



To Have And To Hostage

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When he was taken hostage by a strange man Michael never expected he'd lose his heart... Michael Vernon is a rich, spoiled brat with a string of meaningless lovers and an entourage of superficial friends. With no direction in life, he wastes his days spending his father's money and drowning himself in liquor...until he crashes into a man even more desperate than himself, Jarrod Hunter. Jarrod Hunter grew up on the wrong side of the tracks. Out of work, about to be evicted, and unable to afford his next meal, Jarrod thought he'd reached the end of his rope and was determined to take his life. Then fate intervened delivering him Michael Vernon. Why not take him home, tie him up, and hold him hostage to get the money he needs? Two men from two different worlds...one dangerous game. Trapped together in close quarters, Jarrod and Michael find themselves sharing their deepest thoughts and fighting an undeniable attraction for each other. As the hours tick by, the captor becomes captivated by his victim and the victim begins to bond with his abductor. This wake up call might prove to be just what Michael needs to set himself free. To Have and to Hostage...sometimes you have to hit bottom before realizing that what you need is standing right in front of you.

To Have And To Hostage Details

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Arthur says

I like this book. Yes, it's quite unbelievable that the two characters developed 'love' in such situation. But I don't know much about Stockholm Syndrome, so I cannot say it impossible. Another plot that seems to be rushed is Mick's transformation. Still, it's very nice, romantic and enjoyable book.

It brings out a question, though: Do we let people who commit a serious crime (kidnapping is) get away because they are 'nice' person?

Elisa Rolle says

Michael is the spoilt son of a very rich family. 25 years old, he has no purpose in life if not be drunk and go out with his friends. Everytime his father tries to talk to him and convince him to find a job, Michael only sees the plastic doll stepmother he has and thinks that, if she can spend the day doing nothing, also he can do that. Michael is not a nice person, he is selfcentered and vain: he spends most of the time in front of some mirror asking to his image who his the best and the most beautiful and answering himself that he is the one...

Jarrod is a nice guy. 22 years old from a too poor family to allow him to go to college, he has left home to arrive in Los Angeles with the hope of a better future. But even if he is a very handsome man, he is like many others and in the end he is nothing special. So now Jarrod is at the end of the rope, without money and starving. And he is alone: he looks around his empty apartment and knows that he has no one in the world who cares for him. He has only two chance: hustling, a thing he can't consider, or suicide, what he chooses to do. So he shoplifts a little gun from a pawnshop and turns his steps towards home... and he is almost run over from a drunken Michael.

Obviously Michael is not the type of man to excuse himself or to ask if Jarrod is all right, instead he yells to Jarrod, and Jarrod snaps out of his suicidal stupor and aims the gun towards Michael: he brings a drunken Michael in his two rooms apartment and ties him up to the kitchen's chair. Now Jarrod is no more alone, now he has Michael.

Among naieve attempts to ask a ransom for Michael, Jarrod begins to see him in a different way than an hostage: he begins to see him like a friend, something he needs so much, and like a lover. And Michael begins to understand that he has no one around him who cares really for him and in the claustrophobic apartment he begins to feel that the only one who cares for him is Jarrod. But it's not so simple: in a situation that is almost a push psicological therapy, Michael continues to run in his mind all the reasons why he is alone, but he never admits that he has some guilty in it, everyone is to blame but him. And everytime Jarrod reaches a hand to "pet" him or to feed him (not only food but also love), he finishes with a bitten hand...

I'm addicted. I always know, even before starting a book, that I will like an Hauser's book and I will love her faulty characters...

<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B001892DXY/?...>

Adrian Anderson says

What a god awful book! Imagine being kidnapped and held hostage and all your mind seems to be fixating on is sex with man (when you're 'straight') and your life is in danger? Totally no time at all for anything resembling Stockholm Syndrome to even develop! I wouldn't recommend anyone buy this book unless of course you're into cheap and sleazy sex and barely there plots.

Shira Anthony says

I give "To Have and to Hostage" a 3.5 - it is well-written, but it just left me a bit bewildered at the end. First off, the book's premise was an interesting one. What happens when a spoiled, rich, miserably lonely kid and a dirt poor, struggling kid are thrown together by happenstance? What if the rich kid practically runs the poor kid down with his expensive car? And what if the poor kid has a gun and decides to kidnap the rich kid? In this case, love happens. I guess that's where this book got a bit off-track for me...

MILD SPOILERS FOLLOW:

(view spoiler)

So, well-written, fluffy, with some nice sex scenes, but all in all, not the best I've read from G.A. Hauser.

Alina says

I liked this book, despite having some niggles.

I don't have problems with implausible or unbelievable scenarios, coz for me romance books are more like fantasies of some sort. Some tropes I like, some I don't, but I'm not looking for astute realism there.

Since I absolutely love Stockholm Syndrome and class difference, I enjoyed these parts very much. I actually liked how the whole hostage situation was handled, both characters were actually... in character, Michael was still arrogant and obnoxious and Jarrod was torn between violence and shame. For me it looked believable enough.

Now niggles.

I've had some issues with the writing style and although I'm not a native English speaker, even for me sentences like 'masculine tongue' or 'masculine grunt' sounded kinda ridiculous :/ Sometimes the characters were over the top, especially Michael. When he was first described, it was too caricaturish, imo, while Jarrod's story was done very well and his downward spiral looked realistic and sad. But there's been too much crying going on! I like me some manpain, but seriously, at some point someone had been crying on the every other page.

The ending was very fairytal-y sweet, but hey it's Christmas coming - I'm in the right mood for saccharine

sweet happy endings (who am I kidding, I'm always in the mood for them!) ;)

Fairy / Anna says

Is there anyone you can tell me why am I doing it? I keep reading books by this author even if I know that it might be another failure Not to mention that after some of those titles, I feel bad. Like I was reading about something ugly... There has to be something wrong with me :(
This time the story was unbelievable and one of the MC's was an asshole. Simple as that.

pbj says

Completely implausible. Jarrod is sweet and the writing is adequate but the characters are two dimensional. Overnight personality changes abound, and I sincerely doubt anybody's psychotherapist has ever okayed a relationship with a gun-toting, sex-abusing kidnapper - no matter how pathetic.
m/m,contemporary,non-con,dub-con,cinderfella,captive/kidnapped/hostage

Erotic Horizon says

To Have and to Hostage by G.A. Hauser (2008)

Jo says

A trainwreck of a book. Hauser always has this revolting misogyny going on in her mm romances, something I normally associate with teenage fan-girls writing [bad:] slash, but this time both the leads were also dreadful! Michael seemed to have stepped out from a Reagan-era Greed is Good movie- think young James Spader. Jarrod is a wet-smack loser who seems unable to find entry-level work, probably because he's too busy feeling sorry for himself. He ends up kidnapping Michael and in the duration they fall in love. Only really good bit is Michael finds out what an arse he is when no one cares that he's been kidnapped and no one's prepared to pay a ransom, or even believe it's necessary. Jarrod can't work out that if *this* ATM has a \$200 limit then maybe he could oh GO TO MULTIPLE ATMS to get more. I meant it about him being a wet-smack loser.

Sometimes you have to read really bad stuff to remind yourself to appreciate the good. And sometimes it's a trainwreck and you just can't look away from the horror.

Lucy says

While the story is very improbable and not always well-written, it hit the right buttons for me, so I'm giving it a five-star rating. Been I long time since I read a book I couldn't seem to put down.

Michael is a filthy rich a*hole. Jarrod is a nice guy from the other side of the tracks who is so down on his luck, he's just stolen a gun and bullets and is ready to write a suicide note to his mother. Both men are broken in their own ways. Both men will be irrevocably changed by their chance encounter.

When a drunken Michael nearly runs Jarrod over, the latter is so incensed by Michael's subsequent treatment of him, that he jumps in the car and jams his --still bulletless-- gun into Michael's side and kidnaps him.

When Jarrod decides to hold Michael for ransom, his spur of the moment action draws out over several days and he and Michael begin to form an unwilling relationship with one another.

If you like a little Stockholm Syndrome thrown into your dark romance, you will enjoy this book.
