

## Untitled by Suzanne Swartz

Former supermodel, Santana Wilder, once graced the cover of every fashion magazine in the world. The fame and fortune that followed was something she'd paid for in spades, emotionally as well as physically. Now over a decade later, Santana comes back home, purchases a restaurant, and hopes her success can finally be put to good use.

Getting involved with a man wasn't on Santana's agenda. Especially not a man of the cloth. Then Santana met Reverend Noah Summerfield and despite all the reasons she gave him for why they couldn't be together, Noah showed her all the reasons they could.

### **Editor's Critique:**

This pitch has a strong hook! Who wouldn't want to know more about a romance between a former supermodel and a minister? It's an unexpected pairing that we don't see often (!) and hints at elements of a tried-and-true romance trope – *opposites attract*.

We also have a lot of questions and want to know more. What was the emotional and physical toll of Santana's fame and fortune? Why is she coming home after more than ten years? It sounds like Noah is the one pursuing the relationship – why? We'll have to read the first chapters to find out!

There are some questions, though, that I *would* like to see answered in the pitch. I want to know more about Noah in order to understand the emotional conflict at the heart of the story. Is the supermodel/minister pairing a gimmick to get our attention, or are there relatable, emotionally compelling obstacles to the romance of Santana and Noah? It's challenging to hint at the conflict in 100 words, but could we make some cuts? We know Santana's a former supermodel, so we don't really need to know that she "once graced the cover of every fashion magazine in the world." And what does the last line of the pitch really tell us? In such a short space, each word needs to lift its weight.

It would also be helpful to have a clearer understanding of where this book fits in the Harlequin family. What line are you targeting? What's the level of sensuality? Is it heartfelt and dramatic or sexy and funny? How would we market this book and who is your reader?

A compelling pitch combines your stellar story idea with your reasons it's perfect for us. Thanks for sharing your pitch – it definitely got my attention!