



# Never Been Ready

*J.L. Berg*

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## **Never Been Ready** J.L. Berg

Forever...

Starts with one night.

Swearing off love, Leah Morgan finds no harm in one night of unbridled, mind-blowing fun. After all, what could go wrong with a single night of amazing heat and passion? Leah just never expected it to be so right. The memories of Declan James' mesmerizing gaze and searing touch still invade her every thought.

And now, one night is not nearly enough--for either of them.

But when Declan's past comes barreling back, neither one of them are ready for what entails. Together, they're forced to face their fears as old insecurities try to rip them apart. Can what they've created withstand what they thought they'd never be ready for?

Please Note: This book contains adult language and scenes. Not intended for readers under the age of 18.

## **Never Been Ready Details**

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Author : J.L. Berg

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Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, New Adult, Contemporary, Sociology, Abuse

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# From Reader Review Never Been Ready for online ebook

**Deb Dee (autumn delaney) says**

**FIVE SO-HAPPY-TO-FINALLY-READ-IT STARS**

You can read teasers here.

Read **Prologue** here.

*Received an ARC in exchange for an honest review.*

Well, wow! This is such an amazing read that I finished it up in one night. Oh how I wish for more!

This is Declan and Leah's story. It started as a one time thing but it's the start of their forever...

It was a sweet, hot and fun story. You can tell from the beginning that they clicked.

**LEAH**

I am 100% happy that Leah was not a whiny, annoying, i-wish-never-to-read-again kind of heroine. She was funny, smart and (from the mental image i have of her) she's hot!

**DECLAN**

Okay, I have a thing for those Hollywood, reformed bad boy type. And Declan definitely fit the bill. He was crazy about Leah but in an endearing way.

I hope to read more from the Ready series and I wish I'm right with my hunch who the next story will be.  
\*cross fingers\*

Again, thank you Jennifer for allowing me to read and review your work. It had a blast reading it!

**Would I recommend this book? 101% YES!**

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**Daisy says**

Can't wait to read Leah's story which I know I will get to read more of Clare & Logan.

### **Kara says**

cutesy book!

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### **Anahita says**

#### **3.5 Star**

When I read the first book I was fascinated by Leah character and I really enjoyed reading Leah & Declan story and the way their relationship grow between them. And I liked and enjoyed the presence of Logan, & Carlar in the story.

The only complaint that I have is that, the storyline was very predictable! but still it was a good read for me =)

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### **Lara says**

the good reviews baffle me.

i made it fifteen pages before i threw in the towel. i read a lot of romance and i mean a lot. i can live with not liking one of the characters but not both of them, so i didn't like leah right away when she complained about the woman's birthing plan. she may have delivered a lot of babies (as is her job) but since she's never had one she doesn't really know what its like and especially for someone's first time. then she curses at the dad, if i was his wife and overheard that i would scratch her eyes out. if you don't like delivering babies why do it? then we get to declan, and i very much like actor romances, and right away he is whining. oh i'm so sorry you had to lower yourself to acting to get your foot in the door of an industry that thousands clamor to be in every year. oh, and you were successful at it, poor you. and oh, they like you so so much they are giving you producer credit and allowing you to pick the production site.

that's it i'm out. i hope these two end up together and make each other miserable with their woe is me bs for the rest of their lives.

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### **Chu says**

Review Originally Posted at: Book Freak

PURCHASE IT ??? AMAZON

I can't believe I'm reading Leah's story!!!!

After finishing the first book, I got excited knowing that she too will have her story. This girl had gotten my

attention being the tough, funny, naughty and super great best friend for Clare. Now that Clare had gotten her HFN with Logan, it was her time.

My heart went to Leah after a very traumatic childhood. No child should ever suffer and made feel worthless, much more unloved. Her father drunk himself to oblivion when her mother walked out on them. Furthermore, her boyfriend bailed on her when things get tough. So why would she waste any more time on men and love? Then Declan came along – they had an amazing night, but it was just that ONE NIGHT, or so she allowed herself to believe.

**Now he's back and HE WANTS HER ON HIS BED.**

Hollywood star or not, I was amazed on Leah's self control when she decided not to become his booty call. If he wants her on his bed – it would be HER decision. NOT HIS. If Declan is going to keep this casual, the game was on.

*Declan had a way of turning me inside out, twisting me in knots, and just when I thought I had recovered, he'd do it all over again.*

Declan was desperate to give her everything she wants for her just to be on his bed.

*She haunted me, filled my dreams and made me ache.*

He can't believe that someone refused him, he was not used to it. But this was Leah – she was something else, she was different from every girl he knew.

He tried to keep it casual, to keep his emotions in check, but Leah was too good to pass up. How can you not fall in love with this selfless girl? Despite being drunk, she constantly checked and bring groceries to her father, she dotes on Maddie, and even do volunteer works. She's a superwoman!

Everything was going perfect until the past came back to them – it was a twist I really didn't see coming and gave me a bit of surprised. It was unexpected, but again, Leah came to the rescue. This girl, despite being raised in an unconventional manner without really some parental guidance (so to speak), was amazing with people, most especially with kids. Her compassion is remarkable.

Watching them fall in love, and make it through the tough times had me teary-eyed. They were a really great couple who started out casually, and found out one couldn't live without the other. Their relationship had withstood the strongest winds and storms – and none of them, most especially Leah, didn't give up.

From a happy-go-lucky Hollywood actor, Declan made a 180 change and became someone worth of her. He got a little scared, which is normal, but he quickly realize that it is scarier losing Leah.

This is Leah's fairytale – it has dungeons, dragons, her not-so-perfect prince charming, great sidekick friends, and most of all, a fairytale ending she really deserved.

J.L. Berg had once again done it. I loved the first book, and I loved this one too, truly a must-read series! I can't wait for her next work!

•Complimentary Copy was given in exchange for an honest review.•

More of my reviews at <http://reviewsofabookmaniac.blogspot.com>

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### **Pamela says**

Except for being a tad too long (my opinion), this is one amazing romance novel. Written well with the most intriguing characters that burn up the sheets, it's a novel that captures you from the beginning only to let you up for much-needed air when you reach the end. J.L. Berg ("Berg") really knows how to deliver a story of two people who fall in love.

Gone is the couple who declare their love for one another after having sex for the first time. Gone is the couple who decide to get married within 24-48 hours of having sex. Gone is the ridiculous and asinine bouts of angst, and the miscommunication or lack of, all of which tends to break up the couple at the heart of the story. Gone is the heroine who is strong and intelligent at the beginning of the story only to end up TSTL once she has sex with the hero. Gone is the hero or heroine trying to save the other from heartbreak by denying their feelings, or trying to run them out of their life with lies and deception. What we have is a well-developed story about two people who fall in love with each other over a period of time; who support and stand by each other during the good times, and more importantly, the bad times. I could really feel the love that Declan and Leah had for each other. Berg also reintroduces Logan, Clare, and Maddie, from book 1, When You're Ready and instead of keeping them in the background, Berg includes them throughout making them an integral part of the story, in the end enriching the story even more. I truly enjoyed this novel, and thought it was even better than the first. I look forward to reading the next novel in the series. This is a definite must-read for those who love a great romance that also includes some hot sex.

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### **London says**

Hero sleeps with many OW during 6 month separation even though he wanted the heroine. Heroine doesn't because she can't stop thinking about him. Douche bag shows up at her door looking for an easy lay 6 months later.

I'm sure in the authors typical style the hero gets his shit together quickly, however, I just couldn't get into it after reading the sample.

No thanks

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### **Carey Heywood says**

This book focuses on Leah, a side character from When You're Ready. (OMG, READ WHEN YOU'RE READY!!! ps. have tissues!) I loved her in WYR. She is independent and has a take no prisoners approach to life. I also loved her chemistry with Declan. This book was HOT! One thing some really sexy books are missing is the plot and character development to really get you invested in the story.

That is NOT the case with this book. It was well crafted with layers to the story that pull you deeper into their lives. I could not put this book down. I had to know what happened next. Fabulous book and one of my new favorite authors. I can't wait to read Ready # 3!

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### **Svenja says**

Zuckersüß ♥

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### **Anne OK says**

This was the kind of romance that grabs your heart and doesn't let go. I loved the chemistry between Declan and Leah - it was off-the-charts delish! Hollywood playboy meets his match. She's a labor and delivery nurse. He's alpha male and demanding. She's sassy, witty and alluring. He's only in town for six months. They agree to an arrangement. It will never last --

J.L. Berg did a fantastic job with the second book in the "Ready" series. For me, it was a better read than Clare and Logan's story and I thoroughly enjoyed it from start to finish.

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### **Hanne says**

Loved it! Amazing addition to the Ready series ♥

**Full review to come in 2018**

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### **†† ?aisy ♥ †† says**

Review to come soon xx

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### **~ Becc ~ says**

Never Been Ready is book two in JL Berg's Ready series and Leah and Declan do in fact meet in the first book but this one works perfectly well as a standalone. There's enough gaps filled in during the earliest part of the book to bring you completely up to speed so if you haven't read When You're Ready, you're still good to go with this one.

Well, this was just a wonderful, feel-good romance. Declan, the main male protagonist performs a perfect

Darcesque style transformation from arrogant arse to worthy hero all brought about by his love for a woman he doesn't realise is his very reason for breathing.

Declan and Leah met six months ago through their mutual friend, Logan. Declan is a hotshot movie actor who only really wants to direct and, due to past experiences, he goes through women like a hot knife through butter, never making any promises and rapidly moving on to the next one. BUT, he can't get Leah Morgan out of his mind after their one night of passion and, as he now finds himself back in town, he decides they need one more night together so he can get her out of his system. Leah is in no way prepared to be his booty call and lays down her own terms and conditions and they agree on an exclusive friends with benefits arrangement for the time Declan is back in town.

Declan James wasn't some pussy who waited around for a woman. Women waited around for me, and it was time I got back in the game. This addiction or infatuation I had would cure itself over time. Screw this. I was done waiting.

As you can probably see, Declan is a bit of an arse at the beginning of the book but it's a very sexy arse and I quickly forgave him! He's had a troubled childhood, a failed relationship that deeply hurt him and his movie star status has got him behaving like a total manwhore. He and Leah share an incredible attraction but Declan knows he's in trouble when he finds himself spending more and more time with Leah willingly instead of just enjoying her for sex and it actually scares him a little.

Lines had blurred, and I'd felt myself growing closer to her. Although I still felt every ounce of fiery passion for her, I also felt something deeper brewing. I'd put the brakes on and only made our usual house calls, never lingering too long even though my gut had told me to stay.

Leah, as we know from reading book one, is an incredibly giving person – she gives her whole heart into everything she does and is incredibly selfless. When people need her, she drops everything to help them and this includes her good-for-nothing feckless alcoholic father. She's also not been able to get that one night with Declan James out of her head and very much wants a repeat performance but this time it will be on her terms and, oh boy, how hot is it when these two get together? Talk about your super-nova hot up-against-the-wall schmexin!!

This was a perfect read for a lazy Sunday when the weather outside is awful – I completely devoured the book in just one sitting and I am a sucker for a apparent bad boy hero brought to his knees by his forever girl and Declan, despite his manwhore status at the beginning of the book, really was a hero to fall in love with as he slowly realises and accepts that no man is an island and he really can't live without Leah. There's plenty of challenges for these two to face as issues from both their pasts come back to haunt them but, all in all, this is fairly low on angst and really high on goofy-grin loveliness. We also get to catch up with Logan, Claire and Maddie and meet a couple of potential future book boyfriends.

It's the perfect combination of emotional romance and super sexy bedroom scenes with a hero and heroine you can't help but adore and really root for – just great contemporary romance and I think this would appeal



to fans of Ella Frank's Exquisite series.

4.5 feel good stars

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## Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

### 3.5 "MADE THIS CYNIC BELIEVE IN LOVE" STARS

Well I was wrong. I took a look at the blurb – heroine gives up on love, Hollywood golden boy, womanizer changes ways for said heroine – doesn't this sound like something I've read only 1000 times already? Though the book is based off of an overused and regurgitated premise, the earnest and genuine love Declan and Leah have cannot be denied and no matter how much I tried to be my normal cynical self, it was impossible to **NOT** fall for these characters.

*"That kiss has left me awe-struck. It was earth-shattering in its simplicity, mind-numbing in its intimacy, and completely raw in its emotional depths."*

Leah's had a shitty childhood. Her dad gets the nomination for asshole of the year and after having her boyfriend bail on her when she needed him the most, Leah no longer has faith in men. She's naturally kind-hearted nurse and a fun friend to have around, and loyal to a fault.

Declan got burned by love in the past and has no intention of letting it happen again. Dubbed as Hollywood's golden boy, he'd rather direct movies than act and covets his privacy. Rule #1 is to never go back for seconds until he meets Leah.

Their relationship goes from sex buddies ? friends ? boyfriend/girlfriend ? LOVE!!

Why not 5 stars?

Okay so this section is where I can gripe and complain! Here's what I didn't like:

**1. Hotshot nickname.** It's endearing but overused =\_=

**2. Predictability of the storyline.** Honestly I predicted everything that happened in the book so that took away from the thrill of reading something unknown. There was this nice little twist around the 70% mark

that got my full attention but other than that it's nothing I haven't read before.

**\*\***Number 2 is what clinched it as a 3.5 rating rather than 4. Until the “revelation,” there were many times I was tempted to put the book down and read something different. In other words, predictability equates boredom.**\*\***

Regardless, I am **ready** for book 3, which I assume is Garrett's story?

*ARC kindly provided by author in exchange for an honest review.*

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