



Tragic

J.A. Huss

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Rook Walsh is TRAGIC

Because life so far – just sucks. Some girls get parents. Rook got the foster care system. Some girls get Prince Charming. Rook got an abusive frog. Some girls get lucky...

Rook got a second chance.

And she took it. Because when fate throws you a bone – you grab it with both hands and run.

Antoine Chaput knows the minute he spies Rook in his photography studio that she's got The Look. The dark and desperate look he must have to land the exclusive TRAGIC media contract.

Rook is paired up with top model, Ronin, and he's everything her abusive ex-boyfriend wasn't. Patient, gentle, happy, attentive, and sexy! He knows exactly what to do to make Rook blush for Antoine's camera.

Rook's luck changes in an instant and suddenly she's the darling of the modeling world. It's a dream job to go with a dream guy and all she has to do is look pretty and follow directions. But there's always a price to pay – and Rook is about to get the bill.

New Adult Contemporary Romance *Mature Content* Recommended for ages 17+ due to sexual situations and language usage

Tragic Details

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From Reader Review Tragic for online ebook

Amy | Foxy Blogs says

****FREE**** <http://www.amazon.com/TRAGIC-Rook-Ron...>

●11/25/2013●

Lately my romance reads have been in such a downward spiral that Tragic was a refreshing change.

Rook, a blackbird from Europe, is a teen girl escaping her abusive past.

Ronin, a samurai warrior with no master, is in charge of taking care of the girl models.

TRAGIC is a modeling campaign in search of a 'tragic' model. Rook fills that role with her calm and quiet demeanor.

Rook & Ronin collaborate on the Tragic campaign. Their unusual blue eyes set them apart from colleagues.

'...because my eyes look like someone got carried away with the special effects in a sci-fi movie.'

I ♥ every time Ronin says, *"what could possibly go wrong?"*

SERIES:

No cliffhangers. Continuing story.

Jess-i-ca ~Sometimes a Gif Witch~ says

03/29/14 You can get all 3 books in this series for only .99!!

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00L...>

I freaking loved this book! Adding to my favorites shelf!

This is the story about Rook who has had a shitty life and gets a lucky break when she spends her last \$10 at Starbucks. She shows up for a job where Ronin works as a model. The relationship blossoms from there. This book had a great storyline, awesome characters, and sexy scenes. I can't wait for book 2!

And the scene with them shooting under the cherry blossom trees. HOT!!

Should you read it?

Rook

Ronin

J.A. Huss:

Georgia ♥ Team Dex ♥ says

3.5 Tragically Beautiful Stars

"Vous avez tort, mon amour. Je suis juste ici."

Rook is calm, quiet and a little bit tragic.

Only nineteen years old she has suffered foster homes, abuse, poverty and despair. She has nothing left to lose. She takes a chance and she shows up in a photo-shoot. And guess what... Her kind of tragic, just booked her a campaign.

Ronin grew up with the temperamental photographer, Antoine Chaput and he has witnessed the downfall of many models. Arrogant and smooth, a model himself, he claims all the girls to take care of them. But when he sees Rook more than compassion awakens inside him. For the first time he feels more than the need to take care of someone else.

"You fit me. When I saw you crouching in that stairwell last week I felt like I knew you. You stopped me dead in my tracks, you wiped my mind. And I reached out to touch you that day because I couldn't resist."

But we are dealing with artists here. Emotions run high, jealousy and disasters are every day occurrence.

Rook fights old demons and has to stand on her own and prove to herself that she is worthy. Can she trust Ronin? Can she become a model?

In dual POVs Rook & Ronin share their inner-most thoughts and insecurities, fall in love and can't handle their feelings. Immature and hesitant to take a leap they run hot and cold and they kept confusing me. I really liked the story. The cherry trees and the romance, the erotic photography twist, the storyline and their individual back-stories, made it rich and emotional but I take out a star for every time they second-guessed their actions and I really could have taken another one out but they were scorching and they thawed my rational mind.

On to the next!

***Kindle freebie 11/20/2013 ladies!! Grab it here!**

Thank you Heather, for the heads up!

**Patty Belongs To Kellan~Jesse~Lautner~Miller~Jack~Racer~Rafe~Liam~Prince
Nicholas~Hayes~Simon~Gianluca & Archer says**

FIVE STARS!!!

WOW!!!

I absolutely loved this one!!!

All I can say is, I really can't believe I waited this long to read it.

I actually like the heroine, Rook, which doesn't happen all that often for me.

She's had a tough life and has no friends or family.

She has recently escaped an abusive boyfriend and ends up in Denver to start a new life.

It starts off rocky, as she was living in a homeless shelter and had to sleep with a knife to protect herself, and then loses her job as a house keeper after being accused of stealing.

Rook's luck changes when she stumbles across a business card which is an invite for the "Tragic" photo shoot.

She has the look the photographer wants and lands the job.

Rook even scores a garden apartment in the photographer's building.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, she meets RONIN!!

I LOVED him!!

Ronin, is a model but also the photographer's girlfriends' brother.

He takes care of all the models that work for them.

The minute he is introduced I am HOOKED!!!

He is pretty much smitten with Rook as soon as he meets her.

Rook is still very much affected by her past relationship with an extremely abusive boyfriend. She doesn't trust that she can make the right decision when it comes to men.

She holds on to her new found independence fiercely, which causes some of the angst in this story.

Along with Ronin's past as a ladies man.

The sexy time is pretty H-O-T!!!!

I'm hoping that these two can get through all the drama I am sure is awaiting them in the next couple of books and end up with the HEA that they both deserve!!

I worry about getting so excited about all this stuff, and getting used to it most of all. It sucks when you're used to something nice and then you lose it, but if you never have it in the first place, then you don't have to worry about losing it, right? - Rook

I think I might be happy.

Maybe.

The last time I was happy I was fifteen. - Rook

Beauty is fleeting. I know someone important said that, but I have no idea who it was. I just know it's true. So I'm gonna grab this second chance with everything I've got and I'm gonna ride this wave until it spits me back out on the beach of bullshit. - Rook

***"I'm not going to ask, because I know you've got things you're not about to reveal to me, not after three days anyway. But I'd just like you to know, that is not right. Whatever you've been through, whatever it was that made you so...sad. I'd just like to say you deserve better."* - Ronin**

"But no matter what happens--you will never shrink back into a corner from me again. Because I will never hurt you." - Ronin

"Ronin Flynn, you might undo me."

"I'm already undone, Gidge. I'm just hoping you'll stick around long enough to put me back together."

If I wanted to change my life then I'd have to do it myself. Because no one was coming to protect me, or save me, or heal me. - Rook

Christy says

~~4~~4.5 Tragic Stars!

5 Stars!!!

After listening to this audiobook and remembering how much I LOVED it, I have no idea why I didn't give this one 5 stars... Hmmm. Either way, I'm bumping my rating up :D

I kind of got sucked into reading this one... after seeing so many friends read it and love it, I had to check it out. And I wasn't disappointed! Once I started this, I had trouble putting it down!

TRAGIC is a story about a girl named Rook...

Rook hasn't had an easy life. In fact, it's been extremely difficult. She isn't where she wants to be, but it's better than where she has been.

I'm homeless, jobless, and broke. But at least I'm not scared and at least I'm not broken and at least I'm not letting people who know nothing about me dictate who I am.

After spending her last \$10 at Starbucks, Rook gets a bit of luck. An opportunity to do something to change

her life. And she takes it. She auditions to be a model. And she is just what photographer Antoine Chaput is looking for. She meets fellow model, Ronin Flynn. Ronin notices something special about Rook right away. Rook is not looking for anyone at this point in her life. In fact, that's the last thing in the world she wants.

I'd rather spend the rest of my life alone and lonely than give up my freedom again.

Rook isn't used to the modeling world, she doesn't really know what she is doing, but Ronin helps her. He takes care of her, protects her. Rook is resistant at first, but slowly she grows to trust Ronin, to care for him. Ronin has a past- a past that he does not wish to repeat. His past makes him even more protective of Rook.

These two just fit together.

"I could describe what you look like, but that's not what I see. You are so much more than a body inside a dress, Rook. You fit me. When I saw you crouching in that stairwell last week I felt like I knew you. You stopped me dead in my tracks, you wiped my mind." ?

And their photoshoots... OMG. Their chemistry is off the charts hot!

"I don't want you to stop, Ronin. I don't want to take it slow or change direction. I just want you to go. Please."

Rook is tough. She has had a hard life, but she has changed it for the better. She saved herself with no one's help.

If I wanted to change my life then I'd have to do it myself. Because no one was coming to protect me, or save me, or heal me. There was just me.

I just loved Ronin... he is sexy, swoony, and protective. I can't wait to see where the next book takes these two- Will Rook choose modeling so she can stay independent, or will she trust Ronin to take care of her... can she have them both? Only time will tell!

I was pleasantly surprised with this one! A really great read!

Jennifer Kyle says

"So I'm gonna grab this second chance with everything I've got and I'm gonna ride this wave until it spits me back out onto the beach of bullshit."~Rook

Ever finish a book and immediately go stalking so you can properly **fan girl** the author? This was me today after I finished *Tragic*. We book fanatics love to find out more when a book is as captivating as this one. Don't get me wrong this is not a cliffhanger...the story will continue in the next book and thank goodness because I want more!

Looking for something **different- sexy- real- exciting**? This book caught me off guard and I loved every word and every turn J.A. Huss brought the story. She definitely has a hit series on her hands!!

This story is told in alternating povs of Rook Walsh and Ronin Flynn. Rook is a former foster care child who has escaped an abusive relationship and happens to find an unwanted invitation to model for Antoine Chaput, famous photographer. Ronin Flynn is a model who also works and owns a portion of the studio.

***"So you're not the type who looks for a boyfriend to take care of her?"
"I snort. "Fuck. No. The last thing I want right now is a guy who wants to take care of me."***

Ronin slowly wins Rook's trust and perhaps love while she finds her path and where she will go next after the TRAGIC campaign is complete. You see, she has no plans on being a model – but she is in desperate need of cash and this could lead her to her dreams of film school.

"Because I can't stop myself. And because I'm the only one who knows you, and you're just Rook, the girl who appeared out of nowhere. But tomorrow, you'll be Rook, the face of TRAGIC. And I don't think you're tragic at all, Rook."

Rook and Ronin's chemistry **explodes** both in front of the camera and behind the scenes. The possibilities and directions that the next book will go has this new fan girl stalking for teasers till August!

"I'm not sure what's going to happen. Maybe we make it, maybe we don't, but if there's one thing I've learned, it's to appreciate the good."

Lisa Jayne says

TWO CHERRY BLOSSOM STARS.

Thoughts from me ...

I'm not sure What went wrong? It feels like everybody but Lisa loved this story. This was supposed to be an easy five stars, but sadly this time this story didn't work out for me. All in all this book has gained a disappointed 2.5 stars and confirmed my ongoing book funk that is starting to feel like a never ending battle, I'm chasing after a five star read and fingers crossed my next read will be. Would I read the author again? Yes. I am going to carry on with this particular series? No. Do I think other readers would love this book? Go check out other reviews, I'm in a minority with my rating. Heres to celebrating those books we love and moving on when we don't.

Thanks for the buddy read Philly poppet ... I love that you don't mind my ranty texts one bit. (Well, that's what you tell me anyway).

J *deep in the heart of Texas* says

5--FAN-FREAKING-TASTIC--Stars!!!!

That was.....

I devoured this book in a matter of hours. I loved absolutely EVERYTHING about it. It was different, it was raw, it was real, it was HOT, it was heart-breaking, it was sweet, it was funny!

Tragic is the story of Rook and Ronin, it's told in alternating POVs. The story begins with Rook...she's down to her last \$10. And what better way to spend your last \$10?!?! On a Starbuck's coffee. She's just been fired from her lastest job as a maid (after being wrongly accused of stealing). She lives in a homeless shelter and she's led a *tragic* life. Until she gets....

Okay, so it's a golden ticket in the form of a business card for a test shoot with Antoine Chaput, a photographer. Rook shows up for the shoot. There we meet Ronin (Elise's sister), Elise (Antoine's lover) and Antoine himself. Antoine takes one look at Rook and knows she has the look for the **TRAGIC** campaign. Afterall, her life has been nothing but one tragedy after another.

Rook gets thrown in to the world of modeling. She's like a fish out of water. She's so broken and scared. Ronin of course falls in love with her on-sight and wants to make her his. Ronin see the broken girl that is Rook, he wants to protect her...in the process they really start to like each other. But Rook isn't very trusting and after her past you can understand why. A past that I am afraid is going to come back to haunt her.

Rook and Ronin's sexual chemistry was off the charts HOT. Their photo sessions together were panty melting.

Ronin doesn't want Rook to get lost in the "world" of modeling. But Rook isn't really interested in modeling. She's just looking for a little security in a life where she's always been on her own. A little money to help make her dreams a reality. A little love in a world where she's felt none.

This is Rook's second chance. Her fresh-start. Her way out. The story of Rook and Ronin isn't over. Rook has almost completed her TRAGIC contract. Will she move on to the STURGIS contract? Will Ronin remain by her side? Will her past catch up with her? I can't wait to find out. MANIC cannot get her soon enough!!!!

J.A. Huss....

This book just made me so happy and smiley! I LOVED it!

Jen says

This story starts out when Rook uses her last \$10 on a Starbucks coffee.

"If I wanted to change my life then I'd have to do it myself. Because no one was coming to protect me, or save me, or heal me. There was just me."

Rook

When a group of girls sit near Rook in the coffee shop, she can't help but eavesdrop on their conversation. They must be models because they complain about a photographer and toss a white card over their shoulder that ends up hitting Rook in the head. This white card is actually an invitation to a model shoot. Even though she's not a model, Rook is instantly interested when she flips it over and sees that if booked she could earn \$100 per hour. Needless to say, Rook shows up at the shoot hoping to get a job.

"Beauty is fleeting. I know someone important said that, but I have no idea who it was. I just know it's true. So I'm gonna grab this second chance with everything I've got and I'm gonna ride this wave until it spits me back out on the beach of bullshit."

When the famous erotic photographer, Antoine Chaput, sees Rook he knows right away he wants Rook to pose for his TRAGIC photo shoot. Ronin Flynn takes care of the girls and he's decided he wants to take care of Rook. Ronin and Rook are paired together to do the TRAGIC shoot.

"We want her that bad. Of course, for very different reasons. Antoine wants to shoot her, I want to keep her. Antoine wants to take pictures of her gorgeous body and her fragile face, but I want to peel away her layers and see what's underneath. Antoine wants to make her famous and I want to hide her away in my room, under the covers of my bed, under me."

Ronin

Ronin says and does what's needed in order to get the girls to give the camera what it wants. Sometimes it's innocent...

Other times it's not so innocent...

'She laughs at that and I have a sudden urge to put my hands all over her body, that's how much those

little noises coming from her mouth turn me on. I can't even remember the last time a girl made me feel like that. Maybe never."

Rook and Ronin have a cute flirting and witty banter between them that drew me into this story. Rook is looking to take control of her life for once. She's just escaped an abusive relationship and she's not looking for anything serious with anyone.

"Hell, I barely escaped the last boyfriend with my life, there's no way I'm getting involved with another guy who thinks he can tell me what to do. "

Ronin likes to be in control of things and feels the need to take care of Rook above and beyond how he normally treats the other models.

"But no matter what happens— you will never shrink back into a corner from me again. Because I will never hurt you."

Rook and Ronin's photo shoots are steamy and there is obviously a connection between these two, but is it enough?

"Ronin Flynn, you might undo me." "I'm already undone, Gidge. I'm just hoping you'll stick around long enough to put me back together."

To be continued...

I absolutely loved this book and cannot wait to read book 2, Manic!!

Farah *Professor Dean's Beauty* says

WOW That was amazing!!!!!!!!!!

The only TRAGIC thing about this book is that it had to end! I cannot wait for the sequel!!!!

I was completely hooked from the time I started reading.

There are those moments in your life where something happens to you that will change your future.....

"Beauty is fleeting. I know someone important said that, but I have no idea who it was. I just know it's true. So I'm gonna grab this second chance with everything I've got and I'm gonna ride this wave until it spits me back out on the beach of bullshit."

This is exactly what happened to Rook. A girl who literally had nothing in her life. A sad girl who belonged to the foster child system as a minor and into an abusive relationship which was so bad that she ran away never looking back.

Fate is a funny thing.... Rook decided to use her last \$10 on Starbucks coffee knowing she has nothing afterwards.

She sits behind a group of girls who are models and a card gets thrown in her face.

Needing the money advertised, Rook decides she has nothing more to lose so she goes.

Once you've reached Rock bottom there is nowhere to go but up.

Rook gets a lucky break when Antonie the photographer likes Rook's "LOOK" and his girlfriend Elise gives her an offer that means the world to her- why? Because they want her to be the model for the shoot
TRAGIC.

"It's not the body or face, it's the emotion. The emotion I make them feel."

Rook is paired up with Ronin.

(view spoiler)

He is ***SMOKING HOT*** is also in charge of the shoot's as Elise is his sister.

Ronin is sweet, kind, sexy and the more time he spends with her, he starts to like her....

"Yeah, that Ronin. He's one cute guy and all. But he's not for me. Even if he is tall and has those amazing blue eyes. I bet if we had babies our kids would totally have the most cornflower blue eyes ever. And dark raven hair. Oh God, we'd make little model babies. They'd need agents at birth"

Their sexual chemistry on and off camera is ***Scorching/Sizzling***

It leaves you practically panting and *BEGGING* them to please have sex!!!!

"I might not be able to make many guarantees in this world, Rook," he says as his hand travels down and traces the crease between my legs. "But I will say with one hundred percent certainty that you will come tonight."

Ronin wants her for himself.... And that comes at a price.... To leave modelling?

When an opportunity comes up for Rook to get another major contract, she wants it, not for the fame, but for the money- the security....

"Because if there's one thing in life I can count on, it's that eventually, no matter how freaking nice that rug is under your feet, someone always pulls it out from under you eventually."

As much as Rook feels for Ronin, she needs to be independent after what happened to her in the past... Is the risk worth it?

"I could describe what you look like, but that's not what I see. You are so much more than a body inside a dress, Rook. You fit me. When I saw you crouching in that stairwell last week I felt like I knew you. You stopped me dead in my tracks, you wiped my mind."

Or will she find loose the best thing that has happened to her?

"I'm not sure what's going to happen. Maybe we make it, maybe we don't, but if there's one thing I've learned, it's to appreciate the good when it happens. And having this man accept and want me the way I am right now is a good thing, and it's happening right this second... So I'm gonna enjoy it."

How soon is too Soon to give up everything she's waited so long for?

I CANNOT WAIT for the next book!!!

Giselle says

What a refreshing story. Even though it may have a lot of the same general elements as many New Adult novels - a protagonist with a rough upbringing who's inexperienced in romance and meets this drop dead gorgeous guy that sweeps her off her feet - I found this one still had a lot of originality to offer. The whole erotic photography scene is new and pretty fascinating if you ask me. As a web designer, I admit to never thinking about the people on the stock images that I've worked with. Even those used on book covers; do you ever consider the kind of people they are and the kind of life they lead? They're just book character personas

to most of us. In Tragic, this is the job that Rook literally stumbles in without having any idea what she's getting herself into, but desperately needing work and money.

I took to Rook immediately. She's the kind of person who does what needs to be done, but stays smart about it. I like how real she is; confident, bold, with an obvious harsh past, but not overly cold or depressed as a result. She's scarred from her last relationship, sure, but she's also wanting to move on, not be controlled by it. She's not perfect by any means, she jumps to conclusions sometimes and gets a little difficult towards the end, but it's easy to see where she's coming from. I don't easily trust people either so I could relate.

Rook and Ronin make up the dual POV narration of this novel. Ronin is... well I wasn't sure what to make of him at first. He kind of comes on strong. I mean the guy just barges into her apartment, and of course she's sleeping naked. It didn't take too long for me to see the good side of him, though. He's very charming which helped, but he also obviously cares about the modeling girls and he sees Rook for who she really is. I especially loved the creativity of the the hot scenes between these two. Being set in an erotic photography studio gave a lot for opportunity for some unique, incredibly sexy scenes, while still keeping it realistic in a modeling standpoint. Their attraction was obvious from the start, making it all the more natural, all the more passionate. Their relationship does grow at a fast pace, but it's well supported with off-the-wall chemistry that just flows off the pages. There is a lack of conflict that's kind of bittersweet. On the one hand it's refreshing to not have intense drama, but on the other, there is no intense drama. Am I difficult to please? :)

This book does feel like an introduction - to the characters, the romance, the modeling/photography scene. Even the ending is more of a "to be continued", where their relationship, Rook's future, and everything else is left uncertain. I do like the idea of the next project Rook signed up for, though. I also already like Spencer and curious to learn more about him. This book is definitely very character oriented and very sexy, but it doesn't use sex to keep the story going. Actually this novel is very minimalist when it comes to sex scenes compared to other New Adult novels. By the reviews I've seen, this is just the beginning of a epic series to come!

A note on the audiobook: I loved that it had two narrators and both are fantastic. Ronin has an especially sexy voice that made his character even hotter. I would definitely recommend that format if you're into audiobooks. Too bad that only book 1 is available so far, though.

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For more of my reviews, visit my blog at [Xpresso Reads](#)

C.D. Reiss says

4.5 stars

NA doesn't always work for me, but JA Huss took all the annoying NA shit out there, nailed it to the wall and pissed all over it.

Wait, that sounds like she fucked it up.

No. She blew stars into the sky.

Fuck. I'm really botching this.

Thanks to Ash for the recommendation.

Full review to come, some day, in the far future.

Debra says

Rook Walsh is ♦ **TRAGIC.** ♦

Or at least, that's what she seems to be. Beautiful, but tragic...

After ending the abusive relationship with her ex, Rook's life hasn't been easy. Granted, she's finally free and escaped from his aggressive behavior, but having to start over a new life, in a new city with no friends and no money, is not an easy task.

However, luck seems to be on her side when she's handed an invitation for a test shoot at Antoine Chaput's photography studio.

She decides to take a chance and ends up being chosen as the new model for an erotic campaign shoot called TRAGIC, a shoot that seems to have written her name on it.

From there on, her life changes drastically, she's given a well paying job, a place to stay and in Antoine and his girlfriend/co-owner of the studio Elise, she's finally found some trustworthy friends.

And then there's ♦ **Ronin Flynn.** ♦

Ronin is not only the one who manages all the girls who work for the studio, he's also a male model himself.

♦ During shoots, Ronin is there to make the girls come alive. ♦

With his touch he manages to get the exact reaction out of them, the photographer is looking for.

♦ His touch is meant to excite and electrify them. ♦

When Rook and Ronin are in front of the camera, their chemistry is off the charts and sometimes they even get carried away a little too much.

"I'm already undone, Gidge. I'm just hoping you'll stick around long enough to put me back together."

Sandra says

4 STARS TO A READ I REALLY ENJOYED!

Rook has just escaped from an abusive boyfriend that nearly landed her in the grave. She takes the bus and ends up in a town called Denver. After loosing her job because of a thing she did not do Rook becomes homeless. Then fate gives her a chance, and when Rook finds a modeling invitation card she takes the opportunity. She likes it there and is trying to start anew.

If there is one thing in life i can count on, is that eventually, no matter how freaking nice that rug is under your feet, someone always pulls it out from under you eventually.

In enter...

Ronin is a famous model who's job is to make girls forget about the photographers and cameras. To make them feel real things, like blushing, lust, ect, and show it on their features and by actions. When he sees Rook he knows she's anything but tragic. She's beautiful, sexy, and a strong girl who has been through a lot. He wants her but...

Can he make Rook trust him??? Can he provide her the independence she craves and needs?

TRAGIC was a very hot book, especially when they were shooting the scenes between Rook and Ronin. The sexual tension was amazing!

I liked the characters. They were interesting to read about and well described.

The ending (in my opinion) should be re-written. I didn't get it and nearly nothing was resolved - the relationship, what Rook was going to do next. Nothing.

But it was still an enjoyable read about modelling and new chances :)
