



## **Engaging The Enemy: A Will and a Way / Boundary Lines**

*Nora Roberts*

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**Sometimes the last man on earth you'd ever want turns out to be the very one your heart secretly yearns for . . .**

Two complete novels by #1 *New York Times* bestselling author NORA ROBERTS

## **A Will and a Way**

It wasn't easy living with her infuriating co-beneficiary, Michael Donohue -- even to fulfill her uncle's last wishes -- but headstrong Pandora McVie found it still harder *not* falling in love with her nemesis.

## **Boundary Lines**

Feisty Jillian Baron and irresistibly arrogant Aaron Murdock seemed determined to carry their families' feud into another generation. But the battle waged within their own hearts pitted their mistrust against overwhelming desire.

## **Engaging The Enemy: A Will and a Way / Boundary Lines Details**

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Author : Nora Roberts

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## **From Reader Review Engaging The Enemy: A Will and a Way / Boundary Lines for online ebook**

### **Mafi says**

Nora é sempre Nora! Dois romances muito bons, daqueles que fazem esquecer os problemas e acreditar outra vez no amor...gostei dos casais! As histórias não foram assim nada de especial, mas como são da Nora até deixo passar este detalhe..Livro perfeito para desanuviar a mente de outras leituras. :)

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### **Carla \*Jen7waters\* says**

Another Silhouette two-in-one novel by Roberts.

I have to confess that these books may well not be high literature, but they are a feast for the soul and the heart of an audience.

I will not be giving the world news by saying that Nora Roberts has certainly a very unique way with words, just as she seems to have an exceptional understanding with people, both how to describe them, and how to write for them, and therefore she's always aware of how to hold the reader to her plots. In Engaging The Enemy she does precisely that using four characters, two couples, whose respective shares fell a specific kind of hatred for each other, that kind of hatred which limits quickly merge with the limits of crazy passion, and after some hurdles, sayings and a whole bunch of stuff that tend to cast more dark clouds over the hard heads of the lovebirds, spreads, finally, inevitably, to the greatest of loves.

In the first story of this volume, A Will And A Way, the couple consists of Pandora McVie, an artist dedicated to jewelry making, and of Michael Donohue, a screenwriter for a television series. The two are almost cousins, who despise each other since forever. A despise that is accompanied by a share of mutual desire. When these two lost souls, accustomed to the isolation of their lives, inherit, in equal parts, the whole legacy of their beloved recently deceased uncle, with the condition that they live together in a house that is also part of the estate, and says a lot to both, their first reaction is that this is the worst that could have happened, however, over time we'll see the development of an intimacy both tender and vibrant, which will become a habit and dependency for them.

I really liked this story, the predominant theme can even be a love-hate relationship between the protagonists, but since the topic appeals to me and I always come back to it to relax from other readings that require more of my sanity, I dare say that reading Nora Roberts is good for health. If nothing else, it makes one's heart to beat faster, and therefore the entire body gets a extra irrigation!

Still, my favorite was the second part, Boundary Lines.

Jillian Baron and Aaron Murdock, owner of two farms joined together by a very special lake, and separated by a fence that appears to get ruined a lot, can be neighbors but had never laid eyes on each other until the hot summer day when Jillian decides to take a swim in the lake I mentioned before, and Aaron goes through there also. The spark is immediate but Aaron will have a lot to ride to get to the broken heart Jillian carries in her chest, guarded by thick and successive layers of pride and self-preservation.

The magnitude of the fiery love-hate, of the tender and unbridled desire, of the crazy-mad passion, of the hopeless dependance and love between these two, is several times higher in exponent compared with the couple from A Will And A Way, or perhaps it's just because of the wilder scenery around them (which made me remember Irish Thoroughbred so much!).

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### **Laura says**

The second book was much better than the first.

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### **Melinda Rollings says**

Two stories in the book first one the best.

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### **Sherri says**

Loved both stories about headstrong lovers

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### **Alexis says**

I somehow never finished reading the first story in this 2-in-1 (I think it's the only Nora Roberts novel I've never completed) but I recently re-read the second, *Boundary Lines*, so for the time being here is my review for that.

#### **BOUNDARY LINES**

The Barons and the Murdocks have been running their cattle ranches side by side in Montana since the families made their way out West, and they've been feuding ever since. Jillian Baron grew up in Chicago but her heart was with her grandfather's ranch from the beginning. As soon as she's old enough, she moves to Montana and eventually takes over Utopia after her grandfather's death. Her grandfather, while a hard man, believed in her enough to name her heir and she's fully determined to prove that she's a strong enough woman for the job.

She's doing just fine on her own until Aaron Murdock shows up. Heir to the neighboring Double M ranch - and Utopia's biggest competitor - Aaron's father and Jillian's grandfather had been feuding long before Aaron and Jillian had even been born. And once Aaron crosses paths with hot-tempered Jillian Baron, he's more than happy to leave the feud in the past. As much as she tries to push him away, he only grows more determined to keep her close. And yes, while we have heard that story before, from Nora Roberts it's always entertaining.

But there's someone else who remembers the feud, and as Utopia's cows go missing the blame seems to point to the Murdocks. Jillian is devastated but determined to solve the problem. Aaron has put himself in her way so often by this point that she can't help but admit that he's a good man, not the kind who would resort to stealing her cattle. And even though it grates, she accepts his help, and of course, at the end, his love. (Awww...)

Yeah, it's a classic family feud storyline. Yes, Jillian seems like she's gone through the romance novel

heroine checklist. Feisty? Check. Bad tempered? Check. Tomboy? Check. Extra points for being a cowgirl. Double extra points for being a redhead. Chip on her shoulder resulting from her upbringing? Check plus. And if Aaron seems a little too good to be true, well, it's because he is. That's why he's in a book. And even if a lot of it seems like it's been done before, it doesn't matter, because Nora Roberts always does it differently (and, I would argue, *better*). There's a nice subplot involving Aaron's parents, and the county fair serves as a diversion and a clever plot device. Well-written and nicely paced, *Boundary Lines* is exciting and entertaining and sweet. The characters, if a little cliched, are at least well-developed. And maybe Jillian is a little sillier than we've come to expect (really, Jillian, stop fighting with boys), but hey, this was written in 1985. I'm pretty much willing to forgive Nora Roberts for anything she wrote (or wore) in the 80s, since she consistently outdoes herself with every passing year.

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## **Maura says**

A Will and a Way - 4/5 - The story was very entertaining, but wasn't as angsty as some of her other early romances. In this one, Michael and Pandora have to spend 6 months together in their uncle's house in order to inherit it and his money and keep it all out of the hands of their greedy family. There's plenty of banter, that love-and-annoyance-are-two-sides-of-the-same-coin interactions and there's a mystery to be solved as well. All of those kept me reading. But the true gem here is how the characters develop as a couple. They start out snippy and kind of uncomfortable with one another, not really liking the other, and before long they become comfortable and their friendship and attraction begins to grow. I really enjoyed reading that. There were however some slow moving parts, but it's not a long enough story to really detract from it overall.

Boundary Lines - 2/5 - Jill is running the Baron ranch, having lost her curmudgeon grandfather - she's grown up rough and she's pretty much a bitch, only she's very insecure (since some guy hurt her by saying he loved her and then not really loving her). Aaron is a Murdock, a neighboring family with whom her Jillian's family has been enemies for years. Only, despite the blurb claiming that this is about a feud, it's really about an insecure woman who is too stubborn to ask for help and a man who can't take no for an answer. Oh, and there's someone out to sabotage Jillian's efforts, but that's pretty secondary.

At first, I hated Aaron. He was fond of the "attack kiss." His mouth kept crashing down on hers and she'd say no, yell and stomp off in a huff, but everytime he saw her his mouth just kept crashing on to hers. After enough of those, she just couldn't resist him. I'm of the opinion that when a woman decides she wants nothing to do with you, even if she's attracted, she means it and you should just leave her alone. But then we wouldn't have a "romance" would we? But then, after Jillian has begun to accept that he kisses her and she likes it, her insecurity just takes over. She can't trust him, she can't ask him for help, her ranch is the most important thing to her. She couches all of this in excuses involving her ex-boyfriend, but it's a pretty thin justification. So much so that when she rejected his "I love you" and let him walk out and then waited three weeks and was ready to just let him go if he didn't come to her, I was ready to throw the Kindle. Why should he come to her? She rejected him! It really pissed me off that she couldn't suck it up and set aside her pride for just a moment out of love - because that tells me that she values her pride more than him and it ruins the romance for me. Because she doesn't really love him.

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## **Theresa says**

I couldn't get past the fact that the 2 romantically involved were cousins.

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## Cyrisse says

### A Will and A Way

Pandora McVie was a jewelry designer. Her pieces were one of a kind. Michael Donohue wrote scripts for a successful television series. Pandora and Michael were related distantly through marriage. They didn't like each other and they usually ended up arguing when they were together. They were both close to Uncle Jolley. They were the only members in the family who really loved him. The rest of the family thought Jolly was strange and they only wanted his money.

Most of the family turned up for the reading of Jolley's will. Pandora and Michael were the only ones who seemed to be grieving. Jolley left most of the relatives very little. The bulk of his estate, including the house, would go to Pandora and Michael, but there were restrictions. They had to live together in the house for six months. If they refused, the estate would be divided up between the other relatives and a charity. Pandora didn't want the money and claimed that she didn't need it. She was attached to the house and didn't want to see it sold. She was disgusted because she assumed that Michael wanted the money. Michael didn't want the house sold either. He and Pandora agreed to live in the house.

Shortly after the will was read, Pandora and Michael moved in. She sat up her equipment in a shed and started working. Michael set up a place to do his writing. He and Pandora settled into a routine and managed to get along fairly well, though they still had disagreements. They became intimate. Things were happening that made them think that the relatives were trying to make them mess up so the conditions wouldn't be met. At first it was things like Pandora's shed being broken into and her being locked in the basement, but things turned deadly when brake lines were cut.

### Boundary Lines

Jillian Baron grew up in Chicago, but she loved open spaces. She started to spend time with her grandfather on his ranch Utopia. After he died, she was running the ranch. It had been in the Baron family for years. The Murdocks owned a ranch that was next to Utopia. The Barons and the Murdocks had been enemies for years. Jillian hadn't met any of the Murdocks, but she seemed determined to carry on the feud. She met Aaron Murdock one day at a pond that was at the boundary of the two ranches. Aaron was friendly, but she was rude to him because of who he was.

Aaron was interested in breeding his horse Samson with Jillian's horse Delilah. Jillian was interested in doing that as well, and they worked out an agreement. Aaron was interested in Jillian and started to pursue her. They spent time together and Jillian learned that he wasn't that bad. They became involved.

Jillian was having trouble with Utopia. Calves were being born, but it seemed to Jillian that there weren't enough. She found fence lines cut. She and some of her men estimated that a hundred cattle were missing. After taking a count, she discovered that many more were missing. What few clues there were all pointed to the Murdock ranch.

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## **Georgianne says**

When I need to clear my mind or take a break I tend to read silly romance and Nora Roberts does it well.

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## **Linda says**

"A Will and A Way": Jewelry designer and television script writer are forced into living in the same house by an Uncle who left them his \$50 million estate. One caveat is they must live together for 6 months or forfeit everything. Sparks fly between them and unhappy relatives inflict schemes on them. It is a 1986 novel, but still good.

"Boundary Lines": Side by side cattle ranches have a long standing feud, when the properties are handed down to Jillian and Aaron. Of course, the two are attracted to each other on a deeper level. Aaron realizes it first and pushes hard to get Jillian, which only causes her to push back. I enjoy the banter and how Nora Roberts writes the enemy to lover trope. 1985.

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## **Tracey says**

Nora Roberts is comfort reading, plain and simple, she is never going to win any literary awards and there is nothing wrong with that at all. For me Roberts books have always been good for when my reading slides downhill and I am struggling to find something to hold my attention. They become like kickstart novels, they seem to help me get of my slump and propel me onwards and I can offer you no rational reason as to why. This is two stories packaged by Harlequin under the title of Engaging the Enemy and it is your standard Robert's romance fare (again nothing wrong with that). You have stubborn independent woman who does not want love meets stubborn good looking man who finds himself intrigued as why the firebrand woman has his interest. It is their stubbornness plus some kind of criminal/family drama that keeps them doing a dance around their feelings until capitulate into realising that true love has actually happened. Roberts has a real knack of allowing you to engage with characters until you reach the last word of the final chapter. Then you have that little inner smile of isn't that nice, it's a happy ending and it does not matter that you knew all along that it was coming. I suppose that is the real joy that in these novels, good triumphs, love rules and happiness is guaranteed. Do we all not want that in some measure or form deep down.

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## **Crystal says**

The first story I would give 4 stars. it was great reading about her jewelry making business. that was the best part of the book. The second story Boundary Lines I give 5 stars. Set in Montana with a strong heroine known for her guts and determination, this story was much more up my alley. Hope to find it as a separate book. Roberts weaves two tales of strong heroines that didn't know how much they needed ahead until they were swept off their feet by someone equally as strong and admiring them for who they are.

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## **Christina Williams says**

This was the first Nora Roberts book I ever read and began a great love for her novels. How I came to Nora Roberts is one of the reasons why this two story collection holds a special place for me.

I was on my first work trip, alone, and the only book I brought with me was a Tom Clancy novel. Unfortunately, the Clancy novel detailed the aftermath of a terrorist attack (airplane into the Capitol - creepy). I was in the Pentagon on 9/11 and this was about a year later so I just couldn't finish the Clancy novel. (I have since - it was pretty good). I wandered down to the hotel's meager gift shop and the only book that even remotely caught my attention was this one. I figured what the heck and bought it. The engaging language and happily-ever-after ending were just what I needed. When I got home, I bought a couple other Nora Roberts books and never looked back.

These two stories are simple ones, but a lot of fun. I could see hints of Montana Sky in the second story, which later became a favorite book of mine.

It may seem a little hokey but Nora Roberts provided just the balm I needed!

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## **Ana Santos says**

Very boring at times, but the romance is cute.

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