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First Star I See Tonight: A Novel (Chicago Stars)



Synopsis

A no-nonsense sports hero and a feisty female detective go head-to-head in this funny, fresh, seductive novel from the award winning NYT bestselling author known for her unforgettable characters, heartfelt emotion, and laugh out loud humor. He's the former quarterback of the Chicago Stars football team. She's trying to make a success of her very own detective agency. Her first job? Follow him. Let's just say it's not going well. Not well at all. Piper Dove is a woman with a dream to become the best detective in the city of Chicago. First job? Trail former Chicago Stars quarterback, Cooper Graham. The problem? Graham spotted her, and he's not happy. Which is why a great detective needs a first rate imagination. The fact is . . . I'm your stalker. Not full-out barmy. Just . . . mildly unhinged. Piper soon finds herself working for Graham himself, although not as the bodyguard he refuses to admit he so desperately needs. Instead, he's hired her to keep an eye on the employees at his exclusive new nightclub. But Cooper's life might be in danger, and Piper's determined to protect him, whether he wants it or not. (Hint: Not!) If only she weren't also dealing with a bevy of Middle Eastern princesses, a Pakistani servant girl yearning for freedom, a teenager who just wants to fit in, and an elderly neighbor demanding that Piper find her very dead husband. And then there's Cooper Graham, a legendary sports hero who always gets what he wants even if what he wants just might be an intrepid detective hell bent on proving she's as tough as he is. From the bustling streets of Chicago to a windswept lighthouse on Lake Superior to the glistening waters of Biscayne Bay, two people who can't stand to lose will test themselves and each other to discover what matters most.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Piper Dove owns a struggling detective agency. She becomes involved with Cooper Graham, freshly retired quarterback of the Chicago Stars, when she's hired to investigate him. Not long after they meet, he's hiring her himself for a whole list of reasons, one of which happens to be figuring out who is mugging him and vandalizing his things. They fall in love along the way. I couldn't decide if I wanted to give this a three- or four-star review. I wanted so badly to cut SEP some slack and give it four, because I love her books so much, but the story takes such a startling one-eighty that honestly, I'm kind of upset about it. Maybe I'm the only one who saw it this way, so what follows is only my opinion.

Mild Spoilers Let me first mention the small things I liked, because there were several. The setting (Chicago) was described with great detail, down to naming street names, but not so much detail that it felt like you were reading a guidebook and was irritating. Just enough to make the setting real to you. Also, she described Cooper's hair color in one of the more inventive ways I've read recently--"burnt toast drizzled with honey." I thought that was so cool. Then there was Piper's disguises, particularly Esmerelda Crocker. That scene was hilarious. I also busted a gut when I figured out what a Tinkle Belle was. And SEP taught me a new word, "cornpone." As to the bigger picture, I'm still a little bemused. The first half of this book started off really, really strong--fast-paced with so much witty banter I thought my birthday had come early, and an energy that kept me riveted.

First Star I See Tonight by Susan Elizabeth Phillips was generously provided to me in exchange for an honest review by Harper Collins Publishers. This is my very first book by Susan Elizabeth Phillips and if I had to use just one word to describe how I feel about this book I would use

âœdelightfullâœ •Cooper Graham is thirty-seven years old and is a retired football player. He had played in Miami for years but then he transferred to the Chicago Stars and took them all the way to the Super Bowl. With a Super Bowl ring in his possession, he decided it was time to get out while he was still in fairly good shape. So he decided his next venture would be a trendy night club he called Spiral. The last couple of weeks, he has spotted a woman trying to disguise herself in various ways following him. Itâ™s when he confronts her that the real adventure begins. Piper Dove has finally bought her deceased fatherâ™s private investigating firm from her evil stepmother and has her first high profile job, to follow the football star, Cooper Graham. But he has spotted her. She canâ™t

help to feel like she failed. She needed this job to be a success to get the business going. It won't be long before she is out of money and can't pay her rent. But after Coop confronts her, circumstances change and Piper finds herself working for Cooper himself in his nightclub. He needs her to observe his business and root out some less than honest employees. It doesn't take long before Piper has his business cleaned up but again things change and Coop finds himself perhaps needing Piper's skills more than he wants to admit. Not only is Coop constantly surrounded by fans, there has been a series of events that threaten his safety.

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