



Burn Before Reading

Sara Wolf

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A girl meets a wolf.

And a wolf meets his match.

Beatrix Cruz - Bee for short - has exactly one goal; kick her dad's severe depression in the ass. She's got a foolproof plan;

1. Get into the elite high school Lakecrest Preparatory on a scholarship
2. Study like crazy
3. Graduate into NYU and become a shrink

Nothing can stand in her way - not even Lakecrest's rich, hot, and notorious Blackthorn brothers. Not Fitz Blackthorn, with his flirting and his elite computer hacking, not Burn Blackthorn, with his intimidating height and emotionless face, and certainly not sinfully handsome Wolf Blackthorn, who hands out 'red cards' to students who displease him, and expels the ones who keep doing it.

But when Bee stands up for a student, she pisses off Wolf, and he's suddenly itching to pull her scholarship from underneath her. To keep it, Bee strikes a deal with the devil - father Blackthorn himself; spy on Mr. Blackthorn's sons, become friends with them, and learn their secrets in exchange for staying at Lakecrest.

Betraying the Blackthorn brothers' trust is supposed to be easy.

Becoming friends with the Blackthorn boys makes it hard.

And falling in love with Wolf makes it impossible.

((This book contains language and situations that may be inappropriate for younger readers.))

Burn Before Reading Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : Sara Wolf

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Genre : Young Adult, Romance, Contemporary, High School

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From Reader Review Burn Before Reading for online ebook

Karen says

Me encaaaaaaantó!!!!!!! Amo a los hermanos Blackthron

Dulce María says

Una muy agradable sorpresa.

La historia es muy simple y predecible, pero me gusto mucho como manejaron el tema de la depresión, traumas post-traumaticos, adicciones , etc.

Moon Love says

When it comes to books featuring multiple characters, it's easy to pick favorites. There are always ones you love more than others. The ones you connect with tend to stand out, while others fade into the background. In this case, I absolutely loved Beatrix/Bee. I mean she's uber focused on her goals and finds herself standing up for those who seem to be cowed and terrified of the Blackthorn brothers. I, like her, wasn't very impressed with them in the beginning. However it didn't take very long for me and Bee to realize there was more than met the eye when it came to them. The Blackthorn brothers are complex. They're handling things in their own ways, separately yet still somewhat together. While I learned about Wolf, Burn, and Fitz and what made them who they are, I couldn't help but fall in love with them, and I think Bee did too.

Bee not only had chemistry with Wolf, but also with Fitz an Burn. It was easier for her to form a bond with Fitz and Burn, but watching Wolf and Bee try and figure out what it was about the other that drew them was entertaining and fraught with tension. I mean the pull between them was almost palpable. And I loved being in Wolf's head. I really feel like that made the story all the more powerful and special.

I devoured this book in a couple of hours and want more! I would to love to read more about Burn and Fitz Blackthorn, and especially more Bee and Wolf! However, I find this typical of all the Sara Wolf books I read. She has this way of writing characters that are complex and flawed, yet so likable and easy to relate to. I haven't read many books still set in high school lately, but there is something in this book that transcends the ages of the characters. I know in today's current environment there will even be some middle-schoolers who can relate, but as an adult, this book had a lot of themes that resonated with me.

Besides the themes this book deals with, I loved how caught up in it I got. The book pulled me in from the very first page and I didn't put it down until I was done. And how I was not only eager to read every word, but how I was on the edge of my seat with my heart pounding for a lot of the book. I can't really describe how much of an experience reading *Burn Before Reading* was. There is going to be nothing like picking up this book and reading it for yourself.

I do want to give Sara Wolf kudos. She wrote this amazing story with elements that will touch everyone. And I hope you have the same wonderful reading experience with laughter, tears, and heart pounding adrenaline I did. I really do need more. I need to know how the Blackthorn brothers handle the changes Bee

(Beatrix) brings into their lives. I need to know how Bee handles being herself and not so-giving of herself and if things at home change. I need to know what if anything happens between Keri and Fitz and Burn and Kristin. While I loved this book, I am hoping the sort of open-ish ending leaves room for all of the burning questions I have to be answered. Regardless of what Sara Wolf writes next, I know I'll be reading it. She doesn't just write stories, she writes unforgettable experiences.

Nastassja says

If I was writing a summary what would I say about this book?

A story about a bisexual boy with a phobia (which kind of phobia is a spoiler) trying to overcome his past abusive relationship with another boy and, at the same time, fighting tragic memories of his mother's death, and a book loving girl who wants to help her father cure chronic depression by giving up her dream of becoming an author and instead becoming a doctor.

Add to that two sexy brothers of the hero: one is an addict and another one running from problems with reckless speed (literary, he is driving like crazy). The setting is a prestigious private school where (surprisingly) not every one is an asshole.

It seem like a lot of issues for one book, and, of course, when I started this book I didn't know all *that*. I just saw Sarah Wolf and new book and it was it. I was a huge fan of her Lovely Vicious series in all its silliness and absurdity managed to pull me in with not so trivial plot, humor and likable characters. Well, I don't know if I'd like that series now years later, but back then it was a thing for me.

Burn Before Reading in some ways similar to its predecessor, but in some it suppresses it. I found it more mature, more thoughtful, not so erratic. Maybe it was not the best written book I've read recently, but it managed to caught my attention and even days later I still remember my feelings while reading it.

If you are looking for something light - and it is a light and hopeful story despite the premise I gave you - to pass the holidays, you might consider reading this book.

Merry Christmas, my friends!

Iphigenia says

god sara wolf makes me love every fucking character she writes and feel as much pain as they do i fucking hate her

Lacey (Booklovers For Life) says

Originally posted at Booklovers For Life

I loved Sara Wolf's Lovely Vicious series, so when I heard she was releasing a new book, I couldn't wait to get my hands on it. Her writing is meaningful yet infused with so much humor – I don't know how she does it, but I hope she never stops writing! Her books always make my heart ache while laughing my butt off at the same time. Burn Before Reading was no different – it's an excellent enemies-to-lovers romance. It's more YA than NA, which isn't something that I generally read anymore, but I adored it all the same.

My name is Beatrix Cruz, and no matter what anyone says, no matter what happens tomorrow,
this was the story of how it went down.
This is how Lakecrest ruined my life.
This is how Wolfgang Blackthorn destroyed me.

Beatrix "Bee" Cruz is set in her goal of graduating from the elite Lakecrest so she can go to NYU and become a psychologist, one that can help with her father's depression. Her scholarship to Lakecrest means everything, and she's not going to let anything jeopardize it – especially not the Blackthorn boys, who rule the school. The oldest, Burn, is big and intimidating; the youngest, Fitz, is charming and sly; and the middle one, the one that gives her the biggest trouble and makes her feel things she has no business feeling, is Wolf. With his father on the school board, Wolf can have him revoke Bee's scholarship in a snap. But Bee protects herself by making a deal with their father to spy on the boys for him.

What starts off as playing pretend for Bee turns into so much more as she delves deeper into the Blackthorn boys' lives – and she finds out that despite their being rich, they have just as many problems as she does. They're human, just like her, and they grow to be people she cares about deeply. But what happens when they find out that she's been spying on them since the beginning?

The only girl I've ever wanted.
The only girl who will never want me.

I adored Bee so hard. I love feisty heroines, and Bee was that in spades. She's lovable and flawed – she does the right things for the wrong reasons. She makes snappy judgments about the Blackthorn boys, especially about Wolf, but they end up teaching her so much about life and love. She is HILARIOUS – I don't think Sara Wolf can write a heroine who isn't funny. Bee and Wolf were great together too – I loved the fiery tension between them, though it was a little tamer than I'm used to.

If you're looking for an addicting read that will have your heart invested in the characters, I highly recommend you give Burn Before Reading a try. It was hilarious yet heartbreaking – two words that don't usually go together, but Sara Wolf made it work. I seriously enjoyed reading this book!

Thanks to the author for generously providing me an ARC to review.

Quotes are taken from the ARC and are subject to change in the final version.

Amazon Ebook: <http://amzn.to/2qH4izu>

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Anne (The Reading Life) says

I received a free copy for an honest review.

It's more precisely 2 and a half stars.

I am so disappointed. I had such high hopes for this book! This book has one of my absolute favorite hate-love relationship scenarios. Popular boy v.s Normal girl, and school hierarchy. However, the author just sort of...fail to bring the story to its full potential. The first thing I notice that I HATE about the main protagonist, Beatrix is first off - for a girl who is supposedly a strong, independent girl who wants to get a degree in psychology she is surprisingly stupid, illogical and...annoying. Even without the perspectives of Wolf from the book, it would've taken me less than a quarter to figure out that he's actually kicking out and bullying the bullies, and not actually doing anything bad. And let's start off to the second point by saying: there's a thin line between bravery and stupidity. And I think our 'brave', 'courageous', and 'strong' protagonist not stepped, but wayyyy jumped over the line. The author is trying to make her like all the positive stuff I said, but instead she made her absolute and utterly, UNBEARABLELY annoying. Half the book I'm just rolling my eyes and banging my head on the table. And the other half of the time I'm trying to reach my hand into the book and strangle her. It was actually Physically painful to get through the book.

The writing was mediocre at best (maybe slightly better), personally I think Sara Wolf did a better job with her other series. But I think the horribleness of the main character actually made her writing seem bad.

And also, personally, I've never been a big fan of books with inappropriate context. Just Saying.

Christine Alibutud says

Note: Received an ARC in exchange for an honest book review.

...and certainly not sinfully handsome Wolf Blackthorn, who hands out 'red cards' to students who displease him, and expels the ones who keep doing it.

Okay guys, please tell me I'm not the only one who thought of Dao Ming Si from Meteor Garden?? If you guys share the same sentiments with me and is familiar with this Taiwanese drama, well then, let's bond over books and amazing Asian dramas, soul sister!

So I'm not sure if our lovely author here got inspired by the said Taiwanese drama, but nonetheless, Burn Before Reading was still definitely a laugh-out-loud and very "Sara Wolf-ish" book if you ask me!

In a typical Sara Wolf fashion, Bee, our female MC, feels like she's cut out from the same cloth as our Isis firecracker, who we've all grown to love on Love Me Never. I love how Beatrix, much like all of Sara Wolf's heroines, is tough as nails and stands up for what she believes in. Beatrix, or Bee as everyone calls her, is probably the most selfless person, especially when it comes to her father who suffers severe depression. She

basically mapped out her life in a direction that was all for the wellbeing of her father, even sacrificing all her personal interests. If that doesn't scream selfless daughter, I don't know what will.

"I think that's what hope is – not a fancy light, or a bright, positive feeling like they make it out to be in the Disney movies. It's not some noble trait only heroes and Good People™ have. I think it's just moving forward when all hope is lost. Hope isn't some grand and mysterious motivation like love; it's just never giving up in the face of hopelessness. When everything is lost, when you can't physically go on one step further, but you choose to keep moving forward anyway? That's hope. Hope isn't a thing. It's something you do when you can't do anything else.

So I'll keep on hoping."

Entering Lakecrest with a scholarship and a grab-the-bull-by-the-horns kind of attitude, Bee was bound to clash with the school's loved notorious Blackthorn brothers. There's 1) Burn; mega-tall and stoic, 2) Fitz; charming to the nth degree and master hacker, and of course 3) Wolfgang; drop-dead gorgeous and gets on Bee's nerves.

Of course, to spice up the story with a little love-hate relationship, we witness the endless clashing of Wolf and Bee. But come on, we all know what happens when you "hate" someone a little too much.

His hand started to close, and I darted out and met his palm with mine. Wolf's face looked shocked, completely thrown off.

"Just one last time," I repeated, hard, like it would make it real and final. He grinned.

"One last time."

The sun said its final goodbye and the moon said its first hello. Wolf curled his fingers, hesitantly, slowly, between mine, the two of us fitting together like the pieces of a puzzle. It was cliché. It wasn't right for enemies to do this. There was a hundred things wrong with it, and yet it felt absolutely perfect.

Being me, I'm all for the whole love-hate trope! I mean, who can resist a good friction between two characters, and ends up creating something much more different than what was intended?

"This time I'm the one who gets to ask if it's alright to touch you," He says, voice rumbling in my chest.

I can't help my laugh. It bubbles up from me fast and true and bright. I lean up, his mouth tantalizingly close, our fingers and breaths intertwining.

“It’s more than alright.”

And obviously, I'm a fan of the Blackthorn bromance. I just love how their personalities couldn't be more different, but they still manage to mix well. Sure, their bromance wasn't purely evident at first, but I'm glad we get to witness it.

I won't go and spoil all the good stuff, but I just love how we get to see each character's relationship with another. My favorite would have to be Bee's relationship with the three brothers, especially because we get to see how perspectives change and how old (and even new) wounds are put to healing. Personally, it was very painful to read Bee's moments with her father, and even her mother, but at the same time, it just helps in proving that mental health is a real thing and should never be overlooked.

"He taught me it's alright to burn. He taught me that fire doesn't only destroy – it reveals the new, tiny sprouts lying in wait to grow; sprouts you would've ignored, sprouts that would've died otherwise."

Although I love this book, I had an issue with Mr. Blackthorn. He seemed like a very complex character, and I just wished I discovered all of those layers to better understand why he comes out as a certain way but acts differently. Also, I wish to get to know Mark better, as to why (view spoiler).

Apart from these issues, I still loved this book. Also, I think I smell a separate story for Burn and Kristin...hmmm...**WELL I HOPE SO!**

4.5 stars!

Desi says

3.25 estrellas

SINOPSIS

Una chica conoce un lobo.

El lobo conoce a su igual.

Beatrix Cruz, Bee abreviado, tiene exactamente un objetivo: darle una patada en el culo a la depresión de su padre. Tiene un plan a prueba de errores:

1. Conseguir entrar a la escuela de élite Preparatoria Lakecrest con una beca.
2. Estudiar como loca.
3. Graduarse en NYU y convertirse en psicóloga.

Nada puede interponerse en su camino, ni siquiera los famosos y ricos hermanos Blackthorn de Lakecrest. No Fitz Blackthorn, con su flirteo y sus habilidades de élite para hackear, tampoco Burn Blackthorn con su altura intimidante y rostro sin emociones, y ciertamente tampoco el pecaminosamente apuesto Wolf Blackthorn, que entrega “tarjetas rojas” a los estudiantes que le desagraden, y expulsa a los que siguen haciéndolo.

Pero cuando Bee se alza en defensa de un estudiante, enfada a Wolf, y de repente este está impaciente por quitarle la beca. Para mantenerla, Bee hace un trato con el diablo, el mismísimo padre Blackthorn; espiar a los hijos del señor Blackthorn, hacerse amiga de ellos, y descubrir sus secretos a cambio de quedarse en Lakecrest.

Se supone que traicionar la confianza de los hermanos Blackthorn va a ser fácil.

Hacerse amiga de los chicos Blackthorn hace que sea difícil.

Y enamorarse de Wolf hace que sea imposible.

.... no sé fue algo extraño el protagonista.... eso que le gustaran tanto los chicos como las chicas no me cuadró mucho, es como si no estuviera definido.

Y el enamoramiento de Wolf fue muy poco creíble.... creo que por lo mismo de arriba. Además hubieron cosas que no se terminaron de explicar. Lo de su padre no lo entendí mucho y no dieron mayor explicación de eso.

Y creo que para el final le faltó un poquito más....

Eso fue lo que no me gustó.

Pero a la vez me pareció entretenido y tuvo sus momentos buenos. De los personajes Beatrix fue la mejor, me gustó como trataba de afrontar sus problemas aunque no siempre fuera la mejor manera. El como intentaba ayudar a su padre me pareció muy enternecedor.

Fue una lectura agradable y fácil de leer. Narrada desde el POV de los protas.

Frase que me gustó:

"La esperanza no es una misteriosa y espectacular motivación como el amor; es solo nunca darte por vencido cuando te sientes desamparado. Cuando todo esté perdido, cuando no puedes físicamente seguir adelante, pero eliges seguir delante de todos modos, eso es la esperanza. La esperanza no es una cosa. Es algo que haces cuando no puedes hacer nada más."

Andrea Gomes says

¡Qué cosa más bonita de libro!

Me gustó demasiado. El hecho de que el amor no fuera la parte central de la historia... ¡me encantó!

Fitz es un amor. Burn lo amé. Y Wolf... bueno... ¡es mío!

Y Bee es sumamente divertida, elocuente y loca.

Tiene todo este libro; desde risas, ataques... hasta el corazón arrugadito.

¡100% recomendado!

Aya Hamza says

Update: Dec 8, 2017

I can't believe I enjoyed this book!!!!

Review to come...

Update: Dec 5, 2017

"Currently reading"

THIS IS HAPPENING! Finally I can read it. :D

Update: Sep 23, 2017

Reading the synopsis

Hmmm.. this sounds familiar.. HANA YORI DANGO aka **my-favorite-manga-of-all-time..** ha?!!!!

Nonetheless, I am intrigued!!

Hope it is not just another copy of Hana Yori Danga . Some creativity please!

Leila bibliofagos says

What the HELL happened?

Cause I don't know. I really don't.

I thought this was gonna be funny. I thought this was gonna be sexy. I also thought I would fall in love with not only the hero but mostly the heroine, because that is what happened when I read 'Lovely Vicious'.

But noooo.

Let me introduce you to Hana Yori Dango. Except with ridiculous characters, whiny heroines and no kissing.

This could've been SO GOOD. Except the author decided to make the characters one dimensional and they are all very speshul yet they're all so tragic and shit. Ugh. If you can't tell I'm rolling my eyes.

Fuck My Life.

Jeane Bulle says

Bueno, que puedo decir de este libro? No sé si encuentre las palabras exactas para describirlo, pero voy a intentar hacerlo.

ATENCIÓN: Puede o no haber algunos spoilers a continuación. Lea bajo su responsabilidad.

Me pareció una historia genial.

Amé los personajes.

Bee una adolescente que carga con todo el peso del mundo sobre sus hombros, siempre dispuesta a ayudar a todo el que lo necesite.

Wolf un chico completamente dañado que tiene miedo a sentir cosas por alguien y se oculta a través de su fría fachada. Pero que que siente mucho y a su manera trata de ayudar a los demás.

Fitz un chico que a pesar de tener un montón de problemas trata de disimularlo con una sonrisa y apaga el dolor refugiándose en las drogas.

Y Burn el mayor de los tres hermanos, callado, inteligente y muy observador, que ama un buen golpe de adrenalina.

Todos completamente especiales y geniales a su manera.

Amé que se mostraran tan crudos los personajes, tan imperfectos y reales.

Me identifiqué tanto con Bee y a su vez también fue mi heroína. Tan fuerte valiente y madura para ser tan joven. Maduré de prisa, tomó el camino difícil tratando de ayudar a su papá, luchando por encontrar una solución a sus problemas.

No culpo a su papá por sus actitudes. La depresión es una jodida perra que a veces se puede llevar lo mejor de uno.

Creo que en este caso, la que tomo el camino más fácil fue la mamá de Bee, tratando de alejarse de los problemas. No la culpo tampoco, no creo que sea fácil estar en su lugar, ni de cerca. Pero me parece que tendría que haber estado más para su hija. No me voy a extender mucho con eso. Volvamos a lo demás...

Me encantó como la autora fue atravesando la historia, contándotela a través de los protagonistas.

Desnudando sus sentimientos y demostrando como fueron capaces de luchar por su felicidad.

Me gustó mucho como los hermanos eran tan unidos y se apoyaban unos a otros. Siempre ahí para dar todo por los demás.

Tambien me divertí, con los comentarios ingeniosos de todos los personajes y sobre todo con Bee. Fue genial.

Por último, me fascinó que este libro mostrara que a veces no está mal ser un poco egoístas, poner un poco tus deseos por encima de los de los demás. Sí uno no se pone primero quién más lo va a hacer?

Bueno, podría seguir escribiendo durante mucho rato más de esta historia. Así de mucho me gustó. Pero lo voy a dejar acá.

Sólo voy a agregar que lo recomiendo. Pero si leyeron todo lo demás se deben haber dado cuenta, sobre todo por todos los "me encantó" , "amé" y "me gusto mucho" que escribí.

Priscilla Garcia says

First and foremost I have to say I loved reading this book, But is a Sara wolf book. I love her books so me loving this book is not a rare thing. Her writing style is just amazing. This book was just up my alley.

I have to start by saying that this reminded me of a Japanese manga and its drama adaptation Hana Yori Dango. The whole boys rule the school, they are handsome and most admired and feared guys in school. If you get in their bad side you gets a card in your locker. They will make your life living hell, and people won't step in to help you because they fear what they guys would do to them. But than one day this scholarship girl comes in and challenges the lead guy and boom he falls for her hahah

This book is different in many ways Wolf did things because at the end of the day he wanted to do good. Wolf background story was so sad and depressing. His brothers story too. Burn and Fitz were amazing I seriously I loved them, even more than Wolf.

Our lead girl Beatriz, Bee for short was a great lead girl but did somethings that weren't acceptable. She was blinded by the necessity to help her dad. I'm glad she was help by certain events to see you don't have to lose yourself to help your love ones.

I don't know if I am going to be the only one to say and think this but I shipped Burn more with Bee. I love to read about leads who fall in love and they are so different. Burn was older and quieter which I loved , bee was a chatterbox and will speaker her mind when she need it too. Both were like day and night and I loved their scenes together.

I love the build up towards Bee and Wolfs romance. The excitement of him not being to touch but when he did, I got chills all over my body.

The reason I didn't give this five stars was that the finale felt to rushed. I don't know if this means we are getting more of our boys on future books. But if this is the case I can't wait to read about my one true love Burn hahah please pair him with a shy girl who turns out to be this sassy chatterbox when you really meet her. Someone that will suprise my baby burn.

"I received a ARC from the author in exchange of a fair honest review"

Bella says

★3 Stars★

This book mostly caught my eye because of the funky cover and the title (which reminded me of the similarly titled film *Burn After Reading*). I was also drawn to it because it sounded like a mix of several other high school books I have read, which for the most part it was, but there were definitely things that made this book unique.

Thumbs UP

I expected this story to be very YA, and though it was more YA than anything else, there were some serious themes in this story I didn't expect.(view spoiler) Bisexuality and homophobia were also featured in the story, which I don't recall coming across in similar stories before. Also, blackmail, drugs, drinking, date rape, and an entire school of snobby bullies. This book was not short on drama.

I liked the relationships that grew between Bea and each of the brothers. Well... 'relationship' may be a stretch when it comes to Bea and one particular brother, but there was something else growing between them entirely (I'll bet you can't guess what?!!)

I really liked each of the brothers. They were all very different from one another and each were dealing with their individual issues, but together they were a unit. They had each others backs and they knew each other

inside out, but their relationship felt more real than many others I have read about. These were guys who needed their space and weren't immune to fighting, but cared for each other in their own ways.

Thumbs DOWN

I thought the 'red slip' thing was all a bit ridiculous and laughable.

The guys father blackmailing Bea was also ridiculous to me. Just... everything about it. But it also made the story predictable, because it was obvious what the fallout from that was going to be!

I am not homophobic - AT ALL - but I was definitely taken aback by Wolf's bisexuality. For me it took away some of his appeal. (view spoiler)

Final Thoughts

This wasn't a story I would go back and re-read, but I am happy I gave it a chance. It was an entertaining read, I just didn't love it.
