



Nothing Personal

Karina Halle

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Nova Lane is having the worst week possible. Her latest relationship ended while on her much-needed vacation, then upon her first day back at work, she learns that her beloved boss has quit – and despite having worked so hard for it, she's not being considered for his position.

Who is being considered for the position is none other than Kessler Rocha. Her ex-coworker and ex-lover, Kessler's the man who broke her heart five years earlier and the reason she moved thousands of miles away, switched jobs, and created numerous voodoo dolls in Kessler's (very burly, very handsome) liking.

Yup. Worst week ever.

New in town and on her turf, Kessler promises he's not the same man he was – and considering he's now a single father to a precocious toddler, he's telling the truth.

But he's still an arrogant and devilishly charming man who's taking over the position Nova feels she deserves. The fact that he's gotten even more sexy over the years doesn't help either.

Now Nova and Kessler have the choice to let bygones be bygones, or fight with each other every chance they get, with unresolved sexual tension only adding fuel to the flames, creating a fire that might just burn down the whole office.

In the corporate world they say it's just business, nothing personal.

Nova and Kessler are about to show just how personal things can get.

Nothing Personal Details

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From Reader Review Nothing Personal for online ebook

mich says

I was going to DNF this but then I picked it up again and actually ended up finishing it. The story never did get me completely invested. The backstories of the characters are pretty dull, and the characters themselves weren't compelling at all. I was never able to warm up to Kessler in particular, as his character pretty much sucked. Nova was just okay. They didn't have much chemistry to me.

For a romantic comedy, I didn't think this was funny at all. It just wasn't my kind of humor I guess. I got that mildly uncomfortable guilty feeling I usually get when I know someone is *trying* to be funny, but I don't find them funny. At all.

And the typos in here are insane. The writing is very sloppy.

I have it in my head that Halle is a great writer in the sense that she writes in a way that makes it very easy to read; like, I don't really feel like I'm straight up reading a book, I feel like I'm *in* a story. I didn't get that here.

The only thing I liked was the setting, which I really liked a lot. But I'm biased on that, so take that with a grain of salt. Still, it's what's making this go from 1 star to **1.5 stars** for me.

If this was the first book I had ever tried of this author, I probably wouldn't pick up another one. For reference tho, I was a huge fan of Halle's earlier books in the EIT series back in the day. This book is only the 2nd contemporary romance from her that I've tried. Anyway. Moving on.

Maria♦*Steamy Reads Blog*♦ says

4.5

Alba and Her Secrets..♥ says

4 'My level-ten heartbreaker' Stars!

ARC provided by the author via Social Butterfly PR in exchange for an honest review.

Karina Halle strikes again with this sweet, funny and off-the-charts hot love story! Probably my last read of 2018 and I am very happy to say I thoroughly enjoyed it. Nova, Kess and Hunter stole my heart with all their moments together and I am sure, if you are a fan of Karina's lighter works, you'll enjoy *Nothing Personal* too.

So, *Nothing Personal* is a standalone novel and it belongs to several romances tropes: it's a romantic comedy with an enemies to lovers / office romance / second chance theme. It's the story of Nova Lane and Kessler Rocha. Nova is a hard working woman that is expecting a promotion after her boss quits all of a sudden.

Well, imagine when Kessler (her ex-coworker and ex-lover) appears to take that position. The feelings surge again, especially since Nova was absolutely heartbroken when they broke up years ago. But Kessler is not the same man: he is now a single dad of an adorable toddler and he deeply cares about Nova too.

***Yes. This is the Nova I remember.
And yet this Nova now is so much more, on so many levels.
She's my equal and she's mine, that's all there is to it.***

I don't know how Karina does it, seriously! But ever since I started reading her books, I haven't stopped. And you know why I enjoyed this one so much? Because it has the same feel of the first novel I ever read by her (*Smut*). It's definitely on the lighter side of Karina's creations, it's a romance full of hilarious moments, a couple with lots of angst and chemistry, a super cute kid and lots of emotions in between. I loved these characters: Nova is a strong and sassy heroine (my favorite!) and Kessler definitely is a hot single dad that adores his child and surely works to win Nova's love back. I am so happy these three got their second chance and their HEA!

***"You're never the same after you get your heart broken. But if you're just lucky enough, maybe you'll find someone to help you pick up the pieces."
"Even if he's your level-ten heartbreaker?"
"Even if."***

Therefore, my rating for *Nothing Personal* is 4 STARS because it had all the things I enjoy in a lighter romance: banter, lots of laughter, chemistry, sexy times and all the feels! What a nice way to end 2018! Karina has become one of my favorite writers and I am sure she will continue giving us lots of amazing releases in 2019. This one was definitely amazing for me and I do recommend it to anyone who enjoys lighter romances and Karina's writing. Check it out, guys!

CHECK OUT MY BLOG HERE:

Betul says

****ARC provided in exchange for an honest review****

"Whether you protect yourself or not, when you fall in love, it's going to hurt."

Nothing Personal is a fun and sexy second-chance single parent romance. I absolutely love these tropes, and it being written by one of my all time favorite authors is just the icing on the cake. This book was fast-paced, but not in a way that it felt rushed, but it just had a very smooth flow and it was easy to read. The reason for why Kessler and Nova broke up was refreshing, and not cliché. I can't blame for Nova feeling somewhat of a resentment towards him, but eventually she admits that she was a bit to blame as well. Kessler comes across as very arrogant: someone who always gets what he wants and knows what to do, but I loved seeing his vulnerable side as well. Those moments were sometimes very funny. The story was set in Hawaii, which was perfect, and I loved getting glimpses of this beautiful state.

"I need to remember what happened the last time Kessler and I got together this way. No matter how good it feels, no matter how badly my body needs it, it's my heart that will pay the price."

Kessler is still trying to figure out how to be a parent, and his interaction with his son Hunter was extra cute and amusing. Nova is ambitious, and very dedicated to her job. So it means war when Kessler comes and swoops in on the position she's been wanting for a while now. The banter between them was funny, and the sexual tensions were very high. These two were equals and they knew how to handle each other. They both went through personal growth, which made them mature and better equipped to be in a healthy relationship this time around. Karina Halle is a very talented author who keeps on delivering great stories featuring awesome characters. I fell in love with all of them, and I didn't want to say goodbye. None of her stories feel recycled, and I always feel like her stories are refreshing and original. So make sure you one-click this fun and sexy contemporary romance.

Sofia Lazaridou says

Nothing Personal is not a romantic comedy. There were no comedic elements to the story and at some point, I was just disgusted and I am not talking about Hunter popping in the kitchen. It's just a second chance book and it didn't work for me, but not for the obvious reasons aka them sleeping with other people and then saying that they never got over each other.

I shall begin with the good stuff. I liked the flow of the story and despite having some elements that were not my thing at all, I read this one in two sittings, since I feel asleep around 4 am while reading the book. I didn't hate either character and in some level I understood Kessler's motives when he broke things off with Nova. I liked Nova a lot, even when I didn't agree with her which is weird. The writing was good in some places and in others I had a string of WTF thoughts running in my head, like Mike's entire plot, which was crazy. The pages were simply turning and I had no problem reading the book in spite of the bad things which are listed right below this paragraph.

I don't understand for the love of me, how I could like even a little a hero who broke things off with the heroine and two days later he slept with the receptionist of the office they worked together. That was disgusting and it explains why I never loved Kessler and I never will. The thing is though that for him it was clear from moment one that what he and Nova had was just physical and maybe that's why I couldn't hate him. He portrayed their relationship like it was just that and nothing that Nova said indicated that he was into something more romantic and that is weird since Nova paints another picture. In the first chapter or two, she says that Kessler is the only man who was a 10 in her heartbroken scale, which made me believe that they had something serious going on and as it turned out, it wasn't. It's like they were into a different relationship for the lack of better word at the moment and that was confusing and a bad spot for the book. Kessler redeemed himself in the end though in some ways and it gave some points to him and the book.

Christy says

4 stars!!

Nothing Personal is on the lighter side for Karina Halle. It's an enemies to lovers/workplace romance/second chance romantic comedy that kept me smiling.

Nova Lane's life is not going as planned. First, her current boyfriend cheats on her while they're on vacation... then she comes back to work only to find that her boss up and quit and they are temporarily replacing him with her ex-boyfriend. It's a job Nova deserves but Kessler is being brought in for it. She is not happy. Kessler broke her heart years ago and now she has to see him every day.

Kessler was the man I never quite got over. My level-ten heartbreaker. And he's now my motherfucking boss.

?Kessler Rocha is not the same man he was 5 years ago. Now he's a single father to a toddler and his son is his priority. Still, working with Nova isn't easy for him. He still cares for her and he knows he made a mistake all those years ago letting her go like he did. He just has to find a way to make it work. To have a job, support his child, and maybe, just maybe, get Nova back.

"I am not your enemy. Okay? You can go on thinking that all you want but it's not true. I am not your enemy. I'm barely even your boss. I am your equal and you are mine." "I am not yours," she says but her words falter. "You very much are,"

Nova was my favorite kind of heroine. One that's strong, hard working, and doesn't take any crap. I loved her personality and strength. I am a sucker for a single dad so of course I loved Kessler! His interactions with his son were amazing. And I loved how he worked to win Nova back. They bickered and bantered, but deep down you just knew they were meant to be.

If you're looking for a book that will give you a few laughs, make you swoon, is sweet and sexy- pick up *Nothing Personal*.

Debbie Oliphant says

3.5 Stars

This was an easy, breezy, laugh-out-loud, read. Very funny, and enjoyable.

KAT ? Kitty Kats Crazy About Books ? says

MY REVIEW: can also be found on my blog:

► **KITTY KATS CRAZY ABOUT BOOKS**

'NOTHING PERSONAL' Is a full length stand alone romantic comedy novel by Karina Halle. Dual POV's.

Nova Lane has been handed the most shittiest card in life at the moment, firstly on vacation with her boyfriend things drastically go down hill, coming home and jumping back into work she learns that her superior had up and quitted whilst she was away, thinking it was her time to step up and jump into the position she's been working towards wasn't exactly what happened. Nooooo she finds out that the job that she'd pegged as hers was taken right out from under her.

If that wasn't bad enough it's been handed over to Kessler Rocha for a three month trial. Her ex-coworker and ex-lover. He's the guy that broke her heart five years ago, he's the reason why she uprooted her life and moved thousands of miles away.

Now five years later after knowing he didn't want kids or any sort of commitment or marriage he now has full custody of his three year old son.

She was the girl that I cut loose once I realised I didn't want any commitment from her and that things would be better for us as co-workers.

Fun days ahead..

Nova is such a strong heroine with a forked tongue so the two and fro banter between these two scorches the pages and sets up the right pace for an angsty from enemies to lovers story perfectly.

Kessler is an Ex NHL player with the body of a wet dream, he had me swooning like no other, his love for his son had me melting, the laughs came tenfold with all things roosters.

What an amazing way to finish off my year in books, I loved this book as soon as I started it, I couldn't put it down, this second chance office romance hit all the right spots and I found I devoured this in record time.

Best Quote:

"If you think I'm about to turn into Aquaman, you have another thing coming."

She grins at me. *"All I know is that if you wanted to dress up as Jason Momoa, I wouldn't mind."*

"That guy is Hawaiian isn't he?"

She nods.

"That fucker. All the woman want him because he can swim."

She raises her brow.

"Yeah," she says dryly. "That's totally the reason why."

XxTainaxX says

3.5 Stars. I enjoyed the humor. I legit laughed out loud. There were a few things I didn't like but it is just my personal preference. I would recommend to someone looking for RomCom.

NMmomof4 says

3.5 Stars

Overall Opinion: This was a fun read! I laughed out loud on more than one occasion, and I really liked the H. The H's son was super cute, and his interactions with him were sweet. I do wish that we had more actual scenes with the h bonding with his son, but the few scenes we do get were great. I struggled with the h. I liked her quirky ways and how she was with the H's son -- but I didn't like how she could turn cold so easily. I also was left with a few unanswered questions in the end that made me not quite love the ending even though I definitely laughed out loud reading the epilogue. Otherwise this was a super cute, funny, sexy read that would be great for those times between heavier books!

Brief Summary of the Storyline: This is Nova and Kessler's story. Nova comes home from a vacation and finds that her boss took off and that she now has to work under her ex-lover that broke her heart years prior. Kessler recently obtained custody of his 3 year old son and he desperately needed a change for them both, so a new job in Hawaii was something he couldn't say no to. The fact that he would work with Nova again and he always thought of her as the one that got away was a huge perk for him to accept the position. There was some big baggage they had to work through, some hot sexy times, and some laugh out loud moments...and they get a HEA ending.

POV: This alternated between Nova and Kessler's POV.

Overall Pace of Story: Good. I never skimmed and I thought it flowed well.

Instalove: No, but some strong feelings were still present when they are reunited.

H rating: 4.5 stars. Kessler. I really liked him. He messed up in the past, but I appreciated how he recognized his faults and tried to fix them. I also appreciated his relationship with his son, and he cracked me up a few times.

h rating: 3 stars. Nova. I liked her quirks and how she was a driven professional woman. I did struggle with her inability to open up and her pushing the H away at times though.

Sadness level: Low, no tissues needed

Push/Pull: Yes (view spoiler)

Heat level: Hot. They have some hot tension, chemistry, and scenes -- but not so much it takes away from the story.

Descriptive sex: Yes

OW/OM drama: Yes (view spoiler)

Sex scene with OW or OM: No

Cheating: No

Separation: Yes (view spoiler)

Possible Triggers: Yes (view spoiler)

Closure: This had a cute and funny epilogue with a HEA ending (view spoiler). I still wanted more though! I had a few unanswered questions in the end, and I really would've loved some more scenes with the h and the H's son bonding. Probably me being a greedy reader again...

Safety: This one is either Safe or Safe with exception for most safety gang readers depending on personal preferences.
(view spoiler)

London says

Nope. Hero breaks up with heroine and then a few days later has sex with the receptionist at their workplace. Disgusting pig.

They'd been sleeping together for months and the heroine was in love with him but he didn't love her and didn't want commitment.

"The things I wanted then weren't love and security, they were cheap thrills and hot sex with different women. I loved being with Nova but I didn't love her back then, and that was the truth."

Carol says

This is billed as :

** A new standalone romantic comedy**

but the blurb sounds all drama.

Curiouser and curiouser!

I am pretty sure that I will read this one.

Hope it truly is a rom-com, she does that so very well. Remember "Smut".

Dri ☆ says

DNF @ 16%

????????????????????

So, I think I'm lacking this kind of sense of humor, because despite trying really hard to enjoy it I can not seem to find it funny... actually, quite the opposite. Annoying, meaningless and plain. The MC's are so boring that I can not relate to any of them, precisely the heroine, she's very very veryyyy annoying. And what the matter with the sweat thing? Ugh, just gross.

Sorry, "nothing personal" but this one here is not for me.

Tijuana *Book Twins Reviews* says

I laughed my ass off! Gah, if only that were truly possible.

But seriously, this book is hilarious! It was nothing like I expected, but exactly what I needed at the moment. A good old laugh out loud funny rom com. The "Leprechauns", cock, and geckos alone, were worth the price of admission!

What I loved:

The main characters - an slightly uptight heroine, laid back hero and sexual tension you can cut with a knife.

I'm a sucker for a cute kid.

I love second at romance!

And the secondary characters were comedic gold.

All in all, it was a fun and hilarious read!

AJ says

4.5 stars!

Another great read from Karina Halle! Fun, funny and sexy with fantastic characters and a sweet, swoony second-chance-enemies-to-lovers-romance, I loved this one!

Nova works in marketing for a Hawaiian-based hotel chain and after learning that her boss has unexpectedly resigned, she is expecting the promotion that she has been working so hard for. But that's not the case, and she's horrified and enraged to discover that the new guy who will be her boss turns out to be the man that broke her heart five years earlier.

Kes is an ex-NHL player who previously worked for the same hotel chain as Nova, and the last time the two of them worked in the same office they started a steamy affair. Nova fell hard for Kes, but he was clueless to that fact and wasn't ready for an actual relationship, and after he left her shattered she moved to Hawaii for a fresh start. And now he's back... with his three year old son in tow, and from his first glance at Nova, he knows that it was a mistake to ever let her go.

"Let's just let bygones be bygones and pretend you and I never happened."

"That's not going to be easy," I tell her.

Because I don't want to pretend we never happened.

I want to do the opposite.

I want...I think I just want a second chance to see if things can work this time around.

I love this set up! And the story gets off to a great start when Nova makes it clear that she's not happy to have Kes back in her life. Getting over him was the hardest thing she ever did, and though he's looking better than ever, she is determined to protect her heart and that means staying away from him as much as possible.

"I hate you," I hiss at him.

He smirks. "You only hate that you want me."

"Same difference."

"I don't think so," he says.

Karina Halle writes wonderfully real, flawed characters. They aren't perfect, they're relatable, they make mistakes and they sometimes say the wrong thing, and that's what makes them so much fun to read. And she's done a great job with Nova and Kes. I love them individually, and together they are an absolute powerhouse, with fantastic chemistry, great banter, and so much emotion between them. The sexual tension sizzles off the page as they argue and bicker, and you can feel all of that passion from so long ago effortlessly rebuilding until it reaches boiling point, and with their feelings and lust for each other all twisted up, it just gets better and better.

Nothing has felt hotter, the slick sounds, the way he's exerting himself, grunting with each powerful thrust.

"Come for me," he bites out. "Fucking come for me."

"Fucking make me," I tell him through a moan.

It's hot, sexy, and a little dirty, and it's absolutely fantastic! They have their ups and downs, but it's all very believable, and watching them follow their hearts and figure out the journey is funny, gorgeous, and beautifully swoony.

Every cell in my body is begging for her, wanting to know what it's like to have her heart. I want her heart, to possess it, to protect it and never let it go.

This is such a great read with lots of laughs, heart and steamy time and just the right amount of drama to

keep things interesting without bogging the story down. Karina Halle writes great sexy rom/com, and I loved this one!

4.5 stars.

An Advanced Review Copy was generously provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.
