



## Slow Burn

*Roxie Noir*

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## **Slow Burn** Roxie Noir

I was hired to protect her, not make her scream my name.

From dodging bullets in Afghanistan to working for the Secret Service, I know danger *pretty* well.

Or I thought I did. That was before my latest assignment came with a whole *new* kind of danger.

Her name? Ruby.

She's the gorgeous-as-hell, opinionated, spitfire daughter of Senator Burgess. Her family's *beyond* strict, but for a girl who's so innocent, she's *anything* but sweet.

Wicked green eyes, curves that beg me to touch them, and a smile that makes me think dirty, *dirty* thoughts.

Her father's a *nightmare* — a totalitarian who rules his family with an iron fist. He decides what clothes his daughters wear, what books they read, where they can go — hell, who they *marry*.

Ruby can pretend with them, but she can't pretend with me. I can tell there's more to her than the demure southern belle she has to be in public.

But I'm a professional, hired to be her bodyguard. I know better than to fall for someone I'm supposed to protect, but with every glance, every accidental touch, every word she says to me, I just want her *more*.

I want to tear away the innocent good girl veneer, and make the *real* Ruby scream my name as she rakes her nails down my back.

It's f\*cking dangerous. If we get caught, there will be *hell* to pay — and it'll be worse for her.

But I don't think I can stay away.

**Slow Burn is a full-length, 92,000 word *completely* standalone novel with a happily-ever-after ending and steamy scenes that might require a cold shower.**

## Slow Burn Details

Date : Published May 23rd 2017

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Author : Roxie Noir

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## From Reader Review Slow Burn for online ebook

### Carvanz says

This was an exceptional read! I loved this story about Ruby, a woman who is a prisoner in her own home, and Gabriel, the man charged with keeping her safe and pure. This couple absolutely won my heart and I will always remember their story, it was just that good.

Although I was busy with life while reading this book, it is fast paced and never boring or trite. I wanted to devour it but unfortunately, again, life. I've read other works from this author and I've yet to be disappointed.

Ruby is trapped in a life that she desperately wants out of but has no options to do so. Gabriel just wants to complete the job in a manner that might get him reinstated with the secret service. Neither of them were expecting the feelings they had for the other or the way they were complete when together. There is some suspense and mystery, some steamy scenes that will take your breath away, romance that feels fresh and new, and a conclusion to their problems that I wasn't expecting.

It has an epilogue for one year later but I would've liked either a little different ending or additional information a few years later. It was still satisfying but I'm pretty greedy when it comes to my final epilogues and my couple's happy ever afters.

And now I absolutely must check out Roxie Noir's backlist and all the amazing books I haven't read yet.

Dual POV

No physical abuse

Triggers - (view spoiler)

ARC generously provided by author and this is most definitely my honest review

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### Mindy Lou's Book Review says

Holy cow! This book had my blood pressure boiling! Ruby is the daughter of a Senator up for re-election and a very religious man. Her father is the man of the house and has control of everything, even who she marries. He believes women's sole responsibility is taking care of her husband, kids and home only.

Ruby is 25, divorced from her gay husband, who her father picked out for her and back at home under his thumb. She is considered tainted for not sticking the marriage out and her fathers goal is to get her married off again. What he doesn't know is that he doesn't have the control he thinks he does.

Ruby is a little wiser now and knows she needs to get out, but in the mean time she is being stalked. Her father hires a bodyguard, Gabriel, to protect her until the stalker is apprehended.

Gabriel is on leave from Secret Service after a scandal he caused. He needs to tow the line on this new assignment if he expects to get back into service. Problem is, can he do what's asked of him by Ruby's father

or will he put his job in jeopardy to help Ruby?

The first half of the book was a bit slow but it was also necessary to show what Ruby's life is like in such a religious family. The author did an excellent job of portraying how trapped Ruby felt, yet still gave her a strength that most women wouldn't have after being raised by a man like her father.

The second half of the book, the pages just flew by. Ruby and Gabriel stopped fighting their attraction to each other, the stalker was caught and not someone I was expecting. The way Ruby got away from her family was awesome and the last few chapters of her and Gabriel figuring life out was beautiful. ARC provided by author.

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### **Lisa says**

Wow, Ruby lives in almost another world, her family life is so extreme and intense. Gabriel is supposed to watch out after her, but who is supposed to protect her from her crazy family? This book is full of angst and oppression and suspense. These two deserve so much more. Oh and when they get together, it is so hot. They are like fire and gasoline!

This author's writing is so smooth and flawless. Every time I read a book of hers, it is hard to put down, and this one is no different! I loved these characters, they are complex and interesting, endearing and real. I recommend this if you're looking for something to get lost in. I received an arc, it has a happily ever after and dual pov.

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### **Space Cowgirl says**

#### **Lunatic Wacko Fringe??**

This one's off the deep end! Ruby's U.S. Senator father is a lunatic religious fanatic. He got her married off to the church pastor's son and it didn't last. The son was a bad boy through and through and also gay, which was the ultimate sin, and Ruby?? divorced him. Now she's living back with the family in their mansion. In her father's ?world, woman are seen and not heard. They care for the home, cook, clean ,do arts and crafts, and raise children. Period.

Letters come, supposedly threatening letters and her father ,in his crazed attempt to save Ruby's soul, hires a bodyguard, Gabriel. Ruby? thinks her father is writing the letters!

Gabriel???? is a super hot stud, ex marine, now wanting into the secret service! He got into some sort of trouble in his last job and he needs this job to get straightened out. Problem is, he is smitten by Ruby?? as soon has he sees her.

What is he going the do to keep her out of trouble with her wacko father and himself out of trouble too?!

How is he going to keep his big hands off of Ruby??, because it is obvious she could go for him, too!

The Senator tasks Gabriel with protecting Ruby spirituality, as well as physically, because at her age, she is open to sin, and he likens her to a child, who must be told what to do!

Gabriel wants to do bad naaasssty things??? to Ruby, and it appears she is ready, willing, and wanting to reciprocate! He's her ultimate alpha bad boy sex toy!????

Throughout their top secret bedroom games, Ruby?? has a stalker. He keeps sending the creepy letters that

her father reads and shows to Gabriel, adding more security as the letters get weirder and weirder. This erotic alpha male romance??? has a good story and plenty of crazy lust??? between the two main characters.

Gabriel??? is one tall ?hot stud that can't seem to keep his big Johnson? in his jeans? when Ruby's around! YEHAW! Ride em Bareback, Cowgirl!!!!!!

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### **Jamie Leigh says**

#### **Great story**

Wow. This book grabbed me from the beginning. It had some twists & turns you don't see coming. It also has strong characters.

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### **Babs says**

What is not to love about this book. You have great characters who can hold a readers attention, twists, romance and a hottie.

Ruby is back home after a failed marriage. Her father is a Senator and she has a stalker so who comes in as her body guard...Gabriel.

I liked how the Senator was portrayed as it showed a lot about Rudy and the way she is. At 26 it was funny to see her doing things behind her fathers back like sneaking out.

A fun read that will keep you glued to your seat.

I voluntarily reviewed this book in exchange for an advanced copy!

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### **Lori Vandenburg says**

I really liked the story. Ruby is a strong woman that has lived an unusual life. It's almost "cult like" in the respect of the very biased morals. I feel sorry for her that she has endured being treated like an outcast by her own family. However, she has a strong sense about herself that I admire. Gabriel is a strong man, but has lost his sense of purpose. He finds himself on a new assignment. It's different from anything that he has ever been around. Then he meets Ruby. Then his perspective changes. Together they find the missing pieces to each other that they didn't realize were missing. It's a great story about discovery. I voluntarily read a review copy of this book.

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### **Rhiannon Hall says**

I loved these characters. Roxie has written a wonderful book which I absolutely loved♥

Ruby is a sweet young woman at 26 years old but very naive due to her parents and their "moral" beliefs which are very out dated and sometimes even cruel she's not a stranger to the opposite sex as she was married but that's a story in itself .. (read to find out as I don't want to spoil anything) anyway her father hires a bodyguard for Ruby and oh boy what a bodyguard he is...

Gabriel is a veteran/secret service man turned bodyguard who has a 1 goal...do his job, do it well and get his old job back but what he didn't expect was to get in bed with his charge ....what could possibly go wrong right?!

**SERIOUSLY READ TO FIND OUT YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED♥**

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### **BooksForHope says**

Ruby is tainted goods, well that's what everyone seems to think. Her father the God fearing Senator, her mother the doting wife, and all the members of the church. Basically everyone she has ever known. After she divorces her husband she is forced to move back home to the family mansion and tow the party line. Make jam, take photos of floral arrangements, and don't do anything to further embarrass the family or her fathers chances at re-election. While she's slowly being smothered under the oppression of her highly religious and very sexist father, more trouble abounds. She's being stalked, and the letters she's receiving are truly disturbing. Her father decides it's time to bring in a bodyguard to protect her while out on the campaign trail.

Gabriel is also trying to come back from a recent scandal. His chances of returning to the Secret Service hinge on this one time bodyguard job for the spoiled uptight daughter of a Senator. Little does he know that his misconceptions on this new job and what he really wants are far from the truth. He's been to war, slept with many women, and thinks that there are no surprises left to be seen. What starts out being a boring nightmare of a job ends up being a whirlwind of emotions and feelings he wasn't expecting.

While the suspense wasn't from where you'd expect it, I still felt it. (view spoiler) The stalker part of the story wasn't what I was expecting. I kept thinking something would happen and it wouldn't. It actually went in a completely different direction and I think that I liked that more than if we'd just been given the usual.

What was expected and I would have been sad to miss was the happy ending. Thankfully this book ended on such a happy note that I found myself with a huge smile on my face when I read "The End". I absolutely loved these two together. So different yet made for each other. I think by the end I appreciated the fact that I hated almost every character but Gabriel and Ruby. Although I very much liked the ones at the end.

I don't want to give too much away because I really want you to read it without me giving away all the information. When I know that I'm going to write a review for a book, I don't read any previous reviews because I want mine to be my own thoughts and feelings. I really enjoyed this book. There were some moments that I felt were unnecessary but it didn't take away from the enjoyment at all. A sweet love story with some crazy characters and lots of sex. One of the things that I've come to love from this author. Another that I love are the seemingly unimportant lines that don't have great revelations or are remarkable in any way other than the fact that when I read them I'm instantly reminded why I love this authors' books.

"Can I fill out an application?" Ruby asks.

Margaret waves one hand.

"Don't worry about it," she says. "I haven't gotten any better applicants."

"Can I at least do it for practice?" Ruby asks.

Margaret just laughs.

“Sure, sweetheart,” she says.

I received a free copy of this book and voluntarily chose to review.

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### **Samantha says**

#### **Eehhh**

Mannn I have to say I'm disappointed. I was really stuck between 2 and 3 stars on this one. I love this author but sadly not this book. It was so incredibly slow and the whole crazy cult/religion thing was too weird for me. She was a little too weak and though it wasn't talked about much he was a major player. Overall the story was definitely different and unique but just wanted into. Sorry. But I still love this author!

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### **Sallie says**

Insane, captivating storyline that will slow burn you! Ruby is living a nightmare day after day. Her father is that crazy one who controls everything down to her clothes. I think if I was her I would have lost my mind. Gabriel is brought on as security to follow her around. However their chemistry is flying off the pages. I thought for sure as much as she sneaks around someone was going to get caught. You get so lost in the story that you keep second guessing everything and everyone's motives time and time again. I really felt a connection to the characters in this one because she just wants to make her own choices and it's easy to relate to.

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### **Anna says**

Loved this book...it is a must read... Once I started it I couldn't put it down and by the end I was speechless and let me just say I didn't expect the stalker to turn out to be who it was  
I voluntarily read a review copy of the book

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### **Bitchy says**

I just wasn't feeling this. The whole subservient & be seen-not heard, overly religious thing was just not my cuppa.

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### **Susan says**

The Tyranny of "Keeping Sweet". The Absolute Joy of Sweet Release!!!

Absolutely wonderful book filled with achingly hot desire, beautiful erotic love scenes and serious themes

about religious fanaticism and those who bear the brunt of psychological and even physical harm living under the unnatural tenets of belief that have very little to do with the love of God...Also the Christ He sent to us who delivered but two commands and preached with "Blessings".

Ruby was always a disappointment to her parents and the fact that she returned home after a justifiable divorce did not help matters in terms of her standing with her father, the "morality" senator of America. Her mother was also unsympathetic to her daughter's plight, so entrenched was her belief that a woman's role and place in the home and society at large is to be subservient to her husband and to "keep sweet" in the face of everything, no matter the emotional cost or damage to your self-esteem.

The women were constantly reminded of Satan lurking around every corner and in any inappropriate display of immodesty. Their standards of dress were extreme in all the ways that completely erase any hint of womanhood, let alone beauty, sensuality or sexuality. So too was Satan, the root cause of any display of temper (justified or not), personality or independent thinking. Any of one of these displays was met with the admonishment to "keep sweet". This phrase, unfortunately is real and not a figment of Ms.Noir creative imagination, it is most closely associated with Polygamist sects living on the border of Utah and Arizona. Ruby was trying to "keep sweet" with a little help from "the bottle".

Ms. Noir brings to light the harm and injustice to woman, gay people and even young men who learn to objectify women. The prime objectification is one-sided sex, basically using a woman as a thing (means for self-pleasure) or viewing pornography that objectifys women. Lessons in manhood do not include tenderness, loving your spouse and doing what it takes to show your love in all ways... emotionally, communication style, supporting her personal growth and tenderness in the act of making love. By means of storytelling, the point is made that individuals who are genetically prone to mental illness also suffer mightily under this strict religious oppression.

Into this warped version of "Father Knows Best" comes our damaged hero Gabriel much like an angel who bears the same name. He is a Secret Service Agent with lingering PTSD issues "on leave" hired by the senator to be Ruby's bodyguard because of serious threats to her well being and safety. Naturally, we the reader fall in love with his male physical "gorgeousness" through the eyes of our heroine. Gabriel sees beyond the "sweet" facade Ruby paints on her face with a little help from her liquid courage. He recognizes her beauty and lively soul. There is a palpable current of electric attraction between them. In this attraction, Ms. Noir shows great skill with creating the tension of the forbidden "Slow Burn".

She takes us, the reader, slowly and skillfully through every nuance and progressive step in the "Slow Burn" until we are in the midst of a raging fire. It is a fantasy but in the same breath it is very realistic in the emotions that both our main characters experience through their thoughts and actions. She takes the reader to unexpected places and not to pat resolutions with which we the romance reader are most comfortable. To say more would spoil your savoring of this beautiful and meaningful story.

I congratulate Ms. Noir on this latest book. With every new release, she gets better and better at telling a smokin' hot romantic story that is meaningful and substantive. I love her down to earth style. She is clever in that themes that carry a heavy weight are so cleanly and clearly expressed in complex yet very understandable characters. A case in point is Gabriel a highly skilled military man and federal agent. He finds healing in his care and protection of Ruby. He is willing to humble himself to lift up his woman, his love. This is in direct contrast to every other male character in the novel. The most virile, most macho, most attractive man to us, the reader, uplifts his lover. Is this not more an example of how God loves us? Like a prayer in my mind I will sometime turn over the simple phrase, "Consider the lilies". The point being... how much God loves us and cares for us. That which is love is God. "Morality" is a mere servant of love and flows forth from love. Religion used as a bludgeon has nothing to do with love...dare I say with God? For those who are like me and cannot live without the romance, this is a must-have and will become a favorite to read and reread. One click to enjoy the "Slow Burn" of inescapable attraction and the freedom found in the truest love.

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**Olga therebelreader says**

In short:

**Hero 5/5 | Heroine 5/5 | Plot (Point, Originality) 3/5 | Writing Style 4/5 | Steam 5/5 | Romance 4/5 | Angst-Suspense 3/5 | Darkness 0/5 | Humor 3/5 | Secondary Characters 3/5 | Drama-Conflict 4/5 | Mystery 0/5 | Twists 3/5 | Pacing Steady | Action 4/5**

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