



Reluctant Protector

Nana Malone

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Erotic Novella.

For five years, Cassie Reeser has been her brother's personal lab rat. Peter's experiments have made her a stronger, faster, better human. And she's not the only one – he's been experimenting on others as well. For five years, escape has eluded her. Until now. When she finds out he plans to sell her as a human weapon she knows it's now or never. To make her escape she'll sacrifice family bonds and leave behind the one person who's ever helped her. Cassie's learned to shrink from kindness and to never trust anyone. She knows the day Peter finally captures her will be the day she dies. To elude her brother and save the others, she'll have to risk her body and her heart. What she doesn't expect is a chance at a normal life.

Seth Adams is used to sifting through lies to find the truth. As a former war correspondent he knows what evils lurk in the world. When he finds Cassie hiding out in his car trunk, her story sounds like a fantastical dream. But, before long, he witnesses firsthand what she's talking about when they're attacked by a group of Peter's soldiers. As a result, he goes through his own transformation into a super human and realizes the extent of what Cassie is running from. Cassie might not think she needs his protection, but he'll die before he lets her brother have her back.

Reluctant Protector Details

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From Reader Review Reluctant Protector for online ebook

Rute Canhoto says

CRÍTICA

Acabei de ler este livro no dia 15 de junho de 2012 e dou-lhe uma classificação de quatro estrelas. Esta é uma estória pequena que junta ficção científica e erotismo bastante gráfico. Não é uma combinação que costumo ler com frequência, no entanto gosto de variar de vez em quando. Tenho a dizer que gostei. O que mais me agradou foi a fluidez da história. As cenas sucedem-se com naturalidade, embora às vezes tenha ficado um pouco confusa com a transição, mas nada de significativo e que não seja fácil de recuperar. As cenas de ação e as de erotismo também estão bem equilibradas. Em relação ao que menos gostei, preferia que o início fosse um pouco mais pausado; talvez tivesse desdobrado o primeiro capítulo em dois em vez de começar a dar porrada logo a arrancar.

REVIEW

I just read this book on June 15, 2012, and give it a rating of four stars. This is a short story that combines science fiction and quite graphic erotica. It is a combination I seldom read, but I like to vary from time to time. I have to say that I liked it. What pleased me most was the fluidity of the story. The scenes follow one another naturally, although sometimes the transition has been a bit confusing, but nothing significant and or hard to recover. The action scenes and the graphic ones are also well balanced. Regarding the least liked, I wished the beginning was a little more paused; I would, perhaps, unfold the first chapter in two instead of starting kicking butts right away.

Samantha **ParaNormal Romance Party says**

1st line in the book---> Frigid cold settled into Cassie Reeser's bones.

The first thing that I have to say is that this book is Very HOT!!! I didn't have any expectations but I was very happy to have received this book to review! Its more Romantic Suspense with some PNR elements but I enjoyed it very much. I don't usually read Romantic Suspense because I can't really get into it but I was hooked on The Reluctant Protector!

Cassie has had a rough time. She has been experimented on by her brother and he has turned her into a modern day superhero. She discovers she isn't the only one and escapes with the intent to rescue those like her. Then comes Seth Adams, a very sexy reported who's been trying o write a story on Cassie's brother. When the two collide, sparks fly!!

There was good chemistry between the characters. I really enjoyed how the author set up the start of this great series. I was surprised at how short it was though. Its a novella, so it ended too soon for me. Cassie is a very strong but damaged heroine its a good thing she finds Seth because he is able to give her that happiness and trust that was taken from her by her brother.

Again I say this read is an Adult book!! I guess you are wondering how a human reporter can help a genetically enhanced superwoman fight the bad guys....well Seth gets some powers of his own in a very

interesting way ;) That's all I'm going to say!!! You need to read to find out!!!

~ Originally posted @ The ParaNormal Romance Party blog~

Julie Swarth says

So I'm working out my new kindle like my husband's going to steal it away. I bought this book this morning and finished it an hour ago. It's a novella, so that was disappointing as I was extremely interested in where the story was going to go. The heroine, Cassie has been experimented on by her brother and he's turned her into a modern day superhero. She's on a mission to rescue the others her evil brother has done this to. Enter Seth Adams, a sexy reporter after a story on Cassie's brother. The two of them have multiple showdowns with the bad guys and live to tell the tale and manage to get down in all the madness.

I guess I didn't check the tags before I purchased, so be warned, it's super hot, but maybe that's my delicate sensibilities! It is a romance after all. If you like JR Ward, you'll probably like this.

There was a good set up for following stories. As it's identified as the Protectors Series, I assume we'll be seeing more from the author. She's got another book available, but it's a contemporary romance and not related, plus the kindle version is a little pricey at \$7.

This was a good read. I'll buy the next in the series when it comes out.

Kristen N. says

Nana Malone is indeed a good author and she shows that with Reluctant Protector book 1 of the Protectors series. Reluctant Protector contains the real concept of creating 'Human Super Soldiers', a concept that's been tried since at least the time of Hitler. I did enjoy reading Reluctant Protector and think that Nana Malone did a great job. The thrill was there along with the question...would it all that happened be for nothing. I am the type of person who once a book is started will never leave it unfinished even if it turns out not to my liking. Like I said over all Nana Malone is talented and wrote a good book. So why a low rating? I had to skip over an estimated 15% of the book, all of chapter 6 and 2 other parts. I understand sex in books to a point, but the sex scenes in Reluctant Protector are considered pornographic/erotica. I was shocked and appalled to see that in something that is considered Young Adult. Again I understand some authors put sex into books and I am okay with that, but at a certain point it becomes too much and nothing more than erotica. Because I felt Reluctant Protector book 1 of the Protectors by Nana Malone was well written I will give Forsaken Protector book 2 in the Protectors series a chance, I just hope I will not be disappointed.

Sophia says

Locked in the lab as an enhanced human experiment, she now is free. But, to stay that way, she teams up with the world-weary war correspondent who is determined to get to the bottom of her geneticist brother's secrets. Intense and action-packed right out of the gate. Did I mention sizzling hot, too?

Reluctant Protector introduces a world where people are given a cocktail of chemicals and turned into something more with enhanced strength, senses, and psychic gifts that the government wants for a super-soldier program. Only Cassie and Seth can get the other experiments away and stop her sadistic brother, Peter. In the meantime, attraction flairs up between them even while they are on the run for their lives.

As I said, this one was fast-paced right out of the gate. Its a little thin on plotting and transitions, but the adrenaline rush from the action and passion made up for it. I enjoyed cheering Cassie and Seth on whether it was their scorching encounters, attempts to protect each other, or teaming up to take down Peter's minions. I will definitely be moving on to book two for more of this exciting Protectors' world.

Kathleen Kelly says

Reluctant Proctor is a paranormal short story that is very fast paced. this is not your typical vampire or werewolf paranormal but of a woman who has superhuman powers. A sickly Cassie, is taken under her brothers wing when her father passes away. Father and brother are both scientists who do experiments and develop cures for diseases. Peter has taken things a step further by experimenting on his own sister and keeps her locked up for five years in the institution. She has tried to escape numerous times and succeeds this time. She hides in the trunk of a car and when she is found by the owner, Seth Adams, they are both in danger of being found with an undesirable outcome. So they have to do all they can to stay one step ahead of Peter. A lot of action packed into less than 100 pages and a fast exciting read. A steamy read, so if you like a racy, sexy story, then this book is for you. I look forward to the next book in the series.

Cate Dean says

I really enjoyed this first installment of the Protectors Series, and am anxiously waiting for the next. Cassie and Seth have great chemistry, and there are some fun twists that you don't see coming. So go out and grab yourself a copy - you'll be glad you did.

Sobia says

Keeping it short:

Great premise, but not long enough for it to fully develop...too many sex scenes, way too soon, take over a good chunk of what little story there is. We get bits and pieces of backstory/ world building, but again not really fleshed out. Oh and there's some editing needed.

Between 2.5 and 3 stars for an overall okay read... There is a bit of a cliffhanger ending but I'm not interest enough to read it :(

Sadie Forsythe says

Again, I thought this was an OK read. (I'm seeing a trend.) Cassie has been held captive and experimented on

for 5 years, she's attempted escape before, somehow she's established a contact to help her give it another go, and here the book starts. This is all basically explained, but like the prequel, it feels very much like we started in the middle of something. A lot happens off set, so to speak.

I liked the story, I really did. I liked Cassie and Seth, I really did. But believable emotions were relatively scarce in this book. I mean, it pretty much boiled down to, "Oh, you accidentally made me a superhuman...OK, moving on." There was no fear, freakout, anger, really no emotional response at all.

Then there was the 'romance;' if I can call it that. The two of them seemed to have an inexplicable pull towards one another. It felt very much like a standard PNR, 'you're my destined mate' kind of affair, but that's never addressed. Worse yet, it employed the whole 'Oh, I'm having a really erotic dream that I'm somehow mysteriously aware of' trope. When of course, he's awake; of course he's really having real sex, not dream sex. As if that kind of thing EVER happens. It just felt like a cheap plot device to get them past the awkward 'I won't sleep with someone I just met' hurdle.

The sex...it too was OK, though there was a lot of it. There was also a weak attempt to add kink to the sexy bits by "fingering her puckered hole" and blindfolding her, etc. I'll give it props for not being wholly vanilla, but this is supposed to have been a virgin having sex with a man for the first time or two. You'd think one of them would have been a little hesitant and none of that was really necessary in the first place. Honestly, it just didn't feel at all natural. There were too many heavy 'do you trust me?' pauses followed by pretty light stuff. Meh.

I also had some basic questions. For example, I was curious about Seth's age, for two reasons. One, Cassie is apparently supposed to be 22. (She's 17 at the time of the prequel, and book one is set 5 years later.) So, I would expect Seth to be comparably aged, but he can't be. He's a war correspondent, so one would expect he graduated HS (18ish), got a journalism degree (22ish), got a job and worked his way up the ranks, since being sent to Afghanistan, Serbia and Rwanda (all of which are mentioned) aren't newbie assignments, plus the time spent there (5 years minimum, probably significantly more, so at least 27). Two, he acts and speaks like a teenager. Bottom line is that he's either significantly older than Cassie, but acts younger than his age or is supposed to be young like her, but then can't hold the professional position he's supposed to. *scratching head*

I'll also throw one personal irritant into the mix. I get tired of seeing men teach female characters things they should already know. (It happens all the time in fiction. Men, after all, supposedly have all the answers for us little helpless lasses. grrr) Here, Cassie had had at least some of her powers since she was a teenager and had been training with them and the scientists who created them for YEARS, but within 2 days Seth learned how to use his AND taught Cassie how to improve her own skills in ways she and/or all those well-educated, experienced professionals couldn't? Realistic or just the normal 'the man always has the answer' BS? He was then unquestionably in charge, coming up with the plans and giving orders. Again, Meh.

The book has a sappy ending that I think it could have done without. But I know a lot of readers really like that kind of thing, so OK. It could have done with a little more editing, but the writing is actually pretty good.

All in all, I liked the premise and liked the characters, but the execution was rushed and weak. Not so much that I wouldn't recommend the book, but enough that it felt like I was just reading the surface of something.

Lisette says

Cassie Reeser spent most of her childhood trying to overcome the throes of sickness plaguing her at every turn. With the help of her father's legacy, her brother, Peter, has done his best to care for her in hopes of finding a cure that would allow him to remove her ailments. His vast scientific knowledge, along with Cassie's will to live, has given him the opportunity to make her better. Yet the price she must pay in order to be healthy is one she never saw coming.

Her brother has been able to unlock paranormal powers within her in hopes of creating the perfect soldier. The genetic experiments he's conducted have been taking its toll and all Cassie yearns for is to be free. This, unfortunately, is easier said than done. Try as she might, Peter has found ways in which to bring her back to the labs in order to continue with his sordid experiments every time she's tried to set herself free.

This time, though, will be his last time doing so. Cassie, determined to escape once and for all, knows she'll need to sever her familial ties to Peter completely. While having to do so doesn't exactly sit well with her, she also knows she can no longer remain as one of his lab rats. Freedom is just around the corner. She just has make sure she achieves it.

When she comes across Seth Adams while trying to elude capture, she realizes he's her saving grace. Yet she never imagined the consequences that would ensue because of her decision to protect him from her captors after he becomes privy to what she is and what she can do. Inadvertently bonding him to her, Cassie soon understands that she needs him in more ways than one. Seth is determined to help her with the mission she's set out to complete in hopes of making sense of the changes occurring within him.

Setting off on a journey to set all wrongs to right, Cassie wonders if she'll be able to achieve her goals. She also finds herself feeling things for Seth she never knew possible. Yet part of her refuses to trust what she's feeling. Regardless of this, she accepts the fact that Seth is there to stay.

As their discovery about one another and the world around them deepens, Cassie realizes that time is running out. If her plan is to succeed, she and Seth will need to stay one step ahead of Peter at every turn. Alone, she knows she's able to fend for herself in order to survive. Yet with Seth, she also understands that they're a force to be reckoned with; a fact her nemesis will soon be privy to as they strive to achieve the mission that has been set forth before them from the beginning.

I was totally hooked from the moment I began reading this book. Granted, it's not that long of a story, but the fast pace and overall tone of the book keeps the reader glued to every page. Nana did a wonderful job in creating the world around each of her characters. So much so, that it leaves a person wanting to know more about the world itself. I look forward to reading more of this series when the time comes.

Bobbi Steadman says

Fast paced and pretty spicy at times, this book was overall pretty good. I was surprised by the very explicit sex scenes, as that was certainly not why I had picked up the book. I was slightly disappointed in the characters, however, as they seemed a bit flat. Things were a bit rushed and I felt like things were jumping from one scene to another without fully resolving things from the previous scene. I enjoyed the idea of Cassie, the main character, being used to experiment with creating super weapons, but I felt that the super

powers that her, Seth, and the others gained were at times a bit far fetched. It also seemed quite a bit out there that Seth would gain his powers by simply having sex with Cassie. The story line was mostly well formed, (but would have been better with more elaboration) and I will likely read the other books in the series, but I would like to get more from the characters than 'she was strong willed'.

V says

This short, sci-fi piece is available for free from Amazon for the Kindle. The action begins almost immediately, and though there is some back story given throughout, events are not fully explained; the speed with which the plot moves is unbelievable, even for the genre. The explicit sex scenes arise suddenly, and not out of any defined developing romance. In short, this story lacked character depth and plot development -- it was a disappointment.

Kayla Bouy says

Reluctant Protector had me hooked from the very beginning. It starts out with Cassie attempting to break out of her brother's lab. She tried other times and failed, but instead of giving up she keeps fighting and tries again. In the lab he managed to create an injection that he used on a few people to give them enhanced abilities. Cassie had been locked in his lab for years as one of the experiments.

During her escape she happens to run into the sexy ex-war correspondent Seth Adams. Seth is taken by surprise when he finds out that he inadvertently helped Cassie escape and now he has to run from the same people she does.

I absolutely loved the chemistry between Cassie and Seth. She tries over and over to just look after herself, but finds she is unable to do so. Seth would and did do anything he could to protect Cassie from her brother. As the two join forces to take down Cassie's brother they learn that they not only work well together fighting, but in other ways also. This book kept me thoroughly entertained from the first page to the last. I went into it expecting a decent paranormal romance and came out of it with so much more. I can't wait for the next parts of the series to be released so I can enjoy them just as much as the first book.

Niina says

Fast pace, interesting and dark, Reluctant Protector has a cool Dark Angel feel with its modified human weapons, escaping a facility and generally kicking ass - but it's more than that too, adding up all Cassie's abilities might ruin the plot so I won't do that. :) The story has a modern urban fantasy feel with suspense and violence woven into it to get an exciting mix.

Sheltered Cassie was an interesting read when she began to have emotional reaction to Seth, beginning to blush, get hot and bothered and begin to get attached. She still had the cool and collected side that had come with being isolated most of her childhood and imprisoned by her brother who was supposed to love her - but it was interesting to read her come out of her shell.

Seth came off as just a passenger on a ride in the beginning, but then you began to know more about him, about his strength, his skills, being a marine and he suddenly he felt capable even next to Cassie who was nothing to sneer at at 5 foot 2. I really enjoyed reading about Seth and seeing Cassie from his point of view.

The plot was very interesting, I have loved the human weapon stories since Dark Angel and Reluctant Protector didn't disappoint. I liked the action, the fight scenes and the warmth and coldness balance with the characters. Liked it plenty enough to pick up the second book when it comes out!

Misty says

Smokin hot super heroes! I read this story twice and hope there will be more Cassie and Seth to come in future books. They're a fantastic couple even without their super powers.

Cassie is a biological freak and social misfit thanks to her brother's experiments to turn her into a human weapon. But she isn't one to boohoo about her situation. Even though previous attempts at running away from GenLife lab and Peter have failed, she's giving it another shot. Not just to save herself, but all the other kids Peter is holding captive and experimenting on.

Seth, a reporter back from Afghanistan, happens to be Cassie's unexpected way out, and after some initial hesitation, he steps up to the plate and helps her layout a plan to stop Peter and save the others. Their relationship is funny, sad and emotional as the two discover themselves as well as each other.

Ms. Malone knows her way around romance and this new novella is a fantastic read. I couldn't put it down either time I read it and I'm jonesing for more in the Protector series.
