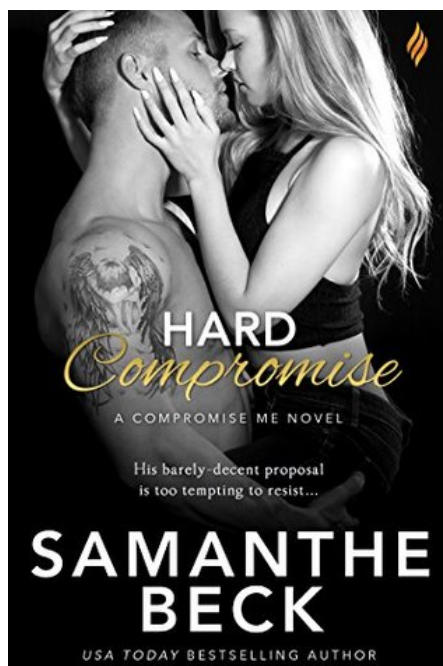




Hard Compromise

Samanthe Beck

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Laurie Peterson assumes her impulsive one-night stand with sinfully sexy Sheriff Ethan Booker is the biggest surprise of the year...until her bakery burns down while she's basking in the afterglow. It looks like her dreams are up in smoke, but then Ethan proposes a deal too tempting to resist.

Ethan has no intention of settling for a one-night stand with Laurie. Nor does he want anything to do with the women his wealthy family wants him to meet. Not when he's waited ten years for his chance to make his move. His deal might have strings—and Laurie may not know the stakes—but nothing will stop this sexy cop from staking a real claim on her body and her heart.

Each book in the Compromise Me series is a standalone, full-length story that can be enjoyed out of order.

Hard Compromise Details

Date : Published November 21st 2016 by Entangled: Brazen

ISBN :

Author : Samanthe Beck

Format : Kindle Edition 195 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Hard Compromise for online ebook

Natalie The Biblioholic says

Do you know how hard it is to give a book a great review when you can't stand one of its main characters. It's hard. Very, very hard. Laurie aggravated me. No, I was beyond just aggravated. I wanted to shoot her in the face. Badly. Smack her upside the head at the very least. She needed a lesson in freaking manners. There's a difference between being saucy... or spicy... or sassy... and being a bitch. It may be subtle, but it's there. Most woman are able to identify the nuances. Guess which category Laurie fell into???

AAAAAAAARRRRRRRRRRGGGGGGGGGHHHHHHHH!!

Okay, I'm calm now.

Ethan had the patience of a saint because Laurie took stubborn and prideful to the extreme. But he had waited long enough for her (10 freaking years) and nothing, not even Laurie herself, was going to deter them from their HEA.

I must say that this story was entertaining and sexy as hell. These two characters shared an explosive chemistry and the author captured it beautifully. There was just enough drama to keep things interesting and it was impossible not to fall a bit in love with Ethan myself with the way he dealt with everything. He was definitely book boyfriend material!

Michelle says

Copy provided by publisher in exchange for an honest review

Samanthe Beck has whipped up a sweet, sexy and emotionally charged romance that was an absolute treat. **Hard Compromise** was the perfect kind of romantic read to keep you warm this Holiday Season.

It's no secret that I am a big sucker and fan when it comes to Brazen novels. And so when I read the blurb of **Hard Compromise**, I was sold. Emotionally flawed heroine that was sassy. *Check!* Sweet and sexy alpha hero. *Check!* A beautiful love story that will give you the warm fuzzy feeling. *Double Check!*

Ethan Booker made a promise ten years ago to sixteen year old Laurie Peterson. Fast forward to the present and Sheriff Ethan Booker is ready to check up on his favorite jailbait. Ethan has been lusty and loving Laurie for ten years and has been patiently waiting till she was ready for him emotionally and physically.

Laurie grew up on the wrong side of the tracks. She has learned the hard way that she had to only rely on herself since her mother was selfish and didn't care for her at all. As a successful baker and owner of Babycakes shop, Laurie should be happy but something is missing. LOVE. Well, it was something that she

never thought she would experience until Ethan Booker reappeared back in her life and demanded that this thing between them is real.

While Laurie tries to keep her feelings for Booker in check, her mother decides to reappear back in her life demanding money. Laurie just wants to get rid of her mother and her blackmailing ways and so she caves in. But what happens when her mother comes back demanding for more money? Will Laurie's past and fears push her away from moving forward with Booker, who grew up with a silver spoon? Can the girl from the wrong side finally see that there is no wrong side when it comes to love? And how far will Ethan go to help Laurie to see that there is nothing wrong in asking for a helping hand?

Hard Compromise is a very sweet and sexy read but most importantly it has that emotional undertone to pull you in. I love and adore both Ethan and Laurie since the author was able to showcase their raw vulnerabilities. I especially love how Ethan helped filled in the missing pieces in Laurie. So if you are looking for a love story that is brimming with so much love, understanding, truth, compassion, and beauty then this book is for you.

Samanthe Beck

Coco.V says

What a great book Hard Compromise turned out to be ! This is my first story by Samanthe Beck and I can easily say it won't be my last. Her writing is hot, stimulating, emotion evoking and provocative and I enjoyed this trope a lot ! This story truly grabbed me from page one and held on until the very end.

Ten years prior on New Year's Eve sixteen-years-old Lauralie Peterson alias Laurie is having fun at a beach party trown by vacationing frat brothers, when she's busted underage drinking among other things by twenty-two-years old rookie Deputy Ethan Booker.

Booker gave her then a fair warning, sent her home and told Laurie after her failed attempt to seduce him, they can revisit the topic in ten years.

"Jailbait, this is your one and only free pass. I told you we'd consider tonight a warning, so listen up, because here it comes. I'm going to be watching you from now on. If you stray over the line in any way, shape, or form I'm going to bust your little ass so hard your head will spin. Understand?"

Fast forward a decade later, Laurie is now an independent and beautiful woman, a pastry chef and the proud owner of a sucessful bakery in town. Sinfully sexy Sheriff Ethan has been patiently waiting for ten long years to make his move. He's done lusting after Laurie from afar and determined to win her over.

Ethan and Laurie come from very different worlds. Laurie is a girl from the wrong side of the tracks and her alcoholic, neglectful and manipulative mother is a real piece of work. Ethan comes from a wealthy, respected and high profile family in the little town of Montenido.

Due to her painful childhood, Laurie doesn't do relationships, she doesn't believe in forever and doesn't lean on anyone. A one-night stand is all she's willing to give Ethan. This one night was all it took for sparks to fly and ignite this raw desire that was brewing between them for so long.

“I’m not big on ‘next time,’ Booker. Whatever’s on your to-do list, you ought to get it done tonight.”

“We’ll have a next time.” The utter certainty in his voice tripped up her pulse. “And a time after that, and then another thousand next times. You want to know why?” He slid his fingers into her heat, and she nearly levitated. “W-why?” “Because I’ve got a thousand ways to please you. You’re going to get addicted to the way I make you come. You already are, and I haven’t even been inside you yet.”

Despite the strong connection and sizzling chemistry they share, Laurie is determined to keep Ethan at arms length and keep it all about a sexual relationship. But Ethan has other ideas about where their future is headed and he’s not going to make it that easy for her. And when the perfect opportunity arises in the form of Laurie's livelihood gone up in smoke, Ethan intends to take full advantage of it and will stop at nothing to convince stubborn and feisty Laurie that they are meant to be.

But for Laurie there's more at stake than her burned up dream or her mother who continued to find ways to bleed her - she has no control over Ethan and he made her want too much saying things that knocked her off balance but hell had a better chance of freezing over before Lauralie Peterson left herself emotionally vulnerable to anyone.

This was a fun, sweet and steamy well-written romance with a bit of fun and light drama - all set for a good time. Ethan and Laurie’s story is full of heat and passion, and this author has a real talent in bringing scorching scenes alive. I did enjoyed the setting, the characters and their banter was almost as hot as their sexy time.

“Booker, don’t confuse me with one of your well-bred, easily -shocked, country-club girls. I’m not well-bred and nothing shocks me. My only rules are fast, hard, and so filthy dirty it leaves a stain on your soul.”

“Try to have a little patience, Jailbait. There’s a two hundred pound man attached to that cock you’ve got your eye on, and I sincerely doubt you want me tangled in my pants.”

ARC kindly provided by publisher, in exchange for an honest review.

Mindy Lou's Book Review says

Ethan Booker makes this story 5 stars all on his own! I adored the fact that he protected and watched out for Laurie for ten years. When he realized his feelings were more, he bided his time for the right moment. I have to say, his way of telling her her one night stands were over was hot! Laurie took a little longer to love but she had a pretty big chip on her shoulder put there by her mom, but Booker tore those walls right down. I loved how the author didn't linger too long on issues and kept the pace of the story flowing smoothly. Great read! ARC provided by NetGalley.

Lana ❀❀Dirty Girl Romance❀❀ says

4 STARS

He could already picture her, breathless and ready as he braced her against the nearest surface and unleashed half a decade's worth of repressed longings. Fuck her so thoroughly she'd have no standing to dismiss the event as a heat-of-the-moment hookup. He was coming for her. Her, dammit, and he hadn't waited this long only to be shown the door after one energetic encounter.

Bad girl from the wrong side of the tracks.
Good boy from the town's richest family.
Ten years of repressed longings and lust.
What does that all equal? One spicy little read!

I do believe that this may have been my favorite book that I've read from this author to date. I loved everything about it.

Dirty talking sheriff?

I'm in no shape to be toyed with. Keep it up, and this is going to be brutal. You'll feel it for the next week, no matter how many times I kiss it better."

CHECK!

Sassy heroine? Check

Booker, don't confuse me with one of your well-bred, easily-shocked, country-club girls. I'm not well-bred and nothing shocks me. My only rules are fast, hard, and so filthy dirty it leaves a stain on your soul."

CHECK!

Insanely hot sexy times? Check and freaking check!

Ethan Booker has been lusting after Laurie Peterson for years. He's known her since he busted her for underage drinking as a wild child sixteen year old girl. But now Laurie is all woman, and she's kept her wild child ways that guarantee that no man gets a repeat performance from her. Growing up on the wrong side of the tracks made Laurie rely on no one but herself, especially not her good for nothing mother that only shows up when she needs something from her. Now the town's sheriff and son of the richest and most influential family in their little town is determined to make her stick around long enough to form an attachment, even if it means a compromise between them. She'll pretend to be his girlfriend for his sister's wedding to get his meddling, match making mother off his back, and he'll pay her the six grand she needs to put her business back on the ground after a fire burns her dreams down. But what's a good compromise without some very bad fun?

This book was so much fun to read. I loved Laurie. She was all sass and vulnerability. She's determined to push Ethan away and Ethan is determined to break down all her walls. I loved the two of them together. The story was sweet, sexy, and the perfect read to warm you up on a cold winter's night. Me likey!

ARC courtesy of publisher in exchange for an honest review

Find me on:

Alyssa says

Review posted on The Eater of Books! blog

Hard Compromise by Samanthe Beck
Book Two of the Compromise Me series
Publisher: Entangled Brazen
Publication Date: November 21, 2016
Rating: 4 stars
Source: eARC from NetGalley

Warning: this is an adult book, and for the eyes of mature readers

Summary (from Goodreads):

Laurie Peterson assumes her impulsive one-night stand with sinfully sexy Sheriff Ethan Booker is the biggest surprise of the year...until her bakery burns down while she's basking in the afterglow. It looks like her dreams are up in smoke, but then Ethan proposes a deal too tempting to resist.

Ethan has no intention of settling for a one-night stand with Laurie. Nor does he want anything to do with the women his wealthy family wants him to meet. Not when he's waited ten years for his chance to make his move. His deal might have strings—and Laurie may not know the stakes—but nothing will stop this sexy cop from staking a real claim on her body and her heart.

What I Liked:

Okay. I was not disappointed, folks. Brazen's recent novels have been rather lackluster, but I had high hopes for this novel. Samanthe Beck's books are so swoony, sexy, steamy, and sweet, and this one was no exception. I adore her books, and this series especially!

Ethan Booker has waited ten years for a chance to be with wild Laurie Peterson, and he isn't letting the chance go to waste. Sure, he comes from a rich family and she comes from a much more "disgraceful" background. But he knows what - who - he wants, and it's Laurie. Laurie is an impulsive commitment-phobe, and she wants Ethan as badly as he wants her. But she knows she's not good enough for him, especially with their different backgrounds. But Ethan isn't a guy to back down, and his deal that he offers her is temporary at first, but hopefully for life.

You'd think I wouldn't enjoy this book, because Laurie, on paper, is not the type of heroine that I like. She's wild and impulsive, slightly irrational and a total commitment-phobe. She avoids commitments like they are rashes, so she has a lot of hook-ups but no real relationships. She is hot and cold with Ethan Booker, pushing and pulling, throwing herself at him and then running away. Theoretically, *I* shouldn't like her.

But I did. I understood her. Sure, she has a lengthy sexual history, a ridiculous outlook on commitment, and more in common with her tramp mother than she wants to admit. But Laurie is also a hard worker, a tough lady, and someone who doesn't like to ask for help. I felt for her, even if I wanted to push her at Ethan and

make her stay there.

Ethan... woah. Holy alpha male. He's an alpha male but not a crazy overprotective one. He's sweet and genuine and alpha all at once - it's hard to describe. This is something that I love about Beck's heroes - they're sexy alphas, but they're also sweet, considerate, and decidedly more real than most alpha males in romance novels. Like, I could see Ethan being an actual guy in real life, and not because he's a hot sheriff.

Ethan is a sweetheart as much as he is a sexy guy. I like how he is patient with Laurie, but he's also firm and goes after what he wants. He waits for her, but then he also goes in for what he wants. It's a good balance of letting Laurie be but also satisfying them both. Ethan looks out for Laurie and wants the best for her, but he doesn't try to solve all of her problems.

Have I mentioned how hot the chemistry between these two is? The romance in the book is well-developed and meaningful, but the chemistry, the chemistry is scorching hot. These two have been waiting to paw at each other for ten years (you'll have to read the book to find out why), and when it happens... *fans self* Samanthe Beck always has steamy romance novels, but this one is really really hot. I'm impressed!

The pair strike a deal, in which Ethan will loan her money (her bakery burned down) if she attends his sister's wedding as his date, to keep his mother off his back. I wasn't expecting to like Ethan's mother, but I actually did! She's not overbearing and nosy like I would have expected. I like how Ethan's mother takes to Laurie and really likes her, despite Laurie thinking that she isn't good enough for Ethan. Ethan's mother is a smart lady and one of the reasons why Laurie fights for Ethan.

Which brings me to the climax and end of the story! I despise it when the female screws up and for some reason, it's the male that has to beg and grovel. In this book, Laurie is the one that pushes Ethan away, and he walks away, telling her that she needs to decide even though he'll always love her. The best part about the ending is that Laurie picks herself up and goes to Ethan - and not the opposite. Ethan leaves the ball firmly in her court, and Laurie isn't stupid; she goes after him. I LOVE THIS.

Overall, this is a really great addition to the Compromise Me series, and an awesome book by Samanthe Beck! It pulls me out of the small Brazen funk that I've been in.

What I Did Not Like:

Nothing specific from me!

Would I Recommend It:

I recommend this one! I feel like it's been a while since I solidly recommended a new Brazen novel - even my regulars Katee Robert and Tessa Bailey have let me down recently. Samanthe Beck hasn't though! I'm excited that this one was really solid.

Rating:

4.5 stars -> rounded down to 4 stars. I hope the next book follows Rafe's sister Arden! (Rafe is the hero of *Compromising Her Position*, the equally sexy and enjoyable predecessor of this book.)

Dísir says

Laurie Peterson's first brush with Deputy Ethan Booker at sixteen had already marked her for his, or so he thought. But that only comes into play a decade later, when Laurie has finally long grown up and holds everyone else at arm's length as Ethan finds ways and means to punch through those walls through any manipulative scheme he can find, be it through sex-with-no-strings or a fake-girlfriend deal. Of course, her livelihood going up in smoke, tragically helps his case.

As the girl from the wrong side of the tracks manipulated by her mother, Laurie constantly struggles with a self-esteem issue especially when it comes to mingling with Ethan Booker's upper class family. This emerges on a fairly repetitive basis throughout, and builds towards a climax based on Laurie's small-mindedness and inability to trust Ethan as her mother played her strings. Yet Laurie, in her attempt to stay independent, seemed to have become a carbon-copy of her mother's actions and most of the time, I felt as though I was reading about a chase that wouldn't go anywhere unless Ethan kept proving himself over and over that he was trustworthy...until something breaks and he has to walk away before Laurie finally realises what she has lost.

The story is predictable, the pacing decent and Samanthe Beck's writing is stellar enough to keep the pages turning. My frustrations with the story however, lie clearly with my own issues with reunion or second chance-type plot lines and the emotional pull required to lure me in just wasn't there at all. The reason I could not feel invested in this couple is the lack of believability of a pairing that waited 10 years to come to fruition because Ethan waited too long (why the bloody wait if he truly had the balls to go for what he wanted?) for Laurie to grow up—as they sampled other people in the meantime—before 'claiming' her. It's too much of a contradiction for me to find any plausibility in it, even with a happy ending that left me in disbelief when the trite-sounding confession of 'it has always been you' felt like a weak premise to start a HEA based on lust that was apparently love all along.

*ARC by netgalley
(always, ever grateful, mind)

XxTainaxX says

Review to come soon :)

London says

Definitely not safe

RJ says

Ehh, not bad but not that great either. I am just sick of reading about these heroines who can't fucking commit cause of a shitty childhood/parenting, it's way too overdone. I also wish they had both stayed celibate during the separation but that's asking quite a lot these days. I'm just glad the h had a healthy sex life and wasn't a nun while the H was out playing the field. I also didn't really like how they both stayed in the same town and the H was just biding his time and wanted her all along but was with other women in the meantime, not my type of ideal H. You don't really hear/see about it though, just a passing comment in the beginning.

Jen says

4 Babycakes Stars

“Booker, don’t confuse me with one of your well-bred, easily -shocked, country-club girls. I’m not well-bred and nothing shocks me. My only rules are fast, hard, and so filthy dirty it leaves a stain on your soul.”

Well then.

Laurie and Ethan both grew up in the wealthy beach community of Montenido, but that's where the similarities end. While Ethan was born into privilege and wealth, Laurie was taught early on to fend for and take care of herself. Though not in each other's orbit on a regular basis, as a sheriff deputy Ethan kept an eye on wild child Laurie and learned to bide his time. Fast forward ten years and Ethan Booker is D-U-N done waiting.

“We’ll have a next time.” The utter certainty in his voice tripped up her pulse. “And a time after that, and then another thousand next times. You want to know why?” He slid his fingers into her heat, and she nearly levitated.

“W-why?”

“Because I’ve got a thousand ways to please you. You’re going to get addicted to the way I make you come. You already are, and I haven’t even been inside you yet.”

It'll come as a surprise to absolutely no one this book is hot as hell! The first scene between grown up Booker and Laurie almost caused me to spontaneously combust. Entangled Brazen books always bring the heat but Samanthe Beck went above and beyond the call of duty when she wrote these two.

I also appreciate the time taken to delve into both Laurie and Booker's family drama. Given the short length of the book, that extra aspect helped flesh out the story. Laurie's pervasive insecurities as far as her upbringing were also handled deftly.

My only complaint was Ethan's alpha inspired *need* for Laurie. Say what? I wasn't quite sure why that need persisted for as long as it did and why it overwhelmed him the way it did, but it made for some sexy fun nonetheless.

My first Samanthe Beck book did not disappoint. Fingers crossed we get to read about a certain hotel heiress next.

ARC provided by the publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

Irene says

4 stars

Hard Compromise was a well written and very entertaining heartfelt read.

The storyline captured my attention from the get go, I found myself turning the pages late into the night as I didn't want to put it down!

Laurie and Ethan/Booker were great characters, I enjoyed watching their relationship unfold.

They had a strong connection/attraction that you could feel through their words and actions.

They made me laugh with their banter and stubbornness, they also frustrated me with said stubbornness lol

And the chemistry between them was smoking hot!

fans self

But most of all they made me swoon with their love, these two truly earned their happily everafter.

Author Samanthe Beck writes with passion and once again she's delivered a beautiful, emotional and smoking hot read in Hard Compromise.

This is the second book in the Compromise Me series, each book can be read as a standalone and I highly recommend them both!

Purchase Links -

Amazon - <https://www.amazon.com/Hard-Compromis...>

B&N - <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/hard-...>

Thank you to Entangled Brazen via Netgalley for the advance copy

Carol [Goodreads Addict] says

RATING 4.5 STARS

Hard Compromise is book two in the Compromise Me series by Samanthe Beck. I loved the first book of this series so was so excited to get Chelsea's best friend, Laurie's story, and the man who wanted her heart, Ethan Booker.

Laurie Peterson was raised by a woman whose best friend was alcohol. Having a daughter was merely an inconvenience. Laurie grew up in Montenido, California with Chelsea being her only real friend. At age sixteen, Laurie would have done just about anything to gain some attention, which is how she first met then rookie cop, Ethan Booker. He saved her from herself on that beach ten years ago. Over the following ten years, Ethan looked out for Laurie, mostly without her knowledge. But Ethan has waited long enough. He is the sheriff now and Laurie owns her own bakery. It's time to claim what he's waited what feels like a life time for.

Laurie keeps people at a distance, except for her best friend. She can't afford to let anyone in to her inner crazy life. A life where her mother could turn up at any time and reek havoc, which she often does. So on that New Year's Eve when Ethan showed up at her New Year's Eve party and showed her just exactly how

he wanted to celebrate, she was all in. But it would only be the one time. Then she'd kick him out just like she always did. What Laurie didn't realize is that Ethan had other plans altogether.

"Laurie Peterson didn't lean on anyone. She gave out advice. She supplied a shoulder to cry on, not vice versa. Chelsea was the only possible exception."

"You belong to yourself. You look after yourself."

Laurie's New Year's Day, though, didn't have a very good start. First, one of those surprise visits from her mother. And then, her beloved bakery that she had scrimped and saved to get it off its feet, burned to the ground. But Booker stood by her and pledged his support. He said he would have her back. But Laurie knew that wouldn't happen. Not if he knew what her life was really like.

I have to admit that at first, I didn't warm to Ethan right away. He was so...is abrupt the right word? He was very methodical about the way he pursued Laurie. But the more I got to know him, the more I got to know Laurie, I realized that he had to do things that way. She was scared to death, ready to run at any time. So I have to give Ethan credit for knowing her more than she knew herself. He found ways to keep her tied to him, to keep her in his bed, until her heart would finally realize that he could be part of her life, that she could trust and depend on him. That she didn't have to keep running.

"She could stuff her own feelings into a box and lock them away where they couldn't do any damage - hardly any. She'd practiced the skill her entire life. But this? Nothing had prepared her for this."

I do have to admit that this one kind of broke my heart. I mean, Laurie's life, her mom, really was awful. And I am in love with Ethan's family. His mom is a hoot! I am in love with the ending of this. I actually swooned. I can't wait to read the third book in this series, Arden and the sexy Dr. Nick get their story in *Compromised in Paradise*. I am so glad I have had the opportunity to read this series and get to know Samanthe's work. I'm just loving it.

Elle the ClosetRomanceReader aka Leftie aka Shoebelle says

ARC received from publisher via Netgalley

Outside of this Samanthe book, I've only read *Compromising Her Position*, the first stand-alone book in this series. With that book, I knew she will be one of those authors I can return to for my Brazen reads. So here I am again, and yup, Samanthe is definitely a repeater for me?

Not that this has to do with anything, but I just thought I'd mention it. If you've read the first book, you'd have met Laurie briefly. Call me slow, I actually didn't put 2 and 2 together until almost halfway thru that this is the same Laurie. HAH! I forgot, ok? The friend who I thought showed spunk now gets her own story, yay!

Laurie and Booker's first meeting occurred when Laurie was just 16. It was brief but memorable enough for

both that a promise, sort of, was uttered inadvertently. Fast forward 10 years later, from that first meeting, intent was then delivered.

Booker is just too delish for words! With the dirty-talkin' mouth of his, he def knows how to set ~~me~~ Laurie on fire. He's so protective of Laurie and just really down-to-earth when it comes to his values. Laurie, has a lot of sharp edges due to her upbringing. Can't really blame the gal now, can ya? And she did her best to be more aware of her triggers. But she's a good person.

While this is not necessarily a new story and while I totally didn't get the pull from that one meeting 10 years ago which set them on this path, I was more than ok with it. I really liked this, and by this, I mean primarily Booker hehe... Laurie and Booker together done Brazen way with Samanthe signature means SMOKIN'!!! I'll leave it at that*g*

Chris C - A Midlife Wife says

OMG!

I loved this book! I read the first in the series and enjoyed it. But let me tell you, Samanthe Beck stepped it up a huge notch with this smoking hot read.

From page one, you are hooked. Hot and super sexy, you will not want to put this down. OMG. I need Booker in my life! Dreamy and very alpha! Yummmm

This is a complete stand-alone so grab it and enjoy!
