



Rule

Jay Crownover

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Opposites in every way . . . except the one that matters

Shaw Landon loved Rule Archer from the moment she laid eyes on him. Rule is everything a straight-A pre-med student like Shaw shouldn't want—and the only person she's never tried to please. She isn't afraid of his scary piercings and tattoos or his wild attitude. Though she knows that Rule is wrong for her, her heart just won't listen.

To a rebel like Rule Archer, Shaw Landon is a stuck-up, perfect princess—and his dead twin brother's girl. She lives by other people's rules; he makes his own. He doesn't have time for a good girl like Shaw—even if she's the only one who can see the person he truly is.

But a short skirt, too many birthday cocktails, and spilled secrets lead to a night neither can forget. Now, Shaw and Rule have to figure out how a girl like her and a guy like him are supposed to be together without destroying their love . . . or each other.

Rule Details

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From Reader Review Rule for online ebook

Samantha Young says

I'm annoyed with myself for letting this sit on my kindle for so long, smooshed under a massive tbr pile. Rule is my weakness in New Adult. I love a hero who can be a bit of an arsehole but underneath has an ample amount of redeeming qualities. It's his protective and loyal qualities in Rule that make him so irresistible to Shaw—despite the fact he unwittingly hurts her more often than he even realizes with his stream of one night stands. I loved their back story, their rich, complex, and tragic history because it gave them both so much room to grow. Jay did a fantastic job on character arc and journey with Rule because this is a true coming of age story for both Rule and Shaw. Add in sizzling chemistry, passion, suspense and a wonderful crew of secondary characters and you've got the very best New Adult has to offer. I LOVED every minute! So much so I jumped straight into book two JET and am now about to start ROME. The Marked Men series is truly addictive reading!

Emily May says

I am conducting what I'm shelving as a "New Adult (NA) Experiment". I'm going to work my way through some of the popular New Adult books and see if I can weed out the crap and hopefully find some surprising gems. Here's hoping!

Rule contains every single thing I've come to hate about New Adult. You might think it no longer possible that I could be surprised by how terrible a NA book is, I thought so too before reading this. But this book was so annoying, so offensive, **so bad**, it seemed as though it must have been written as some kind of terrible joke. Or by a twelve year old who only speaks broken English. The editing was some of the worst I've ever seen. I appreciate that it's possible I own the original ebook that was published before the book was noticed by a major publisher (and made use of their editorial department) but, even so, I had to literally decipher each sentence. Did anyone even read through this once before pushing the "submit" button? And yet, somehow, Rule has still managed to collect an impressive pile of five star ratings and glowing reviews. How? I have to ask, because I couldn't understand a whole lot of it.

You know, it's funny how the YA genre - on average - is so much better written and more mature than NA. At least there's usually some attempt to develop the characters beyond cliched stereotypes of "bad boy" and the "sluts" he uses and casts aside before the "virginal heroine" comes along. There's even an "evil cheerleader" thrown in. Sometimes I have to stop and wonder what century I'm living in. Because, honestly, I don't know which was worse: the complete dick of a guy who has absolutely no respect for women, or the holier-than-thou girl who obsesses over said guy but calls other women "whores" for doing the same.

The annoying "heroine" of this piece is Shaw. She sees herself and Rule as above every other lowly human being in this story and is certain everyone else merely fails to understand the grand complexity that is her. What a moron. She views Rule's behaviour as that of a victim who is only a dickhead because he is seduced by various tramps who wander around in revealing clothing. At one point, Rule's parents try to talk some sense into him and she defends him because he's a "terrific son" when really he seems like a complete

douchebag. She also actually thinks this line: "her name was Amy Rodgers and I had spent all four years of high school being tormented by her and her cheerleader cronies". **Seriously, grow up.** Everyone is out to get her and in her head she can do no wrong. There's a psychological term for blaming other people for everything that's wrong with you: external locus of control. Just sayin'.

And Rule. Bloody Rule. And all the fascists in this novel who thought it would be a great idea to name their kids Rule, Rome, Jet and Nash. Rule is the poster boy for double standards - I don't think I've ever read a book where it is so fully rubbed in my face. The message couldn't be more clear: Rule is a bad boy for sleeping around with lots of different women, but the women in question are all tramps, sluts and whores. He supports Shaw's theory that the women are to blame for these sexual encounters. He's just being a guy but the girls are exploring an all new level of immorality. He refers to his conquests with disdain, like this: "any chick that was willing to come home with a stranger for unattached sex". And they get this the next morning: "if you don't want to be treated like crap maybe you should stop going home with drunken dudes you don't know. Trust me we're really only after one thing and the next morning all we really want is for you to go quietly away." (God, I really want to add some commas to those sentences). We don't even have to look at this as being about gender. Male, female... who cares? He's just fucking rude.

You know you're in a NA book when losing your virginity involves "sex acrobatics".

For all the sexy scenes that NA likes to throw about, overall, it seems pretty damn obsessed with virginity and the giving of it. Shaw is quite clearly presented as a superior being because of her virgin status. It distinguishes her from her "slutty coworker" who also has the hots for Rule. It makes her better than the "disgusting bar bimbos" and "teenage tramps". But, of course, the losing of the virginity is mind-blowing, world-changing intercourse! NA seriously makes me laugh for this. Multiple orgasms on your first time? Yeah... right.

Virginity or, at the very least, no sexual promiscuity is a requirement for the majority of NA "heroines". If you're female, then you're either a heroine or a whore. If you're the heroine, then you're virginal and holier-than-thou; if you're a whore, then you're probably a cheerleader. But even if you escape the pom pom fate, you can never be seen to be having anything resembling feelings. There are exceptions - like Unteachable and The Sea of Tranquility - and I enjoy finding them so much that reading books like this is **almost** worth it. One of the worst things, though, which is starting to annoy me even more than the separating of women into sexuality-based categories, is the necessity for women to be modest and unaware of their own attractiveness. To, essentially, be all **you don't knoooow-oh-oh, you don't know you're beautiful!**

I'm not sure why we're celebrating insecurity. I'm not sure why it's a bad thing if a woman knows she looks good and doesn't go home to stick her finger down her throat*. I really don't get it. But then, I'm not sure I get this "genre" (or whatever). But I will keep looking for good stuff in 2014 and most likely keep being annoyed by the bad. To end this extremely negative review on a positive (and slightly late) note - **Happy New Year!!!**

xrysa says

Can you change for someone ?

Will you ever be able to realise that the most beautiful things in life are moments?

Can you love truly love someone that you didn't like?

Well , Rule Archer **CAN**.

Rule

Shaw

Rule is the guy that will have a one night stand with you and toss away in the morning.

"Any chick that was willing to come home how with a stranger for a night of unattached sex didn't get the right to cast judgment around, especially while they were still naked and rumpled in bed."

On the other hand Shaw is the girl who studies , has a job and stays away from any kind of trouble .

But staying away from Rule isn't easy .

She has to pick him up every weekend and make him visit his parents.

This is a torture for both of them .

Rule hates her because she's the rich girl that had invaded in his family a few years ago.

Shaw can't stand him because every time she picks him up he is half-naked or naked with a different woman in his bed , and this is painful for her.

We should never give up our hopes or on our undying loves...

Something might happen...

He gave her a perfect birthday present.

She walked away....

She didn't want to become one of those trashes he used to spend his night with.

He went after her so they would figure out what to do with each other.

Her dream came true...

After all these years he was hers.

However, dealing with Rule and your ex at the same time is not easy.

Have you met your brother, right? Mr I'll bang anything with big boobs and negative IQ

The girl has money and status written all over her , you have nothing but ink and a good time spelled out bright and clear all over you.

Rule is determined to change for her and he does.

It is scary to know how easily I could hurt this girl and how desperately I didn't want that to happen.

She was different.

With her I was different.

She gave meaning to his life.

She taught him how to love.

Still , no matter how a perfect match they were , he was insecure about their relationship .

Why I loved Rule : He was funny , though and smart. He wasn't the fucked-up character who didn't want to hurt any girl.

He was a jerk! Just imagine that he considered a relationship as a *monogamy thing*.

Why I loved Shaw : Pride comes first from everything . Beautiful and smart . She knows how to handle him and how to treat him.

Pearl Angeli says

I picked this book out of so many New Adult books in my tbr because it seems promising. And seriously, I love books that are with male protagonists with sexy, bad-boy image. Given the fact that this book also has high ratings, why not?

Rule is the first book of **Marked Men** series. We get to be introduced by the sexy, tattoo artist named Rule here-- a guy who grew up with family issues because of the tragic history that happened to his twin brother **Remy**. Then there is this girl named **Shaw**, a medical college student who always had a thing for Rule since

she was 14. The thing is, she was close to Remy and everyone in Rule's family assumed that she and Remy were sort of an item-- not knowing exactly that Shaw is secretly in love with Rule.

This book is potentially good, I guess... If only I have no issues.

But then, I simply could not totally like it. Why? It's because of the characters.

First, let's talk about **Rule**. This guy is sexy as hell. With all those tats and piercings-- well, he's a guy every girl in the corner wants to hook up with. At first, I really adored him. But when I've read more and more chapters, my adoration for him slowly died. He's so not worth it! I don't like the way he's so full of himself, like "*hey, I'm bad and sexy, girls. Want to f*ck with me? Come and get me*" I have nothing against man-whore male leads but then this guy-- he just ruined my good impression on him. He's total jerk in a literal way. And so **immature**. All right, he has some issues I get it but to text his girlfriend "*I kissed some chick last night*"? WTF? If I were Shaw, I would not only destroy my phone after reading that text from him. I would freaking destroy his face!

And oh, I hate it when he always compare Shaw to his previous conquests. Like, how Shaw is much better in bed than his previous one-night-stand girls, and how she's even sexier. Alright, Shaw is sexy and perfect and that should be it. Why bring up the EXes?

And now on to **Shaw**.

Shaw is what you can consider an ideal girl. Pretty, smart, rich, decent, and a medical student at that. Perfect. But then, she constantly disappoints me. All throughout the book I was groaning inwardly or rolling my eyes because she's such a love sick woman who is willing to cross everything just to be with Rule and it's just not right. She's playing martyr which does not sit well on me because I think she's too good for Rule. And when Rule openly admitted to cheating on her and she just instantly forgive him? WTH?

And here's her line that made me raise some serious eyebrows:

"Even if I hadn't been on the pill, having a moment of wild, uninhibited and totally unprotected sex with him was most definitely worth any of the risks that were involved with that."

Holy sh*it! That guy has serious sexual histories with different girls-- night after night-- and you could say THAT? You mean, you're ok getting STD because he's worth it? Oh, no!

Because of that, the book did not gain thumbs up from me. I was mostly busy rolling my eyes at the immaturity of them. Maybe the next books of this series are better but I'm not so sure if I will pick them up soon. Maybe-- maybe not.

I still give it 2 stars, however, because I enjoyed the first parts of it. :)

Rating: 2 Stars

Tessamari ♥Many Waters...♥ ~ Sweet Spot Book Blog says

4.5-4.75 Stars

Meet Rule Archer. He is my latest book boyfriend crush.

I loved Rule like it was my mission in life. I loved him like it was inevitable...

So the first thing I noticed right away is the cover. It's gorgeous and I could not say *no* to a guy who looked like that. I mean, have you seen him? He's gorgeous! And those tattoos? Total fucking SWOON!! YUMMY. After I finished this book, I had to Google more tattooed hotties. I engulfed this book. I just couldn't stop reading. Today was my day off and I was determined to be lost in a book. The story had drama, a little bit of angst, and a whole lot of sexual tension between the H/h which led to some wonderful times in between the sheets. This was just what the doctor ordered.

"Gotta tell you, Rule, I'm a fan of kissing with all that metal in your face. I never thought that was something I would be into, but you sure make it work."

Rule is moody, complicated and brash, but underneath his tough tattooed exterior lies a man who's sweet, artistic, charming, brilliant and loyal. He's also *PIERCED in all the right places* **wink & smirks** Just picturing his piercings makes me squirm and blush. Oh. My. God. Is it hot in here? **FUCK!** He's hot.

Anyway, I digress. He's always been the odd brother out in his family, but when his beloved twin dies, he was an outcast more than ever. He's always played by his own set of rules. He's a very successful tattoo artist and is a big hit with the ladies. The way his parents treat him, especially his mother, makes him feel unworthy of being loved. He has never had a serious relationship and goes from one fling to another.

"So Nash and I went out and there were redheads and there were brunettes and there was even a super-hot chick that looked kinda like Pink, but you think any of them did it for me? No, Shaw, not one because they weren't fucking you; ever since you walked out on Sunday all I've been thinking of is you."

Shaw Landon has loved Rule Archer since she first laid eyes on him. Ever since his twin brother, Remy, took her home, everyone in Archer family welcomed her with open arms. Her own family has never made her feel as welcome as the Archers did. She never did belong her parents' world of the privileged and rich. They even tried to push her towards a man like Gabe, a man of good breeding, but completely psycho.

Shaw has always been a fixer. Every Sunday, she picks up Rule from his apartment to drive him to visit his parents. She constantly finds him sprawled naked with his flavor of the week next to him, but she does it; no matter how much it hurts knowing that Rule never really *sees* her. As for Rule, he hates Sundays, but he always reluctantly goes. Little did he know that she would do anything for him. She always puts up with his bullshit without a hint of complaint. In Rule's eyes, a girl like Shaw was in his eyes, unattainable.

It wasn't until the night of Shaw's birthday that everything changed...

“What are you trying to say Rule?”

“I don’t know, all I know is other girls aren’t you and that isn’t cutting it for me. I think we need to figure out what’s going on between us.”

This story between Rule and Shaw was one I couldn’t put down. Rule could be such an asshat sometimes, but I loved that he was trying. He wanted to be the type of man Shaw deserved. All Shaw ever wanted was Rule, flaws and all. The angst was kept at a minimum, but the drama was all there.

There were a couple reasons why I couldn’t give this a full five stars. One: This book needed some serious editing. This version I have is supposed to be the *tweaked* out version, but they need to go over it again because the slight mistakes they missed made sentences long and drawn out. It even made it confusing at times. Two: The separation between Rule and Shaw towards the end seemed a little drawn out. Aside from that, I really enjoyed this and I cannot wait for the next book that stars Ayden and Jet. But for now, I know I’ll be thinking about Rule, his tattoos and his piercings (**Blushes**) for a long time to come ;)

Aestas Book Blog says

*** FULL REVIEW NOW POSTED *** **4.5 stars**

What an awesome book!!! My first thought after finishing it was... **WHY DID I NOT READ THIS SOONER?????**

Rule was one of the books I'd had on my TBR the longest without having read it. I literally bought it the day it was first released as an indie (back in 2012!!) and for whatever reason, I just never had got around to reading it. The funny thing is that I actually always thought I'd like it. Maybe I was subconsciously saving it for desperate times?? Who knows... but from the first few pages, I was totally pulled into the story and knew there was no way I was going to put it down. Everything about it just screamed WIN!!

The story is about Rule and Shaw who were about as polar opposite as you could possibly get. He was a hot headed, rebellious, man-whoring, tattooed (and thoroughly pierced!) bad boy, and she was a pristine, straight A student. They'd been in each other's lives since they were young teens but as far as he knew, she was also the love of his late twin brother's life. But what he didn't know was that she'd always and only loved his twin like a brother and had always been secretly in love with him....

I absolutely loved their banter. It was fun and so snappy!

“You’re twenty-two, Rule. When are you going to stop acting like an indulgent teenager?” ...

“You’re nineteen, Shaw.... My eighty-two-year-old grandma has more of a social calendar than you, and I think she’s less uptight.” ...

“I like Ethel.” ...

“Everybody like Ethel. She’s feisty and won’t take crap from anyone. You could learn a thing or

two from her."

"Oh, maybe I should just dye my hair pink, tattoo every visible surface of my body, shove a bunch of metal in my face, and sleep with everything that moves. Isn't that your philosophy on how to live a rich and fulfilling life?"

There might not have been any insta-love in this book (quite the opposite in fact) but I sure fell instantly in love with it. Everything about it was fun and addictive. And it was so much more than just a bad boy romance too -- there were deeper things at play ... a long unrequited secret love, a dysfunctional family dynamic made worse by a tragedy that just rubbed salt into old wounds, a fantastic cast of Alpha male brothers (of both blood and friendship), and a wonderful romance at the heart of it all.

Rule really stole my heart. He was such a misunderstood character I think. While his outer appearance was too much for some people to look past, or it just made them judge him wrongly, he had a heart of gold and for as much of a bad boy as he was, he was also such a *good guy*.

"Are you, Mr. Manwhore of the Century, seriously trying to give me relationship advice?" ...

"Just because there hasn't been one girl I wanted to hang out with exclusively doesn't mean I don't know the difference between quality and quantity."

I loved how naturally protective he was of her. At times, it was actually hilarious...

"Maybe next time you could just pee in a circle around me so that they know you've already been there."

But all joking aside, he had no problem telling anyone who messed with his girl right off...

"I'm telling you this stops now or you can go to the hospital and I can spend some time in jail, got it?"

And with so much history between them, they both knew what was on the line...

"Rule, if this goes bad, it's gonna be so, so bad." ...

"True, but if it's good, it's going to be so very, very good."

Oh, and I also have to say that while I do *love* a protective here, it's also totally awesome when the girl stands

up for her guys and Shaw had a totally badass line that I have to share with you...

"I'm not giving you his number because he's mine and if you get anywhere near him I swear to God the things I do to you will be chronicled on Investigation Discovery for years to come."

My heart really broke for Rule though. The way his family treated him was so unfair and I just wanted to reach in and hug him and tell him that it would all be ok. And given all of the things he'd been through, it was an understandably big step for him to open up his heart to anyone.

I can't say enough how much I loved that this was *more* than just a romance. I feel like the external issues in both Rule and Shaw's lives brought a lot of dimension to the story. I didn't actually expect that and it was a pleasant surprise. And I also loved that even though the focus of the book was clearly on Rule and Shaw, the few pages that each other character graced were enough to connect me to them and have me interested in their lives as well. Especially Rome -- omg, I'm totally crushing on him (shhh, don't tell Rule).

Taking a little side moment to gush about Rome here... this quote basically described him as *exactly* the kind of hero I love most...

"Even battered and bruised, Rome was the kind of guy who stood between the people he loved and anything that might possibly hurt them."

Be still my heart!! Ok. I'll hold off on the rest of my Rome-love until his book. Back to Rule now...

The story was well paced and it kept my attention the whole way through. No slow or sticky spots. And, for the most part, there was a lot of what I love most in books which is two people trying to work through their issues to figure out how to make their relationship work. I'll admit that there *was* some stupid mixed in but for the most part it didn't bother me because with the way the story was told, in alternating POVs, I could always see that neither of them ever *meant* to hurt the other and they were trying in their own way to do the right thing... even though sometimes they did the wrong thing first and then had to learn from their mistakes.

And I really have to give Rule credit -- he may not have made all the right decisions but that man sure knew how to give an epic apology and grovel. He was impossible not to forgive. The things he said just melted my heart and I loved how, once he's sorted out his feelings, he was bound and determined to make sure Shaw knew how he felt.

I really loved seeing Rule and Shaw work through things. They both were dealing with a lot of respective external drama in their lives but I could see them improving as they went.

"We have to fix this."

"We need to learn how not to break in the first place."

The book ended in such a way that it totally wrapped up Rule and Shaw's story but left me curious and intrigued to read on in the series and find out about the other guys' stories.

You know, it's funny but I guess sometimes you can get spoiled reading a lot of really great books and after those it's sometimes hard to find another one that you really *love*. And after starting and stopping no less than four books this week that just weren't working for me, I was starting to wonder if maybe it was me, y'know? Like, what's the likelihood of that many books not working out? But then... I started this book and just instantly connected. Total book magic.

The best word I can use to describe this book would be 'addictive'. This is definitely a **must read bad boy romance**. It's fun, flirty, and sexy, but also has a lot of depth and a great core group of characters I can't wait to read about. I highly recommend it!

Rating: 4.5 stars

PS -- I just want to address this because some people have been asking. The original indie version of this book had a lot of errors in it that some readers were complaining about. But since then, it has been reedited so I just want to assure you that the version available now is totally clean and reads without any issues.

Oh and here's my casting for Rule...

For more of my reviews, book news and updates:

- ◆ **Main blog: Aestas Book Blog**
- ◆ **Facebook Blog Page**
- ◆ **Twitter**

Vikki ~ *squee* lite ~ says

I don't usually do "casting" but I couldn't resist this time.

Rule

Shaw

I didn't know what to expect going into this one, but I'm so glad I took a chance on it.

I loved Rule and Shaw. They were great characters. They were both battling some hard won demons, but managed to stay so appealing.

Rule is a hot bad boy. In some ways he reminded me of Brian from Rock Me. Tattoos artist, piercings, totally determined to live life in his own terms.

"I think it's genetically impossible not to be kind of in love with him when you come equipped with a vagina. It's just something about that angsty, moody swagger he has that makes you want to cuddle him up and make him feel better."

On the surface, Shaw is his exact opposite. Where he could care less what anyone thinks, Shaw spends her life trying to please everyone else. Where Rule is all angsty and out of control emotions, Shaw is reserved, and a peacemaker. Rule is afraid to let anyone in. His "relationships" consist of a series of one night stands, which he uses to try and exercise his daemons.

Shaw and Rule have been connected for years though her relationship with his twin brother Remy. Three years after Remy's death, Shaw finally has the opportunity to have the one thing she has always wanted, just for her. Rule.

What follows was a beautiful story of two people finally growing up. Shaw finally learns that she needs to live for herself, and Rule learns that shutting everyone out and living only for yourself is the path to loneliness.

I loved every minute of this story. Neither of them were perfect. Both of them made mistakes. There was nothing easy about their relationship from having to battle their own issues, to crazy Ex's and family problems galore, but it was beautiful all the same.

"She turned her head and kissed me on the temple. "Love you." I pressed my face into the curve where he neck met her shoulder and sucked the skin between my teeth. "I'm going to love you Shaw." Her eyes crinkled at the sides. "You already do."

The secondary characters were all great too. I can't wait to read Jet's book next, and I'm really hoping that Rome gets a book of his own too.

Highly recommend.

Lisa says

".....opposites don't just attract they freaking catch fire and burn the entire city down"

Rule Archer:

Shaw Landon:

HOLY SHITS DID THIS BOOK PUT ME THROUGH THE RINGER....AND I LOVED EVERY FREAKIN SECOND OF IT!

Shaw Landon has been part of the Archer family since Remy Archer saved her in school, brought her home and she became a constant in their lives. That significant event happened when she was thirteen years old. Now, Remy is dead but Shaw is still part of the Archer family as they all seemed to have adopted her - everyone except for Rule Archer (Remy's twin). Remy's parents have given her the unconditional love that she never received from her own parents and Rome became the loving older brother that she never had. Remy's death has shattered the Archer family; however, Shaw is determined to do what she can to keep this family together. This includes dragging Rule to family brunch every single Sunday. This also includes having to deal with Rule's skanky one night stands every Sunday morning. *Every. Sunday.* Can we say man whore! Rule and Shaw have always had a tentative relationship at best. She feels like Rule simply puts up with her and looks right through her. She puts up with his jerky attitude and his ass-hat ways for one reason. Shaw has been in love with Rule since she was thirteen years old. Hows that for a back story!!!!

"I think it's genetically impossible to not be kind of in love with him when you come equipped with a vagina. It's just something about all that angsty, moody swagger he has that makes you want to cuddle him up and make him feel better."

Oh yes, Rule Archer is a female magnet and he most definitely takes advantage of that fact! He has always been the hard to deal with and moody brother who was fiercely independent. He's a pierced, tattooed bad-ass with an impenetrable wall around him. He wears his hair, tats and piercings as armour and doesn't give a rat's ass what anyone thinks of him. Funny how all it took was Shaw being in his apartment drunk and throwing herself at him for all those walls to come tumbling down.

"I loved Rule like it was my mission in life. I loved him like it was inevitable. Like no matter how many times I was shown what an awful idea it was, what a bad match we were, what a callous asshole he could be I couldn't shake it."

I have to admit that Shaw has probably been one of my favourite female heroines. **I absolutely adored her.** She is loyal, sweet, is a wonderful friend and loves hard. Shaw also has the unfortunate luck of having parents who ignore her and only seek her out when making their demands. Shaw is pretty tired of trying to please everyone and simply wants to live her life for her. She also wants one thing that is just for her - Rule Archer.

"What is I ask you to give me everything Shaw, what if I want it all? Won't that make me just like all the rest of them?"

"No because you don't have to ask for anything, all of it is already yours. You're the only one I've ever

wanted to give it to."

Shaw and Rule both have demons from their past, issues with their parents and both are living in a mold that is not truly them - Shaw's brought on by her demanding parents and others of the same ilk and Rule's brought about by himself. Both Shaw and Rule are in conflict with themselves and are struggling, Rule is too scared to let anyone in and is essentially boozing it up and sleeping around to get through life so that he can continually feel numb rather than deal with the grief over losing his twin brother and a mother who blames him for the accident. Shaw is struggling to break free from the control her parents have over her life which in turn forces her to be someone that she is not. She is also trying to deal with a psycho ex-boyfriend who is unable to see that their brief relationship has ended. Shaw wants to simply be herself and does not see how she will ever be able to simply *be*. Everyone she has loved and tried to please has thrown it all back in her face, Rule included. Can Shaw and Rule move past their demons and scars and find their way to a HEA? Let me tell you, it's a bumpy ride but so worth it in the end!

"Here's my heart Shaw. You have it in your hands and I promise you're the first and the last person to ever touch it. You need to be careful with it because it's far more fragile than I ever thought and if you try and give it back I'm not taking it."

*

"I do need you Rule and you are the only thing I have ever wanted just for me"

*

"Because it's always been you even I didn't want it to be, even when it broke my heart over and over again. It's just always been you."

Rule is a beautiful story. It is about two individuals who learn to truly be themselves and in turn find happiness and love in each other. Their personal growth, how they learn to let go and forgive truly made for a powerful and heart-warming story. Shaw and Rule both endure a lot to get their HEA. I became so invested in them individually and together. I so desperately wanted to see Rule overcome his demons and allow himself to truly be loved. I also wanted to see Shaw rise above all the turmoil and go after the only thing she had ever wanted. Jay Crownover did a spectacular job in grabbing hold of me and not only keeping me enthralled with Rule and Shaw but with all the other amazing secondary characters she created. I loved every second of it!

I know that the author has received some flack for some editing issues such as misspelled words, etc. With this being said, I hardly noticed anything. I was so wrapped up in the storyline that any issues with the editing did not phase me. If you have read the reviews and have decided to pass on this book because of the few individuals who have ranked on the author and/or the editing mistakes, then you are truly missing out on a wonderful and powerful story. *Rule* is a book that will stay with me and I am looking forward to the next book about Ayden and Jet.

Me and this girl spent too much time trying to be too many different things for too many wrong reasons for too many other people now it was just up to us to be ourselves for each other and love each other for

all the right reasons.

*

Love like this wasn't to be missed even for those of us that had never realized it was out there. Look at me being all optimistic and shit.

Tina says

Be warned: The English language will never be the same

I got up to 30% and honestly, this is my absolute limit. This thing (which I refuse to call a book) has to be deleted off the face of cyberspace or any other space that it may inhabit.

Author, you may have great ideas (that I doubt but will never know for sure, as even I'm not that masochistic to make myself finish this thing). What you obviously don't have, however, is an editor. This piece of shit 'literature' so desperately screams with the need to be edited, that I cannot force myself to continue reading, and it pains me because with each word I can feel the English language dying a slow, excruciating death.

And one more thing: I usually don't rate anything before at least making it to the middle, but this is too much for me to bear and people need to be warned.

Debra says

★★★? 3.5 Stars!

I guess this was another one of those "*I liked it but didn't love it*" type of books, mainly because there was so much:

Maybe my expectations were a bit too high or maybe I just wasn't really in the mood for the constant angst/tension that was happening in this book, but I wasn't as invested in the story as I was hoping to be.

Don't get me wrong; there were some definite 4 star-worth scenes. There was an interesting back story, fun side characters, alternating POV's, a feisty heroine and a tattooed/pierced bad boy hero. What's not to like about all of that, right?

Well, there's also the fact that the book (at least the version I had of it) needs some major editing. I don't mind it at all when there are just a few spelling mistakes, but when they appear on almost every other page and when there's a huge lack of punctuation, it becomes a bit distracting...

I think, if I'd read this book a year and a half ago I would have probably enjoyed it much more. But now it seems as if I've read so many NA "good girl falls for tortured man-whore hero" stories that it takes a lot for me to be blown away by one... Still, it was overall a fun read and I'll most likely continue with the rest of the series...**Jet, Rome and Nash** have already sparked my interest so I'm looking forward to read their stories ;)

My favorite quote:

"Me and this girl spent too much time trying to be too many different things for too many wrong reasons for too many other people, now it was just up to us to be ourselves for each other and love each other for all the right reasons."♥

Regan says

Why the hell did i read even most of this? SO BAD AND SO STUPID AND SUCH A BAD MESSAGE.

I am not even going to rate this, and I will deny reading it to my grave.

Christy says

"Opposites don't just attract. They freaking catch fire and burn the entire city down."

?

I want to give this book more than 5 stars!!! Loved it!?

Ladies and gentleman... let me introduce you to? RULE ARCHER

My struggle came with the fact that Rule was complicated. He was brash, mouthy, careless, thoughtless, and often cranky and generally an insufferable pain in the ass. But when he chose to be, he was also charming and funny, artistically brilliant and more often than not, the most person in the room and I had been head over heels in love with both sides of him since I was thirteen years old.

And the girl that loves him... **Shaw**

Rule and Shaw have a *complicated* relationship. Rule Archer had a identical twin brother(minus the ink and piercings), Remy Archer. Remy and Shaw were very close, they were best friends. Everyone assumed their relationship was romantic, but it was strictly platonic. Remy died in a car accident three years ago. Shaw has been a part of the Archer family since she started hanging around with Remy at thirteen. Rules parents and older brother Rome love Shaw. Every Sunday, Shaw picks up Rule(she often finds him in compromising positions) and brings him to his parents house for brunch. Rules parents(especially his mother) are critical of rule and his lifestyle. Lets be honest.. Rule is a bit of a man slut, and with his changing hair color/style, ink and piercings etc, he is not what any conservative family would deem appropriate. Shaw doesn't care. She loves everything about Rule and it drives her crazy that his parents don't see all the wonderful in him. Unfortunately, Rule thinks Shaw was his brothers girl so he's never seen her as anything else. Plus, she seems like too much of a good girl/spoiled princess for him. One drunken night, Shaw will finally make her move on Rule. And it will change everything....

You see this story through the eyes of Rule and Shaw, with the dual povs.

Rule is dealing with guilt from his brothers death, his mother blames him and people just don't accept who he is. Remy is one of the only people who did and he is gone. He copes with his issues with alcohol and women. Lots and lots of women. Shaw is a college student, and a virgin (due to the fact that when ever she got close to a guy, it didn't work. Because they weren't Rule.) She has parents who expect perfection from her, but they are all about appearances. They don't really care. She is dealing with a psycho stalker ex boyfriend and is keeping a secret for her best friend Remy, that makes her life more difficult. Rule and Shaw have a lot of obstacles to overcome in their relationship.

I knew I would love Rule Archer from the very start of this book! A tattoo artist, ultimate bad boy with attitude, hot and sarcastic man whore who is tattooed and pierced- in all the right places... Whats not to love???

I was pleasantly surprised with how much I liked Shaw. She's rich, but she's not spoiled or entitled. She is a loyal person. She's kind and hardworking. At first, she conformed to what people wanted/expected of her, but I loved when that changed and she realized she didn't have to live up to everyones expectations.

I deserved better and if they weren't willing to give me the love I showed them without restrictions or demands, then I didn't want them in my life.

Most of the secondary characters were great, they really made the story. Rome is a soldier, and Rules big brother. Loved his interactions with Rule and Shaw, he was such a sweet guy. Ayden, Nash, and Cora were all good friends and were there for Rule and Shaw when they need them. Of course there were some not great characters, but thats to be expected.

Rule and Shaw's relationship had many ups and downs, but they had some scorching hot moments and some really sweet and swoony moments. Loved their relationship and their chemistry. They were perfect together.

"Because it's always been you. Even when I didn't want it to be. Even when it broke my heart over and over again, its just always been you."

"What if I ask you to give me everything Shaw, what if I want it all? Won't that make me just like all the rest of them?"?

"No, because you don't have to ask me for anything. All of its already yours. You're the only one I ever wanted to give it to."

??This story sucked me in! I loved everything about it! There were some grammatical issues, but the story was so good, they were easily overlooked. The ending was PERFECT! (view spoiler) I'm excited for book 2 in this series- Ayden and Jet's book. Especially if we get more Rule and Shaw! A fantastic debut novel! If you haven't read this one, read it now!!!

Tough Critic Book Reviews says

So much potential it's almost painful...

Comma, period...meet Jay Crownover. Jay Crownover, meet comma and period.

Hopefully this will be the beginning of a beautiful, intimate relationship between you two, but until then, I'll be your biggest cheerleader. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that Jay Crownover is incredibly talented with the unique gift of expressing herself through a great story. Her words are incredibly well written, but the lack of punctuation was like giving me this amazing gift without a way to open it. It was wrapped so tight with editing errors and typos that it made it difficult for me to even want to try. However, I didn't give up. I decided to tear through it because the gift underneath was worth it. The gift of Remy, Rule and Shaw was worth it. "Big brother" Rome was worth it. The perfect sexually charged progression of Rule and Shaw's relationship was worth it. The sexual tension alone...was worth it. So. Much. Potential.

I know what you're probably thinking, "Contradict much?" Maybe a little, but the fact remains...this is a great story.

So how can it be well written, but not? Well, the words she used to tell her story showed amazing talent. The way she told her story...incredible. The actual story...loved! So can you be a good writer, but suck at grammar and punctuation? Survey says...hell yeah you can! That's what editors are for, right? I'm pretty sure if *I* wrote a book, every single English professor just might simultaneously drop dead. Babies would cry and the Titanic would sink...again!

However, I'm not an author, I'm a reader. And as a reader I have to say...this book just wasn't ready to be read yet. I see so much potential in *Rule* that if I had the money I would personally invest to have this story edited in the way it should have been. I would pay Sarah Hansen of Okay Creations to design one of her amazing covers.

I usually let grammar and editing slide as long as it doesn't distract from the story, but here? It was one gigantic distraction. However, it was a distraction I was willing to overlook. That has got to say something. It may have been enough to keep me from truly being able to pimp *Rule* to the masses but not enough to make me, for one second, sorry I read this book. Pull it, clean it up, re-release it, and BOOM! I just wish I had the means (aka the monies) to showcase *Rule* in the way it deserves to be!

READ ON!

UniquelyMoi ~ BlithelyBookish says

My bookish friends know that I'm not a fan of the New Adult stories. In fact, I've sworn you'd have to drag me kicking and screaming into this genre... There's just way too much drama, too many misunderstandings, more angst than my head and heart can stand... The thing is, at 53 years old, I've lived through that pain myself, and having a 33 year old daughter, I lived through *her* living through it, too. Thankfully my 22-year-old girl has managed to avoid it, and my 19-year-old son has managed to steer clear of hormonal, high maintenance girls. Never thought I'd be so thankful for his addiction to Xbox Live and video games! The drama, the angst, the bickering, the unaccepting parents... yep, I lived through that crap and don't want to read about it in my romance escapism!

But that said, there was something different about *Rule*. And I don't just mean Rule, the man; I mean the whole story. There was something about it that drew me in and kept me reading, even though there were times I wanted to throttle both Rule and Shaw. Their immaturity, their lack of communication, the way they reacted to one another... I found it frustrating on a "been there done that" level. But the more I read, the more I invested in them and wanted to see them grow as individuals so that they could make it work as a couple.

And Rule and Shaw aren't the only people I invested in! As bitchy as Rule's mother was, my heart broke for this woman who lost her son, Remy, Rule's twin brother, in a car accident. I can't even imagine the grief she's endured. Hell, my son just left for Uganda on a two year mission for our church and I break down sobbing for missing him... how any mother can stand the anguish of losing a child to death... well, I just can't fathom that kind of pain. Sure, I wanted to slap her upside her head a few times, too, but in the end, she was another character I couldn't help but care about and wanted nothing more than to see her heal.

What does this mean for me? Well, I'm not sure I'm ready to just dive right in to the genre, but maybe I'll snorkel in... you know, slow and easy like... I definitely want to read more in *this* series. I want to see how things work out for Rome, Rule's older brother, and I'm truly looking forward to revisiting Rule's mom and dad to see how they're changing as parents, now that their family is mending.

The bottom line: I was surprised by how much I enjoyed *Rule*. It's not without flaws – some minor editing issues and times when the story dragged a bit – but overall, poignant, cute, romantic and sexy... definitely an entertaining story.

My thanks to Avon Books and Edelweiss for providing me with a copy of this story in exchange for an honest review.

Jenny Levine says

Tattooed.

Pierced.

HOT!

That's **Rule Archer**

He's also **arrogant and explosive**, he **treats women like crap** because too many of them let him get away with it for a long time after his brother's demise, but he was doing it all locked inside this bubble that none of

those who loved him could get through. He's cold and unreachable...

But then all of a sudden, there were cracks and the robot version of himself he had as a front started to fade away...

Because of one *girl*...

Their family buffer.

The girl who's always there to fetch him the morning after screwing different women every night.

The girl who has always thought that he's worthy and in need of love even when he did his absolute best to convince the rest of the world he isn't interested in being loved.

The same girl who had loved him ever since she first laid eyes on him...

... **Shaw Landon**...

[image error]

BUT,

"...opposites don't just attract they freaking catch fire and burn the entire city down."

There are going to be hindrances.

Crazy ex.

Secrets and lies.

Family issues.

and he will SCREW UP a lot!

"You have to promise not to bail on me when I get lost, Shaw. You have to promise to just wait it out until I can find my way back. I need to know you're at the end of the tunnel when everything goes black."

How will they survive?

Is there really a light at the end of the tunnel for Rule Archer?

Want to find out?

Now, **READ IT!!!**

Remarkable.

Undeniably addicting.

Lovely.

Engaging.

This book has got it all! It's like I'm watching a soap opera. And I loved it!

Okay, so it took me a while to finish this, not because I didn't get sucked in to the story, but because I've been catching up on my fave TV series, so yeah, but I know I'm clearly missing out, and I should've finished this asap because it's FAN-FREAKIN-TASTIC!!!

Like seriously, Tattooed, pierced bad boy who also had a troubled past? Nothing new, right? But who cares anyways? **I STILL LOVE IT!** and I know most of you does too. I love how the story unfolds and that for a change, what happened to Shaw and Rule isn't insta love, and I love how their love story blossomed.

Halfway through the book I was thinking *"you know what, I think it would be the best if the author writes a book for Ayden and Jet(because he's a rockstar and everyone loves a rockstar!!!)* and I'm happy at the end of the book, I found out that there *IS* gonna be a book about them, so YAY!

I think the only problem I have with this book is the typos. I have to admit, I have to reread some words again because sometimes, the sentence doesn't make sense so this book clearly needs editing, but if you just disregard that, this book is perfect. :)

Also, the thing about Remy's "secret", I figured it all out and guessed it right that I'm starting to think I'm a genius. LOL, nah, JK ;)

OVERALL, I LOVED THIS BOOK!!! HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

'Nuff said.

4.5 STARS!!!