

Welcome to Issue 206
of the JERR Newsletter

Hot Spot Authors



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Announcement

ATTENTION PUBLISHERS AND AUTHORS

Due to the overwhelming amount of review requests Just Erotic Romance Review (JERR) receives and to help expedite the process of book review requests, we have decided to partner with The Review Depot through the Manic Readers website (www.manicreaders.com). This service will allow both publishers and/or authors to load their books to one site, allow a selection to be made of which review groups should be allowed access to check out their books, and make links to the reviews immediately available once a review is completed.

The policies for JERR reviews remains as it is today, which includes reviews for erotic romance books, as listed on our website via (www.justeroticromancereviews.com/submit-work-to-jerr.cfm).

The following is the URL for FAQs surrounding how this service works and how you can send book requests to JERR for future reviewing needs: www.manicreaders.com/index.cfm?disp=reviewDepotFAQ#Author.

You may begin using this service effective immediately for your book review request needs. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for considering JERR for submission of your book for review.

Sincerely,
 Francesca Hayne
 Publisher Liaison
 Just Erotic Romance Reviews
jerrqueries@gmail.com

JERR is making a few changes to how our Newsletter is being delivered to your mailbox. We aim to improve the quality that Yahoo seems to keep us from providing.

We welcome any feedback from our readers in an effort to make the Newsletter an enjoyable reading experience and for you to receive quality reviews, interviews and features.

JERR Advertising Opportunities

OK, so the economy is better right? That's what they keep saying, but JERR is continuing to give you more bang for your bucks! The **JERR Hot Spot** goes out to over 6000 subscribers, directly to their mailboxes and the first thing they see when they open their email is YOUR BOOK COVER! For as little as \$15 for one issue and \$25 for two issues you can have your cover right at the top of the newsletter. A 50% reduction over the regular price...AND...contact us for other advertising packages, including Cover Ads for \$25 for 3 months of ad space and Cover Ad / HOT Spot combos that you can't afford to pass up. Ad design is also available. Contact [Amber](#) for more information.

The JERR Management Team

Contest Winners



Prize One: The first lucky winner will receive a copy of *The Male Stripper* from Opal Carew, *Private Property* by Leah Braemel, a trade paperback copy of *The Dirty Girls Book Club* by Savanna Fox and *A Little Wild* by Kate St. James.

Winners: Diane McConnell

Prize Two: The second lucky winner will receive a copy of *Love in a Pawn Shop* by Bonnie Edwards, *Bound and Determined* by Anara Bella, a paperback copy of *Northern Heat* by Quarry Press.

Winners: Cindy Henshaw

Prize Three: The third lucky winner will receive a copy of *The Male Stripper* from Opal Carew, *Still Sexy* and *Highland Heat* by Sasha White.

Winner: Deidre Durance

JERR Contest

To celebrate JERR's 10th Anniversary and the worldwide launch of **Sylvia Day's** 3rd installment in her *Crossfire* series, **Entwined with You**, we're offering a fabulous prize. One lucky winner will receive an autographed set of Ms. Day's *Marked* series and a \$100 gift card from JERR. Join us and enter to win this fabulous prize. All you need to do is email us your details to be in the draw.

Prize: One lucky winner will receive an autographed set of **Ms. Day's** *Marked* series, and a \$100 gift card from JERR.



In order to be eligible you **MUST** be a JERR newsletter subscriber. Non-subscribers' entries will be discarded. Get ready to enter your name in the draw! Be sure to enter no later than August 29, 2013.

Please place **Sylvia Day** in the subject line of the e-mail and include your FULL name. E-mail your information to contest@justeroticromancereviews.com.

***Prizes not claimed within 30 days of receipt of the contest winner notification (notifications are sent via email to each winner) will be voided. Make sure you have your spam filters set to receive emails from the contest email address indicated above.

Good Luck!
JERR Staff
Just Erotic Romance Reviews

Want to Join the Fun Review for JERR

JERR Needs YOU!! To Help Us Get Those Books Reviewed!

JERR is always looking for New Reviewers — Come HELP us with all those hunky alpha males...

Review for JERR and be part of all those great stories out there just waiting to be read!

If you are interested in joining our crazy team of reviewers please join our New Reviewer's Yahoo Group and then submit a sample review to that group.

Choose any erotic romance you would like from your collection and submit a review of approximately 300 words.

Join the Review for JERR Group NOW! All information you need to submit your review can be found here.

***JERR does not accept published authors as reviewers.

***JERR does not accept anyone connected with promotions or publishing of Erotic Romance books as reviewers.

If you are unsure if there is a conflict of interest please email Amber to clarify.

The JERR Management Team



Author Spotlight



[Afton Locke](#) joins us this month. This lovely author is giving JERR insight into her world and her latest release, the multicultural 1930's erotic romance [Rose, Exposed](#). We also discuss her upcoming works and writing process to get behind the woman who has given readers the wonderfully executed and talked-about [Rose, Exposed](#) which released in late March and set during one the most interesting times in history. Hi Afton and welcome to JERR. We're really excited to have you join us this month to discuss your work. Thank you for taking time in your busy schedule to chat to us as I know our readers are eager to hear about your news.

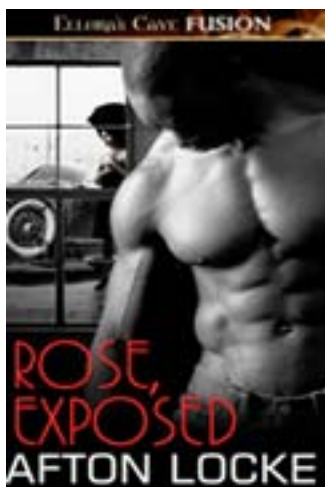
Can you tell us a little about yourself and what attracted you to writing?

Thank you for having me. I love to read and write and started checking romances out of the library in my teens. What attracted me to writing are romance, emotions, suspense, and settings. My family has been very supportive. When I go too long without writing, I don't feel right. Like many writers, I'm an introvert. Just sit me under a tree with a book, and I'm a happy camper.

How long were you writing before you became published, and have you always wanted to write?

I started writing in my teens, longhand in those theme notebooks. When I was 17 I decided to write an historical romance and even did a bunch of research. Unfortunately, I never got past the first couple of chapters. In college, I forgot all about writing. I finally wrote an historical when I was 22 and submitted it. After it was rejected, I went to grad school and put writing aside again.

It wasn't until I married that writing became a more permanent part of my life. I joined [Romance Writers of America](#) over ten years ago, and my real journey began. I spent years writing unpublished manuscripts and honing my craft. So, it has been a very tough, meandering journey!



Were you inspired by anyone to try your hand at writing?

I was inspired by authors I'd read, such as [Victoria Holt](#). I love the Gothic suspense. I was also inspired by the evening soap [Dallas](#). The suspense and intense emotion made me want to express something similar on paper.

What's your creative process when working on your stories, from idea/inception to published work? How do you plan your workday?

I do some pre-plotting, but I can't outline an entire book up front. I need the adventure. For the rough draft, I only write on days that I'm off from the day job. Morning is writing time, so I schedule 3 hours or so to write a chapter. I don't quit until the chapter is done. Then I print it and reread it, making minor corrections. I don't do major edits or extensive research until after the draft is complete.

Then I do the major editing process. I often end up with a 30-page document listing everything I checked, analyzed, and fixed. I commonly put in 8-10 hour days doing edits. This does affect my social life, so I really live it up between books! The good news is my rigorous self-editing is now getting my stories a higher acceptance rate without the need for revisions, rewrites, or heavy edits.

Have there been any career highlights for you so far?

- I have two books in print with a third on the way.
- [Sexual Energy](#), my futuristic ménage, won second place in the 2010 Rainbow Romance Award for Excellence by Rainbow Romance Writers.
- [Ellora's Cave](#) awarded me a superstar award in 2012 for [Plucking the Pearl](#).
- I've received four and five-star reviews for my books, including Night Owl Reviews Top Pick for [Seven Minutes of Seduction](#).

I'm looking forward to even bigger highlights!

Your writing is mainly spicy romance. Is this your favorite genre and why?

For writing, it is my favorite now and it's hard to imagine writing anything else. Writing about passion is fun! I love how the sex and emotion tie together and how the sex gets interwoven into the plot. For reading, though, I enjoy a variety of genres.

Have you ever wanted to try your hand in any other genre?

Several, actually! I think I've written an unpublished romance in every genre there is, which was a learning process. In some ways, I wish I'd tried erotic romance sooner and focused only on that.

[Rose, Exposed](#) is now available at Ellora's Cave. What is this story about?

This book is the sequel to [Plucking the Pearl](#) and features Pearl's cousin Leroy.

When Leroy gets promoted at the new oyster plant on Pearl Point, all he cares about is working hard. Then he meets flirtatious artist Rose, and soon nothing matters except getting her to the altar and into bed. He's healing from a recent loss, and isn't about to let her go too.

Because Rose's strict, social-climbing father doesn't approve of dark-skinned Leroy, they court in secret. Although Leroy's raw passion can convince her to do almost anything, why can't he understand she needs freedom, not marriage? However, in the 1930s, freedom for any woman is hard to come by.



In Leroy's arms, Rose finds unimaginable sensual pleasures, but she's torn by desire and duty. Her father wants her to be white; Leroy wants her to embrace her black heritage. Playing both sides of the fence leaves this young biracial beauty exposed in more ways than one.



Rose, Exposed is set in an unusual time in history. Why this era?

Historical used to be considered anything before 1900, but as we progress into the 21st century, that's changing. Now the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s are considered historical too, and they're exciting because they're new eras in writing. They were also turbulent times.

I chose the 1930s because of the Depression. The current recession has touched my life and those of my loved ones. When I began writing Plucking the Pearl, the prequel, I was unemployed and down. Writing the book cheered me up, and I found a job soon afterward.

Was there an event or moment that inspired Rose, Exposed?

Yes, inspiration struck when reading The Wife of His Youth, a powerful story by Charles W. Chesnutt. In it I learned about the racial views of biracial people. For example, the Blue Veins society only admitted those with blue veins visible in the skin.

You've touched on an interesting storyline. How much research was involved with Rose, Exposed?

It seems every book I write requires a lot of research. I learn a lot from writing! Even my contemporaries require research, and because this book is historical, it required even more. Luckily, some of it was already done by writing the prequel. Historicals demand attention to clothing, undergarments, and word usage, to name a few. I always keep an etymology dictionary handy.

The time you've set your story in was very volatile and controversial. What steps did you take to ensure the romance was the key element?

A writer needs to keep the romance uppermost in mind at all times. That means no excessive violence, unhappy endings, or history lessons. The story is about the hero and heroine's relationship. The setting should reveal their flaws through external conflict and force them to grow but not overpower them. When I plot a book, I make sure to identify the key turning points 1/4, 1/2, and 3/4 through the book. Everything else supports that.

You've painted a very vivid image with Leroy and Rose. How did you develop these characters?

I'm a bit of a seat-of-the-pants writer. Before I write, I sometimes do some character worksheets, but when I write the rough draft, I get to know my characters by handing them the reins. After the rough draft comes the extensive polishing process. That's when I dig deeper into the characters and sharpen the patterns that emerged during the draft. I wasn't entirely happy with Rose after the draft, so I had to do a little extra work to make her likeable.

Rose, Exposed is the sequel to Plucking the Pearl. Have you thought of writing any more stories in this era?

Yes, I plan to write about Sadie (Pearl's cousin) and Henry (Caleb's brother) next. After that, I have a fourth book planned, the grand finale, featuring a hurricane and two simultaneous romances that will bring racial tensions on the island to the boiling point. Stay tuned to my web site. I plan to add a page about the Oyster Harbor series with pictures and family trees.

Pearl and Caleb are fascinating characters in an unusual setting. Did you get the chance to visit Oyster Island in Maryland before you wrote their story?

Yes. Oyster Island is fictional, but I was inspired to write the book after visiting Solomons Island and touring the



oyster museum. I also grew up on the Maryland waterfront, so writing about it is a joy.

Do you have any more plans for more of these spicy interracial historical erotic romances?



Hopefully. I'm gauging the interracial market. Because writing is very hard work and the historicals take a lot of time, I need to be somewhat assured of a decent return for my efforts. I currently have ideas for books set in the prairie and the Alamo.

I might even try interracial contemporaries. My recent trip to Jamaica has inspired me! I also write mainstream erotic romances, so I try to alternate between these genres to keep all the readers happy.

If you had to give a piece of advice to an aspiring author what would it be?

Join Romance Writers of America and a local chapter. By getting into this boat, an aspiring writer will get headed in the right direction with help along the way.

What are you currently working on? What's next for Afton Locke?

I just received an offer of publication from Ellora's Cave for a contemporary erotic romance novel tentatively titled Stripper with Spice.

Getting back on her feet after unemployment, Janice Sullivan, a financial analyst, treats herself to an erotic romance convention. Winning two hours with Carlos Aguilar, a young Mexican-American stripper, she decides to have a one-time fantasy fling.

When Carlos entices her back to the bedroom—and a few public places—for more sizzling sex, he unleashes her passions, including a secret desire to be a chef. Janice learns there's more to this heartthrob than a hot body, but job security comes first.

To convince her he's more than a fantasy, he teaches her trust with his body. But when that trust is finally tested to the limit, will she cling to safety or take a chance on a whole new life?

At RomantiCon, the October conference put on by Ellora's Cave, Entrance to Ecstasy will debut. This print anthology combines my paranormal novels Cicada and Candelabra. (Plucking the Pearl is also available in print.)

I'm having trouble deciding on my next writing project, though. I should start Sadie and Henry's story, but several other stories are also demanding to be first.

How can readers stay in touch with you?

Readers can contact me through the following links and online locations:

Email: aftonlocke@aol.com (I love fan mail!)

Web: www.aftonlocke.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/afton.locke

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/aftonlocke>

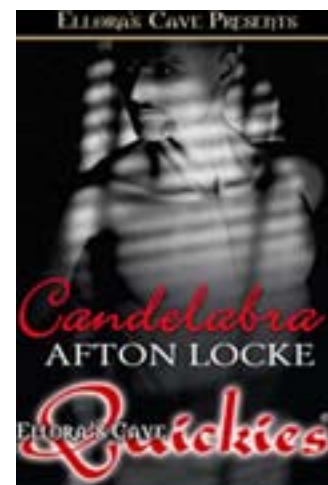
Newsletter - *The Love Chronicle*: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/thelovechronicle/>

Goodreads: www.goodreads.com/author/show/3159922.Afton_Locke

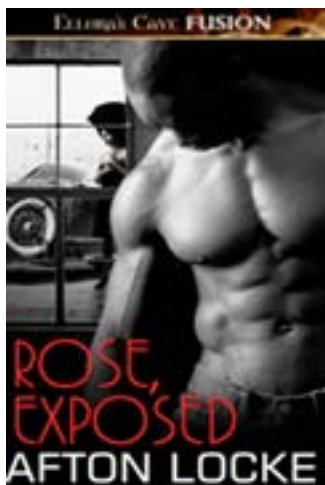
RomantiCon Oct 10-13, 2013 in Canton, Ohio - <http://ecromanticon.com/> #RCon13

The book signing is Sunday, and I'm co-hosting the following interracial workshop on Saturday:

Fabulous Fusion (Koko Brown, Afton Locke, Eve Vaughn): Ever wonder what it might be like to date a hunky hottie outside your race, be it amorous Asians or African-Americans, spicy Hispanics or cute Caucasians? Or,



more to the point—ever wonder how you might please them in bed? Join this no-holds-barred workshop that will include role playing and quizzes to separate the myths from the hard facts. And we do mean *hard*.



QUICK Q&A — complete the sentences below

The most important thing... **is experiencing joy each day, however, wherever, and whenever you can find it**

What I'd like to do... **is see most of the world**

The most influential person... **today is probably not the most influential person yesterday or tomorrow**

Erotic romance is... **here to stay**

The best movie I ever saw... **is *Somewhere in Time* with Jane Seymour**

Strong Alpha males... **are sexy!**

One day...**I will be a full-time writer**

Most days I'm... **busy**

My favorite time of the day... **is the evening because after getting the hard stuff done during the day, I can finally relax and have some chocolate**

I identify with ... **whoever I'm talking to so I can get on his/her wavelength**

If I wasn't a writer I would... **drown in mundane reality**

NOW FOR SOME FUN STUFF

What do you find sexy in a man?

Lots of things! Hands, hair, and voice are features I notice, but it's the total package. Clothing, facial expressions, physical fitness, and body language combine to create an overall impression. I prefer quiet and reserved to loud and obnoxious. I've been enjoying watching young Larry Hagman in *I Dream of Jeannie* reruns. Astronauts are very sexy. Love his uniform, broad shoulders, good posture, and stern face that breaks into a smile.

Who is the sexiest hero in literature? Why?

Angel Clare in *Tess d'Urbervilles*. He's passionate but honorable, a very intoxicating mix. Although his flaws are maddening, he makes up for it at the end. The best scene in the book is when he sleepwalks and carries Tess across a narrow bridge over a raging river. I've watched two movies based on this book and neither included this scene. Why not? It wouldn't be hard to film. I want to write a contemporary story loosely based on this book.

Which person, dead or alive, would you most like to meet?

John Denver. He's a true artist and once said he found the details of everyday reality downright painful. I can so relate to that. I always know it's time to start writing a new book when reality submerges me.

What three things can't you live without?



Books, chocolate, and water — I carry it with me everywhere I go and visit the ocean at least once a year

What type of chocolate do you like? Dark, milk or white?

The darker the better. I love the bittersweet taste and velvety texture. It's also healthy, and I think it even makes me sleep better. After I make homemade brownies, I love to lick the spoon used for melting the chocolate and butter.

What is the one sexy item you MUST pack every time when you go on vacation?

I pack a cerise-colored nightgown made of satin and lace to sleep in. It's too nice to wear every day. In fact, I brought it on the Caribbean cruise I just went on.

What is your idea of heaven on earth?

Being outside in nice weather — eating in an outdoor restaurant, reading, or just daydreaming.

If Heaven exists what will God say to you when you arrive at the gate?

Who do you want to be in your next life?

I'd like to thank [Afton Locke](#) for taking the time to visit JERR this month and chat about her work. It's been fascinating and informative and for giving us insight in her world. I'd like to wish Ms. Locke all the best in her future works. If you'd like to learn more about this talented author be sure to check her out through the links provided above or her website at www.aftonlocke.com.

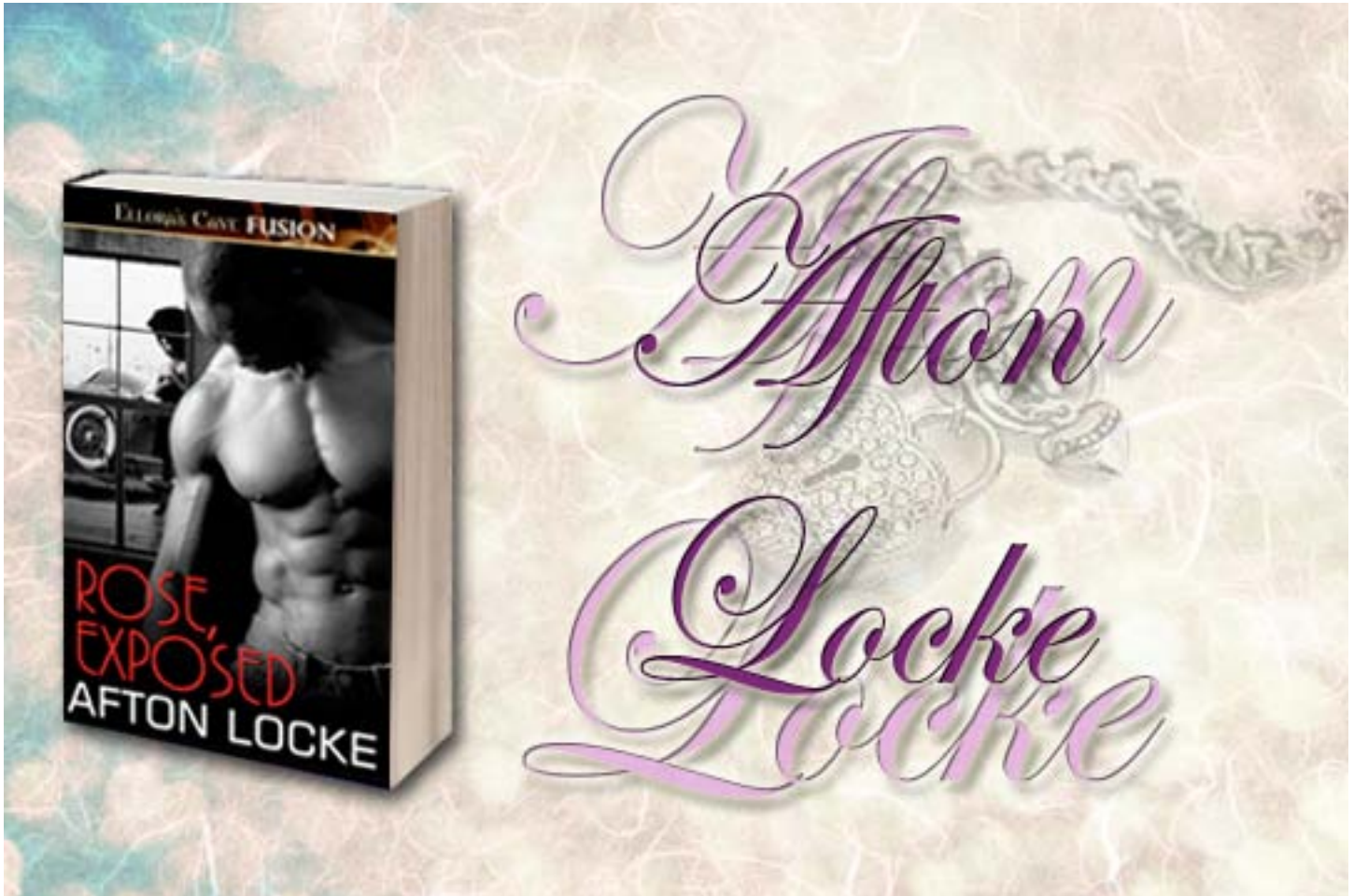
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ABOUT THE EDITOR / AUTHOR

Afton Locke is the multi published author of several books in various genres, giving readers stories in historical settings, contemporary tales, futuristic drama and sexy paranormals. Her latest release, the multicultural 1930's erotic romance *Rose, Exposed* has garnered rave reviews from readers and fans alike. We talk to get author who has given readers the wonderfully executed and talked-about *Rose, Exposed* which released earlier this year. Ms. Locke has given readers a lush tale set during one the most interesting times in history, not only because of what was happening socially, financially and historically, with its emotional retelling of a truly romantic tale. Ms. Locke's story allows the setting to make this romance truly fascinating and leaving readers on the edge of their seats to discover how the relationship between Rose and Leroy unfolds. For more information on Ms. Day's work, news and events, please visit www.aftonlocke.com.

Excerpt



"You danced awfully close to that white fellow," he said. "Did you feel his cock against you, Rose?"

She shook her head, unable to take her eyes from the enticing length of hard flesh sliding back and forth in his hand. He let go of himself and traced his wet fingertip along her bottom lip.

"You're a poor liar, sweet girl," he whispered.

In spite of herself, she extended her tongue and licked the essence he'd left on her mouth.

"Yes, I felt it," she admitted, "but I didn't want to. I didn't want to anger him by backing away."

Her fear of Jonathan seemed silly now. The real danger was right here in the car with her.

Leroy took the hand that still clenched her purse, opened it and wrapped it around his shaft. Her fingers convulsed against the hot, silky hardness. It was the most exquisite thing she'd ever touched. Her entire arm trembled as a vein, swollen and buzzing under her fingers, filled her with electrifying energy.

"Was it as big as this?" he asked, moving her hand up and down his shaft.

"No, I don't think so," she answered honestly.

While she still grasped him, he slid a hand under her dress, starting at her ankle and ending at the seam of her labia. Her body answered his touch with a gush of wet heat.

"Why you've got nothing on." He frowned and his hand stilled, leaving her thundering heart perched on a precipice. "Do you mean to tell me you danced with no drawers?"

Her flesh swelled against his fingers, begging them to move. "I-I didn't have the right kind."

Stars exploded behind her eyes when he plunged the full length of his finger into her wetness with no warning. Her hand involuntarily tightened around his cock while her cunt tightened around his finger.

"You're so wet, Rose," he said, breathing hard against her face. "Are you wet for Jonathan or me?"

"You! Please forget...Jonathan."

"There's nothing I'd like better," he bit out.

To her dismay, he stopped touching her between the legs, leaving behind a painfully throbbing pulse. She stroked him, sliding her fingers across the smooth head. The more pleasure she gave him, she hoped, the more he'd give her.

But despite the hunger racing through her body, something didn't feel right. There was a wall between them tonight. One of jealousy.

© Afton Locke, August 4, 2013 Issue of Just Erotic Romance Reviews Newsletter



The Reviews

Title: A Little Weird
 Author: JB McDonald
 Publisher: Torquere Press
 Reviewer: Silla Beaumont
 Rating: 5 Stars
 Heat Level: O

Kel is used to weird. Having flashbacks of his time in Iraq is weird, as is living in the storage closet of a pub. But his friend London asking him to be a submissive third to her and her boyfriend Tyrone? That definitely tops the list, given that he isn't submissive, nor is he into men. In panic mode, Kel says no. Not just no, but HELL NO. As London and Ty begin scouring the internet for sex partners, Kel begins panicking about their safety and eventually says yes. After a rough start, Kel, begins to actually enjoy the power plays that the three share in the bedroom, as well as the sex he's having with a man...which is just the weirdest. With Kel's PTSD and London's own fear of her past, Ty has to do what he can to try and keep the three of them together. Can Kel let go of his own preconceived notions long enough to realize that their relationship is just right?

A Little Weird is such a sexy book, with a highly damaged hero and heroine that you can totally get behind. Kel's PTSD has ruled him since he left the service five years ago, but when he, Ty and London get together he makes such great strides in trusting others. His awkwardness makes his ultimate acquiescence is so damn lovely. London's condition is a little different...I don't want to give away the mystery of what her issues are, because I loved how desperate I felt for answers when I was reading it! Ty was just phenomenal. Sexy and caring, he was absolutely the rock that held London together, and eventually Kel as well. He has no demons. He just wants the people he cares for to feel safe. The awkwardness the three experience in the beginning was very realistic and humorous and I appreciated that Ms. McDonald didn't force the sex on the reader. It felt completely right when it happened, not rushed or gratuitous. I did bristle a bit at the use of the words Dom and sub as really it was all about light power exchanges, but overall, A Little Weird was a fantastic book that will have your emotions and your libido in high gear the entire time. (PS -the Super Bowl is in February, not on Thanksgiving!)

Title: All of Me
 Author: Em Epe
 Publisher: Eternal Press
 Reviewer: Arianna Bolger
 Rating: 4.5 Stars
 Heat Level: H

Barb Timms was emotionally abused by her ex-husband during their marriage. A simple joke brings her former boyfriend Den McRaidy to her doorstep. Den shows Barb there should be no boundaries where sexual desires are concerned. Determined to get revenge against Barb's ex husband, Den reverts to his old ways. But problems arise when the victim accuses Barb of being behind his assault. Den's method of dealing with Barb's past has caused her world to fall apart, will he be there to help pick up the pieces?

All of Me, a McRaidy Son is a wonderful and emotionally gripping novel that I had a tough time putting down. What struck me the most was the very realistic storyline. Den is a bad boy who was deep into drugs but has slowly recovered. He still

fighters the cravings when he discovers Barb again. Barb is a fragile woman who is still getting over the past abuse her ex inflicted upon her. Den and Barb are such opposites at times that it's hard to see the attraction, but what I loved the most was how Den allowed Barb to become stronger. The chemistry between Den and Barb was explosive. I enjoyed seeing how brave Barb was in finding what worked for her and loved how patient Den was during the sex scenes. They were very realistic and portrayed the troubles Barb had with sex. I loved the positive attitude Barb and Den had despite all the problems that they were facing. Overall, I enjoyed this story. While I have not read anything by this author before, she is definitely on my list of authors to watch out for.

Title: Ask For It
 Author: Selena Blake
 Publisher: Self Published
 Reviewer: Silla Beaumont
 Rating: 4.5 Stars
 Heat Level: H

Julia "JJ" Fairchild has two rules: wear clean underwear and don't have sex with strangers. Well former NFL star Trevor Wyatt isn't REALLY a stranger...after all, she's interviewed him and lusted after him dozens of times over the years as a journalist for CSN. Running into him while in NYC after not seeing him for years is sheer serendipity but that doesn't stop the attraction from boiling to the surface once again. Trevor remembers his attraction to JJ all those years ago very well and it hasn't let up one bit. While JJ is a master at the written word, giving voice to her desires is another matter, one which Trevor is eager to explore. Trevor has a tough time trusting people and the fact that Julia is a journalist makes him hold back even more. Can he trust that she won't use her background to dig out the true reason he left the NFL?

Ask For It is such a sweet book that you almost forget that you're reading an "erotic" romance. Almost. Because while Trevor and JJ's story is highly romantic and lovey-dovey, it's also hot as Hades! The chemistry between the couple is instantaneous and absolutely combustible. Trevor is protective and instantly aware that the attraction that he felt toward JJ all those years ago wasn't just lust. JJ goes into a semi-trance upon seeing him again and the two can't seem to keep their hands off of each other. Even long distance, Ms. Blake makes their relationship develop so nicely that there isn't any choice but to root for the two of them to make it no matter what. JJ was an excellent character. She was a tough as nails tomboy who didn't mind getting down and dirty...with some feminine lingerie underneath. Trevor was romantic and sexy and protective. He is the perfect guy for a woman not used to someone taking care of her. I did feel that the ending left a lot more questions than answers and would have liked an epilogue wrapping everything up for us happily ever after enthusiasts. While Ask For It won't have your jaw dropping, it will make you say "awww" a few times. Pick this one up for a sultry beach read.

Title: Mustangs Baseball #3: Bases Loaded
 Author: Roz Lee
 Publisher: Self Published
 Reviewer: Silla Beaumont
 Rating: 3 Stars
 Heat Level: O

It's love at first sight the moment Mustangs centerfielder Antonio Rameriz spots the voluptuous Clare Kincaid, but she's not buying it. Maybe Tony came on a little strong...was it the marriage comment within minutes of meeting her that had her running like a scared rabbit? Clare has lusted after Tony for years but she can't believe that this hunka hunka of burnin' man has any true desire for her, especially since she's way curvier than the women he's usually seen with. Tony's not inclined to give up. He knows that the needlessly insecure Clare is his soul mate. When Clare shocks Tony with knowledge of the secret and very kinky Bases Loaded club which he's a member of, Tony is torn. Yes, he wants to see the gorgeous woman play the game but she's the future mother of his children! Tony tries to reconcile the depraved visions that pop up every time he thinks of Clare joining Bases Loaded with the fact that he wants her all to himself, while Clare struggles with her self-esteem issues in this brand new world that Tony has introduces her to. Can they work out their differences before it gets too complicated?

Bases Loaded is the third book in the *Mustangs Baseball* series and can be read as a standalone. I'm in love with Tony – he knows what he wants and will stop at nothing to make Clare his woman. On the other hand, Clare is likely the worst and least sympathetic female main character I've encountered. She's beyond insecure, to the point that almost every word out of her mouth is negative and/or whiny. I can't get behind a woman who feels that the only way she can have worth is if tons of men fawn over her! I really had a tough time envisioning sweet and sexy Tony being so smitten by a woman with a

terrible personality, especially when she pouts and ignores him and generally acts childish when she doesn't get her way immediately. The two of them had no chemistry, but I'll admit, the sex was still pretty damn hot, especially when she was finally playing the game. I did like the concept of the Bases Loaded game and I'd love to read more books with that as the focus. Unfortunately, my lack of appreciation for Clare put a damper on what could otherwise have been a really sexy and fun book.

Title: Blind Acceptance
 Author: Missy Martine
 Publisher: Siren-Bookstrand Publishing
 Reviewer: Gabrielle Lee
 Rating: 4 Stars
 Heat Level: H

Blind and left defenseless and drugged in the woods by the one man she should have been able to trust, Laynee Conners has no idea what she will do until two men come to her rescue. David and Eric Rivers are part of the Wind River Pack, and when they stumble upon Laynee they both recognize her as their destined mate. David and Eric are determined to keep Laynee safe from her father, but they're holding something back. How will Laynee react when the brothers tell her about their world?

I enjoyed reading David and Eric's story in [Blind Acceptance](#). The two find their mate in Laynee and the sparks are there from the start. The three are wonderful together. Each time they are together it only gets hotter. I loved watching David and Eric seduce Laynee, I especially loved the way they explained colors to her. That was not only a hot scene but a romantic one as well. Once again Ms. Martine takes us back for a visit to the Wind River Pack in this book, which is book 1 in *The Wind River Pack* series. We get to meet new members as well as seeing what some of the old ones we met in the *A Wolfen Heritage* series are up to. I enjoyed my visit and hope to come back again. We are introduced to many new members of the pack and I can't wait to read their stories.

Title: Bound to Protect
 Author: Alyssa Fox
 Publisher: Evernight Publishing
 Reviewer: Arianna Bolger
 Rating: 4.5 Stars
 Heat Level: H

Katie has been keeping her life a secret. She has been scared for years and is unsure of what to do until she meets Chad Davis, a doctor at the hospital where she works. Unbeknownst to her, Chad was asked by Katie's brother to watch over her. After spending one night together leaves both of them wanting more, Chad is not giving her up no matter what she says.

[Bound to Protect](#) is the first book in the *Sizzling Nights* series by Alyssa Fox. I really enjoyed this book, more than I thought I would. Katie is an emergency doctor at the local hospital. She is a strong woman who has survived what so many women cannot. Her last boyfriend has stalked her in the past and Katie is proactively protecting herself from being found by him again. Katie is a very strong person to be able to move on from what happened to her in the past and not let the memories control her. Chad would gladly watch Katie for free. He has wanted her for years. While he has secrets of his own, he won't let that stand in his way. The chemistry between Katie and Chad sizzles. The sex scenes are blistering hot. I loved the D/s scenes. Katie trusted him and Chad was smart enough to know that and appreciate it. I loved how sweet and caring Chad was all around. There weren't many secondary characters but I felt like it didn't detract from the story at all. Overall, I loved [Bound to Protect](#). This was a wonderfully written book and I can't wait to see what next for this series.

Title: Captive's Desire
 Author: Natasha Knight
 Publisher: Stormy Night Publications
 Reviewer: L.T Blue
 Rating: 3 Stars
 Heat Level: H

Olivia Jenkins has one more training mission to complete outside of the dome before she is officially an airwoman. Livvie is excited and couldn't be more proud to serve her government against the mutant rebels who threaten life as she knows it. Livvie's brother died for the cause and her twin sister Katie has been selected to donate her eggs. Hayden knows all too well about the Magnus and what happens to those people who live under the dome. Commander Hayden Hawke just happens to be in the vicinity when the aircraft went down and saves Livvie. Hayden will not take any spunk from his captive and if it means giving her a spanking or two (or three) so be it, as long as she knows he is in charge. Will she take to the discipline and want to go back to the dome once it's all said and done?

Captive's Desire starts off filled with action and adventure then just falls flat. Livvie's character is true to form as a captive. I enjoyed her feistiness of trying to get away and eventually trying to get to her sister. Hayden is much older than Livvie and is used to being in charge. It was difficult to understand the attraction between Livvie and Hayden and I really didn't buy it. There is quite a bit of discipline by Hayden to Livvie - some bordering on the not so pleasant. There are quite a bit of secondary characters in this story all vying for an opportunity to take over. The sexual action between Livvie and Hayden while often hot and heated didn't feel real. Captive's Desire was just an alright read and kept me entertained.

Title: Double Her Fantasy
 Author: Randi Alexander
 Publisher: The Wild Rose Press
 Reviewer: Arianna Bolger
 Rating: 4 Stars
 Heat Level: O

Megan is a popular artist at a comic book convention. When she meets action star Garret McGatlin, she starts to flirt with him a bit, which is something she wouldn't normally do. When she is invited to his room and meets his brother Trey, they both become part of her hot cowboy fantasies. The McGatlin brothers have shared women in the past, but this is the first time they both are thinking long-term. Can they convince Megan they can keep her safe from past threats and happy in their arms?

Double Her Fantasy brought together three people who found something unexpectedly. Megan, Garrett and Trey were very well rounded characters. Garrett and Trey are not just smart but hot and sexy hunks. Garrett is attracted to Megan but once he finds out Trey is too, they both decide to make her their own. Megan is a loner because she had a stalker in her past, prompting her to change her name and hair color to avoid him. I adored seeing how the relationship started between these three. I also appreciated how Garrett and Trey talked about what each is comfortable with when they are apart from each other. The chemistry between Megan, Garrett and Trey is sizzling. The sex scenes were blistering hot. The only thing I was not fond of was Megan's reaction to the tabloid. It felt overblown. It might have worked better if I, the reader, had more background on her stalker to understand it better. Overall, I really liked Double Her Fantasy. I hope to see these characters in the future. It would be nice to see how they are doing a year or so down the road.

Title: Mustangs Baseball #2: Going Deep
 Author: Roz Lee
 Publisher: Self Published
 Reviewer: Silla Beaumont
 Rating: 2.5 Stars
 Heat Level: O

After his girlfriend left him for merely mentioning a bit of bedroom kink, Mustangs catcher Jason Holder is taken by his teammate Todd to The Dungeon, a popular local BDSM club. A BDSM virgin, Jason can't believe the things he's seeing there and the way his body is reacting to the sights. He definitely wants to learn more. Todd and his sub Brooke help him explore this new world and introduce him to their friend Carrie, a submissive woman desperately searching for the right Dom. Carrie's always known what she needs in the bedroom and it's not the wimpy society guys her mother keeps pushing on her. Carrie is thrilled when Brooke sets her up with Jason, but with his career in a slump, the last thing Jason needs is a sex scandal too, so he keeps his true identity under wraps by blindfolding Carrie during each of their sessions. But when scandal comes to Jason anyway, he's got to decide exactly what he needs and wants out of life.

Going Deep is book two In the *Mustangs Baseball* series and can be read as a standalone. I have to say that I am not a big fan of this book. In fact it really just ticked me off. Jason wasn't convincing as a Dom in the least bit. He seemed too needy and clingy to have that sort of dominant attitude. It felt like he was play acting the entire book. Carrie was

convincing as a sub but her blasé attitude about being blindfolded for what appears to be at least several weeks of their relationship completely turned me off. The two fall in love, but know NOTHING about each other except how they like their sex! They don't know who the other is, what they do, what they like, etc. I didn't get the impression that either of them was looking for a 24-7 D/s relationship, but Ms. Lee didn't give us any reason to think that they would be equal partners outside of the bedroom. The sex in this book was well written and decadent, but it got excruciatingly boring and overdone after numerous references to butt plugs and orgasms. I'll still check out the other books in the *Mustangs Baseball* series, but this is one I cannot recommend.

Title: Her Heart's Desire
 Author: Mary Wehr
 Publisher: Beachwalk Press
 Reviewer: L.T Blue
 Rating: 4.5 Stars
 Heat Level: H

Sara Martin's mother left her with her father and aunt for two men she met at the bar. Sara has promised herself that she would never be like her mother, loving two men. Cade Dalton and his brother Reese has always shared women and they dream of sharing Sara. Cade loves Sara too much to lose her and he keeps Reese out of their relationship and marries Sara. Sara is happy with her marriage to Cade but she is starting to get urges to allow Reese into her life. Sara knows it is wrong and she continues to fight the feelings until her husband hears her whisper Reese's name now all bets are off.

Her Heart's Desire is a very short story that packs a punch! Sara and Cade have an awesome sex life with love and devotion in every caress. Sara's anguish and indecision comes through with every thought and action. While reading the story you feel Sara's pull to give in to her pleasures while adhering to her aunt's strict teachings. Cade and Reese are perfect for Sara. They are patient with her but do not allow her self-doubts or Sara's aunt to stand in the way of Sara's pleasure. Reese's character is sex on a stick and you just want to lick him up until the last drop. Cade is also sexy but since he has the girl already Reese just sticks out more in my mind. I enjoyed the story very much and the minimal amount of secondary characters allowed me to focus all of my attention on Sara and her men. Her Heart's Desire is a very intense sexual ride that I can't wait to go on again.

Title: The Billionaires and Their Playgrounds # 2: His to Master and Enjoy
 Author: Jan Bowles
 Publisher: Siren-Bookstrand Publishing
 Reviewer: Arianna Bolger
 Rating: 5 Stars
 Heat Level: O

Leonardo Caparelli is a wealthy man who is looking for a personal assistant. Leonardo never mixes business with pleasure until he hires Paige Palmer, who he's helpless to resist. Paige was hurt in her last relationship and is running away from it all. Both Leonardo and Paige have trouble ignoring the attraction growing between them. When Paige comes clean to Leonardo about her past, the truth sets off a series of events that threaten to destroy them both.

His to Master and Enjoy is the second book in *The Billionaires and Their Playgrounds* by Ms. Bowles. I loved this book and the message behind it. In the beginning, Leonardo comes across as a self-centered person who looks down on everyone around him. He seems to want perfection in everything around him. Paige on the other hand has had a rough life. Her last Dom was not just a sadist but also not mentally sane enough to play. I admire her courage to leave the town she loved to start fresh somewhere new. The chemistry between Leonardo and Paige from the moment they met just sizzled. The sex is explosive between them. I enjoyed the fact that what Paige went through did not make Leonardo run away from her. It seemed to have to opposite effect. Overall, this was a wonderful story where the outside should not matter, and what is inside a person is all that counts. Ms. Bowles is a delightful writer and I cannot wait to read the next book in this sexy series.

Title: Hot Rods, Hot Bods
 Author: Lyncee Shillard
 Publisher: Jupiter Gardens Press
 Reviewer: Silla Beaumont

Rating: 3 Stars

Heat Level: H

Open Road

Motocross racer Zoe has three weeks before she's needed in Pennsylvania and has decided to take her motorcycle on a cross country trip. Despite her protests, her manager sends some riders to tag along and keep her safe. As soon as she sees her bodyguards, the luscious bounty hunters Deke and Nathan, she knows this is going to be one hell of a good trip. As the three make their way east, Zoe realizes she needs these rough and hardcore guys in her life for a lot longer than a few weeks.

Kick Start

"It's just a fling," stuntwoman Jada thought as she snuck out on her lover Dez after three hot and sweaty weeks together. But Jada can't stop thinking of the sexy motocross rider even as she's determined to keep their affair in the strictly fun category. When she visits him on a career making ride, the passion they shared is back in full force. When trouble comes calling for Dez, Jada and their friends, Dez will have to decide if a spot on the team is worth Jada's life.

Hot Bods, Hot Rods is two separate stories, Open Road by D.R. Slaten and Kick Start by Lyncee Shillard. I found Open Road to be the better of the two stories but just barely. Both were of the "eh" variety, and I found nothing truly exciting about either one, including the chemistry (or lack thereof). Open Road was a lot more erotic than Kick Start was and featured a sexy ménage scenario, though having to give one rating for both books has me putting the book as a whole as a heat level of "H." The plot of each story had a lot of potential to be super sexy and different than a lot of other erotic romance stories out there. The lack of excitement in Open Road and the lackluster sex in Kick Start just didn't do it for this reviewer. Combined with several editing errors sprinkled throughout, Hot Rods, Hot Bods had me eager to just get through these stories.

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Author: D.R. Slaten

Publisher: Jupiter Gardens Press

Reviewer: Silla Beaumont

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Title: In His Shirt

Author: Karena Colcroft

Publisher: Ellora's Cave Publishing

Reviewer: Silla Beaumont
 Rating: 3 Stars
 Heat Level: O

Marielle and Rory have been lusting after one another since they met but both decided their friendship was more important than sex. When Rory and his roommate Wayne bring Marielle to their place after an overzealous creep hits on her at the bar, Marielle decides to show Rory just how much she appreciates his knight in shining armor actions. Just as the couple are going at it, Wayne walks in and asks to join the party! Marielle can't believe her luck and when she realizes that Rory and Wayne also have a sexual relationship, she's even more turned on than ever. When the guys make it clear that they want a committed relationship from Marielle, her first reaction is to bolt. What will it take to convince her to give the three of them a shot?

In His Shirt is a very short story consisting of sex and little else. There just wasn't enough time in this book for me to make any sort of connection with the characters, especially Marielle. She came off as snotty and slutty and I could find nothing in her personality to indicate why not one, but two hot men would find her appealing for the long haul. I didn't see any chemistry between any of them, even Rory and Wayne and they've been lovers for awhile! That said, the sex scenes are decently hot, if a bit dull and gratuitous. I'd like to have seen a bit more character development and attention to the existing relationship between Marielle, Rory and Wayne before just reading about them jumping in bed together. Overall In His Shirt is a quick, sexy book but not one I'd put on my "to read" list a second time.

Title: Racy Nights # 8: Obeying Her Racy Firemen
 Author: Tara Rose
 Publisher: Siren-Bookstrand Publishing
 Reviewer: Arianna Bolger
 Rating: 5 Stars
 Heat Level: O

Olivia Kelly is the only one in her group of friends not involved in the local BDSM community when she attends her friends collaring ceremony. Intrigued and wanting to learn more, Storm Jamison and Cameron Sinclair invite Olivia to tour the BDSM club during the day when no one is around. In a short period of time, both men are unwilling to let her go as their relationship develops into something deeper. When Olivia is almost hurt, will the men lose her before telling her their true feelings?

Obeying Her Racy Fireman is the eighth book in the *Racy Nights* series by Ms. Rose. While this book is part of a series, it can be read and enjoyed as a standalone but it would help to read the prior books. This book contains some characters of past books as well as a storyline that started in a prior book. I absolutely loved this book and I had a hard time putting it down. Olivia seemed to be a very realistic character that I could identify with. She's a natural sub with self confidence issues, and also shy due to her former boyfriend mocking her lack of experience. Storm works as a fire inspector in town. Cameron is chief of the fire department. Storm and Cameron are hot and sexy men who have their own issues and do not want to fall in love. Olivia is too good to be true for both of them. The chemistry between Olivia, Storm and Cameron is sizzling. I loved how Storm and Cameron talked with each other regarding Olivia and their worry. The sex scenes are blistering hot. I enjoyed how Olivia fit with Storm and Cameron right from the start. Overall, this was a fabulous book and I can't wait to get started on the prior books in this series!

Title: Persuasion Skills
 Author: Laurel Cremant
 Publisher: Evernight Publishing
 Reviewer: Arianna Bolger
 Rating: 4.5 Stars
 Heat Level: S

After Pepper Holts has a major health scare, she celebrates a positive outcome with a bit too much wine and a little too much sex with her best friend Jax. The next morning Pepper tries to brush it off, but Jax has realized that he wants Pepper in his life for good. Now Jax disappears in order to create a plan to capture Pepper's heart, but will she agree to a lifelong commitment with her new lover?

Persuasion Skills is a fun and sexy book and I found Pepper was a very smart and determined woman. She is in love

with her best friend but is trying not to dwell on it since she does not want to ruin their friendship. Jax never wanted to get married until the night he had sex with Pepper, but now she opened a world he did not even consider. He just has to convince her of it. The chemistry between Jax and Pepper is explosive. I loved that they have a friendship already established before even attempting to move on. The fact that they are business partners on top of everything helps too. The sex scenes were blistering hot. I enjoyed the fight that Pepper put up, she did not crumble and wanted to make sure Jax heard her loud and clear. I think that they make a wonderful couple. I found it funny that Jax had all these plans to get Pepper to marry but overlooked the one thing that might have worked better than all his plotting. Overall, this was a great story. While I have never read anything by Ms. Cremant before, I will be keeping an eye out for more books by her in the future.

Title: Tales of Pandora #2: Soldier Boy

Author: KD McLean

Publisher: Self Published

Reviewer: Silla Beaumont

Rating: 2 Stars

Heat Level: H

Dr. Nancy Barton keeps her professional life and personal life completely separate. By day, she's "Doctor Ice Queen," but by night she transforms into "Mistress Nancy," a dominatrix at Pandora. Despite what should be a full life, she knows something is missing. War veteran Terry Carpenter is dealing with a myriad of PTSD issues after being the sole survivor of a roadside explosion two years ago. Terry hasn't felt alive since then, but when he stumbles upon a BDSM video featuring a dominatrix and her sub, he knows that's the direction his life is intended to travel. When he sets eyes on Nancy, his world stops and he immediately recognizes the woman meant to dominate and love him. Nancy is terrified of entering into a relationship with a man, especially one eleven years younger than her, but Terry isn't about to let Nancy run scared from what could be the best thing to happen to both of them.

Soldier Boy is book two in the *Tales of Pandora* series and can be read as a standalone. Nancy is an almost 40 year old, very hard woman who won't let anyone get close to her and shoves Terry back every chance she gets. I never really understood why she shied away from relationships, other than the fact that nobody asked her to prom. Terry is a 28 year old former Special Ops veteran who talks like an eighteen year old frat boy at his first kegger. The two of them together had very little chemistry and it seemed their entire relationship was superficial. Additionally, to be honest, I had a very hard time getting through this book due to the obscene amount of editing mishaps and very juvenile dialogue. While the BDSM scenes were decently hot, there were woefully few sex scenes in this book whatsoever. I almost get the feeling that this book is meant for a younger, maybe teenage audience. Ok since it's graphic at times, particularly the harshness of the BDSM scenes, maybe a young adult audience. At the core of this book is Nancy's discovery of love and Terry's healing process and the directions their relationship takes. Unfortunately, I feel that without massive editing, I cannot recommend Soldier Boy to our readers.

Title: Some Like It Rough

Authors: Kate Pearce, Susan Lyons, Anne Rainey

Publisher: Aphrodisia

Reviewer: Gabrielle Lee

Some Like It Rough

Kate Pearce

Rating: 4 Stars

Heat Level: H

Coming home after 10 years Luke finds himself back with his best friends. Yet friendship is the last thing on Paul and Julia's minds. From Julia and Paul, to Luke and Paul, and all the way to their threesome, this trio enjoy themselves in every way possible.

Private Eyes

Susan Lyons

Rating: 4 Stars

Heat Level: H

Always quiet and shy Hayley finds herself volunteering to go undercover at a strip club. Ry is the man that has caught her attention, but he never even sees her. Hayley is always drab and demure but stripping will show him what he is missing. When Ry finally sees what Hayley has been hiding the sparks fly.

Cherry On Top

Anne Rainey

Rating: 4 Stars

Heat Level: H

Therapist Cherry has been working herself to the bone after her divorce. When Dante comes in for a massage he finds that he wants so much more but Cherry is not ready for anything more so quickly. Cherry soon finds herself caving to Dante, and she finds herself in a new kind of relationship. The submission that she gives Dante lets Cherry enjoy herself immensely.

Some Like it Rough is a three story anthology featuring Some Like it Rough by Kate Pearce, Private Eyes by Susan Lyons and Cherry on Top by Anne Rainey. I enjoyed the different worlds that these authors brought to life. These three stories revolve around sexual adventures from BDSM to ménage. Each one shows the depth of the love and trust that two or more people can have. Watching the characters open up was a nice read. The women open up and find their inner vixens and the men find that there can be more than just sex. From old friends to neighbors and even coworkers, this anthology brings readers so much to enjoy, making it not only a hot read but a wonderful romance in each story. I enjoyed this fast paced sexy read, it pulled me in right from the first story and did not let me go until the end.

Title: Viper's Dungeon # 4: Sophie's Surrender

Author: Abby Blake

Publisher: Siren-Bookstrand Publishing

Reviewer: Arianna Bolger

Rating: 4.5 Stars

Heat Level: O

Sophie owns a small bakery down the road from Vipers Dungeon, the local BDSM club. Her ex-husband Malcolm works at Viper's and is still in love with Sophie. Alex Copeland is ready for a full time sub and is attracted to Sophie. Adrian Copeland is not ready to settle down but Sophie makes him think twice about it. Alex, Adrian and Malcolm all agree that sharing Sophie is the most logical choice. They only have to get Sophie to agree and to trust them.

Sophie's Surrender is the fourth book in the *Viper's Dungeon* series by Ms. Blake. While this book is part of a series, it can be read and enjoyed as a standalone, though it does help to have read the prior books since many of those characters make appearances. Sophie is a submissive that does not want to be one. She ran from her ex because he was a Dom. I enjoyed seeing Sophie try to explore the kinkier side of life. I enjoyed how Ms. Blake addressed the issue of communication without pushing it down your throat. Throughout the book, Sophie learns the importance of communicating with your Dom (or Doms). I liked that Alex, Adrian and Malcolm did not push a relationship on her, but let it grow slowly, allowing her time to adjust. The chemistry between Alex, Adrian, Malcolm and Sophie is blistering. The sex scenes were not just scorching but also inventive, and the scenes with all four of them together were easy to follow and understand. I liked that the book was not just about Alex, Adrian, Malcolm and Sophie...there was also the issue of Gina that kept popping up. I now wonder if the next book in the series will address Gina and her many issues. I am interested in what was causing her to act the way she did. Overall, I enjoyed Sophie's Surrender a lot. This is one of the few books I can see myself reading again in the future.

Title: Game On: Spring Training

Author: Parker Kincade

Publisher: Self Published

Reviewer: L.T Blue

Rating: 4 Stars

Heat Level: O

The NY Empire Major League Baseball team has a rising star in Garrett Donovan, and owner TJ Montgomery will use his own daughter Jessa to make sure Garrett is happy. Jessa doesn't understand why her father has sent her to babysit Garrett, but she goes to the stadium as requested, waiting for this newest star like a groupie. Garrett is just a country

boy at heart who is doing everything he can to make sure his mother can keep the family farm going. Sparks fly between Garrett and Jessa, with each saying things that they later apologize for. The sparks that flared at the first meeting continue into something more, something that Jessa wasn't sure she could handle as the boss's daughter.

Spring Training is a fast pace romance featuring a delicious hunk of a shortstop and is the first in the *Game On* series. Garrett and Jessa have awesome chemistry when arguing, ignoring one another and when they are between the sheets. Jessa's character is a lot of fun and I enjoyed getting to know her. Garrett is just too good to be true but I loved him for Jessa. The back drop of spring training didn't overpower the growing romance of Garrett and Jessa. The sex was very hot and thank goodness often. I loved the sexual heat that Jessa and Garrett generated throughout the story regardless of the location...you could feel the heat coming through the pages. The uncertainty of Jessa's feelings comes through and it is well written into the story. I enjoyed Spring Training so much I can't wait to read more in the *Game On* series

Title: Symbiotics 2: Stripped Bare

Author: Lynne Connolly

Publisher: Loose Id

Reviewer: Silla Beaumont

Rating: 5 Stars

Heat Level: O

Yolanda Latimer will miss Texas, but she's ready to relocate to London to advance her marketing career at Symbiotics. While on her flight, she is introduced to Nate Thompson, her security escort for the highly classified briefcase that she is carrying. Yolanda and Nate share an erotic encounter on board, under the watchful eye of a dark haired man in the first class aisle. Upon arriving in London, Yolanda realizes that Nate drugged her and stole the information in her briefcase and the only person who could have potentially seen anything was the gorgeous stranger who watched them. Lawrence Cavendish was mesmerized by the encounter he witnessed and stunned when the beautiful stranger shows up at his home begging for help. Lawrence is willing to use his extensive contacts to help her find the man who is now blackmailing Yolanda, but he also wants to be her sexual tutor, an offer she is powerless to resist. No woman has ever made Lawrence crave something more than just a teacher/student relationship, but he isn't exactly what and who he claims to be. Getting involved with Yolanda's business trouble could threaten everything he's worked for and he'll have to decide whether she's worth the risk.

Stripped Bare is the second book in the *Symbiotics* series and can be read as a stand alone. When Yolanda and Lawrence lock eyes and share an intimate voyeuristic experience, the chemistry absolutely explodes. The sexual encounters only get hotter as the book progresses and Lawrence teaches Yolanda how to read her body and squeeze every ounce of pleasure from her sexual experiences. You can tell that Lawrence is consumed by Yolanda but can't understand his own body's reaction. The dramatic elements in Stripped Bare were well woven into the storyline, although at times the situations the characters found themselves in became slightly confusing as the focus ping-ponged back and forth between finding Nate and acting on their lust. But even that slightly frustrating aspect of this book didn't put me off. Ms. Connolly's use of seductive language and the dark and dangerous undercurrent permeating Yolanda and Lawrence's relationship was mesmerizing. I can't wait to read more in this excellent series.

Title: Escort Undercover: The Client and the Call Girl

Author: Emily Sinclare

Publisher: Red Sage Publishing

Reviewer: L.T Blue

Rating: 3 Stars

Heat Level: S

The FBI and IRS are both after Trent Logan, CFO of Nation's Healthcare Company for embezzling. Charlotte 'Charlie' Chandler is an FBI agent posing as a call girl with Escorts Undercover and is trying to lure Trent into a trap. Randolph 'Rand' Rhodes is an IRS agent working as Trent's right hand man at NHS to get the information needed for the case. Government agencies don't always partner with each other, nor do they realize they are working on the same case. When Rand and Charlie first meet, he believes Charlie to be the call girl she is portraying and Charlie feels that Rand is in league with Trent. Charlie and Rand soon realize that they must partner together to bring Trent to justice, but first they have to understand the feelings that they have for each other without blowing the case.

The Client and the Call Girl is the first in the *Escort Undercover* series. While the premise of undercover operations by

multiple government agencies was good, I didn't get much enjoyment from Rand and Charlie's story. Rather than focusing on Rand and Charlie's romance, the readers continue to live the details of the undercover operation and the suspect they are trying to trap. Creating multiple characters in the story really took away from the romance. Charlie and Rand don't have any sexual chemistry between them and the sexual acts come across as forced for the sake of the story. Charlie's sexual chemistry comes through more when she is with Trent. The story is very well written and I wish I could recommend this as a great beach erotic romance. Overall The Client and the Call Girl does nothing for the romance reader in me.

Title: The Schoolteacher and the Dom
 Author: Ella Grey
 Publisher: Evernight Publishing
 Reviewer: Arianna Bolger
 Rating: 3.5 Stars
 Heat Level: S

Nola Pryce planed on spending her Christmas break alone as usual. She did not plan on Alex. Alex Winchester runs The Black Rose Club with his business partner Lilith. Catering to every dark fantasy, The Black Rose Club is having a special Christmas party that Alex decides to invite Nola to with the intention of becoming her Dom. Giving her a cryptic invitation, Alex knows that his future with Nola depends on this one night.

The Schoolteacher and the Dom is the first book in *The Black Rose* series by Ms. Grey. I loved the premise behind this story. The author packs a lot of story into just 46 pages. This is a different type of story than I truly expected when I read the title and summary. I expected an overly dominant and confident man, Alex, dictating and controlling the relationship between himself and the submissive, Nola. What I got was a man who fell in love at first sight and seemed to lose his balance around her. He did not always make the smart choice. Nola, while being a schoolteacher, was no wilting flower. In fact, she is very dominating on her own. She was smart and vocal woman. The chemistry between them is blistering hot. The sex scenes were sizzling. I hope we get to see more of these characters in the future because I could easily see Nola becoming the Domme and Alex becoming her sub. While I am not sure even after reading this story if that is the author's intention, but that is where I could see the relationship going, which would be fun to see. Overall, this was an enjoyable story. I cannot wait to read the next book in the series.

Title: The Satin Rose Experience: The Submission of a Mafia Princess
 Author: Sandra Bunino
 Publisher: Evernight Publishing
 Reviewer: L.T Blue
 Rating: 2.5 Stars
 Heat Level: S

Toni Azzari has one item on her list of things to do before she finally gets married to the next head of the Family. Toni's request is a little different - she wants to follow through on her submission fantasy. Braxton Malone is becoming a well-known Dominant at The Satin Rose Experience in New York City. Brax is asked to do a special favor for the club manager and participate in a submissive fantasy. When Brax realizes who the submissive is, he vows that there is no way he will go down the road that is Toni Azzari again.

The Submission of a Mafia Princess is the third of *The Satin Rose Experience* series. While this story could be read as a standalone, I felt lost reading Braxton and Toni's story. Ms. Bunino never allowed the story to get to a happy medium since we were in the present and then quickly flip to three years ago and then back to the present. It was difficult to get a good sexual vibe from Brax and Toni because of the constant back and forth. I really wanted to enjoy the story with its hint of mafia and splash of BDSM, but I didn't get much of either. Toni's character has a desire to be free of the world she lives in as a Mafia Princess but her loyalty to her family keeps her in the gilded cage. I didn't get an Alpha Dominant vibe from Braxton's character and I was disappointed. There are quite a few secondary characters in the story that may have been in previous stories in this series. Overall I liked the concept of the story but I didn't enjoy The Submission of a Mafia Princess as much as I wanted to.

Title: The Wolf in the Woods
 Author: Marisa Chenery
 Publisher: Forever More Publishing

Reviewer: Gabrielle Lee
 Rating: 3.5 Stars
 Heat Level: H

Red finds more than she bargains for on a simple camping trip with her grandmother. Getting lost was not on her agenda, but then neither was finding a sexy shape-shifting man in the woods. When Rutgar comes across Red, he knows she is his and cannot stop himself. Will the two be able to find their happily ever after or will Rutgar's werewolf enemies come between the couple?

The Wolf in the Woods is a fast paced romance. I enjoyed meeting Red and Rutgar and think they are a great couple. The sparks fly right from the start between these two and only grow into much more as the story goes on. The sex between them is hot and intense, each time better than the last and bringing the two closer together. Not only do we get to meet some great characters in Red and Rutgar, but I also enjoyed meeting Red's grandmother. She is a strong woman who loves Red and wants only for her to be happy. From the nastiness of Alex, the enemy wolf, to the love and strength of Red and Rutgar, Ms. Chenery does a good job of making readers either love or hate her characters. When push comes to shove, Rutgar is ready and willing to fight for their love against all odds, making The Wolf in the Woods a sweet, hot read.

Title: Member's Only: Together in Cyn
 Author: Jennifer Kacey
 Publisher: Ellora's Cave Publishing
 Reviewer: L.T Blue
 Rating: 3 Stars
 Heat Level: H

Cyn has intense feelings for her long time best friends Jared and Chris, but rather than act on her feelings and desires, she details them in a diary. Jared and Chris have been biding their time with Cyn, keeping her close to them in the townhouse they share and the bar that they own. When Jared and Chris find Cyn's diary, they decide that there is nothing to stop them from taking Cyn and fulfilling all of their fantasies. Cyn doesn't quite believe that Jared and Chris could have the same feelings for her and her kink, and rather than embracing the two men Cyn continues to hide behind past pain. Chris and Jared are experienced Doms who know how to bring out the best in their new submissive.

Together in Cyn, the first in the *Member's Only* series, is a quick read that starts off with lots of excitement but tends to slow down towards the end of the story. Cyn's secret crush on Jared and Chris is cute when the story begins, but after a while it gets old. Jared and Chris are interesting characters and while they are both Doms, Chris is more intense and controlling and it comes through towards the middle of the story. The BDSM element is nicely written and works well with our characters. I was disappointed with the minimal amount of sex between Cyn, Chris and Jared as a ménage, and the BDSM wasn't as kinky as I anticipated. The descriptions of the diary were pretty good and I liked how the author continued to bring our attention back to it. I didn't like the scenes of suspense and drama that were thrown in as it gave a different feeling and vibe to the story. There are memories of past abuse and an attempted rape that may offend some readers. Together in Cyn is just an alright read, but it does a good job of setting up the premise for the *Members Only* series.

Title: Lothario #5: Under the Covers
 Author: Roz Lee
 Publisher: Red Sage Publishing
 Reviewer: Silla Beaumont
 Rating: 4.5 Stars
 Heat Level: O

It's a fine line between love and hate. FBI Agent Bree Stanton needs DAA: Drew Addicts Anonymous. She can't seem to stay away from the sexy SEAL turned personal security guard to the cruise ship *Lothario's* owners. Drew Whitcomb isn't sure what it is about Bree that constantly gets him riled up, especially since all they do is argue. Drew knows that Bree needs his special kind of dominant passion, but her headstrong, independent personality won't let her give up control anywhere, even the bedroom. Bree is terrified that it wouldn't just be her body she surrenders, but also her heart to this very dangerous man. Drew started this game with Bree, but the fiery redhead turned the tables on him and now he's head over ass in love with her. But Bree wants off this sex-filled cruise ship. She wants a real career with the DIA and she can't let Drew into her heart when she knows she'll be leaving soon to join another agency. When she finds out Drew is working

undercover himself, will she embrace the danger or run as fast as she can?

Under the Covers is the fifth book in the *Lothario* series featuring the people who work on a sexy cruise ship. While it can be read as a standalone, I did feel a bit lost here and there not having read all of the previous stories in the series. That said, Under the Covers was a very sexy story that will have you smiling at the creative use of handcuffs throughout the book. Bree was determined to stay strong and not give into her intense attraction to Drew, and all Drew wanted was another night of the passion they shared once before. He's not prepared to love her and watching him get knocked across the head with it was amusing. The sexual power struggles were raw and ferocious, and I think readers will like that the couple share the desire to come out on top in their lovemaking. I also enjoyed the suspense and danger elements of this story. The creepy Vernon Cannon has been a constant bad guy throughout the entire series and Under the Covers is no exception. I'll definitely be going back and reading the *Lothario* stories I've missed!

Title: Snowdonia Wolves: Wolf at the Door

Author: Sofia Grey

Publisher: Liquid Silver Books

Reviewer: L.T Blue

Rating: 3 Stars

Heat Level: S

Lillian Hart is running to escape a broken heart and accusations as a husband stealer. The world knows Lillian as pop sensation Ella Hart. Jake is feeling the call to mate, which has led him to be careless in his daily run, leading to an injury while in his wolf state. Lillian just wants to go to the remote cabin and heal, but the wolf in the middle of the road begins the start of an interesting getaway. Jake gets assistance from Lillian in his wolf form and realizes that Lillian is his mate. Jake has to tread lightly to show Lillian that her 'wolfie' is also her mate.

Wolf at the Door is the first in the *Snowdonia Wolves* series and it reads very quickly. The romance between Lillian and Jake is different in that the love that Lillian has for Jake actually starts while he is in wolf form. The dream scenes that occur from the start are very annoying and take away from the awake moments of their story. The sexual chemistry between Lillian and Jake doesn't really exist, and the sex is just blah. There are multiple characters in the story that keep it going and entertaining, but the focus is removed from Lillian and Jake. I didn't find Wolf at the Door as entertaining as I imagined from the blurb.

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