

Be My Valentino

Sandra D. Bricker

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A remarkable heroine reinvents herself and establishes a new career in this against-all-odds metamorphosis. *Be My Valentino*, by Sandra D. Bricker, features a resilient woman confronting obstacles and recurring conflicts.

Jessie Stanton opens Adornments, a boutique that rents designer clothing. Private investigator Danny Callahan needs a suit for an event. This Valentino transaction will change the course of Jessie's life. Danny captures the attention of *L.A. Magazine*, putting her business on the map, but not necessarily in the way she intended. This attractive hunk may be a godsend in the average woman's eyes, but Jessie has not fully recovered from a bad marriage.

Written in a lighthearted style, this mainstream novel breezes through serious trouble with an understated, even subdued, approach. Dialogue sparkles. A colorful grandpa emerges from time to time in first-person introspection—italicized passages that may convey more information than detailed narrative.

Shy as Jessie was, people never know'd it. She saw somebody who needed somethin' or another kiddo left alone at the jungle gym, my Jessie was the first one to try'n do somethin' 'bout it. Saw her leave a boy hangin' many a time to go mop up a girlfriend who got her heart broke.

With an extensive background in the entertainment industry, Sandra D. Bricker charges her scenes with electric realism.

JULIA ANN CHARPENTIER (Fall 2015)

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