



## Not a Hero

*Sarah Robinson*

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# Not a Hero

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**Not a Hero** Sarah Robinson

**From the bestselling author of the Kavanagh Legends MMA series, Sarah Robinson's Not A Hero is an emotional standalone Marine romance where love battles trauma, and there can only be one victor.**

Former Marine, Miles Kydd, is trying to readjust to civilian life after ending his career and returning to his small home town when he learned his father was diagnosed with a terminal illness. Once the town hero and star quarterback, Miles no longer feels like the man he was, or who he's expected to be—possibly because his demons have followed him home from Afghanistan.

Meeting Zoe Brooke, his father's live-in nurse, gives Miles the slightest glimmer of hope that he can still find happiness despite the dark secrets he holds inside. The chemistry between them is undeniable, and together they are explosive—in more ways than one.

A helper at her core, Zoe is more than willing to care for Miles's heart, but not at the expense of her own, and she's not afraid to tell him that. She knows what having a painful past is like, and she wants to help him with his, if he'll let her.

Things get complicated fast when Miles realizes burying his secrets isn't actually the same as healing from them and if he wants the girl, he's going to have to tell her the truth—the one thing he can't do.

## Publisher's Note

This book contains bonus content, including a free novella and excerpts.

*This book is suggested for 18+ years of age, contains graphic content, sensitive subject matters, and sexually explicit material.*

## Not a Hero Details

Date : Published October 4th 2016

ISBN :

Author : Sarah Robinson

Format : Kindle Edition 250 pages

Genre : War, Military Fiction, Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance

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## From Reader Review Not a Hero for online ebook

### Meghan Lloyd says

What an emotional roller coaster! In the best sense, of course. I like roller coasters, though when we go upside down, sometimes it's best I don't get on in the first place. In this case, I'm so glad I got on for the ride. This is my first book by Sarah Robinson, and it was wonderfully written, with a heart-wrenching, engaging plot and endearing characters. I finished the book over the course of one day, which shows how much I withdrew from reality to enjoy it.

Miles Kydd is a Marine who has just returned from Afghanistan, now officially a civilian, and he comes bearing battle scars - physical and emotional. Since beginning his latest tour of duty, his father has been diagnosed with cancer, and he has a live-in nurse caring for him, Zoe Brooke. Zoe attended high school with Miles, though many years have gone by, and both have changed since those days. Zoe has scars of her own, and she's wary of getting involved with Miles. However, living in the same house forces them together, and as they begin to grow closer, both help each other heal and find a new meaning in life.

I loved both Miles and Zoe! Miles is a genuinely nice guy, who is always trying his best to help others out. He took his duty as a Marine very seriously, and that loyalty extends to his family and friends. He does have a bit of a drinking problem, and he has a very serious case of PTSD. However, he eventually works towards healing, and that helps with both issues. Zoe is a sweetheart, who is understandably concerned about getting involved with Miles. But she is so patient with him, even after he flip flops several times in their relationship - you know the type, "I want to be with you, but I'm no good for you" and then "Baby, I was wrong, please come back." I'm sure Zoe felt a bit like a yoyo. Their relationship wasn't an easy development, but sometimes the best relationships start out the rockiest! The best things come to those who stumble a few times in the chase to achieve them, right?

I can't wait to read more books by this author! It's a wonderful book to start with if you've never read her books before. Greatly enjoyed it!

\*\*I received a free copy via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.\*\*

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### A says

ARC received from the author in exchange for an honest review :)

an emotional story in the best possible way... a solid 4 stars rating, with some parts worth 4,5 stars for me... \*sighs happily\* I definitely enjoyed this story... I just finished it, so I'm gonna need some time to gather my thoughts and all the feelings after reading this book, but you can expect a full review on the release day :)

edited to add my full review :)

I got the ARC of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review ;) after reading and absolutely loving one of her books, I immediately signed up for her blogger newsletter, so I would never miss an opportunity to help promote her work ;) so when I saw this particular story available for review... \*sighs dreamily\* I was all over it ;) because it sounds exactly like my kind of a story... more about why in a

moment ;) I inhaled it in one afternoon, and really enjoyed it ;) so how about I will get into some more details to convince you to give it a try as well ;)

I have to start with the main couple of course ;) Zoe and Miles... because they are the main reason why I was so curious about this book... ok, if I'm being honest, he was the main reason... ;) few months ago I discovered my newest soft spot when it comes to reading... wounded heroes... I mean, I always really loved those stories when one, or both, main characters went through something hard and / or traumatic, and to see their happy ending is always that much more rewarding... but recently I realized, that wounded soldiers have an additional special place just for them in my heart ;) so when I heard that Miles is just that kind of a hero... he's a marine, back after serving in Afghanistan, battling PTSD... he's back in his hometown, because his father is sick... those years spent in the army definitely changed him... he enlisted right after high school and after about eight years, he's not the same... besides the obvious physical changes, because he left as a boy, but came back as a man... he definitely changed mentally... everything he went through... and I'm not gonna say exactly what it was, because that's a secret that we discover along the way... but all of that left its trace on him... now he's adjusting to his new life, and that is when he meets Zoe... she is a live-in nurse who helps his sick father... and if you think that Miles is the only one in that pair with a hard past, think again, because Zoe is also re-building her life after certain things... again, I can't go into more details, because we learn all of that later in the book, so I don't want to spoil you stuff ;) theirs is definitely a slow building relationship... even though they both feel that mutual attraction, they are also both careful and wary of just jumping into anything... but to be honest I usually prefer those kind of stories ;) not every time, but it really worked with them ;) I absolutely loved to see how they got closer and closer to each other with time... \*sighs happily\* ;)

Besides the main couple there is of course quite a bunch of secondary characters in this story... with definitely a great potential for future books as well... especially Tobin ;) he's Miles's best friend, they both enlisted at the same time and I am truly hoping that he will in fact get a full lenght book at some point in the future... the author herself did not negate that possibility, so who knows ;) but don't worry, this book can be totally read as a standalone, without any cliffhangers whatsoever... there is one more person I need to mention in my review... Miles's dad, Walter... oh my how much I loved him... ;) I just wanted to hug him all the time, because of his awesomeness... \*sighs happily\* I don't want to say much more and name you more people, because I really prefer to leave you some surprises along the way when it comes to who will turn out to be important ;)

All in all I really liked this book... although a bit less than I expected if that makes sense... ;) let me try to explain ;) before I started it, I thought it's going to be an easy 5 stars story for me... but it turned out to be a 4 / 4,5 stars one instead ;) don't get me wrong, it was really good, but somehow... and I can't quite put my finger on it... something was missing for me to give it full five stars... ;) but the writing style was absolutely fantastic and I could not put it down... it was a fantastic mix of funny, sweet, sexy and emotional moments... it made me laugh and it made me cry... so if the story sounds interesting to you, and you are looking for a lovely read for one of your evenings, or whatever else time you prefer to read ;) be sure to give this story a try ;)

XOXO

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## **Elizabeth says**

### **~4.5 Bringing a Hero Home Stars~**

**"We can be anything. We can go anywhere. I want you and only you, and all of this in front of us."**

**Not a Hero** is a truly touching contemporary romance that tackles complicated life situations with tenderness and ease. This stand-alone read will melt your heart with its complex characters and unforgettable moments.

**"Don't regret the past, Miles. War isn't black and white, good and bad-only a ton of gray."**

After serving his country as a proud Marine, Miles Kydd, and his best friend are finally homebound. Returning to their old small town is bittersweet as Miles' father is battling cancer. Happy to be home and spend these last precious moments with his dad, he is pleasantly surprised to find his dad is as comfortable as he can be with the help and love of Zoe the live-in nurse.

**"You are an ass; you know that?"**

**"And you're cute when you're mad, you know that?"**

Zoe has finally found some peace after a difficult couple of years. Caring for Walter Kydd has given her a mission and a home. When her old high school crush, Walter's son, Myles returns home from war the living situation shifts drastically. Zoe and Myles form a friendship, and despite both of their past pains and heartbreak, they find comfort in the arms of each other.

**"He wasn't sure why he connected with her so quickly, but something about her resonated in the deepest part of his soul, like she belonged there."**

Miles is desperate to keep Zoe sheltered from his past. Still suffering from his demons of war, he finds himself clinging to her for comfort in the dark. But as the internal battle wages on in Miles, Zoe finds herself on the loosing side of love again. Can Zoe offer Miles the healing love that he needs or will it be too late for them both?

**"She stayed frozen in place under his firm hands as he shook and trembled, relishing in the beauty of this large man breaking apart beneath her."**

Told in dual POV, **Not a Hero** addresses several serious life situations simultaneously with ease. I felt like the writing was natural and well paced as the story unfolded. Both characters were intense and quite complex with their baggage, and yet, the physical attraction between the two was off the charts and offered a happy release from the heavy content. Additionally, the secondary characters enhanced the story nicely with their satirical banter and continual support to the main characters. I would love to read more of these characters and this lofty lakeside town (ahem Sarah Robinson....I am talking to you!!!!). Walter, Myles Dad, is my absolute favorite character of this entire read. He is a steady force offering constant comfort to his son and Zoe. **Not a Hero** reminds us that life is precious and love is constant. It might not always be beautiful, but it is always worth it in the end. Overall, Sarah Robinson has wowed me once again with another beautiful

romance. Some aspects of this read might cause your heart to break, but with tender loving care, Myles, Zoe, and Walter will put it back together again!

**\*ARC graciously provided via author in exchange for an honest review!**

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### **1-Click Addict Support Group says**

Looking for a wounded alpha male? Then look no further while you get to know the swoony marine Miles!

***“War isn’t black and white, good and bad – only a ton of gray. You have a split second to decide between a shitty choice or a crappy one.”***

Miles is finally home after 8 years serving as a marine. He has seen and done some horrible things and is having a hard time adjusting to civilian life. However, when he is around his father's nurse, Zoe, the hurt is a little less.

***“Help me not feel like this anymore, or at least for right now, for tonight. Please, Zoe.”***

Zoe is a nurse and caretaking is in her nature so she can't fight the pull she feels to help Miles. But she also has secrets that are making life hard.

***“Don’t close your heart to love a second time just because love broke it the first time.”***

I really enjoyed this story. It was full of darkness and sadness, yet hope and light. I adored Zoe. She was so good to both Walter & Miles and was such a strong woman. Miles broke my heart, but was then able to mend it back by the end. And I loved Tobin. I certainly hope we will his chance at love soon! ~ Tiffany, 4 stars

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### **Timitra says**

#### **Rated 3.5 Stars**

I liked the premise of Not A Hero but I could not connect with the characters which is ultimately why this book didn't work for me.

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### **Shireen Hakani says**

4.5 Stars. Good book!

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## Auntee says

Ack! I waited too long to do a nice detailed review..., I hate when I do that because this book deserves to be praised.

I do know that parts of this book hit a little too close to home, and caused me to tear up.

Miles is a military man who has returned to his small PA town a hero, but doesn't feel like one. He's trying to put behind him a tragic experience he had while in Afghanistan(?), and it's messing with his head.

Zoe is the live-in nurse who is taking care of his terminally ill father, and falls for Miles. But will Miles's feelings of guilt and self-hatred destroy any future he has with Zoe?

This is a new author for me, and I enjoyed this story enough to seek out her other books. If you like a troubled military hero, a sweet/hot small town romance, and some family drama, this may be the book for you. 4 1/2 stars

*ARC provided by the publisher via Netgalley*

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## Jessica's Totally Over The Top Book Obsession says

### 4 Tree frog and Cricket Stars

**"You are an ass, you know that?" "And you're cute when you're mad, you know that?"-Zoe and Miles**

My feels.....dayum! This book was emotional and sexy and just all around awesome. I have such a weakness for Military men. I just don't know what it is about them that drive me crazy. Maybe it's that they are strong, brave, protective, but still human. That blend of strength and vulnerability just melts my panties. Whatever it is, any time I get my hands on a Military romance I just devour it. That's what I did with Not a Hero. I started it and I couldn't put it down.

**"Take it away, Zoe." She furrowed her brows, but said nothing, unsure what he meant. "Help me not feel like this anymore, or at least for right now, for tonight. Please, Zoe."-Miles**

Miles was so lickably yummy. He was everything I love in a hero. The things he seen and did while being a Marine hurt him and left him scarred. He had such guilt. I wanted so badly to make it all better for him. And yes I know he isn't real but he felt real. Sarah Robinson did a great job of bringing her characters to life. Miles, Zoe, Tobin, and Miles's dad Walter felt so real that my heart broke in half when(view spoiler). Zoe was great. She was strong, loving, forgiving, and just so caring. I love that she could see past the hurt she was feeling over Miles when he lashed out at her, forgiving him, but never being a doormat. She knew he needed to want help and change. She didn't try to fix him. She had a dignity to her. She was a great match for

Miles

**"Are you sure about this, cricket? I have a feeling once I've been in you, I'll never be able to let you go." "Who says I want you to?"-Miles and Zoe**

**"We can be anything. We can go anywhere. I want you and only you, and all of this in front of us."-Miles**

Miles and Zoe had a bumpy road but their love was worth the fight. Miles had serious PTSD and he was trying to deal with it on his own. There is some push/pull and at times I was frustrated with Miles pushing Zoe away and feeling like he wasn't good enough, but in the same breath I could totally understand it. I just hated him in pain. The passion that was between Zoe and Miles was flaming. They couldn't keep their hands to themselves. Their love was emotional journey with a beautiful ending and I was so glad I took it. This book made me smile, swoon and cry. I would love to see Tobin get his own book. I'm not ready to be done with these characters.

**"Don't close your heart to love a second time just because love broke it the first time." -Walter**

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<http://jessicasoverthetopbookobsessio...>

### **Jennifer says**

ARC received for review

Loved it!

Returning war hero Miles (whether he'll admit it or not) falls for his father's hospice nurse, Zoe. Beautiful romance no insta-anything. Lots of laughs and tears plus some emotional angst from both of them, and lots of hot bedroom scenes. Great epilogue.

I hope there's a story planned for his buddy, Tobin, but without the psycho bunny.

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### **Jessica says**

I am now 0 for 5 on books and almost ready to give up on reading forever. The theme of this book is sex heals. And no I don't mean love because this was in no way a romance. It was a fuck fest, and while I love a sex scene as much as the next girl if you're gonna write a romance book there should be some scenes where the characters like get to know each other in between all that sex. We're told that the couple talks about things but the only scenes where they actually talk is to get into spats or make up. And really why would they love each other? The characters in this book, apart from the H's father were so shallow, both in the literary sense and the being a person sense. Upon meeting H in the midst of a PTSD episode "he's so

frightening...oooh but so hot." This vein was largely continued throughout the book. He's so hot...i mean so hot...i mean really hot...with like stellar abs...and thighs like tree trunks. I don't think we went 5 pages without being reminded of how hot and in shape he was and I mean hello you coulda just left it at the whole he's a marine thing and we'd all know he was a hulk. h's friend when they know about the couple and his issues: "Crazy is easy to forgive when it looks like he does." Ummm whaaatttt?! That's not ok. But honestly that continued throughout the book. Repeatedly he says jerky things to push her away for her own good of course, then he comes back and she forgives him and they have dirty sex wherever they happen to be at the moment. And they have sex...everywhere. Including him fingering her...in his lap...on a ferris wheel. Is that even possible? i think every ferris wheel i've ever been on has had seatbelts to ya know keep you from falling out of the car. Oh and against a tree on on the dock...because they're apparently far less worried about splinters than me. I think every scene in which these two were together after their first time together ends in sex. H has PTSD episode? Fix it with sex. h shares heavy info about her ex husband? Console her with sex. Dad dies? sex. I feel like at least 60% of this book was sex scenes...i was more or less skimming them after the third one. And the couple is so dysfunctional. H: I'm not good for her I shouldn't be with her...but my feelings are hurt that she agrees. the h just wants to fix him because even her friends recognize that's what she does and he even acknowledges that he was using the sex as a band aid. h: he seems like the type to dump a girl when he gets bored with sex, i've never known him to have a steady gf (even though he left town at 18 and has been in the middle east pretty much ever since). Before we know it she's in love and he's still having issues because he refuses to do anything about his PTSD. He's definitely a stereotypical marine....and that's not a good thing esp not in romantic book world. He pushes her away with some pretty harsh words 3 times and every single time she takes him back after some sad sack apology. But overall the characters have no real depth outside of their relationship, if you can even call it that. I realized towards the end that other than her failed marriage and what came out of that we know next to nothing about h. The H has a dad he loves but who is mostly just a catalyst to push the two together, a best friend who's a whole lot of drama on his own, and hardcore PTSD he refuses to treat most of the book. He gets hired at a sketchy ass private security firm his bosses introduce themselves with fake names an then the job is rarely mentioned again...no clue what he does for this place and how it didn't raise red flags that they gave fake names. I wasn't a fan of the MCs seperately or as a couple and thus the never ending sex scenes didnt do much for me. For the same reason the plot, which was really just the romance didn't do much for me.

Other assorted oddities:

"I've never met a Marine who didn't like a challenge or a chase." No real evidence that she's known any other marines much less enough to make such a generalization

Upon realizing she'd never been given oral sex: "Lay back baby. Let me show you how a real man treats a woman." ok not really odd...but cringeworthy lol.

"the legal system agreed, because he'd pleaded guilty..." Well first it's pled and second if theres a guilty plea the legal system isn't as much agreeing as just accepting someone's confession.

the epilogue is four years after the only unprotected sex of the book...they now have a kid that speak perfect english...never mind she couldnt possibly be more than 4 and 4 y/os do not speak that well..

Bottom line: characters didn't work ergo the romance and sex scenes didn't work and therefore nothing worked. I'm gonna switch to paranormal and hope to find something thatll break my bad book spell

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**Sarah Robinson says**

#### **VETERAN'S DAY SALE - \$0.99! This Week Only!**

Not a Hero is on sale for 99 cents to celebrate Veteran's Day this coming weekend! Go grab a copy today on any major book retailer before prices return to \$3.99 next week.

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Paperbacks: <https://www.createspace.com/6769482>

Signed Paperbacks: <http://booksbysarahrobinson.net/for-sale/>

This novel is available in both print and ebook format on all major book retailers, and is a standalone contemporary romance for 18+ years old. Signed copies can be purchased from the author's website.

"Not A Hero is an emotionally raw love story traversing redemption and conquering fears." - New York Times Bestselling Author Heidi McLaughlin

"Emotional and gripping, Sarah Robinson delivers a story you won't soon forget." - Rebecca Yarros, Bestselling author of the Flight & Glory Series

"Miles Kydd doesn't think he's a hero, but he is. A tall, sexy, damaged hero. My favorite kind!" - Award-winning Author Wendy S. Marcus

"This is my first book by Sarah Robinson, and it was wonderfully written, with a heart-wrenching, engaging plot and endearing characters. I finished it in one day, which shows how much I enjoyed it." - Lady with a Quill Reviews

"Sarah Robinson's Not A Hero is a perfectly crafted military romance. Miles and Zoe's love story has strength, tenderness, heartbreak, and passion. A must read!" - Alana Albertson, Bestselling Author of Beast

"Emotional, sexy, raw, and compelling...Miles Kydd will be your next hero!" - Katie Rose, bestselling author of Hard to Hold

"Gripping and gut-wrenching, Not A Hero is a roller coaster of a military romance that renders all the feels in a story of survival and second-chances that sinks into your soul." - Karen at Bookalicious Babes Blog

"I loved the emotional depth of the characters and their chemistry was breathtaking." - Goodreads Review

"Not a Hero made me feel so many emotions--shock, happiness, sadness, anger, jealousy, and a few others I'll come up with as I think about this book over the next couple of days. It's that good." - Goodreads Review

"I highly recommend this book to anyone who's looking to honor our military families and loves a true happily ever after." - Goodreads Review

"OH MY GOSH, THAT FERRIS WHEEL RIDE!! \*fans self\* Wow." -Goodreads Review

**From the bestselling author of the Kavanagh Legends MMA series, Sarah Robinson's Not A Hero is an emotional standalone military romance where love battles trauma, and there can only be one victor.**

Former Marine, Miles Kydd, is trying to readjust to civilian life after ending his career and returning to his small home town when he learned his father was diagnosed with a terminal illness. Once the town hero and star quarterback, Miles no longer feels like the man he was, or who he's expected to be—possibly because his demons have followed him home from Afghanistan.

Meeting Zoe Brooke, his father's live-in nurse, gives Miles the slightest glimmer of hope that he can still find happiness despite the dark secrets he holds inside. The chemistry between them is undeniable, and together they are explosive—in more ways than one.

A helper at her core, Zoe is more than willing to care for Miles's heart, but not at the expense of her own, and she's not afraid to tell him that. She knows what having a painful past is like, and she wants to help him with his, if he'll let her.

Things get complicated fast when Miles realizes burying his secrets isn't actually the same as healing from them and if he wants the girl, he's going to have to tell her the truth—the one thing he can't do.

*Publisher's Note: This book contains bonus content, including a free novella and excerpts. This book is suggested for 18+ years of age, contains graphic content, sensitive subject matters, and sexually explicit material.*

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### Alyse says

Miles Kydd is finally returning home after eight years in the Marines. He is returning to the only home he has ever known. Everything is the same, but everything is different. Miles isn't the same man he was when he joined the military right out of high school. He has seen and done things that will haunt him forever. But he is determined to just put it out of his mind and focus on his sick father. However, Miles doesn't except to meet Zoe Brooke, his father's live-in nurse. Or that she could give him a glimmer of hope against the darkness inside of him.

Zoe knows all to well that the past can haunt you and be painful. And she sees that pain in Miles every time she looks in his eyes. And she is more than willing to be there for him, but not at the expense of her sanity.

But the closer Miles and Zoe get, the harder and harder it gets for Miles to open up to the one person that has become his calm in the storm. And if he can't open up to Zoe and share his pain, he is going to lose her for good.

Not A Hero is a beautiful, emotional, sexy, and sweet story about two people learning to deal with past horrors. Not A Hero made me cry, laugh, and steamed up my kindle at 2 am!! I couldn't put this book down. And to be honest, it was probably a good thing my husband fell asleep on the couch watching football because otherwise he would of woken up to me crying a few times. \*\*awkward\*\*

I highly recommend this author and if you haven't read her Kavanagh series, GO READ IT!! =]

Rating: 5 out of 5

\*\*I received an ARC from Netgalley in exchange for a honest review.\*\*

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#### **Laurie says**

By 35% I found myself doing more skimming than reading. The only word I can come up with to describe why if that everything felt simplified, especially the PTSD aspect. It felt like every type of PTSD was represented in one person. It wasn't bad, it just felt extremely off to me and I ended up DNFing it.

#### **TeriLyn says**

#### **3 "Come catch me." Stars**

I was looking for a military romance and came across *Not a Hero* on Amazon. This is my first Sarah Robinson title and certainly won't be my last. I loved her third person writing style and her character development within the pages of this story. The story showcases her breadth of knowledge on the topics she introduces while comparatively making the reader feel deeply about the characters adjustments to such topics.

Both H/h have led lives experiencing some horrific traumas. How they're coping and moving forward was a real experience to read. I enjoyed and sympathized with both of them. This author held no punches when it came to unsavory topics. The grit infused into the story made their vulnerabilities shine creating a raw atmosphere to heal and move forward. At times I did feel the angst was forced and some plot situations created for shock but nothing overwhelmingly disconnected me from their story.

*Not a Hero* was an enjoyable romance; easy to read and on the shorter side so it felt like it read really fast. It's one of those stories that you become invested in the authenticity of the characters even as sometimes the plot doesn't consistently move you through the book. I definitely recommend to military romance readers.

#### **Leo (Queen of the Rants and the Crazy) says**

I enjoyed this more than I thought I would!!

No OW/OM drama.

There's a lot pushing away done by the hero.

I got my epilogue with marriage and not one but two babies so yeah I'm satisfied..

Loved the hero and the heroine.

I would said both were celibate during separation because there wasn't any mention of OW/OM.

I didn't get the feeling the hero was a manwhore, the heroine is his one true love.

Heroine was married before the hero, she married him because she became pregnant and her parents made her get married her husband killed her unborn child. He was an abusive drunk.

The book ends at 69%.

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