



In Tune

J.N. Welsh

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A tour manager determined to revitalize her career.

The client she can't stop thinking about.

Workplace romance hits the road in this enemies-to-lovers romance from JN Welsh.

Luke Anderson needs a manager—fast. His last one quit, leaving his tour and his future in jeopardy. Now instead of focusing on his career, he's forced to concentrate on damage control. Powerhouse manager Leona Sable is the full package—smart and talented, not to mention sexy as hell—but her past makes her impossible to trust.

When opportunity knocks in the form of talented EDM DJ Luke “The Musical Prophet” Anderson, Leona is ready to answer. But salvation doesn't come cheap. Luke won't sign until Leona agrees to his outrageous terms—including a no-sex-while-on-tour clause.

Dictating what she does in her personal life crosses a line. But Leona's never been one to back down from a challenge.

One thing is for sure: if she has to suffer, so will he.

Let the tour begin...

*One-click with confidence. This title is part of the **Carina Press Romance Promise** : all the romance you're looking for with an HEA/HFN. It's a promise!*

This book is approximately 95,000 words

Edited by Stephanie Doig

In Tune Details

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Author : J.N. Welsh

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From Reader Review In Tune for online ebook

Rosie J. says

Leona Sable is trying to bounce back from a music artist/lover that nearly destroyed her and her career as a talent manager in the music business. Her redemption and second chance comes in the form of **Luke Anderson**. An Electronic Dance Music (EDM) artist that needs representation after his manager/fiancee absconds with a lot of his money. Suffice to say, trust is lacking on both sides as well as the willingness to work together. They are more or less strong-armed into working with one another.

Luke having heard the whispers about Leona is reluctant to hire her so he gives her a difficult task that he doesn't believe she can pull off. Leona not one to back down from a challenge takes it on with great results. When they decide to work together and make it official with a contract Luke blindsides her with ridiculous conditions. Conditions that will haunt Luke as the tour rolls on and on.

Highly, highly Recommended: Read It!

ARC Provided by Netgalley.

Steph's Romance Book Talk says

I enjoyed this story but I did find flaws in the formatting due to reviewing this as an ARC. Leona is this sassy personality in the music industry but at time I thought she was really weak and indecisive. She is in the middle of taking a break from the business after a bad breakup when her boss begs her to return and take on a new client. Luke is this DJ that had a bad breakup as well but needs Leona and her expertise. There is drama, swoon worthy moments, but there are also flaws with the story that I didn't feel were resolved. I do look forward to reading more from this author but I may just wait until the finished product is released.

This specific video review will be included in the September 2018 & #contemporaryathon wrap-up videos.

For other video book reviews check out my YouTube Channel: Steph's Rom Book Talk.

Ruthie Taylor says

~~I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads ~~

This is the first book I have read by J.N.Welsh. I have mixed feelings about the book, but overall I found it an enjoyable read. I did not entirely buy into the romance, which started as two angry people, then suddenly Luke decided Leo was worth his time, and changed his view entirely, wanting to ignore the initial reasons for his dislike.

As we discover Leo's secret, it is difficult to understand how everything hangs together - she is meant to be an amazingly strong person, yet was ok with someone stealing what was hers ... really, that is not how she is

portrayed at all in her professional life. I tried to give the situation the benefit of the doubt, maybe it was intentional to show how she lost her confidence due to what happened to her - but then why wait to regain it? And why did her family let her? I loved the idea of such a strong female lead, but then her insecurities were inconsistent with this for me.

There are definitely some really great elements to this story, but for me they were a little buried in overly descriptive prose, and were at times in need of a consistency check. It was set in the interesting world of EDM, with some good side characters; do give it a go and see what you think.

Britt McCritt (Bantu Book Review) says

This was an excellent book and very well written. If you love romance, you will enjoy this book. If you, like me, have personal issues that have you paying the excess baggage fee for every trip, you too, should read this book with the understanding that you will be triggered. Whether you're incurring lightweight baggage fees or paying out the wazoo for heavy loads, you have been warned. Take heed. But also, read this book!

PLOT

A tour manager determined to revitalize her career.

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HOT TAKE

What a ride! This romance is wild and bumpy; it is a hot and sexy rollercoaster with all the tension, stomach lurching; all the momentum, and inclinations to bail in spite of the fact that you're already in the thing. It feels adventurous and like the thrill of your life, but only if you survive. Only if you make it out on the other side with your feet planted firmly on the ground.

It's so funny how in love you (read me) are always concerned with (not) being whole or (not) being ready but when have you ever been? There's no telling that you ever will be.

So allow this book and love and this life to sweep you off your feet. Where's the fun in being grounded?

LESSONS

The way forward is with a broken heart. Don't block your blessings.

Proceed with as much caution as optimism when trying to get In Tune. Read this book. 5 Stars. Enjoy!

velvetgypsy says

3.5 stars

A sexy couple but the promising premise settles into a comfortable predictable zone. Still a pleasant read.

Suzanne says

The first in what I hope is a series, JN Welsh's In Tune is an enemies-to-lovers romance set in the Electronic Dance Music (EDM) scene. The hero, Luke, is a DJ from Chicago who is embarking on a world tour and needs someone to manage him. (Though Luke isn't from the Netherlands, I pictured him as Afrojack, complete with soul patch.) The heroine, Leona, is on a year-long break from the business after a horrible breakup with a producer named Paul Reeves. Her boss and longtime friend, Abe, pulls her back in because Luke's agent wants Leo to manage the tour and Abe's business is in financial trouble.

The problem? Luke's had a bad experience with Paul himself. Paul was supposed to produce on his last album and not only messed up his sound, he ran off with Luke's fiancée (and at-that-time manager) and a bunch of money. So Luke hates Paul and associates Leo with him. Leona hates Paul and associates Luke with being bullied back into the industry that gave her panic attacks for months.

This doesn't stop the two of them from being attracted to each other, though. *evil laugh* Leo is a chic, sexy Black woman with enviable style and she's really good at her job. Like SO GOOD. She's also kind and is a great leader, something I don't think we get to see heroines doing enough of in fiction. She leads with encouragement and precision, careful planning and working right alongside a team that trusts her implicitly. Can you tell that I loved Leo? Yeah, I really did.

Luke acts like a bit of an ass at first, but he quickly realizes that Leo isn't Paul 2.0 and that she doesn't like Paul anymore than Luke does. Once she proves herself, he lets himself trust her and things progress how you might expect. The pair has great chemistry and their dialogue is one of the best things about the book.

A few other things that stood out for me:

- Setting this book in the EDM scene makes it familiar to readers of rockstar romance, but still refreshing and different.
- Luke is not an a\$\$hole rockstar. He loves his family and loves his fans. He's an artist, but not a tortured

one.

- No drugs! I know this probably makes me a grump, but I was really glad that Welsh didn't lean into the rave scene for this book. Things are professional and I wasn't worried that anyone was going to die from an overdose during the book. (This is not a subject I like reading about for a variety of reasons.)

- The sex is hot, but the stolen kisses and pining and "we can't do this" were just as compelling.

If you're wondering if the book will make sense to readers who aren't familiar with EDM, it will. There are some aspects that I think EDM fans will appreciate, but for the most part, it's a musician romance with great characters and a fresh voice. The writing is a bit clunky in places, but I found myself smiling while reading and I can't wait to read whatever JN Welsh gives us next.

Content Warnings: emotional manipulation, slimy promoter sexual harassment

Jazmen says

In Tune totally enraptured this reader with its romance that seared every single page, the music that felt like a beat in my blood--and the writing that kept me engaged enough to almost miss my train stop twice--on two different occasions.

I'm not much of a music novel fan. They tend to lack the pizzazz needed to really pull it off. It's often so heavy laden with lackluster romance, clinging to the normal new adult ideals, and music that does little to pull me in.

In Tune was NONE of that. It was well written. The pacing was torturingly sweet--and so perfectly timed. The only times I found myself rushing it along--was in my own greedy impatience.

The characters practically leaped off the page and grabbed me in a chokehold until they were done with me.

Luke is this dream music GOD--and as someone who is not much of a house music fan, I'd pay dollars to see him perform if he were real.

His love of music--his lofty goals, his oversized heart--all made him a character I easily fell in love with. Leona was no different. I admired her hard work, dedication and the sass she brought to the novel.

I admired her fight--and the dedication she had to her craft. Passion always makes me a happy reader--even in the many forms, it comes in.

This novel is absolutely outstanding, in romance, in content, in writing style--and in overall goodness.

I'm impressed and aching for more.

Rachel (Life of a Female Bibliophile) says

See even more book reviews at: <https://www.lifeofafemalebibliophile.com>

I usually don't read music-centered novels, but something about In Tune's cover art and description caught my eye. This contemporary romance follows the love story between a famous EDM DJ and a music manager who fall for each other at first sight. It's fast paced and the romance scenes run from hot to steamy!

Leona and Luke have their reservations on working together in the industry as we come to find out they've been burned by the same person whom they trusted deeply. Both have trust issues to work on in their new partnership and learn to move on from the past. Luke almost lost everything in his music empire since his former manager ran off with his money and Leona is struggling to be back in the public eye after her reputation was almost completely demolished. Once the two get past their initial reservations, we see how they work together to move towards the future and dominate the music industry.

I really liked the cast of characters featured in this novel and how each of their personalities added to the overall plot. Leona is a fierce boss when it comes to her career, but has the kindest heart. Luke has a hard outer shell, but is very caring. I loved how their relationship develops over the story and the constant banter between the two. They may butt heads, but at the end of the day they have each other's backs. Leona's best friend, Izzy, had me laughing throughout the book with her outspokenness, and I loved that she always gave Leona straight talk whenever she needed advice in her career in love life.

Besides the romance, the music aspect of the story was very interesting seeing a look behind the scenes of being a music promoter/manager and all the work that goes into tours, performances, etc.

This is the first book I've read by JN Welsh, and I look forward to checking out some of her other books!

FTC Disclaimer: I received this book from Carina Press in exchange for a fair and honest review.

Angel Hatfield says

Leona/Leo thought she had known how the day was going to turn out she would have stayed in bed. Her boss and mentor Abraham Wallace started the conversation with "a client only wants you" and ended it with "Meet me at the Metro Hotel this evening at seven and be dressed for a night out." Then Leona was collecting information on Electronic Dance Music DJ Luken" The Musical Prophet" Anderson.. Dale was Leona's long time source. He told her Luke's manager left his tour. Dale said allegedly there was a mesh of problems including stealing money. Fraternization, For the past year Leona had stayed out of the limelight after a horrible break-up with Paul Reeves,Paul had been a client and he had bad mouthed Wallace Entertainment as well as Leona saying she caused him lose of revenue and engaged in fraudulent actions when they broke up. Paul was a producer, Lately, she had to admit the administrative role Abe allowed her to perform was snorefest and she thought about a comeback and doing the work she loved. Though she was an experienced personal manager with production and tour experience . She knew the entertainment industry would make her pay for her absence. Ten Leona talked to Tracy Ruiz one of the resident lawyers of Wallace Entertainment and he said Luke didn't have any previous but there had been some disturbances of the peace. Mr. Anderson had a string of episodes involving angry outbursts but no one got hurt. Only a couple of scuffles. Then Leona wondered what Abe got her into. A shady business past and anger issues..... Abe asked

what Leona had found out and she said Luke was very into his fans and is all over the place and not just in the states. He is passionate about his music. Leona also told Abe people had nice things to say about Luke. Then she added there was some controversy about his last management. Then a e said the company needed Luke. The rumors were true Abe's company is in financial difficulty. Then Abe said they would talk later. Abe was talking to Tommy 'Boombox' Mills. He told Leona Mr." Anderson would join them momentarily". Tommy said he wanted to familiarize her both with Luke's present situation and how he liked to do business. First Tommy said "Luke had limited time with them as he was appearing at the Aurora Nightclub. Having a residency with consistent monthly appearance was a good sign. Luke was in demand. He liked the vibe in N Y and Atlantic City right now but but Vegas was on her radar. If Leona was his manager securing a spot in Vegas would be one of her top priorities. Then Tommy said to Leo " he is talented, one of the front runners in EDM. He's approaching a level many DJ's aspire to but he needs good management. It's what held him back for years." Tommy added he could get Luke the gigs and appearances but he needs a champion to propel him forward. Leona is really good at her job. She is a kind and great leader. Luke and Leona appear to hate each other on meeting but there's still an attraction there but Leona doesn't want another affair with a client. Luke believes Leona likes Paul . Luke still wants Leona to manage his tour. Both Leona and Luke got burnt by Paul. Then Luke finds out Leona hates Paul as much as he did.

I enjoyed this book. It had a good plot and pace. I really liked how they showed Leona as a strong talented woman who was very good at his job. I liked the plot and pace. I didn't like Luke in the beginning I thought he was a butthole but he did change as the book went on. I didn't care for the insta/lust but it did grow into love. I really like that Luke cared for his fans but also his family. I like this book didn't involve drugs in it as most musicians romances do at some point in the book. I read this in one setting. I liked the characters a lot and the ins and outs of this book and I recommend.

Lauren (The Novel Lush) says

I don't know what I was expecting when I picked up this book, but it was a JOY from start to finish. I don't know whose characterization I liked more, Luke or Leona's.

The characters were multi-faceted and I enjoyed all aspects of them from their anger and attitudes to their anxieties to their light hearted laughter and teasing interactions.

Okay, no I lied, I think I love Leona more, because she's a strong female character who has a job where she has to be ON, and demanding and in charge with little room for errors and even though she's damned good at her job, she's not perfect. She's human, and she has anxieties and fears like the rest of us.

So does Luke, of course, but this is something sadly lacking in a lot of Strong Female Character narratives.

The hate-to-love journey just made me cheese the entire time. Usually I want to rush to get to the interactions where the feelings have started to shift, but I legitimately loved every single second of this ride. I binged this book in one sitting and I would look down and see that I was 80% or 90% or 96% done and be upset that I didn't have too much time left with them.

In addition to the awesome characters, I loved how the author portrayed their story, their careers. A lot of times, reading fiction that is in-depth about a high profile job (movies, music, etc.) it comes off corny and fan-fiction like, but not In Tune!

The only thing I could complain about is some minor wording in the romantic scenes that edged away from swoon and towards cheese, but not enough for me to dock it any stars because I straight up enjoyed the hell out of this book!

Up All Night With Books says

5 Stars

Review by Sasha

Late Night Reviewer

Up All Night w/Books Blog

The music industry is ever changing. One minute, you're the hottest star with music that is redefining culture and then the next you're entirely forgotten and wiped from everyone's memories.

Leona Sable has come to learn that once you step out of the spotlight, you're forgotten from everyone's mind. She had built a name for herself in the music industry showcasing that she could handle any type of person, manage the hell out of them and make them a star. Additionally, Leona just happens to know how to pull off a kick-ass tour. Despite her range of talents however, one bad piece of press destroyed all her hard work. With a year-long sabbatical under her belt, Leona returns ready to take on the next hit DJ, Luke Anderson.

With his entire reputation and career in jeopardy and coming off a recent betrayal of trust, Luke Anderson is wary of hiring someone new. Especially when that person is linked to the very figure that caused catastrophic issues for his career. Despite his fears, he knows that Leona is the only person who can help him achieve the dreams he wants. Luke keeps a close hold on her and at the same time brings himself deeper and deeper into Leona's life. Two strong headed, fiery artists go head to head with each other. Both passionate about what music means to them, Luke and Leona find that they fit into each other's lives in a practically perfect way. With drama, pressure, and paparazzi, can they find a way to meld their two very different lives?

This book lit a spark from the beginning and it just kept raging as it went on. Both Luke and Leona are fiery characters but in different ways. Leona is a straight shooter, determined go-getter that will literally tackle any challenge and do it with a smile while Luke is a passion-fueled artist that is always attempting to better himself. They both have this drive to live up to their potential and use it to better themselves. I loved how electric they were from the start. Even though they came off as hating each other, the connection and interest was there from the beginning. I just sat back and waited for the sparks to fly and enjoyed the burn that came along with it.

In Tune by J.N. Welsh is more than just your typical romance novel. The author touched on some real issues that people face when chasing their dreams and the sacrifices they must make to see it to fruition. The raw passion and emotion that is expressed in this book will touch you in a way that will leave you looking at music differently.

****ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.****

Natalya | TheIslandReader says

I love a good music romance novel, as you know. However, I'm not a fan of EDM so while I was interested in this novel's plot, I wondered if I would be able to connect to the musical elements.

I did.

In Tune follows rising EDM DJ Luke and music manager Leona aka Leo. Luke needs a new manager after his old one screwed him over; temporarily wrecking his personal and professional life. Leona has had a rough last year after a less than amicable relationship. She needs to prove to herself and becoming Luke's manager provides the perfect opportunity, even if he initially seems intent on making it complicated.

Leona and Luke were like oil and vinegar when they first met. There was an attraction there from the beginning, but they were both determined not to reveal them.

Luke may have been a bit of a pain in the ass when they first met but he turned out to be very attentive and loving. He appreciated Leo's talent and was willing to be with her every step of the way, especially as parts of her past resurfaced. Leo wanted to pull back but Luke wasn't going to let her off that easily.

Leo was a badass. She was amazing at her job and knew what she was doing, and was intent on crushing every tour goal they had. She didn't want a repeat of her past and have the media crush and question what she was capable of. That meant that even though she was obviously in love with Luke, she wanted to keep things under wraps and had to make sure Luke understood that.

Luke and Leona had undeniable chemistry. They practically sizzled when they were together and that was no more evident than the week in San Francisco.

Second chances, trust issues and proving yourself are themes in In Tune. There were many layers to this workplace romance and definitely more than met the eye with both characters.

Music brought Leo and Luke together. It created a bond, attached strings to their relationship and offered them the promise of forever.

****I received this book in exchange for my honest review.****

Anna says

I voluntarily read and reviewed a copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own.
Thanks to the author for providing a copy of this book via Netgalley

What a refreshing and delightful read! I liked everything in this book: author's style, MCs, SCs, plot.

He was her boss technically (he is DJ and she is his promoter and everything in between). He hates her and wants her the same. They both were burned before. She doesn't want a relationship with her client.

.....

I liked Leona, she is a smart, caring and beautiful. She didn't drop her panties for him.
I liked Luke, he was just tender, caring and sexy as hell.
They wasn't virgins. No OP scenes. No cheating.

Nina says

Thanks again to Harlequin – Carina Press for sending me an ARC of this book via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Due to some problems with her last client, Leona Sable hasn't worked as a tour manager in a year. But then she wants to get back into her profession and her first client is Luke Anderson, an EDM DJ. He isn't exactly her biggest fan and so he has put a couple of clauses into her contract that he wants her to agree to. Just like a clause that says that she isn't allowed to have sex for the entirety of the tour. Leona is willing to agree to the terms but only if they also apply to Luke. Will the two be able to stick to what's written in the contract?

The premise of this book sounded great and I really wanted to love it but ultimately, "In Tune" just wasn't for me. I was excited to read a great enemies-to-lovers romance, but in my opinion, they weren't even really enemies in the first place – they just kind of disliked each other – and then also started liking each other way too quickly. Furthermore, I thought the plot was pretty boring and I did skim parts of the book towards the end of it because I just wasn't really that interested in it anymore.

But my biggest problem with the book was the writing style. The author just used a lot of phrases you see in so many other books and that just often made me cringe a lot. Furthermore, I also didn't really like the choice of POV in this novel. It was a bit of a third person omniscient POV but sometimes the narrator only knew the thoughts of the female MC and sometimes those of the main MC. Those changes often happened just randomly in the middle of chapters which was very confusing. Thus I feel like I would've enjoyed the book more if it had just been written alternately from both characters perspectives in first person POV.

However, one thing I really loved about "In Tune" were the characters. I loved how diverse they were and that they weren't the bunch of typical white characters with the same personalities you find in so many other contemporary romances. Furthermore, "In Tune" was also a very quick read and I didn't feel like I had to force myself to finish it.

So overall, I decided to give this book 2 out of 5 stars. I liked the characters, it was a quick read and I enjoyed the beginning of the novel. But like I said, I just really had a problem with the plot and the writing which is why I unfortunately just couldn't give this a higher rating.

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Lara Kareem says

I rarely ever find good black woman representation in romance novels I read, so imagine how excited I was to receive In Tune by JN Welsh, not only is our female lead a black woman, the book is written by a black woman. And then the story is pretty impressive, it made my heart warm, I laughed a bit and it had me side-eyeing some characters.

Leona is amazing. She is the kind of woman I hope to be in future, someone with a good head on her shoulder and fabulous work ethics. I love how Leona, the female lead doesn't allow her downfall to overshadow her confidence in what she does, because rightfully she is kickass at what she does, and I love how it is portrayed.

The friendship in this books are awesome, I loved the interaction and easy flow, it's just amazing how many positive characters are in this book and how most of the characters, (because there's always going to be the bad eggs) have each other's back and support. There's no outright woman on woman hate, which is the best kind. I love books where women have each other' back, we are about uplifting each other. The family dynamic is also great.

Then there's Luke and Leona, my goodness Luke infuriated me at first, but as the story progressed I easily warmed up to him, and I love how the hate they both felt (which was obviously hating that they are attracted to each, you know lust, at first sight, haha) gradually changed, it wasn't love at first sight, their relationship builds up slowly and then boom. Loved it.

So I really enjoyed the story, I found some bit of Leona and Luke's relationship written a bit stiffly, but it's all good, I felt the connect, which is all that's important, I would definitely not mind reading more of this authors book in future. Swoon-worthy romance right here.
