



Risky Business: A Passionate Novel of Suspense

Nora Roberts

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From #1 New York Times bestselling author Nora Roberts comes a fan favorite story of danger and mystery.

Dive shop owner Liz Palmer has made an idyllic life for herself in Cozumel. But everything changes when her employee is murdered and his grieving twin brother storms into Liz's life with revenge in his heart. Suddenly Liz is plunged into the dangerous world of drug smugglers, and she discovers how impossible it is to resist both the mystery...and the passionate man trying to solve it.

Risky Business: A Passionate Novel of Suspense Details

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Author : Nora Roberts

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Mirjam says

Risky Business is one of Nora Roberts' earlier works, which shows. It's a nice book with lots of suspense, but it lacks the superb quality of her later works. I find it difficult to refrain myself from comparing it to her current works, which would not be fair. The characters are likeable, the suspense is well-done and the mystery well thought out. I enjoyed reading it, but I don't think I will re-read this book as I often do her other works.

Steelwhisper says

Okay, so now I've read a Nora Roberts. I'm rather thankful that this was a library lend and not something I bought.

----- spoilershed -----

The book is dated, severely dated in fact. The hero is smoking without any comment by anyone around him, he simply goes ahead and not only visits the parents of the heroine without her knowledge, he even takes her ten-year-old daughter alone out to the zoo and buys her stuff. Today this comes over as rather skeevy, just as his comments about said daughter.

The writing was so incredibly facile that I ended up being very astonished about the success of this author. The plot was harebrained and thin, the prose nothing to positively notice, headhopping occurred by the paragraph, even sentence at times, and the romance was none. Just "plop" and suddenly they were kissing. No emotional journey at all. This is less than what I'd expect a teenaged girl to write these days.

Some reviewers commented on the "arseholish hero". That amuses me a bit right there, because yes, the hero is overbearing. But. But he doesn't even come near the horrid antisocial bad-boy alphas the rage in contemporary romance at the moment! He's a stupid idiot, but relatively benign compared. Not that anyone mistakes this and thinks he is an acceptably normal guy. Just that he is mild-mannered compared to the idiot alpha hunks populating romance right now.

I don't recommend this book.

Alexis-Morgan Roark says

These were some REALLY DUMB villains! Aside from that, it was a good read for what it was: an 80s romance. You know what to expect and you get it...although, the hero wasn't NEARLY as big a jerk as I've read from other books in the same time period.

Jess says

I actually think I wanted this to be shorter, which is not something I say about a category length title very often.

Lisa Kay says

★★★★☆ Well narrated by Gabra Zackman. Difficult to rate this book NR wrote way back in 1986. Twenty-five years ago! Parts of it definitely dipped down to 3 stars, but others were excellent. At certain times the pacing is off. Neat to see the romantic suspense writer she will become, but hard not to compare it to the best of to her current work. I love a good treasure hunt and a diving story, so I'm going with four stars.

Cindi says

Loved the setting, Caribbean. Again, some romance, a d some mystery. Good combination !!!

Rachel Maloney says

To a point, I can understand why this story is so offensively patriarchal; the book is from the late 80s - things were different then. However, a weak-willed heroine plus an over-bearing-to-the-point-of-ridiculousness hero with a completely unrealistic masculine pov, multiplied by an unbelievable (in a bad way) love story, equaled lots of skipped pages. I enjoyed the mystery/suspense portions so much more than the 'romance,' as the latter had me stopping multiple times to groan or roll my eyes. It sucked, because if the romance part had been better the book would be a really fun read.

From now on, I will endeavor to check the decade of first publication the next time I check out a Nora Roberts book, even if it's on sale for kindle. Lesson learned.

Dee says

Review haiku:
Murder brings lawyer
To diving business owner.
Love in Cozumel.

Melodie says

Risky Business is another one of Nora Roberts earlier books, circa 1986. And she combines mystery and romance very well. Her focus character, Liz Palmer, was easy to relate to. Single mom, jilted by rich boyfriend while pregnant, starts over in Cozumel. Works her way up from hotel maid to owning her own business. Fiercely independent and determined not to expose herself to the hurt of romantic involvement again. I liked her.

A murder mystery begins almost immediately, so this is a page turner for that reason alone. The love interest, twin brother to the murder victim, comes on the scene. Jonas Sharpe is the responsible twin, who has played the straight man for his adventurous, womanizing brother all his adult life. A lawyer (of course) he is determined to find his brother's killer and mete out his own brand of justice.

While not the most likable man, he and Liz do the romance dance as the mystery unfolds and eventually find themselves having an island romance. When the mystery is solved and Liz decides to send Jonas on his way, it gets creepy. Having been told no thank you by Liz and sent packing back to the States, he takes it upon himself to contact her parents and said parents allow an unaccompanied visit to Liz's ten year old daughter to the local zoo!

And when the daughter and parents come for their summer visit with Mr Creepy tagging along with an engagement rock, Liz is flabbergasted and says yes! I don't care what decade this was written in, that kind of creepazoid behavior would not fly with any mother I know of!

Fortunately, the mystery was engaging enough to keep me interested. The romance was controlling b.s. and I was sorry that Liz fell for it.

Sandra de koning-vd pol says

Ben blijven lezen, dit boek leest lekker weg in gezelschap van zon. Net echt ;)

Lauribooks says

El libro en general está bien. La trama es buena, aunque puede ser algo predecible, sorprende bastante una vez resuelto el caso. Lo que no me ha gustado de esta novela es que el final es un poco precipitado, se quedan muchas cosas en el aire, sin resolver, que a mí me hubiera gustado conocer. Creo que este libro ganaría mucho más si se le añadieran 50 o 100 páginas detallando lo que sucede desde que se resuelve el caso para poder entender bien el final de la novela y hacerlo creíble, ya que hay un salto temporal y el final llega de repente.

En resumen, el misterio me ha gustado, lo que no me ha terminado es como se resuelve la historia entre los protagonistas.

Tania Martins says

Gostei tanto desta história, para além das paisagens de Cozumel de sonho gostei da forma como Jonas e Liz se apaixonam a par de tudo o mistério inerente ao crime em questão e aquele final foi mesmo cute com a

filha dela de regresso aos braços da mãe na ilha!

Mojca says

Another good NR oldie. Wonderful suspense with the drug-trafficking ring, great pacing, and wonderful hero. The heroine bugged me, though, which came as a huge surprise. And it's because of her indecision, her insecurity, and her inability to face the truth about herself, that lowered the rating for this story. I could've done without all her "angst".

Still, it was a pleasurable, quick, exciting, and intriguing read.

Natalie says

I've read so many Nora Roberts books over the years, I'm really out of compliments on her work. However, I'll give it a shot. *LOL*

This is a typical Nora Roberts book. A little different in my opinion than her usual stuff, but nevertheless excellent. You have a heroine who became pregnant in college and for reasons explained in the book, she leaves her home and even her country to start a new life with her daughter. She winds up creating a successful business and a comfortable life for her and her child.

The book starts when the glass-bottomed boat she is captaining comes across a horrific scene. The passengers spy through the bottom of the boat a man with an anchor around his neck, obviously murdered.

Police investigations and the arrival of the murdered man's brother causes the heroine's life to be temporarily chaotic.

Overall, I would recommend this book. It's definitely one of those books to pack in your bag or download to your e-reader and take on a plane, a bus or best yet, to the beach and have a light, enjoyable read. So go for it!

Brendagarza says

Nora Roberts tiene una enorme capacidad de entretenir, cierto que algunos libros son mucho mejores que otros, pero no podemos negar su enorme capacidad de entretenir, con libros románticos con toques de suspense e intriga.

Enmarcado en la isla de Cozumel, los protagonistas se ven envueltos en un asesinato y narcotraficantes, aunque el argumento pareciera pesado, la realidad es que es muy pero que muy ligero.
