



Be Mine

Stella Starling

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“My job is to protect you, not like you.”

After years of being bounced around the foster care system and an unwanted medical discharge from the Army, Jase Walker has finally found a place for himself as a bodyguard with Byrne Security. His loyalty to his job goes beyond professional dedication; the Byrnes treat him like family—the one thing he’s always wanted—and he’s not going to risk messing that up just because his newest client gets under his skin.

Kelly Davis, founder of the popular gay dating app bLoved, is a hopeless romantic, but for Kelly, nothing is more hopeless than finding someone to love. His outgoing, hot-tempered personality and high-profile life help him hide his loneliness, but when a series of personal threats force him out of the public eye, the only thing he has to distract himself with is the maddeningly stoic bodyguard who drives him crazy.

When Kelly’s impulsive nature puts him at risk, the two men are forced into a situation that will either bring out the worst in each of them, or help them find the one thing they need the most... each other.

Be Mine is a gay romance novel of approximately 81,000 words that features a tough guy who like chick flicks, creepy death threats sewn into pillows, and a cocky-mouthed man convinced that he’ll never find love. It has a Happily Ever After ending, no pesky cliffhangers, and can be read as a standalone... but if you enjoy Kelly and Jase’s story, be sure to keep an eye out for the other two books in the series! Enjoy!

Be Mine Details

Date : Published January 28th 2017 by Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

ISBN : 9781542307291

Author : Stella Starling

Format : Paperback 240 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, War, Military Fiction, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Be Mine for online ebook

~Mindy Lynn~ says

This is another trope I enjoy, enemies to lovers. I was really excited for this one. But my excitement slowly died as I read the book.

It started out great. I loved all the sassy snark Kelly could throw. But eventually it got old. Kelly started getting annoying. The middle dragged like a saggy ass. The sexual frustration made me frustrated. I started skimming which is never a good sign. But then it started getting better again so I was therefore, happy again. So you could say this book was an up and down ride for me. One I got off of feeling like it could have been better.

The book just read (for me) like it was much longer than it really was.

It was, in the end, like and not love for me. But I look forward to the next book nonetheless.

Meags says

4 Stars

Stella Starling has become a safe bet for me, especially when flufftastic M/M romance is required to calm my mind and improve my mood.

I do love me a sexy bodyguard romance and this one worked a treat. Kelly and Jase played off an enemies-to-lovers vibe well, although they were never actually that considering how gobsmacked with immediate lust and awe the men were with one another from the get-go. Their UST built slowly and surely as the story progressed and when feelings and declarations were finally made I was in a sappy-sweet happy place I didn't wish to leave.

Throughout the story, Kelly could have annoyed me with his reoccurring petulance and refusal to follow advice for his own safety, yet he still managed to endear me to him with his snarky nature and simple need to love and be loved in return.

Bodyguard Jase was just as endearing, with his lonely past and his more recent physical pains. I love a gentle giant with secret hurts and a heart of gold, who is loyal, passionate and protective beyond reproach. Jase embodied all of that and more.

It's become obvious that each story in this series occurs across the same timeline, so there is plenty of overlap in events and opportunities to see key moments and discussions through various MCs POV's across each book. The stalker storyline, in particular, seems to be the link that binds all three story arcs together, with the catalyst of all events up to this point actually occurring in the third book. It's kind of trippy when you think of it like that, but it's an interesting way to approach a series, and so far I've enjoyed how it's all played out.

Melissa says

At first I didn't like Kelly. However, the story ended up being really good.

Bibliophile says

Hot military guy? Hot military guy who also grew up in the foster system and felt unworthy of love? Uh, yes, sign me up! I really wanted to enjoy this book more than I did. I did like Jase's character but I will be honest and admit that I didn't understand what he found so attractive about Kelly. Kelly annoyed me in this story. And their relationship seemed to go from "ugh, you annoy me!" to "you're the only one for me" a little too rapidly for my tastes. Long lasting connections aren't instantaneous. They need to be built. And this story just felt like one too many shortcuts were being made to get the characters from point A to point B. Not a bad read, but the first book in this series was stronger.

Len Evans Jr says

Wow.. so far this series is 2 for 2! I couldn't put this book down and read it straight through! Even tho the authors have only 3 books out thus far and a 4th on it way they write like someone with 100s of best sellers published. I especially love the epilogues at the end of each book.. WOW! Will be reading the prequel to this series "All I Want" (Elliott and Ash) next & can't wait till book 3 in the series "Be Loved" (Brandon and Shane) is released! Highly recommend all the books!

Heather the Queen of (Smut)Books says

Really enjoyed this follow up to Be True. Not a lot of angst, no Big Misunderstanding or unnecessary conflict like with the previous book. Kelly is a bit high maintenance and he annoyed me a bit in the beginning but that really works for Jase. The chemistry between the two is there from the beginning, which I don't normally like but it worked fine for me here. It's missing some of the heat of the first book but lots of slow burny feelers up til about 75% when we finally get the only complete sex scene (butt secks!!) but it's totally worth the wait (someone is a needy cockslut and I loved it). We do get a couple of stellar blow job and a bit of really hot bathroom solo action. Despite that, I didn't feel like anything was missing. It ends with a lovely epilogue which this author is quickly becoming known for.

Highly recommended.

R * A Reader Obsessed * says

3 Stars

Consistent Starling fluff.

As the owner of Bloved, Kelly has unfortunately made himself the target of a jilted psycho bent on revenge, thinking Kelly's dating app stole his true love from him. The threats have escalated to disturbing proportions and against Kelly's wishes, bodyguard Jase is called in to whisk him away from danger.

Jase and Kelly are like oil and water, and their clashing interactions were fun and amusing. Each think themselves as either not deserving of love or doomed to loneliness for forever, but one knows that attraction will win out and they'll succumb to their desires.

Overall, no surprises here. Insta-lust and love is strong, but with a feel good vibe all around. Just what one needs when craving something sweet, simple, and entertaining!

Gigi says

I'm going to pass since I didn't enjoy the first book in the series.

Santy says

2.5 Stars

I honestly didn't have high hopes for this book going in and with the way the first 60% went, I was prepared to trudge through Kelly's whining and general childishness/selfishness till the end.

However, somehow he got his head out of his butt and fixed his attitude. That's when things started looking up for the book. This was also a bit better with the steam than the other books by Stella Starling.

I'm still on the fence about Brandon and Shane's book as I honestly can't tell how it might go. Only time will tell. :)

~☆~Døni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~☆~ says

~3.5~

Be Mine takes place at the same time as *Be True*, and while it can be read as a standalone, I recommend reading *Be True* first for best results.

I'm a goner for the bodyguard, not to mention the enemies-to-lovers, trope and this story has both, plus oodles of unfulfilled sexual tension.

Jase is Kelly's bodyguard, and he takes his job very seriously. Kelly has been receiving death threats related to bLoved, the dating site he created so gay men could find true love. A stalker is blaming Kelly for taking away his boyfriend.

The police officer in charge of the case, who is also Jase's best friend, insists that Kelly needs to go into hiding. But Kelly is the face of bLoved and about to launch a big publicity campaign. He's not happy about being stuck with a babysitter and makes Jase's job as hard as possible.

Kelly is mouthy and takes stupid risks that put both his and Jase's life in danger. He argues with Jase about everything. Jase is stoic and silent, barely acknowledging Kelly's existence, which irritates Kelly all the more.

Kelly and Jase don't like each other . . . or maybe they like each other a little too much.

Their desire burns hot and bright just beneath the surface. After such a long buildup, I expected a lot of down 'n' dirty, but, much to my indignation, this book was only moderately steamy.

The suspense/mystery wasn't really believable, but it did add tension to the story. I suspect we'll learn more in book 3, which is Brandon's (the police officer) story.

I also think Jase's disability (view spoiler) was almost glossed over. I'm glad it wasn't the main focus of the story, but I didn't believe he would have been able to hide it from Kelly for so long. And once the secret was out, it wasn't mentioned again. I was kind of bummed because I love imperfect MCs and a good dose of hurt-comfort.

Despite these little annoyances, I enjoyed this story. ***Be Mine* is a fast, fun read, with an utterly flufftastic and romantic HEA.**

I'm very much looking forward to book 3.

Jennifer?Pher? says

Man, this one totally missed the mark for me.

I'm sad.

I was really, really looking forward to Kelly's story.

It's one of those weird books. The kind where you enjoyed it because you knew what was coming, but the longer it took to get there the less you were invested. I think had it not taken so very long, we are talking like 70% here guys, I would have been seriously into it.

Jase and Kelly had so much potential and I liked their dynamic but it just stalled out and by the time it picked back up I kind of didn't care. It felt like nothing happened. For as wordy as the book was about stuff (perimeter checks anyone??) it wasn't wordy enough on the two of them. I don't feel like they got to know

each other, well, at least I didn't really read about it. I could almost buy the Stockholm Syndrome...Really though, I was almost skimming toward the end and I was more focused on what I was going to be reading next then the HEA I normally crave.

It happens. I'm still interested in the series and am looking forward to the next book. The series has something about it that I really like even if this book didn't do it for me.

Sussu says

2,8 stars

pretty average on all counts. completely insta-lovey and the sexual tension the author was trying to build just didn't happen in my experience, so while there were sex scenes, this wasn't all that steamy. there were some interesting themes in the book (mostly the insecurity of both characters'; Jase's insecurity about his amputation and Kelly's insecurity about his own worth.)

not the worst thing I ever read but still ended up feeling like a waste of a perfectly good sunday afternoon.

haletostilinski says

This was a solid 4 star read for me. Kelly and Jase were good together, they had good chemistry, and I found them adorable and they made me go "aw," seriously.

I took off one star because the plot was a pretty predictable - and having the bad guy be who Brandon, the detective, thought it was from the beginning didn't make the "reveal" of it being that guy all that surprising, although maybe it wasn't meant to be surprising. Still, I didn't get much of a suspenseful feel from that storyline. Most of the fun for me was in the relationship, and the rest - i thought - was pretty standard, with the stalker storyline.

Peter, the bad guy, was also predictably crazy and unhinged. But while we spend the whole book dealing with this storyline, it ended pretty quickly. But in the end that didn't matter to me because all I really cared about was Kelly and Jase. The story made me care only about Kelly and Jase, and at least it stuck with focusing pretty much only on Kelly and Jase.

These two were hot together, but I am disappointed that the one penetrative scene we got wasn't very detailed. But that's just me being greedy lol.

Overall, a fun and enjoyable read. Just don't expect much complexity plot-wise with this one.

2mmommy says

Kelly and Jase

I really loved these two. Their story was funny and super spot at times but I love a good love story.

Bobbie Bomber says

Be Mine is a fun and cute book from beginning to end. The characters are fun and likeable the plot moved along at a really good pace and the "villain" is just cheesy enough to fit into this adorable romcom. plus the fact that enemies to lovers of one of my favorite tropes didn't hurt at all.

The author Duo of Stella Starlings have now become my favorite in the M/M romance world their books have such an easy laid back quality to them that I don't even notice that I can't put the books down.
