with a heart that is really made of love. As his past unfolds and the truth is revealed, you can't help but fall in love with him. You understand just what Paige saw behind the sunglasses, behind the crossed arms and beneath the tough veneer. Who he is protecting, what he is hiding, the truth of what really happened and what he really does in his off time will have your heart overflowing with respect and pride. But, what he does in the end, how he handles Crush, as all of his dreams finally come true, you will not be able to do anything but cheer.

And Paige Mattingly Austin Taylor was one unbelievably strong woman who won me over from the first scene in the book. OMG, she was just wonderful!

Coming off of a divorce, facing her past, facing her father, standing up to her mother and tearing down Trevor's walls one brick at a time, all the while helping everyone around her? Can you call her anything but strong? I loved her cat (and I'm a dog person) and everything that she stood for. She was loving, compassionate, head-strong and insatiable. What more can you ask for in a female lead character in a story? Then her name ... (Satchel) Paige, (Don) Mattingly ... wow two of the greatest players in baseball history. (I'll let you read the book to find out what Austin stands for.) Finally, Jennifer Bernard paid tribute to a Yankee great, woohoo!

But, seriously, what won me over more than the chemistry between Trevor and Paige was how Trevor was discovered, how he became the baseball player that he was. If only all the boys who had some baseball talent had a coach like Grizz who saw something special and refused to give up on him, who built him up instead of tearing him down, who taught the lesson that you show them what you are made up of on the field and not off, we'd have a lot less people in the world doing harm and a lot more doing good. Did I wish that there was a Grizz in my son's life instead of a coach that told him that his parents didn't have enough money for him to be a starter? Or a coach that told him that his father didn't do enough for the Little League so he wasn't going to make the All Star Team? Or, it takes more than talent, it takes who you know, to make it to the Varsity Team? You bet I do. Now, granted, every parent is proud of their child(ren) and hope that they follow their dreams. But, to watch those dreams shatter time and time again because of heartless, jealous people, breaks your heart. So, if we had more Grizzs' in the world and less naysayers, we would all be a little bit better off.

Now, there is just one thing I have to address with Ms. Bernard ... 8 home runs in 1 baseball game by 1 player? Believe me, it was fun to read but also unbelievable. It really did make me smile though at a time in the book where I had no idea which way things were headed.

Jennifer Bernard has a way to bring stories to life and Drive You Wild was no exception. In fact, I have had the pleasure of reading all of Jennifer's works and I will honestly say, even with the Bachelor Firemen series, this is my favorite. There was just something about the way it was written, about the way she brought Trevor to life and told his story that had me hooked. It was the moral of this story of hard work, determination, paying it forward, and respect, not only for the game but those around you, that had me falling in love with the tale that she wove. Drive You Wild is going to be hard to beat, but, I am definitely looking forward to seeing where she is going to bring the rest of the Kilby Catfish, to see what the Wade's have in store for the team next and just what is going on between Mayor Trent and Crush.

Slick's 4.5 star review

Up front I'm just going to say I love the Kilby Catfish, I love their crazy antics and I love their owner Crush Taylor, retired major league pitcher. I love the small Texas town that supports them and I love the players who come through hoping to get the call up to the major leagues. This is a series about a minor league team, it is refreshing to read and I love Jennifer Bernard for creating this series. Drive You Wild is troubled left fielder Trevor Stark's story and although at times it seemed a bit far-fetched, I still couldn't help watching this seemingly cold, calculated and somewhat aloof man fall and fall hard especially when the woman he wants is the daughter of his boss and fresh out of a divorce. From full out hilarity, to moments of seriousness, to the craziness of their first and second meetings, to the quiet moments where they shared their pasts and their dreams this was an exciting and wonderful love story.

From the start of this series Trevor Stark acted very much like an entitled prick with a huge chip on his shoulder. Sure there were moments where he seemed to have a bit of a heart but they were few and far between, so it was refreshing to see that Trevor had a lot of layers and that his dedication to those he cares for runs deep. It was eye opening and pleasantly surprising to see the very human side of Trevor and the more he got involved with Paige Mattingly Austin Taylor the more his tough exterior melted.

I can't help but laugh as I think back to all the craziness between Trevor and Paige from their first meeting until the end of this book. All I can say is they have some great stories to tell their children and grand children down the line. What really struck me was that from the beginning Paige saw past Trevor's gruff and tough exterior and the more time she spent with him, the more she realized there was someone really special underneath. Paige is a fixer, it's her nature and while she wanted to help Trevor in any way she began to realize that he unlike her ex-husband didn't need her in that way. He needed her to believe in him and let him fight his own battles. I loved that Trevor had a protective streak a mile long when it came to Paige after only one encounter with her. It was easy to see he was smitten and while he knew getting involved with the team owner's daughter he was willing to risk it especially if it got him in to trouble and out of the major leagues because being there would spell the end to his baseball career and possibly his life. Trevor appreciated everything about Paige from the way she handled her father, to the respect she earned from his teammates and the way she was always willing to lend a helping hand. He encouraged her to follow her dreams and he helped build back her self confidence which had taken a beating with her divorce.

Trevor has a whole lot of baggage that comes to light in this story and while parts of it made my eyes roll, it did add a lot of excitement and some very interesting moments to this story and some people from the previous books finally got their due or at least were forced to back off and that made it all worthwhile.

With each book in this series I get more invested in this team, it the personalities of the players and the town of Kilby, Texas and I can't wait for the next book in this series.

Review copy provided for an honest review.

Maria Rose says

Drive You Wild is Jennifer Bernard's third story in her Love Between the Bases series, featuring the Kilby Catfish, a minor league farm team for the San Diego Friars. Trevor is their star hitter, but has a reputation as a wild child – enough to keep him out of the majors. Little do his bosses know that it's deliberate. He's got some past secrets that he doesn't want getting out and likes keeping his national exposure to a minimum. Paige is the daughter of the team's owner Crush. She's had a rough time of it lately with her now ex-husband having dumped her for a national cooking star back in Italy. She's come home to lick her wounds, and spend some time with her dad. Getting a job with his team is a no-brainer, and she can reluctantly admit to herself that learning more about the sport her dad loves might be an okay thing now that she's an adult. While her first meeting with Trevor is a bit of a hair raising adventure, she gradually comes to realize that he's all bark and no bite – well, maybe a little biting in the bedroom because the sparks definitely fly between them. But Trevor has worked long and hard to keep his past a secret – when it pops up its ugly head, he's determined to make sure Paige stays safe, even if it means he might have to push her away. Can Paige convince Trevor that being part of a team is better than going it alone?

This is the first time I've read a full length book by this author (I had previously read a book co-written with Erin Nicholas) and I have to say that I quite liked it! Though the story went in a bit of a direction I wasn't expecting, it certainly made for a unique tale and a great way to explain Trevor's behaviour. Trevor comes across as a badass player, a guy who is cocky and arrogant. But it's all a front for the kind of guy Trevor really is. When he's not at the ballpark, he's volunteering in secret at a boys and girls club. And his number one priority is making sure that his sister is protected from any fallout from their past.

Paige is a delightful character! She's still nursing a bit of a broken heart (though realizing fairly quickly that she's better off without her ex) but determined to put the past behind her and make a new future for herself. Though she and her father have had a somewhat strained relationship in the past, it's clear that they love each other, and he's quite happy to have her home, and working with his team at the stadium (though he'd rather she stay away from the players). I really enjoyed her relationship with her father (who is another one with a gruff demeanor hiding a bit of a softie inside). As for Trevor, well it doesn't take Paige long to see through his facade. As they spend time together, things heat up between them and it's not long before Trevor is rounding the bases to home plate (wink wink). They share some super sexy scenes together. But Paige also makes Trevor long for the day when he can let his past go and really make plans for his future.

There are several scenes featuring the game itself which were great to read. You don't have to watch baseball to understand what's going on. As well, the camaraderie between Trevor and his teammates showed clearly that even though he might think he's fooling them, they know deep down that he's really a good guy. I appreciated the multiracial nature of the team and how Trevor is willing to stand up for his teammates when he sees any kind of prejudicial behaviour. The story takes some twists and turns, and adds a bit of low-level suspense into the mix right from the start, so I found it definitely held my interest all the way through. 4 stars for a thoroughly entertaining and sexy story!

Note: a copy of this story was provided by the publisher for review.

This review has been posted on the Straight Shootin' Book Reviews site:
<https://straightshootinbookreviews.co...>

Redheads Review it Better says

Just this year I have been exposed to the awesomeness known as Jennifer Bernard. I was first exposed to her when she did a collaboration with Erin Nicholas (One of my FAVORITE authors EVA!) in *Getting Wound Up*. That book was all sorts of awesome and was introduced to the characters from her Love Between the Bases world. I was so intrigued by Trevor that I was chomping at the bit to review this book. Boy was I not disappointed!

Trevor is closed off because of things in his past, so he comes off this uncaring jerk. Everyone gives him a wide berth, except Paige, the team owner's daughter. Their chemistry was singeing the pages with every page flip. I enjoyed Paige a lot. She was a strong female lead who knew her mind, even if she was cheated on. She wasn't bogged down by bitterness. It was rather refreshing.

When I was previously introduced to the sexiness known as Trevor Stark, I had to know what made him tick. I have a strong pull to the strong, silent types. I love the fierceness in which he loves and protects the ones he cares about. And he is just plain sexy as hell. I truly enjoyed getting to dig deeper into who he was. He made the book, in my opinion.

Drive You Wild has made a firm fan of Jennifer Bernard. I am ashamed to say that I have a few of her books, but they have been bumped up on my TBR list. :)

Sarah says

4 Stars

Challenges:

- ♥ RRRC July 2018 Monthly Challenge #4. 2nd Week in July - Nude Recreation Week
- ♥ 2018 Stacking the Series: 28/45
- ♥ Summer Romance Book Bingo 2018: Sports romance
- ♥ RRRC: The Wonderful World of Romance Quarterly Challenge: #11. Sports Romance
- ♥ Fly Around the World with AMMP: Jonesboro, AR (JBR)

Dawn ♥ romance says

This story had an exciting beginning, ending and a couple spots in between but most of the romance was ruminating about why they couldn't be together yet they were wildly attracted to each other. And a lasting relationship a month after a divorce isn't realistic. Recently divorced Paige rescues baseball player Trevor when someone is shooting a BB gun at him.

Trish Chase says

I'm so disappointed to have to rate this book with 3 stars because I absolutely love Jennifer Bernard's books.

Write this review is so sad because I was so waiting for more when I started this book. I've been waiting to read Trevor's story from the first book when he got into the Catfish and was Caleb Hart's enemy #1. His careless attitude were clear a mask of something so much big and when I read the preview about Trevor and Paige romance, I wanted to know how they'd get together right away.

But, as it turns out, I couldn't manage to engage in their love story. I didn't feel any chemistry between them and their steamy scenes weren't as fulfilling as the previous books.

I liked the fact that Trevor had a past he was running from and a sister he had to protect and that he hide behind his iceman face, but for him to be so scared of his past to how things turned out for them at the end, it felt a little lame.

Anyway, I figured since Nina and Lieberman had something going on, that the series continues, so I'm still waiting for the next story hoping it return to the path of the first and the second book.

Irene says

3.5 stars

Drive You Wild was an enjoyable read.

The storyline was well written, it had the perfect amount of romance, drama and held my interest until the end.

Trevor and Paige were great characters, they were good together and deserved their HEA.

Overall a lovely way to spend a Sunday afternoon, I highly recommend this book.

Purchase Link

Amazon ~ <https://www.amazon.com/Drive-You-Wild...>

I received an advance copy in exchange for my honest thoughts

Kristy says

Yay! A wonderful book by a great author! First exposed to the Love Between the Bases series by a collaboration with Erin Nicholas, I was really excited when I found out Trevor was going to get his own book. Drive You Wild by Jennifer Bernard had it all. Brooding baseball player, sassy heroine who happens to be the team owner's daughter, a little intrigue, and a LOT of hotness! An all around good read!

ARC provided by Edelweiss.

Jessica Alcazar says

I really loved this book because even tho baseball itself can never really hold my attention, this story did :) even with the very detailed way Jennifer Bernard presented the game itself to us, I was still held captive to every word. Because the story was good. The romance was good. The love story unfolded well with little angst but yet lots of drama lol I mean who doesn't come with a little drama these days ... ok maybe Trevor had a lot of drama, but it enhanced the story and their journey. He grew from it and so did the story. That's not to say that Paige was drama free, because she wasn't. They each had baggage of their own and together they made a really good couple. They had spark and humor and compatibility.

Drive You Wild is the kind of book/story that is light and dark all at the same time ... and not dark in the typical dark romance way. What I mean is that at the same time as it was nail-biting suspenseful it was playfully humorous. As much as it was sexy and hot, it was also sweet and endearing. It was the best of both worlds all rolled into one story. It was fun to read and easy to get lost in for hours.....

Maria Itliong says

I love Jennifer Bernard's books and I enjoyed reading this book, I can't wait for the 4th book in these series...

Susan (susayq ~) says

Another book that filled my wanting to read sports romances. And this one was amazing! Not just cause it was baseball, which is my fav sport, but the story was fantastic.

Trevor Stark is an outstanding baseball player who keeps stalling his own career. He does this because he doesn't want his past to catch up with him. Then he meets Paige Taylor and he realizes he doesn't want to live hiding anymore.

There were lots of twists and turns in here and I loved it! I'll gladly read more by this author ?

Blodeuedd Finland says

Ok so I understood why Trevor was the way he was. He needed to stay in the minor league cos else baddies would find him, and kill him. So he gets into trouble, but he loves baseball. Poor man, he just wants to play.

Also baseball is one boring sport...just saying ;) I am so not familiar with it.

Anyway, Abby comes back home after her husband cheated on her. He was an idiot. She starts working for her dad, and meets bad boy Trevor.

But he is bad news.

And she did just get a divorce from her idiot husband.

And there are bad guys after him so he keeps secrets.

But he is so fine, she thinks

And she is so nice, he thinks.

So they date, all while he worries about his past. A past that obviously will come calling to build a bit of suspense.

There is romance, danger and baseball.

Nicole Smith says

Another winner by Jennifer. As a huge baseball fan I got caught up in the excitement in this book. It was a good story with solid characters. Trevor gives off the bad boy vibe where he doesn't care about anything or anyone, but in reality there is more to him than meets the eye. Paige is coming back home after her life has imploded. She never counted on someone like Trevor entering her life. Paige brings out another side to Trevor and makes him crave what he can't have. There is even a suspense element to this book that keeps you on the edge of your seat to see how it plays out. This book sucked me right in and I didn't want it to end. I highly recommend this one!

Danielle says

There are a few things that I love about this series from Bernard but the one that sticks out most is that this book isn't about a MLB team but a minor league team which makes it unique.

If you read the previous books you met Trevor and know that he can be a real cocky sob, but after reading his complete story I totally fell in love with him. He's talented, smart and definitely swoon worthy. But he always shows a caring and loving side to not only his sister and Paige but to his teammates.

I liked Paige a lot! Even though she was going through just being divorced by cheating ex she still had that fire to want to change and get back out there. When she first meets Trevor she is attracted to him but as the time goes on she falls in love with the good man that he is that not many others actually get to see.

One thing I loved about this book was the humor. It was fun and I really did have so many favorite parts of this book. One of my favorites is when Trevor is in his coaches office pants-less and Paige is there but he hasn't noticed her yet. It's a cute scene :-)

Bernard did an excellent job on describing the players on the field when they were playing their games. It felt real as if I was watching it on my tv.

Of course in all romance books we get a little drama and this one isn't any different. Both these characters have a past and both drama is equally distributed between them. It was nice not seeing it all pinned on just one main character.

I really enjoyed that the women from the previous books make more than one appearance. I thought it was great how they just tied right into the story.

There are so many teammates to go and I secretly hope they all end up getting their own book before they are called up to the majors. I also hope that Trevor's sister will end up with her own book as well if she ends

up staying in Kirby.

I'm really looking forward to seeing where Bernard takes this series in future books.
