



## Not Your Hero

*Anna Brooks*

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**Not Your Hero** Anna Brooks

My hot new tenant isn't the kind of woman I usually go for. At all.

She's a single mom and even I'm smart enough to know there will only be complications getting involved with her, no matter how good she might be for me.

But when her past comes back and threatens them, I'm forced to face my own demons in order to keep them safe.

## Not Your Hero Details

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Author : Anna Brooks

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Genre : Romance, Sociology, Abuse, Contemporary

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# From Reader Review Not Your Hero for online ebook

## The Book Fairy Reviews says

Love is never easy, just ask Courtney. She fell in love and when her love brought on a child she was kicked to the curb. Found a place to live in a duplex owned by Sam.

Sam was hurt by a woman and the one person that supposed to protect him and love him unconditionally, his Father.

Now they live next door both are attracted both have trust issues, both are fighting the inevitable.

I loved this book because it was raw and real. Anna pilled no punches, Sam is a mans man he tells it like it is not believing in sugar coating the truth, he tell Courtney exactly how he feels and what he can give her. But is it enough.

Court is looking for a partner, her knight, her hero, something that Sam quickly tells her he is not.

I inhaled this book in less than one day, it was that good!

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## Red Cheeks Reads says

Courtney is a single mom just trying to get through life with her 5 year old son Ben. Working 2 jobs, she is trying to provide for her son and pay off some bills. Very busy with juggling work and her son, she doesn't think too much of her hot landlord that lives next door in the duplex. Sam is hard working and has his fair share of ladies. After being burned by his ex fiancé, he doesn't know if he could ever love again. But when these two slowly begin to enter each other's worlds, they can't get enough of one another. The chemistry is beyond anything they've felt before.

I could not get enough of this book! Even though it was short, I devoured it! The characters were excellent and very relatable. There were moments where I sighed (a romantic sigh) at the swoon worthy parts and then blushed at the heated moments. I mean, what girl does want to hear they drive a man crazy! "Christ, woman. You make me feel!" I want my very own Sam! I look forward to more from Anna Brooks! 4 smooches for Not Your Hero!

SARAH

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## Melissa Mendoza says

**Title:** Not Your Hero

**Author:** Ann Brooks

**Release Date:** June 2016

**Genre(s):** Romance

**Page Count:** 192

**Heat Level:** 3 flames out of 5

**Rating:** 4 stars out of 5

**Blurb:**

My hot new tenant isn't the kind of woman I usually go for. At all.

She's a single mom and even I'm smart enough to know there will only be complications getting involved with her, no matter how good she might be for me.

But when her past comes back into her life and threatens them, I'm forced to face my own demons in order to keep them safe.

**Review:**

"His eyes rake down my body, and I bite my lip under his scrutiny. When they land back on my face, he steps closer and runs a finger down my cheek. I thought the way I felt in his arms last night was hot, but being the subject of his desire is like being in the middle of a fire."

4 trust me stars!!! Emotional and frustratingly hot.

Courtney is a single mom trying to make ends meet, she works two jobs (one as a checker at a grocery store and a server at a strip club). She lives in a duplex and rents the place from Sam, the hot guy with trust issues, that lives in the other half of the duplex. Courtney isn't blind, she sees how sexy her landlord is, but she tries to ignore it, she's too busy working and being a mom. Sam is a man with severe trust issues, thanks to his dad and his ex-girlfriend, so he doesn't do relationships, he's a love 'em and leave 'em kind of guy. But he's not blind either, he sees Courtney and he knows she's sex in heels, but he is apprehensive, the last thing he needs is a girlfriend, let alone play daddy. But when one night of passion happens between these two, he's forced to see things a different way and when Courtney's past comes back to haunt her, he has to step up and start being a man. Can he get over his trust issues??

This book was a fast read for me, and overall pretty good. Not one of my favorites. I think mostly because I wanted to kick Sam in the head. His whole, nope I'm not your hero, I'm not your hero. And then the next day he's all over her. It was a constant battle with me and Sam. I loved Courtney and her dedication to proving she's a good mom and trying to make it work as a single mom. The story was good and their backgrounds worked for me too. Overall a good book, with some pretty steamy scenes!

ARC provided by author in exchange for an honest review. Reviewed by Melissa from Alpha Book Club

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**Aaly says**

\*\* ARC provided by Southern Belle Promotions for an honest review. \*\*

Not your hero is the story about two broken souls, and after some traumatic experiences in their past, decided to be in charge of their lives, instead of being a victim.

Courtney is a single mother with two jobs, trying to maintain her family above the water. This character was so brave, even in the hard times she fought for it. But she felt lonely and sometimes wanted to have someone in her life she could rely on.

Sam is her landlord and definitely not the commitment guy at all. He enjoyed his freedom and after what happened in his past, he wasn't going back to relationship. He's a complex man, with mixed feelings when it comes to his beautiful neighbor and sweet son. Totally Alpha Male!

« I've never felt possessive of a woman before. And a woman with the kid? I avoid them like plague. Just another complication I don't need, even if her kid's probably the coolest five-year-old I've ever met. »

The tension is here and both of them aren't on the same page; but they both felt the same way, attracted to each other. Courtney didn't want to feel used like the other girls, and Sam couldn't get her out of his head. The girls constantly in and out of his place didn't help him. That's why Courtney tried to keep him in the friend zone.

Sam wanted Courtney so badly and was honest with her, that he couldn't open up to her. The more he spend time with Courtney and her son, the more he get attached to them and his old habits weren't something he was proud of. He became protective and being jealous when she wanted to move on and find someone, so totally confusing. How could he let her in his heart, without being hurt?

There were some very, very hot moments, with Sam playing his part as an Alpha Male with a swoony side. There were angst, sexy and hot scenes and seeing how he fall for Courtney was very sweet, turning to the guy against relationship to the one who finally had one and found his match!  
It was a sweet story about second chances at love, finding « your hero ».

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## Big Joe Rossi says

3.5 stars

Courtney is a single mom working two jobs with really no one but her friend Mona behind her. Sam is the bad attitude sexy neighbor and her landlord who stays away, has tons of female visitors, once, and is nice to her cute adorable son, Ben.

When circumstances throw them together over and over his past and her past seem to lead them in different directions. Sam doesn't trust easy, hell he doesn't trust ANYONE He doesn't do relationships. One nighters and/or no string sex is his limit but with Courtney he not only wants in, he may want more. Courtney on the other hand has been alone since she got pregnant with the greatest thing in her life, Ben. She is not willing to be a one-nighter, or no strings sex type of gal. When weakness gives in and the two connect it is explosions and fireworks till Sam is Sam and says harmful things.

From here we watch as Sam fights his past and tries to be what Courtney and Ben need. When her past comes back into her life he must step up and face his demons to help her. Will it be enough? Will they be able to get through this and be happy on the other side?

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## **Mollien Fote Osterman says**

**Title:** Not Your Hero

**Author:** Anna Brooks

**Publisher:** Anna Brooks

**Reviewer:** Mollien

**Release Date:** April 18, 2015

**Genre(s):** Romance

**Page Count:** 192 pages

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My hot new tenant isn't the kind of woman I usually go for. At all.

She's a single mom and even I'm smart enough to know there will only be complications getting involved with her, no matter how good she might be for me.

But when her past comes back into her life and threatens them, I'm forced to face my own demons in order to keep them safe.

\*Contains Adult Content\*

\*Standalone\*.

### **Review:**

Not Your Hero is one of those warm feel good romances where the guy, Sam is the no commit sort of guy. The girl, Courtney is a single mom struggling to make ends meet dumped by her ex who wants nothing to do with their son. That is until he does. The plot has Courtney renting the other half of Sam's duplex. She works two jobs to support her little family. Courtney watches the stream of women coming and going from her hot landlord's place. Sam tries to keep his distance. Although his tenant is sexy as anything, she is the kind of girl that Sam needs to stay away from. The chemistry is forever growing stronger as these two try to keep their relationship strictly tenant/landlord, but they can't seem to stay away from each other. This story moves along quickly. A good book to take along for a weekend of relaxing. A sigh worthy HEA ending with interesting characters.

SCORES on a scale of 1-5 Stars rate each of the Following 5

Categories

PLOT: 4 Stars

CHEMISTRY: 5 Stars

PACING: 4 Stars

ENDING: 4 Stars

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT: 4 Stars

Review Copy of Not Your Hero provided by the Anna Brooks for an honest review. Reviewed by Mollien from Alpha Book Club

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### **Karen says**

I was not a huge fan of Ben. Ben's dad was crazy.

Not so sophisticated as her other works.

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### **EpicRomanceReviews says**

There is nothing more enticing for me than a story about a jaded "A-hole" who is transformed by love, and NOT YOUR HERO by Anna Brooks is that all that and more!!

Sam is a commitment-phobe with serious trust issues who has built an emotional barricade around himself to keep from feeling. He goes through the motions, spending his days toiling away as handy man in his grandparent's duplex, his nights prowling the bars and engaging in meaningless hookups with a hot blonde. However, everything changes when he takes notice of his stunning new tenant Courtney who rents the other half of his duplex. But he doesn't get close to people. Especially a single mom and her attention starved kid.

Courtney does the best she can for her little boy, who is the center of her world, but she has to work two jobs to make ends meet (including moonlighting as a cocktail waitress at a seedy strip club) because she was dumped by her ex when he discovered she was pregnant. It breaks her heart that there is an emotional void in her son Ben's life and so naturally her kid latches onto her tall, strapping landlord because he is in desperate need of a father figure. The beautiful, yet achingly vulnerable single mom and her adorable little boy burrow themselves into Sam's elusive heart and do the impossible. They make him feel. Care. Want a better reality than the life he is living. But he has so many scars from growing up in an abusive home that forever tainted his outlook on love. But he's never felt like this about a woman before. Protective, Fiercely territorial. She arouses his every forbidden desire and he wants to claim her and cherish her and slay all her dragons, but he keeps her at arm's length because he knows he's not what she needs.

"F\*\*k. I can't do this. I can't start caring about her. She's just a woman. A gorgeous, f\*\*kable woman who is off-limits. Whom I can't touch. But I did, and her face is soft, so soft. She's sweet and kind, and I'm the opposite of those things."

He keeps insisting he is NO hero, but actions speak louder than words and try as he might he can't stay away, from her or the kid. He keeps showing up to kiss her breathless, to play white knight in times of distress, to soothe her and wipe away her tears, to play catch and video games with Ben, to make her burn with lust and twist her insides with bittersweet yearning. But when their pent up, frenzied desire leads to a night of soul shattering passion and an unexpected threat from her past looms overhead, can she and Sam mend the broken parts of themselves and prove that together they can conquer all odds?

Anna Brooks is a new author to me, but she has been on my radar for a while, so when I got the opportunity

to receive an advance reviewer copy of NOT YOUR HERO, I jumped at it. And now I am totally OBSESSED with this book..and this author's work!!! I was sucked into this passionate, angsty, emotionally fraught story from page one. It is the kind of tumultuous romance that gives me tons of shivery feels...Goosebumps raced up and down my spine, I exhaled wistful sighs, tears welled in my eyes and I felt deep heartachy pangs in my chest throughout. Although the premise is a classic one (single mom falls in love with the unattainable blue collar bachelor next door) and it could have easily gone the way of a trite, formulaic romance, this story is anything BUT!! The author spun her special brand of magic and made me fall head over heels in love with these characters and threw in many unexpected plot twists to make it truly stand out! That takes sheer talent, skill and exquisite craftsmanship.

Sam is my favorite kind of book boyfriend! Angry and brooding. Innately protective. Gorgeous. Powerfully built. A deliciously dominant dirty-talker. And primally sexy. Of course he is a total PRICK at first, and makes no apologies. In fact, he goes out of his way to remind the heroine time and again why he is no good for her, but just like Courtney, I saw glimpses of the valiant man hiding behind the mask and knew, just KNEW, that he was just as desperate for a human connection as Courtney was! He tries to act like a hardass with no feelings but the problem was he feels TOO MUCH, and we know he is a goner as soon as he sets eyes on the heroine and her son.

Courtney was oh-so-lovable too. She was kind, generous and gentle-natured, and my heart hurt for her time and again because she struggled so mightily to do right by her son but despite her brave front, she was so profoundly lonely deep inside. More than anything, she yearned for a man like Sam to be there for her through good times and bad. To love her and comfort her and help her weather life's tumultuous storms.

"I don't want just a quick f\*\*k. I want to be worshiped, held, made love to. I want someone to laugh with and to share a meal with. A partner."

The chemistry between this couple was electrifying, their emotional connection intense and visceral, and when they finally succumbed to their red hot passion...it was off the charts! And I found Sam's interactions with young Ben especially touching. I love me a big, gruff, Alpha "a-hole" who is brought to his knees by a woman and child and finds the true hero lurking within. And ahh... it was so delicious seeing Sam's soft, tender side emerge and watch his walls come crumbling down the more time he spent around Courtney and her adorable little boy. I think Ms. Brooks did a phenomenal job developing these characters...they are multi-faceted, deeply flawed yet sympathetic, and undergo a lot of emotional growth throughout the novel. The relationship unfolds at a slow yet steady pace so the reader can really invest emotionally in the outcome of this romance. Speaking of which...the ending was pitch perfect and had my heart overflowing with happiness!

Bottom line? NOT YOUR HERO is my first book by this gloriously talented author but it most certainly will not be my last!!

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**beth myrick says**

**MOVE along**

No spoilers. That's just a reminder to myself because I really want to give away all the reasons why their really isn't a single character in this book that inspired me to root for this couple. Seriously, just everything about it was uninspiring overall. It was a force finish for me. I'm sorry, but this needs a do over on so many



levels.

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## **Laura says**

\*\*\*ARC Provided by the Author and Social Butterfly PR\*\*\*

Sam and Courtney were both interesting and I was engaged with their story. I could understand why each of them would feel reluctant to get involved, why events in their pasts would make them think it was a good idea to avoid caring, and relying, on another person. Watching them both realize that they had found the person they were willing to risk their hearts to be with was compelling, interesting, and drew me in quickly as a reader. Their reluctance to become involved was balanced nicely with the attraction they felt to one another.

They each dealt with family situations that seemed a little over the top at first glance, but as they were both dealing with things that seemed exaggerated, for lack of a better word, the balance in the story remained and you were still able to relate to them, even though the average person never deals with anything similar to the events in their lives. I liked the resolution that was found for them as well, as it allowed their relationship to move forward in a positive direction, both of them having put their past behind them.

The writing and the pacing were both strong, and I was able to relate to the characters. I enjoyed and recommend this book.

\*\*\*This and other reviews also featured on <http://www.imasweetandsassybookwhore.com>\*\*\*

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## **Tara TUG says**

Talk about freaking pleasantly surprised by a book. I mean damn. I went into this book not even reading a blurb and came out of it loving a hot ass male named Sam. I really felt like the author did a hell of a job making the reader connect with both characters. I love reading a book from an author that immediately makes you want to go and buy every one of her other books. Add in a strong female character who can make her own decisions and put other people before her then you know I'm all in.

Sam sees his next door neighbor and her kid and knows he should stay far, far away. The problem is as much as he tries he just can't. I really enjoyed the balance these two brought to the story. Sam with his rough exterior but a heart big enough to hold the love of a woman and her child and Courtney, a girl willing to do anything to protect her family.

This definitely will not be the last book of Ms. Brooks I read. Although, the story was short you were left not wanting for more. Just the perfect balance with not too much information and just enough to make you love everything about it.

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## **Lia says**

This was a quick read. It was emotional and dramatic in all the right places. Sam is an asshole. He's jaded from years of abuse from his father and being betrayed in the worst way by the people who were supposed to love him. Courtney is a single mom who has no support from her son's father. She works two jobs and does everything she can to provide and protect her boy.

They're an unlikely pair. Sam has no desire to have a relationship with anyone. Friendship, romantic, or otherwise. But somehow, Courtney and her son wedge their way into his heart. But it's certainly not without challenges. Sam does everything in his power to fight his growing feelings for her.

I enjoyed this book. It kept my attention easily. I wish it was a bit longer and that the epilogue was actually an epilogue and not just another chapter. I would have appreciated a bit more closure.

3.5 stars

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## **Barb says**

Courtney and her son Ben are tenants of Sam's. Courtney is looking for a good guy to be in Ben's life but when she starts thinking maybe that guy could be Sam, Sam puts a stop to that real quick! Sam trusts no one and never lets anyone get close enough to break down the walls he has around his heart. He will allow all the girls in his bed but not close enough to have feelings for them.

Sam has been hurt pretty bad in his life by his dad and by his ex-fiance. It's not surprising that he won't trust anyone. Just keep having girls come in and out of his bed almost every night is fine with him. That is until him and Courtney get together. Sam just can't get her out of his system but he isn't willing to let her in completely. But when someone from her past comes out of nowhere and wants to take Ben away from her then Sam starts realizing that he may want more out of life than just girls he doesn't care about. Could he want a family? He wants to protect Courtney and Ben. He will do anything to keep them safe and to help them even if it means contacting the one person who has hurt him so bad in the past.

Reading about how Courtney will do anything for her son Ben even if it's working in as topless bar and a grocery time just to put food on the table. When her past catches up to her, she isn't sure what to do when she realizes she could lose Ben. Her son, the one she has raised without any help, the one she will put her life on the line for. But when Sam steps up and tries to help her keep Ben, is it too late? Can Courtney really let Sam help her? Can both of them realize that fate has put them together? Grab a copy and read this story. I can't wait to read more from this author!! The characters are so down to earth, have real life problems and sure don't seem real or fake. I love this story and want to read more!!

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## **Tiffany Readz says**

Sam Can Be My Hero Any Day!!!

What a sweet and sexy as hell love story Anna Brooks gives us with Not Your Hero. I was all in from the blurb and was excited when the story held up just as well.

"Trust is a fickle bitch, and it doesn't come easily for me." ~ Sam

Sam has made himself quite a complex man. Having to protect his heart and feelings for most of his life has left him with a cold and uncaring exterior. He lost his mother and his father never stepped up when raising little Sam. Getting himself away from that situation the minute he turned eighteen, Sam now has a thriving business and rental property he takes care of. While he lives in one side of the property, he rents the other out to a young single mother, Courtney.

Sam isn't looking for love, just to get his rocks off every once in a while. He helps Courtney out as much as he can, however never steps over that line. Which is good since she isn't looking for anything either. Courtney works two jobs so she can take care of her five year old son Ben as his dad isn't in the picture. Of Course Courtney notices Sam, but also notices the girls constantly in and out of his place at night, which reminds her of why she needs to keep him in the friend zone.

Sam spends time with Ben and in turn sees what a loving, caring woman Courtney is. She is a hard worker, something he can relate to and she puts her needs aside for others, something he was never brought up experiencing.

"You care for the same reasons I don't want to. Christ, woman. You make me feel." ~ Sam

Awwwww Sam is my favorite kind of alpha. Tough guy on the outside and a big ol' teddy bear on the inside. He didn't even want her to drive him because he's a man, men drive. I just loved it! Courtney has her work cut out for her and realizes that Sam is totally worth it as she starts to thaw that ice around his heart.

"I saw a future, a life, a family. I think your life flashes before you when you finally decide to live."  
~ Sam

"The past eight years I've been avoiding reality, living because of my past. But now. Now I want to live in spite of my past." ~ Sam

Swoon-City!! I could not get enough of this guy! The book is well written and is told from dual point of views moving it right along. We get some angst and sexy scenes through out, as well as a cute epilogue.

Reviewed for Renee Entress's Blog.

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## **Dayreader Reviews says**

"Trust is a fickle bitch, and it doesn't come easily for me." ~ Sam

Sam was not kidding about his issues with trust. Spend the majority of the book being a jerk. Okay that was harsh but he is not the nicest guy when it comes to his feelings or the feeling of others, especially Courtney's. He uses women for one thing and that is it. He cannot be what Courtney deserves. He is not her hero.

Poor Courtney, she is a single mom forced to work two jobs so that she can support her 5 year old son Ben,, that her ex (Matt) denies being his. She rents a place from Sam and cannot help but find him hot. He is kind

to Ben and is easy on the eyes. Too bad he has an endless stream of women coming and going from his place, so she know that he is not for her.

The complication in their relationship comes in the form of drunk Courtney making a pass at Sam. She makes him experience "feelings" that he does not want to have. He has been burned by people in his past, people that mattered, and cannot take that chance again. Sam and Courtney do eventually give in to their mutual attraction only to have the moment ruined by Sams insensitive remarks afterward.

\*\*\*RANT ALERT\*\*\* I will stop right there and say Sam kinda made me mad a few times in this book with his self sabotage BUT Courtney pissed me off. She KNEW that Sam was flawed and was emotionally detached yet she gets involved with him anyway. She has visions of "hearts and flowers" and he is all about the "wham, bam, thank you ma'am". Knowing he is a man whore and she gets him to agree to be exclusive should have been enough for a while but she really was pushy and kinda clingy. She knew better, he did not lie or misrepresent himself to her. She did all that to herself. Okay, I feel better now. Sorry, so uh, anyway where was I...\*\*End Rant\*\*

Even though their relationship is complicated and gets even more so when Matt (the ex) decides he wants to have custody of Ben, Sam never falters in his loyalty to Courtney and Ben. When it matters, Sam steps up, but he may be a day late and a dollar short when it comes to a relationship with Courtney.

On a side note Ben is the sweetest and most adorable 5 year old in the world. The loves to "help" out Sam in his garage and loves to spend time with his mom, when she can spare it between her two jobs.

This book makes you mad, (see rant above), it makes you cry, (Sam and Courtney equally have some baggage) but it also makes you smile. The sign of a good book is its ability to make you FEEL and boy did it ever.

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