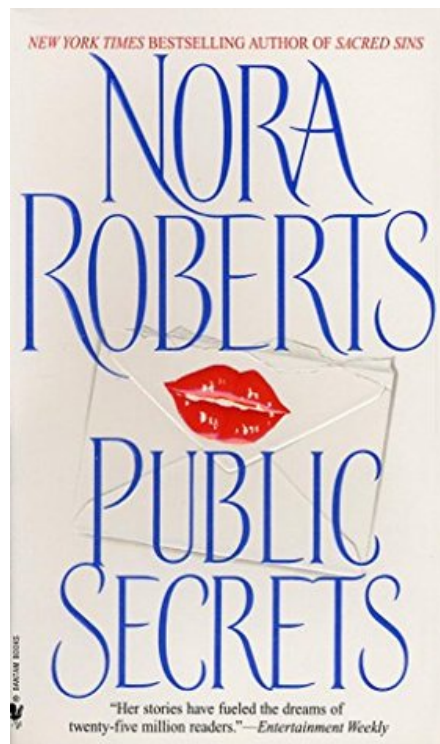




Public Secrets

Nora Roberts

Download now

Read Online ➞

Public Secrets

Nora Roberts

Public Secrets Nora Roberts

From Nora Roberts, the incomparable New York Times bestselling author of *Sanctuary* and *Montana Sky*, comes a mesmerizing story of a woman trapped by a dangerous desire and threatened by a murderous secret, one of Nora Roberts's most popular novels.

Emma. Beautiful, intelligent, radiantly talented, she lives in a star-studded world of wealth and privilege. But she is about to discover that fame is no protection at all when someone wants you dead....

All she has to do is close her eyes and she remembers the magical day her father came into her life. She was a frightened, lonely toddler, hiding, always hiding, from her mother's wrath, when Brian McAvoy swept in and took her away. She didn't know then that she was his illegitimate daughter or that she had just been rescued by pop music's rising new star. All she knew was that suddenly she felt safe.

And there wasn't only Brian...his new wife became Emma's loving stepmother, his band members became her surrogate uncles, and soon Emma even had a new baby brother to care for. Then just when everything seemed perfect, a horrifying event shattered all their lives: a botched kidnapping attempt, shocking the world, traumatizing Emma, leaving her bereft of her newfound happiness.

Yet now, after so many years of pain and guilt, of being overprotected and hounded by the press, Emma finally feels as if she's put the tragedy behind her. A determined, self-sufficient young woman, she has carved out a thrilling career, and even dared to fall rapturously in love. But the man who will become her husband isn't all that he seems. And Emma is about to awaken to the chilling knowledge that the darkest secret of all is the one buried in her mind--a secret that someone may kill to keep.

With *Public Secrets*, Nora Roberts has woven an absorbing tale of a woman you can't help but care for, trapped in a terrifying web of suspense that will keep you reading long into the night.

Public Secrets Details

Date : Published October 5th 2009 by Bantam (first published 1990)

ISBN :

Author : Nora Roberts

Format : Kindle Edition 512 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary Romance, Fiction, Contemporary, Mystery

 [Download Public Secrets ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Public Secrets ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Public Secrets Nora Roberts

From Reader Review Public Secrets for online ebook

Michelle says

When I purchased the book last year, it looked vaguely familiar. Let me be clear; I have read a LOT of Nora Roberts. Between haunting the library shelves in Germany for her books and purchasing almost all of the rest, I do believe that I have read most of her books. There are only a few I have not gotten around to reading. When I bought *Public Secrets*, I thought this was one of those that remained unread. After reading the first page, I remembered the story. It turns out I did read it more than ten years ago and just forgot that I had. Big time #michellefail, but I figured this was a good one for the Flashback Challenge. There is nothing wrong with re-read!

The best part about this story is that it is not, in my opinion, a typical Nora Roberts novel. She breaks away from her formula and gives us something a bit different. Yes, there is a romantic lead and a murder mystery, but the romance and the mystery itself play as the backstory to the overarching plot of Emma's development and growth as a strong female character. Rather than flashing back to Emma's past in the first few chapters, the book actually starts out when Emma is three years old, and we follow her progression as she ages. In addition, Emma is not the sole focus. At times, the reader is able to get more insight into her father, at times the narrator focuses on her mother and stepmother. The reader watches Emma grow, make poor decisions, and face the consequences. It is a break from the formula, but it definitely works.

If my daughter were to come to me, in future years, and ask me which one Nora Roberts book should she read, I would almost have to say *Public Secrets*. As a mother and a female, there are some very strong moral messages delivered in such a way that it is palatable to the reader. Throughout the novel, Ms. Roberts shows us the damage that sex, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and child abuse can wring on a person (no, not the same person). She shows us that to be popular, you can find ways to avoid drugs and alcohol when offered to you, that it is okay to wait, and more importantly, that you can and should stand up for yourself and your beliefs. The most important message of all that Ms. Roberts passes along is the idea that it is okay, and sometimes necessary, to admit mistakes and ask for help. These are ideas that some would argue need to be shared and discussed a bit more these days.

I am and always will be a Nora Roberts fan. There may be books of hers which I would not call favorites, but I almost always enjoy her work. *Public Secrets* is no exception. Reading it again helped me understand just what a gem this book is, and reading it after having read so many of her other works made me realize how unique it is in the Roberts canon. Ms. Roberts is not one to shy away from interesting or controversial topics, but I believe she outdid herself with this one. Her tackling of domestic violence is spot on, from the emotional and mental abuse escalating to physical violence to the shame and guilt a person feels when in that situation. Emma McAvoy is a character every woman should come to respect and admire for battling her personal demons and winning. For those of you Nora Roberts fans who have not had the pleasure, I highly suggest picking up this selection as soon as possible so that you too can discover what a gem it is!

jenjn79 says

Public Secrets isn't one of Nora Roberts most popular books. It's not one that gets mentioned much and I know a lot of her readers don't particularly care for it. But there's something about this book that thoroughly captures me. It's one of my all-time favorite books. I think I've read it about 6 times now.

It's a rather atypical romance novel (semi-romantic suspense) because the romance doesn't really come into

play seriously until the last 150 pages. This book is more about the heroine, Emma, and her life. It's one of NR's "time progression" stories (like *Honest Illusions*, *River's End* and *Blue Smoke*) where the book starts out when Emma is almost 3 years old, living with her neglectful, abusive mother and then rescued by her rising-star father, Brian McAvoy, lead singer for the band *Devastation*. It moves through periods of her life - adjusting to her new family, a little brother she adored, her brother's death when she was 6, the destruction that followed, growing up in the spotlight, being exposed to the rock and roll lifestyle, an abusive marriage, and finally love. The story goes through it all, the good, the bad, and the in between. And scattered throughout she has several encounters with Michael Kesselring, the son of the detective who investigated her brother's death. But it isn't until she's 26 that they finally have a chance.

So this book is rather different. It's not one to read if you're looking for pure romance. This is a story about people and triumph and tragedy, and then finally about love and peace. A lot of the book deals with how Emma's life is affected by being the daughter of a hugely popular rock band - the things she saw, the isolation, the media, the excesses. And it's about how those experiences shaped her and the needs that led her into an abusive marriage.

It's fascinating to read. Whenever I read it, I'm always completely sucked into the story. The characters are so real. I loved how Roberts wrote all the relationships between the characters. They're so fitting to the story.

And the romance is fantastic. Even though it's a relatively small part of the story, I absolutely loved it. Emma and Michael have a hit and miss relationship, first meeting when she was 6, he 11. Then again when she was 12, he 17, where the first seeds of romance are planted. They have several more encounters, but fate keeps them apart. Then finally they get to be together. It's touching to read. And when I finished the book, I felt completely satisfied and like they were in it for the long haul.

I've read some comments about this book that it's cliched and reliant on rockstar stereotypes and that it's a copy of other rockstar fiction. Which is true, to a certain extent. But I think several things should be taken into consideration when thinking that.

For one, it's not like the situations in the book were exaggerations or anything. That's what things were often like with bands - the parties, the drugs, the sex and all that. If Roberts had written a wholesome band, people would have been complaining that the book was completely unrealistic. I just don't see any other way she could have written the band.

Two - the book was published in 1990. Written before then, before a lot of the big movies, biopics, tv specials, true confessions, etc. If you read it in 2008 for the first time, it does seem like a lot of what's already out there. But back in 1990, that storyline wasn't nearly as played out.

And lastly, the book isn't really about the band and all they did, exactly. It's about a little girl dropped into the band's lifestyle and how it affected her life. Which is a very valid and interesting storyline.

It's that part that sucks me into the story. Half the time Emma comes across as this really strong woman who is in control of her life, and the other half the time, she's the scared little girl, afraid of the monsters in the dark and blaming herself for not protecting her little brother. The way Roberts wrote the storyline - how Emma's past continually affected her life - was really well done. She drags every emotion out of you at some point during the book - happiness, anger, despair, pity. I got a little teary-eyed a couple of times.

Whatever it is about this book, it's one that I just really, really enjoyed. It's a story that stuck with me. But like I said, it's not really for someone who wants all romance because it's a long time coming in this book. If you like to read a good dramatic story, though, with a solid dose of romance, then I highly recommend this one.

Laura V. says

Un secreto a voces, también conocido como *Alegrías y desgracias en la vida de Emma McAvoy*

Definitivamente, **este es un libro de la época en la que Nora no sabía resumir**. ¿Eran necesarias QUINIENTAS páginas para profundizar en el pasado de un personaje?

Con un capítulo YO hubiera estado igual de tranqui. Pequeños flashbacks, qué se yo. No entiendo porqué tuvo que ser tan minuciosa para describir **toda la infancia, adolescencia** de Emma.

La parte interesante (el romance) llega en la página 450/600. Y ni tampoco. Para las 500 ya están juntos y en la 550 ya no tienen mucho más qué hacer porque son "estables".

Para ser un libro tan largo, difícilmente conecté con algún personaje. Se supone que tengo que cogerle cariño a Emma, porque well, es la protagonista, pero la chica ni me moquea.

Lo que más me molesta es la sinopsis. Te **spoilea todo el maldito libro**. Hay cosa que no pasan hasta las últimas hojas y está ahí, en la sinopsis. **Arruina definitivamente la lectura**. Estoy constantemente esperando que X cosa pase. Y lo peor, es que esas cosas pasan en las páginas 300, 400, 500.

Otro mal es el prólogo, que comienza en 1990, y el primer cap remonta a **1967**. ¿Saben cuánto tiempo pasa para que lleguemos a los noventa? **QUINIENTAS PÁGINAS**.

¿El romance? Michael me gusta, mucho. Pero no entiendo cómo pudo hacer un romance tan mal desarrollado. Michael y Emma, se conocen desde niños. Cuando él tenía 11 y ella 6. Se vieron esa sola vez. Luego vuelven a encontrarse cuando ella tiene 12/13 y él 17. Y él ya queda medio fascinado por la cría. Se vieron esa sola vez. Vuelven a encontrarse cuando él tiene 23 y ella 18. Se dan su primer beso, pero ella desaparece ese mismo día. Se han visto en tres ocasiones fugaces en casi 10 años. Y oh, milagros, de los milagros, Él queda enamorado de ella desde que tiene 17. (wtf)

Es inverosímil. No se conocen de nada, y ya está, amor, amor amor. Y tuvo 600 páginas para ofrecerme eso? ¿ESO? ¿Es lo mejorcito que le salió? Y lo peor de lo peor, **es que no le dedicó ni cien páginas al romance**, habrán sido 75 como mucho y a duras penas.

Tampoco me gustó que Michael tuviera esa relación con esa chica. (view spoiler)

No entiendo el propósito de remontar tanto tiempo atrás. Y hacerlo tan lentamente. Contaba los años y la cría no crecía. Y las páginas pasaban y no llegábamos a ningún lado.

¿Y la intriga? O, ¿este secreto a voces? Yo supe quién había sido antes de que lo hicieran. (view spoiler)

¿Qué rescato? A Conroy. El perro de Michael, que chucho más mono. Y a Johnno, un amor, amor, amor de criatura.

Beth says

Wow, this is... intense. I want to say it reminds me of *Coming Home*, a little bit, because they've both got this - atmosphere, I guess - that conveys such a sense of reality. As if the story is already known and is simply being transcribed. Not the sort of work where you think about plot and pacing, just about the inexorable march of time. The almost inevitability of the ending, something hard-won after years of work put into making it from day to day. The courage of everyday living.

I wish there'd been more of Emma and Michael, but this isn't that type of story. This isn't shiny escapism. It's sensationalist at the surface, but ultimately it's gritty and difficult and real.

Carina Carvalho says

4,5

Nora Roberts não desilude

Neste livro acompanhamos a vida de Emma desde os três anos e vamos acompanhando as histórias de todos ao seu redor.

Só não dou 5 porque achei que no fim o relacionamento de Emma e de (Não quero fazer spoiler) Devia ter sido diferente...

Ele merecia mais!!

Míša Rubášová says

Sice jsem dv? nejd?ležit?jší v?ci odhadla hned v po?átcích, ale celkový požitek mi to rozhodn? nezkazilo. V?d?la jsem, že to bude pecka hned po prvních pár stránkách a jsem ráda, že jsem se nemýlila.

<https://kniznidnicek.blogspot.cz/201...>

Tempo de Ler says

A Filha das Estrelas é um bom exemplar do trabalho de Nora Roberts. Gostei especialmente que o livro fosse tão completo em relação à protagonista, Emma, que acompanhamos ao longo da sua vida, desde pequenina, passando pelos diversos episódios que, para o bem ou para o mal, a moldaram. A escritora levou-me a criar genuína afeição por Emma, uma ligação fortificada pelo sofrimento da personagem.

Ao mesmo tempo, Roberts conseguiu que todas as personagens tivessem o seu espaço na narrativa, mas sem que o livro se torne confuso ou aborrecido. Estes personagens não existem apenas para coadjuvar a protagonista, têm as suas próprias histórias e objectivos, o que as torna realistas e uma mais-valia para o livro.

Gostei tanto do desenvolvimento da relação romântica entre Emma e Michael (que vai sendo lentamente construído e consolidado. A ligação entre ambos estabelece-se logo quando se conheceram em crianças e mantém-se até à idade adulta) como do mistério que envolve o homicídio do irmão de Emma (embora a identidade dos assassinos dificilmente seja uma surpresa para o leitor, é na mesma interessante acompanhar o

seu desenvolvimento).

Embora próximo da conclusão me tenha parecido que a escritora empatou um bocadinho, não foi por isso que perdi interesse na leitura - gostei muito!

Sonia Cristina says

Quando comecei hoje a ler, faltavam 265 páginas para terminar e tencionava dividir a leitura por 3 dias mas estava a gostar tanto, mas tanto que tirei a tarde para o despachar. A sério, nunca pensei que fosse possível gostar tanto. Afinal, este livro tem elementos que me fazem desprezar uma leitura, como seja passar-se há umas décadas atrás, a ação estender-se por diversos anos, não é apenas um romance de amor + um mistério como é mais usual em NR mas sim a vida de Emma durante 20 anos.

Confesso que apenas passei uma rápida vista de olhos por diversas páginas relacionadas com o casamento de Emma referido na sinopse.

Já Michael é outra história; as cenas dele li-as todas! E o cão dele, Conroy? Oh que máximo! :)

Quanto ao assassino do irmão de Emma - Tive sempre muitas suspeitas e vacilei bastante até me fixar definitivamente numa pessoa, que se revelou ser a correta. Nunca imaginei foi o motivo para o ter feito...

Do melhor que já li de NR, sem dúvida. Completamente cativante!

Bridget says

This is an oldie but a goodie. I first read Public Secrets over 15 years ago and since then I continually pick it back up for a reread. I just finished rereading the story after a good 7 or 8 year break and I am so happy to say that it's still as compelling, intriguing, and delightful as it was the first time I read it.

This story in particular is a favorite of mine as it follow the story of not just the main character Emma, but an entire cast of characters that you love to love and love to hate. This story takes you through 30 years worth of character development and growth not to mention 30 years worth of history. The story starts in the 1960s and Nora paints a vivid picture of the time then. I wasn't alive at that time but her portrayal was so alive and real that I feel almost like I had lived it. The new wave of music, the British Invasion, sex, drugs, the changing shape of society and youth - it's all there. You grow up with Emma and at the same time you grow with her family. Learning to love them as she loves them, despair over them, root for them. They become your family too. For me, it's impossible not become invested in them. The other component I love about this story, is that Emma's love interest is introduced to you from the very beginning - when he's a pre-teen. You see how their relationship develops, the mistakes they make and in the end its beautiful when they finally come together. Nora tackles some heavy topics in this book too - sex, drugs, rape, AIDS, abuse, addiction, love, despair - and she does it with aplomb, grace, wit, and honesty. I feel that out of the entire Nora Robert's collection this book blows the other stand alone mystery/romance stories out of the water. By far the most complex and developed story line; fully engaging and relatable characters- Public Secrets has it all. I cannot recommend this book enough to others.

Dee says

Very emotional book from start to finish but I loved every minute of it and think this is probably one of the best NR book I have read.

Zwart Raafje says

Op basis van bovenstaande samenvatting zou je als lezer een uiterst spannend boek verwachten. Dat zou ik zelf ook doen mocht dit mijn allereerste Nora Roberts-boek zijn. Er zit zeker enige mate van spanning – of eerder mysterie – door dit verhaal heen verweven maar ... het vormt zeker niet de belangrijkste factor.

Eén van de zaken die er voor zorgen dat ik de boeken van deze schrijfster zo graag lees is de manier waarop en de mate waarin ze haar personages uitwerkt. Binnen de kortste keren leef je met hen mee en stoort het je zelfs niet wanneer je opnieuw vrij snel doorhebt hoe de ontknoping aan het einde er zal uitzien.

Ik hou van haar personages. Van de manier waarop je meteen van hen gaat houden of er een afkeer van krijgt. Maar ook haar vlotte schrijfstijl en haar bekwaamheid als verhalenverteler spreken me aan. Oh en het feit dat ze je als lezer in elk boek een nieuwe wereld leert kennen. Zo neemt ze ons in Publiek geheim mee achter de schermen van de muziekwereld.

...

Mijn volledige recensie kan je hier terugvinden.

Jonetta says

Emma McAvoy met her rock star father for the first time at the age of three when her mother, a pitiful but vengeful mess, forced the interaction. Brian McAvoy had no idea of her existence and fell in love with his daughter, his spitting image, at first sight. From here on out, the tale unfolds about their lives, a saga of heartache, betrayal, love and commitment.

It's hard to capsulize this book into a one-paragraph summary as it chronicles the lives of this family over a 20-year time span. Events occur throughout that impact the family over a lifetime. There are a hosts of secondary characters that make this story so rich, including Emma's love interests and the other members of Brian's band, who are included as family. Unlike many stories that cover such a wide range of events, this book is well paced and there are no lulls. Roberts takes her time to get it right without being overly descriptive but also not omitting those details that help you capture the mood and tone of the characters, time and events.

This book now ranks as my most favorite of all of Roberts' standalone novels and is competing very closely with my most favorite of her series. It's superbly written and kept me up all night because I couldn't put the book down. The book is a definite must for your NR collection.

Vero Rinconin says

2'5-3

Este libro es el que más pesado y más me ha costado leer de Norita, incluso lo tuve aparcado un par de meses porque me daba pereza reanudar la lectura. Yo creo que cerca del 40-50% del libro fue lo peor de todo estaba taaaan explicado y desarrollado al más mínimo detalle (algo que en este caso me pareció excesivo) que leía y leía y veía que no avanzaba prácticamente nada la trama.

fleurette says

I have really mixed feelings about this book. I generally love all the books by Nora Roberts and this one is really well written. But I haven't enjoyed it as much as some of her other books.

First, I was definitely expecting something completely different. I was thinking about a good romantic suspense with nice developed characters and a bit of this rock star glitter. Instead it is a story more into woman's fiction genre or even a very well-written biography of a non-existing person, Emma. Really, Emma's life is written with so many details and insights that I could almost believe she is actually a living person and not just the product of Mrs Roberts' imagination.

And here is also a problem. Actually, two problems. First, I was waiting for the suspense plot and what I got was a very, very detailed biography of Emma. Eighty percent of the book is about Emma's life from her early childhood to her relationship with Michael. And second, the story of her life is rather dark and disturbing. There is lot of violence, death and tragedy. It wasn't an easy read. And it isn't what I'm looking for in my books.

So, yeah, I definitely have mixed feelings about this book. The story is undoubtedly very well-written but it was too sombre for my taste.

Yelania Nightwalker says

tuve mis dudas sobre este libro cuando comencé a leerlo y descubrí que nos narraba la historia desde que la protagonista, Emma, era una niña. Eso me hizo recordar otro libro, no de Nora sino de Susan Elizabeth Phillips (Fancy pants), que es un aburrimiento y despropósito total en sus 500 páginas, de las cuales regala mucho a la infancia de la prota; no obstante, seguí adelante con la lectura y ¿qué creen? Que Nora Roberts logró regalarme una novela muy buena.

Este es un libro que debería leerse o comprarse sin leer la sinopsis porque ya desde ahí te spoilean cañón. No sé quién tuvo la idea de hacer esa sinopsis pero QUÉ MAL que te cuenten cosas vitales de la trama ya desde ahí, sobre todo cuando muchas de esas cosas no suceden sino hasta ya muy avanzado el libro.

Si están buscando mucho amor y un romance súper desarrollado pues no, no lo hay. Y a partir de aquí mi reseña puede contener spoilers menores, así que lean bajo su propio riesgo.

(view spoiler)

Si están buscando una novela contemporánea, con un romance ligerito y bastante drama, ésta es su novela.
