



The Do Over

A.L. Zaun

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Life doesn't look like it's supposed to for Dani Ruiz, a hopeless romantic. After a painful and sudden break-up with Rick Marin, Dani hides away from reality, retreating to a world of fiction where she prefers book boyfriends over the hassles of a relationship.

Almost two years later, Dani's friends are tired of watching her in a holding pattern, so they stage an intervention, forcing her back into the real world of dating.

Unexpectedly, Dani meets Liam Lucas, a down-to-earth firefighter. He might be the person to show her she's still worth something. Dani's hesitant to trust her heart with another man, but their instant and electric chemistry is something she can't deny.

As Dani starts to believe that she's found her real-life book boyfriend, Rick decides that he'll go to any lengths to get her back. Seeing Rick as a changed man makes Dani question everything.

Can Dani trust her patched-up heart with Liam?
Or has Rick transformed into the man she's always wanted?

Written from various points of views, The Do Over is a story of second chances and new beginnings.

The Do Over Details

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From Reader Review The Do Over for online ebook

Tessamari ♥Many Waters...♥ ~ Sweet Spot Book Blog says

****SIGH****

I LOVE LIAM. He is such a great Hero, but even he couldn't stop the inevitable. I got to about 60% and it felt like I was at a stand still. Nothing was happening and I was losing interest. This had so much potential too. The love triangle was good and the jealousy the ex experienced was awesome to read (cuz let's face it, we all want our exes to suffer). But all that wasn't enough. I might come back to this later, so we'll see.

Saunders says

Dani Ruiz had fallen in love with Rick Marin. He was the complicated guy looking for a good girl to inspire him to settle down. She was the good girl looking for a challenge and she had fallen for him – hard. They were a dysfunctional match made in heaven.

But with five words he broke her heart - “Carino,” this isn’t working for me”

Despite kissing a frog for a year hoping that the frog would turn into that prince it didn’t happen for Dani. Rick Marin was an arrogant, spoiled and had an opinion on everything and was one of the worlds biggest a\$\$holes .

So what do you do when the love of your life utters these words.....you do what any respectable woman does – you turn to your Kindle for comfort.

Two years on and the Kindle was her life, her happy ever after. Dani lost herself in the stories, the characters pain and the longing. Books never let a girl down. The heroine always had two guys fighting over her. Real life didn’t have that drama. It just had heartbreak and thanks to Rick Marin, Dani was on a self imposed dry spell.....until she met Liam.

Attending a CPR class, she was engrossed in her story until a voice said in her ear “I’m a jealous fool, and I don’t share. Do you mind putting your Kindle away?” He leaned closer – “Name?” “Daniella Ruiz” she stammered and at that moment Dani was pulled back into the real world.

Everything is going perfect for Dani and Liam until Rick comes back.

This book was not just good, it was a great funny read with a realistic story and characters that are real. Any girl who owns a Kindle and suffers from kindle OCD will love this.

You will fall in love with Liam and hope that HEA happens for him and Dani.

I hope AL continues with the characters. It just can’t stop there as even at the end I felt sorry for the antagonists – they were so bad they were good. So give me more AL. I want it!

Lucia says

3.5 STARS! Love triangles are not my thing but I was still able to enjoy this story. I thank Liam for that, he was worth it!

My Dani:

My Liam:

My Rick:

Dani is a romantic. So when her ideals about love are crashed and her heart is broken by her boyfriend Rick, she closes up. Besides sex, their relationship was far from ideal but she feels betrayed and decides not to open up to any man again. Now, couple of years later, Dani is 28 years, working as a nurse but she still hasn't nursed her broken heart. Until Liam comes into the picture.

Liam is firefighter, he is good at his job and he takes pride in what he is doing. When he meets Dani for the first time, he is mesmerized by her and wants to get to know her better immediately. I felt in love with Liam. He was sweet, caring, extremely attractive, mature, admirable, gentle... I could go on and on. He was really great person in general and Dani had no other choice than to fall for him very quickly.

However, later **Rick** appears back in the game. He is arrogant, sleazy but gorgeous and charismatic with ability to persuade people to do what he wants. I did not like him. At all. When he decides that he wants Dani back, all the drama and dirty fighting for Dani's heart starts...

I have to admit that I was pleasantly surprised with how much I liked the style of writing in this book. It felt personal, familial and very intriguing. Also, I loved the idea with **triple point of view**. It was very original to see the story unfold from Dani's, Liam's and Rick's POV and since I am not fan of love triangles at all, it made story bearable for me and it is saying a lot!

I had love/hate relationship with Dani. She was trully awesome at the beginning. But later on she was getting on my nerves with her constant insecurities, never giving Liam benefit of the doubt (even though he was nothing but amazing all the time) but forgiving Rick so easily. By the end of the book I was really pissed with her naivety, stupidity and all the bad things that happened to her were her doing so I could not even bring myself to feel sorry for her.

Fortunately there was Liam who kind of saved this book for me. All the parts he was included were perfect, chemistry between him and Dani was working on 100% and their first meeting was one of the best I have ever read about. However, love triangle ruined it all for me. It was the main feature of this book and those who know me are aware of how much **I despise love triangles**.

Would I recommend this book? Answer is yes, it was nicely written story with very interesting and smart use of triple POV. It was just my dislike of love triangle that didn't allow me to enjoy it completely.

Copy provided by author as an exchange for honest review

Kara says

I'm so glad for friends that help me through the book - my little Champion rocks.

I'm not a fan of a triangle - but the triple POV writing was pretty kick ass.

Hel-Lo! Firefighter in the house!!! Liam is off the charts on fire!

And a character that loves her Kindle like I do - hell yes!

Autumn Review says

The Do Over had me sucked into the lives of Dani, Liam, and Rick pretty quickly. When I wasn't reading it, I was thinking about what was going to happen with this trio. While there are three players involved, it didn't really feel like a love triangle to me. Each character brought something unique to the story and I really did like them all.

I'll start with Dani. I liked Dani. I could relate to her book obsession for sure! Dani has had her heart broken in the past and I could understand where her vulnerability stemmed from. And as a woman, I can relate to certain insecurities. However, it was tiring hearing her constantly needed affirmation from Liam. Luckily for her, Liam was a fantastic and extremely patient guy.

Liam made the book for me. The book is told from Dani, Liam, and Rick's POV's, but I looked the most forward to Liam's scenes. Liam is the kind of guy every girl dreams of marrying. He's a firefighter, he's loyal, dedicated, and certainly romantic. Did I mention sexy?? Yep, he's definitely sexy. While he's all this and more, what I loved the most was how he treated Dani with love and respect. He really was the perfect guy.

Urgh...Rick. He's Dani's ex who's decided he wants to win her back. Rick broke Dani's heart. After they had been together for a year and living together half that time, he decided that they wouldn't 'work'. So, he sent her packing. Now, almost two years later he runs into her in a bar and decides he made a mistake. I don't think so! I felt a pretty passionate dislike for Rick throughout the book. HOWEVER, he made me laugh at times. Weird, I know, but trust me...he does have a certain appeal. Plus, as the story progressed, you start to see him in a bit of a different light.

Even though I had my issues with Rick, I'd like to see a book about him. I think there is potential for some good things to happen for Rick and a certain someone. I'd also like to see a book about Candace. I liked her, a lot. Maybe a Candace/Wyatt pairing? Macy is another friend of Dani's and I liked her too, but she got on my nerves a bit. However, I think she'd make a good story too.

I have to briefly mention that one of my favorite book boyfriends is mentioned in this book. Cole Murphy from the Darkness Series by Claire Contreras is mentioned in this book and I literally squeed! I was so excited!!! I love Cole! SO. MUCH. Ok, moment over.

Overall, I really enjoyed The Do Over. It's a story about opening your heart to love again and learning how to have a healthy relationship. At least, that's what I took from it. I liked the characters and the overall plot. The length was a bit long though. I am impressed that this is Zaun's debut novel. I'll definitely be reading more books by this author. If you're looking for a a steamy, dramatic love story, check this one out!

Quotes:

~She drove me insane, turned me on, and there was nothing more that I wanted than to be with her. From the moment I saw her till probably the day I took my last breath, desire would burn for her.-Loc 3011

~"Fight for me, Dani. Fight for us. Don't hide on beaches or in books. God dammit, give a shit and fight for what matters to you."-Loc 7461

~"I love you with everything I am. Let me be your happily ever after. Marry me and be my wife."-Loc 7754

Jennifer Diaz says

I was very fortunate to beta read this book and fell in love with it from the beginning. The book starts off with Dani and Rick in a romance that is full of passion from the beginning. When Rick decides he doesn't want a relationship anymore, Dani is devastated and gives up on finding the right man. When fate puts Dani and fire fighter Liam together in a CPR class they have an instant attraction. When Liam fails to make his move they again meet up at another chance meeting. Liam it's going to let her go twice. Rick on the other hand decides he messed up big with Dani and will do anything to win her back. He recruits the spitfire man eater Maddy to help him. I absolutely loved the chemistry between Rick and Maddy. She doesn't put up with Rick's crap and tell him exactly how things need to be if he is going to win Dani back. I sooo loved Dani's character! She is a fellow bookworm and loves her romance books, especially Professor Emerson! Go team Kindle as she would say! Liam has a heart of gold and treats Dani like the queens she is but will Rick's plan to win her back get in the way of Liam and Dani's HEA??? This book has it all, laughter, great chemistry between characters, romance, a wonderful supporting cast of friends, and hello a fire fighter! This is an AMAZING book for A.L Zaun's first published work! Love it big time!

Fred says

I think I can't wait!

Ashley Williams says

This was me after reading The Do Over (at 12:30 this morning):

Will review closer to blog tour date :D

Anna says

4 stars !!!!

**At first I was afraid, I was petrified
I kept thinkin' I could never live without you by my side
But then I spent so many nights just thinking how you've done me wrong
And I grew strong, I learned how to get along**

*** cue on the THEME MUSIC LET'S GO Ladies TEAM I WILL SURVIVE ♥♥♥♥

meet Rick

*"Cariño, this isn't working for me. We're just too different."
"Daniela, no llores. Please stop crying. I haven't earned your tears"*

I knew I'd been kissing a frog for the past year, but I had faith that he'd turn into a prince. He had so much potential, and our connection was electric and intense. We were a match made in dysfunctional Heaven.

Daniela

"You and that kindle. It's like you're having a love affair with your damn books"

Well, first of all, reading is a very healthy hobby. It's great exercise for the brain. I enjoy it and I'm not hurting anyone. Second of all, I know my book-boyfriend distractions are silly. But one thing is true. Not one of them broke my heart.

uhhhh NOT REALLY, she has her nose buried in her 3 kindles and off fantasizing about the PERFECT LOVE, PERFECT MAN....come one ladies **been there, done that** . She was going through a 2 year dry spell when her friends decided to do a KINDLE-INTERVENTION **if any of you try this with me...watch your back lol DON'T JUDGE !!**

****♥****

**And you'll see me with somebody NEW
I'm not that stupid little person still in love with you.
And so you thought you'd just drop by and you expect me to be free,
But now I'm saving all my lovin' for someone who's lovin' me**

****♥****

Meet Liam ...the someone NEWlet me give him a formal intro : Meet Lieutenant Liam Lucas
firefighter ---swooonnnnn---

"We're done here, but I'd really love to hear about the book that has you in knots. Maybe we could go grab coffee at the Starbucks around the corner, so you could fill me in?"

LIAM LUCAS made me do several **swoon-faints** he was amazing !!!!!

♥*♥*♥

Oh now go, walk out the door.

Just turn around now, you're not welcome anymore.

Weren't you the one who tried to break me with desire?

Did you think I'd crumble? Did you think I'd lay down and die?

♥*♥*♥

NOPERick decides he wants Dani back. Enter lots of drama !!!! Rick stages "chance encounters" and assumes the mission of getting her back. Meanwhile, Dani is falling for Liam. When she starts to innocently yet secretly, see Rick in a non-random manner.... things get a little sticky. There is no physical cheating but.....I think there's an emotional affair going on here and sucked me into the vortex of HELL. It was painful butTEAM LIAM....of yeah, he was an expert on putting out fires! **fans self **

*Liam~ "This isn't one of your novels. I'm not some book boyfriend who can overlook everything in the name of love. We can't ride off into the sunset like nothing happened. I'm a real man. This, my heart, it beats for you. I was ready to kill today because of you. i love you with everything I am. **My love for you isn't in question here.**"*

*Today might have changed how you think and feel about him, but it doesn't change the fact that you questioned us. You doubted your feelings for me. **You didn't pick me. I can't be your default. You need to love me the way I love you. I deserve that. We deserve that. I love you enough to give you what you need. I hope you come back to me.***

♥

Jennifer says

4.5 Stars

The Do Over was sweet, sexy, romantic, and hot! I love a book that can be all those things at the same time!

This is the story of Dani, a sweetheart of a girl, who had her heart broken by Rick, and has spent almost 2 years trying to recover from it. She has turned to reading and now only has romantic feelings for her "book boyfriends". She doesn't think any man can match up to the fictional characters that she reads about. Her 2 best friends, Macy and Candace, finally have a Kindle intervention and tell her that she needs to get out in the real world and start dating again.

Here enters handsome firefighter Lieutenant Liam Lucas (sigh...), who she meets at a CPR class that he's teaching. They have intense sexually chemistry from the moment they meet!

He bent over closer and leaned close to my ear. His unshaved face brushed against my neck as he whispered, "I'm a jealous fool and I don't share."

There's a little bit of a problem though, when her ex Rick sees her at a night club one night and decides that he wants Dani back. Oh, and have I mentioned that he's at the night club with Liam? Yep, this is where it gets really complicated - so Dani likes Liam, Liam likes Dani, and Rick likes Dani.

What's different about this though, is that it's a Love Triangle where not all the players know about each other. Rick has somehow managed to wrangle himself into the group of friends that Liam hangs out with. The problem is that Liam doesn't know that he's Dani's ex, and Rick uses this to his advantage to get the inside scoop on their relationship. Rick also enlists the help of Madison, the manager at a local bar, to help him re-invent himself so that Dani will take him back. They have a complex love-hate relationship that is also interesting to watch.

All the characters in this book were really well developed and I liked them all, but strangely, my favorite was Rick. He's a douchebag. No, he's a fucking douchebag. He is one of the most arrogant characters I have ever read. He has no redeeming qualities at all. What would make Dani fall for him in the first place is beyond me. He has a dirty mouth and a dirty mind, and thinks he's God's gift to women, but I loved reading about it!

I liked so many things about this book, but primarily that the story is told from the perspective of Dani, Liam and Rick. It doesn't get any better than that! We get into the heads of all 3 characters and I loved it. Even though I hated Rick, I actually loved reading from his perspective the most. Also, the sex and sexual tension was smokin' hot and there was lots of it. The chemistry between Liam and Dani had my heart palpitating and my skin on fire ;) I can't believe this is the Author's first novel. She did an amazing job and I can't wait to read more from her! Kudos A.L. Zaun! <3

ARC kindly provided by the Author for an honest review.

Review posted at Love Between the Sheets
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Andrea says

Gosh, I don't even know where to begin with *The Do Over*. For starters, I really enjoyed it, and it was way more than I expected. *The Do Over* is a big story, both in length and emotions. It is a story of broken hearts, mending hearts, new love, bad decisions, good decisions and second chances.

The Do Over is a story told in three points-of-view. We have Dani, the heroine, who had her heart stomped on by Rick in the prologue. Fast forward to two years later, Dani is still emotionally vulnerable, choosing to spend her time lost in books. This was fabulous. As someone who would much rather be reading than making small talk, I could relate to Dani. Granted, she's taken the obsession to extremes, owns three Kindles, and is in need of an intervention. But still, who can blame her, right? Dani was a fiery and emotional character, and I really liked her. When she meets Liam, their chemistry is insane. Liam wants to get involved, and so

does Dani, but she is very wary. No matter how much Lucas reassures her that she's the only woman he wants, forever, Dani just can't get past her tumultuous relationship with Rick. She puts Liam through the wringer at times, which made me want to put her through the wringer. But, *The Do Over* is her journey of self-discovery and emotional growth, and the author did a really great job of developing Dani's character throughout the story.

The second point-of-view in *The Do Over* was Liam's. Wow. Liam was perfect, and I honestly can't think of one less-than-glowing thing to say about him. He's a firefighter, gorgeous, sweet, hopelessly in love with Dani, and willing to do whatever it takes to make her happy. He even gets involved in her reading addiction and thinks her emotional attachment to characters and books is adorable. Liam was the total package and any chick would be a fool to ever let him go. Dani definitely puts Liam through his paces, and I loved that the author did show his irritation at always having to reassure, but that he tried his best to always be patient with her. Another really strong aspect to the character (and positive for the author) is that Liam holds Dani accountable for her actions when the poo hits the fan. I loved that no matter how much Liam loves Dani, he will not settle for second best.

Rick. Or in my mind, Rick the D!ck. I've rarely found a story that includes the point-of-view from the "bad guy's" perspective, and I was worried that I would hate reading his chapters. WRONG. Rick, despite my wanting to hate him, was FABULOUS. Seriously, he was kind of awesome. This is a dude that is selfish, vain, arrogant, ruthless, and several more adjectives that require the use of strong expletives. But, he was honest to a fault, and I appreciate that in a character. Now, that's not to say that I ever, ever wanted Rick to win, but I kind of loved him, and especially where his own story went. I'm hoping I haven't seen the last of this lovable asshat.

I will say that *The Do Over* did seem to be a bit long. I think this is mainly due to drawing out Dani's development, which is true to her character. But, I devoured this book. Dani and Liam's friends were all great assets to the story, often providing much-needed levity. *The Do Over* had great characterizations and an honest look at love and relationships. I will most definitely be reading the follow-up, *It's Not Over*. If that book is about whom/what I think it's about, it may be even better than *The Do Over*.

Cari Sury (Girl+Book Love Blog) says

****See more of my reviews at www.girlbooklove.com!**

Two words- love triangle. But don't let that scare you away! This book is my most favorite love triangle ever!

This is how love triangles typically work-

Girl and Boy A are in love. Boy A is a douche and leaves her or somehow does Girl wrong. Girl meets Boy B and he's perfect. Boy B treats girl with respect and he an all-around good guy. Girl has nagging doubt and is still drawn to Boy A despite him being, like mentioned before, a douche. Girl is stupid and doesn't appreciate Boy B. Readers lose all respect for Girl when she leaves Boy B to be with Boy A. (prime example- *Twilight*. Why in the world would she choose the vampire over the werewolf? If she had picked Taylor Lautner she could've stayed a human, gone to college, had cute little pup babies, stayed human, the lists goes on.)

Ok, back to The Do Over. In this book, Boy B wins! (Good guys across the world rejoice!!) Dani and Liam are perfect together. They meet at a CPR training class. She is a nurse and he's a fireman. (sexy, right?) They have immediate chemistry and despite Liam letting her get away without having exchanged phone numbers, fate brings them back together later that night. Liam pursues her with all he's got and pretty rocks my (and Dani's) socks off. Dani hasn't had a relationship since Boy A, henceforth known as Rick, and putting her heart on the line isn't easy. Liam wipes away most of those fears and everything would have been perfect if Rick wasn't a douche. But Rick is a douche. Rick sees Dani out the same night that Liam gets her number. He sees her happy and dancing with Liam and he's jealous, he wants her back. So Rick goes on a mission to win her back by being a better guy. (Does anyone else see the irony of "being a better guy" all while trying to get Dani to leave her boyfriend and pretty being a "bad guy"?!?) Let's just say that things get sticky and for a moment you get a little nervous...but the ending makes all the anxiety worth it! Hooray!

I really enjoyed the writing and the characters in this book. They were charming, funny and relatable. I loved that Dani was addicted to her Kindle, because hello!! we are too! ...and as much as I didn't like Rick, I'm still excited about reading his book next! Maybe there's hope for him yet!

My Liam and Dani-

I received this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review

Tara says

Please excuse the massive curse words that are going to fill this review...

WHAT THEE FUCK!

I have only had one other read, where I loathed the MC so much, that I wanted to hunt the author down and kick her in her damn throat.

Sweet baby Jesus... please forgive me!

This was the epitome of whiney bitch. I was really hoping that Liam would drop kick Dani's ass to the curb and she would have been so destroyed that she ended up drunk and wrecked her car or something equally as horrible.

What a selfish C.ant U.nderstand N.ormal T.hinking sorry excuse of a woman.

Obviously I'm pissed...even after a few days of stewing and at least 3 books later, I still hate the bitch.

with that said, maybe the author did what she intended and evoked pure hatred outta me. this read scored high marks all around from others, I haven't taken the time to read other reviews BC frankly I don't give a shit and I'd probably get pissed off more if they were on Dani's side.

the plot was good...a little too predictable. the chemistry between Dani and Liam was over the top cheesy! the over abundance of gushing proclamation of undying love was so saccharin sweet that I think I may need to go to the dentist and be checked for cavities.

The MC's friends were OK. a nice comedic relief amongst all the crap.

For all my fellow GR friends who tend to follow and like the same genres as I do.... PASS!! Trust me. You will want to scratch your damn eyeballs out.

And this was me taming this review waaaaay down.

Vikki ~ *squee* lite ~ says

This one started well. I liked Dani a lot - until I didn't, and then I really really didn't like her.

I loved Liam. Again, until I didn't. He ended up being perhaps just a little TOO perfect.

Rick- I hated him, until I didn't. I never LIKED him, but I think he was the most interesting character.

I liked the three POV's. It was a "love-triangle" that I could live with but I was frustrated by the Insta love as usual. I got why Dani still had conflicted feelings about Rick (I mean, let's be honest here, who hasn't had the fantasy of the guy who broke your heart coming back and begging for a second chance). I think more than Dani I had issues with Liam's reaction to the whole situation (view spoiler)

Overall, an good concept with great beginning, but the ending just didn't feel as satisfying as I was hoping for. I will check out more from this author in the future.

Vixster says

Initially I wasn't sure if this was my kind of read, I was hoping for and angsy love triangle but it didn't play out like I expected. After Dani and Ricks split she threw herself into her books (the kindle ref's were on the money and so funny) I was lol so many times throughout.

When she met Liam and engaged in a relationship I wasn't so keen on him, don't get me wrong he was hot!!! (But like he said himself, he can be a sap) Im not one for romantic males but some of the things he said had me gushing.

When Rick first met Madison I took a dislike to her instantly.....their arrangement/friendship just seemed weird and rushed at the time but it made sense the more I read and she really grew on me.

Without giving the story away I thought it was a slow starter but gradually had me hook line and sinker!!! I was gutted to find out this wasn't a stand alone and need to wait till the end of the year for the next instilation. I can't wait!!!!
