



Softly at Sunrise

Maya Banks

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Rachel Kelly has traveled a long, hard road in her journey back to her husband, Ethan, and the Kelly family. Now, as she and Ethan are poised to move into their new home, safe behind the walls of the Kelly compound, Rachel wonders if she'll finally be free of the ghosts that have haunted her for so long and if she'll step into the sun after a past steeped in darkness.

"I adored seeing the Kelly family do what it does best: be there for each other to support and lean on through the good and the bad. SOFTLY AT SUNRISE portrayed that perfectly and brought the love I have for this series back to the forefront."

– Pearl's World of Romance

"Anyone picking up this book for the first time will want to read the rest of the series. "Softly at Sunrise" pulls the reader into the characters' circle of friends and holds them tight."

– Affair de Coeur

"If you're like so many other Maya Banks fans who read THE DARKEST HOUR and hungered to learn more about what happens to Rachel and Ethan in the future then you have to pick up a copy of SOFTLY AT SUNRISE."

– Romance Junkies

About the Author:

Maya Banks is the USA Today and New York Times bestselling author of contemporary and historical romances. She lives in Texas with her husband and three children.

Softly at Sunrise Details

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From Reader Review Softly at Sunrise for online ebook

Alana ~ The Book Pimp says

This is a novella from the KGI Series, #5.5 just before the release of #6, Shades of Gray in December.

I want to thank Stephanie with Blue Fountain Media and Maya Banks for allowing me to read this novella!

The purpose of a novella is to give you a 'taste' of the series, of the writer, and especially, to wet your appetite for more of their books. Softly at Sunrise meets and exceeds these expectations, leaving me salivating for more of her books.

I went into this read entirely cold, having not read any Maya Banks book previously. She had been on my To Be Read list for ages, but it just hadn't happened yet. I was a little worried, being unfamiliar with the series and jumping right into #5.5. There was absolutely NO problem whatsoever following along without the previous books. However, I would highly recommend to any reader interested in the series, but in the same position I was in to start with book #1. While following the plot and characters is easy, there is much of the back story touched upon that I wish I could have read first. It may not be as emotionally charged for me knowing what happens further in the story.

There was romance a-plenty, despite the hints of their tortured past. The Kelly Family is a tight knit group of hot special ops trained men (primarily.) That lends itself nicely to alpha male eye candy promises for the entire series. Rachel and Ethan's story is not your usual fairy tale... the antithesis, in fact. Divorce, and even death itself all was just the tip of the iceberg of hurdles for this couple to overcome.

I am also always fearful with a novella, that it will have next to no plot, or have a huge cliffhanger... you never really know what to expect. Rest easy and fear not, there is action, romance, plot, an entire story that leaves you wanting more and no cliffhanger ending. Just the lingering yearning to check out what all those Kelly boys are all about in the KGI Series. I will most definitely be reading more by Maya Banks.

Kristen says

4 Stars

Dee says

Re-read December 2015

Original review August 2012

I absolutely loved being able to catch up with Rachel & Ethan. I had often wondered how they were getting on and although we still caught up with them in the other books we were never really given much info.

Really looking forward to reading Cole & PJ's story.

Leggere Romanticamente says

Sul blog qui --->

<http://www.leggereromanticamente.com/...>

Mariann {at} Belle's Book Bag says

I have such MAD LOVE for Maya Banks and this series. She is one of my favorite authors!! I love Rachel and Ethan and was so looking forward to reading Softly At Sunrise. I was not disappointed. AWESOME read!!! Loved it from the beginning to the end!!! So happy to see all the characters from the previous books!! Can't wait for PJ and Cole's book!!! Softly At Sunrise has found its place in my keeper pile to be reread along side the rest of the KGI series!!!! Definitely one of my favorites in the series!!! January can't come fast enough!!!

Sunny? says

This is the summary story for Rachel and Ethan from the KGI series.

We first met Ethan and Rachel in the first book of the series . After saving her from a year of captivity, Rachel had very spotty memory and was in physically poor shape.

This book touches back with the couple and we see a much improved Rachel and Ethan. She is just starting back in her teaching career and they are moving to a new home to leave the bad memories in the old home.

Although a novella a lot has been crammed into every page. Angst builds in the classroom with a gunman, in the doctor's office with surprising news and in the bedroom with remorse being defeated.

A very hot page turner and worth the read.

Il confine dei libri says

Buonasera, lettrici!

Oggi vi parlo di “Alba di Fuoco”, novella della serie KGI di Maya Banks, edita Leggereditore.

Rachel Kelly sta cercando di riprendere in mano le redini della sua vita insieme a suo marito Ethan Kelly. Sono passati diversi anni ormai da quando è stata salvata dalla sua terribile prigionia, ma le ferite di quel periodo non sono ancora del tutto guarite. Questo non la scoraggia, però, tanto che ha voluto dare un nuovo inizio alla sua vita. Riuscirà a superare i suoi demoni e finalmente vivere?

Dopo la fine di “L’ora della verità”, non potevo che non chiedermi come sia continuata la storia di Ethan e Rachel, visto che la strada per la guarigione di lei, e di entrambi, era molto lunga.

E finalmente l’autrice ci regala una novella su loro due!

Rachel non ha molti ricordi della sua prigionia, soprattutto visto che gli ultimi ricordi sono del suo

matrimonio in declino. Questo però non la scoraggia e decide di ripartire da zero, con una nuova casa e l'inizio di un nuovo lavoro, ma soprattutto riprende in mano la sua relazione con Ethan. È una protagonista che ha voglia di vivere e di guarire, nonostante tutto. Pur essendo sopravvissuta ad una terribile situazione, Rachel non ha perso la speranza e si è rialzata più forte che mai.

Non è guarita subito, certo, ma giorno dopo giorno mette ci tutta se stessa. Inoltre affianco a lei c'è Ethan, premuroso e protettivo, che la ama. Rachel mi è sempre piaciuta molto e in questa novella non mi ha delusa. È un bel personaggio con una forza sovrumana e un cuore grande.

Anche Ethan sta affrontando un percorso di guarigione. Il senso di colpa per ciò che è successo lo accompagna ancora, ma anche il voler rimediare ai suoi errori fa sì che sia sempre presente per sua moglie, proteggendola ogni minuto del giorno. Ethan è un uomo che ha paura di riperdere la sua donna dopo averla ritrovata, e questo lo rende iperprotettivo e concentrato sui bisogni di lei. Quello che però deve fare è riprendere la sua vita ed essere quello di cui Rachel ha bisogno: un uomo che le sta affianco e che la fa sentire speciale ed amata, non accudita.

È stata una lettura romantica e dolce, mi è piaciuto rincontrare questi due personaggi, ma l'autrice ci regala anche una storia con colpi di scena e azione.

Con questo vi lascio e ci vediamo al prossimo romanzo di questa serie all'insegna dell'azione e del romance. A presto.

Jonetta says

Rachel Kelly has had a long and road back from the hell she experienced almost two years ago when she was kidnapped during a mission to South America. She was held for a year and given hallucinagens for most of that time, with her family believing that she had died in a plane crash. With the nightmare behind her, she's slowly struggled to reclaim her life, including her husband, marriage, family and career.

The series began with Rachel's terrible ordeal and since her return, she's had to contend with memory loss, flashbacks and the climb back from an abyss. Her last memories were of a miscarriage, disintegrating marriage and Ethan asking for a divorce right before she left for South America. Even though they are united, it's still been a challenge. The move to a new home signals a new start and the chance to replace those memories.

This story was a breath of fresh air. I always had faith in Rachel because her ordeal isn't one most would have survived. I expected that we would see her emerge and begin a new chapter but I was pleasantly surprised to find an added element of suspense. It was riveting and Rachel rose to the challenge, giving her the opportunity to prove her mettle not only to herself but her family. It was a wonderful story of triumph and happiness and I read this in one sitting.

Though I'm not a big fan of novellas, this one was long overdue and it delivered. If you've been waiting for Rachel and Ethan to turn the page on an ugly chapter, you will not be disappointed. Oh, and you may need a few tissues.

Francesca the Fierce (Under the Covers Book Blog) says

This review was posted at Under the Covers

Well....a couple of things first. Even though this story is #5.5 in the series, this actually takes place in the

middle of book six. However, there is only one minor reference to something that I guess happens in that book and everything else is independent.

Problem with automatically buying books by an author you like? You stop reading blurbs. At least I do. Anyway, I'm reading this series already so of course I bought this the day it came out. But here's the problem. This story is mainly about Ethan and Rachel. My least favorite couple in the series.

Ethan and Rachel have had the worst time getting together and quite frankly I had some issues to start with in their book (#1) because their marriage was already in shambles when she got taken and tortured. How could their marriage be at that low point and then after she's gone through so much we can expect a HEA? I do think this short story was needed because it gives an epilogue to their romance. If not an epilogue it opens up another chapter.

I wish I could've seen a little more of them connecting in this story, however they are the same distant people. Except now Rachel is pregnant...with twins. And she started working again.

At least I'm happy to see some of the Kelly family that I was missing in the last book!

I cannot tell you how excited I am to read PJ & Cole's book though. They might take the top spot as my favorite couple (now occupied by Sam and Sophie).

Bridget says

Hmmmm... this one was too sappy. There, I said it. There was too much "you're wonderful, we love you, we'll keep you safe". Over and over and over. I have enjoyed all of Maya Banks's books so far, but was a little disappointed with this one. Doesn't mean I'm not looking forward to the next one in the KGI series! Can't wait for that one.

Saly says

Rating 3.25 stars

This was kind of sugary sweet. This book is set four years after Rachel came home and she is still adjusting. She is now ready to live her life to the fullest, moving into a new house and leaving the old one with its bad memories aside, even trying for a baby(she gets pregnant with twins) and going back to her teaching job. Ethan as usual is by her side, still counting his lucky stars because he got a second chance with her. I kind of found the book cheesy, not bad though.

Pat says

This novella is a heartwarming look at Ethan and Rachel's life after the trauma of her abduction, torture and rescue. Ethan is treating every precious day with her as a gift. They have built a new home in the Compound for safety, and Rachel is so anxious to start their lives there. Their old home just holds painful memories. We reunite with the whole wonderful Kelly family, quiet and content.....for the moment. But wait...this is a KGI novel ; we have action! I thoroughly enjoyed this novella, which just wets your appetite for the next KGI story. Ms. Banks weaves

this story with old and new characters, bringing us up to date with the Kelly brothers, their extended family, and a wonderful surprise. I would highly recommend this story .

? BookAddict 🖋️ La Crimson Femme says

Can Rachel not get a break? Seriously, this woman is held captive for a year and tortured while praying for her husband to find her. During that time, her husband, Ethan did nothing because he thought she was dead. And he served her divorce papers before she "died". Now that she's back and more or less healed up, things are looking good.

Her job teaching again is even looking good. What happens? Crazy gun man shows up at the school. WTF. Rachel is held at gun point. Seriously? And of course her husband and brother in laws are going to go ballistic. This woman's life is filled with drama and danger.

This novella was a sweet return to the KGI series. It tides me over until the next full novel. Ms. Banks does another good job with a fast paced story with endearing characters. The entire cast is back and the theme of family united is one I very much enjoy. Makes me wish for a large family like this one. I realize this is only in the books and not realistic. Still, it's a fantasy I enjoy. This book is recommended for romance lovers who love family ties.

Anto64 says

3 stelline e mezzo

Lisa - (Aussie Girl) says

I really liked this novella bringing closure to Rachel and Ethan's story. This is what this series does best combining the covert ops with the Kelly family dynamic, both biological and the close knit KGI "family".
