



Wild Sweet Ecstasy

Jo Goodman

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She couldn't ignore him...

The gang of train robbers swore they could smell a reporter a mile away. Maybe it was her perfume that saved Mary Michael Dennehy from the brutal fate of her newspaper colleagues on the train to Colorado. Instead of being killed, she was kidnapped by the one named Ethan Stone -- a man whose lazy, derisive smile was distinctly unsettling, and oddly familiar. He didn't seem to think much of her stubborn defiance, her disgust for his crimes, or her pathetic attempts to escape. She only wished she could be as indifferent to his potent masculinity, and the way his lips slanted over hers, drawing a response from deep within her that was at once wild and sweet...

He couldn't forget her...

Ethan recognized her instantly. The last time he'd seen her, her hair had been a nest for pencils and the tip of her nose had propped up gold-rimmed spectacles. Something about her had made him wonder what such a modern city woman -- a reporter, for Christ's sake - would be like in bed. He'd never forgotten her, and wasn't about to let her open that fascinating mouth of hers now and get herself killed -- and him along with her, if she recognized him as the undercover detective he was. Without the pencils and spectacles, she was damned alluring. It would be his pleasure to indulge his secret fantasies and distract that razor-sharp brain of hers with a slow and subtle onslaught of Wild Sweet Ecstasy.

Wild Sweet Ecstasy Details

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From Reader Review Wild Sweet Ecstasy for online ebook

Jill Dunlop says

Mary Michael Dennehy who goes by the name of Michael, is a woman in a man's world. She dreams of being a reporter for a big newspaper. She is one of the few women with a college education, but most men still view her as inferior and she is bound and determined to change their opinions. Ethan Stone is working undercover infiltrating a gang of thieves who have managed to rob a series of trains. On one train heist he recognizes Michael as the stubborn woman in the newsroom. He can't have her blowing his cover, in order to save her life and his own he has to take her hostage and claims she is his estranged wife. Michael doesn't recognize him and is determined to escape.

Personalities clash in *Wild Sweet Ecstasy*. Michael is one stubborn cookie and lives by a set of very high moral standards. One might think it would be easy to dislike her, but the good thing about Michael is she can easily admit when she is wrong. Ethan Stone hovers over the line drawn between hero and anti-hero. He has to believably portray that he is a criminal for the other thieves to trust him. He is willing to do what it takes and if that means shooting a man, or kidnapping a woman he will and does.

On the one hand *Wild Sweet Ecstasy* is classic bodice ripper. Ethan is at times very cruel and mean to Michael. Michael, while captive starts to feel attracted to Ethan despite his behavior and after a certain revelation begins to believe he didn't really kill anyone, that maybe is a good man after all. There is a very interesting scene between the two of them when Ethan is trying to dismiss her notion that he is a good man and for her to accept that she is attracted to him. He emphasizes that not only is she attracted to him, but that she is attracted to him as a bad man. And if she is going to come to him, she will only come to him after she has accepted him as he is now, and not as the man she thinks he could be. I found this all very interesting, that Ethan does not allow her to hide behind an illusion of her own making, even though it eventually turns out to be true.

This is the kind of character development and thought provoking writing that Jo Goodman is known for. I feel that *Wild Sweet Ecstasy* is a mixed bag. On the one hand the writing is excellent, as is the dialogue and character development. On the other hand the storyline felt cliched and dated. I expected this when reading this story, so I may have been more lenient than another reader. Also, I should mention that *Wild Sweet Ecstasy* is the first book in the Dennehy Sisters series. Unfortunately, this book is out of print.

Keri says

Really liked this one and glad I decided to pick this up. It has been on my TBR for awhile. I am going to pick up the rest of the Dennehy's sisters stories.

doris says

Hi goodman/ only my love

I was pleasantly surprised by this author. It was well written plot to a good story, how two people came together, one a reporter, the other an undercover federal Marshall, and how his job was compromised by the reporter unknowingly, and how they manage to beat the odds even when they were shoved into a mine to be

blown up and never to be discovered. Do not want to give the story away , but, I think you will not be disappointed ,if you like thrilling events along with a little romance.

merilie Gonzales says

Only My Love

The book was ok, storyline and plot were solid. The romance between two main characters felt too strained for most of the story for my taste.

M. says

I struggled with this book. Firstly, I struggled with the writing style: I found the prologue quite tough to get through and the storyline hard to latch onto. Then, as the plot unfolded, the story became rather rough: violence, through-and-through evil people - even though these are 'standard' elements in books like these, somehow they seemed heavier to me in this story. SPOILER ALERT. Near the end of the book, after the elementary life-threatening situation being resolved, hero and heroine went separate ways, not to contact each other again for months. Only after their (unplanned) reunion, the pace returned to the story. Topped off with heavy curses throughout the book, I won't try the stories about the other 'Dennehy Sisters' (although seeds for (interesting!) new stories were planted in this part).

Robin says

It was plain luck that Mary Michael Dennehy wasn't killed when her train was stopped by a group of train robbers. She was also lucky that one of the desperadoes, Ethan Stone, knocked her out before she could tell them that she was a reporter. When she came to, Ethan had told his friends that she was his wife and would be traveling with them. Not knowing why Ethan is protecting her, Michael plans her escape.

This book, along with the other books in the Dennehy Sisters series, has been in my TBR pile for years. It started out slow and it took me a while to get into the story. The heroine bothered me at first. She was whiny and didn't know when to keep her mouth shut. Luckily she learned to shut her mouth and became much more likeable. So, I'd give the first 150 pages low marks, but the second half of the book makes me want to continue with the series. My overall rating: 3.5 Stars.

Maria Clara says

La verdad es que me ha gustado mucho más de lo que esperaba. No sé, últimamente había dejado de leer novela romántica historica porque me parecía más de lo mismo; siempre la misma historia solo que con algunas variantes. Pues bien, este libro me ha sacado de mi estupor literario...jajaja.... No puedo afirmar que sea "original", pues sólo he leído otra novela ambientada en el oeste americano, pero sí que sus personajes son carismáticos y que el ritmo de la novela no decae en ningún momento.

CJ - It's only a Paper Moon says

Meh

2.4 stars and the .4 is only because I like Jo Goodman.

I don't know what happened in this book though. Michael was a disappointing & annoying heroine, Ethan - while slightly more sympathetic - had potential that went nowhere. And the ending? The ending was unnecessarily drawn out.

There are better Historical "Wild West" romances to read, hell there are better Jo Goodman's to read. Skip this if you can. If you can't, well, it's not bad but it surely isn't great. If you aren't overcome with the same need to clip Mike on the jaw or have the urge to shake her, then you're a better reader than I am. How Ethan put up with her, especially while risking his own neck for her, I'll never know. But logic tells me that when you're in a situation in which you could die over the littlest thing, you might want to pick the devil you know and do as you're told. So, a big pat on the back for Ethan and even bigger pat on the back if you're going to venture into this one.

Apricity says

"Don't look so worried, honey." Kitty said consolingly. "He'll pay. At least until he tires of you. And the way he had you screamin' last night, it don't seem like an arrangement either one of you is goin' to quit soon." Michael was beginning to believe her scream the night before wasn't quite the rebel yell that Ethan had described it. "Just listenin' to you got Happy all hot again. I made a tidy fortune last night." She giggled. "He couldn't get enough of me." Michael was also revising her opinion about Kitty Long being only a slightly soiled dove. "Perhaps I should ask Ethan for ten," she said. Kitty shook her head. "No. Ask for twelve, just like I do, but be prepared to take a little less. Say nine or ten. That way he'll feel he's won more than just you for the night. And don't give anything away free and don't run a tab like you was servin' drinks. If word got around that you were treatin' Ethan then others are like to expect the same. It wouldn't be good for you after Ethan's gone. You have to consider your future prospects. That's only good business sense." It was an interesting slant, Michael thought. Kitty Long: the prostitute with the heart of a cash register.

Michael stared at the door for a full minute after Kitty closed it. Ethan Stone blew open mine tunnels and train safes. Detra Kelly was a madam who preferred to be called a proprietress. Kitty Long was a shrewd young businesswoman whose stock had gone public. Nathaniel Houston led a gang of murderers and still found time to run for sheriff . . . and win. What in God's name had she gotten herself into?

It's odd what goes through one's mind at times like that. I thought: tall, dark, and handsome." She glanced at Ethan's face and saw the ruddy color appearing just beneath his skin. "Before you flatter yourself too much, you were only the dark one. The older gentleman was tall, the younger one handsome." Ethan's flinty stare widened slightly. He had been flattering himself.

"You told me not to tell you," she said with an impish grin. "The truth is that Mary Francis is best at most everything. She's the one who sings like a bird and plays the piano so sweetly it can bring tears to your eyes. She's not pretty, mind you, not Mary Francis. She's beautiful. And kind and smart as a whip." "Then why . . ." He let his voice trail off and his question go unasked. Michael finished for him. "Why did she become a nun? Because she is the best at everything. God wanted her more. It wasn't a choice. It was a calling." Her

smile was gentle as she saw Ethan trying to puzzle it out. "You'd understand if you knew her."

Maryori says

Me gustan los western, y los romances históricos así que éste me ha caído como del Cielo, muy buena trama, grandes intrigas, lo recomiendo para pasar 1 o 2 días de sana distracción :)

Mara says

I can't understand how this author could write such a boring, flat book. I don't really know her, but Jo Goodman is quite a name in the romance industry. But if I have to judge from this novel, I wouldn't give her books a dime.

There's not an ounce of meat to this romance, or plot either. We are presented in the prologue with a powerful heroine: imagine the end of the XIX century, the world is changing, women are doing their first foray into the world as professionals. We have a woman journalist as a heroine. We see her struggling in a man's world, we are told she has talent and she's going to be a big name in the future.

Then the book starts. And the only thing you see is a girl dumber than a brick. And I'm not joking, nor it's a personal taste. She is portrayed as a dumb, stupid, naive girl. There's no way she could be a journalist nowadays. Not even imagining her in 1875 with all that entails.

She makes mistake after mistake, doesn't understand danger. Well honestly, there's nothing she seems to understand. The hero, who's not particularly interesting in himself, keeps battering her with words and sometimes hands to let her see the danger. No way. She's impervious to any thought. Unbelievable. There's not one single brain cell working. She's got a mouth to her, but it's not linked to any brain. Again, please understand, this is not my pet peeve. She's really portrayed as such.

Then there's the romance. Given this is not erotica (i.e. sex doesn't happen with the flimsiest excuse), the fact that they have sex mid way along the novel comes as a unwelcome surprise. First because there's no chemistry, no spark. No history of interest. All of a sudden they have sex. Uh?

But maybe all of these could be overlooked if there was a story behind it. Unfortunately except for the initial robbery after hundreds of pages we have nothing except their everyday life, her never ending show of stupidity. And that's it. How can it sustain a story? It doesn't.

I'm not sure whether I'll keep reading as there's so much boring-ness and nothing I can bear.

I wonder if the rest of the blurb will ever happen and when. My initial thoughts were ok, pity, this is going to be a 2 star (merely ok) but the more I read, the less I liked it. There's no way I can recommend this novel to anyone, even plain romance fan. As I said there's no meat to it.

Update. I did read it all (more or less, with plenty of skipping). She doesn't improve, neither does he. To the ugly duckling cliché we can now add the big misunderstanding and (view spoiler) ones. Moreover the rest of the book was the same fare over and over. What the blurb promised never came except as an excuse.

Not my cuppa.

Zoe says

This book is typical of Jo Goodman. If you do not like her style, this book would be boring. I liked it but did not love it. If I liked the heroine better, this would have been a better read.

The series begins with Mary Michael Dennehy. Who is one of the 5 Dennehy sisters. They were bastard daughters of a wealthy New York businessman. All of the Dennehy sisters are Marys, hence the questionable choice of middle names. Heroine of the book is Michael. She was an aspiring journalist who dreamed of becoming a professional reporter. The book started with Michael working in the Chronicle, headed by Logan Marshall. I know that Jo Goodman has written stories about the Marshall brothers. So there is Logan Marshall doing cameos. Long story short, she ran into trouble on a train west doing her journalism business and was abducted/saved by Ethan Stone.

I won't rehash the story here since it doesn't really matter what happened in this book. True to her style Jo Goodman never really just writes a romance. Her books are always mysteries wrapped in a romance coating. This is not my favorite book of her works. The fact that my favorite female character in the book was Mary Francis, the oldest Dennehy sister, who was also a nun, speaks volume about how I feel about Mary Michael. I do not understand why Jo Goodman had to name her Michael, it was very distracting for me. What is the point? Couldn't she have been Michelle? Michael wasn't my kind of heroine. She had too much to prove, and too unsophisticated for me to like her. She was too headstrong for my taste and was not happy with Ethan (understandably) for a long time. I did not know why Ethan would fall in love with her. A heroine always makes or kills a book for me. If I do not like her, it is difficult for me to buy the romance.

But Michael was a Jo Goodman heroine after all. She was not what I would have preferred, but she was not a childish brat. I liked Ethan Stone better as a character. Like all Jo Goodman heroes, he was not one who gave in to jealousy and acted all kinds of male craziness just because someone looked at his woman. He is also typical of Goodman's heroes, steady and reliable. He appeared in the book as some kind of a criminal but of course he was on the side of the law. This cannot be a surprise.

The story did drag on, following Ethan and Michael from a remote town, where we spent 80% of the book in, then to NYC where the bad guys in the book came for Michael, and Ethan came back into Michael's life to save her from those bad guys. Ethan was greeted by a surprise and wedding, poison, bad guys got arrested, the end.

It isn't the most exciting book, and definitely not my favorite book of Jo Goodman. I did not like Mary Michael much. But I still enjoyed Jo Goodman's writing.

A (Is For Awkward) says

As plots go I liked it, as romances go I mostly liked it, even the hero (who was an absolute ass more often than not). But this heroine. For someone who is supposedly an up and coming great journalist she isn't very good at noticing what is going on around her. Mostly because she is too busy opening her mouth and trying very hard to get herself killed. The hero literally has to knock her out, and drag her off on multiple occasions, not because he was being cruel, but just to keep her from saying something stupid and getting shot. This is the sort of books that deserves to be tagged TSTL.

2.5 stars.

Jessica's Totally Over The Top Book Obsession says

Holy shit this heroine is a twit. For fuck sake she doesn't have the sense God gave a fly. Add that to the fact the hero was an unimpressive, selfish and at times abusive jerk and I got my first DNF of 2019 and we are only 2 days into the year. I did read to the 80% but I just can't take the stupid no more.

Ellyn (Mrs. Darcy in my Dreams) says

Love Jo Goodman!!!
