



The Seven Devils

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After nearly being drowned by her alcoholic father, 17-year-old Ellen, her mother, and her brother move across the state to start over. Ellen soon meets Neil, a gorgeous loner with a bad reputation. Her classmates warn her to stay away, but he seems to be the only one who understands her. Besides, the rumors about Neil are too far-fetched to be believed. When she is threatened by Derrick (a jealous classmate) it becomes clear that there is more to Neil than meets the eye. In this sexy page turner, Ellen must discover Neil's dark secrets and learn to stand up for herself before the plot hatched against her unfolds.

The Seven Devils Details

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From Reader Review The Seven Devils for online ebook

StrangeBedfellows says

From the first page, you know this book easy going be a light read. As the story opens, the main protagonist, Ellen, has some serious problems. Her father is an abusive alcohol, her mother looks the other way, and her brother is only out for himself. With her dysfunctional family, and no friends to turn to, Ellen gets by in life by being as invisible as possible. As long as no one notices her, they can't hurt her. It's not a great life, but she makes it work as best as she can. Then one day, her father's rage goes too far, nearly costing Ellen her life. Finally driven to act, her mother takes her and her brother away. A new town, a new home. A new school.

Ostracized by by everyone at her new school, Ellen's one saving grace is Neil, the resident odd man out. He's smart, good looking, and kind—so Ellen doesn't understand why everyone acts like he's evil incarnate. All she know is, he's the only one she can trust, especially once the local golden boy, Derrick, starts coming on way too strong.

But what happens when she can no longer ignore the rumors about Neil's strange behavior? What does a girl do when her knight in shining armor becomes her newest threat?

What initially had me interested was Neil, our strange bedfellow du jour. I can't tell you too much about him—the mystery of Neil is half the fun—but he's that kind of larger-than-life hero that brings a fairytale element into the story. One can easily connect Ellen to distressed heroines like Cinderella or Rapunzel, swept up by the dashing hunk of man flesh that comes to her rescue. And what's even better, he's a flawed hero. Don't expect an easy romance despite appearances otherwise. These kids have some problems to work through before they can ride off into the sunset, believe you me.

Now, as much as I enjoyed Neil, the true driving factor of this story is Ellen. What is this book really about? It's about her struggle to hold on to herself when stronger personalities threaten to consume her. Some, like her father and self-serving brother, do so out of malice. But even Neil is guilty of being overwhelming and forceful. So how does a fearful, introverted girl find her own and hang on to it? Can she stop being the damsel and become her own hero? Therein lies my fascination with this story.

I've come across a few critiques about how unrealistic some aspects of this story are—the emotional baggage, the lack of adult intervention, the improbably dramatic situations. And yet, all that is part of what made this story so enjoyable for me. Too often I read YA novels that sneak in commentary on good parenting and appropriate teen behavior. That's not what I want to see, as a reader. I want the sex, blood, and rock 'n' roll—even if the characters happen to be teenagers who should have been under better parent supervision. But then, curfews and family meetings don't always make for an interesting plot.

To summarize, this is a very diverting read with great characterizations. It's paranormal, and it's romantic, but there a lot more going on than "boy meets girl, boy has superpowers, boy and girl fall in love and make merry." There's definite sequel vibes, and I'll be keeping my eye on where this author goes.

Originally posted at: <http://strangebf.blogspot.com/2012/12...>

Bayli says

Okay I'm only 33% through with this book but I just have to say my thoughts.

The first chapter was great! It caught my attention. It freaked me out and had me question what the heck was going on and what could possibly happen next...

However, so far the first chapter has been the only good chapter. I am not trying to be mean or anything... But this book is lacking some serious substance.

The thoughts that go through Ellens head are completely ridiculous. The fact that she barely knows any of these guys or people and they are moving that quickly- uhm no. She's so immature in her thinking too. Like REALLY immature.

Conversations that are had- would never be said. It's completely unbelievable. for example "has he raped you yet?" uhm what? Who would just say that? No one. No one would say that. And if you heard that this guy you barely know but "love" (even though you've known him maybe 24 hours) but hear that he is this rapist crazy dude- why on gods green earth would you allow yourself to be alone with him until you can find out the truth?

And again, why would you allow a DIFFERENT guy that has pushed himself onto you- why would you allow him in your room, on your bed, to drive you ANYWHERE by yourself?

I mean does this MC have any smarts... ANY. to her at all??

She's an idiot.

Everything relationship between characters is rushed. Friendships, love interests, all of them.

There hasnt been any real character development either.

Not to mention it seems very Twilighty...

And I liked Twilight but this is just not working for me.

I honestly dont think I'm going to finish this book. :(

Edit

The second half of this book wasnt as bad as the first half. Sill wouldnt recommend :(

Lisa says

Loved this book... Hated Ellen's family -they were sooo cruel (her father was a monster and her mom, a useless bag of air)..

The kids in the school - so mean, Derrick deserved what he got and so much more.. The bright spot was Neil.... Loved the addition of the characters of Hannah and Josh... Really hope the open ending leaves room for a follow-up story...

Peg says

Thanks to the author who sent me an online copy of her novel and asked for a review. I am happy to do that.

I found this Young Adult novel to be an interesting read since it deals with topics that a normal teenager would never encounter. Of course, protagonist Ellen also has the agonizing issues that most teenage girls go through when moving to a new town and starting a new high school. She desperately wants to fit in and at first has no friends. She soon meets Neil and that's when the unusual events start to happen.

Neil has special powers and one of them is mind-reading. His friend, Josh, does teleportation. When Ellen becomes involved with these two, her life changes in many ways. This novel also deals with teenage romance and rivalry, parental abuse (her dad), and parental neglect (her mom). There are the usual 'good' guys and 'bad' guys to help keep the plot moving along.

The characters are memorable and the event descriptions are vivid. Overall, a well-written novel. I do have one question and that is where did the title come from? Maybe I missed something along the way.

The ending was not what I expected but now realize it sets up a sequel. I will look forward to it!!

Raven says

Okay, I read this book for one reason and one reason only. Yeah it sounded interesting, but the real reason is that it was free on the Kindle and boy am I glad that it was because I can't be nearly as upset after reading a book I got for free compared to one I had to pay to read.

What can I compare this book to? Hmm....it's like watching a horror movie, a really horrible Sci-fi channel inspired movie with actors/actresses that exude self-importance and take their job way too seriously. Normally I gravitate to crappy horror movies, well maybe not Sci-fi channel horrible, because I know that they are going to be hilarious and are going to suck from the moment they start. That is the fantastic part about watching them. This book fails in the same way those movies do, it tries way too hard. It starts off with Ellen's father trying to kill her and then her and her self-absorbed mother and brother moving away to live at an aunt's house. Hey Dot, nice to meet you in the two sentences you occupy in the story. There was a lot of that, people and situations thrown into the book to establish why something else occurred and then they disappeared into the sunset to never be heard from again. In a sense it was rushed, the whole story was rushed especially the love. Ellen meet Neil, Neil meet Ellen and now come the thoughts removing clothes and shoving tongues down other people's throats.

If instant love wasn't great enough, let's throw in the fact that Ellen is a complete and utter moron. She's been abused by her father, almost murdered, and then all the stuff Derrick puts her through (he's a gem that one) and she still falls completely in love with Neil A.S.A.P. No reservations, no concerns, nothing! Really because that seems to defy all logic I would believe she should possess. And then there is Neil's abilities, his "Seven Devils" (I see what you did there how clever). Ellen, isn't fazed one bit. Sure she cries a bit but she just looooooooooooooves Neil so much that it doesn't seem to matter he's manipulated her feelings before; after all it was just to comfort her when she was stressed. Ah, yeah that's how it all starts. Soon our hapless heroine is dashing off to cabins in the woods (never a good thing) and to the Big Apple with a boy she just met but totally and utterly loves. Um, 'kay. Because once again logic seems to dictate that she should have a

bigger issue with men.

So as we traipse through the life of our clueless and naive main character you start to realize that this story as no real plot, no real direction it's just a conglomeration of various "fantasies" like being swept off her feet, a romantic cabin in the woods, a trip to New York, a fancy dress, and even a fairy godmother to boot (sorry Josh is actually a guy and the only redeemable thing about this book). It was a strange mixture of Cinderella meets Pretty Woman.

Then there were the grammatical errors and what I find super funny about this is the fact that the author is a librarian. Not that that should matter, but unfortunately that means I hold you to a higher standard than most (after all I work in the same profession so I know a thing or two). I mean reading books, keeping up on trends, grammatical percision, is our schtick and I found this to be sincerely lacking in any sort of plot, rushed, and completely and utterly unbelievable.

What was really great was when I got to the point of the book when the only word on the screen was no, followed by a second screen with just no, then a third and a fourth finally with NO! That's exactly was I was thinking. No, this can't be real; No, I can't believe I wasted time reading this; No there really can't be a second book; No way in Hades I would have paid money for this book.

Actually the more I think about it the more it makes me laugh. Laugh because I can't fully comprehend what I just read, meaning I can't believe it was so dumb and I read it. So maybe it has more in common with those horrid horror movies, but I'd still rather watch Sharktopus repeatedly than read this book again.

Lauren says

Ok, im sorry but I **HATED** the characters of this book. Every single one of them. It's unreal. Everyone sucked.

Let's start with **Ellen** - the girl is a fucking mess. She was annoyingly skittish & her whole frightened abused girl act got *really old, really quick*. And she was so fucking naive & innocent & self conscious & stupid that I literally wanted to bang my head against the fucking wall, repeatedly.

The girl was a fucking joke. Don't believe me - just wait...

After her father tries to kill her, Ellen's mother decides enough is enough & packs her & her kids up, leaving the bastard behind. All of this is cool & something to build a story off of -

But then the author goes & ruins it by having Ellen proclaim she loves a boy she has only known for **TWO DAYS!!!** Ok, maybe Ellen didn't *proclaim* it - but she *definitely thought it!!* This is a girl who has never even been kissed up until a chapter ago (*maybe even a paragraph, who knows - it was that fucking ridiculous!*) who is so starved for love & affection that she latched on to the first guy who showed her a bit of kindness & attention. Seriously, just gag me now.

Which brings me to **Neil**... Im sorry but I shook my head at the ridiculousness that is Neil. The whole "*stay away from the evil mind control guy*" was too much. And let me ask you - what 17 year old boy from Ohio (keep in mind that I live in Ohio - surrounded by adolescents) actually talks the way Neil did??? **He sounded like a 70 year old man!!** It was ridiculous!!

And also - dude gave off a very *Edward Cullen*y vibe. I don't know when Stalking became romantic but I

swear every time some guy watches a girl sleep or glues himself to her hip for "*her own protection* - god forbid you actually trip or breathe funny!" I just wanna die inside. Is this really what has become Romance?? An overbearing douche who follows you around, dictates what you do & pretty much controls every aspect of your life - really? **This** is what I have to look forward to??? Please, just kill me now!

Oh!!! & don't even get me started on Ellen's brother!!! That asshole - who does that to their sister??? Ive heard of sibling rivalry. I've even participated in it!! But there is supposed to be some kind of unspoken bond between siblings. I could never imagine not cherishing my sisters or ever wanting to cause them harm. Just the fact that Austin laughed at Ellen and made her feel 2 inches tall was enough to make me hate him. But then he turns around and does **THAT?!?! Who in the actual fuck would put their little sister in danger like that?!? Where is the loyalty? Where is the love???** Oh my gosh - that guy was a fucking dick!!! And for what???? Because their father was an abusive alcoholic who tried to drown their sister so he has to leave school his senior year to KEEP HER SAFE!!! So he's mad he's not the star quarterback anymore, so he tells their dad where they are and arranges for his sister to be alone in the house with the man who hates her and has tried to kill her????!!!!???? Because he thinks she ruined his life???

Oh my god - the characters of this book!!!! Do you see what I mean??? These are not likeable people! The only person who was even remotely likeable was **Josh** & Im not even sure what his purpose was other then to provide the perfect out Ellen needed at the end of the book. How fucking convenient was that shit?!?

I think what sets me off about this book is the wasted storylines that the author tried to merge together.

I liked the storyline of a shy, abused girl hiding out from ab abusive father while falling in love with the outcast boy in her new town.

I also liked the story of Neil and his 7 devils; a boy with 7 incredible abilities who has been ostracized by his family and community.

I did not like these two stories combined together. Somehow, they didn't mesh well. The author should have picked one storyline and stuck to it. She really did ruin two potentially awesome stories...

Im giving this book **3.5 Stars** regardless of my little rant on the characters, because the potential was there for this book but it just fell short.. & that's ok.

Kathy says

I enjoyed this book a lot although the formatting of the book made it difficult to read. The fact that I could overlook that makes it, in my opinion, a great book that is well written. The story concerns Ellen and her very dysfunctional family who move to a new town to escape her abusive father. There, Ellen meets Neil and his friend Josh who have strange powers. These set Neil apart from the rest of the school crowd and lead to a lot of lies and harassment. One thing I found hard to believe was the lack of controls on Ellen and her brother Austin in the book. I am not sure 16-year olds could just take off for a weekend with some boy after fabricating some story about there being a crowd around, with no one checking it. I wonder what would have happened if Ellen had been treated badly. Would no one have cared? This is a good example of a situation where there are absolutely no parental controls, and I am not so sure that is very realistic. In addition, a lot happens throughout the book where no one (i.e. responsible adult) seems to care about what is happening. What happens to the relationship that Neil and Ellen have makes for a great story, as well as what the sever devils are. However, I did often feel that Neil had an unhealthy relationship with Ellen, bordering on

obsessive. The story is very basic: boy meets girl, girl is interested in boy (and perhaps one other also, though she cannot decide who she prefers initially) and goes on from there. It definitely covers many themes: abuse, bullying, violence, like or love. As I said the fact that I stuck with it even though the formatting made reading difficult, is testament to how well written and interesting the book is. I received the book free from Library Thing to read and review.

Beth says

I am kinda over the paranormal thing...except werewolves...love werewolves...but Sara Danvers has written a not so normal paranormal. Neil has "powers" and I am not just talking about his abs of steel. Ellen has recently moved to town and meet Neil. Sparks fly and not just the good kind. Neil comes to trust Ellen and tells her his secrets. She does not freak. Really, not even a little bit? The abs must be even better than described.

Good story. The paranormal part was believable...as far as paranormal goes. Neil and Ellen have great chemistry. Josh is fabulous. Still looking for redeeming qualities in her brother, Austin. Derrick is easy to hate.

Drawback...cliffhanger with no "coming soon" date on the horizon. Come on Sara, throw us a one here!!!

Megan says

I wouldn't say this is a new adult book its more very YA with some mature themes. Mature theme being sex.

I was a little disappointed this wasn't more about devils and devil nature.. everything seemed to really fast. Not sure how I feel about it but this book wasn't the best.

Becca says

So i would like to say this first, i had very mixed feelings about this book. Heres the thing, i really enjoyed reading it, and i really liked it, but there were some points it was really corny, and it was very i don't know... i will get more in depth about later but before i did any of that i just wanted to say that yeah i did enjoy this despite the corniness, and what nots. Corny seems to be really bad word to use so don't take it with much meaning just if you want to know what i mean check out the rest of this review.

Also no this book was not the reason for my bad night as it says in my last update status. it was a personal thing

Alright lets start this review shall we? Alright song choice, i have two one is in honor of the title of the book "Seven Devils" Florence + the Machine (love them), and "People Just Ain't No Good" By Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds - this is representative of most of all the people in the MC's life besides a select few. (Neil, Josh, and sort of Hannah).....

So onto the plot! So this book was pretty tricky if you ask me because i spend a good half of the book going, OH i so know what he is, i totally know what he is BWHAAAAHA i am so smart, look at me! being all

awesome... well no actually i was WRONG, i know i am shocked too. Either way i liked this i am going to say paranormal, but its border line scifi. No not aliens. or is it? I am not telling. but Sara Danvers did trick me. Alright so i guess plot was pretty, well it was an oddity, it was sort of similar to the idea of compt. fiction abusive stuff, but throw in some supernatural and bam you go this. Which isn't to say that it is bad, or trite or anything like that i liked it and i felt like there was something brewing under the surface, and that there could be so much more done with this book if the author decided to make it into a series, and there better be a second one that is all i have to say about that right now. i don't talk about the ending until the end of the review. its my little treat to you for sticking it out with my rambles. alright so pacing wise? pretty good there were some parts that i was JUST waiting for something to happen but it just wasn't.

Okay this is something i want to address both now and in characters, its called a "YA" New Adult Book, and when i first saw that i was like WHAT the fuck are you talking about, how can something both be YOUNG adult and NEW adult? that makes no sense...then i read it. There is sexual, and sexy scenes in this book, so if you are looking for a clean cut version of High School book, walk away. And that it is what i wanted to address. I suppose i was both okay with this, and not okay with this. I am okay with it because a) its real, seriously lets all get over ourselves being that high schoolers don't have the sex because they do. b) it done in a very tasteful manner, and doesn't become a book of sex c) and this is where i am a little iffy about considering it a reason i liked it, but here it is: i like that they waited a bit longer than right off the bat...with that being said....

you can see in my status updates i have a mini freak out...maybe mini is a bad choice of words...but yes i am going with mini freak out when Neil and Ellen first "start" dating *cough cough two days after knowing each other cough cough* have a very serious make out session where Ellen's mind starts to wondering and have very VERY dirty thoughts, and almost seemed like she wanted to act on them, and again seemed is a bad choice of words, i am sure she wanted to. and i was like WOMAN you JUST met him. Jeez kids these days, but here is the thing after she has those thoughts she doesn't want to move on to the next level until much later...not much...but some later in the book. So there is that. i said it. And that is one of the reasons that i was annoyed with this book....

And another reason which is going to be about RELATIONSHIPS!

Relationship: Neil and Ellen's relationship developed really fast, and a part of me wants to blame it on the fact that they are in high school but that seems like the easy choice. Because we all know you fall in love at the beginning of the day and fall out of it by the end when you are high school. And i suppose since i was sort of seeing this as an "adult" genre sort of, i wanted to believe that there would be a bit more developmental, but there was something that happened that made me sort want to just ignore this all together but i feel that you have the right to know. So yes it happens a bit fast, but there are high emotions and a lot of crises that bring them closer faster.

Alright on to characters

Ellen: Well she is an interesting character, for someone in her situation i would think she would be a lot more jaded, and hard, but she is surprisingly loving and caring. She has a very kind heart and forgives far to easily, which makes me think she is naive at times because you can still be good person but realize that someone is no good, (get the reference? to the song choice? no? fineee...)anyways i still liked her because i am a sucker for those really sweet MCs because everyone always wants a badass i am odd, and i like those sweet meek ones, they are usually full of secrets. She does get a little better farther into the book, but i thought she was pretty stupid sometimes, but i do respect her for what she does at certain points in the book. But again she is one of those characters i am almost on the fence about because she does some seriously stupid ass shit and not that good kind that i am sitting there rooting for because i want something to happen she just does stupid shit. alright moving on

Neil: well i loved him the moment we met him, and seriously i don't understand why everyone even the

teachers are so against him but will NEVER actually give Ellen a reason until a week or so after warning her it makes no damn sense, if you want to warn someone away tell them what the person had done. Well Neil is full of secrets too. I really liked him he was protective, sweet, and smart to boot! he was actually kind of amazing and again he makes some decisions i am still deciding on how i feel about them mostly he makes the right decision but other times i just wonder... Its obvious how he feels about Ellen.

Josh: is someone i can't talk about extensively but i liked him, i liked him a lot.

Hannah: um you're stupid. there i said it. you were a good friend but if you ever had a book of your own i would slap you across the face then probably yell at you some. you stupid girl, you realllll stupid.

the brother whose name unfortunately is escaping me at the moment: i hated him. when i found out there was a brother i was going to be like YAY protective brother type i loves them they are the best, especially in an abusive story! do NOT be fooled. same with the mother.

Derrick: how Ellen could not see how gross and evil he was, was beyond me because honestly the moment we met him i said god i hope that is derrick (we don't get his name right away) because he is an asshole and i kept that thought throughout the whole book, to say that he was a good villain is an understatement he was a fantastic villain.

Alright now you are probably biting your nails about that ending. Well i loved it. But that is all i can say about it. i will put in a spoiler thing-y, it won't be a super spoiler that tells you exactly what happens but it will give you a good sens of what might happen and therefore you might not want to too. So i will finish this part by saying i hope there is a second one, and i hope it comes out soon. :) kay spoiler time! (view spoiler)

So that was that, and that is what i call a review, so there. so if you are interested in reading this perfect go do that, if you have read this and you are looking for a book to read next and you like to read indie authors, well my goodness because i do too! we have so much in common, but you can check out a whole slew of indie authors at this crazy thing i call a blog that i do with a friend who does reviews on compt fiction, and i do it on pretty much everything else. :) so if you want to check us out we would love to have you stop by, so i will give you the link and you can decide how awesome we truly are.. so here is link:

<http://theviolethourbookreviews.wordpress...>

and here is me thanking you: we appreciate you even if you don't stop by just because are just such good people.

Jenna says

The premise sounded good, the cover is hot. But man, I have this allergic reaction to dumb female characters. And instant love made in 5 minutes?? You have this guy assault in your house and you still believe all his BS. I mean really? Ellen was so dumb and immature is was like a 12 year old talking and reacting.

So I'm sorry to say it only took me 22% in the book to give up.

Christine says

This could have been so good, but at 65%, I felt that the story had no arc. I was not sure there was a point, an objective, an arc.

Nadine says

[

Story:

After nearly being killed by her father, even the mother realizes it might be better to leave her husband and get Ellen into a safer place. At her new school she meets a mysterious guy who is rumoured to be highly dangerous and a killer.

Characters:

Let's start with the supporting characters: I like a good flawed character in my books, but... the baddies

Sara says

Would give this book a zero if I could. See what being bored at work drives me to read?! I feel like I lost brain cells reading that!!

Jamie says

7/23: Currently **free** on Amazon
