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Sharon Kendrick

The Housekeeper's Awakening



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At her boss's beck and call...

Recovering from a terrible car accident, world renowned playboy Luis Martinez is bored, grumpy and frustrated. He's sick of nurses fussing over him, so he fires the lot and demands his sweet, innocent housekeeper massage him back to health!

Carly Conner has spent her life trying not to be noticed. But now with her boss looking at her differently, every day the tantalizing tension between them grows. When Luis whisks her away to his villa in the south of France, how long will she be able to deny the temptation he poses...especially when he makes a second shocking proposition?

The Housekeeper's Awakening Details

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From Reader Review The Housekeeper's Awakening for online ebook

Melanie♥ says

3 stars. Rather a bland read, with the heroine very self conscious of her body image. Glad she refused to marry him until she was almost finished with med school.

Caro says

Es una novela de Sharon bastante atípica. Tiene puntos buenos y otros que resultan bastante flojos, y aunque sea una autora que me guste por motivos personales, reconozco que tiene cosas en las que falla rotundamente.

Por primera vez, la protagonista no cae redonda ante el héroe, que en este caso es argentino (:D). Tiene sus reservas y no es la típica heroína hermosa y pedante que sube a las tarimas a bailar desenfrenada o sólo por ser bella merece una buena vida. La prota tiene sus pies sobre la tierra y mientras trabaja como ama de llaves está ahorrando para estudiar medicina, aparte de atraerle mucho la ciencia. En el camino, esa tenacidad se pierde en pos del héroe, pero el trayecto está entretenido, ya que ella es muy consciente de sus deficiencias como mujer y su poca experiencia. A mí me gustan las heroínas reales, como esta que trabaja todo el día y no tiene dinero ni para comprarse un conjunto decente de ropa interior.

Lo malo y que terminó por hacerme menear la cabeza en un "no" absoluto, fue la poca independencia que demostró al final. Aceptó que le compraran ropa como a una amante más y que le buscaran un lugar donde pudiera vivir, tirando a la basura su actitud inicial. Y eso que no soy para nada una acérrima feminista, sólo me hubiera gustado que se resistiera más y tratara de salir adelante por sus propios medios.

El protagonista, muy al estilo Sharon. En verdad se comporta como un hombre lo haría.

Ella es virgen salvo por un acontecimiento un tanto turbio de su adolescencia, pero al que SK no le da mucha importancia.

Se lee rápido y es entretenida ^_^

Dino-Jess ★ The Book Eating Dinosaur ★ says

SOMEONE PASS ME SOME BREAD ON A STICK, IT'S CHEESE FONDUE TIME!

This is everything I have been searching for in my Mills & Boon adventures, and more!

Cheese! Fluff! Drama! Character growth! ACTUAL ROMANCE BETWEEN THE MAIN CHARACTERS!

This was wonderful. Luis is a grumpy, arrogant playboy race car driver. He is recovering from an accident and has to keep firing his physiotherapists because he's just so bloody attractive that they keep falling in love with him. So what is he to do? He tells his mousy housekeeper, Carly, to massage him and help him with his physical therapy instead. Because there's nothing quite like having someone completely unqualified helping you learn to walk again!

But Carly has a secret! She doesn't want to be a housekeeper forever. She has hopes! And dreams! Guess

what she wants to be? A doctor! And she also has a badawful past that has caused her to shy away from men. So massaging Luis is a huge thing for her. Oh and Luis thinks Carly is a plain old Jane so there's no way that he will fall for her while she is helping him heal. (view spoiler)

Both Luis and Carly had an excellent sense of self reflection that really helped me enjoy watching their love story unfold. It was a slow burn and while I could have done with a bit less of Carly fat shaming herself, I really enjoyed the way Luis knew what sort of a man he was and had little moments of internal examination like this:

"She looked like snow before it got trampled on. Before it became all grey and slushy. And he was the kind of man who did the trampling, wasn't he? He stamped on women's hearts and hardly even noticed he was doing it."

I really liked how arrogant Luis was. It was actually hilarious. For example:

"He realised that he'd never met anyone who had actively fought her attraction to him before. It was incredibly.... **arousing.**"

I mean, what an asshole, right? And yet I really enjoyed him. Maybe it was the way he broke down and became the best and most supportive man you could ever wish for at the end of this? The ending was straight out of a romantic comedy and I ate it right up. LOVES!

This actually gave me butterflies in the second half. It was very entertaining and I enjoyed it immensely. As an added bonus there was no armpit making out in this one, so I'm giving it an extra star for that reason alone.

Such cheese. Very fluff. So romance. YAS.

4 marry-me-and-have-my-babies Stars

suman says

2.5 stars there was no romance or tenderness

audrey says

Luis Martinez is recuperating in his mansion after crashing in a charity race. Tired of the endless fussing, he fires his nursing staff and recruits his housekeeper, Carly Connor, to aid in his physical therapy. Luis is

surprised to find himself becoming attracted to her stubborn personality and plain, unfashionable appearance. He offers to become her lover and show her every sensual pleasure but only if she promises not to fall in love with him.

The Housekeeper's Awakening is a romance story from Harlequin Presents. In the beginning, Carly tolerates Luis' playboy antics because her only goal is to save up money for medical school and provide a better future for herself. She's used to fading into the background but when she becomes Luis' lover she realizes that she also has to look and act the part. It forces her to deal with old insecurities and the more time she spends with Luis the more she realizes she can't stop herself from falling in love with him.

It's not the most remarkable story but I thought it was a decent read. I liked both of the main characters and found them more endearing after learning their full backstories. Their pasts were dramatic and dark. It was interesting seeing how it shaped the person they became and how it still affected their beliefs. Character development was given more focus throughout the story which invested me as a reader but also seemed to give the story a slower pace.

The romance also had an peculiar understated feel to it. I almost expected them not to get together in the end and I would have oddly been okay with that because it fit with their characterization. The ending felt a bit forced but the epilogue more than made up for it.

[Disclaimer: I won a copy of this book through a Twitter giveaway.]

lily waheed says

great story and great characters.

Francesca says

Not one of her best but if you looking for something easy and light hearted to read then its for you. Good for a lazy afternoon.

Giovanni says

A promising romance. The plot is almost the same with another HP long time ago, well, don't they all? Anyway, the hero's feeling was unbelievable. I couldn't feel his happiness, sorrow, love, basically it's flat. So, when suddenly he said "I love you"? I rolled my eyes big time.

I loved the heroine, tho.

Danielle says

One review down five more to go: attempting to get them all done tonight. We will see how far I get. With

that being said I'm going to try to keep these reviews fairly short and just give my thoughts on the books. But if you've read my reviews in the past you know how well that goes. Anyway let's get started:

4-4.5 stars. Close to five stars.

Initial thoughts:

Overall it was really good and I really did enjoy the book. I liked the set up and I liked both characters as well. I spent through it pretty quickly and found myself very much engrossed in the story of Luis and Carly. There was lots of good tension and angst in the story. The anticipation was there. The passion was there. The love story was there. And I felt for both characters and was definitely rooting for them and their love story. Plus it felt very believable that they fell in love because of how Sharon Kendrick built up the romance and paced it very well to make it believable. Not just have this uncontrollable lust, though there was plenty of passion lust in this story, then they suddenly fall in love, which makes no sense, but not of that here so I'm glad Sharon Kendrick took the time to build it up and have the romance simmer over the coarse of the book before going into full steam mode. And that was great and perfect. That's how it should be done unless it a second chance love story. And on top of that it was very well written.

More detail thoughts:

The basic set up is the hero, Luis Martinez, who was known as the world's most renown playboy in the world had been in a horrible car accident that left him severely injured with him needing rehabilitation in order to get back to his normal self. He was walking with a cane to help him get around. The heroine, Carly Connor was his housekeeper and had been his housekeeper for sometime so she knew what he was like a tough, arrogant and uncompromising playboy billionaire and she hated him (cough! cough!), but stayed on working for him because he paid her an extreme amount of money to be his housekeeper of one his houses and only needed to work when he was in town, which wasn't that often, which lead Carly to able to study so that she could go to medical school so she knew she couldn't just throw this job away. When she heard that Luis was injured, she rushed to the hospital to check on him and see if he was alright. He was unconscious the times she came to visit but she would sit by his bedside and hold his hand and just talk to him in her soothing voice. She only stopped coming when she walked in on Luis and a beautiful blonde practically going at with no concern of who would see them, and Luis never knew that Carly even saw them together or the fact that she came at all until a nurse told him one day. Anyway the story really begins with Luis calling for Carly after firing his therapist who made the mistake of falling in love with Luis and Luis wanted Carly to take over the duties that his therapist did. At first, she refused, knowing how difficult he would be plus she wasn't thrilled to get in touching distance of him or any man really after what happened to her in the past, but eventually she agreed to take over while trying to deal with her newly developed feelings for him as well as the fact that she would be touching him during his massage to help him heal. And Luis was dealing with the same thing as Carly, dealing with the fact that she actually wanted. And it happened gradually, which was nice to see, and then slowly built and built until he desired her so much that he was practically bursting with it. The reason he picked Carly to takeover his helping to heal was the fact that he didn't want her and wasn't attractive and didn't desire her at all. But as more sessions went by the more attracted he got, shocking him, and then he had to deal with him wanting her and what he wanted to do about it. So that was the set up.

That was what I liked most about the book was the build up not only of the attraction but their relationship and show a different side to Luis instead of this bossy, arrogant jerk that was used to getting his way and only thought about himself. As he got more involved with Carly, his whole attitude shifted and he became much more likable and a very caring human being especially when it came to Carly. He listened to her while told of her past experience of being sexually assaulted at a young age and making her reluctant to be with

any man in the future or even to touch one. It was a struggle for her to even touch Luis at first during an "innocent" massage, but soon she got over that and started to find she liked touching him a little too much and she began to feel desire for him. So with Luis knowing her history and understanding now where she was coming from, Luis vowed to help her and show her there was nothing to be afraid of with physical intimacy and he would enjoy showing her those delights himself, killing two birds with one stone. His desire and her fear. So it was a win-win really in his view. But he never made her feel pressure and let it be her decision whether she would want to carry further with their relationship. And I just liked the fact that he was there for her and really became a friend before they became lovers, and it was just nice to see that development between them. A nice way to build a loving genuine relationship.

Along with their growing relationship and attraction for one another there was great anticipation before they gave into their passions for one another, and it was great to see the byplay between the two of them. It was a slow simmer then it came on full force to a full boil. On both sides, at first at least, they denied they wanted other and why they couldn't have sexual relationship with his reasons being that she worked him while she had the issue of her sexual assault to deal with. And with that denial there was always that push and pull between them which always nice to see happened in a romance novel. It added to the friction and tension whenever they were in the same room with one another and just also increased their desire for one another. It was very cool witness and I could feel all those emotions come off the pages and just all that sexual tension as well and that's great. That's what I want to feel.

Now I touched on this above but I will reiterate. These two had some hot chemistry going on. From the first time they were in the same scene again which was filled with banter back and forth and though it wasn't sexual it was preparing for what was to come. If they could have that much spark fighting, I knew the love scenes would be pretty smoking hot. It just set up the tension from the very begin. I really believed they were hot for each other by the middle of the book between the tension between them as well as their desire and passion for one another. Great chemistry.

There were many hot scenes between the two, but I think my favorite was the massage, which was beyond sexy, which was weird because all Carly did was massage and nothing else occurred and I think that's what made it so hot because there was so much electricity in that scene that it felt like she did more that massage his aches and pains away. Both of their desires were heightened. Her hands shook when she touched and soon began to love it and feeling his bare skin against her hands as she massaged him, memorizing the muscles in his back and the smoothness of his skin plus she got to admire him from behind with him not looking. While on his part, every time she touched him he went up in flames and got more and more turned on and then he began to notice more and more how attracted he was in fact to her and his desire grew more and more the more she touched him. But fire built within him and never went away. Then that desire lead to him caring then to his love for her. So that scene was really the beginning of a passionate romance and I just loved it. I had to fan myself through that scene. It just had so much in it and just added to the anticipation to what was coming down the road.

There major love scene that was in the book was just as hot and sexy and beautiful. It was her first time and after the assault she faced, Luis knew he had to take his time when initiating her into love making for the first time. He very sweet and very caring and thought about her pleasure first, wanting her to enjoy the experience and know that not all intimacy was bad. That it was okay to want someone. I liked how the love scene played out, and it was hot. I liked that the scene was healing for her and that she could enjoy lovemaking with him with the biggest reason was that she trusted him and was starting to develop feelings towards him at that point and might been half way to being in love with him. And I liked that he was willing to help her and at that point he was at the beginning stages of caring deeply for her.

He wasn't only willing to help her sexually though, he encouraged her to be the best person that she could be, and I really liked seeing that and just showed how much he wanted her to succeed in life. He showed her what she could be and what she was capable of and didn't need to hide from the world because she was in fact a capable woman. So I liked seeing that he was healing her emotionally while she was helping him heal physically.

So it was nice symbiotic relationship. Their love for one another healed them as well as made them stronger people. They each grew as individually and I liked seeing that and I liked that love can make characters better people and love was catalyst to that. And they needed to have that relationship in order for that change to happen, and that's what happened in Luis and Carly's case.

I liked both characters like I said, and I liked the fact that she wanted to be a doctor. I haven't read a lot of doctor books so that was a nice change for me, and made her unique. I felt for her and I felt bad of what she had to go through in the past, but I was glad that Luis helped her through it and that helped her so much in life.

Luis. At first I didn't like him because he was just utter jerk and arrogant and someone needed to put him in place and I am glad that person was Carly because she had the strength to stand up to him and tell him that he was arrogant jerk playboy who was just a selfish bastard at times. The accident was a good thing for him because it changed him and the way he looked at life and people. Plus Carly helped him like I said. So I really liked seeing his character development and how much he grew within the story. He definitely became man in this book. And just to see him love was great because it was obvious how much he loved and cared about her and how he thought about her even encouraging her to finish medical school and that he would be her side always while she did. All he wanted to do was be with her that was the most important thing to him.

In conclusion, this was a real great love story with real issues being explored and overcome with the power of love healing both Luis and Carly. It was nice to see their relationship grow and develop over time. I was glad there was no insta lust or insta love but started off with a slow burn before simmering over the edges. The two of them had some hot scenes together and only increased in heat until they came together in the ultimate culmination. I loved how they made each other stronger and their love made them better people. It was a very enjoyable read and very well written. So well done Sharon Kendrick

Loz says

Luis Martinez was nothing short of an arrogant pig in the beginning of this book. I struggled to even like him let alone accept any sort of attraction between them for some time, then it seemed with a click of fingers he was playful, flirty and very desirable. I prefer my heroines with less body issues, but Carly was also a strong, sensible and ambitious character and I was pleased to see she had lived out her dreams and not become a kept woman like so many others in romance novels. Good read.

Griffinyarn says

[I also like that he didn't allow the sister's arrival to blow out into a massive misunderstanding (hide spoiler)]

Maria says

Τα 5 αστ?ρια ε?ναι πολ? λ?γα γι' αυτ? το εξαιρετικ? ρλεκιν. ?χει τη μαγε?α των παλαι?τερων ρλεκιν και τον ερωτισμ? των καινο?ριων. Υπ?ροχες, ρομαντικ?ς σκην?ς και ?νας ?ντρας που ξ?ρεις να κ?νει ερωτικ?ς εξομολογ?σεις. Απ? τα καλ?τερα που ?χω διαβ?σει τελευτα?α.

Αυτ? που με εντυπωσ?ασε ιδια?τερα ε?ναι η εξ?λιξη στην π?να της Sharon Kendrick. Π?ντα ?γραφε εξαιρετικ? αλλ? τα γραπτ? της ?κρυβαν μια μελαγχολ?α και μου ?διναν μια α?σθηση καταπ?εσης και βεβιασμ?νου συναισθ?ματος με ?μφαση στην κανονιστικ?τητα των ρ?λων του ζευγαριο? σε κ?ποιο υπερβολικ? βαθμ? κ?ποιες φορ?ς. Αυτ? τη φορ? η π?να της ε?ναι γλυκι?, τρυφερ? και αισι?δοξη, αλλ? ταυτ?χρονα εξαιρετικ? συμβατ? με την εποχ? της και ?ντονα αισθησιακ??. Καταφ?ρνει να μου "ζωγραφ?σει" τις εικ?νες που μου δ?νει με φωτειν? χρ?ματα και στο τ?λος μου προσφ?ρει αυτ? το "κ?τι" παραπ?νω που π?ντα αναζητ? στα βιβλ?α που διαβ?ζω.

Αν η τελει?τητα ?ταν ?να συγκεκριμ?νο αντικε?μενο θα ?ταν αυτ? το βιβλ?ο. Μηδ?ν ψεγ?δι!!!

IamGamz says

I truly enjoyed this book. The story is about billionaire Luis Martinez who is recovering after a crash during a charity race, and his housekeeper, sweet, innocent Carly.

Carly is forced to take over Luis' massages and physio toward the end of his recovery after the therapist steps over the line of professionalism.

While she has always kept herself distant, working this closely with Luis bring on feeling that she has a hard time with.

They go from cold, rainy England to the beautiful, warm South of France where they discover each other and help each other overcome their demons.

What I loved about this story is that Carly worked her butt off, scrimped and saved to do the one thing she wanted to accomplish, becoming a doctor. Even in the midst of her affair with Luis and his billions, she never lost sight of her goal.

Yes, it's a typical Harlequin Presents, but that is why I read it. It's light and sweet and fun. However, Carly had backbone. She had integrity and didn't allow herself to lose sight if what she wanted just because she was in a love affair with a billionaire. This story made me feel good.

Clarke says

2.9- 3.2 Stars. Public Library 7/15/15. Carly likes being able to fade into the background but now suddenly her very sexy and rich boss is looking at her differently. Luis is still recovering from a terrible accident and is tired of all these strangers coming and going. His solution is to hire this housekeeper to be his physical therapist and masseuse. Carly's position is suddenly more hands on and she can't stop thinking about her boss's naked body and what it does to her. Luis has a new respect for his housekeeper's skills but why are the her hands suddenly turning him on. Luis can be an ass but he's an honest ass. Their relationship works for them as they each help the other realize some truths about themselves and how they see the world. There is just something that keeps me from really love the story. Carly is a bit mousy for me Luis is over the top.

Jenny says

This reminded me of the Pygmalion story. A playboy hero decides that he can take his plain jane innocent housekeeper and make her a sexy desirable confident woman.

Very entertaining, great alpha male character, sweet and vulnerable ambitious doctor heroine. I loved that both hero and heroine are struggling in a very real character arc/growth. They both have issues but they face their demons and find the inner strength to overcome their dark past.

I would have given it 5 stars but an epilogue with no babies is a big no for me!
