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SANDRA WHERE THERE'S SMOKE BROWN

Where There's Smoke

Sandra Brown

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Where There's Smoke Sandra Brown

#1 New York Times bestselling author Sandra Brown stuns readers with the breathtaking tale of a powerful oil company and the incredible lengths they'll go to keep their secrets hidden . . . No one knows why Dr. Lara Mallory came back home to Eden Pass, Texas to open up her medical practice after all these years. But everyone remembers her role in the well-publicized scandal that caused the downfall of White House hopeful Senator Clark Tackett. So when the iron-fisted matriarch of Tackett Oil uses every weapon in her arsenal to drive her out of town, Lara refuses to go quietly. Yet in this corruption-riddled town, nothing is as it seems. An explosive secret lurks beneath the surface, threatening Lara at every turn. Her unlikely ally: Key, the hell-raising youngest Tackett son. Thrown together, they're on a dangerous quest to expose the one secret that can destroy the Tackett empire-and anyone who dares to challenge its power.

Where There's Smoke Details

Date : Published April 30th 2013 by Grand Central Publishing (first published 1993)

ISBN :

Author : Sandra Brown

Format : Kindle Edition 417 pages

Genre : Romance, Mystery, Suspense, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Where There's Smoke for online ebook

-y.a says

2.5-stars

This long book was filled with hypocrites and the word 'whore'.

There was nothing about Key I found swoony.

I was pretty lenient toward Lara up to 60% of the book, but as the author set the subplot for a war zone in Central America, Lara character turned into a completely delusional TSTL person that I almost wanted to *dnf*.

The romance seemed awkward, and the suspense was almost non-existent.

Bummer:/

Laura says

I must agree with my friends. Best Sandra Brown book I've read. She is an amazing author with unexpected twists and turns and I was most definitely NOT disappointed in this book. Shocking revelations in the last 40 pages or so. Wow. Might be one that I actually read again, in digital format of course, will be passing this on to my sister insisting she read it first!!

Galina Shishkova says

?? ????? 4,5 *

Tetty Marlinda says

#26 for 2017 RC

Genre : Suspense

Sandra ~ ♥ Cross My Heart ♥ says

Better buckle yourself in for this one! Author Sandra Brown never fails to deliver the suspense while molding a story riddled with twists and turns on the way to a shocking reveal near the end. She's quickly becoming one of my favorite go-to authors for suspense. Another Must Read by a Master of the genre!

?lleskelle - teamSøren? ?I like big b00ks? says

????????? **4 STARS** ????????

Michelle says

4 Didn't See It Coming Stars!

It's been a long time since I've read a Sandra Brown book. I used to love her style of how she kept me guessing all the way to the end. She's done it again. I didn't see it coming.

There was a lot going on in this book but you could tell that it all tied together some how but I didn't figure it out till the end.

Lara has moved to Eden Pass to take over the retired Docs place. Nobody wants her in town after the scandal that broke out years before that branded her a cheating whore. She was caught cheating on her husband with the senator Clark Tackett. The Tacketts are powerful and they blame Lara for their youngest sons downfall and later death. Lara has only one thing on her mind and she's willing to do anything to make it happen! The Tacketts will not be shoving her out of town until she gets it. She wants Key Tacketts help to bring home her daughter. Key Tackett the hell raising, sexy cowboy manwhore who is just in town until the next adventure calls him away wants nothing to do with Lara or does he? The tension was thick between these two!

We got many POVs in this book. I had no problem figuring out who's head I was in. Was I in Jody Tackett's head? The mother of Clark, Key and JaneEllen? The powerful Jody stopped at nothing to get the cheating Lara out of town. Bowie the ex-con who has his sights set on the shy and plain JaneEllen? The town slut Darcey? I loved them all! SB had me thinking hard while reading this one. I was also on the edge of my seat several times. I was completely surprised at the end when everything came out and a bit sad.

Will I be reading more from Sandra Brown? Hell yes! She used to be a favorite of mine and it looks like she still is:))

Linda says

3.5 stars. This book had lots of twists and turns and unexpected events. I really enjoyed the ride.

♥Sharon♥ says

This is me at the end of just about every SB book. No joke.

Thought I had this one figured out. Well I had a bit figured out. But then at 95% or so SB throws in yet another twists. Damn it....

Full review to come.

Jane Stewart says

3.5 stars rounded down for Amazon. I was hoping for a romance novel, but this was more of a mystery. I was annoyed with parts of the story.

CAUTION SPOILERS:

I was mad at Lara toward the end. Key deserved to be told all truths, but Lara chose to keep secrets from him. She didn't tell him that Clark was gay because she didn't want him to be hurt. Her logic was wrong because Key thought she didn't want him when she really did. Another problem: on the night of explosion, Jody left home to stop Janellan from being with her boyfriend Bowie. Yet Jody went to Dr. Lara's home, found someone there and shot him. I don't know why Jody went there. By the way, Janellan had eloped that night and went out of town to a hotel in Louisville, which Jody probably didn't know about. Other reviewers complained that Key drank too much when he was upset, and Lara was a doormat.

DATA:

Sexual content: not evaluated. I read this book before I began counting sex scenes and describing the language. As I recall there was not much sex. Setting: current day U.S. and Central America. Copyright: 1992. Genre: mystery.

OTHER BOOKS:

I've read one other book by Sandra Brown. My 4 star review of "Envy" copyright 2001 was posted 12-20-09.

Preeti ♥? (Romance She Reads) says

Another SB thriller with enough twists and turns to leave you winded. I was smug enough to think I had caught onto the suspense, but the author had a trick or two up her sleeve to leave me floored. So the suspense part is good even if the length of the book could have been shorter.

Key is a typical SB H –an unapologetic aphahole.

He's an indiscriminate manhoe, the town badboy rebel who never really grew up; sexy, charming yes, but with a mean streak a mile wide especially where the h is concerned. I've never heard an H use the W word on an h/woman so many times before!

In fact anyone and everyone thinks nothing of calling her that throughout the book. I don't feel her alleged indiscretion was any more than what he or the others in the town were up to. But still she was built up as this scandalous jezebel with unpardonable sins.

Hypocrites, the lot!

Lara, the h is quiet and dignified but also strong willed, tenacious, a fighter but contrarily also lets people walk all over her, label her and abuse her. She never pushes back. Her strength seems too goody-goody to me. It's okay to be nasty back at the baddies sometimes!

The secondary romance is one of the best parts of the book. Never seen a sweeter, nicer couple like the H's sister and her guy. Otherwise the book had too many characters walking in and out with their stories and

episodes leaving one impatient for more h/H interaction. The owl is quite vampy and determined - and he isn't completely successful in shaking her off!

The mcs barely have any tender moment for 90% of the book. He keeps feeding on his own prejudices and doesn't allow himself to feel any soft emotion for her. Even when she shares her heartbreakingly memories, he reverts back to his insulting jeering self pretty quickly. But it has to be said that despite the disregard and cruelty, the reader can sense the invisible but inevitable connect between these expected enemies.

And that's what explains the frustratingly quick ending with nary an i. But one gets it and one smiles!!

Toni says

I picked up "Where there's Smoke" without knowing what to think. My first foray into Sandra Brown was her recent publication, "Low Pressure," which was gifted to me by a friend for Christmas. I enjoyed the story but found it highly forgettable. In fact, when rereading the book a year or so later, I couldn't even recall the major events in the plot.

Next, I selected "Chill Factor," which I enjoyed even more than "Low Pressure," although I don't believe it will be much more memorable.

Going into "Where There's Smoke," I knew it had been published approximately two decades prior to the first SB novel I'd sunk my teeth into. That usually lends itself to three possible outcomes. First, the author will have evolved and improved over time, leaving the reader disappointed with earlier works. Second, the author proved herself with her earliest works and, at some point, simply began publishing trunk novels to appease readers and keep income flowing. The final possibility is perhaps the most dreaded of all: the author had no discernable improvement or decline over time, putting out consistently mediocre novels.

Again, with those possibilities in mind, I was unsure where I'd find myself with "Where There's Smoke." I found it to be typical of SB's other works but in a comfortable, familiar way, not one of complacency. Overall, this book provided me with a much more urgent need to keep reading, a factor that's most welcome for this bibliophile. I was kept guessing and intrigued from beginning to end and can safely say this is my favorite SB novel to date.

I love that her heroes can be counted on to be real men with real flaws, believable even if extraordinary in many ways. She doesn't pull punches with language or graphic details, although she doesn't go overboard and create crudeness in undue places just to up the intensity. She manages to draw out the major climaxes, keeping the reader furiously turning pages to find out what happens next. Overall, I found this to be a lovely work of fiction, earning itself a spot on my "favorites" shelf.

Kimberly Carrington-Fox says

Como culebronazo que este libro es, me lo he pasado pipa leyéndolo (no tanto como con Imagen en el espejo pero es que ese es lo más culebronesco que he leído en la vida, jeje). Esta lectura no es una novela romántica sino un libro de suspense romántico, donde lo principal es el pistaco, el secreto que todo Penry oculta y que queremos descubrir a toda costa, y el amor es algo más secundario. La relación entre Key y Lara es más bien una atracción pura y de boca dura que impregna toda la lectura y que se resuelve de un modo que ya

reconozco como típicamente browniano y que a mí me requetencanta. Key es un machote muy de la Brown, duro, nada moñas, que demuestra lo que siente con sus actos (a veces bastante brutos pero que a mí me ponen perraquilla) y no con sus palabras. Podrá ser un bebedor/vividor/picha alegre pero en lo importante es un hombre íntegro y leal. Lara es más íntegra y leal aún, una mujer golpeada hasta el extremo por la vida y que intenta sobreponerse a esos golpes constantemente incluso con la carga de secretos que lleva encima. En cuanto a los personajes no tengo ninguna queja, los protagonistas los he visto bien definidos y con un comportamiento coherente con su modo de ser (y con sus deseos bajariles), y los secundarios me han encantado, muy brownianos también, mostrándonos lo mejor y lo peor del ser humano, la sordidez de determinados ambientes, las preciosas historias de amor que pueden surgir donde menos te lo esperas... Además Sandra Brown siempre tiene para el lector una leche a mano vuelta que te hace ser consciente de que sus libros no son complacientes y de que, para llegar al HEA (final feliz), hay que pasar por muchas penas e incluso algunas deberemos sobrellevarlas forever (claro, que con Key dándote lo tuyo y lo de tu prima soportas tú hasta el peso del Coloso de Rodas). El libro tiene un ritmo muy ágil y no se entretiene en descripciones inútiles, algo que siempre agradezco mucho, aunque se me ha hecho un pelín más pesado cuando los personajes salen de Eden Pass. Eso sí, el tramo final es vertiginoso y no he podido dejar de leer hasta que me he dado de bruces con el final (final que a mí me ha gustado, me gusta que no me cuente todo de pe a pa ?). En fin, que a veces encontramos escritoras cuyo estilo nos engancha especialmente y, para mí, Sandra Brown es una de ellas, incluso aunque sus novelas no sean todo lo románticas que a mí me gustaría. [Reseña extraída del post recopilatorio del **#RitaBrown**]

ElaineY says

REVIEW OF AUDIOBOOK; 20 MARCH 2014

Narrator: Natalie Ross

Not even Natalie Ross' narration could save this. I like most of SB's books, both her oldies and newer ones. If I've read Where There's Smoke, I must have blocked it from my memory because I did not like this at all.

At first, it felt like the same old SB southern romance of rich vs white trash (which I enjoy so that's not a complaint) but I never warmed to Lara Mallory.

The first half, before they left for Montesangre, was okay. Good, in fact, but once they landed, it was as if another author took over. Lara descended into TSTL territory when they landed and Key Tackett wasn't any smarter. Both MCs were bent on goading the rebel leader to kill them, or worse. Key, at least, showed some common sense later and stopped his insults. Lara, unfortunately, would do dumb, childish things like throw the water given to her to drink. I gave her the benefit of the doubt, at first, thinking maybe she was just being cautious, suspecting her Americanized gut would not take kindly to the third world water. But no, she threw it because the rebel leader was a US-hating piece of scum. Key was more practical, the book said, and drank his.

But even that piece of stupidity from Dr Mallory pales in comparison to her screeching at the top of her voice (that's what Natalie Ross did, anyway) when Key was waiting for whoever to come through the door. He was going to shoot if they turned out to be the rebel soldiers who were already roaming the town looking for them. Why did she scream? Because she thought it *might* be Emilio, her late husband's aide, and she didn't want Key to shoot him. So of course Key is forced to shoot, anyway, and the gunfire brings the soldiers to where they are, making it even more difficult to escape. (it wasn't rebel soldiers or Emilio who was entering the room but a goat. Yup, a goat. Roaming around in the abandoned US embassy.)

And, there was just way too much wailing by Lara over her dead daughter. Of course, that could have been Natalie Ross' fault. She really gave Lara's caterwauling all she had.

I abandoned the duo in Central America and hoped Emilio shot them both.

Rating: 2 stars for the story; 3 stars for the narration.

Mo says

Enjoyed this one. Love it when the main characters start out not liking each other. Well, he definitely did not like for... and for a good reason.

No one knows why Dr. Lara Mallory came back home to Eden Pass, Texas to open up her medical practice after all these years. But everyone remembers her role in the well-publicized scandal that caused the downfall of White House hopeful Senator Clark Tackett....

To be honest, I had figured out some of the “WOW” factors that came along but that did not deter me from enjoying the book. Some parts were a bit unbelievable but with fiction, you have to suspend the disbelief the odd time.

Love was a word that poets and songwriters used ... Key had never seen any evidence of its magic, unless it was black magic....

There were a few twists and turns. Key's mother was some piece of work, the manipulative bitch. The townspeople were stuck in their ways. I liked Key's sister and her story.

[image error]

I have read a mixture of Sandra Brown's old and new books and her style has definitely developed in a good way.

Her will was voluntarily surrendered, and her mind went on a sensuous ride where nothing mattered except the connection mouth to mouth, tongue to tongue, man to woman. It fulfilled a primal need she wasn't even aware she possessed

His name drifted across her lips - a question, a profession, a prayer

Had to wait a long time for a steamy sex scene...but sometimes the anticipation is worth it. I love how her heroes are "real" men!! Not much sweet-talking and plenty of action.
