



Don't Cheat Me

Jackie May

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One month after Nora's violent induction to the dangerous supernatural side of Detroit, she's finally settling into her new life as the underworld's token human. All she wants to do is mind her own business, enjoy her new friends, and stay safe. But that's easier said than done when she's such an enigma to everyone around her.

Thanks to her unique psychic abilities, she's garnered a reputation for being mysterious and powerful. When the alpha of a local werewolf pack asks her to help him figure out who is stealing from him, she can't say no, even though getting involved in pack business could have deadly repercussions.

While tangled up in a heap of werewolf troubles, Nora can't quite shake her old vampire problem, either. Henry is practically stalking her, Parker is breaking down the walls around her heart, and Nora's blatant fear of the blood-sucking monsters is a delicious temptation for the natural predators.

Nora's succubus friend, Cecile, believes throwing her a "coming out" party into underworld society is the best way to solve all of her problems, but Nora disagrees. If the vampires and werewolves don't kill her, Cecile's party planning definitely will.

This is book 2 in the Nora Jacobs series and should be read *after* book 1. It is a slow burn reverse harem series.

Don't Cheat Me Details

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Author : Jackie May

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From Reader Review Don't Cheat Me for online ebook

Marguerite IS ALIVE says

Rating : 3 stars

Nora is at a whole new level of Mary Sueism.
But I loved Rook.

Erin *Proud Book Hoarder* says

A worthy sequel although tons still left unsolved. Love the new character added in this mix. Full review to come while my mind stews on it. Buddy Read with the Reverse Harem Revolution :)

Tiffany Wood says

Stupid extra editions >.<.... already did my review but it says I read two editions...nope only read one!! But um *cough cough* it's not a bad book and although it's seems like its going through a sophomore stage it should get better. Either way I liked it.

Princess J. Antoinette says

Love this series... Can't wait for the next installment...

Searcy says

3.5 to 4 stars

Second read, full review:

I am a little torn about this book. It is why I had to read it twice, back-to-back, in order to clarify my thoughts for this review. And I am not honestly sure that I have managed to do that, even now.

Unfortunately, I think DON'T CHEAT ME suffered a little from the dreaded sophomore slump. Not actually surprising for a new author team. What was more surprising was the impressive nature of their debut novel, DON'T RUSH ME. I will talk a bit shortly about what concerned me in this effort.

First, I need to say that I still absolutely love the Nora Jacobs series, and I have every expectation that Book 3 will return to the quality of DON'T RUSH ME. I think (and hope) that some of the problems I had in this book are now resolved and the third book will show a lot more forward progress, inclusion of all characters,

and exciting action.

This is a world, and a group of characters, that I simply *like*. Immersing myself in their world makes me *happy*. Ultimately, despite any perceived flaws, that means I enjoy reading the book. Being able to escape so comprehensively into a world that feels good is all any reader can ask for.

That said, when I analyze the book from a technical standpoint, a number of problems leap out at me. Yes, they were mostly there in DON'T RUSH ME as well, but they were much more easily overlooked. In DON'T CHEAT ME, these flaws became more significant issues. For me, they did not overly inhibit my enjoyment, but I know they were major issues for a number of other readers.

The single most egregious problem - Nora "Mary Sue" Jacobs is a seriously super special snowflake. Possibly even in danger of becoming a whole snowman (snow-woman?).

- She seems to be good at anything she puts her hand to
- Every man immediately become her obsessive stalker
- Is unbelievably powerful, grows more so every damn day

(I just happen to have a much greater tolerance for "Special Snowflake Mary Sues" than others do. I want my heroines to be special, and I can forgive an author going too far much more easily than I can a lot of other book faults.)

And on top of this, Nora suffers from a lot of the current RH/PNR heroine tropes that are sadly becoming cliched stereotypes. She has been horribly abused for pretty much her entire life.
(view spoiler)

And yet, she is so strong that she has mostly overcome all of this and is a very dominant woman? Okaaay. Her only lingering issues from all this trauma seem to be:

- constant worry that no one really likes her for her;
- it's only a result of her "curse"
- occasional panic attacks in more sexual situations
- flinching when being touched

(though this is as much about her mind-reading)

So maybe a *wee* bit unrealistic on the PTSD recovery front. But at least the authors have made a concerted effort to acknowledge it, and they do a good job of having Nora work through many of these issues by the end of DON'T CHEAT ME.

(view spoiler)

Overall, I think those were the largest potential problems in the book. The only other ones I noticed were less egregious:

- Continuity issues, which are easily resolved with an edit (see Update Notes below)
- Far too abrupt a wrap-up of the story - the last 10% should have been 30-50 pages longer

On the harem front, we still do not have any real resolutions, but a great deal of progress has been made. I

was able to see where it should be headed in book 3. But this is a **very** slow-burn RH. We have only had a couple of fairly chaste kisses and a very little sexual tension. But things are looking up for the next book!

Rook was a wonderful addition to the Nora Jacobs series. I quite like his character (I do love a possessive, dominant-but-caring, alpha male werewolf), though I hope this doesn't mean the end of Wulf as a possible love interest. I did think this story focused FAR too much on the werewolves and the Huron River pack. I missed Terrance. We did not get a single scene, that I recall, with him at their home, and very few with him in them at all. And even when he was there, it was just as an addition to a bunch of other characters. Booo!

I still love Nick Gorgeous. And I missed spending more time with him as well. He was more involved than T was, due to FUA involvement, but I would have loved more. There was plenty of Parker and Oliver - though maybe I only feel that way because neither are my favorite characters yet. Parker is still a little too stalker-ish, and Oliver is still a little too passive/submissive/weak for me. But I see the potential for both of them.

I would really like to see more female interactions for Nora. Her only remaining female friend is Cecile, though they don't seem to spend much time together that isn't about fashion and party-planning. I think the relationship works well, because it is symbiotic - Cecile can skim the lust off all the men attracted to Nora (which is pretty much any man she meets it seems), so there is unlikely to be any jealousy issues. I could see that being a problem with other women, unless they are in a happily committed relationship themselves. But I miss Maya. I liked her!

All in all, I still adore this series, but there are some issues for Jackie May to deal with if I am going to fully buy in for the long haul. Can't wait to see how they handle book 3!

First blush thoughts on first read, but couldn't clarify enough for a review:

Umm... somewhere in the 4-5 star range, but I am not sure I can process my feelings about all this yet. Sitting here rather stunned. An awful lot happened in a short period of time.

Still love the series, because I really am growing to love a lot of these characters.

Review to come... after a re-read I think.

UPDATE PREVIEW NOTES

Read #2:

98.0% *"Wrong pack! Axel was the alpha of the Island Lake pack. Continuity issue. (Plus the typo saying Warterloo)"*

89.0% *"*sigh* I am not a huge fan of the werewolf mating habits in this series. That there is not necessarily love involved, just some biological imperative for the shifter's wolf to find the most dominant female. And even more, that others can challenge that mate for the right to take over? Blech!"*

50.0% *"Note: Rook's deceased wife's name was Lily early on, and Lilly later in the book. Continuity error."*

Read #1:

95.0% *"Yep, SO totally called that... and that..."*

90.0% *"Argh...90% and that tension and stress I haven't been feeling in this book is suddenly there. So much for the happy feels! :/"*

78.0% "Yay Ollie! Good for you :)"

71.0% "Oh so awesome scene!! *giddy*"

63.0% "OMFG. I detest Henry. So much for any idea of redemption.
(And why do I have the strangest sense of deja vu as I have been reading the last 25%? It is eerie.)"

53.0% "*gasp* OMG... getting good!"

52.0% "LOL Loved that scene! Knew that, or something like it, was coming at some point :)"

49.0% "Uh...6'2" 185lb man is NOT large. I thought Wulf and Rook were big guys?"

34.0% "I like this...the Luna for the Alpha's mate. Nice lunar/moon references there."

20.0% "*grumble*"

18.0% "And ARGH! I am not sure I like this turn of events :(Certainly a twist I wasn't expecting."

18.0% "Okay, it is a bit of a ridiculous claim for Wulf to say that if he can't train Nora at the pack gym, the only other option is his place in private. They could work at the club after hours. They could work at Terrance's. Hell I am sure there is a gym or something in town they could use. Or even at his place with T or someone there too. Plenty of options."

7.0% "If you wanted to know how to defend yourself so badly, Nora, why didn't you take classes? There are even free offerings at women's shelters and such."

3.0% "Best line ever, and a great sentiment!"

"I'm all for being a strong woman, but I'll never turn down a knight in shining armor, either."

2.0% "Oh, okay! That works too. I am okay with that...AND she gets more time with T...And Wulf. yum!"

1.0% "Uh... what happened to FUA? I assumed she be working there and had lost the mechanic's job."

Al *the semi serial series skipper* says

Called it!

Tina J says

4 stars

www.duffette.com/pagereaperbookblog

The second book in the series sees Nora up to her neck in werewolf politics and she has a crime to solve with

the help of her new love interest Rook(as if she didn't have enough men sniffing around) Rook is Wulf the bartender's brother and has a troubled past of his own that seems to call to Nora and lowers her guard enough for them to make a connection that is believable and quite touching.

I gave it 4* because in comparison to the first one this wasn't quite as good. Don't get me wrong it's a good read but Nora's self doubt and inner monologue is a little repetitive. I loved T-man in the first book and was disappointed that he totally faded into the background in this book. I was left feeling slightly frustrated about Nora's character development. She learns a lot about herself and how she feels for some of the men but her doubts mean it felt almost Ghostbird slow. I still have no idea who's going to be in the harem I hope she's a bit more feisty in the next book because I will definitely be reading it.

Celeste says

So guys... we need to talk about Rook, or maybe Rook's wolf. I think I'm in love with him as his wolf. Does that make sense? Also Oliver! So much squeeee. And Nick he's intriguing but mainly because unlike doormat Parker he's not hanging on to Nora like some love sick puppy and bonus, he's funny.

I know this is a terrible review, but I just want all the guys and the next book so clearly I enjoyed myself even if I'm not a huge fan of the whole Nora is abused trope and the other clichés. I'm telling you Rook!!!

Monty Cupcake ? Queen of Bloodshed ? says

Another cute reverse harem FRIEND ZONE book. It's a RH book friend zone style. PG on the romance. Loved that there was more Rook in this. I'm Team Rook.

Ivey colangelo says

Another great one BUT.....

I really enjoyed this book, although I enjoyed the first one a little more. I think this author is great and I adore her characters, they are easy to love and I love their relationships with each other. This is particularly a genre I enjoy.... paranormal RH romance novel with a very special & beautiful MC/heroine with sass. I also greatly enjoy any powerful alpha male, and this book had plenty of them. Just a heads up though, the heroine in this novel is a super extra special snowflake, which happens to be something I enjoy, but some readers may not. Also, she (nora) has a very traumatic and brutal past and she has many issues that she is personally working out, this is also something I enjoy Because I greatly enjoy damaged but redeemable characters, I love dark romance. I love this series and totally recommend it to anyone who likes this genre. It's great, with that being said... I do have some minor critiques for the author.....

- 1.) This is supposed to be an adult slow burn paranormal reverse harem romance novel right? I love the tension and character development, don't get me wrong, but it's SUCH A SLOW BURN... it's been 2 books so far, please give us more romance/action/steamiiness in book 3!
- 2.) Was a little surprised by her appearance once she discovers "what" she is. It's not traditionally correct, but hey! It's fantasy right? So I can roll with it ;-)

- 3.) Would have liked it to be a little longer in length and also would have liked it if it didn't end so abruptly, but I will definitely be reading book 3 in this series
- 4.) I loved The introduction of Rook, basically I just love Rook lol and it would be awesome if the author introduced one or two more love interests of a different species.
- 5.) More action (Fighting Ect..) in book 3. Let our main character Nora start to kick some ass! Lol
-

Gaby★Me Myshelf and I★ says

Buddy read with Reverse Harem Revolution

Don't Rush Me ★★

Don't Cheat Me ★★

It all just felt a bit

....to me

Sorry Nora I wanted to like this more than I actually did. I got swept away with the excitement of the BR perhaps my hopes were too high, the harem had such potential and I was so looking forward to more troll action! You don't get many trolls in the PNR world so it was a nice change....what did we get instead...wolves

I didn't like any of the new additions and there was not enough of the old to satisfy. The only real development happened in the last 5% and those developments were no surprise *I think we all had it worked out at the end of the book 1- Nora it seems was the last to know*
We went round in circles and got no where.

In saying that I will probably pick up book 3 in the hopes this was a casualty of the book 2 curse

disappointed.com

Oh yes I cant forget the snowflake alert

Consider yourself warned. *Im so over these heroines in general*

Sh3lly (grumpybookgrrrl.com) says

1. Don't Rush Me: ★★

Buddy read with Reverse Harem Revolution.

I believe this had some of the second book syndrome going on. Nora gets caught up in a werewolf mystery

and helps a pack figure out who is stealing from them. She meets Wulf's brother, Rook, who falls for her. I feel this story was victim to many tropes that were also there in the first book, but here seemed to stand glaringly out.

- Nora is a super special snowflake and Mary Sue
- Nora's "allure" causes all men to be attracted to her to the point of stalkerville
- Nora is a damaged heroine
- Nora has a tragic past
- Nora doesn't date but has all these guys fawning over her
- Nora becomes an expert at whatever she tries to do almost instantly
- Nora develops new powers constantly
- Nora is a damsel in distress who needs saving a lot

When they say this is a slow-burn RH, they aren't kidding. All the guys seem so possessive, you can't imagine them sharing. There are kisses, but they are interrupted by Nora's damaged past creeping in to ruin the moment. Anytime she has a "moment" with one of the guys, she thinks it's her super-special "allure" and doesn't think it's legitimate.

I have no idea still who is going to be part of the harem. The very ending made it seem like things would maybe start to progress, but it ended suddenly and was rushed.

I was disappointed. I wanted more troll (Terrance). Wulf was a nice addition. It wasn't horrible, but fairly weak compared to book 1. I hope book 3 shows more development and is less tropey.

A Little Nerdy says

Please tell me there will be more books! Ahhh! It was so good. Paranormal Romance + Action and some Violence. I need more!

Natalia says

Like in book 1 all secondary characters in this book only serve one purpose... to adore Nora, to be protective of Nora, to be in love by Nora!! They are so underdeveloped...

Nora is so imperfectly perfect!!! She is all the cliches in one oh so beautiful package...

Story is entertaining and is looking more like a RH by now... But with Rook and Parker possessive way of being i don't see that happening!

Sakina Carter says

A 3.5 star for sure.

I don't know what to say about these 2nd books in these RH series. It seems like they are not focusing on

developing the relationships between the female character and her guys. I mean I honestly have no idea who would be in her harem at this point and this was book 2.

It is still a good book, the characters are great and I like the storyline so of course I will continue on with the series.
