



Beware the Ranger

Debra Holt

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Twelve years ago, Kaitlyn Russell had a dream: living happily ever after with Clay Morgan. Except her grandmother had bigger plans for her beloved granddaughter and they didn't include life in the small town of McKenna Springs as the wife of a young, poor deputy. Kaitlyn's heart was broken when Clay and her grandmother convinced her to pursue her second love, Broadway stardom.

Texas Ranger Clay Morgan is a widower with a young son to raise. A dozen years before, he had to make the most difficult decision of his life when he agreed to let go of the only woman he'd ever loved so that she could pursue her dreams.

Now, fate and an old woman's guilty conscience conspire to bring Clay and Kaitlyn back together once more. Will they be able to lay the past to rest and rekindle their love from the ashes?

Beware the Ranger Details

Date : Published June 27th 2017 by Tule Publishing Group

ISBN :

Author : Debra Holt

Format : Kindle Edition 220 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Beware the Ranger for online ebook

Elaine says

This is a heart warming second-chance romance that I thoroughly enjoyed reading.

Ill health has struck Kaitlyn Russell's grandmother and made her question her actions from twelve years ago when she interfered in Kaitlyn's life, encouraging her to leave the town of McKenna Springs to become a Broadway actress. The old lady had spoken to Clay Morgan, Kaitlyn's love, and convinced him to let Kaitlyn go, to let her spread her wings and see what she could achieve. Neither asked Kaitlyn what she really wanted and she was heartbroken. What made it worse was that shortly after she left, Clay married and had a son. Kaitlyn has never returned home since then, though her Gran has regularly visited and holidayed with her. Now the old lady is scheming again, this time to reunite the two.

With secrets, hidden motives, emotional turmoil and great acting to hide feelings, this is a delightful read. The characters are easy to relate to and knowing how they're all feeling but hiding their emotions from the others makes it such a moving story. It is a story of past mistakes, good intentions leading to heartbreak and showing it is important to let people make decisions for themselves rather than getting them to live up to someone else's opinion of what their dreams are. I'm looking forward to reading more in this series in future, hopefully continuing the story of Angie and Jace!

I requested and was lucky enough to be gifted a copy of this novel via NetGalley; this is my honest opinion after choosing to read it.

Babs says

Kate Russell has been tracked down by Clay a man she never wanted to see again. As the helicopter lands and Kate and her friend Angie on the side of the road what could possible go wrong? Neither one was expecting the past to jump back into their hearts. He lost Kate once can he see her leave again? What about Joshua he has fallen for Kate and wants her as his mom.

A great story of second chances and love. The characters were great and I liked how Clay tried his best to do everyone right. Sometimes you do have to let things go and see what happens. The setting was beautiful the way the author describes the surroundings make the reader feel like they are right there in the story with the characters. A great start to a series.

Jane says

Mundane

Have you ever turned on a soap opera but despite not watching it for several years, you still have a good idea of what's going on? That's kinda how I'd describe "Beware the Ranger" by Debra Holt.

Kaitlyn returns home after a 12 year absence. We learn that she's avoided home because this guy she loved to pieces, Clay, dumped her. Apparently, he dumped her because Kaitlyn's grandmother convinced him that it would be better for her to move to NYC to become a broadway star rather than become a wife and mother. Twelve years later, grandma has a sudden change of heart and finagles Clay and Kaitlyn under the same roof for a few days.

Sparks do not fly. They try to ignite but fail miserably, either by nothing happening or a disruption when things look like they're finally picking up (like an owl flying by, a leaf blowing in the wind, and god forbid, a cell phone ringing!). For me, the plot never took off and was mired in a pit of mundanity (circular internal dialogue that goes on and on and on, hospital scenes where nothing happens, non starter issues each character is stuck in). Basically, the whole book is him saying, "I have to let her go so she can chase her Broadway dream" and her saying, "I have to leave because he doesn't want me but sends me mixed messages that make me want to have his babies but I'm confused so I'm just gonna go back to Broadway." I mean, it's totes ok for a girl to pursue her dream, but if you really love each other, you can still try to make it work! It's not like he was gonna propose the next day. How about if he relocates? There are viable options, people! Instead, these characters just accept their nonstarter fate, and that's just frankly...unacceptable! To quote a successful entrepreneur, "stupid is as stupid does". Can't help you if you won't help yourselves.

They don't get together until the very end, at which point I really can't give a damn anymore. As a matter of fact, I "fast forwarded" and skipped ahead by many, many pages, but I didn't miss any important developments!

I'm giving this 2 stars because although boring, at least the grammar and editing wasn't horrible. Zzzz.

Cheesecake says

[the story spins on a misunderstanding and the H's lack of commitment. He marries a pregnant woman 3 months after he dumps the h pushing her into leaving town. So of course she thinks the worst and it doesn't even OCCUR TO HIM (the dimwit) that she might hold it against him. She has to tell him her fears in the second last chapter... and then of course it's all cleared up and fo

Isha Coleman says

Clay and Kaitlyn were meant to be together, but ended up growing apart. When fate and a wily old woman bring them together again, will they grab onto the chance they missed? No matter how many times I come across a second chance romance, the spark never fades. The heart wants what it wants and if it's meant to be, love will find a way. Such a sweet message of faith in an overly cynical world. Ms. Holt proves that we are never too old to dream.

Marsha Spohn says

Reviewed at Keeper Bookshelf

What an astounding romance Beware The Ranger is. To be frank, this is the type of story behind the reasons

I read Romance of any genre.

There was a time when Kat and Clay would have built their lives around each other. Young love but true love was on their side. Add into the mix a meddling grandmother, one who loved her granddaughter and wanted her to achieve her dreams... even if she got what her true dream really was so totally wrong. And one young man who took a wise woman's words to heart and let his love for this young girl take second place to allowing her to fly free to try out her dreams. Sad thing is... no one asked the young girl what she truly wanted, and it certainly wasn't what she got in the end.

Fast forward to a little over a decade and our no longer starry eyed lovers meet again, again by the grandmother's design. Only this time she's trying to make amends for her actions, decisions that weren't hers to make. Kaitlyn had gotten her shining spot on Broadway and Clay had gotten his Texas Ranger star. Along the way he'd also had a wife and child. That his wife died and left him with a son to be both mother and father to was simply Clay's life now. Yet, one woman held out the possibility of a second chance with the woman he'd never stopped loving. Not a do over, that could never happen, but maybe there was enough love left to have that dream. Trouble with that idea is that both Kat and Clay are extremely stubborn people. And when no one talks about the past, Kat makes assumptions. Choices that could cost her that true dream of hers once again.

I was blown away by this story, the emotions it invokes and the slow unveiling of information to us, the reader, and to the characters. It truly is so well done, flows so naturally that I really didn't want to let this story go. I believe any Romance reader would love Kat and Clay's romance. It's a solid story, interesting secondary characters who will probably have their own tales told soon, and an emotional journey that is simply heart-wrenching and eventually heartwarming as well. I would recommend *Beware The Ranger* to any reader who loves a romance that is so real to life, and so emotional that you'll be right there in the story with the couple. It's good, it's very, very good.

I received an e-ARC of this novel from the publisher via NetGalley. That does not change what I think of this story. It is my choice to leave a review giving my personal opinion about this book.

Miriam Wolfe says

This is a voluntary review of an advanced copy.

When Clay is asked to bring his old love, Kaitlyn, to see her grandmother who is going into the hospital, you know that old feelings are going to surface! Poor Kaitlyn, coming back home after Clay really made sure that she left town for her chance on Broadway and to do that he was pretty cruel to her young heart.

Years later, Kaitlyn's grandmother is having doubts that she did the right thing when she told Clay to let Kaitlyn go and wants to "fix" what she broke. My only complaint about this book is that Kaitlyn never confronts her grandmother for making assumptions about what Kaitlyn needed in her life and being so cruel when she sent Kaitlyn the newspaper clippings of Clay's marriage, and his son's birth announcement. That seemed so heartless, and yet we never hear why the grandmother sent them or have Kaitlyn express any anger toward her grandmother.

There were times that I wanted to hit Clay when he would say something that hurt Kaitlyn and he just did not get the fact that his words were so hurtful! He seemed clueless about how his marriage and son would affect

Kaitlyn and he never talked to her about it until pretty late into the book. If my old boyfriend got married a few months after breaking my heart, I don't think I would visit home either!

I knew there had to be a story behind Clay's marriage and I can see how the events transpired and that Clay would want to do what he felt was the honorable thing. Not sure what Clay was thinking when he built Kaitlyn's dream house, I would have thought that would have made his life even sadder to spend every day living there.

I loved that both Clay and Kaitlyn had such good friends in Angie and Jace. Angie was there to support Kaitlyn through the whole visit and helped deal with her thoughts and emotions. Jace is going to have his hands full with Angie if their interactions are any indication of their future encounters! The ending was great because Kaitlyn got her wish fulfilled the second time she left – unlike the first time, when she left alone and Clay did not follow. I had so many emotions throughout the story but the ending was a great as it was such a happy moment for Clay and Kaitlyn.

Emma says

Beware the Ranger by Debra Holt

Twelve years ago, Kaitlyn Russell had a dream: living happily ever after with Clay Morgan. Except her grandmother had bigger plans for her beloved granddaughter and they didn't include life in the small town of McKenna Springs as the wife of a young, poor deputy. Kaitlyn's heart was broken when Clay and her grandmother convinced her to pursue her second love, Broadway stardom.

Texas Ranger Clay Morgan is a widower with a young son to raise. A dozen years before, he had to make the most difficult decision of his life when he agreed to let go of the only woman he'd ever loved so that she could pursue her dreams.

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this is Kaitlyn Russell and Clay Morgan's story.

Kaitlyn Russell. It was because of him that she stayed away from her hometown. Her actions made it clear she wanted nothing to do with him. He should be glad of that.

"Kaitlyn's in Texas."

Georgia "I need you Clay to find Kaitlyn. Bring her here. She won't come if I ask her. I've done that plenty over the years. That's why I've always gone to New York. But that's not possible for me now. Since she's in Texas, I figure it would be easy for you to find her and bring her home. For just a few days, of course."

Will Kaitlyn and Clay be able to lay the past to rest and rekindle their love from the ashes?

I highly recommend reading.

Beware the Ranger by Debra Holt is a wonderful well written 4 star book.

"I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Reader Copy of this book."

Debra's Books with Tule:

Beware the Ranger

Texas Lawmen

Wendy Loomes says

Sexy Texan

Absolutely amazing book. Debra Holt has hit a bullseye with this story of love and second chances. Actions brought about by honour and ‘doing the right thing’ along with misunderstandings devastated two hearts many years ago.

Clay is the ultimate hero, lawman, loyal and honest to a fault with friends and family but when it comes to his heart that’s a completely different story. That he sacrificed for the better good, or was it?

Kaitlyn was living the life her grandmother had planned out for her, not venturing back home to Texas because of her memories and broken heart, how could she face her lost love and live again? It just wouldn’t happen.

I adore all of the characters in this book, they have depth and history, emotions and feelings that I felt right along with them through laughter and tears. An author that can have me living the story has done an amazing job. Well done Debra, I felt I was right there, immersed in story.

This book is worthy of a definite 5+ star rating. Can’t wait to read the next instalment of these Texas Lawmen.

Shari Kay says

Epic love it ain't

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

Sarah says

Kaitlyn went to New York to follow her dream? She is on a road trip with her best friend and is summoned home for her grandmother and she is not happy about going back to the one place she never wanted to go back to and come face to face she wants to never see again. Clay has been in love with one girl his whole life but for the best of all involved he watched her walk away. When 12 years go by and he is now forced to face a past he would rather leave in the past he knows he can control his emotions and set everything aside to help gram. But will the past be to much for both of them?

I loved this fun cowboy story. I really enjoyed reading this sweet love story. They both seemed to skirt around the biggest issue throughout the book, but the chemistry between them really popped through out the story. There is no strong language in this book however there is some adult talk in the book, other then that its a good clean read. I am excited to know more of Angie's story. Also there is one issue in the that I was not sure were were ever going to find out that happened however you do find out and its not what you think which was fun since it added another twist in an already fun story. If you are looking for a fun love story with lots of heartbreak and healing or over all just a fun love story you won't be disappointed.

Bec_BookMagicReviews says

Twelve years ago Kaitlyn Russell and Clay Morgan were young, in love and had their future all planned out until her grandmother interfered. Now Kaitlyn is back in Texas because her grandmother is determined to make things right for the pair. Will Kaitlyn be able to forgive Clay for making her follow her dreams of Broadway stardom, so they can have another shot at happy ever after; or will she return to her life and continue to fly solo?

This is the first book I've read by Ms. Holt, and the moment I finished this book, I definitely wished I could read the next story in the series right away due to the secondary characters in Clay and Kaitlyn's good friends -- Angie and Jace. The way this story started drew me into this story immediately, because Kaitlyn's grandma is determined to make things right for her granddaughter after robbing her of her happiness years ago because she believed what she did was right. However, it was from the moment the hero and heroine come face-to-face for the first time in years where this story had me hooked and determined to discover what this couple would go through on their journey to happy ever after. Will Clay be able to earn Kaitlyn's forgiveness?

The dialogue was intense and so enjoyable that I could not put this book down, especially from the moment these two came face-to-face and how Clay pushes Kaitlyn to do the right thing for her grandma when it comes to staying. Then there's the friendship between Kaitlyn and her friend, Angie, who wants the heroine to find happiness; the kind of happiness only Clay can bring her. Certainly, the secondary characters charmed me with their matchmaking, their desire to have Kaitlyn stay and I liked how they helped Clay when it seemed all hope was lost. That the love of his life would leave again.

Both the main characters were captivating, and I loved the will-Kaitlyn-forgive-Clay-or-will-she-not emotional roller-coaster this story took me on due to what she believes he did. Moreover, the heroine is strong and brave by finally confronting the past, even though discovering what she believed about Clay wasn't easy to accept, especially when she was so wrong. I also liked how kind and caring she was towards Clay's son who she had an incredible bond with, because the boy wanted someone for he and his dad to share their life with. Yet, what I liked most of all about the heroine was how feisty she was towards Clay in the beginning, because she was still so hurt after what happened between them years ago.

While Clay, he's worked hard to get to where he is and is good at his job as a Texas Ranger. He's also honorable in what he did for the wife of a friend, because of the guilt he felt over what happened to his friend. Then there's the way he's up to the challenge Kaitlyn presents for him, because he wants a second chance. Will he win her forgiveness? Yet, what I liked most about the hero is how good of a dad he is towards his son and that he would do anything to protect the boy. What happens if his son gets too attached to Kaitlyn?

Overall, Ms. Holt has penned a brilliant read in this book where the chemistry was intense, the romance on the sweet side and the ending wrapped this story up perfectly, because Clay will do anything to have a second chance with Kaitlyn. Furthermore, I loved the words he says to her to get her to see that he never stopped loving her, especially when he talks about the past and what he did to make certain that the sacrifice he made was a good decision. However, it was the epilogue that left me with a smile, as Kaitlyn isn't afraid to do a little of her own matchmaking since everything worked out so well for her and Clay. I would recommend Beware the Ranger by Debra Holt, if you enjoy second chance romances or books by authors Jane Porter, Jeannie Moon or Sarah Mayberry.

Theresa Beck says

Loved it

I love this story. Can't wait to get the rest.. Thank u for a amazing book. Once I started I couldn't stop..

Donnajo says

I voluntarily read a advanced reader's copy of this book.

Beware the Ranger by Debra Holt. Book one In the Long Arms of the lawman romance series. Could not put this second chance at romance book down once I started it. A heart-warming story. I'm looking forward to reading more of this series.

P.e. lolo says

Kaitlyn Russell's dream 12 years ago was to be with local deputy Clay Morgan. Her grandmother had other dreams for her and they did include being in a small Texas town to a local deputy. Her dream was for her granddaughter to be a star on Broadway. Now 12 years later she has come to Texas Ranger Clay Morgan and tell him that what she had done 12 years ago was wrong and she wants to try to fix a wrong. She is going in for surgery and she would like Clay to get a hold of Kaitlyn who is on a road trip driving through Texas bypassing her home town on her way to New Mexico with her best friend Angie. When she cannot believe that she is being pulled over, what really gets her next is when a helicopter arrives and none other than Clay Morgan himself gets out and walks towards her and her friend Angie cannot believe that she has kept him a secret. Now she wishes Clay would have been one of those men that got bald, with a gut, but no he still has great hair, and damn him to bits but those jeans fit better now than they did 12 years ago. To top it off he became a Texas Ranger his dream. She also knows that he is married as well and has a child. At dinner that night feeling spunky she asks where the women of the house is being kept in a very snarky way and he tells her in the family cemetery plot. Feeling worse she has nothing to say and Clay leaves. Finally able to talk to her grandmother her grandmother finally tells her what she had done, and though it hurts, it's not until later in the book when you find out that he went to New York to see her perform, and the things that transpired because of that trip. Now it is up to the two of them to work it out and they do still love each other they must find a way. Read this good story to find out what happens. I got this book from Netgalley.com I gave it 5 stars. Follow us at www.1rad-readerreviews.com
