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To Have And To Hold (Wedding Belles Book 1)



Synopsis

USA TODAY bestselling author Lauren Layne is the "queen of witty dialogue and sexy scenes" (Rachel Van Dyken)! Now, *Sex and the City* meets *The Wedding Planner* in *The Wedding Belles*, her sizzling brand new contemporary romance series about three ambitious wedding planners who can make any bride's dream come true—but their own. Discovering her fiancé is an international con man just moments before they exchange vows devastates celebrity wedding planner Brooke Baldwin's business and breaks her heart. Now a pariah in Los Angeles, she seeks a fresh start in New York City and thinks she's found it with her first bridal client, a sweet—if slightly spoiled—hotel heiress. Then she meets the uptight businessman who's holding the purse strings. Seth Tyler wishes he could write a blank check and be done with his sister Maya's fancy-pants wedding. Unfortunately, micromanaging the event is his only chance at proving Maya's fiancé is a liar. Standing directly in his way is the stunning blonde wedding planner whose practiced smiles and sassy comebacks both irritate and arouse him. He needs Brooke's help. But can he persuade a wedding planner on a comeback mission to unplan a wedding? And more importantly, how will he convince her that the wedding she should be planning is theirs?

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Customer Reviews

4.25 STARS
Directly on the heels of his father's untimely death, Seth Tyler is thrust into running his family's company, years before he was prepared to step into that role. Seth takes his responsibilities in running The Tyler Hotel Group very seriously. But his sense of responsibility doesn't end there. With his father gone, Seth's responsibilities also extend to his younger sister, Maya. So when Maya suddenly announces her engagement to a man she's barely met, Seth is immediately suspicious of the prospective groom's intent. While Seth wants Maya to be happy, her whirlwind romance seems dubious at best. Brooke Baldwin, LA's renowned celebrity wedding planner, suffered a major blow to both her professional career and her personal life. While standing at the altar, ready to pronounce her vows, Brooke's fiancé was arrested for illegal activities involving a Ponzi scheme. Unable to resurrect her career and still nursing a broken heart, Brooke leaves her past behind and heads to New York to join the small but illustrious team of wedding planners known as The Belles. Though small, the elite company is quickly climbing to the top of the Manhattan wedding scene, and they are eager to have Brooke join their team. Seth is certain about one thing--he wants to give Maya the wedding of her dreams. It is the groom that Seth is uncertain of. In his attempt to keep a watchful eye on his future brother-in-law, Seth inserts himself into the wedding planning process. Footing the bill for the momentous occasion is the guise with which Seth comfortably hides behind. And surreptitiously securing the help of Maya's wedding planner is sure to make his job even easier.

Every once in a great while, a book comes along that not only inspires you, but also invigorates you. You finish that book with goals and dreams bouncing around in your head. You have new aspirations and a thirst to DO something. Something bigger than you've ever done. I've read all of Lauren Layne's books, and all her books have made me sigh happily or squeal with delight at the wonderful piece of fiction I just couldn't put down... but this was different. Why? I'm not sure. I can't quite put my finger on it since I just finished reading it a whopping ten minutes ago, but here's my hypothesis: The women in this book are fierce. Not in an alpha-b!%*h sort of way, but in an independent, motivated, winner-takes-all kind of way. They KNOW what they want and what they don't. They work hard, they sacrifice, and even though they suffer along the road to glory, they don't let that stop them. They get there. Now, I know you're thinking 'Nicole, what are you blathering on about? You just read a romance book about two people defying the odds and hooking up. Not a self-help book on how to boost your potential.' But hear me out... Brook had her happily ever after jerked out from under her. Her groom-to-be? Gone. Her fairy tale wedding? Ruined. Her career?

Left in shambles. But did she lock herself in a closet with a dozen sleeves of Girl Scout cookies and a five gallon bucket of Häagen-Dazs? No! She got off her butt, flew across the country, applied for a highly-coveted job with a successful group of wedding planners, and went about her life. Was it perfect? No, not at first. But she KNEW it could be. She knew if she worked hard enough, success and security and all the things she knew she wanted out of life would eventually come around.

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