



Want Me, Cowboy

Maisey Yates

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Her rancher boss is looking for the perfect wife...and she wants the job!

Poppy Sinclair kept her feelings for Isaiah Grayson secret for a decade. When her infuriatingly gorgeous Stetson-wearing boss enlists her help in finding him a convenient wife, she threatens to quit. Until Isaiah counters with an interesting proposal: Why doesn't *she* marry him? Can she say yes to sharing his life and his bed, but not his heart?

Want Me, Cowboy Details

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Author : Maisey Yates

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From Reader Review Want Me, Cowboy for online ebook

Aly says

3.75

Brilliant with numbers but not so much with people, seeing his brothers get married gave Isaiah Grayson the idea to do the same. The ad at the beginning that the hero wrote to find a wife will make you understand right away that Isaiah is not a man like the others. I must say though, I'm glad I knew before reading the book that he's autistic or else I would probably had a harder time understanding his reactions and might have seen him as not very kind. His assistant is the one who have to interview his prospective brides. Not the kind of job who would please Poppy Sinclair normally, but add to this that she's been in love with him since she met him when she was 18 and you can guess that she's really not happy about his plan. Isaiah is totally clueless about her feelings and only ever saw her as an efficient colleague. Poppy never talked about it because it's always been complicated. A ward of the state and shuffled around many foster homes, it's one of her foster's sister who found her the job with Isaiah, who was her boyfriend at the time. But Rosalind is also the one who betrayed him, broke his heart and Isaiah made his heart unavailable ever since. He wants a wife and children, but he doesn't want love. So how will he deal with it, when love find him anyway ?

"Emotion was like a foreign language to him. One he had to put in effort to learn so he could understand the people around him."

The fact that Poppy was still friend with Isaiah's ex brought something different and interesting to the "other woman" thing, even if Rosalind was not present except from a phone conversation. But it's cool that the author showed that not all ex-girlfriend are crazy, psycho or total bitch, even if Rosalind wasn't totally innocent, because of what she did to the hero. Isaiah's rigidity was sometimes frustrating but once again, I like that Maisey Yates showed diversity. I wished I enjoyed the romance more though but I didn't felt her usual whirlwind of emotions in this story. Is it the shorter format or was it intended this way because of the hero ? Either way, the emotions felt more spoken than felt for me.

*Dee's Reading Time Matters says

Sassy, heroine, Poppy Sinclair's rancher boss, Isaiah Grayson wants a wife and in several ways she wants HIM but she get jealous when she's assigned the role of selecting the perfect blonde wife for him. lol, Poppy is far from a blonde among others things.

WIFE WANTED

"Rich rancher, not given to socializing. Wants a wife who will not try to change me. Must be tolerant of moods, reported lack of sensitivity and the tendency to take off for a few days' time in the mountains. Will expect meals cooked. Also, probably a kid or two. Exact number to be negotiated. Beard is non negotiable."

Poppy's secret was that she had a mighty strong crush on Isaiah for 10 years (yep, 10 long years) but both have trust issues. Although Isaiah comes off as a cantankerous, growly, insensitive alpha male, it takes spitfire, Poppy to make him see she is the only one for him and his controllable and stubborn ways.

Oh I really wanted to add how Poppy redrafted Isaiah cold ad verbiage.. too clever!!!!

I really enjoyed reading "Want Me, Cowboy (Cooper Ridge: Desire, #5)" by Maisey Yates from the very beginning to the satisfying end! Haven't read a Harlequin Desire book in ages!

I'm planning to check out the other books in this series!

4 stars for a memorable read!

Adele Buck says

[HE THREATENS TO TRY TO TAKE FULL CUSTODY OF THEIR UNBORN CHILD BECAUSE SHE SAYS SHE DOESN'T WANT TO MARRY HIM. (hide spoiler)]

Stacee says

I don't think I even read the synopsis of a Maisey Yates book any more. I just see her name and I'm in.

I really liked Poppy and Isaiah. She's sassy and he's gruff and in their working together for 10 years, have forged a friendship. Oh, and their chemistry? It's off the charts. There were a few scenes with the family, but this is mostly all Poppy and Isaiah.

Plot wise, it was good. The shortened story didn't feel rushed and the bursts of drama were quickly resolved. I really enjoyed reading these two navigate their issues and find their happiness.

Overall, it was a quick read with characters I really enjoyed. I am eager to see who gets a story next.

Huge thanks to Harlequin Desire for providing the arc free of charge

Kay (aka) Miss Bates says

When I started reading Yates's upteenth Copper Ridge novel, Want Me, Cowboy, I thought of abandoning it

because it was too much like Helm's *A True Cowboy Christmas*. In both cases, hero and heroine have known each other for years and SUDDENLY the hero decides he wants to be married and SUDDENLY notices the heroine's appropriateness for the starring role of wife and mother in his soon-to-be neatly arranged life. The heroes think everything will be emotionally tidy, calm, organized: he and the heroine will cohabit, get along like affectionate roommates with sex and segue into being calm, adult, responsible parents. Bwahahahaha ... "famous last words." A great premise, a great trope, but did I really want to read another one? Turns out I did and I would recommend you do too. Review over. They're both good and worth reading.

After my initial eye-roll of exasperation over the sameness of Yates' and Helm's novels, *Want Me, Cowboy* had me thinking about the Romantic in romance. If the Romantic (yup, those guys, early 19th century, etc.) ethos, and I'm simplifying here, posits the primacy of emotion over reason and nature over intellect then, quite often, the romance genre is about the same: the "irrationality" of reason when it denies the primacy of not just "feelings", but emotional connection with the other. No one does this better than Yates. In *Want Me, Cowboy*, uber-rational billionaire Isaiah Grayson advertises for a wife and asks his PA, Poppy Sinclair, to interview the candidates.

Nuts, right? The idea that marriage can be an arrangement between two compatible adults, agreeing upon shared values and way of life, why wouldn't that work? It's not long before Isaiah realizes that the best candidate for the wifely job is none other than Poppy herself. He argues rationally why she's the best candidate:

"You're good with people. You're good at anticipating what they want, what they need. You're organized. You're efficient."

"You make me sound like an app, Isaiah."

"You're warm and ... and sometimes sweet. Though, not to me."

"You wouldn't like me if I were sweet," she pointed out.

"No, I wouldn't. But that's the other thing. You know how to stand up to me."

And she sure does, witness this delightful exchange: " 'Lead with being less of an asshole.' 'I am an asshole,' Isaiah said." Of course, Isaiah is right: Poppy is all those things and more. His reason has anticipated what his heart has yet to discover. Poppy, on the other hand, is and "was tragically in love with him." Because she knows he doesn't love her back. He respects her, cares about her; he's a good, loyal friend and appreciative, considerate boss, but he isn't in love with her. Or at least that's what reason tells him.

While the Romantic poets had nature as an intermediary between their rational selves and their desire to tap into the sublime, romance, much more entertaining, has the body. Sex. Isaiah may tell himself that he doesn't, can't, love Poppy, but his rational self is already being superseded by his physical desire: "... as he looked at her, as those familiar grey eyes, so cold and rational most of the time, went hot." Just as reason is swept away by Isaiah's physical need for physical possession. This is an equal desire, as Poppy wants him as much as he wants her, except Poppy knows that her desire is a result of her love for Isaiah and that love is expressed by physical fidelity, a value that is eminently important to the genre and categorically distinguishes it from erotica. It isn't long before Isaiah is disturbed by his exclusive physical need for Poppy: this is good old Biblical "cleaving", so important to the genre's HEA.

As the novel's emotional tension builds, Isaiah and Poppy have to overcome their brokennesses, their emotional impediments to love. Especially Isaiah. In trying to understand their woundedness and why they're suddenly caught in this philosophical conflict between reason and feelings, Isaiah and Poppy begin to articulate that very argument. As Isaiah says to Poppy:

"Things are easy for me when I can line them out. When I can make categories and columns, so whenever I can do that, I do it. Life has variables. Too many. If you turn it into math, there's one answer. If the answer makes sense, go with that."

"But life isn't math," she said. "There's not one answer."

If Isaiah knew anything about higher level mathematics, neither is math. But probability is still about the ability to predict rationally and that's not what Poppy is trying to tell Isaiah. Her impassioned cry to him is a perfect counterpoint to his logical reasoning:

"So don't try to tell me you're being logical. Don't try to talk to me like I'm a hysterical female asking something ridiculous of you. You're the one who's scared. You're the one who's hysterical. You can stand there with a blank look on your face and pretend that somehow makes you rational, but you aren't. You can try to lie to me. You can try to lie to yourself. But I don't believe it. I refuse."

I loved that an emotional impasse is "hysterical". Women's "wombs" are so often the site of their irrationality, their hysteria, their excessive, immoderate, overblown, disproportionate FEELINGS. But it's Isaiah's impassivity, his lack of emotional expression that is the illness here. As Isaiah realizes, he has way TOO many feelings, all of them centred on his love for Poppy, that prove to be the ultimate in denial and the true cause of his half-life, half-soul, and mixed-up, misunderstood, and ignored heart. But there must've been something in Isaiah to lead him to decide on that ridiculous ad: it was his first step towards emotional resurrection, the recognition that connection is the *raison d'être* of life, not money, success, or keeping safe from being hurt. It's a story I'll never tire of and so, in the end, both Helm and Yates told it and told it well. In this case, with Miss Austen, we say Want Me, Cowboy proves there is "no charm equal to tenderness of heart," Emma.

Maisey Yates's *Want Me, Cowboy* is published by Harlequin Books. It was released on November 1st and may be found at your preferred vendors. I received an e-galley from Harlequin, via Netgalley.

Maria Rose says

Want Me, Cowboy by Maisey Yates is a sexy and enjoyable modern marriage of convenience romance set in the author's familiar ranching world of Copper Ridge, Oregon.

Poppy Sinclair has been working for her methodical and introverted boss Isaiah Greyson for several years now and they make an efficient team. She's had a crush on him since he first dated her foster sister, a relationship that ended in disaster and caused Isaiah to close off his heart to new partners, preferring casual hookups instead. Poppy is firm in her belief that Isaiah is off limits. After all, he's not only her friend's ex-boyfriend, he's also her boss.

That changes when Isaiah decides he wants a wife, and asks Poppy to interview prospective brides. Poppy understands that what Isaiah is really looking for is a carbon copy of her for his home life, with the added

benefit of sex. When she confronts him with this, Isaiah agrees – and proposes to her! It's Poppy's fantasy come true, except that she'd imagined a declaration of love, not a practical marriage of convenience. But what starts as a simple arrangement becomes decidedly complicated when sex and emotions come into play. Can their marriage turn into a real happy ever after?

For more of this review please visit Harlequin Junkie: <http://harlequinjunkie.com/review-wan...>

A copy of this story was provided by the publisher for review.

Geri Reads says

I loved Poppy.

Poppy deserved a better man than Isiah.

But the heart wants what it wants.

Still.

I didn't like Isiah at all.

And again with the whole "my ex did me dirty so I will now act like an ass to the whole female population" as motivation.

Like ok, dude. Time to grow up.

Which makes me mad all over again 'cause HE DOESN'T DESERVE POPPY!

Also, I really wish heroes who are clueless for 10 years should do the proportional amount of grovel. Like is that really hard to ask?

The end.

An ARC was provided by the publisher for this review.

♥Rachel♥ says

4.5 Stars

Poppy has been in love with her boss for ten years and the guy doesn't realize it! I could forgive this to a point because it's clear from the beginning that Isaiah, while being a brilliant business man is socially clueless. Isaiah's on the spectrum in some way even if it's not officially stated that he is, all around him acknowledge that he's not the average male when it comes to feelings or social interactions. So being around Poppy and not realizing that she loves him or even looking at her potential romantic partner was easier to excuse.

Isaiah isn't a hearts and flowers kind of guy since Poppy's foster sister betrayed him several years ago. But Isaiah likes the idea of a wife, family, and stability, so his sensible answer is to put out an ad to find a woman to fill the role. I can't imagine a job more infuriating or heartbreaking than searching for the potential wife for the man you love, but thankfully Poppy doesn't just roll over and take it, and the quest doesn't last for more than a heartbeat. Poppy's got a spine and stands up to Isaiah. Isaiah's brilliant reaction is to have Poppy fill the role; I mean she's been the one constant in his life forever, gets him like no other woman can, and he quickly learns that they have off-the-charts-chemistry!

Oh, I just loved **Want Me, Cowboy!** Maisy Yates has a way of touching my heart with every one of her romances! Unrequited love that blossoms into more is one of my favorite romances! Both Isaiah and Poppy were insecure and worried to show the depth of their feelings beyond the arrangement they strike up, but the sizzle and emotions between them made it impossible to keep each other at arm's length, even in an effort to protect their hearts.

A copy was kindly provided by Harlequin Desire via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Donna Repsher says

Want Me, Cowboy is the fifth novel in Maisey Yates' Copper Ridge: Desire series for Harlequin, and, for a number of reasons, which I'll get to, I almost cannot believe that I'm giving it a 3-star rating, instead of the much more frequent 4 or 5 star ratings I've given every other much loved novel in Maisey Yates' Copper Ridge series that I've read and reviewed, but 3 stars is the best I can do in this case.

My first issue is the title. I understand that the format for the titles in this series always ends with the word "cowboy," but the main character in this novel is Isaiah Grayson, and he's anything but a cowboy. He's a numbers guy, great at math, obsessively detail oriented, and great at being the CFO of his own major construction conglomerate worth billions of dollars, but the fact that he taught his personal assistant, Poppy Sinclair, to ride a horse a year before this novel opens doesn't make him a cowboy.

Next on the list is Isaiah Grayson himself, the supposed hero in this novel. I found him to be utterly unlikable. He's a bully, he doesn't know how to take "no" for an answer, he's socially inept, he's not good at interpersonal relationships, he has no friends, in fact, now that I'm writing this review and listing the problems I had with his character, it occurs to me that it might be possible that he's got a mild and undiagnosed case of Asberger's Syndrome. Isaiah did once have a 5-year relationship with Poppy's foster-sister, Rosalind, who Isaiah admits to having loved. That relationship ended when Rosalind cheated on him, and Poppy knows better than to mention her name around her boss, whom she's worked for for the past decade, a position she got because of Rosalind.

Since Rosalind's betrayal, Isaiah has sworn off love for good, but having looked around at the happy marriages of his parents and siblings, Isaiah has decided that he wants to get married and have a family of his own, and has decided that since one of his brothers placed an ad for a fake wife, who turned out to be the love of his life, he's decided to place a similar ad for himself. The text of the ad is as cold and emotionless as Isaiah himself, and when he asks Poppy to look it over and place the ad, she changes it to make him sound more a bit more appealing. As if that wasn't upsetting enough, he also expects Poppy to conduct the interviews for the blonde wife-candidates that Isaiah mentions are his type.

What Isaiah doesn't know is that Poppy is and has been in love with for the past ten years, even through his

5-year relationship with her foster-sister, Rosalind, who was responsible for getting her the job working for Isaiah. Frankly, I had a difficult time understanding why she loved him. She's kept her love for him a secret, although it nearly killed her when it appeared that he was going to marry the one person in her life that she loved, his now ex-fiance, Rosalind. Once that relationship ended, she still didn't do anything to reveal her secret love for Isaiah to him, content enough to work with the man and make him her fantasy lover.

I liked Poppy a lot and I liked that she wasn't afraid to tell Isaiah that she thought his ad, as written, was utterly ridiculous. A short time later, and after she's spent the day interviewing 6 of the bottle blondes who responded to Isaiah's ad, Poppy decides that she's had enough of this, announces that she's quitting, and when she tells Isaiah that what he really seems to be seeking is a personal assistant for his home, he suddenly sees Poppy with new eyes, finds her attractive, knows she's a hard worker, knows they get along, and knows that he doesn't want to lose her. He decides that she's perfect for him, and immediately proposes marriage--but he's really clear that he isn't in love with her, never plans to fall in love with her or anyone else, but wants a family and children and someone to keep his home running as smoothly as his office, and to warm his bed, and, as I stated earlier, he won't take "no" for an answer. If I didn't already dislike Isaiah, that chapter would have done it for me.

What isn't fully mentioned until just before the marriage proposal is that Poppy is African-American. Although I have no problems or issues with interracial marriage, somewhere along the way, I would have expected someone in his family to have at least mentioned it. It seemed to me, that anything relating to her race was ignored, which didn't seem at all realistic to me, especially since prior to my own marriage, I dated outside my race, and my family had plenty to say about it.

Poppy has had a rough life--a drug addicted, absentee mother, an unknown father, and being repeatedly moved from one foster home to another until she aged out of the system. If anyone deserved a wonderful, loving husband and family, Poppy did, and yet as much as she repeatedly stated that she loved the person that Isaiah was, and didn't want to change anything about him, I simply couldn't figure out why, or what she saw in or about him that was worthy of her love and devotion, especially after she gives up her virginity to him and gets pregnant. It's at this point in the novel that I really came to loathe Isaiah, because when Poppy tells him she can't go through with the marriage, he resorts to emotional blackmail to get his way, telling her that he'll seek full custody of their child, and that he has the money to fight her for it and win. I can't recall the last time I so wanted to reach inside a book and smack a character upside the head, but that's exactly how I felt when I reached Isaiah's despicable ultimatum.

I believe that many of the problems I had with this novel were due to the fact that it was released in the Harlequin Desire series--short and sexy reads with a limited page count. Those limits didn't do this author and this novel any favors, because there simply wasn't enough time to make Isaiah more likable, and show us some good points about his character so that we could understand what on earth Poppy saw in him to love.

If you're looking for a short, sexy romance read with an HEA ending, this novel will fit the bill, but if this is your first time reading a Maisey Yates novel, let me assure you that she's written dozens of novels which are far better reads than this one, and that *Want Me, Cowboy*, is, in my opinion, not indicative of either her excellent writing skills or storytelling abilities. If anything, I consider it an anomaly.

I voluntarily read an advance reader copy of this novel. The opinions expressed are my own.

Steph's Romance Book Talk says

I enjoyed this book by a new to me author. It was sweet, funny, and complicated, just how I like my contemporary romances.

Working as a one handed typer (lately) to see my full review and thoughts about this book check out my #contemporaryathon vlogs, #contemporaryathon wrap-up, Septempber 2018 wrap-up, or check out Read Bliss Interracial Couples Book Recommendation videos.

For other video book reviews check out my YouTube Channel: Steph's Rom Book Talk.

Anna's Herding Cats says

Reviewed for herding cats & burning soup. (posting 11/6/18)

Amazon: <https://amzn.to/2LSGHW9>

Cowboys and Christmas! Yall know that's my catnip. Want Me, Cowboy was delightful!

The Gist: Poppy and Isaiah have worked together for 10 years. And suddenly her boss decides he needs a wife and tasks her with putting an ad in the paper and...finding him one. Seeing she's been in love with him for a decade and wants to fill that position herself, well, yes, she's a spot fit to be tied.

These two were interesting!

>>Poppy's a former foster child with trust/abandonment issues. She rocks a 1950s style, is a bit brash and colorful with a side of sass.

>>Isaiah's brilliant with numbers but not with people. He can't process facial expressions and has trouble understanding emotions which was interesting. He's a bit anti-people (because most are idiots lol), total sexy growly cowboy. Very matter of fact and doesn't play games.

I really loved them together. They both have a very small circle of people they trust and few who truly understand them but these two get each other. I loved the connection between them that's grown from years of working closely together.

Things heats up, gets complicated and a touch frustrating as they both deal with their personal hang ups and limitations. They weren't perfect and could both use a little shake now and again for certain actions/things they said but there's a lot of sweetness and caring between them even if it's not in your face or typically shown.

All in all, Want Me, Cowboy was a nice novella with interesting characters. I liked Isaiah and his social issues. You don't see that too often and it was interesting to watch play out.

Teresa (Reads_Romance) says

This was my second Maisey Yates novel, and I am officially impressed. I loved this book. It was a quick, one-sitting read for me packed with three-dimensional characters, emotional depth, and sexy romance. Oh, did I mention that it's a billionaire, cowboy, Christmas romance novel? Talk about checking all the fun subgenre boxes! Poppy has been in love with her boss, Isaiah for ten years when he tells her to put an ad in the paper for a wife. This is the last straw, she quits, and Isaiah proposes she marry him instead.

Poppy was wonderful. She had survived life in the foster care system and built a successful career for herself despite her unhappy childhood. She absolutely had emotional baggage, but she was pretty self-aware, and I loved her personal style and confidence.

Isaiah was decidedly on the Autism spectrum, at least a little bit, although it was never labeled, only heavily alluded to. Understanding nuanced conversation was beyond him, he was brilliant in some areas of his life but struggled greatly in others, and felt the need to analyze any emotion before he let himself feel it. Did he say something pretty terrible while arguing with Poppy? Yes. But it gave my inner alpha-loving self a little shiver of delight, and I won't apologize for that.

Overall, this was a delightful Christmas romance, although I would argue that the holiday aspect was so negligible it can barely qualify for the subgenre. There was a great balance of angst, a few twists, romance, and a satisfying HEA. Maisey Yates has a way of tying your emotions to her characters right from the start, and I can't wait to get my hands on another one of her books.

I received an ARC of this book in order to provide an honest review

Mspraise50 says

I used to read Mills & Boons by the bucket load when I was younger. I decided to give this one a try and I was not disappointed. I enjoyed it, its a sweet romance.

Tina says

Quick little read that gave me a bit of mental deja vu because I just read another book, More Than Crave You, that had the same basic plot as this one:

Hunky billionaire who has some difficulty connecting emotionally decides he needs a wife to make his life easier. Decides to advertise for one. His trusty personal assistant (who also happens to be black*) who has been with him for years has been secretly and unrequitedly in love with him for years. She is the one who submits the ad and is tasked with interviewing the women. She gets in her feelings about it because, duh, she is in love with him and can't with the idea of him being with some other woman. She gets angry about it and rebels, he finally notices her, a sexual spark ignites, she can't resist, 'hey how about *you* marry me then because nobody know me as good as you', she agrees but the rest of the conflict is that he is sure he just can't love and she can't accept him without love (even though she did agree to marry him). (view spoiler).

This was a quick read with a fairly Harlequin Romance standard feel to it. Both the leads are appealing

with the heroine being the one doing all the emotional heavy lifting. The hero is able to stand back and wallow in his 'one woman done me wrong' feels as an excuse to why he can't ever feel in love with anyone else. I did think the transition from never noticing your assistant in a sexual way in ten years to suddenly kissing her and pow now I want to sex with her all the time was a bit abrupt. And at some point the 'I love him he can't love me' gets a little repetitive, but overall the story was fine.

My biggest problem with the book is the total lack of acknowledgment of Poppy's race. I would normally shelve this book as an interracial romance, but I am not because it barely is. The only thing that signals Poppy is non-white is the picture on the cover. And covers can change so easily. If the author/publisher decided tomorrow that Poppy should not be black, then they could change that cover photo and just a few words of text in the book and no one would be the wiser. There zero references to her ethnicity and maybe three references to her skin color in the whole book, twice referred to as 'brown' and once referred to as 'mahogany' but then again he could see her blush from across a room so I wonder...

I don't need the book to dwell on Poppy being black, but the absolute lack of any reference to it felt glaring and disingenuous. Especially since the book several times makes a point to talk about Isaiah's (the hero) preference for blondes. There are a couple times Poppy despairingly acknowledges that she isn't blonde like the women answering the ad and does fit his physical type. That, of course, he would never notice her because she doesn't look like those women. The fact that Poppy never once in her head acknowledges he looks so different because, well, she is not just not blonde but she is black feels incredibly dishonest. Also, who embarks on an IR relationship and never once even mentions race?

Darkdamsel says

4 Stars for this cowboy romance.
