



Power Play

Mari Carr

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There's only room at the top for one person at a time.

Back on American soil for the first time in nine months, Reed Donovan is ready to blow off some steam. The beauty he spots at the local bar not only catches his eye, she snags him by the balls when she announces she's always fantasized about having sex with a stranger a fantasy he is more than willing to help come true.

Explosive fireworks over, Francesca rebuffs his invitation to dinner. While the sparks may fly between them physically, she doesn't believe they could spend more than a few minutes in the same room without arguing. Her suspicions prove correct when Francesca reports for her new position the next morning and discovers she's been hired as Reed's new marketing partner.

When Reed and Francesca immediately begin butting heads about future pitches to prospective clients, Reed proposes a bet. For the next three presentations, they'll both make a pitch. Whoever wins the campaign also wins a fantasy.

The competition is fierce and hot. And the hotter it gets, the closer they come to the brink of something they never intended or expected. Warning: Wicked fantasies anyone? Up for some sex in public, sex with a stranger, sex in an office, sex in a bar, sex with a Dom, and bondage sex? Good. Strap in and hang on."

Power Play Details

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Author : Mari Carr

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From Reader Review Power Play for online ebook

Heather in FL says

Short-ish read. I think I read it within about 5 hours, and that's including dinner and mommy stuff. But it was a good story. I could see how Francesca never wanted to give up her right/ability to be successful. Her dad really was a caveman. I'm amazed that either her or Reed could be submissive long enough to fulfill one of the other's fantasies, lol. It was definitely an interesting setup and a satisfying ending. While there was sex, I wouldn't say it was the smexiest sex I've ever read, even in a Mari Carr book, but it was good.

Nicole says

3.5 stars. Another smokin hot Mari Carr erotica

Christi Snow says

Full review to come.... I REALLY liked this one!

My Review:

The premise of this book is not a real new one- powerful, independent girl has issues with dominant men because her father was a dominating jerk who basically erased all signs of her mother as an individual. What makes this book a good one was how well Mari Carr wrote the emotions behind all that.

I am not going to talk about the story line because the book description (section above) gives a great description of it. Both Reed and Francesca are driven individuals. Carter, Reed's cousin, sums it up best... "she's the female version of you, Reed.

Powerful, successful, used to being in control."

This book is really super-sexy, but it is also really emotionally charged. You can feel what these two people are feeling. Mari Carr has written the book brilliantly. I connected with both of these characters. You feel for them, you hurt for them, and you love them! They both have huge moments of vulnerability that makes you want to weep, but the other side of that is the fantasies and their sexual play. WOW...seriously, HOT!

I had no idea how the book was going to end and was thrilled with the way that Mari Carr planned it all out...PERFECT!

This is only the second book of Mari Carr's that I have read, but I can guarantee you that you will see more of her novels on my TBR list VERY soon!!

***Nan* says**

I would give this a 3.5 if i could. I liked this book but definately not as much as the Wild Irish series.

Adriana says

Power Play by Mari Carr

This is book #5 in the Black and White collection but a standalone read.

This is a story about two people Reed and Francesca, who are not opposites but mirror images of each other intellectually, strong opinions, dominate, and independent. I enjoyed this short story that had both main characters switching dominate roles equally. Well written and erotic.

Holly says

I LOVED THIS BOOK

I absolutely loved the power struggle between the H/h, both very dominant personalities, which resulted in incredibly hot sex and a very sweet story of ultimate surrender!!

C Joy says

Reading this type of story in a corporate setting written by this author was new for me. Mari Carr is a master storyteller of a casual-sex to real relationship stories. I'm still coming to grips how the characters fell in love based on lust. To give credit, the author added the other dimensions of Francesca and Reed to the mix.

Both of them have strong wills, and they're alpha. I instantly like Frankie's character, she's an achiever and after growing up with a father like that, I'm in awe of how she made a career for herself. She's resilient and spunky, but when she admitted she was afraid, that's where her true strength showed. Reed is your usual alpha male, but only a woman like Frankie could bring him to his knees. The wagers they set gave them an excuse to exercise control on another and though I never get tired of saying this, the sex was awesome, more of hard and fast, but there were vulnerable moments between them that paved the way for something casual to turn serious.

I couldn't ask for anything more, since obviously they have a future together.

Barbara says

Really good erotic read of two successful business people with A-type personalities. Reed Donovan, marketing executive extraordinaire and Francesca "Frankie" Carlyle are competitive, driven marketing professionals forced into a working partnership. As they both fight to win accounts and get the upper-hand on the other, they find that together they can make all their fantasies come true.

Big business has never seemed so enticing! Scorching hot!

Recommended read.

Zarith dol says

It is scorching hot book. I love a strong and independent career woman in dominated male world. The banter or barter more likely between the hero and heroine heat up in most of the scene. Overall it is a book to be recommended.

itmfiddler says

I loved it. Loved it, loved it, loved it.

Guess I can't leave it there. Perhaps a few more words. *g* possible spoiler alert - although I'm trying to keep it generic enough that it gives nothing away.

Francesca was done perfectly. Sexy. Smart. and Smartass - the best kind of heroine LOL. But you still got to see her vulnerable side. And the glimpses of that vulnerable side are exceptionally well done. They fit totally in the story. You don't feel like they were stuck in, just to explain her behavior or put them in to offset snarkiness, the scenes belonged. I loved that Francesca was not afraid to take control and not afraid to demand, and get, what she wants on the sex side either, while still having the empathy/connection/argh-not getting the right word here - with Reed. Francesca totally rocks. She was not a bitch, but she is a very strong woman. I wanna be her. She is one of my favorite heroine of all times.

Reed was also pretty darn awesome. Cool. Confident. and Cocky. (okay, I loved the two alliterations, very cleverly done. much more clever than anything I could come up with LOL). It was fabulous how we got to see his vulnerable side as well. I loved that he shared it with Francesca. And it wasn't a stupid vulnerable side. It really fit him. He wasn't a wimp. He is an aggressive, masculine, sexy man who worked hard, loved hard, looked up to his Uncle, and was thinking his hero didn't respect him. I really felt for him. There were, however, times when I wanted to smack him. Luckily, Francesca was able to handle the smack down, quite capably, for me. LOL

The story flowed so well. I was sucked into it from the moment they had their first conversation. The sex was beyond hot (those of you who read the excerpts - hold onto your hats, it gets hotter). I loved how the wager was handled.

It was a fabulous story. You'll love it. It is a quick read (which was the only thing that I might say wasn't perfect, definite bias here - I love longer books) and it will leave you smiling (and hot).

Stephanie says

Loved this story!!!

Mari Carr is a new favorite!

Marq(ReadingRomanceinColor) says

The story got off to a great start but sort of fizzled towards the end. I liked Frankie until we got to know her more. She's an A type personality that goes toe-to-toe with Reed. I loved their banter and their sexual chemistry leapt off the page. As Reed started getting more emotionally invested, Frankie pulls away. We learn why she's against relationships when we get a peek at her parents' marriage. Frankie doesn't want any man to threaten her independence. For Frankie, Reed is good enough to have sex with and work with but that's it. She pretty much treats him like a man-whore (which he doesn't object to initially). She wants no intimacy which means no kissing. Okay "Pretty Woman". Her 'no kissing' rule annoyed me. As the story continued, my interest in seeing Reed and Frankie get together faded. I would have been happy if they had parted ways as friends. No harm, no foul. For once, I didn't want a couple to have their HEA.

Katherine says

When your one night stand turns into your partner at work all bets are off the table, or maybe just on the table. A well written story where the characters are well fleshed out even for a short story. With beautiful characters and even steamier scenes what more can you ask for.

Alma (aka Mrs. Rhaw) says

It was a sweet and sappy kind of romance. But I somehow enjoyed the sugar high.

Gloria Wenman says

Loved this spunky storyline. The author certainly got into the heads of these two main characters. Their personalities flew off the page and when the sparks flew, we (the readers) all got peppered. No spoilers from me, other than this is a brilliant page turning and thoroughly enjoyable read, worth any ones time in reading. Its quite short read, but packed with a good storyline and some very sizzling episodes...pew! (I read it during the early hours of New Years Day, as I couldn't sleep with all the fireworks going off..... finished it just before breakfast at 6.30a.m.)
