



To Hold

Alessandra Torre

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Author's Note: This novella is no longer available. I combined all of the Dumont Diaries novellas into a standalone novel, which was rewritten, expanded, and retitled as Trophy Wife.

When **Nathan Dumont**, heir to Dumont Shipping, steps onto the scene with a new wife, the media sits up and takes notice. But nothing can be found on the new Mrs.Dumont. No family history, private school chums, or expensively hidden skeletons in couture closets. It is as if she has materialized out of thin air, and wearing Chanel.

Life in a fairytale sucks. Even if it does come complete with eight inches of wontleavemealone steel. But when that glorious package is attached to a man that won't give me a second glance, much less a piece of his heart, what good is a wedding ring and boatloads of cash?

To make matters worse, I am slowly stumbling along and finding red flags. Flags that make me think there is more to this fairytale than meets the eye. In fact, I'm not so sure it's a fairytale at all. It looks to be much, much worse.

To Hold is a novella, approximately 60 pages, and was book 2 of a 4-part series.

To Hold Details

Date : Published 2014 (first published August 12th 2013)

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Author : Alessandra Torre

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Genre : Adult Fiction, Erotica, Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Adult

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From Reader Review To Hold for online ebook

Elaine says

Candy has taken up the offer from the mysterious Nathan Dumont. But life is not quite as Candy thought it would be.

It is all a lie. Every part of my day, whether it be in front of the camera or at home. Home. A horrible word for this ten thousand square feet of glass and stone. Home is where my heart gets ripped out, trampled on, and then patched back together with expensive band-aids, beating a little weaker with every cycle. Home is where I wait for him to return, and hate myself for listening for his car.

To Have

My thoughts

This second instalment just keeps getting better. The story has a very atmospheric feel to it, I'm so intrigued and nervous about what's to come.

What is Nathan Dumont about? what's his interest in Candy/Jenny?

I need book 3 like NOW!!!

I'm waiting now for **Till Death**

Amy | Foxy Blogs says

The **Dumont Diaries** is a **mini-series** told in four parts. Part 2 has Candance giving up her identity to become Jenny; polite, reserved and follows rules.

Candance is kept in a glass house right outside of Mr. Dumont's house.

Her confinement makes her question her sanity and choice that lead her to this life.

SERIES:

4 part mini-series

Zairobe25 says

Ohhh no me gusta lo que estoy leyendo, pero me encanta lo que estoy leyendo, me entiendes???

Las acciones de los protas son totalmente cuestionables, hay mucho angst.
Una lectura super adictiva, a por el siguiente!

Karéz says

I'm So Hooked....

Jen says

BUT...

Book 3

Pam says

4 stars

I moaned when he spanked me. I begged for more as he fucked me. I looked into his eyes and asked for his cum.

I know. I am as screwed up as he is.

A carefully controlled fairytale sounds perfect on paper but when you actually have to live it day in and day out, you begin to question your own sanity. Every decision, action and movement is controlled by him and him alone; is all this worth it, waiting alone in a home where your job is to be on-call for his demands and wishes. Granted he makes it worth her time in the few moments of bliss, but when that fades the feeling of loneliness is even greater. Is this new found “freedom” worth the loss of control, self and name; he owns you mind, body and soul.

Home is where my heart gets ripped out, trampled on, and then patched back together with expensive band-aids, beating a little weaker with every cycle. Home is where I wait for him to return, and hate myself for listening for his car.

To Hold is the beginning of Candy's new life, and I have to say I hate Nathan right now, he is a freakin asshole. Granted this was their deal, but he could show a little compassion or kindness. He treats her as a glorified whore and it's pissing me off. On top of that this whole thing with Drew, what the hell is his purpose??? I have so many questions, so I'm on to the next book...

The Dumont Diaries series to be read in order:

The Dumont Diaries #1: To Have Review
The Dumont Diaries #2: To Hold Review
The Dumont Diaries #3: Till Death Review
The Dumont Diaries #4: Do Us Part Review

Shurrrn says

[

His looks are my weakness, his mind my undoing.

Control. It is a food that Nathan feeds on, devours with a vulgarity that clashes with his smooth exterior. He wants to control me, and he wants an audience — an audience that he controls in the process.

(hide spoiler)]

Ash Wednesday says

2 STARS

My brain is screaming a loud, unintelligible sound that wants to know what the fuck is going on.

Number of characters who contracted herpes in this installment: 0

Number of fucks I give to what will happen to Candy Jennifer Ann: 1/2

I kinda liked how the characters in To Have were unapologetic and it did give off some satirical promise even with how it ended (though maybe that was just the auto-activated sarcasm function in my brain) but for this installment it just stopped being entertaining. Because I think this was meant to be taken seriously. Or it made some obvious effort to be taken seriously here what with the clouded metaphors and circular statements which, by the way, is so obvious padding to stretch a story that could have been done in ten pages. I kinda wish it just owned up to being self-deprecating and ironic instead of making up words and bending over backwards trying to contort Candy Jennifer into a certain kind of heroine early on, only to change her to someone else midway through.

This is something I can't do. Fucking me in front of the staff is one thing. Offering me to a stranger something else.

... I can't do it. I just can't. Of everything I have sold at this point in time - my dignity, my life, my past - this is one step I cannot take.

I mean, she *did* sign a legal, business contract enabling her pretend husband to do this to her and (view spoiler) NOW she gets a moral boner?

Also the chapters start out with these word games that should cut across the underlying darkness of the themes in CandyJennifer and Nathan's relationship but

Word: 10 letters; the last letter is 'N'

Clue: a _____ slip is often required at school.

Somehow this just rendered the supposed ominous tone the book is trying to achieve ridiculous and juvenile. She was a former stripper, let's not kick the poor woman's Dictionarying skills.

One thing I hate about these kindle serials is that I am almost resolute on quitting this series after this... but the next one is offered **FOR FREE**. And what's a girl to do if offered a free pass to watch something go down in majestic flames of glory?

Also on BookLikes.

SueBee★bring me an alpha!★ says

★★★★★! The Dumont Diaries, Part 2 of 4. SALVATION – BOREDOM – LONELINESS & DECEPTION!

Again my visible review is written to contain less details than book blurb. Please click on spoilers for more details..

“Control. It is a food that Nathan feeds on, devours with a vulgarity that clashes with his smooth exterior. He wants to control me, and he wants an audience — an audience that he controls in the process.”

The Dumont Diaries consists of 4 novellas, which must be read in order:

Part 1: To Have

Part 2: To Hold

Part 3: Till Death

Part 4: Do Us Part

Her salvation from a life as an in-debt stripper has come in the form of a mysterious stranger. **To Hold** (part 2), delves into mystery of the man who has so captivated her she is willing to do just about anything for sex with him, allowing him to control every aspect of her life. But as Candy settles into her new lifestyle, she is quickly hit by boredom, then by loneliness. Will her isolation lead her to seeking solace in another? (view spoiler)

Six words to describe **Candy**: Despondent, desperate, reflective, endearing, lost and flawed.

“I needed the moment of backbone — at a time when I feel I am losing all the pieces that make me, me.”

The hero is a to-die-for enigmatic, rich, jaded playboy, but also cold, distant and rude! Are there mitigation circumstances for his detachment? Please click on spoiler for more details:

(view spoiler)

(hide spoiler)]

Part two also ends abruptly leading right to part 3, **Till Death** for the continuation of their story. **Excellent storytelling! Interesting and captivating plot! Memorable, fascinating and addictive hero!** I was hooked from page one and I am highly recommending this 4-part serial! For me it is still looking like a 6-star read! **Thanks Ms. Torre!**

“For us, silence is all we have ever known. I do not speak because I do not know what to say. He does not speak because he has no interest in talking.”

Hero rating: 5+ stars

Heroine rating: 5 stars

Sex scenes rating: 5 stars

Sex scenes frequency: 5 stars

Storyline concept rating: 5 stars

Storytelling skills rating: 5 stars

Story ending rating: N/A

Book editing rating (5 = no edits spotted): 5 stars

Overall rating: 5+ stars

Would I recommend this series: Yes.

Would I re-read this series: Yes.

Would I read future books by this author: Yes.

Be sure to **join Shh... [Smut, Heroes & HEAs...]** with Alessandra here on GR for the latest news:

<https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/...>

(Public group for members 18 years and older)

Pearl Angeli says

"I am a boat out on a deep blue ocean. Some days are calm, some days the sun comes out and I bask in it, lazily swaying from side to side in perfect harmony with the waves. But sometimes there is a storm, dark and mighty in its strength, and I list, side to side, the waves tossing me about in a sadistic show of their strength."

3 Stars

Okay, what just happened? I felt terribly cheated by the sudden twist of event. I really thought there's no love triangle involved here... but why???

First of all, I was so wrong about Nathan Dumont. In the first novella I swooned over him like a love sick puppy. Now I'm not sure anymore and I don't know what to do. Nathan is not what I thought he would be. Yes, he was an a-hole in the first novella but you know... I was kinda hoping that Candy will reform him. Too bad... I really believed that he's the love interest here.

Now there's Drew. I have no problem with Drew but I can't bring myself to consider him as the man for Candy. :(This novella was kind of a let-down but good thing it was still gripping. The mystery was so good as well as the shocking cliffhanger. I want to dig more. To confirm. I want to find out what Nathan is up to.

Elizabeth says

"Home is where my heart gets ripped out, trampled on, and then patched back together with expensive band-aids, beating a little weaker with every cycle. Home is where I wait for him to return, and hate myself for listening for his car." -Candy

To Hold is book 2 of The Dumont Diaries. In the first book, Candy was given the option of accepting a marriage proposal to Nathan Dumont. As this read begins, we see that she has in fact accepted. She has signed her name on the dotted line. She has accepted a marriage of convenience, a marriage with hot sex, a beautiful wardrobe, and a beautiful house. And yet, a marriage without love and companionship.

Nathan is cold and calculated. He has orchestrated a beautiful facade for he and Candy to live in. And yet, the sex between these two is beyond fulfilling.

"When he reaches for me, when his hands travel over my skin and his mouth claims my own, I melt. I enjoy every second of his touch." -Candy

Nathan has given financial support to her sick father. He has given her the means to visit him. And yet, the question remains. Why did he marry her? Why does he need a wife? How long can this go on?

Candy (now going by the name of Jenny) has formed a somewhat volatile friendship with Drew her bodyguard. (view spoiler) She also begins to question Nathan's motives. He can be so cruel and yet she can't get enough of him.

As the story begins to unfold, Candy grows more confident in her desire to find out why Nathan married her.

"Candy, they came here for you. They knew everything about you before they even walked in the door."

To Hold was a fantastic read. The tension continues to build with each moment of the story. The hate she has for Nathan coupled with the desire to be with him has Candy/Jenny in a desperate place. You can't help but feel every pain, question, and moment of passion right along with her. At the conclusion of this book the same question remains, does a person need love? I cannot imagine that I will be able to love this hero. However if anyone can make me love him, Alessandra Torre can! I have no doubt there will be more twists and turns in this series. Moving on to the next read!

This book was read in conjunction with-

(F) BUDDY-READ ONE OF ALESSANDRA TORRE'S BOOK, READING WITH MY GIRLS @ SHHHHH and the lovely LOYDA!

<https://www.goodreads.com/topic/show/...>

Thanks ladies! As always, it has been a pleasure!

JaHy?Hold the Fairy Dust says

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT, ALLRIIGGGHHTTTT..... I'm officially hooked. This series is great.. The author gives you nothing yet I already have multiple theories... If you like a book with a little bit of everything and splashes of extra picante read this ASAP <----Whole the phone! You need to read "TO HAVE" first.

I give it an around the world snap

*****and a special thanks to Elaine for recommending this wonderful fucked up story *****

Allison ♥?Will Never Conquer Her TBR♥? says

What the heck is happening? Well, that's a total 180' change in one book! Nathan, I loathe you!

I was seriously hoping Nathan was going to be one of those heroes you really want to hate but he gives you this tiny piece of goodness we ladies hold onto.....um, none in this book. Nope, no goodness. All ass. What he did at the end of the book in the limo to his wife.....

I seriously wanted to slap the bone out of his neck!

This book picks up soon after Nathan and "Jennfier" are married. She lives a life full of rules and contracted limits. Her only happiness is in being able to visit her father every Wednesday. Nathan has put him up in a beautiful hospital with all the best care.....and he's actually getting better. She can't do ANYTHING that will impede that progress. Another form of Nathan's control. His ace!

Drew was totally off my radar in To Have, ramping up his character in To Hold, he's still quite an enigma to me. He obviously has knowledge of Nathan and why he treats "Jennifer" the way he does but deep down, he obviously has a heart.....and a desire for Candace.

So if you're looking for uber short yet fast paced angsty reading material, this book delivers in spades. The

first book was hot and heavy. This book not near so but more angst and dramatic. Moving on.....

Candace says

Wow! I really don't know why she is attracted to Nathan. This guy treats her like dirt! He may be good in bed, but he's so demeaning and horrible toward her. Drew is better only by a small bit. I am glad she cheated on Nathan, just because it was like her giving him a big F-U! What a bunch of jerks! I am holding out hope that she'll kill him in the end. After that stunt he pulled at the end, loaning her services out to some random business associate, he's got it coming!

Jenny••Steamy Reads Blog•• says

Good lord I feel like I've been slapped. Talk about being blindsided. Maybe I was being a wishful reader that believes in love. Yeah not in this installment.

I'm kinda just speechless.

I have to read the next installment just to find out.....
