



## Hard Rock Muse

*Athena Wright*

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**Hard Rock Muse** Athena Wright

**Julian Woods is an emotionally repressed rock star. I'm the woman he left heartbroken and betrayed.**

After years of hard work, after sacrificing everything to hit it big, Julian walked out on me. He walked out on our band. He walked away from everything we'd worked so hard to achieve.

He left me vulnerable. He left me defenseless. He left me to be preyed upon by those with malicious, deceitful motives.

Now, years later, after being blackballed from the music industry, I'm desperate for a fresh start. I'll take any job that gets my foot back in the door.

Even if that means accepting a songwriting gig with the smoldering, secretive man who shattered my heart.

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Hard Rock Muse is the third book in the Cherry Lips rock star romance series, and the 12th book in Athena Wright's Hard Rock 'verse.

Other Books:

## **Cherry Lips**

Hard Rock Crush  
Hard Rock Kiss  
Hard Rock Muse

## **Darkest Days**

Hard Rock Tease  
Hard Rock Fling  
Hard Rock Sin  
Hard Rock Deceit  
Hard Rock Heat

## **Feral Silence**

Hard Rock Gaze  
Hard Rock Voice  
Hard Rock Touch  
Hard Rock Heart

## **Hard Rock Muse Details**

Date : Published January 10th 2019

ISBN :

Author : Athena Wright

Format : ebook

Genre : Romance, Music

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## From Reader Review Hard Rock Muse for online ebook

### Denise says

I have so enjoyed every book in the Cherry Lips series! In this one, many of my questions were answered. No spoilers here. Everly and Julian burn up the pages in this can't-put-it-down story. While each story in the series stands alone, you will miss out on a rich reading if you don't read them all. When's the next one coming out, Athena??

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### Sarah says

Just like all the other books in the series, I absolutely adored this one!

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### Jennifer D. says

I didn't think these books could get any better but Athena obviously had other plans. I loved it! A rock star plus a second chance...gah! Nathan and Becca may be my favorite Cherry Lips couple but this was hands down my favorite story. It has all the feels! Julian and Everly's connection is strong, even after their years of separation. The ending made my heart happy. Can't wait for Seth's book!

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### Liz Black says

Hard Rock Muse (Cherry Lips #3) by Athena Wright

Hard Rock Muse is the third in the 'Cherry Lips' series. Of this series I have read the first book and now the third. So I might miss some information that was given in the second book.

This story is about Everly, a former rock star who was kicked out of the music industry by work of her abusive ex. Through some weird scheme by her ex Julian, she lost him at the same time. Now that she's trying to get a spot back in the music industry, albeit through song-writing, she gets back together with Julian, and the story takes off.

I have read a couple of books by Athena Wright, and in many ways, this was similar. The tropes are apparent, the story predictable and the romance all right. Was it a book that wow-ed me? No, not really. The characters were predictable and never surprised me. The story continued at a steady pace and was okay. The only part that really bugged me was the short return of the evil ex. That was too obvious.

Do I recommend this book? If you're looking for a simple romance set in a rock star theme, then yes. For me, I always love spending time in the rock star world and pretending I get to be with the hottest guy in the band. But this is not the best book to come out in 2019.

I received a free copy of this book as an arc.

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## **Kelly Skiffington says**

There was something about Julian and Everly that made this book one of my favorites in the Hard Rock series. His inability to express his feelings for Everly despite being in love with her made you root so hard for him! Everly was a strong character yet vulnerable due to her past, a contradiction that made you like her and wish for her to have a happy ending. This book had romance, obstacles and steam from the beginning to the end. I received an ARC of this book and would recommend it as well as the others in the series. I am keeping my fingers crossed for a Seth and Abby book :)

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## **Jennifer says**

Julian and Everly are certainly not as done and over as they'd thought. Ms. Athena Wright has definitely created a wonderfully written storyline with relatable characters to match in this book. I found this to be a story of healing and self discovery, although there are many varying reviews, I truly enjoyed this book. I like her writing style and I found myself completely engrossed, from cover to cover, while I was reading this book. Hard Rock Muse is the latest installment to the Cherry Lips Series (which can be also be read as a standalone book). Follow along as they get not only their second chance, but their HEA. Together they make perfect music.

\*\*Might have triggers for people who have been abused emotionally.

I voluntarily requested an advanced reader's copy of Hard Rock Muse in exchange for my honest opinion and I highly recommend reading this book as well as the entire Series.

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## **Jennifer G says**

Ever Darling. Everly Davis. Ev, Ever, Everly. She's been them all. Now she has to take control and decide who she is and what she wants out of her life. Once she was the lead singer for a band with her lover and best friends but they left her. Now they are with Cherry Lips. Solo, she was left vulnerable and at risk to an abusive producer. When she left him, he ruined her music career. Now she's trying for a fresh start under a new name as a songwriter. Unfortunately, the job turns out to be for Cherry Lips with the very man who broke her heart. Is this a second chance or is she asking for more pain? One man broke her heart, another her spirit. It's time for Ever to take control once again.

Hard Rock Muse triggered me. I'm not a pink-haired rock goddess. I'm a natural ginger who only rocks in the car. But I am Ever. Keith could have been my ex-husband. This is how I know how accurate, how well-written these characters are. I know first-hand how you can go from a confident, intelligent, young woman to a shattered soul scared to offer an opinion on pizza toppings. I know how you can be cut off from all friends, family, all support and the abuser becomes your total focus. But you don't even realize that he is an abuser. It's so gradual, so subtle. I know how hard it is to break away, to trust yourself again. I don't know how it is to trust others again or to love again, so Ev is ahead of me there. I maybe shouldn't review this book because I am too close to Ev. But I will. It's clear how I feel about Ever. I am protective of her. She is as real to me as a character can be. Flawed, a little broken, healing. Keith won't be mentioned. He serves a purpose but I can't say any more. I have mixed feelings about Julian and Seth. They walked away. Lovers, best friends DO NOT DO THIS. I don't accept the way it played out. They abandoned Ever. . Yes, Julian came back and it was too

late (maybe) but what about Seth? Nope, there was never enough of an apology. I could never trust these two again. So my story would end there. But I am not Ever and this is not my story. Still, Julian with his inability to speak continued to cause emotional damage. Again, I don't accept the explanations. Ever was abandoned, abused, and now she has to make allowances for his childhood and his emotional repression. Actions can be enough without words unless your actions were to walk away and break a person's heart. Now you have to man up and talk. She would never be able to trust him without words and actions. Over and over. Trust may be impossible with everything she's been through even then. The fact that each time they hit a rough patch, Ever had to be the one to go back to him did not sit well with me. He had a grand gesture at the end and I swooned along with everyone else but it was difficult getting there.

So, yes, I am torn. I can recommend this 100% for others. I can't imagine that they would feel as strongly about Julian as I do. Seth and Abby, huh? Is that where we are going next? It should be able to handle since he betrayed her sister, not her and Ever has forgiven him. The cute little bookworm and the drummer. I'll read it!

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### **Candy says**

Julian Woods & Ever Darling were young lovers & rock band mates. Then Julian walked away & Ever made some choices that had a lasting emotional affect on her. Forward a few years later & Julian's new band is looking for a lyricist to help him write a song for their new up coming Cherry Lips album. Without realizing that either of them would be in the same room together again, Ever now Everly is the lyricist being interviewed to help Julian. Everly needs the job so she decides to try & work with Julian. This story is about learning to communicate in a relationship & letting go of the past. Trusting that actions speak louder than words & being vulnerable enough to share all the dark corners of who you are.

Athena has written another great Hare Rock/Cherry Lips novel. Julian & Everly are challenging together & have to find their way to trusting what each of them is capable of giving. This story explores emotional abuse both through emotional control & emotional neglect. It still delivers a HEA & is well worth reading.

I voluntarily reviewed an Advanced Readers Copy of this book.

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### **Karen says**

Nice characters and story. Not sure why Julian had to be bisexual and Everly had to hear from male former boyfriend of Julian.....oh, because he's a rockstar ??  
Maybe because it's a series I missed a key to this plot point.

Anyway, I liked reading the song writing process and band comradery.

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### **Rejane says**

My poor friend Paula. She didn't have a good start in this year. ?? I think it's going to be another year of bad books. Sighs

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

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### **Shelley Chastagner says**

OH MY GOD!!!! This one was amazing! LOVED Julian and Everly is a sweetheart. I think this is one of my favorites; especially the ending. It totally check-marked all the boxes for me. I'm hoping that Seth and Abby are destined to end up together at some point.

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### **Jennifer says**

Athena Wright's Hard Rock Muse, book three in her Cherry Lips series, gives readers an exceptional second chance romance. The past can have a funny way of sneaking up on you and giving you a big surprise and that was just the case with Julian and Everly's story. Call it Karma, call it fate this couple had unfinished business and Athena Wright brought it to the forefront with all her rockstar finesse for a fast paced read full of genuine feelings and steamy intervals.

Aloof and a bit of an introvert Julian Woods used music to convey the feelings he could not put into words, pulling off the angsty hero full on. Everly Davis had a gift for expressing feelings in her lyrics yet was somewhat ineffective in clearly communicating her feelings in her personal life. When Julian and Everly are brought back together after years of being apart, because of miscalculations and miscommunications, the tangled mess of events and feelings they left behind loomed large. Confronted with the possibility of obtaining their true desires, their mutual decision to rectify their past and reach for their future was at times painful, touching and ultimately rewarding. Ms. Wright gently yet firmly addressed the abuse both her leads experienced and how it contributed to the road blocks they encountered on their way back to each other and their happily ever after. A magnetic connection as well as a very well defined friendship gave Julian and Everly's relationship a depth and appeal that made this work stand out.

Hard Rock Muse shows Athena Wright's writing talent at its best making for one FANTastic read!

\*While part of a series this book can be read as a stand alone.\*

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### **Paula says**

The blurb intrigued me, but after reading a few chapters, I was seething mad! If this is a romance, then I'm Mother Theresa!

SPOILERS!!!!

First of, Hero is said to be bi-sexual, but to me it read as if he was full-on gay! He was in male sexual relationships BEFORE he met heroine AND even after they broke up, he had a "serious" long term one with yet another MALE! Even the "angst" in this story had to do with yet another male (his BF)!

Now I have nothing against gays or bi-sexual folks, so don't anyone start giving me any crap about that. What I am mad about is that the blurb clearly states it is a ROMANCE between a male & female - in other words a heterosexual relationship! So why then did Author have to go that way with Hero and not provide any warnings???

For Hero to be in love with mostly men his whole life, I am suppose to believe that he turned a new leaf and is no longer attracted to men? That the heroine is the love of his life? The one he was supposedly "in love" before whom he walked away from and then went and fell in love with yet another man?

Umm...no. Sorry, but this is NOT the romance that it is marketed to be and I am angry that the Author did not deem fit to warn folks. This type of trope is not for every folks. If you pay for something, you have a right to know upfront the WHOLE truth before you purchase! What is also unbelievable was that the heroine was confident that he was in love with her - pre-breakup and after and not questioned it? She didn't even express any jealousy when she met the OM whom he had the "serious" relationship with after he left her!

Come on folks! This was a 5 star read???? Give me a break!

\* To anyone who cares, after Hero leaves heroine for a better career opportunity with his BF (she thought he left her for his male BF), she immediately gets involved with her abusive manager. So while she was not celibate, for her though the relationship was not serious or loving - unlike Hero's.

Even their reunion was not because Hero wanted to see her again. So basically, if she was the "love of his life", he didn't fight to get back to her. She simply served a purpose for him and his lame excuse was good enough for the stupid idiot. DNF'd @ 15%. That's all I could take!

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### **Janice Somers says**

This story is so heartfelt. Everly is attempting to reinvent herself, after years of being blackballed from the music industry. Now she has changed her name and is hoping to get a job helping write lyrics. She's waiting in a room at Reclaimed Records, she isn't used to wearing professional skirts and being this uncomfortable makes it even worse.

She's fidgeting in the leather chair when the door opens and Cherise, lead singer of Cherry Lips. Cherise states, Everly Davis?

Shocked Everly stares and states, Yes I'm Everly. She could feel the blood draining when she then realizes the job is for Cherry Lips and that means...before she can finish the thought, the door opens again and another figure walks into the room.

He doesn't look any different but he wasn't the one who lost everything. He didn't get blackballed from the music industry.

Julian Woods. Cherry Lips keyboardist.

The man who shattered not only my heart but helped destroyed our band.

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### **Michelle1005 says**

Athena Wright's Hard Rock Muse, book three in her Cherry Lips series, gives readers a wonderful second chance romance. The past can have a funny way of sneaking up on you when you least expect and giving

you a big surprise and that was just the case with Julian and Everly's story. Call it as you want, you may call it karma but this couple had unfinished business and Athena Wright brought it to the forefront with all her rockstar finesse for a fast paced read full of genuine feelings with really steamy intervals that will definitely keep you interested.

Everly tries to get back to music business after many years of being blackballed from the industry. She now has a new name and is hoping to get a job as a help with writing lyrics. While waiting in a room at Reclaimed Records she meet once again people she last wanted and expected lead singer and keyboardist of the band Cherry Lips, same keyboardist who shattered not only Everly's heart but also helped destroyed her band. So is there a chance for a second chance and forgiveness?

The book had everything you will love romance, obstacles and steamy situations from the beginning to the end of this book. It's really good read for winter evening.

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