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Emily is a quiet, shy romance writer and her untamable roommate, magazine writer, Annie Crossfire, is the total opposite. After Ann drags Emily to a concert, Emily meets a sexy stranger whose hold on her is instant. Their first encounter isn't quite their last, and the way he touches Emily's curves and savors her body, she can't stop thinking about him.

Emily joins Ann for another show and when the band, Down Silent, takes the stage, Emily realizes that her secret encounter is the lead singer of the band.

Gunnar is hot, commanding, and he can't get enough of Emily's innocence or her curves. He takes her to his private room complete with a bed and handcuffs. There, he opens her...

But what starts out as erotic and sexy quickly turns serious. Ann wants to write a story on Gunnar and begs Emily for help to make it happen. Gunnar refuses to talk and as tension mounts, Emily begins to wonder if her feelings for the rockstar go beyond the bedroom. The question is... Will her curves and passion be enough to fix a broken rockstar?

Stripped Details

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Author : Karolyn James

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Goss says

Warning: Spoilers ahead.

The first couple of pages were fine. Fairly well written, a relatable main character, but then Emily and Ann go back stage early to see band snorting coke and neither of them are horrified by what they see? I can understand why Ann wouldn't be, but Emily should've shown some distaste of it. As someone very against hard drug usage I find their lack of reaction appalling and almost stopped reading.

I struggled to get through the next couple of paragraphs to be honest, but around page twenty-six it picked up with Emily's comparison of Ann's dream and what Emily did for a living. It was a great compare/contrast and why Ann's dreams weren't so far-fetched since Ann was just ballsy enough to go after those dreams whereas another woman wouldn't be.

Emily gave in a little too easily for my tastes, particularly when the bouncer demands she go back to the waiting room or whatever and locks the door on her. She's afraid, but then she sees him and it's all okay... eye roll- granted it is their second meeting, but come on.

Ex is Emily's nickname –the nickname Bryce gave her and she so easily accepted, yet she was so against Ann calling her Em. Honestly, there was a lot of stuff that bothered me about this book. The nickname Ex is just one of them. Here are more reasons this book wasn't for me:

1. The reason why this gorgeous rock star is so into Emily is because her desire to hate herself, and I quote, "drives him mad" – wow. Really?
2. Emily has no backbone. She's like a trained little mouse within the first five seconds of meeting him and remains that way. Oh she tries to be mad at him when he flies off the handle for something stupid, but gives in after a minute.
3. Bryce Gunnar has a God Complex. I would understand this of a doctor, but I don't have a tolerance for famous (semi-famous) people thinking they're better than others. To quote Anya from Buffy – it doesn't make them better than us, just luckier.
4. By page 172 (it is only 232 pages though – a little leeway for that, but not much) she's falling in love with him – she cries a little about it because she's falling for "just some rock star," yet the only thing he's done is give her two orgasms and trash a room in anger when she asked about Ann's interview. I'm not insinuating that a guy has to 'do' something for a woman to consider loving him, but love isn't the equivalent of two orgasms, a temper-tantrum because you asked a question, and commanding someone to do something your way or no way within a total of two or three days. I would've accepted 'obsession' or 'excitement' over something new and potentially dangerous, but not love. Page 175 Emily isn't sure she wants to see him again though there's been no interaction between them since page 172.
5. The author wants me to believe that Emily is so self-conscious that being simply called 'different' is hurtful to her (reference the characters first meeting with the bartender) yet he (Bryce Gunnar) basically makes her walk naked (he gave her a choice –do it or leave) in front of his band mates and she does it? I don't fuckin' think so. Completely stopped reading at 224 when she gave him alcohol and cocaine to loosen him up for an interview. That's where I draw the line. He'd just told her he had a previous problem so she what? Offers him some? The sad thing is I'm sure this really does happen for some famous people. It's just not something I care to read about.

Obviously, 224 pages into it, there are some good things about this book too. The writing is good (when you take out the less than stellar characters – this is just my personal opinion, reference number 2 and 3 for explanation). The sentences flow, they aren't awkward, vocabulary's good... there were even some sexy-ish dom scenes (very, very mild dom), but that was essentially it. I won't be reading the next in the series.

UnusualChild{beppy} says

synopsis:

emily is a bbw who is shy and unsure of herself. her roommate annie is wild and loud and has passes to go see the band at a nightclub. emily has a sexy encounter with someone in the back hallways after annie abandons her. when she and annie head to the same club the next night, and emily realizes that the guy she had such a fabulous time with is the lead singer, she isn't sure what their encounter meant. when annie finds out that gunnar is the guy who gave emily such a good time, she wants an interview so that she can advance at her job.

what i liked: the premise.

what i didn't like: the story felt as though it was written by someone who hadn't experienced life. the people didn't feel real, the world didn't feel real. gunnar threw a hissy fit, emily threw a hissy fit and then backed down...uggh.

Liz says

An enjoyable read. Good characters and an intriguing story.

Joanna R says

Good book but I didn't really connect with the relationship between Emily and Gunner. He seemed too distant and Annie was a horrid friend who was clearly jealous of Emily. 4* as it was just sex and gunner going on stage.

SW says

Interesting. Started off good ended not that great. Her BFF Ann is super annoying. Gunnar seems hot but a dick. It made me want to read the next book so it did it's job.

Amber Fellows says

Gunnars description had me but this book was terrible now I have to get through 2 more because I'm not a quitter!

deedee says

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Mommaang says

2.5 rounded up to 3*'s
