



## Relinquish (Embrace Series, #1)

*S.E. Dean*

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## **Relinquish (Embrace Series, #1) S.E. Dean**

Kingston “King” James is THE male supermodel. He’s at the top of his game, yet he’s bored. Money and fame come easy, women even easier — until her.

She’s everything he thought never existed...

For Phoenix Ryan every day is a reminder of heartache, of all the agony that poisons her soul. She’ll go to any length to appear strong, including convincing herself that she’s actually living — until him.

He’s everything she can’t stand...

As their lives relentlessly cross will they give in? Will they Relinquish?

## **Relinquish (Embrace Series, #1) Details**

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Author : S.E. Dean

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## **From Reader Review Relinquish (Embrace Series, #1) for online ebook**

### **Brianna at Renee Entress's Blog says**

4.5 Stars!

Well... for a debut novel (which is something I learned after reading the book), I would have never guessed it. This book was written so well that I just assumed it was a seasoned author that I had not heard of. And this is just the FIRST book in a series of standalones.

I loved this book. This book grabbed me from the beginning and left me completely baffled by the end. This book was sweet, sexy, super angsty, and full of sexual tension that suffocating at times. This storyline was quite unique and has one mother fuc\$er of a twist.

This is King and Nix's story. King is a highly sought out male model. He can get any woman with just a smile. When he meets the sexy but totally closed off Nix, he wants her but whenever she is around, he can't figure out if he wants to kiss or strangle her. One thing is sure, she has steel walls around her heart that are almost impenetrable.

Nix is a girl living day to day. She owns and runs a sexy and fun bar and has the best two friends you could ask for. She is closed off to relationships but when she meets King, no matter how much of a cocky douche he is, she still wants him. Sparks fly when he is around but letting down her walls may not be possible. Whatever the case, she is in for one hell of a ride.

Dang! These two were constantly at each other's throats because the sexual tension was so thick at times. The game of cat and mouse was perfected by these two throughout this book. I was rooting for these two even when it seemed impossible. And that twist... I am still a bit confused about it but in the end, I was happy with their happy ending.

I cannot wait for the next book in this series.  
I highly recommend this book.

Blog Tour---> <http://reneeentress.blogspot.com/2015...>

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### **Dana says**

Dnf.. The main characters were so immature it felt like they were teenagers. Plus it seemed like there was an exclamation point at the end of every sentence it got on my nerves. Just not my type of story.

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### **Joy says**

Apparently I am in the minority. And I really HATE writing this review because normally I only write reviews when I absolutely love a book and sadly that was not the case with Relinquish. Just because I didn't

love it doesn't mean I hated it either. I received an ARC for an honest review so here it goes.....

I just want to say that this was more than likely a case of "it's me, not you." I had a hard time connecting with the main characters. Their cut and run habits are ones I try to avoid. That's why I rated this 3.5 stars. So there's that.

Ok now that that's out of the way let's get to the good stuff. Regardless of how I felt about the story I felt it was really well written. For a debut novel the delivery was exceptional.

I actually did fall in love with a few secondary characters. Oh who am I kidding SE Dean made me a true bookwhore with Mav, Holt, Jagger and Cam. They were definitely worthy and I will be keeping an eye out for their stories. I am looking forward to reconnecting with these characters in the future.

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### **Paula Hewat says**

This is SE Deans debut novel and oh my....what a story. Kingston James is THE male supermodel of his time but he seems somehow a bit lost at times. Phoenix Ryan is a bar owner who quite literally knocks him off his feet. The relationship that develops shows all the uncertainty and insecurity that people, even the beautiful people feel. The story is well rounded and the characters well formed with good back stories. There is a twist Nepal the end which had me wanting to punch the author.....the course of true love certainly doesn't run smooth for this couple. A hugely enjoyable read.....no cliffhanger but I can't wait for more from this new author.

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### **NMmomof4 says**

#### **3 Stars**

**Overall Opinion:** This was another 3 "just ok" read for me. I didn't feel the connection fully between our h and H though. They had sexual chemistry galore as well as sexual tension with their bantering, but I didn't get an emotional response from them. I didn't like that the H was with women after acknowledging that he "couldn't stop thinking about" the h (even though they were not experienced by the reader and just mentioned as a side note). It had a different twist at the end that I wasn't expecting, and because of the twist it'll make this hard to give a full review...

**Storyline:** This is Phoenix/Nix/Nikki and Kingston/King's story. They run into each other literally at the park and the sparks fly but so does the sass and attitude. They end up seeing each other again that morning at a coffee shop with more sparks, sass and attitude. They meet yet again that night at Phoenix's bar where yet again sparks, sass, and attitude fly. They start a kind of hostile flirting thing where they run hot and cold and don't seem to like each other much, but the chemistry between them is hard to ignore regardless. After several unexpected run-ins with the other, things heat up between them and stronger feelings start to develop. Without giving the twist away -- I'll just say they find their HFN at the end.

**POV:** This alternated between Phoenix and Kingston's POV.

**Overall Pace of Story:** Good. No slow parts where I skimmed, and though I didn't really feel the emotional

connection -- I wouldn't call this instalove.

**H rating:** 2 stars. I don't have many issues with manwhore types as long as they stop it after meeting the h, and he didn't. I also felt that his hot/cold thing with the h was mean at some points and I didn't like that.

**h rating:** 3 stars. She was just ok...

**Sadness level:** Low. There were some sad themes, but I didn't shed any tears here.

**Heat level:** Moderate/high. Definitely some steamy times.

**Descriptive sex:** Yes.

**Sex scene with OW or OM:** (view spoiler)

**Cheating:** (view spoiler)

**Possible Triggers:** (view spoiler)

**Closure:** I was disappointed in the ending. I felt like it was way too abrupt and I didn't get enough closure. I would call it a HFN ending for sure, as there is no major commitments made.

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## Tammi says

4.5 Stars!

\*I received this as an ARC in an exchange for honest review.\*

"Her fire, it burns so deep and bright--I can't help but surrender to it, begging for her to engulf me in her flames."

I am still on emotional overload from reading this book. The sexual chemistry will seriously leave you breathless and your panties drenched. It's freaking HOT! The banter is hilarious, I laughed so hard my cheeks hurt with it. Man, it hurt so good though. The storyline was intriguing, I was glued to the pages and could not put this baby down! I was reading at work, in between homework, bathroom breaks and during phone conversations! Yes, I became that girl and I will own it! The characters were very well developed, pace was spot-on and it was jam-packed with suspense. However, it was a touch of too much inner dialogue at some points.

"She thinks she needs a knight to battle the past, her fire-breathing dragon, but a phoenix is unique and immortal--just as the Phoenix that stands before me. Her beauty burns bright and vibrant."

I still cannot believe this is a debut, I liked her writing style and I absolutely adore these characters. It was so much fun to read, I really enjoyed it and would definitely recommend it to anyone who loves a good time, a sexy p\*\*ck with a dirty mouth and writing that will reach out and smack you in the face with feelings. King is all ego and smart ass all the time. I love it and I absolutely love these two together. They are so hot and cold and oh-so-right you can't help but fall head over heels for them. As much fun as this story is, it is one hell of a roller coaster of emotions. There's a major twist, I am talking the mother of all twists that p\*\*sed me

off for about ten seconds, but I still finished with a smile a mile long. These two are frustrating as hell. They will have you shaking your head as you laugh your ass off, then pulling your hair out in the same breath. You just keep going back for more and as you're tiptoeing around the edge, everything is pulled out from under you and it's an endless free fall. Don't worry you will be back on solid ground...sort of ;)

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### **JadeSarah. says**

I'm not sure how I am possibly going to describe just how much I loved this book!!

I loved Kingston so hard. He's at the top of his career as THE supermodel. The one everyone wants so of course he's going to be a cocky, sometimes an arrogant SOB and he knows it. He made me laugh so hard and I loved him from page one. Its really hard not to. He's an asshole, he doesn't care but he does have a hidden vulnerability to him and it gutted me at times and made me really love him. He had me laughing and the next moment he had me wanting to reach into the pages and hug him.

### **"What did they say about the Grinch? His heart grew?"**

Phoenix is definitely one of my favourite female characters. There's just something about her. I honestly think she was the perfect match for Kingston, she had a fire within her, she's a survivor, she's brave and while she had a stubbornness to her because of insecurities but it was never over bearing I loved how she kept Kingston on his toes and made him work for it when needed.

I could go on and on but I don't want to ruin or spoil a single thing for anyone. All I can say about this is that it blew me completely away. Its phenomenal. I couldn't put it down. It has banter, friendships, emotion, sexy as hell moments and that oh my god moment. And you will not see it coming and it will blow your mind. And then when you finish you will be gasping for more by SE dean and realize this is her debut book and your mind will be blown again. I loved this more than I can put into words, I can't wait for everyone to read it and can't wait for what's next from SE Dean.

### **" Kitten, you will not tell me how to make you come. I will make you come when I'm ready. Got it?"**

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### **May says**

Halfway through this book, I was starting to hate the heroine, thought the book was predictable and already knew who the villain was. Then everything unraveled and I was completely blown away. This was a really great read overall and I can't wait for more by S.E. Dean!

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### **Dana says**

Too annoyed to finish..

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## **CrazyDaisy says**

5 Crazy Ass Must Read Stars!!!!

"Wow! Just, wow!" is what I kept saying while reading this. This was an amazing debut for S.E. Dean. This book was amazing. It flowed nicely and had a bit everything I look for in a book. The angst, the suspense, the steaminess, the romance and a great cast of characters. Holy moly, was that some twist that threw me for a loop! I thought I had it all figured out and then I was was gobsmacked with the turnout. I loved King and Nix's banter and their chemistry.

S.E. Dean's debut novel has put her smack dab into the middle of my "Favorite Authors" list. I can't wait to read more from her. It's time for me to switch to stalker mode now so I can make sure I don't miss any releases coming from Ms. Dean.

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## **Amy says**

Actual Rating: 4.5 Stars!

"Sometimes I feel like the scar is visible on my skin, as if I've been marked by despair, the equivalent of a scarlet letter forced upon me for all to see and be forewarned of how broken I really am."

What a fantastic debut novel! I am seriously blown away!

Relinquish follows the story of Phoenix and King. King is a model. The "IT" man. King is cocky, so full of himself. So, when he meets Phoenix, she knocks his world off it's axis. King is used to people always wanting something from him. He will quickly realize that Phoenix is unlike any women he has ever met. She's feisty, she tempts and challenges him. She is just everything....Everyday for Phoenix is a painful reminder of the life that she used to have. She is no stranger to tragedy. She tries her hardest to remain tough, strong. Just living one day at a time. Meeting King changes everything. He challenges her. He makes her feel things, come alive. Bringing out a glimmer of the women she used to be. The chemistry between the two of them is explosive and will have you turning the pages to find out how things will play out between the two of them. Their story, so captivating. You can't help, but get lost in it.

I am still so surprised that this is the first novel for SE Dean. I mean, it is so well written and has great flow. The story-line is great. The characters are fun, especially the secondary ones. I would love to see more of Mav, Tatum and Cam. They were all amazing, supportive friends. I really hope that they will get their own books in the future.

Relinquish was a quick and easy read for me. It had just the right amount of angst, romance, steam, sexy times, and suspense. As well as a few twists that will leave you breathless, questioning everything. Seriously, it's one of those forget everything that you think you know kinds of twists. The kind that will leave you confused, wondering what the heck is going on, just to blow your mind completely when given the answer. The twist. OMG! The twist. Did I see it coming? No, I did not! It is such a good one! I think I am still in shock. All I can say is bravo! Seriously, well done. Relinquish is the debut novel for SE Dean and I for one, can not wait to see where she will take us next!

\*I was provided an ARC copy of this book via Love Between The Sheets Promotions, in exchange for an honest review\*

You can also see my review at: <http://onceuponabookblog.com/2015/07/...>

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### **Kate Bridges says**

I won this arc from the author and I'm very glad I had the luck of the draw. For a debut novel I'm impressed at how well it's written and how much I enjoyed it. King and Nix are perfect for each other and the banter between them is gold. Their chemistry is combustible and sexy as Hell. If you love a dirty talker with lots of hot sex, then this book is for you. I can't wait to read more from SE Dean....

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### **Jillian says**

Just remember who Kingston belongs to ladies! I claimed him like 6 months ago after reading this amazing story. SE Dean is pure genius in her writing of this book. You would never ever in a million years guess this was her first story.

Kingston is a male super model and is the most sought after in the business. Rightfully so I say, the man oozes charisma and sexiness.

He meets his match when he runs into Phoenix aka Nix....like literally almost runs her down.

I won't spoil this story but to tell you it is a must read!

Get the wine, Kleenex, chocolate or anything that is your go to comfort food. Your about to embark on a wild ride.

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### **Sarah Armstrong says**

\*\*\*ARC gifted to leave an honest review\*\*\*

Ever since I've read the blurb, I've been super intrigued by this book. And not once did it disappoint.

We meet Kingston, the untouchable & hottest male supermodel & Phoenix, the bar owning heroine who isn't impressed with Kingston.

Their chemistry is off the charts hot, that man knows how to treat his 'Kitten'.

I loved the best friends. Tate. Mav. Cam. & all the brothers, ever Kieran, I found him fascinating & needed to know why he acts the way he does.

This story will have you on the edge of your seat, just when you think you're getting somewhere, be prepared, it will throw you for a loop.

Great debut book; hopefully we get books for all the brothers.

Look forward to your next book!!

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### **Marcia says**

I was given the honor of reading an ARC of Relinquish before its release and all I have to say is thank you,

SE Dean for allowing me the pleasure of reading this wonderful story before its release. And now I am a firm believer that EVERYONE must read this book!! Relinquish...Blew Me Away. Relinquish is the story of Kingston "King" James, who is the TOP male model(supermodel in the words of Kingston). Kingston is as sexy as he is arrogant as he is dirty...and by dirty, I mean that filthy mouth of his!! YOWZA!! The man is HOT!! HOT!! HOT!! No, Relinquish is not your typical dirty talking, alpha male story...there is so much more to this story. Just when I thought I was reading one type of story, Relinquish became another story, offering me so much more than I was expecting. I was not prepared for the trip that this story took me on, but I am so thankful that I went on it. Relinquish is funny, it is emotional and it is heartwarming, with twists and turns that you will not see coming your way, but will be so happy that they did. I thoroughly enjoyed Kingston's journey.

SE Dean has a special gift for telling a story. The pace of the story was fantastic, and the characters in Relinquish were well developed and well written, including the secondary characters. I absolutely adored Phoenix Ryan. She was a gorgeous, strong, smart mouth lady, who was Kingston's match in every way. And can I tell you that I fell in love with each and every one of the James brothers, yes, including Kieran? Bravo, SE Dean on your first release. You have a new fan and I cannot wait to see what you have in store for us readers next. I hope it includes getting stories for each and every one of the James brothers, as well as Cam and Mav. OMG I forgot to mention how much I love Cam and Mav. I cannot recommend this book enough. It is a MUST read!!!

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