



# Broken English

*Marita A. Hansen*

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Marita A. Hansen

## Broken English Marita A. Hansen

For me, the name Dante conjured up two images. The first was the epic depictions of Hell from Dante's Inferno, with people burning for their sins. The second image was a sexual depiction. I don't know where it came from, but as far back as I can remember, I had always associated the name Dante with a beautiful and sexy man. I'd imagined a dark-haired, dark-eyed, gorgeous lothario, the type who could capture a woman's heart with just one look. Dante was the Fabio of my generation, the heartthrob that got women's hearts beating fast, made us want this man to rip our clothes off and to throw us onto the bed.

Little did I know that the Dante that walked into my life was very different from the one I'd imagined. Oh, he was dark-haired, dark-eyed, gorgeous, even a lothario ... just ... he wasn't a man. Instead, he was someone who was going to send me to the Hell his namesake had written about.

*And I was his teacher.*

Tags: Taboo, Literary Fiction, Teacher/Student Relationship, English Teacher, Male Student, Mental Health Issues, Abuse, Poetry, Gangs, High School.

*The BROKEN LIVES series will be broken up into two sets (duets). Each set (duet) has a self-contained, standalone story. Broken English (part 1) and Shattered Poetry (Part 2) are the first set, finishing the high school stage of Clara's and Dante's lives. The next set, books 3 and 4, is a new story, taking their relationship to another level.*

## Broken English Details

Date : Published August 2nd 2016

ISBN :

Author : Marita A. Hansen

Format : ebook 291 pages

Genre : Romance, Young Adult, High School

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# From Reader Review Broken English for online ebook

**KAT ? Kitty Kats Crazy About Books ? says**

**\*\*\*Complimentary Copy\*\*\*** Provided by the author  
"Marita A. Hansen" in exchange for an honest review..Thank you!!

**TITLE:** Broken English  
**SERIES:** (Broken Lives #1)  
**AUTHOR:** Marita A. Hansen  
**GENRE:** Contemporary Romance  
**CHAPTERS:** 29  
**RELEASE DATE:** August 2ND, 2016

**MY RATING: 5 STARS**

**BROKEN ENGLISH:** Spoken in 'Dual Perspectives' Dante & Clara, set in the year 2002

We're first introduced to happily married, twenty-four year old Clara, she's returned to her homeland New Zealand after teaching abroad with her husband joining her in a few weeks.

It's her first day teaching English at Wera High School in the shadier district of South Auckland, New Zealand. Stepping out of her car she breaks up a fight between a gang of big unruly boys on school grounds. One getting the licking of his life as he lays cowered on the ground getting the shit kicked out of him. One to the nuts was his undoing.

It didn't pass her notice how good looking he was, the likes of a runway model, if only he wasn't 15

Meet 'Dante Rata' suffering a kick to the nuts from Ronnie aka 'Happy Meal' because he'd successfully gone after his girl.

*A beautiful temptation.*

And the one day Dante doesn't show his face in Clara's English class his best friend Jasper's reasons as to why is classic. *"Dante's sick as a motherfuckin' crack whore with morning sickness."*

*Every time I looked at hime I felt something I shouldn't. Something illegal.*

*Often the most confident  
and arrogant kids are the most*

*broken inside.*

Dante hasn't had the easiest of times, his upbringing is troubled, you could say he hasn't had the best of role models paving his way to success. He oozes sex appeal, he comes across a lot older than he is, he's crude, he's crass but that's just his overall appeal, add on his runway looks and this boy is lethal to all females with a pulse.

*"Fifteen isn't my age,  
it's just the years I've spent in this hell hole called earth."*

He tapped his head

*"I'm older in here, much more than you cos  
I've seen and done things no fifteen or even  
fifty-year-old has."*

Nothing beats picking up a book written by a kiwi, the slang, the humour, it all just feels so kiwi. Love it!!

This book captivated me as soon as I started it, if you think the students dialect is fabricated to the point of it being unbelievable think again, Marita got it so right, this is exactly how many teens talk, it's kiwi slang, we've kind of reinvented our own language that only we can understand..lol

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**Jan says**

**Broken English is live and free on Kindle unlimited right now!! :D**

So far, this year, I have read 115 books.

**Broken English** is hands down, one of the best. Top 5 I would say.

I dived into this little gem expecting a dirty and sordid story about an affair between a lady teacher (for a change) and a boy. Biggest mistake ever by assuming that. Or not. After all, being taken by surprise here worked in a very positive way, in my opinion.

**Broken English** surpassed all my expectations and proved to me why I love reading. The feeling of finishing a story dumbstruck and on a high is **priceless**.

Marita Hansen sucked me in, on an intense, impressive and intoxicant 3D journey to South Auckland, NZ. I was left in awe with her bewitching characters and entranced by her plot. Her writing seems effortless, a remarkable skill. As a result, I went into a **NON-STOP-READING** mode. Meaning: Pizza for dinner and **DON'T-YOU- DARE-TALK-TO- ME** status.

The story starts with Clara (24), a Kiwi who spent the last 4 years working as a teacher assistant in posh schools in London, moving back to NZ. She is married to a British who had to stay behind due to visa problems.

Back to NZ, Clara takes a job as a permanent English teacher at Wera High School.

Wera High is located in a rough part of South Auckland, a huge social gap from where Clara is coming from. Clara doesn't mind though. She's happy and up to the challenge, after all, her dream is to teach English and make a difference in the kids' life. Such a sweet illusion ...

In her first day at Wera she had to intervene in a fight where a boy was being beaten by other 3. The boy was Dante Rata and he would change Clara's life forever.

Now, hold your horses! Don't judge..... just yet! Meet Dante first:

Dante Rata is a 15 year boy with a troubled past and a PhD in life experience; such as stealing, selling weed, escaping youth prison at the tender age of 13, having his dick sucked, sex, and so on... He had the looks of a model and a body of a man. Needless to say he was Weras's School Romeo with a bad vocabulary, right?

Dante is shameless.

He's pure mischief and has no filter.

He is mouthy, arrogant, cocky

And he is intensely sexual.

Clara tried to fight her attraction for Dante, HARD. She was struggling against her ideals, morals and ethics. You could see how much it was destroying her. He pushed and she resisted... and resisted more, until...?????? Read the book.

Phew! Dante Rata was hot as fuck!

I heart the way the story was portrayed at school.

It was incredible to see through Clara's eyes the reality of a school in a lower social-economic area. The Kids were louder, bigger, scruffier and more disorderly. They also looked unconcerned with being told off. They flicked fingers, called names and collected suspensions thinking of it as a holiday. No one was given a fuck.

I had a blast with these kids. I know I shouldn't, **\*hiding guilty face\*** but they made me laugh hard so many times with their interactions!

The C, F, M, and S words were used as much as IS and WAS, or more accurately WUZ. They seem to have their own dialect, a broken form of English that didn't quite match how everyone else spoke.

Well, if you still reading this you must be sick of me by now.

Cutting to the chase:

**I absolutely loved this illicit story.**

*ARC kindly provided by <http://www.starangelsreviews.com> in exchange for an honest review.*

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**Elizabeth says**

**"My mind was tripping over itself, tumbling down a rabbit hole, getting lost in his manipulations, the high he was giving me, the pleasure, the ecstasy."**

**Broken English** is the first book in the Broken Lives Series. It is a forbidden romance full of passion, heartbreak, broken people, and survival.

Clara Hatton is an ambitious and bright young school teacher who begins her first day full of hope and passion for educating her young students. The climate on her new campus is anything but calm. The school is overrun by students who are struggling to survive. The student body is plagued with poverty, drugs, alcohol, and homework and lectures seem to be inconsequential when it comes to survival. Dante Rata is just one of the many students at risk of dropping out and ending up desolate on the streets. Dante has experienced significant loss, and the demons of his daily life continue to infiltrate his every thought and action. Clara takes an immediate interest in helping Dante but when an unexpected attraction forms between the two, the temptation becomes too intense for either of them to deny.

**"It was almost pulsing, aching for him, the built-up frustration of seeing what I wanted and not being able to touch it..."**

Told in dual POV, **Broken English** has a complex plot that covers the plight of several characters. Although the main plot line is the "forbidden lust" developing between Clara and her student Dante, the supporting characters are equally as important with the addiction, violence, and struggles that exist in their everyday life. The pacing of the writing remains at an accelerated rate as the anticipation of "will they" or "won't they" continues to hang on every single page. Through each situation and moment, I sympathized with the characters and their plight but certainly felt anxious about their choices. The sexual tension is extreme throughout the read and with each push of a boundary, I felt my stress level was going to explode off the charts! I highly recommend this read to my friends who enjoy "pushing the boundaries" and aren't afraid to dive into an unconventional romance. Be forewarned, the conclusion of **Broken English** ends with quite a

bang, so you will want to have Shattered Poetry downloaded on your Kindle and ready to read.

Overall, I am still processing my feelings about Clara and Dante and everything that happened in this broken world. In the very least I can say with 100% certainty that this is a story that I will never forget.

**\*\*\*Broken Lives\*\*\***

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**Elle says**

**3\* FORBID-den STARS!**

My first read from Marita A. Hansen and I was shocked. Literally. This book earns flawless reviews from anyone I know and catch my attention. Unfortunately, it seems I missed 'the warning' or what. I don't know... but I didn't feel this is for me. So here is my rant.

Clara Hatton works as the new English teacher in New Zealand. She just moved from UK and her first day was definitely unforgettable. Her class isn't always easy especially when he's in there. Dante Rata is only fifteen and already a trouble maker. Everybody knows how Dante couldn't sit his ass and almost hate by all teachers except Mrs. Hatton.

**Honestly, I still couldn't see the plot. What is the end? What's the purpose of Clara and Dante?** Yeah, I'm confused AF. Maybe it is still early because the author said this will be a series, so their journey still unforeseen. Student-teacher's relationship already trending and one of my fave; if they could pull it of. Forbidden and thrilling. BUT, what if the teacher already \*beep\*(view spoiler)? Yeah, that's what happened to me and almost DNF it.

**So, the question is what's making me finished the story?** First above all, I hate both of them. Clara was pathetic and weak. She was hidden behind i-am-the-teacher attitude and faithful wife at the same time. So hypocrite and I'm really waiting until she exploded. Her pent-up lust for Dante was undeniable.

Dante was the major fucked-up. He's in rebel stage and I don't know how to feel about it. I think hot-headed young age boy just didn't work for me. \*cough\*I prefer older man\*cough\*. Still, age was never a problem for me, but Dante's attitude made me wanna back away. I thought he will change at some point but no improvement until the end. So... there is no plus point for Dante.

As I said before, I couldn't see where is this headed but I think the author wanna show us how's Clara-Dante made their bond. Even I doubted it A LOT. They're so in lust and wouldn't care for the world. They're hardly interact outside sexual feelings. I thought they will be spent more times together :(

The story told from 2 POV's, Clara and Dante but it feels like they have their own world. Slow-paced but unpredictable about how fucked-up they will be. I think my rating is fair based on what I feel about Clara-Dante. Everything feels so decent; nothing special yet. I'm curious about what happened next and I hope Dante will be a better man and I need it SOON!

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## warhawke says

**Genre:** General Fiction

**Type:** Book 1 of 3 from Broken Lives series

**POV:** First Person - Dual

**Rating:**

Clara Hatton moved from England to teach at Wera High School, a lower socio-economic area of Auckland. As a teacher, she was determined to make a difference in the lives of her problematic students. But she underestimated the difficulties in handling them especially when one of them demanded her attention with not only his attitude but also his good looks.

Dante Rata was only fifteen, but life lessons forced him to grow up before he was ready. His stunning looks not only earned him admirations but also contempt. It thrilled him when one of the admiration came from the new beautiful teacher. For someone who always gotten himself into trouble, this latest one might end up more than he could handle.

I have to admit, this book caught my attention not only because the student in this story was male but also only fifteen. But those two elements were only a small fraction of what the story was about because it went deeper than that.

Dante was such an interesting character. On the surface, he was such a troublemaker whose sexuality went beyond his years. But deep down inside he was just a scared and insecure teenage boy. And everytime he showed that hidden side of him, my heart ached for him. It's just hard not to care for him.

*I should've shut him down straight away, treating him like any other student. But that was the problem ... he wasn't like any other student, because if he were, I wouldn't be reacting in such an unethical manner.*

Despite being the older teacher, Clara was not a sleazy character. She can't help but being drawn to Dante not just physically, but also emotionally. She was protective of him as a good teacher should.

*Even though I knew it was wrong to do, I flopped back onto the mattress, wondering what it would be like to live in a place like this and to have a nice woman like Mrs. Hatton to wake up to. For a moment, I felt jealous of her husband, wishing I had what he had.*

This book is not about romance. There wasn't really a relationship between them, but more about their individual issues and growth that crossover between them. And the story also expanded to the secondary characters and how their actions affecting the main characters in major way. I would say the pace is more muted but looks like the next book could potentially be explosive.

*"I kept her secret, like I'll keep yours, no matter how much you both make me feel like a worthless piece of shit."*

Broken English is a story of two individuals learning and fighting attractions to each other due to circumstances. Despite their situation, the book was not written in a disturbing way, instead it's a hard look on how life could be when you're from the other side of the track.

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**Chesca says**

**Join the discussion, and have the opportunity to get ARCs and other freebies! ---> BROKEN LIVES GROUP**

*"Humans are savages, no worse than animals, preying on the weak and vulnerable for their own gain. They'll even bring down the strong with the right words, grinding them into the ground, making them do what they want."*

**Actual rating: 4.5 stars**

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

One of the best things I love in a lot of romance novels I've read is the big age gap between the couple. I find it interesting and very sweet to see these two figures understand each other despite their age differences. I've read a lot of that kind of pairing, but this is my first time to grab one wherein the man is younger than the woman.

He's not even a man. He's a boy.

In 2002, Clara Hatton just moved to the south of Auckland, New Zealand to work as a permanent English teacher at Wera High. It was an area wherein a lot of children and teenagers were raised to sell drugs, or become members of the gangs their fathers belong to. Some of them don't even care if they would have a future or not.

There, she met Dante Rata, a beautiful but arrogant fifteen year-old boy in her most juvenile class filled with disrespectful and delinquent kids. Undeniably, Clara was attracted to him, and Dante kept using that to his advantage to embarrass and irritate her, but mostly to make her notice him.

This is my first time to read a work of Marita A. Hansen, and I could now say that she's an indie author you shouldn't miss! I didn't expect to be emotional because of her wonderful characters and their story. It was tragic and overwhelming in a very realistic way. Also, it has the right amount of sexy that would leave readers wanting more.

Going through this book was like reading half an adult novel and half a young adult one. It was neat, and I love the alternating chapters because they let the readers view their situation in the eyes of an adult and of a teenager.

***"Again, how could he not be older? He had to be, because there was no way he wasn't. I wasn't the unnatural one, he was."***

My *one and only* issue with this terrific book is that I didn't feel that Clara is married! She's like a teenager who got a crush on the handsome bully, but she's being bullied by that said guy, so she's trying to get rid of her want and lust. I really never felt her love for her husband. I would have given this a solid 5-star rating if the plot was not greatly affected by how not-married Clara seemed like. It reduced the intensity of their building relationship for me.

Despite that, I love her passion for teaching, although there were times that she wanted to quit. It's uplifting to see her care for her students, especially when she shows how much she appreciates their cleverness.

***"His eyes were dark pools of emotion, giving me the impression he was holding back tears."***

I honestly didn't expect to love Dante because of how his character is described – very beautiful, someone girls would like to have sex with. I was getting tired of reading about love interests who are like him, but he made a big exception! Dante got my full attention the very moment I started reading this book. He is the best

thing in this novel! He is damaged and traumatized by all the things that happened and is still happening in his life. He tries his very best to cope with his problems on his own for the sake of taking care of his dad. I think he's a really sweet and admirable boy with a good heart, although he acts the way he does. I hate reading about him in pain. It was so awful THAT I WAS SOBBING IN THE BATHROOM AT FIVE IN THE MORNING!! How he sees himself hurts so much! No one deserves to undergo all that. I love that the author, through her writing, was able to divert my attention from his looks to the real him.

Based on what I understood of Dante, I honestly think that this blossoming affair between him and Clara could destroy him if everything fell apart. I am hoping for the best that it would have a positive impact on his life instead of a negative one. He's been through so much, and I want him to be happy.

Most of the other characters of this story were so effective in annoying me. I wanted to tie them up, not for kinks, BUT TO BURN THEM ALL ALIVE! They were so skillful in making Dante's life miserable and complicated because of their selfishness. Number one on my list is Jasper. He may care for Dante like a brother, but he's so horrifying in how he deals with things. He's worse than Happy Meal! Next is Phelia whom I hope gets STDs for being such a leech. The girl wouldn't take "no" for an answer. I wonder how she ever got out of kindergarten. I would love to enumerate them one by one, but that would just irk me more.

Overall, this is now one of my favorite Student-teacher romances. I highly recommend it! I am now very excited for the sequel! I can't wait to see how things would progress and develop for the two lovely protagonists. I think I should prepare my heart for further damages.

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## **Judith says**

5 + Stars.....Amazing!!

*I glanced back at the teacher, thinking she was hot as fuck.*

**Dante....student...15**

**Clara....teacher....married,early twenties**

This book took me completely by surprise. It grabbed hold of me and would not let go. I read it in just over 24 hours, I couldn't put it down.

From the blurb you'd be forgiven for thinking it was a sexy Teacher/Student book but it's so much more than that. For a start it's a role reversal to similar books, Clara is the teacher and Dante is the student.

Clara is happily married, in her early twenties. For the past few years she's been working as a Teaching Assistant in England but has returned to New Zealand and has taken a job as an English teacher at a High School in a rough area. Her husband is following on in a few weeks.

Dante is 15 and to say he's had a troubled past is an understatement. A lot of books feature a character with a troubled past, sometimes they work, sometimes they don't....this is definitely the exception.

Dante's character was real. The Author's portrayal of his past and how it has shaped his young life was so believable.

The boy is gorgeous, highly sexual and looks and behaves a lot older than he is.

He oozes sex and just about every girl wants a piece of him. He puts on an arrogant front but deep down wants someone to see past his devastating good looks.

So what happens when the Student and Teacher meet??

Sparks definitely fly but this isn't a hot for teacher book, there's a lot more depth to it.

Clara tries so hard to resist her attraction to Dante, she knows her feelings are all kind of wrong.

***He lowered his head to mine, looking like he was going to kiss me. I could feel his breath on my lips, a tickle across my flesh, so close I could almost taste him-***

I'm not giving any indication of what does or doesn't happen between them. I really had no idea which direction the story would go.

The writing is brilliant and apart from the two main characters there are some great secondary ones...not always likable but very well developed.

Flawed Teachers

Flawed Students

And the high school setting was very well done.

This book blew me away and it's down to Jan's review (still couldn't work out how to post a link to her review...but check it out )

Highly, highly recommended!!!!

**\*\*\*Arc from Author\*\*\***

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**Mercedes says**

**4.5 Stars**

Dante \*swoon\* he was equal parts sexy and insecure; it was a devastating combination. There were parts of the book I couldn't decide if I wanted to jump his bones or hug him and protect him from all the shit in his life. His circumstances forced him to mature beyond his years which added an extra dimension of moral conflict; he seemed older than he was but does that, or should it, affect the way Clara viewed him?

*He was just too attractive, a temptation constantly taunting me, playing with me, ripping my fucking mind apart.*

Clara has just moved back to New Zealand and got a job as an English teacher in a rough part of town, she's prepared for the new colleagues she'll have to feel out, the snarky kids, and the disobedience she'll no doubt encounter, however, she is in no way prepared for a student like Dante Rata. Dante poses a threat to her job, to her marriage, to her sanity, and maybe to her heart; he has this innate ability to evoke compassion from those around him.

Dante Rata is an old 15 year old. He's been through his share of trials and tribulations and he continues to persevere. His life has been anything but easy, and surviving under these circumstances has led Dante to do some questionable things. The rumors run rampant about what he does or doesn't do to keep himself afloat. His very active sex life does nothing to dampen the rumor mill. He's got more sex appeal than anyone under the age of eighteen should ever be granted.

This story was really enjoyable, I loved how complex Dante was and Clara's feelings toward him were equally as complex and I really loved that each character had other things going on throughout the story. Clara was still navigating a new school, and new living arrangements and Dante was still trying to make it day-to-day; they each had other story lines going that kept me engaged even when Dante and Clara's interactions weren't taking center stage.

*I like it when you smile. It lights your whole face up. You look so gorgeous.*

Clara and Dante's story is all consuming. I was glued to the pages, taking every step with these characters. Dante stole my heart from the beginning he was so confident and charming but when you got a glimpse inside his head you realized how vulnerable he was. This is not a fast and quick teacher/student, there's a delicious buildup of tension before we even get a hint of sexy times. Definitely check this out if you're not afraid of a little taboo. You may want to have your kiwi translator at the ready, I had to look up a few words!

\*\*I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review

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**CC says**

**4.5 Stars**

Dante Rata is a Maori kid from a tough neighborhood and has a scarred past. Trying to just live his life and survive, he does what he can to help pay his father's bills. While at 15 years-old Dante has experienced much more loss and tragedy than the average teen and knows his life choices are limited, yet he still has a sense of pride and an enormous heart.

“Appearance was everything where I lived. It wasn't about fancy labels, it was about putting on a tough front, proving you were worthy of wearing the patch.”

At 24 years old, Clara Hatton is a married English school teacher new to Wera High School. Having just accepted the job, she is learning how to cope with the many at-risk students at the school. Of all the students, Dante stands out the most due to his mature and highly attractive appearance. Learning he is much younger than she originally thought, Clara must deal with her conflicting emotions.

“You’re not a teacher to me; you’re just a hot chick I want to fuck.” His gaze dropped to my breasts. “And by the look of your nipples, you want me to fuck you hard.”

As Clara and Dante live their separate lives, their relationship is barely balanced in the favor of just student and teacher. While Dante is willing to push the boundaries, Clara finds it harder to maintain strictly platonic thoughts despite knowing the consequences of potentially losing her job, marriage and going to jail. Trying to help Dante with tutoring and channeling his energy into school subjects in which he excels, places them in close quarters making temptation irresistible.

“She made me fucking ache like hell, my cock already hard, so fucking hard I wanted to take her right there on the desk.”

While Dante may be beautiful on the outside, his life is rough and his struggles are real and complex, and this adds to the tension of what he really seeks in life. Knowing how he is perceived, only fuels his behavior but Dante hurts deep down.

“For once it would be nice if a woman I wanted touched me.” He looked up at me. “Like you.”

When starting *Broken English*, I had some reservations about how I would react to the actions between Clara and Dante, as the student/teacher trope isn’t necessarily my bag, but I was intrigued to read how the story would transpire with the teacher being a woman. There were moments when I was squeamish and wanted Clara to do the right thing yet other times, the lines became blurred. Needless to say, this story is thought provoking on many levels.

This author has been on my radar for some time and her writing style is gripping with a pulse on her characters and a multilayered plot. In addition to Dante and Clara, the secondary characters are colorful and made me wonder who may get their own book at a later date. I look forward (although I anticipate a lot of angst) to the next book in this series to see how the plot is going to unfold. I recommend *Broken English* to those who want to push their comfort zone to realize the world is simply not black or white at times.

Broken Lives Series:

*\*An ARC was generously provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.*

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## Sophie "Beware Of The Reader" says

4 “sinful temptation” stars

Warning: taboo and conflicted feelings!!!!

I finished this book yesterday evening. Or was it rather this morning as I read late into the night? Anyway my head was swimming it was a jumble of conflicting emotions.

I could not stop reading the book so it had to be good, right? But my problem is I still think what happened was wrong!

And yet....

So I'll play the Devil's advocate and argue with myself. Imagine a small angel on my right shoulder and a small devil on my left shoulder each whispering in my ears.

- **Devil:** Go for it. You know you want it. And he is older than his age. He's lived such a hard life he is far from an innocent. He is consenting even pursuing you. You're only twenty four, not forty. He clearly has experience and has you all hot and bothered. He is so gorgeous **"He turned around and sat up, his angry gaze going to mine. I froze, taken aback by his appearance. He was... Beautiful."** He wants you so bad.

- **Angel:** He's just a kid that's been through too many things. He is lost just used to see himself in such a poor way. He sees no future outside the gang using his good look because that's all people see in him. Never his personality or intelligence. **"People called me dumb, stupid, obnoxious, arrogant, but never clever."** You have to help and protect him. Poor kid he has such huge issues and his arrogance and cockiness serve only to hide what's behind the façade. **"He had such a conflicting personality, a variety of moods that popped up at any given time, changing from one to the other without warning."**

Now, do you understand why I'm conflicted, torn, lost...about that story?

This is not a “simple” teacher fall in love with student story. The student is only fifteen and he is the pursuer not the teacher. It gives the whole story an interesting and challenging edge.

I did not love Dante in the beginning. Like everyone else I saw him as an arrogant prick with a huge sexual drive. He did things for a living I can't condone even if I know it's a matter of survival. His recklessness for all that's sexual made him hard to take seriously. He is constantly provoking teachers, adults other kids even. He reeks of sensuality.

But he grew on me as I learnt what happened to him and what his upbringing was and still is. For such kids coming from very poor and difficult neighborhood the future is not bright. They fight to survive be it selling drugs, stealing parts or selling their body.

Now I want him to have a happy end but not with his teacher now because he is still jailbait.

Clara was a fantastic teacher and person even with her thoughts about Dante. She is flawed and human. She gave so much to help these kids. She was passionate about her job. Still she shouldn't have done what she did.

He should have...she shouldn't have...these are mighty principles but once life is knocking at your door it's not always easy to remain on the right path.

I may think I would have acted in another fashion I've never walked in their shoes thanks God! What would I have done? Would I have been strong enough?

So to make it short: it's been a very good read that pushed me way out of my comfort zone. I'm left disagreeing with the character's choices but still waiting impatiently for book two because I have to know what will happen!

Follow me on: <http://bewareofthereader.com>

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**SueBee★bring me an alpha!★ says**

**?????????!! Broken English, book 1 of 4. Dante's reckless & forbidden seduction of his English teacher, who is married!**

*"Then stop eyeballing me like you wanna ride my cock," I said. "You were doin' it all through English class."*

*"I was not!"*

*"Liar. You even did it during detention."*

Books in Broken Lives series should be read in order:

**Book 1: Broken English**

**Book 2: Shattered Poetry**

**Book 3: Jagged Pill**

**Book 4: Love Drunk**

*The **Broken Lives series** follows student, drug dealer and poet, **Dante Rata** from the age of fifteen into adulthood as he grows up coping with family, life, school, drugs, music, girls, women, sex and more sex.*

*Dante is a product of his environment; **born and raised into violence, drugs, gangs and crime** in the streets of South Auckland. But underneath the rough exterior is a complex and reflective young man marred by the devastation of murder, helplessness of drug addiction and unspeakable secrets.*

**Broken English** (book 1) opens up to Dante meeting his new English teacher, **Clara Hatton, Mrs. Hatton**. They are off to a rocky start dealing with schoolwork, drama and boundaries.

Being a horny teenager, Dante takes advantage of his good looks by setting out to **seduce his new teacher**. Their forbidden attraction is palpable, fueling cocky behavior by Dante, while Clara struggles to cope with

her guilt. It's **dangerous, reckless and so forbidden...**

There are no words that can fairly describe the complexity of **Dante Rata**. Be prepared to be swept off your feet by his uncanny beauty, cocky, unpredictable, brave, devious, reckless, selfish and volatile behavior and let his vulnerabilities and flaws melt your heart.

*"He remained where he was, looking unsure of what to do. His eyes were dark pools of emotion, giving me the impression he was holding back tears. It made my heart ache for him."*

**Clara Hatton, Mrs. Hatton** did not stand a chance against the force that is Dante (and neither did I). Six words to describe Clara: Caring, reflective, naïve, immature, misguided and meek.

*"You're not to say or do anything sexual. You will also not swear or be rude to me."  
"I often blurt things out before I think. It's not always intentional."*

**Broken English**, told from dual POVs, is **forbidden romance at its best**. Story is driven by Dante and I might have wished myself Clara once or twice while reading. It ends with a shocker leading right to book 2, **Shattered Poetry** for the **continuation** of their story.

**Addicting! Forbidden! Reckless! Sinfully good!** I feel like re-reading it right now!

*"Pushing up onto my elbows, I stared at her from under the fringe of my messy hair. "I wanted to lie down where you fucked," I said, interested in seeing her reaction.  
"You're unbelievable," she gasped."*

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Hero: ★★★★★+

Heroine: ★★★★★

Plot: ★★★★★

Storytelling: ★★★★★

Sexual tension: ★★★★★

Sex scenes: ★★★★★1/2

Story ending: N/A

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**OVERALL RATING: ????????**

Angst: | **MEDIUM FOCUS** |

Darkness: | **MEDIUM FOCUS** |

Humor: | **MEDIUM FOCUS** |

Kink: | **LOW FOCUS** |

Romance: | **LOW FOCUS** |  
Sex frequency: | **LOW FOCUS** |  
Suspense: | **MEDIUM FOCUS** |

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## **Myla says**

Dante Rata a 15-year old boy who grew up fast due to life's experiences. A troubled kid to everyone... a drug dealer trying to make ends meet... a walking sex-on-a-stick kind of appeal to woman(both young & old)... a talented guy with a great singing voice and good in poetry. This young man is deep, beyond his years and he like his new English teacher.

Clara Hatton is happy that finally she's going to be a full time teacher; little did she know that she'll be assigned to a rowdy group of student, it's like all the "rejects" are gathered together in her class. But Clara won't allow to be intimidated by these students. She had to let them know that she's in charge and they'll have to listen to her. Listen they did, well, some of them, but one particular student is always challenging her patience, Dante. The moment Clara laid eyes on Dante there's an instant attraction, but she must dismiss it because it's wrong, besides being a teacher to him, she's married. Will she be able to suppress her feeling towards Dante?

This book gave me the feel of a great series in the making. The characters are raw... the pacing is good... the plot is well defined. I also enjoyed reading about the relationship of Dante & Clara to their family.

Marita A. Hansen is a new author to me and she didn't disappoint in writing a good story and I'm looking forward to the next book of this series and excited to see what will happens next.

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## **Lo Bookfrantic says**

**5★★★★★ Dante Stars**

**Genre: *General Fiction***

**Type: *Book 1 of 3 from Broken Lives series***

**POV: *First Person – Dual***

**Publication Date: August 2nd 2016**

*"Often the most confident and arrogant kids are the most broken inside."*

Clara Hatton is the new teacher in town; well a lower class town but is a big deal to her indeed. Recently moved to England and landing the job of her dreams; at only twenty-four years old; Clara was happy for this opportunity. She was pretty, petite and defiantly did not look like twenty four; she looks more like a student herself. It was that reason that it was so hard for her students to keep away from her; they really loved to mess with her however she was bound to make an impression on her students and not let them intimidate her. After all, she had one goal and that was to make a difference in the lives of her students in a positive way.

Dante Rata; a junior in high school and only fifteen-years old has had a hard and troubled life. It would be almost impossible not to love this boy with his cockiness, the way he looks, talks, walks and the way he acts in the outside you wouldn't even guess he was that young. However; in the inside he was tender and broken you can't help but want to protect him. On the first day of school Dante meets his new English teacher not the way he would have preferred he was being attacked by a bully and Mrs Hatton saw right away through him. That embarrassment didn't stop Dante from lusting over Clara.

*"He won't need to be involved if you turn up to class. Please, just come for me."... "His lips twitched, a slight grin replacing his crawl. "I'd love to come for you."*

The story was deep and honestly I had no idea what I was getting myself into. The age difference between a boy student and a female teacher freaked me out at first; however this was a tiny and minor freaked considering everything else that happened on this book. This book is so much more, so much deeper and I couldn't help but devouring it all in one setting.

*"Humans are savages, no worse than animals, preying on the weak and vulnerable for their own gain." Dante*

Clara was also drawn to Dante's beauty and confident character. However; she wasn't like everyone else around Dante. She was good to him and was doing her best to really help him, to get him the help that he desperately needed. Dante was so stubborn though he kept tempting her so much so that it was so hard for Clara to resist her desires.

*"I had never met a boy with that much confidence, or even the audacity to say half the things he'd said to me." Clara*

The ending of this book is just the beginning of so much to come. I can't wait to know more about Clara, Dante and the side characters. I believe this book is a wonderful start to a fantastic series. I would defiantly recommend this to everyone who is open minded and who is not scared to read about struggles that other people go through and learn about them.

Pre-order link: <https://www.amazon.com/Broken-English...>

Book Order Series: This is a Trilogy

**For more reviews/reveals/giveaways visit:**

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## Chippy Marco says

**DANTE** (Picture swiped from Judith:D)

*The words left my mouth again as he licked his upper lip, giving me a blatantly sexual look. He wasn't the first kid to check me out, but he was the first to make my mouth run dry, the boy far too sensual-looking for my own good.*

Yes, the main male character in Broken English is a fifteen-year-old boy called Dante Rata. But Dante isn't like any other kid. He's a mixture of so many different things, a complex character that felt so real, so vulnerable, yet so full of raw sensuality you understood the internal battle his teacher felt every time she came into contact with him.

**CLARA, aka MRS. HATTON**

Mrs. Hatton/Clara is Dante's English teacher. She's used to boys paying her extra attention, but nothing like the attention she receives from Dante, because he IS different, a taste of something she knows she shouldn't bite into. A temptation that could ruin her.

*He was just too attractive, a temptation constantly taunting me, playing with me, ripping my fucking mind apart. Not only did he distract me from my work, he put tainted thoughts into my head that didn't belong there, ones that I constantly wanted to act upon.*

The scene that these thoughts lead to... WOW! WOW! This is definitely one elicit tale, a taboo book that is not like any other teacher-student stories. Not only was the student a male, but the story was done in a realistic, gritty way, not like the usual swoon over teacher stories. It was heart breaking at times, Dante's character eliciting the most emotions. And Clara... I did feel for her. I've read TAMPA, which was basically about a female pedophile. Clara was nothing like Celeste. Like Clara, at times I forgot Dante was fifteen and wanted Clara to give into him, then I would remember he wasn't how old he looked and thought, no stop, don't do it. The story will confuse you, create emotions you'll question. I have read a lot of this author's books and I think this might just be my favourite, and that's saying a lot since I do love Behind the Tears and Behind the Lens a lot, which Dante is also in. I just like that this is in first person, which made it more intimate, more touching, the story very different, not what I expected at all.

5 triple plus Clara and Dante stars.

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## **Evgeny says**

Clara Hatton was a 24-year-old teacher born in New Zealand and living in London. She found a permanent position in one of the Auckland schools in a "bad" neighborhood. I will get ahead of myself, but I need to mention it turned out the neighborhood in question was not much better than LA South Central.

There goes my idea about New Zealand being a paradise on Earth inspired by The Lord of the Rings movie.

Clara ended up teaching English literature in a class with half students being members of different gangs. There was zero discipline and Clara was weak - both physically and in willpower - to bring any. Luckily for her there was a drop-dead handsome student in the class names Dante, so instead of bothering about making the class learning from her Clara often ogled the guy.

To put things in perspective he was 15.

It turned out Dante was into older women (9 years IS a big difference in age), Clara was beautiful enough, and willing - not right away, mind you. The romance was inevitable, Clara's husband be damned. Yes, she was married. And she began cheating the moment her husband's father was killed in an accident. If this is not the best time to cheat, I do not know what is.

I already said everything I wanted about the creep called Clara. Dante as a character on the other side was great - I am talking about everything related to him *except* his relationship with the heroine. The guy was highly disturbed, has a full luggage of issues coming from abuse, poverty, and the whole gangsta lifestyle. In other words his life outside of romance was interesting, if depressing.

The secondary characters were interesting as well and without outright pedophile behavior. Having never been in New Zealand I am not sure how authentic the description of Southern Auckland was, but it was believable enough for me. I liked this part and taken separately it would be easy 4 stars.

Here comes the problem. I was very disturbed reading the book. Not even by sex between the underage guy and his teacher. Take the famous books called Lolita. It is about a mature guy lusting after an underage girl.

Various people keep saying they could not finish that book being troubled/triggered/disturbed, etc. Everybody called (deservedly) Humbert Humbert a monster and Dolores a victim. Swap an old guy and young girl with an older woman and a young guy and nobody bats an eye. This IS disturbing.

In any case everything except for Clara/Dante relationship (yes, I know it was the main part of the plot) was great and deserves 4 stars. My uneasiness from that part caused my to subtract one. Despite everything I will read the second book of the series as nothing was resolved at the end and I am curious about the fate of some secondary characters.

