



Ruby

Jeffe Kennedy

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Book three of Facets of Passion

Danielle Sosna has no problem denying herself in order to achieve her goals—after all, that attitude landed her a dream job at Vogue Paris. But in New Orleans for one last assignment before heading overseas, she's faced with the most decadent of temptations. Seductive Cajun chef Bobby Prejean takes Dani's strength of will as a challenge, and offers her a night of wild indulgence—if she will agree to obey his every command...

Dani can't resist Prejean's invitation to join him in a world of carnal desire, complete with fetish costumes and masks. Determined to keep her emotional distance, she gives Prejean everything but her name. A night becomes a week, as she spends Mardi Gras suspended...in the delicious space where pleasure meets pain.

Too late, she realizes the cloak of anonymity has not protected her—and that chasing her dream might come at the expense of her heart.

For more Facets of Passion, check out Sapphire and Platinum, available now!

41,000 words

Ruby Details

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Author : Jeffe Kennedy

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Genre : Erotica, Bdsm, Romance, Erotic Romance, Adult Fiction, Contemporary, Novella

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From Reader Review Ruby for online ebook

Debra Dunbar says

I was chatting with a friend a few weeks ago and she recommended that I read Ruby by Jeffe Kennedy, saying it was a well-written, steamy novel. Normally, I'm all for that, but this book had one big strike against it – it's BDSM. Don't get me wrong, I am very fond of my riding crops, and have always enjoyed a lively cuff-em-and-have-your-way-with-them erotica. It's just that nowadays it's Fifty Shades Of Everything But The Kitchen Sink and I'm burned out. I want something else. Or at the very least a good switch tale or one with a dominant female. After all, it's such a lovely view from the top.

I gave in though when my friend told me there was a smoking hot, sex-in-the-kitchen scene. So I put Ruby up on my Kindle and settled in for a good raunchy read.

Ruby's real name is Danielle. She's a driven career girl in the fashion industry who's one fashion shoot away from her dream job in Paris. She just needs to make a success of this New Orleans shoot and off she goes. But the locations/weather/models and everything else aren't falling easily into place, and then she gets booted from a five star, swank restaurant by the Cajun chef who doesn't want to custom make food to her low calorie specifications. Did I mention the chef, Bobby Prejean, is gorgeous, and actually owns the restaurant? He may have tossed her out of his place, but that doesn't mean Danielle didn't feel some sparks fly between them.

On the way back to her hotel, in the pouring rain, she passes the restaurant and meets the temperamental chef yet again. Their attraction and the shelter of a large umbrella help them get past a rocky beginning, and Danielle is intrigued when Bobby suggests dinner (his way) and a whole lot more (also his way).

At first I was a little uncomfortable with the heroine's decision to take Bobby up on his very tempting offer. She's in a strange city, and there's a lot of risk to accepting an invitation to "come back to his place", especially when he's as kinky as this one admits to being. Then I harkened back to my youth, when dinosaurs roamed the earth, and remembered all the one-night-stand's I'd indulged in just because a guy was hot beyond belief. When it comes to hormones, common sense often flies out the window, and I was no exception.

Bobby Prejean turns out to be one of the most well-adjusted, attractive, sweetest Doms that I've ever read. In spite of all the BDSM stereotypes, it was refreshing to read of a Dom who liked to control in the bedroom, but was absolutely modern when it came to everyday life. He was caring, with the capacity for deep emotion, and best of all, he had a great sense of humor – even when it came to himself. And Danielle was an equally engaging heroine. She was passionate about her career, and although she had some baggage, it wasn't over the top. The romance, the sex, the character development – it was all so well done.

And the kitchen? Let's just say there will be no more margarine in this house. REAL butter, baby!

Fiordiligi says

Had I finished this book, I would probably have rated it between C- and C+, but these days I just need more than girl meets mysterious gorgeous man who - in the same night - initiates her in the pleasures of BDSM

and they fall wildly, madly in love.

I actually do have a weakness for the love at first sight trope and find it incredibly sexy when done right, however, I can probably count the stories I honestly believed on two hands. And sorry, but WHEN a girl agrees to enjoy the pleasures of BDSM in the first night, how can she NOT at least set up a safe net? Of course not every man is Jack the Ripper but some common sense this reader greatly enjoys in her characters. DNF

Amy R says

Jeffe Kennedy writes really good BDSM books that have a great story and a lot of respect between the characters. I never feel it is one sided with her hero and heroine. I was curious how Jeffe could write another book and make it different than the two others in the Facets of Passion series. I naturally assumed there would be some of the same stuff with just different characters. I was so happy to be proven wrong.

Danielle "Dani" Sosna is in New Orleans for work. She meets Bobby Prejean at his restaurant in quite the meet cute. He actually yells at her and throws her out of his restaurant, but she does put up quite a fight before she leaves. That interaction alone had me wondering how the two of them are ever going to make things work between them. That is the beauty of a story, though! Anything can happen.

Dani is a very independent woman who does not allow people to push her around. She prefers to call the shots and have the upper hand. She is also a fun "whatever goes" type of gal which is refreshing. She has her own issues to overcome, but they don't really get in the way of having fun. Prejean can be a little intense with his obsessive compulsive issues (like washing every dish as soon as he is done using it) but is also pretty easy going at times. He too, has some issues he needs to work through, but if he didn't, the story would be a little dull. Once Dani and Prejean meet again after the display at Prejean's restaurant, they decide to have a little fun while Dani is in town. Let the games begin.

The word "sophisticated" kept coming to mind when I tried to come up with a term to describe Ruby. The characters, the city, the jobs of the characters, and the way they interact with one another. It was all done on a more sophisticated scale. Jeffe does a fantastic job describing the setting and I felt like I had been to New Orleans after reading this book. I enjoyed the dialogue between Dani and Prejean. She had a way of making him laugh without meaning to, and it was great to see that from a man like him. She was worming her way into his heart and she had no idea. Of course, he was doing the same thing with her. I love it when characters don't realize when they are falling in love.

The ending to the story came fast, and by that I mean I wanted the book to continue because I could not get enough of Dani and Prejean and not necessarily in the bedroom. I wanted to witness them exploring their new found feelings for one another especially since Dani's life is turned a little upside down. But, all good books must come to an end sometime. If you are looking for a well written BDSM book that has a great plot, well developed characters, and an awesome setting, I highly recommend Ruby by Jeffe Kennedy!

Gina Fluharty says

Ruby is exquisite. Beautifully written with fantastic characters whose needs/conflict will tear the frantically

beating heart right out of your chest.

Sheri says

Wow! This book was intense. Dani prides herself on her strict personal rules and self denial in order to gain what she wants out of life – from her looks to her career. She is a woman who knows what she wants and is not afraid to go after it. Her attitude and rigid personality have worked well for her in the past, landing her a dream job, and she is not about to back down now for anything.

Enter Bobby Prejean. Seductive, sexy, and oh so enticing. If a guy like him offers you a single night of no holds barred, anything goes, pleasure beyond your wildest imagination...take it. Beyond the intense stare and seductive demeanor, Prejean is a complex man. He challenges Dani to let go of herself and trust him completely.

This story was incredibly steamy. Kennedy definitely knows how to build up sexual tension and is able to elicit strong emotion from and for her characters. The BDSM scenes were extremely erotic and tastefully written. I enjoyed this book and look forward to reading the other two books in the Facets of Passion series.

I received this book from the author/publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Ginny says

Once again, Jeffe Kennedy is keeping it real! While it probably won't happen that you go into a high class restaurant, order something on the menu in a way that it is not originally prepared, and have the chef come out screaming at you, and then offer you a night of wild abandonment, there are some other things that bring you back down to earth whilst reading Kennedy's books.

In a previous review of mine, of her book Platinum, I mentioned that I loved that the main character felt slight pain when she went to pee and wipe herself after some pretty heavy and rough sex — because that actually happens in real life!

Now! Any book that has anal sex in it, or anal play (plugs, beads, whatever), will rarely touch on the fact that, well, hey, it's kind of gross back there if you don't prepare yourself properly. Why don't they? Because it's gross. Yes, I said it. However, people DO try out, and DO enjoy anal play. And there are some realistic ways to make it cleaner and awkward after the fact — such as enemas! Yep! You can buy them in the store! And that's one thing that Danielle does in this book. Why do I love it? Because it's real. And because Kennedy made it amusing. Danielle is shopping for an enema bag, trying to seem all nonchalant about it, (like young people buying condoms, or a guy buying tampons for his girl — always pick out a few extra things to try and mislead the checkout counter person!) She adds a few extra items to make it seem less weird, and thinks to herself "Some girls just shave their legs for dates". I literally laughed out loud at this.

Danielle is also VERY high-strung about her job, which seems to be a mainstay for anyone who works in fashion, and Prejean offers her an out of that life, if only for the time when the sun is down. Between the really hot sex, the delicious sounding food (thanks, Kennedy, for making my mouth water for beignets again, jerk.) and the amusing bits here and there, PLUS the fact that Prejean has a hidden side to him, and the

H.E.A., it makes for one hell of a book.

There's a reason I try to review as many of Jeffe Kennedy's books as I can, and why I went and bought her others books. This is a perfect example. Her writing is hot, fun, witty and real. I'm going with a Four pt Five out of Five for this book, just because not everyone will enjoy it. But if you like bits of pain, pleasure, good food and snarky comments mixed in, read this book!

Carien says

I'm totally drooling over this book, it's that good!

First of all it has a deliciously hot, bearded hero and I didn't need my beard shaving advisory warning! Prejean has the most awesome, silky beard you can imagine and it stays right where it belongs.

And his beard isn't the only delicious thing about Prejean. I loved how Prejean doesn't try to bend Dani to his will, but accepts her strength and her temper. He's mindful of her feelings, but also challenges her to see things from a different angle.

I also loved Dani. She's a complex person with fears and rules for herself that I could relate to. I could really understand where she was coming from and why she has become the woman she is. I loved to see her re-evaluate her rules and letting go of those that keep her back.

The BDSM scenes were hot, steamy and full of both sexual and emotional tension. There were some scenes set at a BDSM party and although I'm usually not fond of those as I like my erotic romances one on one, Kennedy doesn't cross any lines and made the scenes work for me.

And the ending!

Kennedy sure knows how to make me feel for her characters and the ending had me sniffling in a good way. It's emotional and very touching.

I will most definitely reread Ruby and I can only hope Kennedy will write more books in this series.

Mandi Schreiner says

I'm so glad I was offered Ruby by Jeffe Kennedy for review. She has a couple of erotic BDSM novellas out with Carina Press, and Ruby is a very sexy, quick read. Dani is an assistant editor with a fashion magazine and in New Orleans for a photo shoot. She works hard, long hours and because she works in the fashion industry, starves herself just to keep up with the competition. After a very long work day she falls into a restaurant for a bite to eat. Asking the waiter to adjust her order to have less calories, the chef comes storming out, wanting to know who would dare to ask him to make a meal less than stellar. Dani is no wilting flower and she gets into a heated argument with Bobby Prejean which ends with her leaving.

The next day she happens to see Prejean again, and instead of fighting this time he offers her something else. One night of letting go. Of letting him feed her, show her around town and show her pleasure. Prejean likes to be in control, and he can tell for as wound up as Dani is, she needs to submit.

I sometimes feel burned out with BDSM storylines but this one worked well for me. Most of the book is sex, but I liked the chemistry between Dani and Prejean. He tests her limits, he tests her patience, and at the end, she discovers more of who she is. He is definitely the alpha, dominant one, but he also thoughtful. He does small things that make her realize there is more to him than just tying her up and bringing her orgasms (but really, what more do we need? *grins*)

While I think the couple of days spent with these two are done well, I also think we miss out on really getting to know Prejean well. It's told in Dani's point of view, and I feel like we were cheated with Prejean's story. I pretty much feel like I don't know anything about him besides his sexual proclivities.

With that being said, I was happy that this book ends with more of a happy for now, rather than an all out, I love you which would have felt very out of place.

While this book is full of sex, the author also really captures the setting of New Orleans. I felt like I was in the courtyards, in restaurants and outside at night walking. I like that the author took her time with the imagery of the town. It plays a big and nice part in the story. Especially with Prejean's cajun roots.

A very sexy book. I wish we could have gotten to know Prejean more but otherwise, fun read.

Rating: B

Crazy for Books (Stephanie) says

NetGalley free read

This one was better than Platinum for me. I liked that Dani was driven. I liked the risk of having a one-night-stand, that turns into a wild week and keeping your identity a mystery for, at least, part of it. But, I didn't get that Bobby was interested enough for his ultimate suggestion when her move to Paris falls through. He never seemed interested in more than the game they were playing. So why all of a sudden does he seem interested in more.

We didn't learn enough about Claire, who she was to him and why things fell apart. He didn't seem so broken up about it so why with the big gesture of burning her things?

I also didn't understand why the photos Dani sent to her boss were so terrible. Has she not looked in a magazine lately?

Ruby was a quick and lightly enjoyable read.

Anncleire says

BLOG TOUR 3 Giugno 2013 on my blog --> <http://pleaseanotherbook.tumblr.com/p...>

“You laugh but fashion is art that’s part of people everyday lives. Art that they wear, that expresses who they are and gives hints about how they feel that day. It’s like a window into their secret selves”

“Ruby” è il terzo volume della serie Facets of Passion della straordinaria Jeffe Kennedy, che segue Sapphire (che non ho letto) e Platinum, che invece ho recensito durante il Mese della Romance. Girando per i blog mi sono accorta che Bewitching Blog Tour stava organizzando un Blog Tour e mi sono detta “perché non partecipare?”. Detto fatto mi sono subito iscritta ed è stata una delle decisioni più sensate che abbia mai preso. E mi sono completamente innamorata di questa autrice e vi assicuro che anche questo libro è incredibilmente passionale, super hot, e diverso da qualsiasi altro romanzo erotico avete mai letto.

Se non vi piacciono i romanzi erotici e le pratiche BDSM è meglio che vi teniate lontani da Jeffe Kennedy e dai suoi scritti. Se invece siete incuriositi da un mondo di passione e di pratiche insolite e kinky allora vi posso assicurare che adorerete Ruby. Il libro è diverso da qualsiasi altro abbia mai letto e se in qualche modo il lettore incontra un uomo dominante, ecco che nel caso Prejean si ha a che fare con un uomo rude, quasi primitivo che incanta con la sua voce, il suo fisico, la sua barba da pirata e l'orecchino d'oro e la sua bravura di chef. Come per il libro precedente della serie, è la protagonista, Dani, che racconta la storia, ed è con lei che ci immersiamo in un mondo nuovo, incommensurabile, sconosciuto, misterioso e incredibilmente intrigante. Dani, l'immagine della restrizione e del sacrificio, si ritrova nel ristorante dell'uomo, facendo sfoggio del suo innegabile controllo e mandando all'aria qualsiasi forma di restrizione da parte di Prejean che ne resta comunque affascinato. In breve l'uomo le toglie la terra sotto i piedi, la provoca e la conduce in un viaggio, non solo nella perdizione, ma anche e soprattutto un viaggio di scoperta personale. Anche in questo caso infatti, il dominante riesce a cogliere tutto della donna, anche cose che lei stessa non sa e l'aiuta a scovarle, abbracciarle e farsene padrona. Dani è una donna che pensa di sapere quello che vuole, ma che invece è incapace di indovinarlo. Si ritrova a ripensare agli insegnamenti del padre, che ricorrono come mantra e che la riducono ad un essere sottomesso e ristretto, che non riesce a godersi nulla, neanche un rapporto con un uomo. I fallimenti non sono ammessi, gli eccessi non sono ammessi, non è ammesso neanche il cibo e nemmeno un rapporto passionale. Tutto deve essere in favore della carriera e del successo. Ma Prejean le mostra che c'è un'altra strada, che lasciare il controllo a qualcun altro non è una sconfitta, ma è un modo per essere liberi.

Non ci sono personaggi secondari importanti, tutto ruota intorno a Dani e Prejean e la loro relazione che si sviluppa nell'arco di una settimana e li sconvolgerà entrambi.

Ma dell'ambientazione ne vogliamo parlare? Suggestiva, passionale, piena di mistero e magia. Ecco come la Kennedy descrive New Orleans:

“It had that feeling in it, homesickness and love and longing. New Orleans seduced you that way, with her sensuous lights and tropical gardens. Dark and decadent, full of surprises, much like Prejean.”

E non credo che debba aggiungere altro...chi non vorrebbe immergersi in un'atmosfera del genere? Ed è proprio questa atmosfera che avvolge i due protagonisti che fa la differenza e aiuta Dani a lasciarsi andare e a fidarsi di Prejean, un uomo che non solo cucina per lei, ma se ne prende cura in modo divino, in tutti i sensi.

Il particolare da non dimenticare? Un vibratore viola...potevo dirvi un paio di guanti rossi ma che gusto c'era?

Il libro uscito il 13 maggio è assolutamente imperdibile, per scoprire un mondo folle e passionale, che

sconvolge e intriga ad ogni riga. Perdetevi tra le strade di New Orleans assaggiando cibi speziati e assolutamente deliziosi.

Buona lettura guys!

Ringrazio immensamente Betwicing Blog Tour e Carina Press per avermi concesso la straordinaria opportunità di leggere questo libro in anteprima e di partecipare a questo Blog Tour. Thanks a lot!

RoloPoloBookBlog says

Ruby by Jeffe Kennedy
(Novella #3: Facets of Passion Series)

Source: Purchase

Rating: 4/5 stars

Jeffe Kennedy's Facets of Passion series continues with a dirty little stroll through the Big Easy (New Orleans for those of you who don't know ?) with Danielle and Bobby Prejean. Danielle (aka Dani) is just a few days away from leaving the States for her dream job with Vogue in Paris. All she has to do is get through this last fashion shoot, turn in her work to her bitch of an editor and be done with her current job. It has taken time, a tremendous amount of effort, and whole lot of denying herself the simple pleasures in life but Dani is ready for the big-time.

Two things Dani has long denied herself, fantastically decadent food and intimacy. Sure, from time to time Dani cheats a little where the food is concerned but never where the intimacy is concerned. Little does Dani know, her entire world is going to change when she walks into Bobby Prejean's restaurant, the Court des Deux Pendus. Typical of Dani and her restraint, she orders what should be a scrumptious and decadent meal but requests all the scrumptious and decadence be left out. Thinking the customer is always right, Dani is blown away when she is summarily kicked out of the restaurant (after a loud and public argument) by the chef/owner, Bobby Prejean for daring to request such a ridiculous meal. As if the day could get any worse, as Dani is heading back to her B&B that night, hungry and frustrated that the shoot is not going well, it begins to rain and she has no umbrella. Fortunately (?), as she is passing by the Court des Deux Pendus, Bobby Prejean is there with a large umbrella and an offer Dani should refuse. As Bobby tells her "You come to my place, you play my way. If you give yourself over to me, I will show you pleasures that will keep you fed for life." And thus begins a week of pleasure tinged with pain and decadent meals that Dani will not soon forget.

For Prejean's part, intimacy is not particularly hard for him but he has rarely, since a bad break-up, stayed with anyone on a long-term basis. Though he doesn't initially consider Dani a long-term prospect (she won't even give him her real name for cryin' out loud!) he quickly changes his mind when he sees just how willing she is to give herself over to him. Prejean is a practiced Dom and knows just how far he can go with a new Sub like Dani, or Ruby as she calls herself. Thanks to her years of restraint, Dani's body is beautiful canvas ripe and ready for Prejean's particular brand of kink and she is more than willing to explore some of her darker fantasies with the sexy chef. Added bonus, after nearly every sexual session, Prejean cooks for Dani, his way!

The Bottom Line: I am still lovin' the Facets of Passion series and was glad to accidentally come across Dani

and Prejean's story. Ruby, like the other two Facets of Passion novellas, is just the right mix of solid plot line and good characters blended with some super-sexy naughty bits. For readers, like myself, who enjoy just a little bit of bondage with their naughty bits, Ruby is a good choice for you. For readers, like myself, who like a fully-developed characters and a fully-resolved plot line in a quick, short read, Ruby is a good choice for you. Obviously, for the above stated reasons, I cannot recommend this read to readers under the age of 18. Sorry little ones, you have to wait for this one ?

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Slick's review posted on Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

Review copy provided for an honest review.

4 Stars

I had no idea what to expect when I asked to review this book. The synopsis drew me in but after reading this book, I know I will be checking out more books in this series. Jeffe Kennedy paints such vivid pictures with her words I felt as if I was in New Orleans sipping a hurricane and eating a beignet while satisfying my voyeuristic tendencies.

Danielle Sosna is on assignment in New Orleans, her last stateside assignment before she moves on to her dream job with Vogue Paris. She's finding this assignment to be harder than she expected and she's dealing with her difficult boss. However, she takes a little time each day to visit a local restaurant and savor the food and atmosphere. She's enjoyed every minute of this indulgence until she tries to demand her food be cooked to her specifications and comes into contact with a very unhappy chef named, Bobby Prejean.

It's hard to describe Bobby. There's no doubt he's charismatic, charming yet overbearing and somewhat of a diva. Even so, it's very hard not to like this man. He's large and in charge and he doesn't care who knows it and he simply refuses to give in or play games. Intrigued by his first meeting with Danielle, when he sees her again he can't help but approach her and offer assistance and a little fun as well.

There is no mistaking the chemistry between these two and Bobby is a master of seduction with his words and actions. He is an experienced DOM and it was very easy to be completely mesmerized by what he was saying the doing and to become completely drawn into his web. Danielle is equally drawn in and one night turns into a week and with each day their bond grows more and more. During this time we see Bobby coming to terms with a former relationship gone bad and Danielle continuing to deny that she's developing feelings for him. They explore many aspects of BDSM during their time together with Bobby proving time and time again he knows what he's doing. As Bobby is a chef food is an important aspect in their relationship and there is one scene where they are cooking dinner together that is a feast for all senses. It is without a doubt one of the most well thought out and well written food play scenes I've ever read.

I urge you to check out this author and this series, if the other books are even a fraction as good as this one they will be well worth reading. Ruby will grab hold of you, immerse you into the story, and have you wishing for your own Bobby who will let you explore all your desires and fantasies!

Lucie Paris says

I've turned the pages like in a dream!

The story took me to New Orleans and immediately, I felt bewitched and aroused.

Following Ruby, I felt the spices in the air, the mystery and the desire to live a Mardi Gras full of surprises alongside Prejean.

An erotic tale high in color and in flavor.

More romantic and sensual than "Platinum", I liked the dangerous and attentive pirate played by the Chef Prejean.

Let me tell you...(No, not about my fantasy about Pirates of the Caribbean!)...but, I drooled on the man, his skills and his dishes all along. So, If I had been invited to taste his cuisine, I would have jumped on the occasion!

Located in an art gallery or in a chef's kitchen, the male characters, invented by the author, are always captivating and women always reveal their strength and desire at their sides.

I particularly enjoyed Danielle's curiosity and impertinence and would have continued my reading if Jeffe Kennedy have not put a final comma. A awesome grabbing erotic story!

For each volume, Jeffe Kennedy's stories are pictured in different surroundings and each time, it's a delightful experience for the reader's imagination.

"Ruby", a delight to savor.

Lucie

<http://newbooksonmyselfs.blogspot.fr...>

Elisabeth Lane says

Ruby by Jeffe Kennedy* is just one of those books that I wish I could dive into and paddle around in for a while. It seems oh-so-appropriate to set a BDSM-flavored erotic romance in the town that has everything to teach the rest of the United States about the meaning of true debauchery. This wickedly hot story is set in New Orleans in the lead-up to Mardi Gras and features an up-tight fashion editor and a kinky chef. This is not the mindless, tawdry gluttony of Las Vegas buffets and strip clubs, but the languid, sultry elegance of the Old South.

The heroine of Ruby, Danielle Sosna, is primed and ready for someone like Bobby. She is wound unbearably tight, skirting the edges of satisfaction in both her professional and personal lives. Her work as an assistant editor for a fashion magazine has brought her to New Orleans, the culinary capital of the United States, and while she's curious about the food, she can't get past the limitations she has imposed on herself with her diet. She orders sauce on the side, changes preparations, and completely guts the vision of the dish she orders. We've all known people like her. I felt sorry for her even as I wanted to shake her.

So does the hero. Bobby Prejean owns the restaurant where she has ordered this sad imitation of a meal.

Upon hearing of her order, well, he kind of loses it. Though as the book progresses, it becomes clear that he's

got the heart of a marshmallow, he also has a Cajun temper. Romance heroes typically smell like pine trees, fresh grass, cigars, whiskey and MAN. Bobby smells of butter and garlic. If at first I wanted to shake Dani, I wanted to lick Bobby.

When they meet up again by chance later that day, Dani agrees to an evening of pleasure with Bobby, but only if she's willing to play by his rules. The only hard limit she sets is maintaining her anonymity through the use of a pseudonym: Ruby Tuesday. This sets the stage for trip to a kink club, a testing of Dani's sexual boundaries, the ruination of her diet and, eventually, a happy ending that brings both hero and heroine some much needed peace of mind.

There are a couple things I loved about Kennedy's Facets of Passion series, which also includes the edgier Sapphire and the unusual Platinum. First, the characters are sexually kinky because they're sexually kinky. They don't have psychological wounds or mental illnesses that they're trying to heal by beating or being beaten. Second, the Doms in the relationships are not only strict and demanding, they're also nurturing and caring. They behave like real human beings rather than Dominant romance robots. Bobby in particular is heart-breakingly sweet and sensitive despite how controlling and adventurous he is in the bedroom.

I can't recommend these books highly enough. Even if you're normally not attracted to BDSM relationships in romance you might give these a try. They're hot, they're tender and Kennedy makes sure beyond a shadow of a doubt that they're romantic.

For a recipe based on Ruby, visit Cooking Up Romance: <http://www.cooking-up-romance.com/201...>

L.E.Olteano says

Review originally posted at Butterfly-o-Meter Books on MAY 3, 2013:

Aaaand, Jeffe Kennedy has done right by my evil reader desires yet again. Am I surprised? Not in the slightest. As far as I'm concerned, at this point Jeffe Kennedy is instant-buy OCD-ness. You've heard me mention it before, because I feel that way after I read each of her new releases. Though I get excited about lots of authors, it's actually a very select few of them I read everything by. I'm up to date with Jeffe Kennedy's releases so far and I fully intend to keep the good habit.

This time she takes us to contemporary New Orleans, where Dani is about to get a dose of awesome from Prejean. I loved the feeling I got about New Orleans, that sense of romanticism and old yet ageless beauty that I'm so partial to. I got that awesome sense of untamed beauty from the setting of this story, and loved it lots and lots.

The characters were interesting and super-charismatic, something that I've come to get accustomed to from Jeffe Kennedy. Dani is a very take-charge and beautiful woman who does show some slight OCD-ness on certain topics. She practices a 'healthy' dose of self-flagellation ("Pain is weakness leaving the body") and has a love-hate relationship with control. I really liked her, but more than that, I resonated with her a lot. Dani is an independent woman with a perfectionist mindset and very high expectations when it comes to her achievements. It's the OCD winner mentality, or at least I call it and it gives you a lot of drive and little to no pleasure at all. Because however high you'll climb, there will always be a peak you've not reached yet. Dani suffers and punishes herself for every peak she doesn't reach. And she doesn't take that kind of failure easy, either. I thought she was a striking work of art as far as characters go. Yes, I really liked the female MC's in

the series so far, but I will admit Dani is my favorite. She's more broken though very functional, something you all know I totally love. Evil reader and proud of it, I'll never tire of saying so. There's an extra degree of beauty to the broken yet functioning, it's an aestheticism that appeals to me the most.

Prejean came in strong and owned the scene, of course. He was very upfront about his control over things, well to the point of rudeness and slightly beyond it in places (see the restaurant incident in the beginning). Maybe he even came close to jerk-ish in places, but somehow it worked. He pushed Ruby as close to her limits as he could, but was very tender and caring about it. He had a more complex vibe than the stern Dom, an intimate sort of emotional connection that just floored me from the very first time they talked in the rain. Maybe I would have taken out the beard; I mean literally. Do you guys like beards? They creep me out. But then again I tend to run on the peculiar side with these things. Anyway, Prejean was a very intense Dom, but also managed to make the simplest of conversations ooze intimacy. It's tough to be Dom to Dani, or Ruby, she's sort of elusive. If you've met that type of people you know what I mean. They're the type who stay right there beside you yet deny you everything of essence, somehow. It takes a very clever Dom to truly have that kind of person, to have them fully, entirely.

Prejean managed to have Dani. I liked him, but rare as is, I liked her better.

Favorite Character: Dani xD

The story flows really well and has a very alert pace. The romance felt more intense than in the previous stories of the series, somehow more focused on the pair. The one on one is intense, scorching hot, delightful and proper intimate kink if I may say so.

Cover is gorgeous and the blurb is hooking, but to me the author's name is an instant-buy kind of selling point. If you haven't gotten your Jeffe Kennedy fix yet, do it. You'll thank me later, I think :D
