



His Stubborn Lover

Leslie North

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When your job is protecting people, the first rule is...never mix business with pleasure. Keira Mantz has been given the job of a lifetime, and she refuses to fail. Trained as part of an elite security team, her first mission is to protect the Sheikh of Jawhara and his wife. What she thought would be a solo operation, though, is suddenly a two-person job. And her partner is none other than Brock Wells, the Viking-like team member who trained her. The last thing Keira wants is Brock stealing her thunder, but she'll do whatever it takes to succeed—even if it means pretending to be in love. When Brock found Keira in a bar fight and offered her a place on the team, he knew she was the right choice. With her mile-long legs, fierce determination, and unwavering focus, he has no doubt she can hold her own. But with the threat to the Sheikh closer than they realized, Brock has no choice but to intervene. To give them the cover they need, they'll have to act like they're a couple. And although Brock told himself he'd never get close to another woman, the job always comes first. When their ruse becomes a little too real, can Keira and Brock risk letting their guard down, or will admitting their feelings put others' lives in danger?

His Stubborn Lover Details

Date : Published September 10th 2015

ISBN : 9781517171

Author : Leslie North

Format : Paperback 106 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Romantic Suspense

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From Reader Review His Stubborn Lover for online ebook

Angi says

This was a quick easy read which if it had been a little longer and gave more background of Kiera and Brock it could have been a 4 instead of 3 star read. Their relationship seems quick and a little rushed. At times the story seems focused on their job more than them.

Ashleyjo says

This book is a celery stick when you want steak and potatoes!

Listen, if you're going to write a "book" and have it only be 106 pages, then you better make every word count and stick to the meat and potatoes.

I'm at 50%, and all that's happened is a bunch of inner thought and convos to set up the stage for where they are, their jobs in and out, and that they think each other are hot. Like wtf?

Reasons I'm DNF a **100 page book** @50% lmao:

- boring
- no character personality
- NO storyline/plot ...
- no chemistry anywhere
- nothing romantic going on
- no action happening

^Nada!

Who this may work for? Readers that want extremely light, easy, slowly paced, short reading with no thinking or feeling required.

Tarsha says

****ARC provided through NetGalley for an honest review****

This was an easy quick read. It was very fast paced and easy to follow. I didn't love this story, but I liked it enough to recommend it. Keira and Brock were OK characters but since this was a really short book, I don't feel like I got to know them well. I felt they were in lust with each other, but I don't know if I believed the love part. Any who, not bad. 3 stars for me.

Lydia says

"You make me happy, Keira. I thought I could soldier my way through not wanting you. But I do - bad enough to put everything on the line for you. I figure I won't leave you behind, and you don't leave me behind, and maybe we can make that work. We're too good a team not to make this work." - Brock Wells

It's always hard to find a short-story that can be both quick AND satisfying. It's tough trying to fit crucial character background info and lots of twists to make the reader appreciate the small bite you're offering them. Unfortunately, this is what kept this book from being a read that one would like to enjoy again multiple times.

Brock Wells was Keira Mantz's mentor, and the one who got her to join the team of Slade Security. But when their boss decided it's time for Keira to be on her own for an upcoming op that may be too dangerous, Brock can't help but be worried. Pretending to be her lover will help him stay by her side and keep her safe. But what happens when he realizes that, first, Keira doesn't need his help at all, and second, he wants more than just pretending to be a couple?

This had so much potential, if only it was given some more space to let the story comfortably spread its wings. I get the high sexual tension, and went along with it just fine. The romance was weird, but it was a short-story, of course there wasn't enough time to do it slowly.

But that all was not what bothered me.

No, the problem lies with the plot. And here's what I meant when I said it's hard to develop a story when you want to make it short. Because, in order for Ms. North to make it to the finishing line with both the suspense and the romance satisfied, she had to give up on one of the two - and the unlucky one was the suspense.

It was way too obvious who was the culprit. More than that, there was no good reason - ok, no, it was good and reasonable, just not enough for a reader - for said culprit to act as they did. All this mess and the chasing around and the stress... All for nothing!

I'd like to say I'll be looking forward for the second book to correct me - I usually do, anyway. But I read the excerpt, and I want nothing to do with what's going on there. (view spoiler)

****I was given an ARC from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. The opinion stated in this review is solely mine, and no compensation was given or taken to alter it.****

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Lynette says

Easy read. Hot alpha male with a strong woman. Some plot holes which are easy to overlook if you focus on the love story.

Melissa says

Leslie North takes us from the Jawhara Sheik Series with a captivating spin off with Slade Security Team. In Book one, His Stubborn Lover, we get another look at Sheik Kamal Mehalel El-Jawhara and his fiancée Erin Malone. With the threats against Erin, and their unborn child an added risk, Sheik Kamal calls in reinforcements in the form of Slade Security Team members.

Brock Wells is the best operative at Slade Security Team outside of Slade himself. He never mixes business with personal which is one of the reasons he is so good. Known for having a heart of ice, women don't expect much from him. This was true until he met Keira Mantz and now he is having trouble concentrating on the job.

Keira Mantz knows if it wasn't for Brock she probably wouldn't be alive today. Nights full of erotic dreams of Brock are her only personal connection to him, because her days require her to keep her distance. When Slade gives her a chance to be in charge of her own op with the security for Erin Malone, she is surprised to see Brock waiting for her when she arrives. Hearing that the plans have changed and now she must act as his lover, Keira fights herself in discovering how much she wants the role to be true.

Brock and Keira fight their attraction because of duty and their personal baggage. When Slade offers Brock a chance to remain in Jawhara creating a new division of the company, Brock has to make a choice regarding Keira. Can he live without her? Keira will have her own choice to make regarding this new information. Will she choose Brock?

I received this book from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. I have always enjoyed a book by Leslie North and this one is no exception. In reading the teaser for book 2, His Secret, I am already waiting eagerly to read what happens to Slade and learn what Tayra's secret is.

Lillian ? Cloud 9 Books ? says

**** 3.5 Stars ****

His Stubborn Lover is a good quick read. The beginning part of the book was interesting, but I felt like it was missing something. The way the story introduced the characters made me feel like there was a prior book, and I felt a little left out.

The mystery built up nicely, but then the climax was a bit disappointing. I was hoping that someone was going to go out guns blazing. I plan on reading the next book, but if **His Secret Child** makes me feel like I did reading this book, I might just give up on this series.

Christine Hill says

This review was originally published on my blog: loveserially.wordpress.com

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Quick & Dirty summary: Keira Mantz is saved by an uncertain fate one night when Brock Wells comes across her in a bar parking lot. Impressed by Keira's toughness, Brock offers her a job as a part of an elite security team. Although Brock is attracted to Keira, he isn't going to act on it because he doesn't want to leave anyone behind when he jets off to another mission. When Keira is given her first mission as lead, she is surprised Brock is there. But the assignment has changed, as an unknown threat comes from inside the palace Keira is assigned to protect. As Keira and Brock get closer in order to keep their cover, they find it difficult to resist their growing attraction.

What I loved most about this novel is the writing. On a very basic level Liese Thompson is a good writer. Her passages are fluid and the third person narration is well-done. What I wasn't so hot on was the pacing of the novel. It seemed to spend a lot of time on the mission and not enough time in giving psychological insight into the couple. It seemed to go from zero to fifty in a one paragraph jump while spending a lot of time explaining how the palace is laid out. The details are great, I just needed more of them. And with Thompson being a strong writer, it would have been fine for the book to be longer. This is also kind of a positive, because if I want more, then it means that it's good enough to want more. Does that make sense?

Is it worth buying? (Kindle \$2.99)

I think \$2.99 for a 93 page novel is a little expensive for my tastes. Most novels under a 100 pages tend to be cheaper. That being said kindle prices seem to be going up (more than a trade paperback in some cases) so this might not be true for much longer.

Cheryl Graham-Petit says

Leslie North weaves a story of action, danger, romance, and sexual tension in this short and sexy book..

?Jamie? says

2.5 Stars! His Stubborn Lover is my first book by Leslie North. This romance was a quick, steamy read. If you are a fan of novellas without a lot of depth, something easy and light, this would be the book for you.

Summary:

Keira Mantz has just landed a dream job. Anything would be better than being associated with a sleazy guy who wants you to sell yourself and drugs. Having escaped that fate with a little help, she's been trained as a member of an elite security team. Now, it's time for her first case as mission leader, and she's taking the protection of the Jawharan Sheikh and Sheikha very seriously. There is no room for distraction, and everyone knows you never mix business and pleasure. But distraction and pleasure abound when Keira's supposed solo operation becomes a two-person job. Brock Wells is the best at what he does. He's intensely focused on his job and protecting those who require his service. Since finding Keira caught in a bar fight and helping her become a part of his team, he's had an abundance of protective instincts about her. That said, Brock has no choice but to intervene and provide the cover Keira needs in order to get the job done. But their cover hinges on them being close, very close. Neither Brock, nor Keira are very good at trusting others, and both of them are guarded when it comes to personal relationships. Normally, being close on the job wouldn't

be a problem, but their situation isn't normal. There is undeniable chemistry clouding everything. When their cover becomes all too real, can Brock and Keira open themselves up to each other and think about a future? Do they both want that? And are their feelings distracting them and putting the royal family in danger?

This was alright for a short read. I have nothing against novellas, but this one didn't allow for a good connection with the characters. Although a novella needs to pack in a lot in a short period of time, a lot of this book was too rushed, and transitions were sometimes confusing. Keira was a smart, loyal, self-sufficient heroine. I liked that she had the street smarts to take care of herself. We didn't get to see her past, though. She was fired up to leave it all behind, but why? Brock was strong, protective, and skilled. His priority was protection. I think I wanted him to be more alpha in certain situations. He did show some alpha traits, but not as much as I'd hoped. The chemistry between Brock and Keira was hot. Their scenes, although brief, were steamy. I actually liked the plot. It was a surprise at the end, and one I wasn't expecting. Overall, it was an okay read. I'm not overly invested in the characters, though. I think this series, and from what I see of the author's other works, would be good for a bit of mindless reading. It's not heavy or action packed. For that reason, I will keep Ms. North on my radar for just that reason. <3

An ARC was provided by Createspace Independent Publishing Platform via Netgalley for an honest review.

Lady Heather says

"A copy of this book has been provided by Netgalley via the publisher in exchange for an honest review".

This was a fast, easy read.

The writing, story line and characters were good.

I think I would have enjoyed the story more if the characters had been more developed.

I think the author is talented, and look forward to reading more of her work.

Jenny says

4**** for a quick easy read

I enjoyed it but it was slightly predictable, although still worth a read! at the end of the book it gives you an excerpt from book two which had my attention so I'll deffo be looking out for that one.

Arc provided for an honest review

Raine says

Not a bad story. It looks like this is after the The Jawhara Sheikhs series (which I only read the first book). I just don't think there was a buildup to the attraction before Kiera and Brock got together. And it didn't feel like there was that insta-attraction at the beginning so these two getting together didn't seem authentic.

Amanda says

Decent diversion, but not something I'd read a second time.

Isha Coleman says

The Slade Security Team series finds Leslie North taking her steamy romances in a different direction. Still the same hot stories with elements of intrigue mixed in. His Stubborn Lover is the lead off. Loved Keira her in your face personality made for an interesting female lead. About time the heroine can take care of herself as well as the hero. Don't usually see that as much. It frustrates me when the woman is always the victim. Brock was the perfect counter balance to Keira. She acted, he planned. Was not as fond of him though. An impressive effort.

My rating: 3.5 stars
