

Dreaming of You (Gambler of Craven’s Series) by Rosalyn Landor,Lisa Kleypas



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ISBN: 1441852093

ISBN13: 978-1441852090

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Book title: Dreaming of You (Gambler of Craven’s Series)

Publisher: Brilliance Audio; Unabridged edition (January 1, 2011)

Language: English

Category: Genre Fiction

Size PDF version: 1144 kb

Size ePUB version: 1480 kb

Size FB2 version: 1913 kb

Other formats: rtf lrf lit docx

A prim, well-bred gentlewoman, Sara Fielding is a writer who puts pen to paper to create dreams. But now curiosity is luring her from the shelter of her country cottage into the dangerous world of Derek Craven - handsome, tough, and tenacious - and the most exciting man Sara has ever met. Derek rose from poverty to become the wealthy lord of London's most exclusive gambling house. And now duty demands that he allow Sara Fielding to enter his perilous realm of ever-shifting fortunes - with her impeccable manners and her infuriating innocence. But there is a hidden strength and sensuality to the lady that captivates him beyond his better judgment. And in this world, where danger lurks behind every shadow, even a proper "mouse" can be transformed into a breathtaking enchantress - and a cynical gambler can be shaken to his core by the power of passion and the promise of love.



Reviews of the **Dreaming of You (Gambler of Craven's Series)** by Rosalyn Landor, Lisa Kleypas

Bluecliff

DREAMING OF YOU is such a beautiful, timeless romance and one of my absolute all-time favorites! I originally read this novel nearly a decade ago, and it's one of the few I like to re-read every couple of years. I loved the first book in this series "Then Came You" and honestly "Dreaming of You" was even better. I think what makes this story so different and compelling is our hero, Derek Craven, who is no lord of the realm but a force all his own and a man to be reckoned with. He grew up as a poor Cockney child, and ends up making a name for himself while building a gambling empire.

Sara Fielding on the other hand is a sweet country girl and a writer. While following up on some details for her current project she comes to the aid of Derek one evening, which is how they meet. As people they are complete opposites - she sweet and simple, he hard and cunning. Sara helps heal Derek's tortured soul, get over his painful past, love and learn to be loved. This is one of those rare books that actually had to be bawling and is a very poignant story of love and redemption. It's truly just an unforgettable tale that never fails to engage my emotions and I cannot recommend it enough =)

Below is a list of all the stories connected with the "Gamblers" series and their reading order, for those who don't already know:

Book 1 - THEN CAME YOU (Lily Lawson & Alex Raiford aka The Earl of Wolverton)

Book 2 - DREAMING OF YOU (Sara Fielding & Derek Craven)

Book 3 - PROMISES (a novella originally released in the "THREE WEDDINGS AND A KISS" anthology)

Book 4 - AGAINST THE ODDS (a novella originally released in the "WHERE'S MY HERO?" anthology) Sara & Derek's daughter's story

Chilldweller

I've read this book a couple of times throughout the past four years and I think I enjoy Derek Craven's character more each time I read the book. Of course it's fiction, but it is still inspiring to a certain degree to think that somewhere, at some point in time, an individual could rise from the mire and eventually be a success not only in business, but go forward all the way through to finding and settling down with a good woman who serves to bring him up to a much higher level than he would have / could have risen without her influence.

Such is the story of Derek Craven and Sara Fielding. Not a lot can be said that hasn't been said by previous reviewers, but I will take a blurb from Lisa Kleypas' own words from her website where she explains a bit about Derek Craven's character:

"Derek Craven was a minor character in 'Then Came You' and then became the hero of 'Dreaming Of You.' He has visited a few other stories, but he is more or less in retirement now. The problem with Derek is that he seems to overpower every story that he's in. He can't help it!..."

The above says it all relative to the manner in which Derek Craven is successfully portrayed. One gets the feeling, he will stop at nothing to get what he wants and it certainly seemed to work for him considering his beginnings and his later successes. The fact he's paired with a woman who was raised in the country and was as different from night is to day when compared with ladies in London adds much interest to the storyline.

One stand out moment - the day Derek is doing some drudge work, helping carry in some crates of liquor simply because he feels like doing some physical labor and he comes across Sara gathering tidbits for her book (she's been given the run of the club during the daytime by Craven's club manager). Derek has some words with Sara and suddenly removes her "spinster's cap and drops it to the floor. Oh yes, Baby! Such a sexy moment and the one in which we know it's all over for the big, independent, cockney, Derek Craven.

Sara is brave, steady, but unafraid of life and what it brings to her. The fact she would ultimately feel confident enough to take on Derek Craven was somewhat explained when Derek and her father meet and have their "talk." Her father explains to Derek that Sara was born to them during the later years of their life. Knowing they might not be around due to their age, they encouraged her independence.

One thing that must be mentioned. Lisa Kleypas' books are often more sexually explicit than some readers will enjoy. In fact, they are more explicit than I enjoy, but she manages to bring forth characteristics in the relationships between her H/h characters that are without parallel in this genre. At least, that's my opinion. Such is the story between Derek and Sara.

Dog_Uoll

I have always liked Lisa Kleypas books especially her older one like " Dreaming of You" I had read this some years ago in paper back but I'm not sure why I felt like reading it again so I got it for my kindle.

The Second time around was just as good I love Derek Craven his dark, broody and grouchy you just want to hug him and make him happy. He has accomplished so much coming from nothing but he just can't get past what he had to do to get there, so he feels he does not deserve anybody that he considers good and pure enter Sara who is so different from him, she is a wonderful heroine spunky, smart, caring and not judgy so she is perfect for him. I love this story I would have giving it 5 stars because it has everything it's steamy, funny in parts it's sad it makes you mad and happy but my problem is that I don't think the villain got what she deserved and that made me mad ?????.

All in all it's a great book worth having in kindle and paper back!

Gold as Heart

As I am on this new historical kick, this book kept coming up on all these must read list and I could have sworn I had read it when I first found Lisa's book. The cover was so familiar. I went to buy it and found I owned it already. Started reading it and it wasn't exactly anywhere stuck in my head. But slowly, small things felt like dejavu. Then, I decided to buy the audio...guess what?! Owned that too!! So today I picked up where I had left off reading and the 2nd half it all came back.

Their connection, the deep soul connection. The power of the words showed Sara and Derek's feelings. When Derek finally couldn't hold back any longer and all of him was revealed he is just unimaginable. That I remember distinctly. I hadn't been a historical fan but of late I have opened up so much more. So I think reading this now or re-reading I felt so many more things than I had before

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