



The Morning After

Michelle Reid

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"You cannot be allowed to go on ruining lives simply because that body of yours drives men insane!"

Cesar DeSanquez was right about Annie's beauty: it had made her into an international supermodel. But the only life about to be ruined was Annie's?by Cesar! In reality, she was a shy virgin, but Cesar preferred to believe in her glossy image. He passionately believed that she had torn apart his family in the space of a night. And now, in the cold light of dawn, he wanted his revenge!

The Morning After Details

Date : Published October 22nd 2011 by Harlequin Presents Treasury (first published April 1996)

ISBN :

Author : Michelle Reid

Format : Kindle Edition 192 pages

Genre : Category Romance, Harlequin, Harlequin Presents, Romance, Contemporary Romance

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Mary says

No, just... no. It started off very angst-y & I've been reading a lot of angst-y books that have been good, but just... no. For one thing, Cesar DeSanquez wasn't just a borderline stalker, he was full-blown creepy, dangerous, off the chart stalker who had the resources to kidnap Angeline Lacey, supermodel, and make her pay for what he believed were her sins. There was *no* romance in this book, only obsession and forced seduction *aka rape* (considering how horribly hurt physically & emotionally she felt afterward). I kept hoping that once Cesar found out that Annie was innocent (and an innocent), he would grovel big time, but he never did! In fact, he continued with his emotional and physical torture of her until she caved! NO, NO, NO! NOT love, NOT romance. Why the h**l should Annie have helped his cousin when the cousin was such a whining, jealous b****?! Even after the so-called hero understood what the situation was, he *still* blackmailed Annie! Some love!!!

***** Rant over*****

Dianna says

Annie Lacey is a blonde supermodel fallen woman/virgin. The book opens with her attempted rape, and while she is rescued, she is publicly condemned for attempting to seduce a married man. Annie says nothing in her own defence, and prefers it that way. She turns hard and glittery and bitter.

It has no impact on the success of her career, she's doing very well. She has one close friend, a handsome blond guy. When he invites her to a party she goes, wearing a slinky white dress, and she hangs all over him because blond guy is trying to make his ex jealous. His ex is Annie's modelling nemesis, and she broke up with blond guy because he refused to stop his purely platonic relationship with Annie.

At the party, Annie sees Cesare, the first man to ever make her insides go a little twisty. Since Cesare is a big thuggish guy with a ponytail I don't see it, but I guess it takes all kinds. Annie rather wistfully decides to do nothing about the attraction. Instead, she accepts a modelling job in the Caribbean.

The modelling job is to showcase the squillion-dollar designs of secretive and exclusive jewellery designer Adamus. Every couple of years, Adamus releases chunky sparkles that make rich people go crazy. Based on no evidence, I've decided these are probably appalling and vulgar displays of vast wealth and that I would not like them at all.

This is because, surprise! Adamus is actually Cesare, and this modelling job is a trap! Now Annie is stuck on Cesare's private Caribbean island with Cesare, and he's bent on revenge for the wrongs she's done to some of the ladies in his family. Plus, he wants to sleep with her.

This is all angsty and crazy, and is wonderful if you're in the mood for a heroine unjustly treated who doesn't owe anyone any explanations, dammit. I liked Annie, because I like heroines who are a bit prickly because it makes sense. She's clearly professional about her job and is just getting on with what she has to do and grimly wishing people would stay the hell out of her business.

Cesare's a more difficult proposition. He's all ponytail swirling and orders and shoulder at the beginning. Objectively, his family loyalty is commendable. He runs a billion dollar mining company, and it's nice for him that he has his little jewellery hobby on the side, even if I've decided that his designs are vulgar. But when he starts to get a hint that he's probably done something pretty wrong, and that Annie's not going to make it easy for him, he turns petulant and unresponsive. It doesn't work very well if both characters glare at each other and grind their teeth and occasionally spit out some random hurtful insult. One of them has to be the adult. Preferably both of them, but Cesare was in more need of being adult than Annie was, because Annie didn't go around kidnapping people.

I'm also not sure I forgive him for being initially terrible in bed, and potentially a bit vague about consent. It's a little ambiguous that he initially is terrible in bed because it's so frustrating when sex is so vaguely described, but when the heroine runs away in tears post-coitus, it's not good news. I think it improved later on because at least Reid is nice enough to give her heroines orgasms, even if she is lumping them with thuggish bastards.

I really did find the plot very comforting because Annie seemed to get a lot out of it. She finally got someone else in her corner who was prepared to be a little more effective than blond guy. Perhaps not everything ended up as well for her as I would have wished – I still think Cesare didn't always have her best interests in mind. Sure, he settled it so no one in his family would spit at her when he took her around for drinks, but this is the least he could do, given the circumstances.

Roub says

i did not like this one dat much. i felt Cesar championed Susie too much when Annie was supposed to be the heroine of this book. it did not add up dat he pursued his revenge now when the alvarez scandal broke out years ago. i understood his bitterness and his disgust as the woman he had wanted for himself was found making love wid his brother-in-law! however the author stretched matters too far having us believe Cesar loved her all those years without having met her in person. it sounded more like sexual infatuation!

StMargarets says

Now here is enough old school angst and OTT drama to take my mind off of current events. What a ride.

The opening is an attempted rape - so trigger warning. The action then moves forward four years to a party scene. The supermodel/child actress heroine is painted as a promiscuous maneater after being named in a divorce proceeding. She doesn't trust the media enough to set the record straight - nor does she trust anyone except for her OM friend.

The OM friend is currently estranged from his supermodel girlfriend who is jealous of the heroine. As part of a plan to make the OM's former girlfriend jealous, the heroine is draped all over him at a party. When she steps away to use the ladies room she runs into the billionaire/jewelry maker hero who promptly spills champagne on her, rendering her dress transparent. He takes her home and . . . nothing. The heroine is chagrined because she feels attraction to him - something she hasn't felt since her attempted rape.

But she sees him again. The obsessed hero arranges a photo-shoot on his remote Caribbean island. Once the heroine arrives, she finds there is no photo-shoot - she's being blackmailed. The hero is related to the wronged woman in the divorce suit and the OM's jilted girlfriend. He wants heroine out of the way so the girlfriend can reconcile with the OM and get the photo-shoot that had been promised to the heroine.

(view spoiler)

The heroine had an interesting backstory that worked with her sense of betrayal and lack of trust. The hero was nicely obsessed and kept the revenge going for a most of the story. The heroine wasn't a doormat - just a quivering hormonal mess whenever the hero got too close. Just solid vintage HP entertainment.

Jasbell76 says

Today I finished to read this book which I was avoiding for years! Because the first scene of the book starts what it appeared to be a rape! and I HATE romance books where the heroine suffers/suffered a rape (it is a sensible thing for me) So, after a read other reviews and shelves, I found out there wasn't any rape at all, but she was "almost" raped by hero's brother in law.

The whole story is full of angst and I loved it! I had forgotten how exciting was to read a book by Michelle Reid.

I haven't read/re-read any book by this author since her last release in 2011 "The Man Who Risk It All" AKA "The Man Who Didn't Risk All That Much" that was the title my friend **Becky** chose to renamed the book! XD

I would have liked an epilogue with a baby/babies ;)

PS. I didn't know what was a "**liqui liqui**" until I read this book :)

Updated:
(*March/15/2015*)

Alexis-Morgan Roark says

I did not like this book because the misunderstandings just went waaaay overboard. I also couldn't believe how the bitc&y Susie became such a saint all of a sudden. It just didn't sit well with me. The taking of her virginity was especially hard to read for me. I know he didn't know she was a virgin but still. Just yuck!

An obsessed man finally gets the object of his desire and mucks it up royally again and again then she forgives him. Story at eight.

Onu says

This is why I love reading Harlequins. This had everything which makes you enjoy reading a Harlequin. Everything OTT! OTT situations. An alpha douchebag of a hero. A misunderstood heroine. Lots of angst.

I thoroughly enjoyed the story. I love Michelle Reid's books. The writing was god. Kept me hooked. Though I must warn that the beginning of the book might put off some people. An attempted rape scene at the beginning of the book made me question whether I really wanted to continue or not. But I did go on and I thoroughly enjoyed the madness.

It was one heck of a ride with everything that makes these Harlequins a superb read. This is just a work of fiction and it is unfair to look for any semblance of logic or reality.

This is a story about a child artist Angelica who ha been ripped apart by bad press. It is about Cesare, a man who had been pining for a four years for a woman he had never met and was on a misguided revenge mission gone totally wrong because he believed what the press fed him.

If you love crazy Harlequins, this is a must for you. A word of caution: This is way OTT and may make your blood shimmer and even boil but in the end you know it's a Harlequin and you take everything in your stride and enjoy it thoroughly.

It was unputdownable. A real classic. Miss these. The new ones fail miserably to capture what Harlequin is all about.

Vintage says

To understand how old school this is one only needs to look at the cover. The hero has a mullet. Nuff said.

Jacqueline says

This was over the top crazy which is why I read HPs. I'm not looking for reality. Plus it's Michelle Reid so you know the writing is going to be high quality. The hero was OTT as I said. He'd been twisted up for 4 years over a girl he'd wanted but never met in the flesh but never-the-less she'd betrayed him and must be punished. She was well written as a grown up child star who had been used for gain all her life but never really loved. So crazy old school WTFery all around.

Chitra *CJ* says

"The Morning After" is the story of Angelica and Adamas.

Basically Angelica pretends to be promiscuous in front of the world to hide her tragic past, until her "partner's" ex lover's brother kidnaps her for his sister's happiness.

They have sex.. and guess.. hymen was torn!

Now I do love OTT passionate love scenes but

- whenever a H slaps the heroine the book seriously goes downhill for me

- Even though he took her v card, kept calling her a giant hoe even when he knew of the rape attempts in the past by his relative

- Her threatening to kill the baby.. well I support the heroine because I don't like the hero.

Now the hero and heroine do have some smokin sex scenes and there is minor groveling.. but then he abandons her for a week and I was back to hating him.

And nothing pisses me off in an old school romance when a heroine is angry, the hero is being a literal ass and then he has sex and she's seduced in like blink of an eye forgetting whatever misdeeds he did.

The ending was SO STUPID.

Did not like it AT ALL.

Rant over.

Not safe

2/5 (maybe zero, I don't know)

Kaycee ❤? says

Very angsty read!

Ladyacct says

It takes a lot for me not to like a hero in a romance book but this guy - yep didn't like his attitude or arrogance at all, to me it went over the line from Alpha Male to Dark Ages Dick.

KatieV says

[If you are triggered by sexual assault/violence I would be cautious of this

Jenny says

That was so angsty, crazy and fucked up I couldn't help but love it. Hero was obsessed and in love with the heroine for years. He thinks she is having an affair with his sister's husband so he kidnaps her and takes her to a secluded island where he seduces her. Heroine hates him with a passion. She was so blind and in denial I wanted to slap her. She was also the bitchiest heroine I've read lately. Still I enjoyed this because hero was a stalker, so obsessed and crazy for her!

Julz says

Finished this one. I'll have to go back and review it in order to write a review. I guess it wasn't that rememberable ;D I know she loved pulling his hair and he'd tell her to stop LOL! Irritating broad ;D
