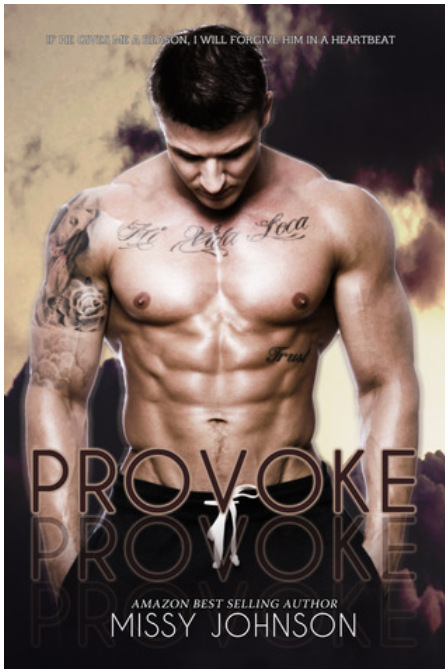




Provoke

Missy Johnson

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Provoke

Missy Johnson

Provoke Missy Johnson

Mace Jordan was not the type of guy I expected to sweep me off my feet. I knew of the crowd he ran with, and they were bad news. But beyond that tough, biker exterior was a sweetheart, and one that treated me like his princess.

I liked being the good girl with the bad boy, but I never expected this. What I saw on his computer...I thought I knew him.

But I was wrong. So wrong...

If there was ever a bad time for me to fall for a chick it was now, but from the moment I saw Leeta, she had me. There was something special about her, and I had to have her. But I also had a job to do, and I couldn't let her distract me from that. I couldn't let her discover that side of me either. But she's not stupid, and I know she's getting close. God knows what she'll do if she discovers the truth.

Or what she thinks is the truth.

Provoke Details

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Author : Missy Johnson

Format : Paperback 350 pages

Genre : Romance, New Adult, Dark

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From Reader Review Provoke for online ebook

*kawehi.reviews says

I'm very sorry to say this but **Provoke** just didn't do it for me. Between the story development and the characters, I was a bit disappointed with the amount of enthusiasm I had going into this only to fall short of expectations.

A lot of it for me also had to deal with the fact with to which I agree with Feifei: "does this story even have a point?" . I literally thought the SAME EXACT thing while reading this.

It was like the characters would do this and that and so would the plot but how in the world does this have anything to do with the big scheme of things? A lot of it was just pointless!

I don't know. This book had a lot of potential for me but I just didn't like and agree with the direction and writing of it is all.

I'm not saying that it's a horrible read. Only, it just was not for me.

I still HIGHLY SUGGEST for those of you interested and Missy Johnson fans to take a chance on it anyway since I may feel this way about it while it just might make your day!

Enjoy guys! And once again, I'm so sorry that this book didn't work out for me!

Chris-Wait-For-It-Awesome says

dnf at 16%

seriously why is she trying to be a writer?

and do you know what pisses me off?

her stories are intriguing.

but come on! who are you trying to convince? If I found my boyfriends' sex tapes (that included rape) and then he kidnapped me "in order to explain" I would have called the police! I wouldn't be turned on! And I can't even accept the Stockholm syndrome I thought when he first chlorophormed her!

Lana *Dirty Girl Romance* says

1.5 Not my cuppa Stars

Sad to say, this book did not work for me at all. It had great potential and the blurb sounded so promising, but somewhere along the way it just fell flat.

Here's the thing, for a book to be 3 stars or higher for me it needs 3 things:

1. Endearing characters
2. A strong plot
3. Character?strong plot development

Unfortunately, in the case of Provoke, I didn't find any of those things.

I never connected to the heroine. For someone that is supposed to be a tough public prosecutor, some of the things she said or did left me confused and rolling my eyes.

1. (view spoiler)
2. Her computer breaks. So she drives to her boyfriend's house to use his...without telling him, and proceeds to break into his password protected computer.
3. She discovers something very bad (view spoiler) about Mace and proceeds to blab about it not only to her friend, but her ex-fiance...who she hasn't spoken since their break up...because he had severe PTSD and lashed out at her.

There were a lot of unnecessary details and discrepancies that left me questioning where the book was going and what was the point for well over 50%. At one point Leeta tells her friend about Mace (view spoiler), a few chapters later it turns out to be Ben (her ex) that she says that to. (Unless I missed something in those chapters)

The constant use of the word "dude" from both the tough-ass Mace and Leeta's giggling drove me batty. This was mainly because I was already disliking the story and got nitpicky.

But the major quibbles that ultimately killed it for me? Mace's "betrayal" and Leeta's method of dealing with it. Did I understand his motivation and reasoning behind doing what he did? Sure. Could I get past it and forgive him after learning about it? Sadly, no. Perhaps if the author gave us a little bit more development on that side of the story? I found that the grittier parts of it were mainly glossed over and rushed through, while the author could have done a lot with it.

Leeta's reaction to finding all this out left me scratching my head. I won't give much away, but suffice it to say it just didn't add up for me. She went from shock, to almost hating him, to having sex with him, all in a matter of just a short span of time.

The scene where Leeta helps Mace: I felt the author could have used that scene to completely turn the book around as opposed to just having it fade to black.

The book felt rushed, I didn't connect to the characters, and I didn't connect to the story.

I've enjoyed Missy Johnson's books in the past, and would gladly read her future books. This was just a case of 'not for me'. While it didn't work for me, it just may work for you. I would encourage fans of the author to give this one a shot, maybe you'd end up liking it a lot more than I did.

***Thank you to the author for extending me an ARC in exchange for an honest review. Sorry this one didn't*

*work out for me :(***

For more reviews visit

Fre06 Begum says

Nothing condone's cheating in my opinion!

Jess-i-ca ~Sometimes a Gif Witch~ says

Geri Reads says

ARC provided by Missy Johnson in exchange for an honest review.

~ Becs ~ says

Gah!! I really wanted to like this one! This is my first book my Missy Johnson and I was very much looking forward to read it but it just fell flat for me. The story idea is actually pretty good and it's a fairly different idea for a romantic suspense but I never once really connected with the characters.

I really loved the idea of this story – it's typical bad guy falling for a good girl. Mace comes from a long line of criminals, most of which are in prison – he's gorgeous, inked and has the whole bad boy vibe going on but, underneath that tough exterior, beats a heart of gold and he's actually quite a sensitive soul. He's fallen in love with Leeta, an ambitious prosecutor from a very middle-class background and it's the archetypal bad boy and good girl combo.

Leeta discovers something horrific on Mace's computer and he has to work hard to convince her that he's not the abhorrent person she now think he is and they're both thrown into a web of intrigue and the plot escalates fairly dramatically from this point onwards.

Like I said, the plot idea is great but my problem in reading this is that I felt completely detached from the characters the whole way through the book. I found it impossible to identify with either Leeta or Mace and never really understood their actions or reactions and I just slugged it through to the end because I wanted to know how it would all resolve itself. There's a whole lot of sex in this and, while the sex scenes were good, again I found it impossible to find any emotions in them.

I feel bad about this, I really wanted to like this and the cover is uber-hot but, sadly, it just didn't work for me at all.

2.5 stars

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

1.5 STARS

Here's a breakdown of what went through my head when I read the book:

- 8%: Whew HOT, going great! Also it's a nice forbidden romance *yay*
- 19%: Hmm okay hot sex is great...anything else?
- 25%: Is there a point to this book?
- 33%: What is going on? Get to the point please.
- 40%: YES FINALLY!! A plot twist. A weird one but now you've got my attention.
- 45%:
- 59%: **WTF?!**
- 75%: That veered a little too close to dark romance. Still didn't like it.
- 89%: *headdesk* What did you expect would happen?!
- 100%:

So this wasn't for me. I spent almost 40% of the book wondering what the purpose of it was (since it was just sex, sex, sex...) and not really knowing what to think about anything. Then Mace's secret was revealed and though it *finally* made the book more interesting, it also left me scratching my head because his reasoning behind the secrecy was eccentric.

Up until this point, the book made a solid 3 stars: good enough writing that made me want to continue, but huge chunks of the book that left me underwhelmed and a little annoyed. But quotes like these:

"He came from a bad family, and he had made some bad decisions in his life, but he was a good guy.

He was my good guy."

^^Gave me hope that the story would get better.

However the last 55% of the book made me want to throw my iPad across the room. From the moment Mace's secret was revealed, the story went downhill for me. The plot pacing was severely lacking and the

best way to describe it would be a **panicking mess**. Here are most of the problems I had:

1. Once Leeta found out, Mace goes into major panic mode.

“There was only one way to resolve this. I had to stop her talking. I had to make her calm down and listen to me, however long that took.”

^^Found that to be odd since Leeta *knew* for a couple of days but didn’t sound the alarm and what made me go **WTF** was (view spoiler) That is TOTALLY what you do to the woman you love. *insert sarcasm*

2. Once he kidnaps her, his plan is to explain his reasoning behind his actions and get her to understand that even though he betrayed her, he did it for a bigger cause. I could understand that if only he didn’t (view spoiler) and **take three chapters to explain**. <--- by that I mean he was going to explain and then got mad and left and kept doing that for three chapters.

3. And right after he explains, he expects Leeta to forgive him in a snap. HELLOOOOOO? It takes some time to process after you unload all that baggage on your girlfriend who has trusted and loved you forever!!

“Just go. Fucking leave, Leeta. Call the cops, whatever. I don’t give a shit. If you aren’t able to forgive me...then I don’t want you here.”

4. Even though I thought Mace could’ve handled his secret a little better, it’s still important and definitely doesn’t give anyone, let alone Leeta, the right to blabber about it to everyone she’s in contact with!! Damn, and the girl is a lawyer too! You’d think she would value the importance of confidentiality!

She tells Tim, her BFF.

She tells Ben, her ex-boyfriend. <--- seriously, WTF?

5. The scene that *almost* turned into a dark romance for me could’ve been epic! (view spoiler) Instead, all that was described barely scraped the surface and it faded to black. I think in terms of the book plot and development that scene was pretty crucial but the execution of it left me feeling extremely underwhelmed and dissatisfied.

6. And of course, in the midst of all this chaos happening and with Leeta pissed with Mace and Mace’s (view spoiler), they *still* have the time to have sex everywhere. Hey it’s hot, but seriously, the timing couldn’t have been more off.

“I should have kept my cock in my fucking pants.”

Understatement of the century!!!!!!

I took away three things after I finished reading:

- the premise was really good and I *got* what the author was trying to do with her plot but the execution of events was really hasty, thus none of the scenes stood out to me as memorable or high-quality
- as much as I was annoyed and pissed with most of the book, I never had the urge to DNF it, which means that the writing must be stellar to a certain level
- as this is my first book by Missy Johnson, I am willing to try out her other work to gauge if this author and her writing is for me or not

AMAZON

ARC kindly provided by author in exchange for an honest review. Please note that all quotes are from an advanced copy and may be subject to change in the final edition.

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Maree - The Novel Lifestyle says

Well, well, well. Didn't this book surprise the hell out of me! I went into this only knowing the general idea. I'd read the teasers, seen the blurb, and I was so excited. When Missy contacted me asking if I'd like a complimentary copy of Provoke, I jumped at it. I was looking for a more twisted book to read. And twisted it was! But in a lighter kind of way. It was perfect for me.

I had never really experimented with the 'darker' books. I am, and always will be a sucker for the romance novels, but I wanted to give this one a go. I really loved Missy Johnson's Always You, so I was excited to see where this book would go.

Provoke started off differently to what I'd read before. Mace and Leeta were a couple from the very first page. They didn't meet after a few chapters; it was them from the very beginning. That was the first thing that caught me by surprise.

Leeta and Mace are such a mismatched couple. Leeta works in law; she's a good girl prosecutor who is in love with the son of a notorious gangland killer. But their relationship is hot, Mace treats her like a princess and I absolutely fell in love with them both. Their chemistry is so far off the charts I was hot and bothered before the story even got anywhere!

Then, Leeta discovers a huge secret. Now, obviously I won't be telling you what that is, but what I can say is that it left me feeling incredibly torn. When Leeta finds out, her heart is shattered, and so was mine, and it was NOTHING what I expected. This book took a turn I did not see coming at all.

This was so much bigger than her and me, and I wasn't going to apologise for that. The thought of hurting her in any way tore me up inside, but I wasn't going to back down on this.

Missy writes this story from both Mace and Leeta's POVs and after the secret was revealed, you really needed it to completely understand Mace's intentions.

As the story progressed, it was obvious how messy this situation was. My heart broke for Mace, he really isn't the bad guy his family's name made him out to be, but his actions are no way forgivable, but the reason behind it all, was what made me stick by him, hoping that he could somehow fix it.

This book isn't very long, but that didn't take away from the fact that it was packed full of action. It was fast paced, it never lagged and I read it pretty much from start to finish. It was a very unique story line, for me anyway. I had never read anything like it before so I definitely loved that. I had no idea where it would go, even though at times I thought I had it all figured out.

At this stage, this is a standalone, but I am kind of hoping we get a book for Mace's brother Cash, who has just been released from prison. I'd love to see someone attempt to tame him! (hehe).

Provoke was a solid 4.5+ Stars for me. I loved it and I would definitely recommend it. Aside from the drama, there is still plenty of hot steamy romance for those of you who need that in a book.

For more reviews and updates:

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Carol (StarAngel's Reviews) Allen says

Book – Provoke

Author – Missy Johnson

Publication Date – March 16, 2014

Type – Stand Alone

Genre – Romance/New Adult

Rating – 3 1/2 out of 5 Stars

Complimentary copy kindly provided by author (Blog Tour) in exchange for an honest review.

Review

Ahhh....here is another book that my girls and I agreed to disagree on and again, I ended up being the only one who read and finished it.

I didn't love it...I didn't hate it – this is a book I liked – I could stomach and I could finish...now that doesn't mean that I didn't have trouble with some of the parts. Especially the thought that Leeta could forgive Mace so easily – even having sex with him before everything was settled. Oh....and the whole point of Mace having to kidnap Leeta – he could have subdued her without having to resort to kidnapping.

That's about the only problem I had with the story itself – other than that the story held my attention – it bordered on dark but didn't quite make it – at least not in my opinion. This had to do with the fact that the dark parts were about other non-consequential characters in the book.

We really didn't get to know the main characters well – they seemed to have already been developed before the book even got started. This took away from the story a bit but possibly the author could have thoughts on doing a “pre-quel” in order to set the story up. Who knows? I just kept thinking to myself while reading that there was a book before this one that set up the relationship between Leeta and Mace and this is where we learn who these characters are and what they really mean to each other.

Wrap-Up

Easy and fast read – some dark elements but it didn't take away from the story. More of a romantic suspense with lots of sex!

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KAT ? Kitty Kats Crazy About Books ? says

4 Rough talking Tough guy Mace Stars

Betrayal

Complimentary copy provided by the author "Missy Johnson" in exchange for an honest review.

Rape, sold to the highest bidder on line

Mace Jordan was not the type of guy I expected to sweep me off my feet..

I was watching a snuff film and the guy was Mace!!

Kneeling down in front of her, I pressed a rag over her mouth and nose.

Kidnapping

Think about Anna I was doing this for Anna

I lifted my head, Mace was slowly coming into focus in the drivers seat. Why was I in the back seat, and why did I feel like I's sculled a whole bottle of vodka?Next to me on the seat lay a rag, then I saw the bottle lying next to it.

"Did you just chloroform me?"

"I was torn between my head and my heart, and I wasn't sure I could let either of them win, sleeping with her when she was vulnerable was a low act, I should've kept my cock in my fucking pants."

Shit another email, another job

And that's when shit just got real

I really enjoyed this, I've not read anything from this author before so when I saw this hot cover and a free arc pop up on my newsfeed I had to go shamelessly stalking and am I glad I did!! My kind of read, kept me entertained right from page one till the end!!

†† ?aisy ♥ †† says

Provoke def provoked me! LOL As basically this book wasn't heading anywhere for me. It was beating around the bush with steamy sex.

And BAM we have the twist, and go around beating around the bush again.

IT WAS ALL ABOUT SEX!

Nothing excited me sadly!

It wasn't mine, but it might yours.

Happy Reading

D xoxo

ARC provided for honest review

Missy Johnson says

It's LIVE!! Amazon buy link: <http://amzn.com/B00J1HNFMS>

Kelly Mccurdy says

~~I received a free ARC in exhchange for an honest review~~

This is the first book that I have read by Missy Johnson, I am not sure if it will be the last. The storyline was not clear. It took until almost the end of the book to figure out what the story line was all about. Once that was figured out, the story moved right along, but like I said, this was at the end of the book when we figured out what was going on. Other than that, it was how hot Mace is and how wonderful Leeta is in bed.

There were also entire paragraphs that were repeated one right after another. I understand that she is from Austrailia, and that words mean different things between two different countries, and maybe that is it, but

there were sentences that didn't make sense because of the wording. I had to go back and re-read paragraphs to use context clue to figure out what the word meant, or if I could put my own word in there.

If you have read any of my reveiws before, I do not sugar coat anything, I give it to you straight, and I don't hold back. That being said, I feel that this book is lacking any real story line, and the grammer and lack of editing really hurt the number of stars that I give it.

Michelle says

****ARC provided by author in exchange of honest review****

*****3 Mace Stars*****

I will first state that I am a fan of Missy Johnson so when I heard that she had a new book called Provoke, I was so eager to get my hands on it. Provoke was different and not what I had expected. This book started off great but as the story progress, I found myself wanting more. More development of the characters, more groundwork for the secrets, and more details.

I loved the concept of a son of a notorious criminal falls in love with a good girl prosecutor. In the beginning, Mace and Leeta had instant chemistry. They basically could not keep their hands off each other. Ms. Johnson has the sex scenes down but as I read further along, I wanted more. Yes, Mace looked like a bad boy but he was a sweetheart. As for Leeta, she was a heroine I could not relate to at all. As for Mace's secrets and what he did behind Leeta's back, yes he had good intentions but the way he seeked it out was something I could not forgive if I was a girlfriend. His betrayal was something that I couldn't overlook and what shocks me is that Leeta was able to forgive and overlook what he did easily. Yes, Leeta took time to process this new revelations but I thought it was not enough for me. In my opinion, the pace of the story was too fast and it didn't lay proper groundwork for Mace and Leeta's storyline. Overall, I had lots of expectations for Provoke but I think the fast pace directions and executions of the storyline was something that discouraged me. I saw so many potentials where the book could have taken an interesting route with Leeta getting involved with Mace's plan but Leeta's involvement in that scene was too short. As for the epilogue, I'm very intrigued with Cash's story. Provoke may have not been the book for me but I will still continue to read and support future Missy Johnson's book.

**** Reviews on Behalf of Give Me Books ****
