



Without Apology

Aubrey Bondurant

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He's neat, always on time, and a professed workaholic. I'm chaotic, always running late, and looking for more from life than just my job. Yet our mutual attraction is undeniable.

The last thing I expected after our first date was to have Simon show up at my office. The warm and funny guy I'd met was now gone, replaced by the cold and calculating man in an impeccable suit. While my professional future is in his hands, I can't stop thinking about how his hands felt on my body.

Whatever had started between us can't possibly happen now, but that's easier said than done. Because the more I try not to think of his sexy smirk or delicious accent, the harder it is to stay away. And if our forbidden office kiss is any indication, his resolve is slipping too.

I've sworn I'd never fall for a man who puts his job first.
Too bad my heart isn't listening.

***** Without Apology is a standalone romance for mature audiences due to steamy bedroom scenes that are in no way contained to just the bedroom.*****

Without Apology Details

Date : Published April 29th 2018 by Aubrey Bondurant

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Author : Aubrey Bondurant

Format : Kindle Edition 340 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Without Apology for online ebook

Red Cheeks Reads says

5 SMOOCHES!

I've read and loved every book that Aubrey Bondurant has written, and the more I read her work, the more in love with her brand of storytelling I fall. She describes her writing style as adult contemporary erotic romantic comedy—smutty chick-lit—but whatever she calls it, make no mistake, she is talented. Her writing is engaging, smart and witty, and she writes romances that draw the reader in with a sexy love story, endearing characters and charming details. Aubrey Bondurant's name should be on every contemporary romance fan's TBR list.

Without Apology kicks off Bondurant's new series, *Without*, and I can unequivocally say that I am hooked. This workplace romance features sharp-dressed British hero, Simon. Perfectly put together in his suits and ties, Simon is a man who likes control. He's neat, organized and focused—at least until the beautiful hot mess, Peyton, crosses his path. Unfortunately, their paths are intertwined in more than one way, complicating what promised to be the start of something with a lot of potential. White hot chemistry and a pull neither had ever experienced has them to crossing lines despite them to cross lines despite the ticking clock on their relationship.

Without Apology was exactly what I look for in a contemporary romance—it was full of humor, genuine heart-tugging emotion, and it was squirming-in-my-seat sexy. This well written, richly developed story grabbed my attention from the first page, and I was rooting for Simon and Peyton to pull it together from the moment they met in that grocery store. An absolutely addicting story, I devoured this book with a smile on my face and a hopeful heart. I'm already anxiously awaiting the next book in the series. Five smooches from me for *Without Apology* by Aubrey Bondurant!

~ Danielle Palumbo

Bex (Beckie Bookworm) says

???????STARS

ARC BOOK REVIEW

Release Date-29/4/18

I have never read anything by this author before and got to say I really enjoyed "Without Apology". This was a such a feel-good novel, like an old trusted friend or a comfy pair of slippers.

And if you're confused about the above analogy I mean this as a total major compliment.

From the moment I picked this up, I was entertained.

It was Filled throughout with such humour and passion.

Its actually been a while since I could just kick back and read something without overthinking things and that was the main draw here for me.

The ease here with which I was able to get lost in the narrative.

And as an added bonus Simon and Peyton were just two extremely likeable and human characters.

I had no issue at all warming and relating to there various quirks, which in my opinion only added to there overall appeal.

"Without Apology" for me also had a great supporting cast, my favourite just happening to be Payton's dog who was adorable.

I loved the special relationship Peyton shared with her pet, that then was extended towards Simon as an added plus-point to his time spent with the lovely Peyton.

The back and forth dialogue between man and dog was so adorable and appealing in nature.

Gotta love a pet man.

There wasn't really a whole lot of this novel I disliked.

It ticked a lot of my boxes and more.

it wasn't angsty, wasn't filled with OW/OM drama and was told in alternating POV which is my favourite.

Then you have Peyton who is completely comfortable in her own skin and the SEXY-BREXY SIMON, whats not to love about all this ay.

If you're looking for a light sexy read to make you smile give this one a go it was an absolute charmer.

Thank You to the Author for providing me with an ARC of "Without Apology (Without #1) " of which I have reviewed voluntary.

All opinions expressed are entirely my own.

Reviewed By Beckie Bookworm

<https://www.facebook.com/beckiebookworm/>

www.beckiebookworm.com

Leo (Queen of the Rants and the Crazy) says

RTC later or tomorrow.

Terri Lynn says

Date Released- Apr 29, 2018

37 Chapters, Plus Epilogue

Peyton & Simon's Perspective

"Get on your knees, gorgeous." < Hot alpha male -- ✓?

image:

Lovable characters ✓?

Huh. Brexy was a snuggler.

image:

Good plot-✓?
Enjoyable Read- ✓?
No book stuffing - ✓?
Good writing- ✓?
First time author for me, and will definitely be reading more- ✓?

Hot, sexy , alpha male, with a British accent. ✓?

image:

Strong, hard working heroine. ✓?
mage:

Recommend? ?
image:

Sissy's Romance Book Review says

Without Apology by Aubrey Bondurant is the First book in the Without Series. This is the story of Simon and Peyton.

I fell in love with Simon and Peyton from the first few pages. Yes, they are opposites but they fit so good together. Peyton works hard but she doesn't put work first. She is always helping her sister and others and does have the goal to be married with her own family one day. Simon is British and along with that is somewhat stiff and has always put work before anything else. Starting this new position he needs to be focused but that is hard with someone like Peyton around...she everything and more.

Loved reading their story and seeing them come together.

I hope to read more by this author soon!

Stacey is Sassy says

IT'S ALIVE!!!

Forgetting to find happiness...

I kind of think that *Aubrey Bondurant* wrote this story for me. First of all, Simon looks like DAVID GANDY!! Thanks for that image, Aubrey, it made it very easy to picture Simon, fall in love with Simon, want to be with Simon. But, alas, I'm not in the market for a Simon, so it's up to me to approve and Aubrey to create, someone worthy of Simon. Well, Peyton isn't me, but she'll do.

Without Apology was bloody good. I felt comfortable in this story from start to finish. The characters were refreshingly normal, well, kind of normal in a workaholic kind of way. Both Simon and Peyton are hard working, high achievers who gain a lot of satisfaction from the work they do.

Brexy (British, Sexy) Simon is HOT on the outside, smoking in the bedroom but when it comes to work, he's the Iceman. Work and his personal life are very separate, and until Peyton, he never planned to change his ways. Peyton, while an extremely hard worker, is dedicated to her sister, brother-in-law, nieces and her dog. She tries to give them all the time they deserve but sometimes there's just not enough hours in the day. I don't think Peyton had any plans to change things until Simon came along. Sure, Peyton planned to get married and have her own family one day, work wouldn't be everything. I guess she was just lucky Simon wanted champagne that day or she may have still been plodding along waiting for one day to happen.

What I loved about *Without Apology* was that Simon and Peyton proved me right. Love is way more important than work. Sure, work should give you satisfaction but if heading to the gym is your idea of the perfect "down time", then something is definitely missing in your life. IN MY OPINION!! I know there are some crazy people out there who LOVE being fit and healthy but I would hope that they had more than work and exercise in their life. Well, Simon proved that work wasn't everything after he met Peyton. Then, Peyton proved that pigeonholing someone because of their career focus doesn't mean they're not worth taking a risk on.

Without Apology was funny, sweet and very sexy. Their first meeting and after their first date, neither had any idea that their lives were about to be changed. I loved seeing the relationship bloom between Simon and Peyton. Work and their relationship had to be kept completely on different planes. Both thought they would be in for a short time but a good time. No emotions, just good company and great chemistry. Unfortunately, Simon and Peyton never planned on good company becoming *the bestest in the whole world* company, and great chemistry turning into *you're out of my sight and I miss you* chemistry.

Doesn't that sound AWESOME!!

Without Apology is exactly what I want my romance reads to be all about. A storyline that captured my attention, characters that grew and accepted change, sexy times that made me blush and squirm, and a relationship that wasn't just in the bedroom/boardroom/bar. Love is never easy...well, company and chemistry can be easy, but compromising, communicating and sacrificing only really happens when the love is real and worth fighting for. I appreciated that *Aubrey Bondurant* showed that love is easier when you choose the person that becomes more important than work.

If you have never read *Aubrey Bondurant*, I think that *Without Apology* is the perfect place to start. I loved Simon and Peyton and I can't wait for more in this series. I'm excited to see if Emma, Simon's beautiful "like a sister", assistant, finds her perfect tattooed, pierced biker.

Stacey is Sassy, received a complimentary copy of this story. The copy provided is not the final copy and may be subject to edits and changes.

Alex ? says

4.5 stars

Great book. Decent main characters, no unnecessary drama, **good work ethic**.

I'm not a fan of colleagues-to-lovers trope, but mostly because it's almost never done right; this book was an

exception – despite sexual chemistry and lust they still were thinking with their heads (and not genitals *lol*) and behaved like adults (and not horny teenagers).

Very likable and strong heroine. Loved her.

Good hero, not a caricature alpha-hole, but a man, who respected his woman.

All I could think about was that I could spend the rest of my life taking care of this woman. Not that she'd let me entirely, but perhaps that was the key. I wanted to take care of her, but I certainly didn't need to.

Some may say it wasn't very steamy/smuttery, maybe... but I enjoyed this story a lot!

Safe! He wasn't a manwhore and she wasn't a virgin. No OP. Sex with protection.

...but it's an archaic, misogynistic view that women can't hold positions once dominated by men. In fact, I'd argue their view makes the assumption that no man in the same job should put his family first. That because he's a man, he wouldn't want to have an active involvement and be an equal partner in the parenting of the children."

Angela says

PLEASE NOTE: MY "VERIFIED PURCHASE" REVIEW CAN BE FOUND ON AMAZON AUSTRALIA.

5 Stars

Without Apology is the first book in the Without series by Aubrey Bondurant. This is the first book in a new series, and because I have loved Ms. Bondurant's "Something" series, I was excited to get my hands on this book and see what she had in store for us. This turned out to be a wonderful contemporary/forbidden/office romance, with some really funny banter, quips and antics- as well as some emotion, drama, witty dialogue, and endearing characters.

Peyton Waters and Simon Granger meet in the checkout line at the supermarket. Peyton saves him from an awkward situation, and they have an instant attraction and chemistry. They agree on a date and end up having a fantastic time. He's in town for business, so they make plans to meet up the following weekend. Only, come Monday morning they discover that she works for the company that his firm is looking at acquiring. He's there to make the takeover happen and hasn't earned the nickname 'Iceman' for nothing. Peyton and Simon will need to work closely as the weeks progress and there can be no chance of a relationship with them working together- will they be able to keep things purely professional, or will their

chemistry cause them to give in to their attraction?

I really love this start to the new series. Peyton and Simon are fantastic character, and I was very quickly invested in them and their story. Theirs is a relationship fraught with complication, with an expiration date from the get go, as Simon is only in town till the deal goes through. With both characters having their own 'demons' to battle, as well as a little added drama- this story was a great way to launch the new series. I was flipping the pages as quickly as I could to discover what would happen.

The characters are really well developed- including the secondary characters- I loved Emma, Megan, Jen, Kevin and of course Cooper. The story is sexy, steaming HOT! I can't wait to read book two, Emma's story- "Without Regret".

Thank you, Ms. Bondurant!

Alyssa says

3 stars

I really liked this couple: Peyton and Simon. They had fun banter and good chemistry. Peyton was NOT a pushover and a boss lady in her own right, which really made me appreciate this story more. Simon is your typical workaholic with no interest in relationships until his meet cute with Peyton.

Ok, so good couple, but that's really all I have to say. The story was fairly predictable and nothing new. Also, when I got to experience their separate POVs on their own, I was just bored most of the time. I only really enjoyed myself when experiencing them on the page together.

Also, in no way does this bring it down in ratings, but I had a *much* different expectation going into this. IDK, based on the cover and steamy blurb, I thought this was going to be edgier and sexier. It's definitely sugar and spice and everything nice. Again, not a complaint, I just had my mind set on a different tone.

Overall it was safe and totally good for easy, light-hearted reading. I did like the couple. But it had one of those storylines where it just won't stick with me after a day or two.

Elizabeth Brown says

Oh, Brexy...I mean, Simon,... you are so fricking cute. And ladies, he looks like a young David Gandy... I mean, *come on*.

If you are a fan of office romance with **hot** sexy times, you've got to pick this up!

Favorite quote:

"Then why do I miss you? Why do I sit in my office quiet as a church mouse in order to hear your voice through the walls? Why do I think about you all of the time?"

Can't wait for book two. I loved Emma almost even more than Peyton!

Jennifer says

1.75 stars. Let's start with the good. I liked that the H didn't seem like a manho and that the MCs seemed pretty balanced with their past others. I liked that the h was a competent professional and didn't turn into a big pile of goo around the H. She didn't stutter or find herself at a loss for words. I also appreciated the lack of OP drama. The MCs never even thought about other people, let alone look at others, so that makes this story safe in my book.

However, the list of what didn't work for me is, unfortunately, a lot longer. I probably should have just stopped reading after I found out that this was told in the first person. It helped that we got the H's pov, too, but this is really a personal preference kind of a thing. I just find the first person narrative really boring. Lots of telling, not enough showing, and all that. Adding to the boring factor is the main conflict of this story. Trying to balance your work life and family life is something that many struggle to accomplish. Unfortunately, the realness of the main conflict of this story also made the story even more boring. It wasn't OTT drama-filled, but it was *so mundane*. The instalove was also unconvincing. The MCs fell in lust immediately and in love after just a few short weeks. There was so much sex in this book that it really detracted from any feelings that the MCs were developing for one another. Skipping the sex scenes also made this a fast read, so maybe that detail should go in the paragraph above, but probably not. The fact that both the MCs had to have some sort of terrible tragedy in their lives was also a little bit too much.

Overall, this story didn't make me mad, but it was also pretty boring. I think that the main problem that the MCs had might have made an interesting story, but the execution fell short.

Book-Bosomed blog says

4.75 Stars

Peyton Waters, 29, heads an accounting department for a Texas based company. When she meets a sexy British guy who she hits it off with, she has no idea how complicated things are about to get. Simon Granger, 30, is known as the Iceman due to his emotionless approach to his job of acquiring companies for his boss.

But upon meeting Peyton, he gets a crash course in feelings.

What I found most refreshing about this story is how Petyon and Simon are both 'quite single.' Even though that sounds like a no-brainer for a romance book, it's surprisingly hard to find. There's no past romantic relationship baggage, no jealous scheming exes, no OW/OM drama, and it made the romance so much more enjoyable. This is simply a story about two mature adults negotiating an ethically borderline work romance with a time stamp.

"It was amazing how much more quickly a twenty-five hour ride went when you spent most of it having sex....I was sure Simon had been inside me in every single state we'd driven through."

In between what I found to be the cute scenes that make up their initial meeting in the beginning and Peyton's "arrival" at the end are plenty of sultry encounters to keep the romance heated.

But mostly, I really liked Peyton and Simon. And Emma! It's always a plus to see strong, intelligent women portrayed in romance. And then Simon rolled off with this:

“...it's an archaic, misogynist view that women can't hold positions once dominated by men. In fact, I'd argue their view makes the assumption that no man in the same position should put his family first. That because he's a man, he wouldn't want to have an active involvement and be an equal partner in the parenting of the children.”

Yep, that's the kind of man who should take the lead in a romance every day!

Now I won't say there aren't some “antagonists” in this tale, although thankfully it stayed low-angst and didn't fall prey to predictable drama. In fact, I was just as invested in the business subplot as I was the romance, to the point I really wanted to see some heads roll.

Told via Peyton and Simon's alternating first person POV, this is an opposites-attract office romance. Emma's story is the next book in this standalone series.

Safety Recap: (view spoiler)

PS I think I found Simon and Peyton's theme song. ;-)

**I volunteered to review this ARC. All reviews written by Book-Bosomed Book Blog are honest opinions. In the interest of providing unbiased book reviews and to avoid misleading other readers, it is the blog's policy not to withhold or delay any reviews no matter the star rating. To the best of my knowledge, this title was presented to the blog without any conditions or stipulations.*

SueBee★bring me an alpha!★ says

LIVE! | AMZ US | AMZ UK |

Stand-alone.

LIVE! | AMZ US | AMZ UK |

Blurb:

He's neat, always on time, and a professed workaholic. I'm chaotic, always running late, and looking for more from life than just my job. Yet our mutual attraction is undeniable.

The last thing I expected after our first date was to have Simon show up at my office. The warm and funny guy I'd met was now gone, replaced by the cold and calculating man in an impeccable suit. While my professional future is in his hands, I can't stop thinking about how his hands felt on my body.

Whatever had started between us can't possibly happen now, but that's easier said than done. Because the more I try not to think of his sexy smirk or delicious accent, the harder it is to stay away. And if our forbidden office kiss is any indication, his resolve is slipping too.

I've sworn I'd never fall for a man who puts his job first.

Too bad my heart isn't listening.

Jacqueline says

Got to love an office romance with a brooding, ice man hero and a feisty intelligent heroine who stands her ground. I thoroughly enjoyed this one.

Complete story and available on ku. Recommended.

Katerina says

I read it! I liked it! I would have liked it more if Simon had a bit more va va voom, and a livelier personality. He's British, not dying. He's very on the straight and narrow, all the i's dotted and all the t's crossed kind of workaholic man.

Technically he's as close to an ideal man you could get from looks, responsibilities. A proper man who folds his washing and pays his millionaire bills. But I wanted some omph from him. I wanted more alpha from him because he was a very tamed guy. His job/travel were the main issues of conflict alongside his commitment to something longer term. Well I would have liked a scene where she went on a date Russ, and where he just spots her, searing with jealousy and the fear that if he doesn't move his ass he could lose her and tells her there and then that she's his. You're thirty mate, get a move on into building a life outside of work. Being more direct without so much contemplation, letting her know the deal that she can't end it because she's scared, just taking charge, a little more banter which is less dry, some spontaneity, some more jealousy. It was emerging but very reigned back is all.

I loved the business element of it though, and how she has such a high profile position in the company. Good call. The sex scenes could have been so much better. They were frequent and tepid. Could've added more anticipation there, and delayed it a little so when it did happen it could've been animalistic, and really connected with readers emotionally but it is what it is.
