



# Tempted by Trouble

*Michelle Smart*

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## **Tempted by Trouble** Michelle Smart

Socialite Pippa Rowantree has always provided excellent fodder for the UK's gossip rags. After another unfortunate scandal sends the gossips into a feeding frenzy, her shamed family retaliates by forcing her into hiding at old family friend Marco Capello's lush Caribbean estate—literally the last place on earth she wants to be. As far as Marco's concerned, wild child Pippa has ruined his life once and he'll be damned if he lets her do it again. But it's hard to reconcile the adolescent he knew with the mature, beautiful woman who stands before him. Soon he's questioning if everything the media is claiming about Pippa is the truth or if he should trust his heart.

## **Tempted by Trouble Details**

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Author : Michelle Smart

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# From Reader Review Tempted by Trouble for online ebook

## Anna says

Tempted by Trouble is a rather difficult book for me to rate. And it's difficult because even though I really enjoyed reading it, there were some aspects of the story that made me want to bang my head on any available surface! And the main thing that made me feel that way was Marco, the main hero of the story.

But let's take things from the start. Tempted by Trouble is a typical romantic story about second chance in love. Pippa is a socialite, the golden girl who has everything right on her feet and chooses to throw them away and be a party animal and Marco, her step uncle, who is her first and only love but doesn't want to ever see her again because he believes she has destroyed his life, or does he?

The setting couldn't be more perfect for me, seeing that it takes place in the Caribbean, and the story, well, it's right up my alley. Add to that the fact that Michelle Smart did a wonderful job both with her writing and the way she developed her characters in such a small story and you get why I really enjoyed this story. I mean we're talking about a rather short story, but still, Smart managed to provide her characters with a solid past, to explore them throughout her story and make her readers care for them. That is a great accomplishment in my book! While I was reading this story I felt more than once my heart breaking for Pippa, the way everyone treated her and the way no one could understand that she was so messed up and all she needed was some love. All she needed was for someone to care about her. And maybe because I cared so much about Pippa, I hated so much Marco and his behavior towards her. Granted, maybe Marco's behavior was justified but still, you never get to treat someone in that way. No matter how much you believe you were wronged, being so short sighted speaks volumes of your own character. For the best part of the book I just wanted to slap both Marco and Pippa. Well, mostly Marco for treating Pippa that way and then I just wanted to slap some sense into Pippa for still dreaming of a man that treated her that way for no apparent reason. He was just horrible to her right until the end. And in case you're wondering, no, he didn't redeem himself by then. Even if he tried to protect Pippa and changed his behavior towards her, I still couldn't forgive him his previous horrible behavior. He was a man with such a huge ego and no matter what he did couldn't change that.

As you can guess, I got quite passionate with this book right? Which is a good thing because it means I got invested in the story, and that is where I find it difficult to rate this book. Because I loved it, but I really hated the main hero. One other thing that I quite didn't like also, were the sex scenes. While I found the whole writing style really good, the sex scenes were a failure. They were very cheesy and descriptions like:

"The first press of his lips on hers turned her bones into fondue." or

"All that mattered was being in his arms again and being kissed with such passion and hunger her whole being turned into noodles"

just killed my mood. Add to that some really unnecessary commands while in the act like "Take me." or "Kiss me." more than once and yeah, the sex scenes were definitely not my favorite part of this story.

Anyway, all in all, Tempted by Trouble is a decent story, well written for the most part of it, that I really enjoyed reading if not for the main hero. He was my main source of problems while reading this book, but Pippa just made up for him. She was one memorable character, so strong and so kind that I just loved her. And maybe because I loved her so much I hated Marco for the way he treated her. Michelle Smart did an

incredible job and I just can't wait for her next story!

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## **Julie (Manga Maniac Cafe) says**

4 stars

Ok, Marco redeemed himself. I enjoyed this fast-paced, angsty read.

### **Full Review**

I love the premise for *Tempted by Trouble*. Pippa is a socialite who has gained notoriety due to her bad behavior. I have to admit that I was drawn to this book because I was hoping Pippa would be bad. No such luck. She's now the reformed Pippa, working hard to make ends meet and forget about her distant, uncaring father. She blames her step-mother in part for her father's rejection of her, and ever since her mother died when she was a young girl, she has been trying to get attention – any kind of attention. From her father or from Marco Capello, a family friend. Marco's kindness has earned him a crush that just won't die, and as the years roll by, Pippa thinks up more and more outlandish ways to try to get him to notice her. Pink hair, loud clothes, bold makeup, and even bolder behavior. In the folly of her youth, Pippa has become a party animal, and since there's no one who seems to care, she just spirals faster and faster out of control.

Flash forward to the present. Twenty-five year old Pippa has left her father's house and has been working waitress jobs to pay her bills. She has given up the parties, and she's given up on her father. He didn't want her around when she was a child, so why should she be hurt when he doesn't want her around now that she's an adult? Though she's striving to put her past behind her, the paparazzi won't leave her alone. They stalk her and snap pictures of her every move, plastering lies about her in tabloids, online, and anywhere else they can find the space for their stories. Because she has a record and has had her share of encounters with the police, she knows that nobody would believe the truth, so she tries to ignore the negative press about her.

After being assaulted by her employer, Pippa finds herself in another mess. She's going to be charged with assault, and because her boss was unconscious and bleeding all over the floor, the police don't believe her story. Her father bails her out of jail and trundles her off to Marco's home in the Caribbean, where she's to stay until her case goes to court. Battered, bruised, and resigned, Pippa's welcome to Marco's home is less than enthusiastic. He tells her the only reason that he's agreed to allow her to stay in his house is because his mother asked him to, and because his house is large enough that they shouldn't have to see each other. Oh, boy! Someone else who believes all of her bad press.

I didn't like Marco at first, and I was worried that I never would. He always believed the worst of Pippa, kept flinging her past in her face, and treated her like a child. He was certain that the assault was her fault, even after seeing the painful and vivid bruises marring her skin. He was so pompous! So arrogant! So alpha that I could almost smell the testosterone wafting from my iPad. Ugh! He was so Italian! He was the worst of my relatives rolled into one angry character who kept blaming a messed up, lonely kid for his problems. Ugh! again! His light bulb moment was almost too late for me to accept his remorse, but when it finally happened, I believed that he realized he had done wrong and that he needed to make up for his poor behavior.

Pippa, I liked right away. She's carrying so much baggage that it's hard to not feel sorry for her, even though that would be the last thing she would ever want. She is a fighter and a survivor, and somehow she's going to make it out of this mess, too. The thought of going to jail is daunting, but she refuses Marco's offer to foot

the bill for a cut-throat defense attorney. She doesn't like to be in anyone's debt, and she's damned if she'll be in his. While I wanted her to just give in a little and take Marco's help – after all, she is looking at jail time here – I could understand where she's coming from. The men in her life certainly hadn't treated her well, or given her cause to trust them, so it made sense that she would be wary of accepting his help.

While I wasn't always a fan of Marco, he did turn around near the end of the book. Pippa's emotional and personal troubles are immense, and I thought that the resolution of her relationship with her estranged father was too simplistic and not convincing. Still, I found *Tempted by Trouble* a quick, engrossing read that kept me engaged in the story. With the warmer weather coming, this would be a great title to toss in your bag for a leisurely afternoon at the beach.

Grade: B

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## **Callixta says**

Good book but some scenes are longish and the plot is slow; it takes a lot of time before the hero believes in the heroine and she's not a bad girl, not pas a long shot...; A classical romance.

<http://www.blue-moon.fr/spip.php?arti...>

### Avis de Callixta

Enatangled Publishing nous a habitués à d'excellents livres de romance contemporaine. Voilà une nouvelle auteure qui ne va pas déroger à la règle même si son roman n'est pas sans défaut et que certains passages nuancent l'impression que nous pouvons en avoir.

Pippa Rowantree est une jeune femme riche qui a passé les années de son adolescence à faire la fête et à ternir sa réputation. Maintenant, à vingt-cinq ans elle vient de connaître un énième scandale impliquant son patron qu'elle a envoyé à l'hôpital. Elle est alors envoyée manu militari par son père dans une petite île des Caraïbes auprès d'un ami de la famille qu'elle a beaucoup aimé, en attendant que la tension retombe. Pippa va donc retrouver Marco, son amour d'adolescente. Mais elle a bien changé.

Michelle Smart ne démerite jamais et écrit une histoire sympathique mais comme c'est souvent le cas chez cet éditeur, l'intrigue est très classique et rappelle des histoires typiques de la romance Harlequin. Rien de mal à cela, surtout quand le style est dépoussiéré et le rythme enlevé. C'est dans ce domaine que l'auteure ne réussit que partiellement son coup.

Certes l'histoire est moderne, montrant une héroïne forte, bien décidée à se faire respecter et à casser les préjugés de ceux qui l'entourent. Certes, également, Michelle Smart, agrémente son histoire de charmantes scènes sensuelles comme maintenant toute romance contemporaine doit en contenir mais elle ne va pas vraiment au-delà. C'est en fait dans le rythme de l'histoire que les choses bloquent un peu. Nous resterons ainsi longtemps au stade du refus des deux héros de s'écouter. Marco refuse absolument de voir que la jeune femme a changé. En plus, cela fait déjà cinq ans... Il lui jette sans cesse à la figure son passé compliqué mais pas si terrible que cela. De la même façon, Pippa a longtemps été une adolescente rebelle à cause de relations familiales difficiles avec son père et en quelques lignes, des années d'aigreur et d'hostilité vont disparaître.

Ainsi si certaines choses vont trop vite, d'autres se déroulent trop lentement.

Nous nous retrouvons donc avec une romance très classique avec une opposition forte entre deux personnalités égales qui s'affrontent un peu stérilement. Heureusement, Marco le viril héros d'origine italienne, s'adoucit et finit par évoluer sinon le roman aurait été totalement insipide. Michelle Smart a cependant une écriture intéressante. Espérons qu'elle écrira des romances un peu plus intenses et rythmées pour nous plaire davantage !

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## **StMargarets says**

Poor little rich girl is in trouble again and the hero is coerced by his mother to allow her to stay at his Grand Cayman island retreat. Heroine is being prosecuted for assault by her restaurateur boss after he beat her up for resisting his advances. She hit him on the head with a pan (Skillet alert) and he hit his head again on the way down, so the paramedics thought she was the aggressor.

Former party girl heroine has kept her nose clean for five years and has been estranged from her blue-blood father - but the paparazzi is still interested in anything she does - hence her need for a hiding place. The hero is a billionaire computer guy who is the nephew of the heroine's stepmother. He's known the heroine since she was a sad 8 year-old and he was 18 and a guest at his aunt's wedding to the heroine's father. She had a huge crush on him and . . . oh, forget it. A checklist will suffice:

Poor little rich girl checklist:

Mother died

Father ignored her

Indifferent stepmother

Endless boarding schools

Acting out behavior

Hero was only friend as she grew up

Heroine has a secret talent (composing music)

Heroine came on to hero at her 18th birthday party

Hero brutally rejected her

The publicity from the heroine's behavior messed up the hero's engagement and investment in his fledgling company by his future father -in-law.

Hero now hates her.

Heroine has phobias, dreams and panic attack because she watched her mother drown at age 7

So the rest of the story is the heroine healing from her physical and psychological wounds. There is a lovely housekeeper who unexpectedly has a backstory that is as poignant as the heroine's. I enjoyed their bond.

The hero is awful to the heroine at the beginning, but then he realizes he's been holding on to some pretty warped ideas about the past as well.

I liked the scene with her father at the end and how the H/h finally got together. (view spoiler)

The epilogue is \*not\* filled with babies, but it shows the heroine's fulfillment. (view spoiler) And that makes more sense for this broken and now-healed character.

This doesn't break new ground, but it's a solid story if you like this trope.

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### **Janna Shay says**

*Tempted by Trouble* is a romance that will pull on your heart strings and bring out a myriad of emotions in you. Michelle Smart does a wonderful job of creating a love story that centers on a woman who has had to deal with the loss of a mother, and the effects that loss has had on her life as she struggles on her road to happiness. She weaves a sensual romance in the midst of these emotions and pulls it off with style and skill.

Pippa Rowantree, a woman rejected by her father since the day her mother died, when she was a small child, has learned to be independent and rely on only herself. A woman who has resorted to many antics to attract much needed and desired attention from her father. Antics which have only resulted in bad press. In fact, the only kindness or attention she ever received as a young woman was from a friend of the family, Marco Capello. Now as a grown up woman, she is again receiving bad press. Only this time she's been falsely accused of assault and the paparazzi are having a field day.

The only avenue available to her is to seek refuge on a Caribbean island owned by her long-time friend, Marco. But Marco is not helping her because of any altruistic wish to aid her in her hour of need, but rather because his mother has requested it of him. He sees Pippa as a woman who will go to any length to get attention, even if it's bad. The animosity between them is thick, the emotions are high, the sexual tension sizzles, and the sparks fly as they struggle against the scorching chemistry between them.

This is a sexy story that deals with the turmoil of loss and the hope of reconciliation. It is about attraction and feelings, expectations and love, sadness and happily ever after, and of trust and learning to let go. It is an engaging and sensual romance that will have you reading far into the night. A definite must read.

I received this book from Entangled Publishing  
in exchange for my honest review.  
Janna Shay  
Author of *Fair Play*

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### **Stephanie Collins says**

Marco isn't happy to have to be a babysitter for his spoiled rotten stepsister. He is only doing this as a favor to his mother but he's also got his own agenda and thoughts when it comes to this PITA woman. He's made up his mind about her and no one is going to change it. After all she managed to ruin his initial business plans all those years ago by her behavior and with this latest incident he's convinced she is still nothing but a selfish brat. He is a very driven, smart man who has made an amazing career for himself despite the initial set-back and other than not having a wife or girlfriend he's happily content being this powerful man. I did enjoy that he is drawn to her from the moment he sees her again but I didn't enjoy that he was so horrible to her from moment one without even taking a second to listen to or pay attention to her reactions just in case

what was being reported was false. I did like that once he found out the truth he jumped in to try to make things right.

Pippa has been accused of assaulting her boss and putting him in the hospital. Did she do it? Yes but it was in self defense but no one wants to listen to her or even pay attention to the sheer amount of injuries she has sustained. Instead the press and her own family have painted her the aggressor and she faces having to defend herself in court against these serious charges. Her father dumps her on the plane to head to Marco's not even acting like he is supportive of her in the least or that he even cares that she was hurt or might be innocent. She's reeling from this latest disaster and just wants to be past this and living back in her now unassuming life doing what she can to make up for her past mistakes. she doesn't drink or party any more but no matter what she does the press makes her out to be this wild party girl. She's always had a thing for Marco but made a horrible mistake that he has never forgiven her for. Did she make mistakes growing up? Yes. Has she learned from them? Yes. Is she still extremely attracted to Marco? Yes. She really is a great person if people would look past the shield she put up around herself to compensate for being treated poorly by her father after her mother's death. I was especially happy that she found a friend/mother in his housekeeper but also happy that the stepmom really did want to help her even if Pippa wasn't always the nicest to her.

Thanks to NetGalley.com and Entangled Publishing for giving me the chance to read this in exchange for my honest review. They are a good match for one another and help heal wounds that both had from their pasts. Take a chance on it.

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## **Erotica Book Club says**

\*\*\*\* EROTICA BOOK CLUB REVIEW \*\*\*\*

### **TEMPTED BY TROUBLE**

By Michelle Smart

Pippa Rowantree has loved Marco Capello for years and when he knocked her back on her 18th birthday she went off the rails and became a wild child, now she has settled down but finds herself accused of assaulting her boss.

Pippa comes to stay with Marco to recover from her trauma she finds that she still feels attracted to him but he tries to ignore her.

A lovely, easily read romance that has you wanting to shake the arrogance out of Marco and feeling sorry for Pippa.

I really got into Pippas head and it was great to see how she went of the rails and how she put her life back in order. There was a few emotional moments too but it all came together nicely.

I am giving this one 4 stars

~Jane~



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## Nina says

### **\*\*3.5 Stars\*\***

From the book cover and description, I assumed that *Tempted by Trouble* was going to be your typical "boy meets girls, they fall in love, and happily ever after." What surprised me was that this story that Michelle Smart has penned was way more than that. It was much deeper, more emotional, and heartbreaking at the same time.

Ms. Smart's writing was smooth and the story flowed nicely. As for the characters, Pippa & Marco, they were well developed. Pippa has had a hard past and was quite the rebel in her early days, but one can understand why she did the things she did once her childhood story unravelled. She was young, alone and afraid and had needed love, comfort, and reassurance. I just wanted to give her good ol' hugs throughout the story. She had some very heartbreaking moments in the book where my heart just broke out for her. For example, when Pippa was lying in the hospital bed with Marco there reassuring her that there are people who love her and want nothing but the best for her, she replied back, "Name one person who loves me." My heart just broke into pieces.

As for Marco...I wanted to do this to him on more than one occasion throughout the story.

I had mixed feelings towards him and it was hard for me to like him at first honestly. His derogatory remarks, doubts, and attitude towards Pippa was a bit more than I could stand. I wasn't sure if I was ever going to warm up to him, but thankfully I did...towards the end. I would've liked for him to grovel more as I honestly think that he didn't fully redeemed himself before the story ended, but that's just according to me. Furthermore, I felt that the resolution with her father came a bit too easily and the HEA came a bit too quickly for me.

Yet, in the end I thought that *Tempted by Trouble* was a quick & sexy read with just the right amount of emotions. It was an engaging read as I was up long past my bedtime and finished *Tempted by Trouble* in two sittings.

\*ARC courtesy of the author in exchange for an honest review.

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## Melody May (What I'm Reading) says

Originally posted on What I'm Reading

Let me just say, I'm so sorry for putting *Tempted by Trouble* by Michelle Smart off. Seriously LOVED this book, I couldn't put it down, even with the headache. This tempting story is worth the time to read. Let me share what this story is about and my thoughts.

Pippa Rowantree is forced to go into exile for a couple weeks while the situation of the scandal slowly dies down. Force to stay with Marco Capello who just sees her as the same party girl that she was seven years prior. Somehow they need to keep out of each others way in order to find peace. Yet, that isn't in the cards for them.

I felt so sorry for Pippa. I don't know, but how many people do stupid things when they were younger. I mean seriously, some people need to make mistakes and learn from them. Pippa was one of those people. However, Marco kept throwing her past in her face. No matter how hard she tried to explain she had change, Marco wouldn't hear. He basically blamed her for ruining his life. Oh man, that pretty sucked.

I liked Marco and disliked at the same time. He was so judgmental towards Pippa it made me dislike him. Then when you read what happen to his life, you kind of understand. However, I kept thinking she was still a teen when all that happen. So, I had mix feelings towards Marco.

Seriously, LOVED the story. Tempted by Trouble definitely tugged on my heart. Throughout the story I felt those tears wanting to come out, because I felt for Pippa. Towards the end the flood gates couldn't be closed. Fantastic read! I personally like the animosity between Pippa and Marco, because of Marco wasn't willing to reconcile with the past. So, if you are looking for a read that tugs at your heart and hope of reconciliation, you might want to read Tempted by Trouble. I must say it was certainly a tempting read.

Copy provided by the publisher

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## **Janice says**

Pippa Rowantree has always provided excellent fodder for the UK's gossip rags. After another unfortunate scandal, her family retaliates by forcing her into hiding at old family friend Marco Capello's estate.

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## **Jenee -Jenee's Book Blog says**

“You are not alone. You are not adrift.”-Marco

This story is about a lost little girl who acted out her entire life to get the attention of the people who were supposed to be there to love her . There are so many times while reading this book that I just stopped and thought about how I would feel if I had gone through everything Pippa had been through. Such a sad little girl to have watched her loving mother die at such a young age and then within a year of burying her, to be a bridesmaid in her father’s wedding to another woman. My heart broke for the little girl without a mother figure to guide her at such a young and impressionable time in her life. She couldn’t even rely on her father to comfort her because he couldn’t stand to remember the wife he lost. So what does she do...she acts out to get attention by telling lies, drinking, wearing skimpy clothes, and in the end hurts the one person she has always loved and looked to for friendship and love, Marco.

Marco grew up in a loving family that struggled a bit with money. He worked very hard to get to a point where he could start up his own company, with an investor, at the age of 28 (Pippa was 18 at the time). I don’t want to say too much but he was close to having everything he thought he ever wanted at 28, until an incident happened at Pippa’s 18th birthday party that ruined everything. Needless to say Marco has held a

grudge against the party girl Pippa who almost single handedly in one night destroyed everything he had worked his entire life to build. I truly believed that Marco cared for the young girl that grew into an attention seeking young woman. He knew she had a crush on him but with them being 10 years apart he just tried not to acknowledge her feelings. Fast forward 7 years and we have a very angry, hurt, and vengeful Marco who never received an apology from Pippa for everything she did. He says many hurtful things to Pippa, not only because he is still angry, but because its easier to hate someone then to admit you might love them. Feeling desire for Pippa after everything she did to him is unacceptable to Marco so he pushes her away any way he can.

“When, because of you, I was on the verge of losing the business I had put everything I had into creating, I used it to propel me forward the achieve even greater things. I have made something of my life and have been able to give something back to my family and to society. What have you given back Pippa?”-Marco

“Yes, I screwed up and yes, I’m sorry. More sorry than you could ever know. But that does not give you or anyone else the right to judge me on my adolescent behavior. I have been self-sufficient for five years, so don’t you daresay I don’t know what it’s like to struggle and scrimp and save for every penny. You don’t have a monopoly on being poor.”-Pippa

“I never asked for your help. I’m sorry if I sound ungrateful but as far as I’m concerned, you can stick your help and your lawyer up your arse.”-Pippa

“You’re in my blood,” “I can’t fight it anymore. I’ve never wanted anyone the way I want you.”-Marco

“You are not alone. You are not adrift. There are people who love you and who want nothing but the best for you.”-Marco

Pippa made his blood sing. She made him laugh. She infuriated him. There were times when he would gladly throttle her. Through it all, one constant remained: he would walk on broken glass for her.-Marco

“I allowed your history—our history—to cloud my judgment when you first arrived here, and for that I can only apologize.”-Marco

Because the author didn’t make them instantly fall in love, and have Marco forgive her within the first half of the book, it really felt like a genuine relationship. I could feel their emotions, anger, desire, confusion, and pain. There was a constant struggle to get through the past before they could address their current feelings for each other. I do like that Marco was able to admit he was wrong in judging her current situation by her past actions. The book did a wonderful job of getting inside their heads and understanding how they felt.

“When you realize that I truly do love you and that I’m not going to cast you aside, and when you stop being so scared and realize you love me too, come back to me.”-Marco

“The only faith I have is in you.”-Pippa

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## **Fiona Marsden says**

This is a lovely story of two people who have lots of history. The early history when Pippa is a youngster is good, but as motherless Pippa's life spirals out of control their friendship is destroyed.

The last straw, at her 18th birthday, almost destroyed Marco's life while his reaction to the events sends Pippa on the final step toward self destruction.

Reunited seven years later, there is a lot of anger and regret. Neither one of them understood the full implications of what happened that night and the resentment almost derails the rebuilding of any kind of relationship.

This is quite an emotional read. Pippa's story is heartbreaking but we see her growth from that immature child. Unfortunately the scars are still present and make it hard for her to believe in herself and her inborn talent.

Marco is a lovely hero but the events of the past rule all his reactions to Pippa. The attraction between them is not something he wants.

The advances and withdrawals of their relationship are very believable and the characters are engaging. Even secondary character Joycy is a lovely addition without taking away from the central romance.

The sex is hot and very sensual without being overdone. There is some coarse language but not in those scenes and generally appropriate to the plot. I couldn't help laugh at the very 4 Weddings & a Funeral vibe of Pippa saying the UK version of Ass in her toffee upper-crust accent.

Overall a very good read. I couldn't put it down in spite of it being long past my bedtime. The ending is lovely with just the right touch of emotion.

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### **Dalia says**

Michelle Smart's debut novel is a great book, rich with layers of emotions and a high level of tension. The characters are well- rounded. Pippa and Marco have a lot of bad history separating them. After the death of her mother and the indifference of her father, Pippa had a "colorful" teenage and she had inadvertently ruined Marco's life. After 8 y Marco is still resentful. Furious to have to deal with her again, he is always throwing her past in her face, along with some " home-truths". Throughout the book, anger and desire are fighting for supremacy. Marco takes his sweet time but he finally discovers that Pippa has grown- up into a mature and wonderful woman.

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### **Aimee says**

Pippa Rowantree's life really can't get any worse. Since her mother died, her father shunned her and all her attention seeking attempts publically ruined her reputation. Tempted by Trouble begins with Pippa flying out to the Caribbean to stay with her childhood crush to recover from an assault.

Marco Cappello absolutely loathes Pippa, and he has very good reason to. He only agreed to take Pippa in because his mother begged him. He's Pippa's opposite in many ways, growing up in a loving family and having to struggle hard to become the way hotter version of Bill Gates.

Having never known love since her mother's death, Pippa keeps her emotions hidden from everyone—especially Marco. He still sees her as the wild adolescent who almost ruined him, not the hardworking woman who struggles to make ends meet. But Pippa has a backbone made of steel. She doesn't bow down to his knee shaking presence and accusations like I would have. There were times, when he admonished her, I'd have happily run away if it were me ;o).

Eventually, Marco begins to believe her, and help her in ways he'd tried to do since she was a sad little girl at his aunt's wedding. It's not just compassion he feels though, there's still a lot of distrust on his part and a

raging desire between them that both refuse to act on for very different reasons. And you'd think after all that simmering tension an explosive bout of sex on a piano would diminish it right? Wrong, it just cranks it higher.

Okay, so I don't risk spilling it all I'll stick to why *Tempted by Trouble* blew my mind, made me giggle, and run off for a couple of cold showers. The author has this beautiful flowing voice that drags you into the story and holds you hostage. The simmering sensual tension inherent through every story of hers I've read has my heart hammering in my chest each time. The deep emotional connection she creates between Marco and Pippa not only in the present time, but how she shows it winding through both their lives since they first met eighteen years before is simply beautiful and extremely addictive.

I'd highly recommend this book to all readers and lovers of romance worldwide. It's the perfect escape from the gloomy winter. Be warned though, you may need tissues!

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## **Alex is The Romance Fox says**

Wonderful debut novel by my new favorite M&B authors.

Two people with a history together.

Pippa, is such a damaged soul. She's had so much heartbreak and loss in her life and the only way she fights has led her on a path of self-destruction.

To escape the hounding paparazzi after her last disaster, she's been sent to hide at Marco's home in the Caribbean.

She has always felt an affinity for Marco but he, despite the attraction he still feels for her, is determined not to let her into his heart. He had been hurt by her before and does not believe that she's anything else but an empty and selfish person, who nearly destroyed him.

He is so cruel and disdainful towards her and does not want to believe anything she tells him. At times, I wanted to real get violent with him.

Simmering sensual tension....the scene on the piano is totally gorgeous and yes, hot and sexy!!!!

I loved the smooth writing and the great dialogue:

**Hands on hips, she straightened her spine almost magnifying her slight frame and looked him straight in the eyes.**

**"Marco, what just happened on the piano was sex. Good sex, but still just sex. I'M sorry your ego demands that every woman you bonk, immediately starts planning white dresses and babes, but I am not one of them. And I am certainly not desperate enough to want a relationship with an arrogant arse who won't trust me."**

I have this vision of Pippa, in her posh English accent saying this and I could not help but have a smile on my face!!

**”Did you write this?” he asked, his tone accusatory.**

**“No, I stole it from Mahatma Ghandi.”**

An emotional, passionate, tender, and sensual read, set in the beautiful Cayman Island, with characters that pull at your heartstrings.

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