



Wild Aces

Marni Mann

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HIS EYES WERE AS COMMANDING AS HIS MOUTH...

When I met him, he was just a gray-eyed stranger behind a mask. He turned my head when no one else did, and he upped the ante by showing me what I'd been missing when our tongues met for the first time.

When I got to know him, he was still a stranger on the other end of the phone. He made my toes curl and my knees weak with his dirty words and dirtier suggestions. I was his wild ace, and he knew how to play me just right so that we both won.

But when the masks fell off and we finally put all our cards on the table, I had to decide if I'd fold—or go all in.

Wild Aces is a standalone erotic novel. If you enjoyed Brea from the Unblocked Collection, this is her story.

Wild Aces Details

Date : Published February 16th 2016 (first published 2015)

ISBN :

Author : Marni Mann

Format : ebook

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Adult Fiction, Erotica, Did Not Finish

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From Reader Review Wild Aces for online ebook

Vrsha (PeekAtMyBookReview) says

Rating : 4 'DAMN HOT...'Stars

My Views : Wild Aces is a spinoff novel from the Unblocked collection and this one is Brea's story, or should I say Trapper's story. This novel touched on a very sensitive issue which is child abuse and I loved how it was portrayed in this one. And since it's a Marni Mann, it definitely had scenes which were causing steam to rush off your kindle.

Style of writing : The hot scenes that Marni Mann writes on those pages can cause them to catch fire. Her story was fresh; I loved how she took an old concept, child abuse, but presented it in a fantastic way.

Characters : If you have read the Unblocked collection , you must know Brea. She is one feisty woman with a tough personality and what I liked most was the openness about her. I appreciated that her character didn't change in this one; she is the same Brea that we knew from Unblocked.

Trapper on the other hand is a new character. He is the child who suffered from multiple abuses since childhood and this made him grow into a strong person instead of being the ones who loses the battle of life. I admired his strength and what he does *sorry cannot reveal* after he grows up to being an adult is just marvellous.

Favorite Part : I loved mostly what secret job Trapper does, that was awesome.

What did not work? Hmm...Honestly this is purely me – I was lost when Trapper and Brea talked about the business. If you are in that domain then yeah, you understand but I skipped those bits.

Similar books? Nope...

Recommended : Yes, as I've said this one brings freshness to an old concept and it was really hot. If this is what you are looking for, then get this one.

Pre-order now at \$0.99 - <http://goo.gl/0zyOFB>

Click On The Color Splashes To Join Me ;)

warhawke says

Genre: Erotic Romance

Type: Standalone

POV: First Person - Dual

Rating:

Trapper Montgomery knew from a very young age that he couldn't rely on anyone else but himself. But a bad childhood didn't stop him from turning his life around and making a name for himself. As a successful professional poker player, he was a master at keeping cool until someone caught his eyes.

Brea Bradley was still recovering from a devastating turn in her life. She never thought a meet at a masquerade ball would spark something within her and made her crave for more. But both of them had a past and a secret that threatened to rip them apart.

I have to admit, I wasn't really a fan of Brea in the The Unblocked Collection. I was neutral towards her but I was curious of where her story would go, and I am pleasantly surprised how different it is from what I originally thought it could be.

He was masks and mystery and willing to take a risk with someone he didn't even know. He was dark nights of phone sex and gambling, a gravelly voice that could make me wet from afar.

Trapper was one hell of a sexy hero. His name alone made me want to trap his head in between my legs haha! There was an air of rebellion and darkness in him that made him so appealing to me.

Brea was complex and layered. I felt her despair and her darkness. I also felt her sensuality and her light.

In the end, I did end up liking Brea. She was a strong independent female character working towards shaking off her past.

Trapper and Brea together? Now that's a heat of nuclear proportion. I have no doubt in Marni Mann's sex scene writing ability, but she took it to the next level in this one. Every single one of them was scorching and Trapper tongue work could rival Derek's. My favorite was the phone sex – made me want to grab my phone and speed dial someone.

“Do you know what you're saying?” I asked. “Do you know how much trouble you could get in if we got caught? I'm not doing that to you.”

Wild Aces is an interesting, sexy story of how two individuals brought together but circumstance without knowing how much common ground they have. There was a dash of mystery/suspense elements that kept it engaging and some emotional parts to round it up nicely.

Note:

Wild Aces is a spin-off from The Unblocked Collection. However it is a complete standalone and you do not need to read the series to enjoy this one.

★ ★ ★ (F)BR With The Shhluts ★ ★ ★

Mainly with JaviG twin CC, Lonestar Liz trails behind, not sure what point Nawal is at, while Snail Pace Loyda and Salvatore hasn't even started lmao!

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Wendy's Thoughts says

4 You Gave Me What I Wanted Stars * * * * It's Live!

I love when a story is strong, multi-layered and has secondary characters who tug at you... saying Hey I am interesting and maybe there is more to me...Marni Mann is that type of author. She delivers wonderfully sensual books with more than just the two main characters to hold your attention.

In her last serial, there was a best friend of our gal, Frankie. Her name was Brea and she held your attention the second she appeared on the page. She had spirit, a willingness to be a bit out there and when push came to shove.... she fought for her friend and made sure everything turned out just right... she was loyal that way.

Wild Aces is her story. You do not have to have read **Unblocked** (only if you want smokin' hot sex and a great plot). This book stands on its own two feet.

We have Brea; confident, capable, captivating and still feeling the pain of loss. Her boyfriend was killed almost two years ago and she is finally coming out of the grief coma. She was with him; loved him and he was a cop. She had already experienced a close call and his death ripped her heart out.

But she has been clawing her way out of the darkness and her bestie, Frankie is having a masquerade party-masks mandatory. Brea is there at Frankie and Derek's home circulating, making nice. She is getting Frankie's drink and while waiting at the bar, she turns and sees a man with a Batman mask on coming towards her. Now there was a man...Masked and all....with piercing grey eyes and a body made up in dreams. He comes up next to her and somehow they start a conversation...him checking her out in a bandage dress and heels which make her legs miles long.

Brea is primed and ready to move on in her life. She has been filling the void and empty heart hole with

recreational, meaningless sex when desired. She saw first hand Frankie and Derek fall hard for each other and grow into a real relationship. She feels she is due to have that...that she deserves it too.

As she starts to talk with the masked man, zings of interest start to happen... a spark of a tease and connection where she wants to see what is what. They both seem to be walking and end up in a quiet side room of the house. She says something to egg Trapper, our Batman on....and then they kiss both with their masks on and eyes wide open. This is no ordinary kiss....it is as if dry ice has been laid at their feet and the fog starts to surround them, blocking out everything... the people in the other room, the noise, the world.... everything. If Trapper doesn't get control of himself and the situation... he will take things way to far, too fast. They break for air... and Trapper exits with explaining he has to go to Vegas in the AM...and here is his number - CALL.

Trapper wasn't lying; he needed to go to Vegas because he is a very successful professional poker player. He is in all the big tournaments and has a sponsor. Poker has been his safe place since his youth. A youth which was ugly and painful. A youth no child should experience and one which made more than the painful impact... it gave him memories and scars nothing can take away.

This is a story of complications and answers. It has a heart-wrenching prologue and unfortunately... it could be taken from any news story we seeTheses two characters were meant to meet and be together...even though it may seem too far fetched. By crossing paths at exactly the moment they did...not a day before...we have their POVs to take us on a journey where only if you pay very close attention will you know what is around the corner.

The chemistry between these two is off the charts and I would like to order a Trapper Montgomery to go please... Ms. Mann you can deliver him to me anytime... for this man is special.... in soooooo many ways. Of Course, he is built. Goes without saying....and Yes, he knows Exactly how to make a gal go Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh. But his heart is huge and he has had a life which only deserves the best so it is so very easy to love him.

This is a stand alone novel. A fast read and Winner from Marni Mann.

~~~~~ **Before Reading** ~~~~~

*Oh, Marni Mann... You have done it this time...*

*Bringing us Brea's Story, eh...*

*That smart, confident, strong woman...*

*Who knew just how to help her friend when needed...*

*But will our Brea recognize what is good for herself...*

*Will she up to the challenge...*

*When she meets her own Wild Ace...*

*Coming February 16, 2016*

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## Lo Bookfrantic says

### 4.5 "Mystery Man" Stars

**Genre:** *Erotic Romance*

**Type:** *Standalone*

**POV:** *First Person - Dual*

*"He was a mystery man I knew nothing about, and that made him even more appealing."*

*Wild Aces* is my very first book by this author and I absolutely devour this story in one setting. It was honestly nothing I expected to be and everything at the same time. I will be reading more of this author for sure.

*Trapper Montgomery* grew up in the foster system and had an awful childhood growing up; at an early age he knew that no one is worthy of his trust and he had to fend for himself. He turns his life around when he finally gets the break he needed and earned his living as a professional poker player. He practiced patience and how to read people for so many years that he knew exactly how to use a poker face and always win big time.

*Brea Bradley* was finally recovering from sad events in her life. She had lost the love of her life and it changed her life forever. She just couldn't deal but family and friends helped her and were there for her. Brea worked for her best friend and one evening at her friend's masquerade party she meets this mysterious guy; she didn't see his face but she wanted him as much as he wanted her. Their attraction was instant. It was really not an insta-love kind of book this was an insta-lust but one that you will truly enjoy. Two gorgeous people attracted to each other definable nothing wrong with that.

That day changed both of their lives; Trapper left to Vegas for a big poker event and Brea was left with her needs for him. They communicated via text and phone calls and that's how their relationship started; everything was great until he comes back and they finally get to meet each other for the first time. Brea literally lost it believing Trapper was her ex-lover and Trapper finds himself so confused and bound to find answers. Both of them realized something is up and with both of their research; secrets come out and it was a very suspenseful read that I enjoyed very much.

Not wanting to lose whatever each other have started feeling; they team up to find out the truth. Once they finally get to the bottom of everything their relationship is amazing. Truly hot and steamy and

**Trapper was definable a HOT man you don't want to miss on. If you have not read this book to all my romance/suspense reader this one is a must that I highly recommend. You will not regret this sexy, suspenseful, and hot ride.**

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**NiCoLeTa E. says**

**\*\*\*4,5 "Mysterious and full of Hotness" stars\*\*\***

Wow!!! This book blew my mind!!! I loved it!!!

Honestly, i wasn't expecting to be so good!!! But I thank God that for once again, i proved myself wrong!!!

That story was hot as hell, dark and mysterious... Full of surprises and hidden secrets!!!

The heroes were amazing, but Trapper stole the impressions, i think!!! At least for me!!!

I love this man!!! I want him for myself!!!! Pretty please???

Well, the prologue of this book managed to captivate me instantly!!!

From the first two pages my heart was pounding loud in my chest and my eyes was wattery....

And then, everything twisted and they got hot as hell!!!

Much hotter and you could be burn!!! Damn!!!

Everything started in a masquerade ball...

A man and a woman wearing masks came really close!!!

Their connection was instant, intense and so sexy!!!

After that night, things got even more hotter, but when the time for revelations came everything went to hell!!!



Brea was trying to go on with her life since the death of her boyfriend almost two years before...  
Trapper came unexpectedly in her life and even though his face was covered in a mask, he captivated her...

He made her feel alive and to crave things that she hadn't wanted for a long time...  
And when she finally was about to make that step, she saw him for the first time uncovered and she freaked the hell out!!!

***"He was masks and mystery and willing to take a risk with someone he didn't even know. He was dark nights of phone sex and gambling, a gravelly voice that could make me wet from afar."***

Trapper was a man with heavy past... He was full of mystery and hidden secrets...  
He was attractive and he knew how to treat a woman!!!

He was a very successful professional poker player... and at the same time he was dealing with some other things!!!

*No, i can't tell you!!! My lips are sealed!!!*

From the first moment, he felt a pull toward Brea and he couldn't take her out of his mind!!!

He was waiting for the day that he could have her all for himself...

But when that day came, Brea freaked out and run away from him and his world turned upside down...

***"Now that her mask was off, I took the time to really read her face. She wasn't a simple hand at all; Brea was complex and layered. I felt her despair and her darkness. I also felt her sensuality and her light. That was what drew me to her."***

***Could she be the escape I found in poker, the silence I found in cards?"***

*So what will happen with Brea and Trapper???*

*They are a lot of things that are standing between them, but can they overcome them???*

*Can Brea accept him as he is??? Or will his hidden secrets torn them apart for good???*

*Will Trapper discover the truth about his past???? And how will he react in what he will learn???*

***"There's a whole side of my life that you don't know about."***

***I don't tell anyone about it."***

***I want to tell you, and I want to show you."***

God, i loved this story...

It had a fast pace full of clever turns... I wasn't expecting this story to be so intriguing... and so seductive...

It was raw, dark, sexy, full of angst and suspense!!!

I had an amazing time!!!

I loved this couple with their ups and downs...

They were so good together and my heart was aching when they were apart...

Brea was a strong woman who had been through lots of pain in the last years, but she was fighting it and she wasn't giving up. Trapper came to her life like a ray of hope even if he seemed dark as the night. He captivated her with his powerful presence and it was impossible to back out, even though that his stance was screaming "dangerous!".

Trapper seemed dark and mysterious, but he had a golden heart. As a man, he was every woman's fantasy, but as a person, he was so unique and with a wonderful soul.

He'd been through hell as a kid, but he managed to turn this ugliness to something beautiful...

No, i can't reveal you anything more, but he earned my total respect and if he would be real, he would earn my absolute devotion!!!

*"The people I've let in, I never let out.*

*Not to scare you, but it's true....*

*You give me a little attention, and I never let you go."*

I honestly don't know what more can i say to you than the above...

It will be so good to give it a try by yourselves....

The only thing that i would like to share with you is that beyond Brea and Trapper, there were amazing characters inside this book that caught my attention...

*Frankie, Derek, Vera, Adrianna, Roman, Cody!!!*

Every one of them was amazing on his/her own way!!!

But, hell, i loved Frankie a little bit more...

She was such a great friend and such a rational character... I liked the fact that she was Brea's rationality when Brea was insanely stubborn!!!

**Note:** Frankie and Derek, as i realised very late, had their own story in the "**Unblocked**" series, but this one can be read as a standalone!!!

{I personally would love to find out how they ended up together!!! And i will!!!}

*I really can't wait to read more of Marni Mann's work!!!*

**\*\*\*ARC kindly provided via NetGalley for the exchange of an honest review\*\*\***

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**S.M. West says**

## **4.5 SCORCHING STARS**

This is a spinoff of Marni's fabulous The Unblocked Collection with a story about Frankie's best friend, Brea Bradley. It so happens that Derek also plays a role in Brea's tale as Trapper Montgomery, the hero, is a friend of Derek's. As an aside, Marni gives us a treat with snippets of Frankie and Derek (I wanted more of him but I'm not going to complain). If you haven't met Derek Block, you really should...you're missing out!

Trapper Montgomery is a professional poker player and he meets Brea at Frankie and Derek's masquerade party. Marni is genius as this little tidbit is crucial on many levels... most importantly it shouts that **the first spark, attraction or chemistry between two people is so much more than visual.**

And speaking of chemistry between Brea and Trapper....

I'd really liked Brea in the Unblocked Series and could seriously see us as friends in RL so I was eager for her story. She's one smart, perceptive and confident woman. And **Trapper was so intriguing and sexy with his darkness, commanding alpha demeanor but also a vulnerability about him that had me begging for more of him.**

Marni deftly develops **off the charts sexual tension, need and lust** between these two...

with some seriously sexy and frustratingly naughty sexting and phone sex scenes. Talk about building anticipation and then she **ripped the rug out from under me.**

I'll read anything Marni writes! **This was a complex, sexy and tender love story with action and tension** and did I mention HOT chemistry?!

This was a fast, enthralling read. I devoured this in a mere few hours and was sad when it ended. **I highly recommend this hot number!!**

**\*\*ARC generously provided by Marni Mann in exchange for an honest review.\*\***

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**Sophie \*\*2 Greek Girls Reading\*\* says**

#### **4.5 Wild stars**

Brea has lost her boyfriend two years ago and she's trying to move on, now that the pain is getting better. She keeps having flashbacks of him and it's not easy, but she's working on it. In a masquerade party she meets a mysterious stranger that will tempt her and steal her mind with his familiar eyes and his dirty mouth.

Trapper is carrying a lot of baggage and he's dealing with it with the only way he has coped all of these years. Playing poker and winning tournaments, but there's also something else that he's hiding.

"When I was twelve, I was hanging out at Aced, studying eyes, learning expressions, mastering the ability to read opponents."

When he meets Brea he's mesmerized and their conversations are scorching. There's definitely chemistry between them and he's impatient to meet her again. But when they finally meet again, without masks this

time, something unexpected happens. Something that will confuse things between them. Will they be able to get over the obstacles that show up and will this mystery get untangled? And what about Trapper's secrets? Will they also destroy what they're trying to build?

"We were all fucked up in our own way, all victims of some kind of tragedy, all trying to make it out alive in a world that got darker by the day."

Wild Aces was my first read by Marni and I am truly impressed. I really enjoyed this one and I was hitting my head against the wall for not reading the Unblocked series earlier! Derek seems amazing and I will be reading his story with Frankie!

As for Trapper and Brea they were both amazing characters, I truly enjoyed them both separate and together. They were on flames even from distance, whoah, just whoah! Their dialogues were also **well written** and I liked the mystery surrounding them. I didn't see the plot twists and I was surprised, although for some reason I expected more suspense.

I think it's quite an enjoyable story and if you like **erotic** books with a dose of **angst and mystery**, this one will definitely work for you. Give it a try and you won't regret it. Trapper is a man you don't want to miss, trust me!

*ARC was kindly provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.*

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**Elizabeth says**

**~4.5 WILD ACES STARS~**

**"A place without screaming and cursing. Without punching and kicking. A place where I would finally feel safe."**

**Wild Aces** is my first Marni Mann read, and I can assure you it will not be my last. (Please hold while I run to AMAZON and stock my Kindle now!) Where have I been? This stand alone read is sure to please! With its heady mix of steam, tender romance, and a touch of intrigue, you too will join the "TRAPPER IS THE MAN" bandwagon!

**"I'm a hard-ass every day."**

Brea Bradley is a hard working professional. Loyal to her friends and covered in love by her family, Brea has

managed to set up a successful life for herself. However, after losing her boyfriend, years ago, in a tragic accident, one thing Brea has not been able to do is to allow herself to love again. But when her best friend, and employer, Frankie hosts a masquerade party. Brea meets a man behind a mask that will rock her world (and yours too by the way)!

**"His name was Trapper, he wore a Batman mask, and he didn't have a date."**

Dressed to impress in a mysterious mask, Trapper Montgomery is happy to attend his friend Derek's Masquerade party. When he discovers the beautiful, yet also masked, Brea Bradley, the two share a passionate kiss and numbers are exchanged.

**"This was a kiss from a man who somehow already knew every inch of my body. I didn't want him to stop."**

With Trapper heading out to Vegas to compete in a professional poker tournament, both Brea and Trapper must rely on sexy texts and phone calls to tide them over until they can truly come together. The anticipation of the meet drives these characters to drown in one another! Trapper has overcome many demons from his past, and Brea is like a beacon of goodness that he wants to cling to.

**"Her sweetness was refreshing, different from the girls I was used to."**

When Trapper and Brea finally meet face to face, things do not go as planned. Realizations are made and both must come to terms with their circumstances and find a way through the maze of life together.

**"The people I've let in, I never let out. Not to scare you, but it's true."**

Told in dual POV, **Wild Aces** has a well-developed plot, complex characters, and the passion between the two main characters is off the charts! Although I felt I was able to figure out the elements of the mystery early on in the read, Ms. Mann kept me on the edge of my seat the entire time. I could not wait to see how things were going to unfold. Trapper and Brea are strong characters individually and together they make a perfect pair! The tempo of the read is well paced and the secondary characters enhanced the story nicely.

**"She tasted of cinnamon and lust, flavors I wanted to swallow and savor all night."**

Overall, I highly recommend **Wild Aces** to contemporary romance readers who love a gritty tattooed hero and confident heroine. For me, that is a magical mix! **Wild Aces** is a stand-alone but it is a spin-off of Ms. Mann's **Unblocked Timber Towers Series**. Although I haven't had the opportunity to meet Derek, the hero in **Unblocked**, I assure you the little taste of him in **Wild Aces** has convinced me that it's time to make my reservation and fulfill that appointment. Trapper has convinced me that I need to explore these characters thoroughly! **Wild Aces** was a stunning read and I cannot wait to explore more from this author!

**\*This was a BR with the SHHLUTS!!!~**

**\*ARC graciously provided via publisher in exchange for an honest review!\***

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**◆\*Arianna◆\* says**

**3.75 Stars!!**

“*Wild Aces*” by Marni Mann is an erotic novel, a spinoff of another series by this author, entitled “*Unblocked*” and it can be read as a stand-alone. Marni delivered an entertaining story, a great mix of steam, intrigue and romance which I quite enjoyed it. The story is well-layered, written in dual POV, with a great story-line and some sexy scenes that for sure will leave you hot and bothered.

“*Wild Aces*” tells the story of Brea Bradley, character we previously met in the “*Unblocked*” series. Brea is working in real estate business. She’s hardworking, professional and has a great family and friends. What’s missing from her life is a man, a man like her last boyfriend who she lost in a tragic accident two years ago. She still thinks about him, she still remembers his voice, she still feels that pain that almost destroyed her.

*“Are you going to keep chewing your lip like that?” he asked. “Or do you want me to take over for a while?”*

Trapper Montgomery is the man who charms Brea at a private masquerade party hosted by Brea's best friend and her husband. He carries a lot of baggage and he also loves poker, being the best out there, winning tournament after tournament.

Trapper is mesmerized by Brea’s voice, attitude and sexiness. The chemistry between them is sizzling, and they simply can’t stay away from each other. After they share a passionate kiss and they exchange numbers they part ways. Trapper heads out to Vegas with business, but they stay in touch with sexy texts and phone calls. Neither of them can walk away from the other. Even if they didn’t see each other face to face without masks, both of them know their connection is special.

*“Could she be the escape I found in poker, the silence I found in cards?”*

When they meet face to face both of them are shocked when they find out who they really are. Now, a relationship between them seems almost impossible since everything in their lives is so complicated.

I liked this one! It was pretty fast-paced, which I enjoyed, it was sexy as hell and the plot was well developed. My favorite aspect of the story of course is was our hero, Trapper. Damn, he was hot! His mysterious vibe won me over from the beginning and his sexy talk was just yummy. Sexy and charming, Trapper was very easy to like from the start. Yes, he carries a lot of baggage, but he's not really damaged or anything. Let's just say he's dark-ish. He has a heart of gold and as the story unfolds you will find out why exactly I'm saying this. Brea was a likeable character as well. I liked her confidence and the fact that she was independent. For the most part, I found her character great, but I have to say there were a few times when I really wanted to knock some sense into her. Needless to say she annoyed me a little bit. Both these characters were engaging and I enjoyed how well their backgrounds were portrayed.

***“With every pump, he was trying to empty his darkness into me, like he was cleansing himself of the shadows that haunted him.  
And I was more than willing to take it all.”***

I loved the chemistry between these two. What starts as insta-lust, which it didn't bothered me...too much, became something more...and I liked it, but I would have wanted their relationship to be a little more developed. Also I would have preferred the story to be more about them, than about...something else.

As for the mystery element, I really wouldn't have minded to be more developed. Anyway,...overall, “*Wild Aces*” was an enjoyable, sexy read with some twists that will keep entertained until the end. I'm looking forward to read more by this author!

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### ♥ Jx PinkLady Reviews ♥ says

\*Live! \* Amazon US \* Amazon UK \*

WILD ACES is a SEXY love story with complex characters and themes that provide an emotional depth to the narrative. The story is a spinoff of Marni Mann's UNBLOCKED series, a series that's close to my heart. I adored it and fell in love with Brea, one of the supporting characters, and highly anticipated her moment to shine as the heroine in WILD ACES with her sexy sass and wit.

The beginning of WILD ACES drew me in. I love the writing style of Marni Mann and was on the edge of my seat for an angst layered tale. Trapper is undoubtedly the star of the story. He has a mysterious import business and is a professional poker player a combination that weaves a dose of mystery and intrigue through the story which I appreciated greatly. Trapper is incredibly engaging and his history is hugely rich in heavy emotion and angst which enamoured me to his broken soul. I wanted to know every detail about his past, his personality and what makes him tick and as his character was unveiled to me layer by layer, I felt his pain and the emotion of his traumatic past.

Marni Mann is an author whose writing I hold in high regard, she showed me the power of her erotic, sensual and emotional prose in Unblocked but for my personal taste, Wild Aces never reaches the same level. There

are elements that I really liked but equally certain elements pulled me out of the story and affected my enjoyment. I found the beginning pertaining to the protagonists meeting and subsequent relationship to be rushed in terms of their emotions, one moment they didn't know each other and the next they seemed to be devoted, it felt like their feelings went from 0 to 100 and I feel this affected my entire read in kind of a domino effect. I truly feel Trapper's torched history could have helped build a slower relationship with the heroine and therefore a stronger story foundation. Also the coincidences that form the impetus for parts of the story arc are a little too far-fetched. If I'd been more invested in the relationship of Trapper and Brea, because of a stronger foundation, I believe the coincidences would have mattered far less to me.

The emotion evoked between the hero and heroine, during the middle section is my favourite aspect of the story arc. It felt authentic and therefore made me feel.... I wanted more moments like this between Trapper and Brea to be truly and completely invested in their romance. Marni Mann is an author I hold in high esteem, her writing wows me when she's in line with my reading tastes and there's no doubt that she creates and depicts the most beautiful characters, writing highly sexy and erotic prose, and this story is no exception.

NOTE: WILD ACES is a STANDALONE story told from the alternating perspective of the hero and heroine.

Advanced copy provided by the author for my honest review thoughts.

★ Teaser created by myself with Stock image I obtained from depositphotos and PEXELS ★

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## Stacey is Sassy says

### Not the smutty, smut I was expecting.

When ARCs became available for *Wild Aces* I jumped at the chance to read another of *Marni Mann's* smutty stories. Finding out that it was Brea's put a great big smile on my face. *Wild Aces* ended up being a wee bit surprising. I had previously read the Unblocked series with Frankie and Derek, which introduced me to the lovely Brea. I opened up my review copy with a smirk on my face...but the smirk slowly disappeared. The smutty smut book I was expecting, started with a very serious beginning.

Brea works in real estate with her boss, Frankie, who is also her best friend. They are wine drinking, chocolate eating, and smut talking buddies. There aren't too many secrets between them. Frankie knows all about Brea and Brea knows all about Frankie. Brea has faced a lot of heartache, but she is slowing coming back to herself. Frankie and Derek, Frankie's husband, are having a masquerade party. Brea has struggled to find a man who can satisfy her both in and out of bed. With her mask firmly in place, Brea attends the party and meets a man named Trapper. They don't spend much time together just enough for a quick chat, a heated kiss and him giving her his phone number...without seeing each others face.

Trapper is a professional gambler. He finds playing cards soothing and the only time his brain is occupied enough to block his memories and bad thoughts. As a distraction from a tournament he's about to attend he accepts Derek's invitation to a masquerade party. With his batman mask firmly in place, he is not looking to party hard, drink too much or find a hookup. Brea certainly wasn't the distraction he was looking for, but this distraction sure is wrapped up pretty like a present. Unfortunately, it's a little too distracting the night before a tournament and he leaves her before he's too tempted.



What follows for Trapper and Brea, is a few days of very intense foreplay. Lips, eyes, and voices are the only things they know about each other, but that does not stop them from forming a connection. Brea can't wait until Trapper is back and Trapper can't wait to get his hands on Brea. When he is finally back in town they organise to meet up at a restaurant. They're both nervous but are confident that looks will play a small part when they meet. Unfortunately, that small part ended up being **MAJOR** and causes an epic emotional breakdown from Brea.

*Wild Aces* takes us on a journey with Trapper and Brea as they face hurdles that not too many couples face. Trapper's very ugly history has led him on a certain path. His support network up until now has been Roman, Vera, and Adriana. When Brea gets to know Trapper better, she is challenged to make the decision to back him or walk away.

I did not find this an overly smutty read. There were plenty of sexy times, it just didn't give me the same reaction I had with *Unblocked*. The storyline for *Wild Aces* is at times hard to take and ugly when seen for the horrible choices people make. To be honest, I was expecting a smutty read. While I did enjoy it, I struggled as well. I'm not a very forgiving reader and after finding out what the three closest people to Trapper kept from him, I didn't think I had it in me to forgive them. I also think the heat factor was a bit off. It was like a see-saw with a high and a low side that struggled to stay on an even keel. Trapper was a dirty talking, action man who left me on a high...while Brea's sexy talk was not at all sexy to me and dragged the scenes down.

I enjoyed *Wild Aces* and I was glad Brea had her story told. Now I'm just waiting for Derek's assistant Will to get his HEA...and I will crack up if it involves whips and chains :-)

\*\*\*Warning - There are a few scenes with violence against children.\*\*\*

**I received an ARC of *Wild Aces* via the author for an honest review**

To pre-order your copy of *Wild Aces* from Amazon - <http://amzn.to/1oqrHT5>

**I'm an Aussie chick who loves to read and review romance, drink coffee, be a *Style Setter* and stalk David Gandy. To see more of my reviews, fashion, food and pervathons -**

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**Dee Montoya says**

**4.5 Ace Stars\*\*\*\*\***

*(ARC Kindle provided by author in exchange for an honest review)*

Marni Mann has done it again!!!! This author has proved with her penmanship why she's high on my favorite author's list. Trapper and Brea's story is a total winner. Marni Mann has created a wildly entertaining story that will squeeze your heart and also raise your body temperature to nuclear levels.

Starting with the gorgeous cover, you'll picture Mike Chabot as Trapper. The sexy poker player, that is very

talented at the game table but in his life he has a no-BS policy and simply goes after what he wants. Trapper plays to win and I have no doubt that he'll conquer the heart of anyone who reads this novel.

Trapper Montgomery grew up in the foster care system. Going from home to home and suffering terrible abuse. One night after getting kicked out yet again, he finds himself in the all too familiar position of being homeless and beaten. That night a stranger takes pity on him and changes his life with a simple act of generosity.

He goes on to take shelter at a poker club where the owner takes a liking to him and Trapper becomes his apprentice. There, he realizes he has a real talent for numbers and cards. Year after year he gets better, and Trapper becomes a very successful poker player, achieving success and notoriety but he never forgot his past. Even after all of the years has passed, those memories haunt him and drive him to achieve an even more complicated goal.

Brea Bradley has found success in the real state business. She has a job and friends she loves but she is getting fed up with the dry spell she's been in, and is ready to add passion to her life. Brea knew love once, but it was abruptly taken away from her. It took a long time for her to get over her loss and give dating another try, but she hasn't met anybody worth her time.

Brea and Trapper meet under very enigmatic circumstances, the attraction is instant and the sexual tension, sizzling hot. But what will happen when all the smoke around them clears, and they see each other for who they really are? Will the connection grow cold or burn even hotter ?

*Wild Ace* is a sexy spin-off of the Unblocked series, but this book can be read as a standalone. Since Brea and Frankie are best friends, we get an inside look into the lives of her and Derek and there's a lot of great surprises in this book for those of us fans, of the Unblocked series.

This story is very sexy and has the very well thought out element of surprise. The twists and turns will keep you highly entertained and the steam, well... You might need to take a cold shower or two as you read through the sexy chapters.

Both Trapper and Brea are very strong characters but they shared a tenderness that added more depth to the story, making *Wild Aces* the complete package book.

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**Alba and Her Secrets..♥ says**

#### **4.5 'No Masks' Stars!**

*ARC provided via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.*

I have seen many of my GR friends raving about this book and this author, so I was excited when I recieved the ARC the day of its publication! I have never read anything by Marni Mann but now I can say that *Wild*

*Aces* will not be my last book from hers, for sure. This was amazing!!

*Wild Aces* is stand-alone novel written by said author but it can be considered a spin-off of Mann's *Timber Towers* series because it features the main characters in there too. So, maybe it's better if you read that series before this one (I would have loved not having any spoilers about Frankie and Derek and you have some in *Wild Aces*). However, that is just my opinion about that. You can totally read this novel without reading the said previously.

Now, this book tells the story of Trapper Montgomery (a hot, tattooed man, with an abusive past and a quite mysterious present) and Brea Bradley (Frankie's best friend, a woman who has suffered the loss of a loved one and finds herself very attracted to Trapper's darkness and hotness, of course!).

***She had curves to grasp, perfectly sized tits to get lost in. A body that I needed to worship. Lips that would fit perfectly around my cock as I slid it toward the back of her throat. But her eyes were what drew me in the most. They'd seen a hell of a lot of pain. She'd seen even more of it when she'd shown me her tattoo. Wherever she had gone—a flashback, a memory—I had been to that place. And when I looked into her eyes, it was like looking into my own.***

I really enjoyed this novel. Trapper and Brea are amazing, complex characters who have gone through some pretty shitty stuff, especially Trapper. I was heartbroken since I started reading, he has suffered so much, poor thing. Still, he has become a great man (even a hero, according to Brea: and I agree!). Brea is also kick-ass and what I enjoyed the most about her (apart from the love story) is her friendship with Frankie (I really want to read her story now!!!), they are super funny and they have an amazing trusting relation. Most of the secondary characters in the book are great, I enjoyed their interactions with the main characters a lot.

***We were all fucked up in our own way, all victims of some kind of tragedy, all trying to make it out alive in a world that got darker by the day.***

However, what I loved the most about *Wild Aces* is the love story, obviously! Trapper and Brea meet in a mask party and the sparks are instant. These two have amazing chemistry in every freaking thing: THAT FIRST KISS, holy cow!! And the sex scenes are sexy as hell, Trapper is freaking good dirty talker! And always able to give Brea whatever she wants ;)

***“Trapper...your tongue. It's fucking wicked.”***

***He looked up at me from between my legs, his eyes ravenous, his lips wet from me. “You want more of it?”***

***“Yes.”***

He is wicked, indeed! And *Wild Aces*, as a whole, is an amazing novel. It gives you a roller coaster of emotions and you find yourself laughing, crying, melting and everything else in between! Loved it! However, the only thing that maybe I wanted is to have more moments of the couple together because they are THAT good together!

***In my own darkness, there were no voices. No memories. Nothing at all tugging at me, except for him and his beautiful scars.***

Therefore, my rating for *Wild Aces* is 4.5 STARS because I really loved this story and I wanted more of these two fantastic characters together and the people around them. Loved the story and the chemistry and I cannot wait to check out more books by Marni Mann, especially Frankie and Derek's story which I am sure I

will read pretty soon! So, what can I say, I totally recommend this!!

**CHECK OUT MY BLOG HERE:**

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### **Olga therebelreader says**

*Wild Aces* is a story about love, loss, family, forgiveness, and coping. It touches your heart and makes your pulse race, it's filled with drama, unexpected twists and turns and tremendous heartache. The author absolutely blew me away with this unforgettable story!! It shocked me to the core and definitely it's a story that you won't easily forget.

The way that Trapper and Brea handle their heartbreak, and the transformations that these characters all go through were just beautiful. Brea had a wonderful life. A life she was perfectly content with; until one day it all was stripped away from her. When Cody, Brea's ex, was killed instantly by a car two years ago, he left her heart broken and her world a very lonely place. Her best friend Frankie keeps her up and moving. Then she meets sexy mysterious Trapper at a masquerade party. The desire and attraction is palpable, but the truths revealed by removing the masks are shocking, jaw-dropping and most surprising!

Trapper is a successful professional poker player but underneath the professional exterior is a man with a secret life. Unable to break the desirable attraction they feel for one another, they start to get involved. When their past boldly saunters in, refusing to be forgotten, they'll have to decide if it's a truth they can live with!

Trapper and Brea had such great chemistry. It's like they just clicked. Their love is what made this story so incredible, and it's that suspense and build-up of sexual tension that will keep you turning the pages frantically!

The author gave life to secondary characters in a way that added to the story, but never overshadowed the main characters. Twists & turns, ups & downs, and insides outs ensue. Personally I thought *Wild Aces* was beautifully written and had great flow. After much drama, intrigue and heartache two broken pieces of a puzzle come together.

***ARC provided via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.***

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## Katy Loves Romance ♥? says

### 4.75 Gripping Stars

Ok ok I'm still reeling from this book after finishing 48hours ago I'm pretty darn shocked by the plot... Thinking this would be a smexy read which is what I knew Marni for, from the unblocked serial series sigh. But WOAHH this is a gripping read for me, I couldn't put it down once I got the time to tuck in to it...

#### So what's it about??

This about Frankies best friend Brea and Trapper a guy she meets at Frankie's masquerade party. So these pair bump into each other getting a drink easy sexy and a normal sexy way to meet but there is nothing normal about this couple. Being they don't actually know each other's faces due to the Masks that they're both wearing, so they develop a relationship on sexting over a week until they actually decide to go on a date properly..

Brea though has had it tough, her Ex was killed in an accident which has consequentially meant she hasn't been with anyone really in all aspects of a relationship. Her life consists of work and her family who is her **ROCK** and her best friend Frankie who has been beside her through thick and thin. So getting to know Trapper kind of Torre with her emotions in moments but she also loved the newness and the sexiness of not knowing whom was behind that mask...

I'm not going to tell you guys anymore about that because it will spoil the book and I want you to read and enjoy it just the way I have. Saying that I will say this, Trapper comes from a dark past, his childhood was **NOT** a pleasant one. He was neglected and ended up in the foster care system. But he came out the other side and is now is a well known famous Card Dealer, he works and plays in Aces which is a place where he's in card tournaments. He loves the feel of cards and what they represent, but he also travels the country to play games. He knows how to win games, he gets to know how people react, how people connect and how people play. He exceeds in his job so he's known as the best. I suppose it's all he's know, cards are Trappers happy place and he'll play for hours in a heartbeat.

But letting Brea in is a first for him, because although he may have flings his feelings for Brea are much more deeper and he wants to get to know her properly.

#### My Thoughts

I was shocked initially by the development of this story because although the beginning has the intrigue and sexiness of getting to know you. This plot was what the main core of the story was about! It really did keep me on my toes, and I couldn't stop turning the pages.

There are some parts that were slightly unrealistic for me though at times, but this is fiction and I'm taking my hat off to Marni for being brave and dealing with a tougher subject than anything I've read off her so far. I love books that pull at my heart, grab hold of my thoughts, make me think and ultimately love the characters.

I'd say I enjoyed the unblocked series but **I DEVOURED** this and for that reason I am 100% in with this book. I'd recommend it to anyone who enjoys family topics, love stories, abuse, it's not hard core but it does cover it and that maybe a hard limit for people. I'd say though you really should give it a chance, this isn't a dark romance just one filled with intrigue, angst of sorts and emotional love.

**Enjoy Kt Xoxo**

This is a STANDALONE Romance but side characters from Marni's Unblocked Serial series.

All my visuals are made from Deposit Photos that I have brought myself.

*An ARC was gifted generously from Marni Mann in exchange for an honest review*

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