



Desert Rain

Elizabeth Lowell

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She is a contradiction, one woman with two lives. She is Shannon, one of the world's great beauties, her face and figure gracing the fashion pages of the world's most elegant magazines. She is also Holly, a fragile innocent, haunted by painful memories of her past—and by dreams of the man who once shared her secrets. She is assured yet vulnerable, irresistible yet untouched.

Destiny has brought Holly Shannon North back to Hidden Springs, where she can be one person, where romance once touched her tender young heart. Here Lincoln McKenzie waits—the proud California rancher, long since hardened by his life's tragedies. Now, in the icy chill of a desert storm, together they must somehow find the way back to love . . . and rekindle a fire whose healing warmth will truly draw them home.

A classic story of love and redemption from the incomparable *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author Elizabeth Lowell

Desert Rain Details

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Author : Elizabeth Lowell

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From Reader Review Desert Rain for online ebook

Erinn says

I think this might be the first Lowell book I did not like. I mostly don't have a problem with male characters who tend to be assholes, but man Lincoln was over the top, and in the worst way possible. I skimmed most of this book solely because every time Lincoln opened his mouth to speak I wanted to beat him bloody. I was rooting for Holly and Roger by the time I was one-third of the way through book. Skip this one, and maybe read some of her Only series.

Susan Parkes says

Holly grew up on a ranch, living next door to Lincoln MacKenzie - the boy she has loved and had a crush on all her life. After her parents deaths she moves away to live with her aunt in New York and becomes Shannon - a beauty model that all men dream of.

Lincoln, a rancher has had his heart broken by a beautiful woman once before, so when Holly comes back into his life she knows about how he feels about beautiful women, so she hides the fact that she is the well known model Shannon.

When Linc finds out that Holly is Shannon, he treats her like a whore and 'rapes' her, after the event he is truly sorry and tries to make it up to Holly but the trust issues are there and they are major ones and this story is how they come to terms in what happened, who they are and if they can continue with their relationship.

I loved this book by Elizabeth Lowell, so much so that I have read it more than once, I would not take no notice of the negative reviews out there and make your own choice, I would definitely recommend it and I know that I will be reading this again and again.

Malika-Liki says

not my favourite story but I did loved the part where the H talked about his mother's abuse (left as a child in a hot car all afternoon while she is having good time in a motel).

Caro says

In Germany we have this thing called Kasperle Theater, a kind of poppet show where this funky boi Kasperle goes around meeting nasty pips and all the children watching crying noooo Kasperle don't do it he's eviil can't you see????

This book is like that: there's this guy, Linc, a REAL MAN COWBOY STUD who goes around prancing like a young colt or something and thinking he's THE MAN in spite of the fact that our fancy boi has never seen a college from the inside before. So our REAL MAN boi prances and prances and all the children watching scream argh noooo don't do it can't you see it's her? But he doesn't and our boi goes prancing from faux-pas to insults to actual rape only to go OOPS SORRY DIDN'T MEAN IT CAN I TAKE MY WIENER BACK OUT OF YOUR VAGINA PLZ? Yeah that's the kind of party boi we talkin about. So the children been screaming at Linc our boi for nearly 200 pages going like no damn boi u wrong u trippin stahp it this whole plot is about what a dumb cunt u r! Until finally, blessedly, the dumb idiot we've been reading about realises on the last page ever that he has been a dumb idiot all along.

But the central mystery in this grand novel remains, to this day unsolved. I knew that Linc was the one who dun the stoopid, but what about our girl Holly? why didn't she listen to all those children going like dump that ass yo? I'm still confuddled same as our poor boi Linc was when he still thought he was right, and waiting for the sequel where Holly goes of into the sunset and marries her vibrator.

I think I would have loved this as a pre-teen. In my dirty book collection this would have been a raw diamond. Now it's just a bland 2 out of 5 ;) sad

Nadosha says

I don't know why they never used phone to communicate. Thier reason to be apart are stupid. put to was a entertaining book

Alexis-Morgan Roark says

I am going to start my review with a whopper of a spoiler: DO NOT READ THIS BOOK IF YOU SHY AWAY FROM BOOKS WITH RAPE/PRACTICALLY RAPE SCENES!

Some reviewers will argue, but the way the hero took-and I mean took-the heroine's virginity was tantamount to rape.

There were so many things wrong with this book for me (for me):

- * Why didn't he try to reach her once she became an adult? I know the aunt tried to keep them away, but he should have been on a plane the DAY she turned 18 to "claim his woman"! She literally had to be in his own backyard for this "love" to happen. Puhlease! Oh, he "loved" her so much but couldn't pick up the darn phone? Of course, she remained steadfast to her virginal love vigil but he had no problems "sating his lusts" elsewhere.

- * He punishes women 'cause his beautiful mother and step-mama were beautiful women who happened to have loose morals? He beds beautiful women but keeps his obviously beautiful step-sister "plain" and wants to marry his "plain" former jail bait love interest?

- * Oh...and how could he NOT know it was Holly when he first saw her as Shannon? Oh, that's right...he knew it on some "level" but warred with himself? Give me a freaking break! Better yet, someone smack this idiot upside his head.

There's more, but I have grown weary of this book's existence in my life. I checked it out on audiobook from the library; so, at least I didn't have to PAY for this torture!

Must end on a positive note: She did grow a backbone and kicked his butt out of her life...after he said that she had basically learned some new tricks with the "wanna be OM" in the FIVE DAYS since they had last seen each other. Oh, and this was AFTER they'd JUST FINISHED making love-having sex!!

Oops..that wasn't positive. How's this? She puts the hero's ex-he was with her THE DAY BEFORE HE MAKES A MOVE ON THE HEROINE (BREATHE)-in her place.

Susan says

The author noted that this was her first published work and that this edition is one that she was able to add back some of the content that had been culled from it by editors (I believe it was a Silhouette or Harlequin Romance novel.) She shouldn't have bothered. I am not being harsh, I love Lowell but this hero is just gross. I generally like romance heroes, and can suspend belief and just enjoy their masculinity but Linc struck me as insecure and weak. Why did Holly ache for this douche bag? He was terrible. She should have ran away with Roger.

Katie says

A little slow going but as usual when you get towards the end it picks up.

Laura says

This may be the first book I have ever rated 1 star, and I read a lot! Even forgetting the cliches (this is an 80s romance after all) this book was horrid. The "hero" of the novel, Linc, is a completed jerk who crosses the line into psychologically abusive. In my opinion he has no redeeming qualities beyond looking extremely hot and raising horses. Holly puts up with so much crap from him that I felt like shaking her senseless then carting her off to counseling! Bottom line: Not worth reading. If you want to read a decent Lowell novel, try one she wrote in the last decade. I've found her books get progressively worse the closer to 1980 they were published! Beautiful Dreamer is a good recent book of hers.

Note: I listened to the audio book, and again I do not recommend! The narrator tries to act out the dialog by laughing. For example, "Holly laughed. Ha ha ha ha!" It made me wince every time. However I'm not surprised that no decent voice talent would touch this book.

Judyw Winkleman says

Why I gave this 1 star:

1. I'm not a huge romance fan. I'm a firm believer in "less is more". I like more of the romantic/sensual/sexual scenes to leave more to the imagination.

2. This story was so lame. From the first chapter, I could almost tell you the rest of the story.

There was so little substance that I skipped through a majority of the story that was fluff.

Sapheron says

I could have liked this book... it was beautifully written (sometimes) but honestly, it took me FOREVER to finish, and the hero (Hhm?) was too much of an ASSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS!!!!!!!

Sonya says

Good book

SaturNalia says

Holly is a popular fashion model longing for Linc, her childhood crush. She grew up with him on a ranch, until her parents died forcing her to move in with her aunt in Manhattan, where she got her start as a model. Holly was wonderful, she was beautiful inside and out, humble and caring. Her new photo shoot takes her back home and to Linc, who doesn't recognize her and hates her on sight because of her looks and her profession. His mother and step-mother were both beautiful models, who treated him and his father despicably, therefore every beautiful woman in the world must be the same. I hated Linc. He said stupid, ignorant and hurtful things to Holly and his sister. He claimed to love his sister and Holly but didn't look beyond the physical. He raised his sister, but the minute she put on some make up he called her a prostitute. Holly told him she was a virgin but once he found out she was a model, he called her a whore and practically raped her. Holly deserved a way better hero. She tried to tell and show Linc she was different from his mother, but he a big jerk all the way til the end. He wasn't redeemed for all his awful words.

Allison Ann says

Ye gods and little fishes I hate this type of book. The romantic "hero" is a misogynist, a rapist and a complete and utter asshole but deep down he's really just a scared little boy. *Insert emoticon of me snorting with derision here* I've read some bad books for challenges before but this was definitely one of the most offensive. If not falling in love with a man who calls not only me but all women whores and sluts and bitches makes me unfeminine and unromantic, then I say no problem. Yuck!

Mary B. says

Firstly - I have read several books by Elizabeth Lowell and loved them. But this one was pretty awful. There was absolutely no chemistry between the hero and heroine. They had grown up near each other, and the heroine had apparently had a crush on him since she was a kid and he was a young strapping teen, but

beyond that there was no apparent reason why these two should be together - nor did I care if they were together. The hero was a chauvenist jerk, and the heroine was just...wishy-washy. The cheese factor was through the roof. For the first half the hero does nothing but make lame sexual innuendos. This was one of those books where the hero treats the heroine poorly until he finds out she's a virgin and then suddenly she's worthy of him.

I would have stopped reading this book but the dialogue and story were actually so bad that it was comical. I think part of it may have been that I listened to the audiobook, and the reader did the hero's 'voice' in such a way that it sounded like he smoked three packs of cigarettes a day.

This was also my first experience reading a contemporary from such a long time ago (1983), and I'm not sure I liked it.
