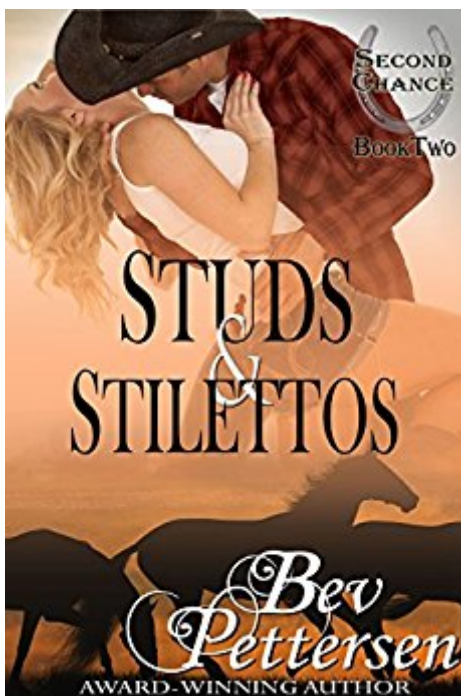


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STUDS AND STILETTOS (Second Chance Book 2)



Synopsis

Desperate to earn her sister's respect, Emily takes a menial job on a movie set. But when she unwittingly exposes buried secrets, will her growing romance with the new boss be enough to save her? **Winner Readers Views Reviewers' Choice Award Winner Aspen Gold Readers' Choice Winner NEC-RWA Reader's Choice Bean Pot Award Colorado Romance Writers Award of Excellence Finalist Write Touch Readers' Award Finalist Heart of Excellence Readers' Choice Finalist** Emily Murphy isn't afraid to swap her fancy wardrobe for a borrowed pair of barn boots. Working on the set of a Kentucky movie might be just the ticket to landing a real acting job and proving to her sister she can accomplish something worthwhile. Dan Barrett knows a lot about hard work and even more about horses. And while he's drawn by Emily's beauty and pluck, he wants a stay-at-home ranch girl. But fighting their attraction is difficult, and soon they both realize what they thought they wanted isn't what they really need. Unfortunately, Dan isn't the only person watching Emily. And the other one is a ruthless killer determined to keep an old secret buried. **Second Chance Standalone Series: Thoroughbreds and Trailer Trash** **Studs and Stilettos Millionaire's Shot Redemption Standalone Series: Riding For Redemption A Scandalous Husband Backstretch Baby Dangerous Odds Series: Jockeys and Jewels Color My Horse Fillies and Females**

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Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed this book. Read this book after you have read thoroughbreds and trailer trash. This book had a lot of knowledge in it. The author did her homework about making props for movies, and about horses. I loved the suspense of the book. The book was about them making a movie about a famous horse, and his trainer that just disappeared. Emily had been attempting to break into the world of acting. She got onto a bus full of other people that would be extras for a day and was driving two hours away from Louisville. She was down to her last dollar, and her car was in the shop with no money to get it fixed. She was so tired of calling up her sister and asking for help. Emily got the chance to get a small part working with a horse. She grew up around horses, and loved them. She found out she had to be back at 8 am for the part, but the bus would not be making the trip. Emily made the best of a bad situation, she made a bed out of hay and slept in the barn with the horses. Dan came by to check on the horses before going to bed. He found Emily sleeping, and didn't want to leave her unguarded. Dan had just met Emily that day, and I thought it was so sweet that he slept in a chair nearby Emily to keep her safe. He left before she woke up, so Emily thought no one knew where she had slept. This is how the book started out, and it only gets better from here.

I really enjoyed reading this book. Had a hard time putting it down actually. Learned a lot about horses and some ins and outs of movie making. The romance between Dan & Emily was fun but wish the scenes were a little more descriptive. The murder plot was very good and I figured out who the guilty party was very early on but there was a great twist at the end that I doubt anyone will expect. Overall, very good book!

I really like Bev Pettersen's writing. There are parts that go a little slow and then there are parts that need more detail, but all in all she writes books I like to read. I thought Emily (our h) was vain and ditsy in the beginning of the book which made it hard to like her. She wanted to be an actress but didn't do any research of a movie. Then she decides she likes horses, which since she been around them all her life, seemed a little late for the discovery. As the book progressed, so did her character

(thank goodness). Dan (our H) was a good guy and easy to like. And of course, he was on the yummy side. I thought the supporting cast was a good fit of characters. The story pulled me in; I liked the mix of movie making, horses and a cold case murder. Although a little predictable, it was still a very fun read. Since I didn't want to put it down until I finished it I gave it 4 stars; almost 5.

I liked that this is a story about a woman and her life, her dilemma, and romance. She meets and becomes friends with a woman on a mission. She falls for the guy, and he falls for her. The romance takes a back seat to the mystery, but never is far from her mind or the story. Both the romance and the story unfold naturally. I like that the tension in this romance is not because of the couple's unwillingness to talk to each other as it is in so many romance stories. There is tension between the couple stems from their personalities and the other characters. The author wraps up the loose ends and answers the question of character motivation with out being stilted. I appreciated that I was still unsure of the guilty party until the author revealed it. Good mystery with a bit of romance and believable characters. I appreciated that the main character was loyal to her friend and didn't choose romance over promises.

I nearly didn't read this book, and I dragged my feet. I didn't like Emily in Thoroughbreds and Trailer Trash - I thought she was spoiled and thoughtless and totally self-centered. And the beginning of this book didn't change my mind. But I'm glad I finished, because it turned out that mostly she was just terribly insecure. Once she began to grow up a bit, I really liked the story. The ending wasn't a total surprise, but it was nicely done. All in all, I was very pleased. Since I've enjoyed all of the books in the series, I suppose I shouldn't be so surprised!

Loved it! Emily started out as a little shallow at the beginning, but she grew and changed as the book went on, and I love when characters do that. I liked Dan, too, and how he couldn't help falling in love with Emily. Loved the setting and the info. about horses and movie-making kept me reading. I loved how Emily was so concerned about Billy and others (Wally, etc.) who touched her life, and how she made sure Dan kept Barney. My favorite part of the book was when Emily went back home and saw the house that had replaced the trailer where she and Jenna had lived. I understand how she felt losing her childhood home and being afraid she wouldn't be welcome in the new house Jenna's husband had built for her. I cried when she saw all the mementos Jenna's husband had saved and put into the new house. This is because I am going through my parents' house right now to sell it and I felt exactly the way Emily did yesterday when I went to do some work over there.

Hope I can figure out a way to put the things I'm saving into my condo somehow. Looking forward to reading Book 3!

This is a wonderful read that anyone would love. Especially if you like horses and mystery. The characters are wonderful. Emily was trying to find a way to make everyone happy and find her own career. She wasn't expecting to find love. But Dan won her from the start. Everyone needs a Dan in their life. He didn't want an actress but Emily found a way into his heart. He's the sexy and down to earth guy women swoon over. Emily's true spirit made him fall hard and fast. Everyone should read this but I don't want to give out any spoiler's.

Suspense, romance and houses....what more can a reader hope for?! Although somewhat predictable, the story holds the reader's interest throughout.

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