



His Kind of Cowgirl

Karen Rock

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Would he still love her...if he knew?

Tanner Hayes smashed Claire's life to pieces when he chose the rodeo over her ten years ago. And now he'd wrecked her truck! Fantastic. She'd lost her husband, the family ranch was mired in debt, her father was recuperating from a stroke and her son was being bullied. Why not throw a reckless bull rider into the mix?

All she'd wanted was a safe, stable life. But with Tanner back in town—and staying on her ranch—nothing was safe, or under control. Not the feelings she'd fought so hard to forget. Not the son she was determined to protect. And certainly not her long-held secret...

His Kind of Cowgirl Details

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Author : Karen Rock

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From Reader Review His Kind of Cowgirl for online ebook

Kathy * Bookworm Nation says

This has been nominated for a 2016 Swoony Award. Share the love and vote for it here.

I really enjoyed this one!

I love a good contemporary western, I also love a good second chance at love story, and this had both! Tanner and Claire didn't part on the best of terms, in fact Clarie would be happy if she never saw him again. Life has other plans and she is not to happy when they are thrown back together again.

Clarie was a pretty tough character, she'd been through a lot. Sheesh, that opening prologue had me crying! Maybe it hit a little too close to home. Anyway, she was devastated at the loss of her sweet husband and when the book picks up two years later she is desperately trying to save her fathers bull ranch. She's been homeschooling her son since he's getting bullied at school and doesn't need any other distractions. That's when Tanner crashes back into her life. I wasn't sure what to think of Tanner (until we meet him then I started rooting for him pretty quickly), I am so glad we got things from his POV, its obvious he still has deep feelings for Claire, and I loved to see that side of him. I ended up really liking his character, who could resist a swoony bull rider?

I thought the overall story was good, the pacing was great and kept me turning the pages. I was sucked in from the start. I loved the setting and characters. Overall, an entertaining read. I'll definitely be reading more of Ms. Rock's books, fan for life now. :)

Content

Romance: Clean, mild innuendo-passionate kisses that stayed clean

Language: Mild

Violence: None

Religious: None

Source: Review copy

Lola says

I received a copy in exchange for an honest review

This is going to be a tricky review to write as on the one hand I really enjoyed this book and on the other hand I also had some issues with it. Karen Rock is one of my favourite romance authors and I am always excited when a new book by her is released and request them if I see them on netgalley without even looking at the blurb first. I like her writing style, how she can make me care and feel emotions alongside the characters. The first chapter of this book was like a punch in the gut and almost had me in tears.

Once I started I finished the book in a few days as I just wanted to keep reading. There's a lot I liked about this book: Claire her relationship with her father, Claire her relationship with her son, Tanner his struggle and how he acted around Jonathan, the trouble with the ranch, the awesome ranch setting and ofcourse all the animals. Karen Rock really knows how to write animals and kids well and she makes em care about them quicker than I care about the other characters.

So I almost immediately liked Jonathan, Claire her son, and the animals, like Roxy the dog, the horses and even the bulls. The two main characters on the other hand took a bit more effort. Claire has been gone through a lot, she lost her husband and is now a single mother. She never told anyone that the kid is actually from her first love Tanner and not her dead husband. Tanner returns to the ranch where Claire lives to help her father try and save the ranch from foreclosure.

There are misunderstandings, secrets, things that don't get talked through and on top of that Claire and Tanner are two of the most stubborn characters I ever met. Yes it was hard to like these two at first, especially as they both had done some stupid things. She never told the father of her son that he even had a son and he left the love of his life to go to rodeo as he thought that would make her proud, while she just wanted him to stay with her. Claire is being so mean to Tanner while he comes to help and she instantly reject all his ideas, playing it over cautious and never giving him and his help a chance. Slowly though I began to see the good in them, how Claire just wanted the best for her son, was afraid to tie Tanner to a life he didn't wanted to and was over cautious due to what happened in her past. Tanner was so sued to other telling him he wouldn't amount to anything that he was constantly fighting to prove he could make something out of his life, while only later realizing that the only thing he wanted and needed was love and family.

The romance was off to a rocky start for me, these two could fight and fight and fight and maybe that's because they cared too much instead of too little, but sheesh I just wanted them to stop fighting and making assumptions and instead would talk things through, explained their reasonings and bare their secrets. It took time and patience, but eventually I did see they cared about each other and how they brought out the best in each other. Tanner made Claire more confident and I think that's worth a lot of an anxious and overcautious person. Claire made Tanner realize he was okay the way he was and that he didn't have to prove anything. They made a great couple, but I just wished they fought less. There are some great romantic scenes between these two, especially the scene with the championship, where I really felt their connection and what these two meant to each other. But there are even more scenes of fighting, pushing each other away, saying nasty things and lying.

There's also this scene towards the end which just felt like an obvious plot device to throw some more conflict their way and have them jump to their old conclusions. It just felt off and unrealistic. They should know better by then and it just seemed weird how they could say such harsh things to each other and then bounce back. Yes people say things they later regret, but with these two everything felt like a battle. Maybe it's also because a lot of Karen Rock her books follow this pattern that it's become so predictable and I hope she proves me wrong with each book.

Then there were scenes that show the power of family, the sweet relationships between Claire, her father, her son and Tanner and the life they enjoy on the ranch that were heartwarming. I also loved the ranch setting, with the animals, riding lessons and the calm and peaceful setting of the ranch that was their home for so long and the danger they now faced of losing it. There's also a scene at the championship later that I loved and it made me appreciate the live they had build there and how they fought to keep it if they could.

To summarize: This book has a lot of things that I enjoyed, but also some issues that bothered me. The story

hooked me from the first page and I was so invested in the story that I didn't want to stop reading. There is a lot I enjoyed like the relationships between the characters and Karen Rock writes the animals and kids so well you immediately care about them. I did however struggle a bit with the romance and the two main characters, Claire and Tanner have a bit of a past and know better how to fight than to love each other. And it just got old how they kept fighting and pushing each other away and being nasty. Claire countered every idea Tanner had and they didn't take time to talk it through. The romance was hard to feel as they fought so much, but later in the book they soften towards each other and I also realized how good these two were for each other. I wasn't a fan of the twist towards the end which felt like a last ditch effort to introduce more conflict and which is pretty predictable for Karen her books. The ranch setting was awesome and it is a heartwarming book that left me with a smile on my face. It's more a 3.5 stars rating, but I decided to round it up to a 4 star as in the end I really did enjoy the book despite my issues with it.

Katie W says

When you take some pretty hefty misunderstandings and add them to an undeniable attraction, family, a ranch, and loyalty, you either need to go big or go home. So who's all in?

Claire's had a rough life. Ten years earlier, Tanner left her for rodeo and her husband was recently killed in Afghanistan, leaving her with a father, who just had a stroke, a young bullied son, and a ranch that's almost belly up. A chance encounter brings Tanner back into her life and Claire isn't sure she can weather the storm of emotions that he brings with him.

Learning to trust someone again isn't easy, but there were times when I felt like Claire would take two steps forward and then one step back, which is very frustrating. She's stubborn--when she gets her mind set on something, it's hard to sway her--I will give her that. She's a very good mother and daughter, but she needs to move on. Tanner isn't perfect, but his intentions are good, if a little misguided. He's got nothing to lose and is willing to gamble everything. They are a good complement to each other--nonchalant versus sass. I absolutely loved each of their qualities and their interactions with each other were full of sparks, both good and bad.

Ms. Rock, one of my favorite authors, does a fantastic job of capturing emotion in a neat plot with a very realistic setting. There's something about cowboys and their hardworking nature, fierce allegiance, an unrefined edges that completely warms my heart and draws me right in. Well done!

Content: a few mild cuss words; mild romance (vague implication to pre-marital relationship that resulted in pregnancy, kissing); mild violence. Clean!

I received a copy through Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

Heather andrews says

This was a sweet book I loved. Tanner he was a great guy, "I want to be with you, period. No matter the terms." Then, as if he couldn't help himself, he captured her lips again and she lost herself in his arms."

Gaby says

I was really excited to read a new book from Karen because I've grown so fond of her stories. His Kind of Cowgirl has a very emotional opening, Claire has been living a good and happy life with her husband and child but sadly the former passes away so her life and that scene was right in the feelings, it was so sad and I think it's impossible not to cry so be sure to have some tissues for that. Claire could very easily crumble but she has a son who needs her now so she can't dwell in her grief, she has to figure out what it will be of her and Jonathan from now on. They go live at her father's ranch but life will not be easy there either since the farm is in a critical situation which has taken a toll on her dad's health. As if that didn't seem enough her old boyfriend Tanner is back and she's scared about him discovering what she hid from her when he decided to leave but also that her old feelings return.

Tanner is back on town hoping to recover from a wound so he can return soon to his career as soon as possible but he's also here to help Claire's dad with her farm, something she doesn't agree with since she wants him as far from them as she can but seeing Claire and her son Jonathan leave Tanner wondering about his life choices, he has never really gotten over Claire and he starts to care deeply for her son.

Claire's a really strong woman, she's had to care of her son, her dad and try to do what she thinks it's best for the far. I sometimes got mad at her because she can be really stubborn and is set to think in a certain way but it all comes down to her being scared of her and mostly her son being hurt so I guess I can't fault her for that. I loved Tanner, he's sweet, charming, protective... it's hard not to fall for him. He has his own demons to face but he can't deny he has never gotten over Claire, and that he'd like nothing more but for her to give him a second chance.

Since Claire is hiding something from Tanner and both are afraid of their feelings you can expect tension to be between these two, there'll be misunderstandings but also romance and forgiveness, like I said it's an emotional read but it'll leave the reader satisfied and hopefully with a smile on their face like it did with me. If only I'd like for the ending to have a few more paragraphs I needed more romance! Great book!

Darlene Avery says

His Kind of Cowgirl by Karen Rock took me by complete surprise. The emotions of loss, and the need to find forgiveness, are paramount in this storyline.

Claire Shelton has lived a life making hard decisions, but decisions she felt were best for her and her family. She has always put her family first, however she has also let her own fears get in the way of happiness.

Tanner Hayes has always felt he had something to prove. To prove he was more than his hometown thought of him as a youth. And now he's a star bull rider. With the whole world at his feet.

Claire and Tanner's past collide and now the question remains; will they be enemies or lovers.

Rock laid out so many issues in this book with a steady hand and a strong story line. She deals with loss,

bullying, caring for those we love, and overcoming our past and our fears.

A definite 4 Star read for me !

Mona says

Loved this book. So very touching. Can the heart love again?

Claire Shelton has just lost the one man who was there for her when she needed it. He was the best husband anyone could ask for, especially when she was in dire straits.

When the news came she was devastated. She was left raising her son by herself. She took care of her father..Then a man she vowed never to see again came back into her life she didn't know what to do.

When Tanner Hayes and Claire saw each after 10 years it was in the middle of an intersection both getting tickets. Him smashing her car..He came back home for a reason. It was to help out her father, but things changed along the way. Both were hiding things.

Highly suggest you buy the book to see what happens. My first book by Karen Rock and won't be my last..

I was given a copy from NetGalley.

Renee Entress says

4 star

I was pulled right into this story. The story has laughs, pain, secrets, grief, and heartbreak.

This is Claire and Tanner's story. Claire and Tanner were together years ago but he chose the rodeo over her. Now ten years later Claire is struggling. She is trying to take care of everything. Tanner is in town and working on the ranch. She has secrets that she kept from him what is he ever finds out? With Claire and Tanner both being stubborn about things will the secrets be the one thing that tears them apart for good? Or will finding out the secret bring them closer together? What is all the things Claire is being so stubborn about really just worry over not tying someone to a life they never wanted before? Can Tanner convince Claire that he is a changed man? The he wants to stay with her?

I was able to connect with the characters and the story was a great read.

I recommend this book and can't wait for the next story from this author.

Jessica Figueroa says

Things seems to be going from bad to worse for Claire. The death of her husband, her father had a stroke and she finds out her family ranch is in a load of debt. As if that wasn't enough she ends up crashing her car into the last person she would like to see again, Tanner the man who got away and chose his career over her. Little does he know that her child is actually his son but she'll refuse to let that guy know. Things get

complicated when she finds out that her father and him are in cahoots to save the ranch, which leaves it where she, her son and tanner are going to be around each other.

I enjoyed this story it was a sweet book. I loved that even though Claire can seem overbearing sometimes, its was with the best intentions as a mother to her son. I thought that there was enough of a bit of drama to keep things interesting. I liked the connection between Claire and Tanner. I thought that the book was well written with no dull moments. Overall I great story, I really enjoyed it.

Heidi says

I'm a fan of Karen Rock's work and always intrigued to see what she comes up with next. I loved the ranch setting and struggling bull rider role that Tanner played so well. Claire's grit and determination to move past the death of her husband and try to raise her son, save the ranch, and look out for her father's health kept me immersed in the story. Tanner's arrival definitely complicated her well-ordered plans and it was fun to see the romance develop between Tanner and Claire again, despite her best intentions to keep it from happening. Tanner's tender care for his biological son and dedication to helping save the ranch made him a great hero. His Kind of Cowgirl is a clean, heartwarming romance that will leave the reader satisfied and looking forward to more from this talented author. Thank you NetGalley and Harlequin for the complimentary copy. All opinions stated here are my own.

Katrina Epperson says

I was privileged to receive an advance copy of the book from the author via Netgalley to read and review.

This is a wonderful story.

I loved Claire. She is a beautiful, young woman who's strength is about to get tested even more. She has recently lost her husband and now her father has had a stroke. She and her son have returned home to care for him and the ranch. Unfortunately after their arrival Claire finds out that the ranch is deeply in debt and ready to be foreclosed on. She sees only one out and that is to sell the ranch for much less than it's worth, but they would be out of debt. Also it would allow for her dad to go into an assisted living facility just down the road. One problem, her dad has his own thoughts about ranch and how exactly to get it out of debt and it doesn't even call for selling it. Needless to say tension was very thick at the ranch between Claire and her dad. Added to that her son is having difficulties. She has taken him out of public school and is now trying to homeschoo.

Just when she thinks she's got everything lined out a vehicle comes out of no where and strikes her vehicle. It get's better. The other vehicle was driven by Tanner the one person she really doesn't want to see. Tanner and Claire have a history. Yes, they do. Years before he was the love of her life, but he chose his career over her. Was she over the heartbreak, what do you think?

Tanner, a world champion bull rider is now on a medical leave from the circuit due to an injury. He knows one more injury and he's in serious trouble. He has had plans in his head about starting a bull riding school, but hasn't really had a chance to see it to fruition. Now he has agree to help Martin save his ranch he might be able to see if he can put some plans in motion. Just one problem, Claire.

As I said this is a wonderful story about second chances and forgiveness. I loved Claire and Tanner's characters which are strong and well developed. This is a sweet plot that will draw you in immediately and keep you turning the pages. This is a story that will evoke both laughter and tears.

This is a story I would recommend to anyone looking for a good romance interlaced with humor.

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

When I saw that Karen Rock had a new book coming out through Harlequin Heartwarming I clicked right over to find a review copy to read! (Thank you NetGalley and Harlequin!) Karen Rock is one of my favorite authors in the Harlequin Heartwarming line. I love her books, every single time. This book is no exception.

I'm telling you, there is just something about cowboys. Bull riding, risk taking, lonely cowboys. For Claire, cowboys are the love them and leave them type and she has no use for them. Her heart has been crushed once and she's not going to allow it to happen a second time- especially by the same man.

Tanner is looking for connections. He is looking for roots. After being hurt riding bulls, he heads back to the one place he felt love. Yes, he's a bit slow on the uptake but I loved how Tanner just jumps in and starts proving himself right from the beginning. He helps Claire grow in confidence.

Oh, the mistakes. The misunderstandings. The secrets and the pride. All of those things add to the sizzle moments, the growing bonds and the truth to make the end product so, so sweet. This was a fantastic clean romance. Love!

Content: reference to a previous sexual relationship, kissing

Judy says

This is my first Karen Rock book and I enjoyed it!!

Claire and Kevin are married and have a son, named Jonathan. Kevin is in the service as a mechanic, and he's never on the front line. However, he does get killed overseas.

Claire is now a single mom. As tough as it is, she must carry on with life because Jonathan needs her. Her dad's house is up for sale before it gets foreclosed on. Her dad has a stroke so she's taking care of him. She is distracted while driving and winds up in a wreck with none other than her boyfriend from years ago, Tanner. Why in the world is he in town?! He's on the PBR circuit....and famous. He decided fame was more important than her and left. However, there are things he didn't know when he left..like Jonathan. She didn't

want to hold him back by telling him she was pregnant, so she let him go.

Tanner left town to bull ride. He's back in town to help Claire's dad save the ranch (although her dad failed to tell her this). He also wants to start a rodeo school on the property and save the ranch. He's in an accident and is surprised at who the other person is.

Now that Tanner is back how is she going to keep her secret? Will her and Tanner finally admit they both messed up in the past and admit they still love each other?

This was such a sweet story! I loved the characters. Claire was a little annoying, but I loved that about her. Tanner was such a good guy!

Review on behalf of Once Upon An Alpha

Jo - *-*•.★Reading Is My Bliss★•-*-* says

3.5 stars

This is a second chance love story that is overshadowed by a secret. One of those secrets that the longer it is kept, the worse the outfall is going to be. That is what kept me a bit frustrated and feeling a bit on the edge as I mosied along through this story. This isn't a little white lie in the scale of secrets, it is a life changing one.

I really liked Tanner, he is a young man that has made some mistakes but has learnt from them. His willingness to help turn the ranch around says a lot about his character and the way he takes Jonathan under his wing is really sweet.

Claire is the character that frustrated me. She is so fixated on selling the ranch, putting her dad in a nursing home and doing so with as little interaction with Tanner as possible. It annoyed me that she couldn't seem to see that this wasn't what her father wanted at all and she takes a long time to see things from his & Tanner's point of view. She was too scared to take a chance until Tanner gave her the confidence to and when she does she sees that this is where she was meant to be.

This was a lovely second chance love story.

Michelle Pickett says

This review was originally posted on Michelle K. Pickett

I've read a lot of Karen's books, and I've enjoyed them. But one thing stood out to me as I read His Kind of Cowgirl. Her writing skills have improved dramatically since her first book. This is not to say that her writing skills were poor, they weren't. On the contrary, they were very good. Which is why the marked difference surprised me. I wouldn't have thought she COULD improve. She was an excellent author to begin with; she's a superb one now.

I enjoyed His Kind of Cowgirl. I'm not really big on the western romance genre, but the story was more character driven, in my opinion. So the setting, while it worked, wasn't an issue for me. So if you aren't a big lover of western romances or the cowgirl/boy themes, don't let that keep you from reading His Kind of Cowgirl.

The plot was good, and Rock did a fine job presenting it. It's been done before, but Karen was able to give it enough of her own unique spin to keep it fresh. And, as a former military wife of an airman who served during the Gulf War, I was sucked in, already swallowing back tears before I'd finished reading the prologue.

The characters were well done. Tanner was easy to love, but, like some other readers have mentioned, I had a little difficulty understanding Claire's thought processes. There were times I wanted to smack her upside the head, but I **didn't dislike her**. I think Rock did an excellent job of showing how taxing being a single mom can be, especially with the added responsibility of her father's health and the family's farm. Did she make some questionable decisions? Well, yes. But who of us hasn't? Was she whiny at times? Again, yes. But who of us has never had a whiny moment? Overall, I think the characters were written well.

Bottom line: this was a quick, emotional, and ultimately satisfying read. As always, Karen can be counted on to write an emotion driven story that leaves the reader with feel-good-happy-thoughts. His Kind of Cowboy is perfect for anyone who is a sucker for second-chance-at-love stories. It didn't disappoint and I highly recommend it.
