



The Surprise

Alice Ward

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One night. One moment in time can change everything.

One night is all we have together before I leave the country for a year to serve as a physician with Doctors Beyond Borders-mostly to avoid real life obligations. Meeting her, being with her is like nothing I've ever experienced before... and probably never will again.

During those few hours together, something grows between us, and although we don't even know each other's names, it takes root. It grows. Duplicates.

I know she's the one. But apparently she doesn't feel the same. The thing is, she's not the same as the women before, who only wanted me because I'm a billionaire. She haunts me.

When fate brings me back to the States earlier than expected, I come face to face with her. And the biggest surprise of my life. Will she allow me to be more than a stranger? Or has one mistake cost me everything?

The Surprise Details

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From Reader Review The Surprise for online ebook

Connie says

What a nice surprise! Sexy, spicy and sizzling! When Langston left to fulfill his Doctors Without Borders assignment, he had no idea what else he was leaving behind. Scarlett, a Labor and Delivery nurse, hanging out with her best friends, hooks up with a guy without exchanging names, phone numbers or any other important information. The next time they see each other, Langston is the doctor on call in her delivery room and well, SURPRISE!

Nicole P says

I just wasn't feeling this book. Far too much internal monologues. Repetition. It dragged on and on for me even though it's a short book. Langston and Scarlett meet by happenstance one evening. They share an instant connection, and the night they have together was special. Unfortunately Langston is leaving the very next day. Scarlett gets a surprise a few weeks later. Fate intervenes again and they meet in the most unlikely way a few months down the line. Like I said, I just wasn't feeling this and felt lackluster for all of it. Maybe you'll have better luck.

Kimberly / Love Notes Book Blog says

4 stars. Do not judge a book by its cover! This book was a great surprise! I had read the blurb and was intrigued, but I got more than I expected. I have to say the cover doesn't do this book justice. I was expecting a quick, insta-love, super sexy read without much depth. But this was a really good book with great, funny characters and emotions.

This is Scarlett and Langston's story. Scarlett is a labor and delivery nurse. One night after a long shift, she is dragged out to a bar by her girlfriends. There she meets Langston. There is an immediate attraction. But Scarlett wants to let loose and so she plays a game with him where they do not tell each other their names or anything about them. Langston is okay with that because it is the night before he leaves to work out of the country through Doctors without Borders. But as they talk, and eventually spend the night together, they find they have so much in common. They feel a definite connection and are comfortable with each other, as if they've known each other for years. Both feel like this could be the start of something good between them, but through a series of miscommunications, they end up leaving things to fate. As fate would have it, Langston goes to Nigeria and Scarlett is left in NY. But fate has some a surprise for the couple.... (view spoiler) When a family emergency brings Langston back to NY, he is shocked to find out the surprise. Scarlett and Langston have a lot to work out between them but they get a very HEA in the process.

I loved Scarlett and Langston. Scarlett was so funny, quirky and just plain real feeling. I loved her POV when on the job and her hilarious moments helping women give birth. She was thoughtful and smart. I just really liked her. Langston was a great character too. He was raised as the only child of a very rich family. But he didn't want to live as a rich man. He wanted to give back, by helping people through giving doctors scholarships so that they could go on to help more people, and by going to Nigeria to work with Doctors without Borders. It was so obvious this couple belonged together. Neither of them wanted to let each other

go after their night together and neither stopped thinking of the other while they were apart. The way they "ran back into each other" was too funny and emotional. I really enjoyed the way their relationship developed and how much they loved each other.

The Surprise was a quick read, but I really enjoyed it. Beware, this book ends at 29%, followed by bonus content. I have read a few other books by this author and this one is my favorite so far. Overall, this was a funny, emotional, sweet and sexy read!

April Symes says

The Surprise by Alice Ward is an absolutely fantastic, interesting read that will capture your attention from the very beginning. There is everything in this read---drama, angst, passion, true love, second chances, trauma, divas, snippy doctors, babies, with a surgeon hero and labor delivery nurse heroine. Scarlett is out of all of Alice Ward's characters, one of my ultimate favorites so far. She is funny, she is warm, she is inviting yet there is something about her that makes you want to draw her into a huge hug that makes her know she is loved and wanted. She has a hard job and not a lot of times it's a thankful job but she loves what she does and she loves babies. A chance meeting at a bar with Langston, the hero, is a man who didn't play up how very rich he was, all he cared about was his fellow man. He was out on the night before he left for a job overseas working for a company that was like Doctors Without Borders. There was this instant chemistry and connection. Langston saw Scarlett and he made the first move yet she knew there was something there. They ended up having a one night stand before he left for Africa. They decide against sharing their real names and yet they ended up sharing more than just their bodies. Langston decided to break their little rule when he left the next morning and left a note while Scarlett was sleeping because she broke thru that shell he had around his heart and emotions. When Scarlett woke up the next morning, she was sad he was gone and she was in a rush to leave the hotel room so she didn't see his note and this should have been it for this interesting couple but Kismet stepped in, in the most fascinating and complex way. There is misunderstandings and missed communication between this couple but don't worry, the way they find their way back to each is most memorable. There are many twists and turns that will keep you hooked until the very end. I do wish there was an epilogue that talked about how the characters were doing but maybe there will be follow up. This is one of the best, if not the best Alice Ward books I have ever read!!!

My Rating: 4.8 stars *****

"I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Reader Copy of this book in exchange for an honest review***"

Alex says

Cute

Cute story. Kinda funny and sweet, not really a romcom, more of a billionaire fast and extremely easy read. The dialog wasn't horrible, the story and world building was light and uncomplicated, kind of bland but I was still able to finish it with out regretting wasting time.

Overall not too bad, if you're looking for a simple book that won't pull your mind to far away then you will

enjoy The Surprise.
Good luck.

Samantha says

Surprise

Oh this was so stinking cute! I loved the story and the characters. She was strong and independent. And he was sweet and caring. I loved that right away he stepped into things. Perfect together with a happy ending.

Lynsey A says

Oh, thank goodness! This book by Alice Ward was much more along the lines of the first book of hers I read, The Cabin. It was such a sweet romance. I would go so far as to say that it was an insta-luv story although I didn't add it to that shelf, more because it was a gradual realization of that love.

Our hero and heroine meet unexpectedly one night at a bar and there is an instant connection. It wasn't cheesy or eye roll inducing. It was a spark and a noticeable one. Scarlett and Langston are instantly drawn to each other, which leads to what is supposed to just be a one night stand but they both want more but alas, circumstances arise that keeps our couple apart. Plus that ONS ends with an unexpected "surprise".

I really liked this book and I think Ward is a pretty decent writer. Some self-published authors seem OTT and jumping from here to there in their writing but I feel that Ward is pretty consistent.

However, I suppose there is quite a bit of OTT with money and family but it is in such a sweet way that it didn't bother me. It was such a fun read. I tried to stay up late to finish it but it was almost midnight and I just couldn't.

Some very good tropes in this one:
(view spoiler)

Loved this story and I hope my next read by Ward is as enjoyable as this one and The Cabin and less like The Hunt, which you can see my review of that book here: <https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

Definitely will pick up another book from her.

Jenny says

[No (hide spoiler)]

Sara Oxton says

The Surprise by Alice Ward a surprising five-star read. This was such a great read, it was an emotional roller-coaster of a read. There is everything in this read, there is drama and romance as well as some heart wrenching bits that will have you sucked in and spat out the other side.

Langston was such a great character, he had such a depth to him. He could have just been a daddy's boy who had everything on a platter but he didn't he stood up for himself and made his own life. One night of fantasy was supposed to be what he wanted before giving himself to his job.

Scarlett may just be my favourite female character for a long time, she had something about her that makes you want to go buy her a coffee and some real food so she doesn't go hungry during a long shift. I know how hard her job is and I know how she feels the passion. Just when she is thinking that nothing goes the way she wants it to, fate throws her a curve ball of great tidings.

If you want a great read that will keep you hooked, you need this book in your life, it's a second chance romance with so much more.

Anne OK says

A really short story of a one-night stand that was a slow starter, full of angst and drama and two lonely people. It's a far reach from reality and I had a hard time believing in everything I was reading. But I liked both main characters -- really all the characters who played a part in the story. If you can stretch your imagination far enough, then it'll be your cup of tea. I was entertained and it was short enough that I did finish. And yes, there's a really nice happily-ever-after that earned an extra star.

Scarlett Se Leva says

I started reading and became bored ?. I started skipping pages, then it was done at 29%. The story was unbelievable. At times I wonder. Like really, really. I am done.

Sheri says

Eh. Short, rushed and not really believable. Super predictable. Ends at 29% ???!

Katerina says

Surprisingly I liked it. I didn't love it. Essentially - we have a one night stand between two people who share a chemical attraction and a deep connection. A few weeks later this results in a surprise pregnancy (they did use condoms) with cannot be communicated to the father - who beknowst to the heroine, is in Nigeria for 6 months as a part of his contract with Doctors Without Borders. She didn't find the slip of paper he left behind with his real name/real number.

It's funny at points.

“Speaking of shocked, why did Melinda pass out? She’s like a rock. Nothing ever phases her.”

Olivia and Lorie exchanged a look, their eyes shining with humor. “I think Melinda has a huge crush on the good doctor,” Olivia offered. “The second you said he was the father, the blow of him being off the market was too much for her to take.”

I rolled my eyes. “He’s not off the market, guys.”

Amy popped me in the forehead, and because I was holding two newborns, I couldn’t hit her back.

“He better be off the market, or I swear I’ll cut his balls off. He better not leave you again.”

“Amy, he has a life. A life that I was a participant in for about a total of five hours. Six, if you count him catching his surprise children before they dropped to the floor.”

His devotion was sweet, his courage was unflappable when he found out he wasn't having one child but two. He was determined to prove to her that he was in it for the long haul. But formula wise, it was never going to win me over. I always want my hero's there 100%. I also wanted some OM drama if I'm honest to spice up their lives so he couldn't just slip in like nothing has happened. I really didn't like his friend Josh. And even though it was meant to be a chemical attraction, there wasn't the ride or die aspect to it.

Edwina " I LoveBooks" "Deb" says

Let Me start by saying again, that I don't usually like or read Contemporary Romance but the author Alice Ward is The Surprise for me. "The Surprise" is the 3rd Standalone story I have read by this author and again I am giving it 5 stars.

After meeting Scarlett Adler in a bar Billionaire Doctor Langston Kimbrough and Scarlett have a very sensual erotic one night stand. Langston must leave in the morning he is going to work for Doctors Without Borders he will be gone for at least 6 months. Scarlett is a R.N. and has worked a hard and extra long shift at the hospital. She is a OB delivery nurse. Langston tries but he can't wake Scarlett so he leaves her a note leaving his name and number asking her to contact him. Langston and Scarlett have an immediate connection to each other and Langston wants to be with her again. The night they met they decided to use fake names.

Scarlett is awoken by her phone ringing she has overslept and the hospital is calling her. She showers and rushes out of the hotel never seeing the note. Scarlett regrets not getting Langston's name or number and Langston is hurt and wondering why Scarlett has called him. Did she just not care? Did she not feel the incredible connection between the two of them? Why hasn't she called him? Why can't he get her out of his mind?

Well 9 months later Langston has returned home because his father has had a stroke. Langston takes over his father's medical practices. He is asked to help out at St. Mary's hospital and guess who he finds? and guess why she is in the hospital? What a Surprise!! I loved it.

Alice Ward so far has written her H/H with intelligence and put them in a world where this could happen in real life. I love that the secondary characters are also, well written. The story has layers and dimensions. Ms. Ward is a very creative storyteller and once I have started reading her books I can't seem to put it down. The Surprise just draws you in and doesn't let you go. There are never any Cliffhangers. Each story I have read is a Stand Alone. Each story I have read is very sensual bordering on erotic. Of course the H/H get there HEA!!

Lissa Smith Reads'~Bookaholics Bookshelf Reviews says

3 Star Kindle Unlimited Read

I really liked it....

It might have taken me long to devour this story but I sure did enjoy it. I also loved the fact that I two bonus books to boot inside. Which were entertaining as well.
