



Off the Clock

Roni Loren

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FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE LOVING ON THE EDGE NOVELS, THE FIRST IN A SENSUAL NEW SERIES

Overtime has never felt so good...

Marin Rush loves studying sex. Doing it? That's another story. In the research lab, Marin's lack of practical knowledge didn't matter, but now that she's landed a job at The Grove, a high-end, experimental sex therapy institute, she can't ignore the fact that the person most in need of sexual healing may be her.

Dr. Donovan West, her new hotshot colleague, couldn't agree more. Donovan knows that Marin's clients are going to eat her alive unless she gets some hands-on experience. And if she fails at the job, he can say goodbye to a promotion, so he assigns her a list of R-rated tasks to prepare her for the wild clientele of The Grove's X-wing.

But some of those tasks are built for two, and when he finds Marin searching for a candidate to help her check off her list, Donovan decides there's only one man for the job—him. As long as they keep their erotic, off-the-clock activities strictly confidential and without strings, no one will get fired—or worse, get attached...

Exclusive to this edition only—a bonus short story

Off the Clock Details

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Author : Roni Loren

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From Reader Review Off the Clock for online ebook

Sabrina says

3.5 Stars

A very sexy and unique story. I liked the characters and the overall story, but I wanted a little more chemistry between Donovan and Marin. The dirty talk was off the charts hot and the sex was smoking, though, and that made this book good. There was little story so I kept hoping for more of one, but what we did get was good.

Pavlina Read more sleep less blog♥♥ says

Omg I forgot to add this ,it's so good seriously ...I love this story so much ♥♥♥♥♥

Renae says

I thought I was getting into a sexy book about sex therapists. Instead, *Off the Clock* turned out to be a sexy book that contains some pretty damaging ideas about mental health. Solid going, Ms. Loren. (Not.)

So, this book is basically about Marin and Donovan's unresolved sexual tension. They met in college. Marin was an undergrad; Donovan was writing his dissertation. They hooked up over a lab table. Then they don't see each other for 9 years, until Marin gets hired by the same fancy private practice Donovan works at. As Donovan attempts to train Marin for her first-ever clinical position, he realizes that she blushes at literally *everything* their clients say about their sex lives. So, he helpfully offers to fuck the blushes straight out of her.

Stay classy, y'all.

Looking back at it, what's strangest about *Off the Clock* is how fiercely Roni Loren clings to the "innocent virgin" archetype, even in the context of a book about sex therapy. Marin is a virgin when the book opens—we get a lovely image of the blood on Donovan's dick. And *then* the book expects us to believe that in the ensuing 9 years, Marin never did anything remotely sexual or romantic. She didn't go on dates, she didn't watch pornography, she didn't ever see a sex toy. Nada. This is unreasonable for anyone, but especially for someone who's literally getting her PhD as a sexual psychologist. I promise you, she would

have had her “innocence” knocked out of her long before she got the therapist job.

But, you see, for some reason it’s very important to this book that Donovan be Marin’s One True Dick. He’s her one and only sexual partner, and of course this is meant to be coded as “look at Marin, she’s so chaste and deserving of a good orgasm.” Uh, no. If I’m reading a book about sexual therapists, I would really like to see a sexually liberated woman who isn’t locked inside her own shame closet. Alas, Marin is the queen of blushes and deer-in-headlights-look, so we have to deal with that for the entire 400 page novel.

Once I reluctantly accepted that the virginal heroine trope was there to stay, *Off the Clock* honestly isn’t bad. It’s very sexy, and it’s very well-written. I admit that I was turned off by the scene where Donovan pours red wine over Marin’s vulva and then proceeds to penetrate her with the wine bottle, but I guess in Romancelandia we don’t have to be concerned about UTIs. Other than that, the sex was good—and since this is an erotic romance, the entire book is about sex. Everything was going super well! Until it wasn’t.

Where things really fall apart is the Dark Moment. After Marin and Donovan get caught embracing by their boss, Marin goes back to Donovan’s house while he gets lectured by said boss. She goes looking in his medicine cabinet and finds...medicine! (Who would have thought.) The medicine in question is antidepressants, sleep aids, and antianxiety meds. And then the reader is treated to this gem:

Donovan was depressed? It was hard to wrap her head around. The guy she knew had so much light in him. That smile of his was like a freaking sunrise.

What. The. Fuck.

May I remind everyone that Marin is a psychologist and almost-licensed therapist? She, better than anyone, should know that wildly depressed people tend to look completely “normal” on the outside. This just doesn’t make sense, and I’m really sick of the whole “You’re not sick! You look fine!” mentality that many people have. To see it perpetrated by a character who’s purported to be an expert on mental health? How fucking damaging.

Anyway, and *then* things get really juicy when Donovan comes home and Marin confronts him about the antidepressants:

The words hit her like a blow to the chest. “Donovan...”

“Yeah. *That’s* what guy I am. The broken kind. The kind you can’t count on. I told you that from the start.”

Her stomach knotted, her emotions curling in on themselves. Donovan had thought about suicide.

The broken kind. THE. BROKEN. KIND.

“The broken kind” from, again, a trained and extremely well-educated therapist! That’s so ridiculous I don’t

even know what to say. A *real* therapist would fucking know better than to equate depression with being “broken.” Additionally, a real therapist would most likely...be in therapy! To deal with their PTSD and suchlike. Because therapists tend to be very pro-therapy, and don’t let their symptoms go unaddressed for 10 years. What the hell.

Like, I get that Loren needed some kind of emotional conflict that would amp up the Dark Moment, but sacrificing realistic mental health at the altar of convenient plot twists strikes me the wrong way. According to her author bio, Loren was also a mental health practitioner at some point—she should know better. What we need in mainstream media is the normalizing and acceptance of mental health disorders, not the demonizing of them. *Off the Clock* massively fails in this respect, in just a single scene.

But it didn’t end there! Oh, no. After this emotional conversation with Donovan, Marin returns home. There, she finds her gay little brother, who’s supposedly in a relationship, making out with a woman. When Marin (reasonably) demands to know what’s going on, her brother explodes.

I’ve gone through the worst breakup of my life, have barely been able to deal with this move, and then I freaking started up something *with a girl*. I could be bi. I have no clue what to do with *that*. I don’t want to *be* that.

Oh look, casual biphobia for the win. I really wonder what’s so fucking wrong with being bisexual, huh? But obviously, per the portrayal in *Off the Clock*, bisexuality is not something anyone ever wants to be. It’s more of an affliction that must be suffered through. Mmkay. Gross. Don’t even want to touch that one.

Anyway, so all of this absolute crappy crap happens right before the end. I was so put off by the blatant ableism and confusing biphobia that I just cruise-controlled my way to the HEA. It was nice, and it felt “deserved,” if such a thing can be said. But honestly, the entire thing was cheapened by what I’ve discussed above.

I think we need books that delve into what it’s like to live with depression, PTSD, etc. I think we need books that humanize psychology and make it seem like a friendly, helpful science, rather than a scary, often damaging experiment. What we *do not* need is to perpetuate harmful myths surrounding mental health and therapists. *Off the Clock* may be a sexy book, but I honestly fear that it does more harm than good. Since this is coming from an author who claims to have been educated and experienced in this issue, I’m even more disappointed. Roni Loren should have known better.

*** Meli Mel * says**

♥ ♥ ♥ 4 STARS ♥ ♥ ♥



"I'm happy to take things slow since you're new to so much. But that doesn't mean I don't think about hauling you up against a wall, hiking your skirt up, and fucking you like I own you. I think about it. I think about it. All. The. Fucking. Time."



Marin Rush hasn't had it easy in life. Still, she manages to put herself through school. It's precisely at this school where she develops a crush on grad student Donovan West. One night, Marin accidentally over hears someone's deep voice, saying very dirty things that turn her on. When she realizes it was Donovan's voice, things change for her dramatically and even changes the direction of her studies. A connection sparks between them, and soon Marin finds herself losing her v-card to the sexy Donovan. Unfortunately, something tragic happens in her family which alters things for. But, she never forgot about Donovan throughout the years.



"Do you know what that does to me? Knowing you're turned on by *my* words? *My* fantasies? And now to walk in and see you touching yourself over them? Fuck"



Nine years later, Marin is struggling to make ends meet now that her brother Nate is about to start college. Luck is on her side when she finds out about a job opportunity in New Orleans, where Nate will be studying. The job may be out of her comfort zone but she is willing to give it a shot. It is a high end clinic for the rich and famous that offer sex therapy in some innovative ways. When Marin shows up for the interview, she never in a million years expected to see Donovan, who is now a sex doctor at the clinic. The attraction between is definitely still very much present, but now that they are colleagues anything between them is off limits. They both ignore the heat they feel for each other, but Donovan is done ignoring. He wants her, so why can't they indulge in each other in secret. And with the time limit set, they can finally get it out of their system without it turning into more.



"Donovan. I need you."

"I've got you." He climbed onto the bed and pressed a line of kisses along the curve of her

neck. She writhed under his touch, and he put a hand on her hip to anchor her. "I need you right back."



This was one hell of a smoking hawt read! Yowza! Roni Loren, you freaking did it. I really enjoyed this one. It didn't hurt that it was a second chance at love kind of story, I'm big sucker for those. But what I really liked were the characters. The chemistry between them was sizzling. The sex scenes were sensual, naughty, and kinky. I can't tell you enough how toe curling those were. Donovan is one sexy beast. Oh, how I really loved him. And Marin may have been a virgin, but I loved that she never came off as this shy naïve girl. Sure she was inexperienced, but she was confident in herself and didn't hold back in exploring things sexually with Donovan. I loved the pace of the book and the development of relationship. I loved that for an erotica, there was more to them than just sex which can happen a lot in these types of stories. I really liked a few of the secondary characters as well, for example Lane. He needs a book pronto, as does Nate. Overall, this book was really great. Definitely recommend this one.

?Yasmine? says

DO NOT USE A OPEN WINE BOTTLE FOR MASTURBATING. Unless you want a vaginal prolapse - or bleed to death, DON'T do it!

3.5 STARS

Genre: Office Affair – Second Chance – New Adult style

Cover: 8/10

Writing: 8/10

Heroine: 6/10

Hero: 6/10

Humour: 0/10

Hotness: 4/10

Romance: 7/1

Extra book Det

forbidden feel.

This book started off really good. I liked the hero. But sadly, he turned into just an okay character. I dropped half a star because of how much it waned in the middle, for a good 20%.

Then I dropped half a star because of the bottle scene. These lead characters are sexual mental health doctors, yet he stuck an *open* bottle up her vagina! Major faux pas there author. Another faux pas was the excuse between the characters not to be together; because they're colleagues. Yet, his last sex-buddy was a colleague too.

There were a few overdone NA tropes in there, the V card, the dom, the other woman, the dead parents... **But the book had a unique setting & some good sex** (though there wasn't too much). It's set in a health clinic, where the rich and famous go. And both our leads are experts in sexual mental health.

Overall, the bottle & the overdone tropes let it down. But the kink, the setting, the writing and the unique parts were very good.

Dark Faerie Tales says

Review courtesy of Dark Faerie Tales

Quick & Dirty: Sex therapists lead us through lessons on sexual discovery and empowerment while fighting their own dark and terrible pasts. (Basically on how not to blush when talking about sex. :oops:)

Opening Sentence: "I'm going to wrap my fingers in your hair and slide my other hand up your thigh. You have to be quiet for me. We can't let anyone know."

The Review:

Off the Clock is the newest erotic romance series by Loving on the Edge author Roni Loren. I have only read a few books in the Loving on the Edge series, and what I have read I loved, so I really had high expectations for this novel. I really wasn't disappointed. This story was quite erotic without going crazy over the edge, although there was one scene with a wine bottle that is whoa. Roni Loren knows how to write characters with such emotional depth and heartache that I can't help but fall for them. My only complaint was that the novel was over with way too soon.

The novel starts out when Donovan West and Marin Rush are in college studying sexual research. Marin has had a crush on her TA for months when she unexpectedly runs into him one night. Donovan introduces her to his research and asks for her womanly help wanting to know what really turns women on because he wants his research to work properly. Marin quickly agrees to help him but she isn't really truthful about who she is because she doesn't want him to know she is just a freshman. Donovan and Marin share a week of happiness and sensual fun until life smacks Marin in the face and causes her to take a drastic turn in life and college.

Nine years have passed since that fateful night with Donovan. Marin is completely comfortable studying sex research for the college but with personal bills and the college funding for her research disappearing, she must pursue a higher paying job. She isn't exactly thrilled to go out of her comfort zone of research but as a sex therapist she can make quite a bit more. Marin gets a job at The Grove, a therapy ranch for the rich and famous. Marin didn't realize that her new co-worker would be the sexy Donovan West.

Donovan West's job at The Grove is on the line. He's an excellent therapist and he's up for a promotion but his behavior of showing up late for his clients and sleeping with other co-workers has his boss upset. If Donovan can't get Marin trained in six months then he will be out the door with her. Marin is a natural at therapy but the sex talk causes her to blush a lot. When Donovan realizes the lack of experience, he decides to help her get over her shame about sex talk. It will make her a better therapist.

Marin and Donovan both have extremely depressing and sad backgrounds that make them the perfect pair. Marin understands Donovan's hang ups and frustrations, and Donovan loves that Marin doesn't look at him differently for his imperfections. Marin was never prudish, she was just too busy for relationships, so when she gets to finally explore, she jumps all in ready to learn what feels good and what does not. Donovan knows sex, it is what he is good at. He doesn't believe in Love or The One. He especially knows that he isn't built for a relationship. Marin makes him happy, feel comfortable and relaxed but his insecurities arise when he is alone making him doubt what he could have with her.

Overall, Off the Clock is an amazingly H-O-T read! This novel is filled with sex talk from beginning to end. The story is a bit dark while being uplifting and impactful. If you want some sex therapy, I highly recommend this story. I'm already excited about some of the side characters, I can't wait to see what their dark secrets hold.

Notable Scene:

Her chest rose and fell with gulping breaths and her eyes stayed squeezed shut. But after a few last cries of release, she moved her hand away, letting her arm fall to the side.

“Shit,” she whispered, almost to herself.

Donovan gave her breast one last stroke. Then he reached down and righted her dress. “Beautiful. Feel better?”

“I can’t believe I just did that.”

“You’re more daring than you think. Your desire’s there. You just need a nudge.” He finally rolled forward through the stop sign and tried to mentally tamp down his own level of arousal. At this rate, he was going to walk into his place with a monster hard-on leading the way.

She shifted in the seat. “You make me stop thinking. It freaks me out a little.”

He smiled and reached for her hand, lacing his fingers with hers and hitting the gas to rocket them down the dark road. “I make you stop thinking, and you wake me up.”

FTC Advisory: Berkley/Penguin provided me with a copy of Off the Clock. No goody bags, sponsorships, “material connections,” or bribes were exchanged for my review.

Lana ✶Dirty Girl Romance✶ says

4 Stars

I'm happy to take things slow since you're new to so much. But that doesn't mean I don't think about hauling you up against a wall, hiking your skirt up, and fucking you like I own you.

Is it hot in here or was it this book? I should know by now to expect sizzling hot romance from Roni Loren but this was absolutely smoking', uncomfortably aroused, don't read in public sort of hot! Dirty fantasies, role playing, and a hero dubbed "The Orgasm Whisperer". Yeah. Suffice it to say I **really** enjoyed this one.

I've been a huge fan of Roni Loren since I first discovered her Loving on The Edge series, but dare I say this book was my favorite of hers yet? If you haven't read anything by this fantastic author yet, this is the perfect book to start with.

Marin Rush has spent most of her youth taking care of her mother and younger brother and trying to put herself through school. A chance meeting late night at work she stumbles upon something that changes her and her career. She may not have much experience in the matter, but Marin knows sex, in the scientific and psychological sense anyway. But when she lands a coveted position in one of the most renowned institutions as a sex therapist, she knows that her scientific knowledge won't do much for her when it comes to her clients. She needs hands on knowledge...

She wanted to play the games. She wanted to step into those shadowed places where the rules and niceties went lax.

They dubbed him *The Orgasm Whisperer*. Dr. Donovan West is a great therapist, but he's not without a few sexual hangups himself. Mostly in the form of commitment phobia. He likes his sex dirty, hard, and non-permanent. When the beautiful Marin becomes his colleague, he knows he can help her, but the rules may need to blur for it

I can't be your boss. Because if what I have in mind is going to work, it's going to have to be strictly off the clock and off the record.

Marin and Donovan have a connection in the past that seems to make their sexual attraction in the present that much stronger. It may not be quite against the rules, and it may be a touch taboo, but it's not long before the pull between them gets too deliciously tempting to resist.

...know there isn't a thing on that list that I wouldn't love to check off for you, Completely and thoroughly. I could make you shameless, Rush.

I loved every single part of Off The Clock. It was sexy, a little edgy, and everything I've come to love in Roni Loren's romances.

Marin may have been one of my favorite parts about this book. While she may be inexperienced, she's no blushing ingenue. This is a woman that's smart, strong and knows what she wants. She has this inner core of strength to her that was understated and yet perfectly there. I wasn't expecting to love her as much as I did because she's not the typical heroine I like to read about but she completely won me over. I loved watching her tick kink after kink off with the sinfully sexy Donovan.

As for Donovan? *Fans self*. This is the epitome of a sexy nerd. This man was **everything**. Between his penchant for the kinky in bed and his dirty talk, he certainly doesn't act like a nerd, and yet nothing was more delicious than reading about him doing his dissertation of female arousal from dirty talk. I'm easy like that I suppose.

If you're looking for a sexy contemporary romance to start your 2016 with, you really can't go wrong with this one. A huge rec from this girl!

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ARC courtesy of author in exchange for an honest review

Find me on:

Anna's Herding Cats says

Reviewed for herding cats & burning soup.

Prepare to squirm, ladies! Roni Loren didn't hold back with her newest, Off the Clock. A deliciously decadent start to a new series and one that kept me up all hours of the night with gloriously dirty thoughts going through my mind. Loved it!

Alright so the quick of it is that during a college break many years ago Marin and Donovan had a scorching encounter and then life took them their separate ways...until now. They've both landed at the same facility as sex therapists. Having to work together and wanting to play together too.

I flat out loved these two. Marin and Donovan are so damn interesting. Their past together, the struggles they've gone through in life, their careers. They had me captivated from page one. And I really just liked them and their personalities. It was fun watching them deal with each other at work and over such sensitive subjects, deal with the past and their attraction. There were some amazing secondary characters too that totally peaked my interest.

Now. The heat was ridiculous. Deliciously filthy and incredibly fun too. There might have been pervy things done with a wine bottle. Hide & Seek may have been used to dole out orgasms. Maybe. A sex toy supply closet at work. A hero that records (audio) fantasies for sex therapy <---and holy cow they were HOT. There were just so many make you squirm moments. But it never felt like too much. It was perfect.

"I'm happy to take things slow since you're new to so much. But that doesn't mean I don't think about hauling you up against a wall, hiking your skirt up, and fucking you like I own you. I think about it. I think about it. All. The. Fucking. Time."

There were some real life issues dealt with too. Mental illness, thoughts of suicide, sexual dysfunction. It was nice seeing an author tackle issues that are so often brushed under the table. It made for some very emotional

scenes but powerful ones too.

All in all, Loren continues to amaze with scorching hot romances that are unique, sexy, and full of swoon-worthy moments. Do yourself a favor...grab one of her books NOW. You won't be disappointed.

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10/13 Off The Clock <---- When your book is so badass it needs not one but TWO cutie UPS men to deliver it. Oh yeah. This bad boy is in my greedy little reader hands. Woots!

10/11 Things Anna Needs: 1] Off the Clock 2] The day off to read Off the Clock :D

Gah! I cannot freaking wait!

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### **Jaime Arkin says**

*Overtime has never felt so good...*

I'm a huge fan of Roni Loren, and this book only solidified that for me. I'm pretty sure that this is actually going to become my favorite series by her.

Off The Clock starts out in the past, introducing us to Marin Rush and Donovan West... Marin a freshman and Donovan a grad student find themselves spending Spring Break on campus. Marin knows exactly who Donovan is ... he's the TA she's had a crush on since she first saw him, and their chance ... somewhat awkward meeting has her not only pretending she's someone a lot more experienced than she really is, but offering him assistance with his "Scripted Dirty Talk" dissertation.

Everything isn't simple in either of their lives though, and when things finally move forward between her and Donovan it's amazing...

*His gaze rolled over her, a slow, seeking perusal. Something dark and tense glinted in his eyes. "You didn't get to finish."*

*"I'm fine," she bit out.*

*"You're out of breath and..." His focus shifted down her body. "And wet."*

*She glanced down. Saw the telltale spot announcing how turned on she was through the thin cotton of her shorts. Oh shit. Oh God. Oh fuck. Mortification like none she'd ever experienced bled through her. Her thighs snapped together. "Can you please not make this worse with your analytics? Just let me be embarrassed in peace."*

*His blue eyes met hers, the tired resignation from earlier gone and replaced with something she'd never seen before from him - intent. "Let me help."*

*"What?"*

*"I made you a promise to keep things professional. I'll keep that promise if you want me to." He reached down and took the hand she'd been using on herself in his. He traced his thumb over her fingertips, setting the sensitive pads on fire. "But I fucking want you."*

But then something happens that changes her life and forces her to make some major changes... changes that don't include a future anything with Donovan. Not even a proper goodbye.

Nine years later, we're in present time and we find out what Marin's life has been like. Making ends meet for her and her brother it's been a struggle, but she's doing it. But the grant that pays her salary is being eliminated and she's got to find a job and she turns to The Grove, a private institute in Louisiana that needs a clinician in their sex therapy department.

The one thing she wasn't expecting when she arrived at The Grove, was Dr. Donovan West.

Their connection is just as bright nine years later and I loved getting to see these two reconnect. Not only as therapists and eventually sexually, but as friends. As sex therapists they have to be able to keep a straight face and not judge when working with their clients and that's the one thing that Marin seems to be struggling with. Dr. West offers to make her shameless and can I just say that he does quite the job?

It's no secret that Loren can write some amazing and hot and sexy, steamy scenes and I have to say that these have got to be some of her best by far in my opinion.

But like I said before they both have their demons, and while Marin may have dealt with hers, Donovan has simply pushed his aside and locked them behind doors. He doesn't do relationships no matter how Marin might make him feel. This thing between them has an expiration date and nothing will change that.

You might say... oh no another guy who doesn't like commitments or want to be in a relationship... but it really is so much more than that. I loved that Marin, while less experienced than Donovan also wasn't afraid to call him out on his shit and when all is said and done, she doesn't turn her back on him either.

And that was refreshing.

As I said, this is probably my favorite book of Loren's, but I'm excited for more from the characters in this series. Not only to catch a glimpse of these two in the future, but to find out what the future holds for some of her amazing secondary characters from this book!

Get this one on your To Be Read list immediately if Contemporary Romance is your thing!

Thank you to Berkley for the advanced copy in exchange for my honest thoughts.

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### **Gretchen (About That Story) says**

This was so fantastic! **There was this perfect balance of passion and emotion and seriously epic hotness.** I was expecting hotness, but it was just so much more! It's my first book by Roni Loren and I'm blown away! You have to read it!!!

It was amazing. Seriously AMAZING. **This book consumed me.** I was fascinated and completely pulled in. Marin and Donovan were these great characters with an undeniable connection. They were flawed but full of passion. How they meet is pretty great, super hot. But there this underlying bit of emotion happening as the details and back stories start to unfold. I love them reconnecting. The sexual tension and angst, want and need all building had me on the edge of my seat. There is this pull between the two and it just builds and grows and it becomes all consuming... it pretty much skyrockets.

About the hotness... the schmexy was off the charts! It was sensual and dirty and kinky and fun. But somehow, mixed in was this huge element of trust and emotion that made it all so much more real and meaningful. It's hard to explain, you have to read it for yourself and experience it.

I really liked all the other characters that were in the mix, it made for a really detailed story with a lot of depth. Loved Nate and how Marin was so there for him. Loved Lane. I need more Lane for sure. I need more Roni Loren in general. I am officially a fan.

**The writing was flawless to me.** An excellent read that was just so well thought out. Timing, pace, build, all of it was just fantastic. There were bits of drama mixed in but it all balances nicely with the hot and emotion. Major kudos to the author for addressing a series issue in today's society. In the midst of all the hotness, there is a lot of healing and hope. It was really just this beautiful thing.

How I can go from squirming to crying to laughing and having my heart feel full in a short amount of time I'll never know but it happened. I know I'm getting gushy but it was pretty amazing. **It's a story full of passion, love, and hope. Fantastic read!**

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### **Cristina says**

[ To my GR friends who are wary of second-chance romance...

There is a 9-year separation.

The H is pretty much a man whore so don't expect any celibacy from him.

The h slept with the H 9 years ago and never did it again (which I found a little unfair - especially since t

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### **Elle says**

#### **3\* STARS!**

My first read from Roni Loren. I was so curious about this book because someone's review really fascinated me. I didn't realize this book would be thattt long. Just look at that pages \*shudders\*. Off the clock was divided into 2 parts. Well, it was the past and the present. I have some difficulty to process this book. The doctor and biological isn't my things and it was quite unexpected in the story.

Marin Rush met someone who's gonna changed her life in the future. The past they had didn't end well. They had separate ways but nine years later, they met in unexpected circumstances that brought them together. Again. Donovan West never thought he will meet this girl after what happened in the past. Marin still 'innocent' like her first time. She's a great researcher with brilliant theory but sucks at practice with people.

Her new job demands her to face people and Donovan is her mentor. He challenges her to explore the sexuality for her job, of course.

I have trouble to connect with Marin at first. She's so typical with nothing interest me so far. Until she landed with the new job. I admitted her life was so boring. She has troubled family and a brother to take care of but she's a wonderful woman. Donovan is a train-wreck in this case. He has amazing skill and great body. Who doesn't want this sexy doctor?

Their job seems very interesting in 50% of the book. You know, sex addiction and other problems. Like I said before, it was hard to process their 'conversation' when in doctor mode. BUT... I'm starting to like them together when in sexy mode. Wow... Donovan West! \*fanned myself\* I didn't know he's a true kinky bastard. Their sex games really freakin' HOT. It was like BDSM without label. There is no 'Yes, Sir' but damn awesome. I wouldn't argue with that! Donovan has very dirty mind with dark side. Kinda love it ;) Do I need to mention they have 'role-play'? Fuck... I couldn't forget it!

*"I wanted you like this from very first moment I saw you. Back then. And now." He leaned forward, his lips brushing hers. "Tonight. I will fucking have you."*

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Anyaway, Off the Clock was a great read for me. Work hard, play hard. Yeah, it was like their motto. We just know in the outside world Donovan is a laid-back person, but inside he's still a scarred man. He couldn't forgive himself after what happened with his family. It was so sad. But Marin balanced him. She was like sunshine in Donovan's life. My only complaint is the slow-paced building plus kinda boring life before the sex happened. Huh :p

## 1-Click Addict Support Group says

Dr. Marin Rush—sex therapist. If only her clients knew how little experience she truly has. Marin has spent the past nine years in a controlled research environment, an environment that didn't require practical experience. But now out in the real world and working at the high-end, sex therapy institute The Grove, Marin quickly realizes she's in desperate need of some “hands on” experience.

Donovan West is Marin's new colleague and mentor. In the running for a big promotion which will allow Donovan the free time and opportunity to conduct research again, he knows Marin's success as a therapist hinges upon his tutelage, his experience, his knowledge. Knowledge he's willing to share with Marin, as well as his cock.

Donovan suggests that he's the perfect person for Marin to learn from—both in the office and off the clock. But they just need to keep things confidential and without strings—keeping it as a learning experience only because nobody wants to get fired or attached, right?

I need a cold shower and new panties after finishing *Off the Clock*. I love a strong heroine—and Marin fits the bill perfectly! She's just the right amount of sarcastic, independent, smart, and tough, but she's also tender, loving, forgiving, and thoughtful. She isn't afraid to try new experiences—and she needs that to handle Donovan.

Sigh. Donovan. What a beautifully flawed, smart, sexy man. He doesn't quite realize how amazing he is until Marin comes into his life. He just needs to believe he's worthy and not fuck it all up... easier said than done, he is a man after all.

I am greatly looking forward to the next book in the series. Lane. Mmm.... ~ Missy, 5 stars

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### **Annie (Under the Covers Book Blog) says**

I know I'm in the minority here but I couldn't find myself enjoying this book as much as I wanted to. Before I go into why, I want to state why I wanted to read this book. When I read the blurb, I was immediately intrigued. As someone who has a background in Psychology, I get excited whenever I come across a book that deals with therapy. My experience with these type of books in the past have been ....bad to say the least. I always find that authors always seem to get psychologist and therapists wrong. There is only one character that stands out in my mind that has been done right and that's Dr. Mira from J.D. Robb's series. Again, I know it's a completely different type of psychologist but I tend to be a stickler about those kind of things. But since I've read and enjoyed Roni's books in the past, I was sure that she could pull this off.

Unfortunately the author veers away from what sex therapists really do and changes things up so much that it comes across as completely ridiculous. The first 20% off the book is set in the past where the hero and heroine meet. The hero is doing research on dirty talk while the heroine works in the sleep lab. If dirty talk was a subject of research at my university, you can bet your ass that's what I would've majored in! Donovan asks Marin to help him by listening to his recordings of dirty talk and tell him which one turns her on. She does this privately but obviously can't resist touching herself in the process. Donovan sees her and they end up having sex, which also happens to be Mari's first time. She ends up walking away from him and then fast forward years later, they end up having to work together.

My issue here is that the set up takes way too long. I feel like the book would've been stronger had we started reading when they are older and have to work with one another. But you're probably thinking, what about the backstory? It sets up the whole book! Yes, it does. But spending the first 20% of the book on backstory doesn't start the book off on the right foot. There's plenty of other way to communicate the backstory while also progresses with the rest of the plot. Also, I didn't like that Donovan completely forgot who she was when they meet again and when he finally does, he doesn't want to work with her. That's not romantic, nor does it progress the plot in any way.

Since Donovan is now a sex therapist, we see a lot of his other colleagues and the rest of his practice. Again, I'm not trying to be a downer here but I shudder at the thought of a real sex therapist reading this. I know this is fiction and that the author can change whatever the hell he or she wants in their book but I feel like the very basis of this series was stripped, leaving me very disappointed.

I will say though that if you don't have a background in Psychology like me, all these things may not bother you as much as it did for me. Loren delivers on the sexy times big time. She gets very creative but at the same time, it's nothing that I haven't seen before or something that can make the book and allow me to disregard everything else I read. I probably won't continue reading this particular series but I look forward to reading the other books that Roni Loren writes.

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### **Jessica says**

Hot damn...wow omg. I've laughed, blushed and was flustered throughout this whole book. Not only do I recommend this author but this series is a winner.

At the end of this book there is a short story. It's called One Night and Only it's about Bianca one of the clients who have seen them for therapy. It was so good especially to know what happened on her date after she spent all that time with the Lane the sex surrogate. She bumps into Eli while she waited for the therapist. Eli will see the docs because he's a sex addict.

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