



Dethroning Crown

Lila Felix

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Number ten is plastered on his team jersey and on his ego. In his own mind, Crown Sterling is the shit. He dates the prettiest women, he dominates on the soccer field, he pours money out of his pockets like it's water. Until a debilitating knee injury puts him out of commission on and off the field. He's sent to an isolated town in Louisiana to recoup, undergo physical therapy and heal. But it's when you're down that you find out who your real friends are, and what they value in you, if anything at all.

All Lyra wants out of life is peace and quiet. She grew up with a regular, everyday family. When she turned sixteen, rummaging through her grandmother's hope chest in the attic, she discovered a secret that would turn her simple, normal life into a ball of chaos that revolved around her. But while she seems to face her fears head on in her career, she lives a life that's secure and well hidden.

A new neighbor moved in next door and he's decided that everyone needs to listen to his rap music, shattering Lyra's quiet existence. Enraged, she stomps to the next townhouse over and who should open the door but a man whose good looks and charming smile knock her breathless.

How good looking? Just ask him.

How charming? He'll tell you that too.

The king must be dethroned.

And a small town girl who's been through hell is just the one to do it.

Dethroning Crown Details

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From Reader Review Dethroning Crown for online ebook

Mandy (I Read Indie) Anderson says

I could've held her like that all night. This whole thing was completely foreign to me. It was like I was in a different world and I'd become a different person around her.

I wasn't sure if I liked him or not.

He certainly wasn't the Crown Sterling I knew.

Not that Crown Sterling was much to know.

When an accident on the soccer field lands Crown Sterling in the hospital, he has nowhere left to go but under the care of his uncle in Louisiana. No longer the King of the field, Crown must learn to fend for himself. While he is there recuperating, he meets the stunning, yet mysterious, Lyra. In a few weeks' time, Lyra shakes up his world and his heart. But will it be enough to change this egotistical jerk into someone that considers other people before himself for once? Or when given the all clear will he take off running back to his old life and old ways?

To say that Crown Sterling is a jerk is putting it mildly. Never before has Felix written a guy to this degree. But in a way, you still want to love him. You still know that there is something better hiding under all those layers. It is just the peeling away process you have to endure before you get down deep into Crown's true self. I liked what was found as Lyra stripped away his defenses.

Lyra is one of those precious characters that I was immediately fond of. The chick names her dresses for heaven's sake. But it is what she has been through and still dealing with that had me wanting to comfort her. I absolutely love that Felix will take something that a lot of people don't think about and make it a real thing in her books. You actually feel as if she has gone through the hurt and pain that she has her characters experiencing. It is that real.

DETHRONING CROWN is one of those books that I have been waiting a long time for. And I will tell you this...it was so worth the wait. I was given bits and pieces of the book over a lengthy amount of time and it was pure torture waiting to see where Felix was going to take certain scenes. To hear her talk about going a different direction had me pins and needles. But again...so worth the wait.

Once again, 5 Swoon Worthy Stars.

Mel says

I was lucky enough to win a ARC from Lila Felix a couple of days ago. After I received it, I took myself off to my room and read the whole thing in one sitting! I think it took a couple of hours, I couldn't put it down.

At the beginning of this book I had an instant dislike towards Crown, I thought he was an Asshat; an arrogant Asshat and I didn't like him at all! In fact I dreaded having to read his side of things for awhile there!

Then we meet Lyra and slowly but surely she starts to make it easier to actually like Crown, she makes us see him through her eyes and you find yourself rooting for the both of them.

I really enjoyed this.

Mariam says

AAAAAHHHHHHHH!!! I loved it <3

Shelly Crane says

Seriously, awesomely, sweetly good!

Ashley Ulsch says

I loved this book. (as I love all lila books) this story was different in that I wasn't in love with Crown right away. I loved seeing both main characters progress and develop into better people. I thought that Crown was realistic to real men in a way. I loved this book!

J says

4.5 stars. I love author Lila Felix and I loved this book. Her books have unique story lines and unique characters. While usually a typical romance type book with an HEA, she never has any of the "cookie cutter" type plots and action.

Crown Sterling is a famous soccer player groomed from birth by his father to become a star. He is conceited, full of himself, obnoxious and living beyond his means. Then his knee is torn to shreds in a game and he is forced to retreat to the bayous of Louisiana where his uncle lives to try and rehab himself back into the God he knows he is.

Back in Louisiana, Crown's next door apartment neighbor is Lyra, a beautiful girl who lives a strange, quirky life and doesn't seem at all phased by Crown's superior beingness. Seems Lyra has her own tragic secrets.

Lyra and Crown form a tentative friendship based mostly on Crown's need just to have some help in navigating his new world, and Lyra's seemingly being afraid of everything around her except Crown. They help each other in profound ways but is it enough for each of them to admit they need each other? Just a wonderful, standalone book that I added to my favorites.

Carole says

This story didn't have much sex in it, but the character development really made up for it.

At the start, you could just strangle Crown and his arrogant attitude, but through the course of the story you can't really blame him for how he is as that is how he was raised.

I think Lyra was a good foil for Crown. She didn't put up with his crap.

Because of their slow development of their relationship it was believable.

By the end of the book, I actually felt really bad for Crown.

There is supposed to be a novella coming in February 2015 which I will read.

I would recommend this book for a change of pace from the usual romance.

Kathryn says

OH MY GOODNESS!!!!

What a phenomenal story!!!

More to come...

Abby A. says

Having never read a book from this author, I really had no expectations. Either I was going to like the book or I wasn't. It turns out that I loved it and I loved it because of the two main characters, Crown and Lyra.

In the beginning of the book, Crown, who is a professional soccer player, is not very likeable. His ego is so inflated that he refers to himself in the third person like royalty. I think he even refers to himself as a king at one point.

Then there's Lyra, a young woman who because of the actions of a teacher who should have been trusted, exhibits signs of OCD, a bit of paranoia and a fear of being watched/filmed/photographed. She's a model who prefers not to show her face in the photos she poses in. Yet, unlike Crown, albeit to a small number of people only, she's able to still give a little bit of herself, her caring and her kindness.

What makes this book five stars for me is really the because of the transformation of both characters. First, there's Crown. Here's a man, who from the time he was a kid, was railroaded into eating, sleeping, drinking soccer by his father. While it seems that it's only because his father was driven because he himself wasn't able to become a professional soccer player, there's also an implication that perhaps it was his way of dealing with the grief of his wife's death while Crown was just a child.

His father shut love out of his life when his wife died and in a way, taught Crown to do the same thing. When you shut love from others, it then becomes about just loving yourself, taking care of only your needs and only giving if you get something in return. Loving only yourself leaves no room for loving others and what happens is that you end up alone. Alone is what Crown is when he goes to Louisiana to recuperate and rehabilitate after he injures his knee.

When Crown and Lyra first meet, suffice to say that it doesn't go well. However, Lyra's compassion starts to make its way into Crown's life, not that he really wanted to acknowledge it. Instead, he comes up with a plan to ask Lyra if she'd consider posing as his girlfriend as a way for him to stay in the spotlight.

She says yes for reasons of her own, but in spending time with Lyra, Crown starts to realize how selfish he has been in comparison to Lyra's generosity of spirit. It isn't until something happens at Lyra's home that he starts to understand about giving back. By Lyra needing his strength, it made him want to be whatever she needed most. One line that I found poignant came from Crown when he said that "I didn't know that I heart before you."

Lyra also starts to change. Due to her extremely traumatizing experience with the teacher, she has difficulty trusting men in general, but more specifically in a romantic fashion. What I liked regarding this plot point is that while there were hints of what happened regarding the teacher, it didn't really come out until Lyra told Crown the whole story.

By Lyra helping Crown to open his heart and to not live just a "partial life", she was also learning to open up her own heart and also to trust again. That trust was first shown when after a freakout, she allowed Crown to be there for her. But it wasn't until telling Crown that the teacher she trusted had wired her bedroom and bathroom with cameras for years to watch her, that she really put her trust in his hands.

Unfortunately, as Crown's injury healed and it was time for him to go back, who he was then and who he is now started battling with each other. Even though Lyra tells him that she loves him, Crown is unable to accept or acknowledge that he feels the same way. Soccer is the only life he's ever known and because of that he feels like has no other choice. So instead of staying and loving Lyra, he goes back to his "partial life" but not without extracting a promise from Lyra to come and see his first game.

It's what happens at that game that Crown finally realizes that he wants more and that his only true happiness lies with Lyra and in true HEA fashion, he goes and gets her.

Patrycja says

4 stars!

Really enjoyed this one, review to come.

Genieinachanelbottle says

Dethroning Crown is an Emotional lol funny swoon worthy romance that leaves U wanting more! I Fell hard for Lyra & Crown their snarky banter and sizzlin' chemistry was delicious!!!

I loved seeing how Lyra's love and sass stripped away Crown's mask and changed him from an intitled jerk to a sweet caring man that would do anything to win her heart!

One of my fave funny quotes

“Crown made my belly flutter even when I begged it to stop. Until he opened his mouth. When Crown opened his mouth, I wanted to bust him over the head with a lasagna pan.”

Lila Felix Totally Rocks 5 Smokin' Hot Stars!!!

Catarina says

2,5 Egomaniac Stars.

Crown Sterling is a soccer player who has as much ego as talent. Unfortunately an injury puts him out of the game until he recuperates. So he goes living near his family, to one of his uncle houses. And then he meets his neighbor, Lyra and she's as beautiful as she is troubled. Crown never worried with anyone expect himself, but he finds soon that he also worries about Lyra.

And as they get to know each other they see that people aren't always what they show, and there's always more to a person. But when they start to find more about the other and feelings starts growing, how long will it take for the masks to fall?

I know I'm probably the minority here, but, well, that's too bad. I fell for this book when I first saw the cover. Then I've read the blurb and I'm all about love and second chances. And if there's an athlete in the mix I'm completely sold. I probably had to high expectations for this book and part of it it's my fault, but imagine my disappointment when about 40% of the book I was so bored I just wanted to stop reading. I didn't do it because I really hate not to finish books, and to be fair, near the end it gets better. But not better enough to compensate for the all the rest. For a romance story it lacked romance, it lacked steam, it lacked drama.

In all this, the good things were the writing, which is solid and flawless, the amazing cover and the plot, that unfortunately wasn't delivered. I know that is going to be a companion novel to this one, but I'm seriously debating If I want to read him.

If you're are curious about this, give it a try. It's never enough to say that just because it didn't work for me, it doesn't meant it won't work for others ;)

Rating: 2,5 Stars.

Characters Development: I believe this was a first time for me. Normally I love the heroes, even when sometimes I want to beat them. In this book the hero did absolutely NOTHING for me. I didn't care for him one bit. And if he wasn't for the talking in 3th person (Crown Sterling is this. Crown Sterling is that.), I probably even wouldn't remember him in the end. Despite being self-absorbed, he was nothing else. Seriously, no personality at all. Lyra was... meh. She had some lady balls, which was good for her, but not even her past made me like her more. And their connection, you ask? Well... what connection?

Steam: Nope.

Sensible Subjects: (view spoiler)

Love Triangle: (view spoiler)

Cheating: (view spoiler)

HEA: (view spoiler)

TJ says

4.5/5.0

This book may not be a 5 star for everyone and I totally see that but for me, it was just what I needed when I needed it - a fun, upbeat and entertaining diversion that was well written and enjoyable. I was just a titch let down at the end because I never could figure why Lyra acted as she did in the hotel and feel Crown needed more of a definitive declaration. Otherwise, this was absolutely delightful! The characters were written so realistically and stayed consistent to their natures. Crown's growth was especially well done, little by little as he discovers himself. It is a definite one sitting, sigh at the end kind of read.

Hollie says

I loved the storyline for this book but something about the execution didn't work for me. It was ok, but could have been so much better. I did like the characters, and how it didn't have the insta-love vibe but everything else about this book was beyond ridiculous and unrealistic. It was just a bit too cliché for my preference.

Emily says

Having read and a fan of Lila Felix, I did not hesitate to have a chance to receive an ARC. So while I am a fan my review is given in return for receiving an ARC.

This book is a different story line for Lila Felix. Can she write stories that have a secondary or third jerks/@\$\$holes? Yes. Can she write them as her would be hero? Yep, turns out she can! Crown Sterling is a jerk with @\$\$hole tendencies. Crown is a guy who has the world at his finger tips and can have anything a the snap of his fingers, because he is a prince of the professional soccer world. An injury that takes him out of the game brings a heavy pile of revelations for Crown that open his eyes. He realizes the life he thinks he has isn't real and isn't the real way to live. But, Crown doesn't get to this realization by himself. Oh no, here is where Lyra (gah, love that name!) becomes the heroine for our hero and not just the story.

Lyra is a beautiful girl that has a soul and heart to match. Lyra is a character that is a complement to Crown, as she is his opposite. Lyra's life has been touched by evil, the kind that will never wash away. But, while it is a daily struggle and Lyra is working to get out to a place she feels safe, she hasn't lost her kindness, her love of people in her life and her hope. She doesn't want people to pity her for the evil she has endured, she wants to be loved, accepted and safe just as anyone would want.

Lyra and Crown are good for each other and then lessons they each bring them to a place that both can be where they want and need to be. Lila has written another awesome story and I can't wait for the reading world to get their hands on it!
