



The Billionaire's Private Scandal

Jenna Bayley-Burke

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Megan Carlton's secret affair with financier Brandon Knight ended when he pulled off a hostile takeover of her family's hotel empire and then kissed another woman. Broke and alone, Megan starts a new life and learns to stand on her own, then Brandon finds her serving coffee and surviving on tips and tries to pull her back into her old life and his arms. She thought she was over him, and she certainly can't ever trust him again. But what her head knows and her heart feels are two different things.

Brandon was used to always getting what he wanted, then the woman he loves disappeared without a word. When he finds her months later working as a barista, he wonders if she's suffering from amnesia. Getting a scalding Americano to the chest proves she recognizes him, but she's got the situation—and him—all wrong. Now all he has to do is prove it.

The Billionaire's Private Scandal Details

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Author : Jenna Bayley-Burke

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From Reader Review The Billionaire's Private Scandal for online ebook

Danielle says

I did like this book. It was funny and it went really fast. But just after finishing it, I am still mad at the H because he was such a jerk all the way up until the last chapter and his two friends were the secondary characters and I definitely did not like the girl friend. I generally feel like this book was left unfinished. Megan, the h, did not forgive the H (Brandon) until the last couple of pages and it was not because she was being deliberately nasty-- he had a lot to grovel about and it really did not happen. On top of that, the big picture of this story was left hanging with how the Carlton family is going to go on. If JBB is planning to make this into a series, that would be cool, but I would still wish for more of an ending/resolution for Megan and Brandon.

Liz says

The Billionaire's Private Scandal by Jenna Bayley-Burke was a quick read with an intriguing story. A fallen socialite and a billionaire in love and so many misunderstandings and secrets, what can go wrong, right?

Megan Carlton had everything she wanted in life. A secret affair with a sexy billionaire, money and status. She never wanted for anything. Then her world fell apart and when she ran to the man she thought she could always count on, she lost the little bit she had left.

All Brandon Knight ever wanted was Megan. Their secret affair suited him fine, until it didn't. Determined to have her, he put a plan in place to protect her, but instead it blew up in his face. But he loved her and was determined to protect her at all cost. All he had to do was find her.

Though I liked Megan and Brandon, communication would have gone a long way between these two. When we meet Megan, she was at her lowest. Having lost everything after the man she loved did a hostile takeover of her family's business and kissed another woman, all in the same day. She is broke and barely surviving. But she is determined to move forward and continue the charitable legacy her grandmother founded. Though she struggled on a daily basis, her determination pulled her through.

Brandon is a man accustomed to getting everything he wants. He is a fair man, sexy, charming and caring, but determined just the same. When the woman he loves disappears, all he wants is her back in his life. However, when he finds her, it's at the last place he ever imagined and not the welcome he imagined.

Brandon and Megan never stopped caring about each other, however, so many misunderstandings and secrets got in their way. Hurt, broke and heartbroken, Megan ran away from her life to survive. Brandon only wanted to protect Megan, but not understanding how his actions may look, he drove her away instead. Can they find a way back to each other or is there too much hurt and secrets between them now?

This was a great quick read. I read this in one sitting. I loved the banter and friction between the two main characters. Neither was willing to budge, but both cared too much to let go. The push and pull, throughout the story will keep you invested and rooting for them.

Happy reading!

Sissy's Romance Book Review says

'The Billionaire's Private Scandal' by Jenna Bayley-Burke. Is the story of Megan and Brandon. Megan has come along way from her life as a Hotel Heiress. Now she is a regular hardworking person trying to survive. Megan blames Brandon for how her life is going now. Brandon and Megan had been having a secret relationship which at the time suited them both. But when Brandon takes over of Megan father's business everything was lost to her. When she had been to him to speak to him she found him with another woman.. so she left. Brandon has been wondering where Megan is and when he went to check out a Coffee house looking to go into a different direction he finds Megan working there. This causes them to confront what has happened and to start to correct the misunderstandings.

"My honest review is for a special copy I voluntarily read."

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Giovana (Rosennette laBOOK Blog) says

This review was originally posted at *Rosennette, the lifestyle of a bookish heart.*

I received this book from the publisher through in exchange for an honest review. This didn't affect my opinion of it.

I have only read one book by Jenna Bayley-Burke before, Cooked Up a Seduction, which is a romantic comedy with some delicious food recipes. Now, The Billionaire's Private Scandal was completely opposite to that first book I read. But it wasn't bad at all, on the contrary, it was a really good drama that kept me engaged through the whole reading.

The premise of the plot was very solid, and I think the author made a great job constructing the scenes and dialogues, and the time line was perfect. The feels were present from the start. I don't know if it was because what I read in the synopsis or because of the story per se, but from the first pages, I was getting chills, something that I have when the emotions got me to the core.

The characters were a little bit more complicated, both leads have good things but also made me roll my eyes from time to time. For example, I like that Megan was trying to make something up of her life and facing her problems, even when that means she has to face all the people her dad did wrong, but she over the top concerning her relationship with Brandon. For me, she was right about being upset and want him to apologize, because he never gave her a reason to trust him. But the entire book shouldn't have been about it

and after the half of it, I was tired of her drama queen attitude.

By other hands, I like that Brandon was a good guy, that he tried to save Megan and protected her from her own family but he was so immersed into that that he didn't stop for a moment to think about what she wanted. I was really mad at him for thinking that after what she saw, she was going to be so willing and receptive to believe in him. Brandon was one of those guys who think we, women, are so basic that we can forgive any transgression with just a few beautiful words? Well, no.

Despite the characters flaws, I really enjoy this books some much and I believe the author created a strong, compelling story that deserves to be read. I really recommend this book to all of those who like second chances, redeemed characters and a little bit of glamour.

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Pelusa Rivera says

Received an ARC for my fair review for netgalley. Let me tell you, that these two should not be together. He is a stalker, and she did have a little growing up to do, to get her life in order, but she was working towards that. However, that said, I did not think that Megan was wrong in leaving Brandon in the dust, first off even if the world did not know that they were together, he did, so him kissing someone else, was not o.k., and his lame excuse, whatever, aaaaand then for him to defend that person over the one he supposedly loves, hell to the no. He would have been left.

Sania says

[No (hide spoiler)]

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Have you ever liked a book, but at the same time the H/h irked you? I liked the potential of this book, but felt it was not fully fleshed out. Scenarios were introduced but lots of time no conclusion or follow up. I understand why Megan was so upset her life as she knew it was torn apart in one day. She never even questioned Brandon or confronted him. Megan never confronted her parents, there was a scene about hickies and the receiver's reaction then dropped, I kept waiting for the issue to be addressed.

It seems like this may be set up to continue with Megan's sisters, Danny and Gemma, hopefully there is a little more "flow" in their books.

I will read this author again, like I stated I liked it, but it irked me because I felt I was left hanging. I am hoping it is just because she is a new author.

Heather in FL says

This was kinda heart wrenching. I mean my heart was seriously breaking through most of the book for what each of the main characters was feeling. And at the same time, I wanted to smack the heroine a few times. Just shut your trap and listen to the man! Hell, for the first 2/3 of the book, he didn't understand the REAL reason for your wrath! And yes, the man may have made some assumptions, but she didn't give him much to work with. Sheesh! It all worked out and it was sweet, but my god, I need a pick me up now, lol!

Sarah says

I can't believe I finished this book. The heroine never grew past her spoiled, selfish self. I gave her credit in the beginning because she had been raised that way even though the author tried to give her the "responsible despite her wealth" personality. I tried to see past how hateful she was to others just because she was hurting. I tried to see her as the caring, nurturing, philanthropist that she was described as but I just couldn't. She ran every time she was upset which is irresponsible and immature. When she couldn't run she became hateful, lashing out at anyone around her so she could get away. And she couldn't stop comparing herself to her doormat mother which is really stupid, and got annoying quickly.

I do understand her hurt over seeing him kiss another woman. But hating him because her family fortune was lost because her father was an embezzler?? Really? That's like me hating my husband if we lost all our money to Bernie Madhoff. She's supposed to be so caring, and yet she can't stand to see that her father bankrupted the family company, stole her trust fund, and hasn't cared enough to see how she fared in the last three months? And she blindly hates Brandon for being a part of it all?

Then, in the end, the author has the hero, THE HERO, apologizing to her for always being her booty call when she was the one who demanded that in the first place. She was the one who chased him down when it was convenient for her, never allowing him to go public. When he wanted to further their relationship, she freaked and demanded he keep it secret. And yet, he is apologizing to her for not being better to her!! Yes, I'm serious. In fact, the heroine even confesses after confronting him about not being more than a booty call to him "Actually, I just didn't come to you if I wasn't in the mood." WTF??!!

I'm not real sure how people liked this book, but I do know to each his own so I am not bad-mouthing the author. This story, however, will go down as a wall banger for me. The only reason I did finish was so I could avoid the file room at the office. Horrible heroine, no character development, a really stupid and contrived obstacle, characters that disappear without comment, confusing and/or bad editing, and a ridiculous obsession with the two dogs all combine to make this a definite bad read for me.

***edited to add: And a will that stipulates you have to be married for one year for your inheritance?? Almost illegal, and very easily dismissed in court these days. It isn't 1810. If you needed a bad plot device to get Gemma and Danny together, I'm sure she could have come up with something just as stupid as this novel.

Elaine says

Megan Carlton had a secret affair with billionaire Brandon Knight which she ended by disappearing after he took over her family's chain of hotels and she then saw him kissing another woman. From being a trust fund, respected member of the wealthy community, Megan and her sisters suddenly came crashing down to earth, needing to support themselves after their parents disappeared without indicating where they were going or giving any explanation. The sisters have all taken on their changed circumstances in different ways.

Megan is working two jobs - as a barista and in a bar - striving to get herself a firm financial base to build upon. The coffee shop is where Brandon comes face to face with her again. With a seven year secret relationship largely based on intimate encounters, they never went on dates together or anything that might let others realise they were together. This - and his takeover of her family's hotels - has undermined the trust between them. This is the story of how he tries to prove he had good motives, ones that she would support if only she would listen to him whilst she strives to keep her independence and not let him hurt her again!

This is a real emotional roller coaster, so packed with secrets and misunderstandings that overflow to drown their relationship. There are also elements of suspense and mystery, especially concerning Megan's parents, which I can only hope will be answered in future stories in this series. There are also some very moving moments concerning the refuge homes Megan is involved with. I enjoyed reading this story - it is a quick read with a cliff hanger ending that left me wanting to know more so I can't wait for the sequel to be published!

I requested and was given a copy of this book via NetGalley and this is my honest opinion after choosing to read it.

Angel Hatfield says

Brandon stopped at the coffee shop there was Meagan and he couldn't believe it. Megan was a socialite with a trust fund deep enough to buy this shop one hundred times over. Megan was suppose to be on a beach while her father avoided extradition for embezzlement. Yet Megan was here in front of Brandon- a smaller angrier version of the hotel heiress Brandon loved. Megand had not made Brandon's drink she refused to and quit her job. Brandon begged Megan to talk to him even said that Megan owed him some kind of an explanation. Megan said she owed Brandon nothing that he was a liar and a cheat and she never wanted to see him again. Megan was intensely private and no one had known Megan and Brandon had been together for the last seven years. Megan was great at putting on a show and making the world think she had it all together even when things were falling apart. Megan shot the cup of coffee at Brandon before she quit. But Brandon followed her to her apartment. Brandon couldn't believe the way Megan was living. Megan remembered back when she had went to a party with her older sister Ava at Brandon's house and Megan had set her sights on Brandon. Brandon was fresh out of military school and wanted to have some fun. Every time Brandon turned Megan down she wanted him more. Megan even lost all interest in boys at school. Megan's heart squeezed when she thought of how naive she had been to think she could change the world without it changing her. Megan seriously slept an hour at a time and usually jolted awake by a sound that terrified her. Soon Megan would have enough money to take some computer classes. She had already earned her GED in the last year. While at Brandon's house the dog her had bought her - Cash- a cockapoo comes running to her and all Megan's walls crumbled. Then Megan thought maybe she should take a page out of her sister Ava's book. Brandon had said he wanted to put a ring on Megan's finger but never bought one and

he said he wanted them to become public with their relationship but never asked her out. The hope is what devastated her when she was going to Brandon for some answers and help on her birthday and saw him kissing Gemma then they went into his apartment. She had given Brandon her virginity - her first love, and first and only lover.

I loved most of this story. But I didn't particularly like the way the ending was written I felt it was just rushed. I like what it entailed just not how it was written. Otherwise I loved the story and the plot. I loved how much Brandon had truly loved Megan and never gave up on finding her and being back with her. I also loved how Megan loved him right back but was so lost and hurt. I felt bad for everything she had went through with no one to really turn to. I felt bad how hurt and confused and how she hadn't felt safe in a long time. I loved the characters and the ins and outs of this book and I recommend.

Bec_BookMagicReviews says

Megan Carlton and Brandon Knight were happy and in love until he betrayed her. The hostile takeover he pulled off of her family's hotel empire cost her everything and now Megan is barely staying afloat serving coffee and surviving on the tips she earns. When Brandon walks into the coffee shop where she's working, Megan does her best to ignore him. But she should know by now that he doesn't give up when he wants something. Will Megan be able to forgive him for what he did or has he hurt her too much to be given a second shot at forever after?

What a captivating enemy to lovers story Ms. Burke has penned in this story, encompassing a heroine hurt due to the betrayal by the man she loved; and a hero determined to make things right and prove what the heroine believes he did is all a misunderstanding. The way this story started had me sympathizing with the heroine, as she's surviving the best she can and coming face-to-face with Brandon again brings everything she's tried so hard to forget to the surface. Will Brandon be able to win back Megan?

As for the main characters, both the hero and heroine were entertaining due to their history and the dialogue was intense due to how the heroine believes the hero betrayed her in more ways than one and the harsh name calling the heroine hurls at someone she believes is the 'other woman'. However, there were a couple of really good light-hearted moments that had me believing there was hope for this couple, even though Megan doesn't make it easy for Brandon to convince her of his side of the story. That he thought what he was doing was a good thing, and hoped she'd see it that way too, because of how much she loved her family's hotel empire.

Moreover, the heroine was strong and brave in how she managed to keep going after Brandon's betrayal. Certainly, she didn't give up on getting her life back on track, even though she lost everything such as her home, her money and any friends she had. I also liked that she stands up to Brandon when he gets bossy and makes her feel like a prisoner. While Brandon, I liked how confident and determined he was to win the heroine back, even though Megan puts up quite a challenge because of what she believes the hero did. I also liked that the hero knew when to back off, instead of forcing her to face the truth and realize that what he did was the right thing to do.

Overall, Ms. Burke has penned a fascinating read in this story where the couple being at odds delivers really strong chemistry, and ups the sexual tension until it spills over onto the pages in hot sex scenes that illustrated how good these two are together. Furthermore, the way this story ended left me a tad frustrated. I

felt like the story wasn't wrapped up enough to leave me completely satisfied. Why wasn't there an epilogue to show how far this couple have come since Megan made the right decision when it came to their relationship? However, I did like Brandon's decision when it came to the Carlton family empire, how the heroine was with her sisters towards the end and what Megan is going to do for the woman she believed Brandon betrayed her with. I would recommend The Billionaire's Private Scandal by Jenna Bayley-Burke, if you enjoy the enemy to lovers trope or books by authors Sonya Weiss, Lexxie Couper, Diana Alberts or Amy Ayers.

Bette Hansen says

I really liked this one. Very interesting story. Rich girl and her family fall from grace now Meghan is working hard to stand on her. Unfortunately that's where my respect for her ended. To be honest she drove me a bit crazy and it's what kicked this down to a four star read. I found her immature and unreasonable. Now Brandon I loved. He was loving, understanding, and determined to get her back. Overall the story is very well done and definitely a book I would recommend.

Elizabeth Neal says

Brandon and Megan are in love, and have been together for seven years. However, nobody but them knows this as they kept their relationship a secret from everyone. Then a few months ago, Megan's world horrendously came crashing down, breaking her heart and ruining her trust in Brandon at the same time.

Brandon has no idea why Megan left so abruptly, cutting off all contact with him. He's looked for her non-stop ever since, never expecting to find her working as a barista when arriving for a business meeting.

Megan blames Brandon for all the hurt she's endured. He knew her Dad was involved in shady business dealings, knew Megan's family would lose everything because of it, and yet, he never warned her. Instead she was blindsided by all of it, and when she went to ask him about it, on her birthday no less, she's devastated to see him kissing another woman, Gemma, one he's always assured her was just a friend.

Brandon doesn't know what happened between him and Megan, but he does know she's the one for him and he wants, needs, her back. Unfortunately, she refuses to talk to him or let him explain his actions regarding her family's business. He was trying to help her, to protect her, but, when he truly listens to how it appeared to Megan, he sees where he messed up.

These two cannot be together without their intense chemistry sparking, nor the love they feel for one another coming through. When Megan informs Brandon she saw him with Gemma, after numerous thinly veiled, and some not, insults aimed at her, Brandon tries to explain she misunderstood the situation completely, that there never has been, nor ever will be, anything between him and Gemma, let alone any other woman. Gemma was in a bind, and, unfortunately, tried to solve it the wrong way, with the help of a man, a brother-like friend, that she trusts, not knowing of Brandon and Megan's relationship.

Can Brandon and Megan work through all the misunderstandings and find their way back to each other? Will Megan believe Brandon when he explains what truly happened regarding what she saw? Will Brandon realize the damage he unintentionally did with his actions, not just now, but over their years together? Is

there a HEA for these two?

One-click now and follow along as two people, in love with one another for years, must work through the issues keeping them apart.

On a purely personal note, while I know it played into the premise of why Megan left, heartbroken, but I really wish it could've been done without another woman, one that's a close friend and a part of his life, kissing him. Regardless of the situation, that is an image a woman will never be able to stop seeing in regards to the man she loves touching lips with another woman, one she'll see consistently during their lives together. Also, Brandon states that he didn't push her away because of the awkwardness of the kiss, and knowing that there was no passion behind it, nor a future to it. Umm, that's not a reason to not stop another woman from kissing you. The reason to do so is because it's not the woman you supposedly love doing the kissing, and you don't want anyone doing so that isn't her. Lastly, I didn't like how Brandon defended Gemma to Megan, getting upset when she called her names, etc. No, your woman is hurt, and understandably so, because she saw another woman, a "friend only," kissing you, on the same day she learned about her Dad's wrongdoing, that you knew about it, oh, and it's her birthday. Oh, and let's not forget that her Dad regularly cheated on her Mom. Screw defending Gemma, understand where Megan is coming from, don't the two of you gang up on her instead, treating her like she's the one in the wrong, not the friend that kissed you, and proposed to you, because she needs to be married by a certain deadline. Why isn't he mad at her? If it wasn't for her actions, the months long separation between him and Megan might not have happened, saving them both pain and wasted time.

I voluntarily read and reviewed an Advanced Reader Copy of this book.

Linh says

I was looking for something fun and light. This was just constant fighting with about 4 pages of happiness. I was disappointed.
