



Hard Ride #1: A Novel in Three Parts

Opal Carew

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Liv never expected to find herself trapped in an alley facing a band of rough bikers. And she certainly never expected to see him again...

When Shock encounters an old flame in a dark alley, it sends him spiraling. She's still as beautiful as ever, but she seems to have fallen on hard times since college, and he's concerned about the risks she seems to take. In order to keep her safe and finally have her for himself, he makes a sensual deal: his help for her complete submission. But will Liv be able to let go of the past and fall for the hard rider?

Hard Ride #1: A Novel in Three Parts Details

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From Reader Review Hard Ride #1: A Novel in Three Parts for online ebook

Mignon Mykel says

4.5 / 5 stars

Received arc through Xpresso Book Tours / NetGalley in exchange for an honest review; original post with excerpt can be found at { mignon mykel : reviews } on 4/8/2015

After starting this part, I realized that Steele was the main character in RIDING STEELE (go figure), so I went back and quickly read that book --

Note: You don't need to read the previous books/serials in order to start this serial. However, you do need to read each part of whichever serial you choose, in order.

While I won't be formally reviewing RIDING STEELE on the blog, the gist I can give you is this:

These books are about opening up to your fears and realizing the potential that you have. And with most erotica stories, these fears are around the sexual kind. Also, with most MC books, there's a lot of grit, a lot of sex, and a lot of sharing...

I don't necessarily agree with the whole, "I love you, I want your body, and if I tell you to share it with three other bikers, you do it" thing -- nope, I actually don't -- but it's the style of this particular genre so I deal with it.

That said, I enjoyed this part of the HARD RIDE serial simply because we don't get to the sharing aspect -- it's the learning part.

We have Liv -- she is a great sister who has done everything in her power to keep her sister's medical bills from piling up. She has sold her townhouse, her car; now she's frantically trying to find other ways to get money to keep the bills at bay while her sister is still inpatient.

She ends up at a biker bar, there to meet a guy named Carl (her ex? Her sister's ex?). He doesn't show, and a group of bikers harass her. On her way out, she (dumbly) takes an alley to find a cab, and ends up running into a savior -- and not just any savior, but a man she knew in college.

Shock has had quite the whirlwind of a life since he last saw Liv. Back then, he had money, a family business he was set to get a good part of, and a crush on Liv; Liv had a crush on Devin, as well, but a night gone wrong made her wary of men and she all but pushed him away.

Now Devin has erased that part of his life and goes by Shock. He's no longer the well-dressed, fancy Devin Liv knew, but a gruff biker -- and he reminds her that Dev is gone, stop calling him it.

I rather liked Shock's gruffness where Liv was concerned, however I felt he acted a bit too entitled to her. He decides to help her out, but in exchange he's going to get what he's always wanted from her, but with a few extra rules in place. Liv has a right to be apprehensive.

So, again, while I'm afraid I'm not going to like where this is going -- the whole 'sharing' thing -- I'm interested in what part two is going to bring us.

The last line of part one certainly has me begging for more.

Amanda Lee Disheveled Book Blog says

This is not your usual gritty MC Romance. It's sweet, some what innocent in the steam dept but still hot and filed with angst.

Devin/Shock is a hard character to get to know well or understand at the moment but I look forward to more from him and Liv.

This is a three part story and I'll give a full review on the Book Three. But I highly reccomend it for those who like sweet tomance books, with a bit of kink.

~~ I received and ARC from the publisher via NetGalley for an honest review. ~~

Sheila says

Opal Carew has done it again. She never fails to deliver the hottest, panty-melting erotica romance ever.

This was just the start of a 3 part novel and the sexual tension is fierce! We get to know Shock better in this book; but don't worry we get to see the rest of Steele's group too.

Shock and Liv had been close friends in college. He had wanted more and had thought she felt the same, but when he tried to ask her on an official date she rejected him. That rejection still hurts even though several years have passed. When Liv brings herself to ask him for a loan he decides to use this as a way to make her spend time with him. He draws up a contract basically saying that she will submit to him sexually over the next 30 days. His hope is to be able to screw her out of his system....he thinks if he can just have her like he had always wanted then he could forget about her.

We know things couldn't work out that smoothly though, right? Despite great effort on both their parts, they still have feelings for one another.

When the truth about the past is revealed it has Shock doubting his whole plan and feeling like a total ass.

Although they don't actually have sex in this part, there's still plenty of sexual activity going on to keep things interesting.; I just kept cheering them on...ready for that moment when they finally do give in to their feelings and let it all go.

Pretty Sassy Cool says

2 stars.

This review also appears on Pretty Sassy Cool.

Warning: This review is spoilery, but that's the way I roll.

I'll be the first to admit that I don't read very many motorcycle club-esque stories. So, some of the things that I didn't like about this book might just be attributed to my naiveté. Actually, one of the things. But that's a big thing.

Liv is waiting in a bar in a questionable part of town when some even *more* questionable guys try to talk to

her.

"A pretty little lady like you shouldn't be all alone. Me and my men would be happy to offer our company."

She runs into her old friend from college, Devin Ancanster, who is now known as Shock. They remember each other very well--they both wanted each other but something stopped them from allowing their relationship to be more than friends and study partners. They might have said what that was, but I can't remember. Regardless, there's this underlying sexual tension on both of their parts. She's hot and beautiful, and he's a big motorcycle-riding dude, so you know they both want to be all over each other. I guess.

When Shock (who I want to refer to as Devin because I just can't get over the name and that's what she called him in college) saves her from being assaulted, he offers to bring her home. She reluctantly lets him. She recalls that he came from big money, and he tells her that he has even more of it now. Convenient, since she's in desperate need of money (view spoiler). After exhausting every avenue to get the money she needs, she goes to DevinShock, and asks to borrow \$50,000.

At first, he's pissed. But then he agrees. In return, he wants her to do something for him.

"You want me to..."--she stared into his steely brown eyes-- "... to date you?"

"Sweetheart, it's not a date I want from you."

Liv sees no other option but to take him up on his offer, so she signs the contract he sends over with some negotiation. Honestly, that part was pretty ridiculous, but whatever. As part of their deal, he picks her up for their month together and takes her to house, where he's more than ready to get their party started. She reveals some stuff to him that is pretty shocking (no pun intended), and as a result, DevinShock is surprisingly gentle with her. All along, Liv realizes that maybe she's more into the idea than she thought.

"Fuck, you are so wet."

He tried to draw his hand away again, but she grabbed his wrist and pulled it back.

"Then do something about it."

We're left with a cliffy, but of course we knew we would be. This is a novella, the first of three, so we expect the second to have an even bigger cliffhanger.

So, what did I like? DevinShock is pretty forward, and I liked that about him.

"Sweetheart for fifty grand, it's going to be a hell of a lot longer than one night." He raised an eyebrow. "and I expect you to be one exceptional fucking lay."

The whole point of the contract is skeevy to me, but I like his personality (what we saw of it) and think he can be funny.

Didn't Like: First of all, the names really threw me off. Like I said, I haven't read other motorcycle club books, so this might all be normal, but really? In addition to Shock, there's Hawg, Crow, Magic, Dom (which I guess is also a real name), and Wild Card. I mean...

I'm not even going to address how totally unbelievable this story is. (view spoiler) Not to mention that she goes *back* to that area with the bar, where she was almost raped. As in goes back there *again*--the next night. O.O

Also, it just wasn't hot to me. It *could* have been hot, but I don't feel like I knew them well enough. So why am I reading the next installment? I just want to know what happens. I don't even know why.

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For more reviews and bookish talk, visit our blog at [Pretty Sassy Cool](#)

Karinosa says

Part #1 I always love this woman books! I do not understand why she is so mean to Devin. I mean what a sexy name. Now at least we know his story. Why he has money and what he does with it. The fact that they knew each other and really were attracted to each other was a nice touch. I like him more now as his biker bad ass self! The fact that he wants to protect her is a good thing, but what will he say when he finds out why she asked him for 50grand!! does he think so low of people when it comes to money? Well, let's see where she takes us. #2 here I come!!

#2 Liv really just needs to tell Shock why she needed the money. I really think she has under-estimated him. The fact that she is trying to come out of her shell is one of the things Shock likes most about Liv and the fact that she is doing it with him. I never really have any complaints about this author. The only complaint I think I have is not enough words ...more more more please! See, not really a complaint! Let's see where this author takes us next....shall we?

#3 I did enjoy this read. I wanted a little more excitement like the ones previous to it. I know Julia was part of it, but maybe a little e bit more. I know Liv was attached to her sister, but the way she fell for Shock was something I wanted her to do harder. Very good read always fast reads as well. Prologue??

I received this ARC from St. Martin's Press via Net Galley for my honest review.
Thank you Net Galley!

Dawn says

This is not for young readers and it is not for the faint of heart. It contains graphic sexual content and suggestions.

The above being said....Oh My!!!!

I read this book after reading Tempest and Steele's story so, so far, pretty tame in comparison. I am on to read part 2, so enough said!?!

L says

The issue with this novel being in three parts is that this first book is finished after just getting to know the

characters. At this point, I don't really like either character which makes a story hard to want to finish. Nonetheless, I will start reading the second book because Carew chose the perfect cliffhanger to end this story.

Rosa Sharon (iScream Books Blog) says

Come-hither jeans?

An intriguing beginning full of secrets and surprises that the author is slowly unraveling for our enjoyment. Shock, the sexy badass biker from Mia's past was a good surprise, or was he? All those feelings long forgotten have resurfaced and are not submitting to their desire to bury them again. What has happened to each of them that caused them to end up where they are now? The spark is still there. Will they ignore it again, or will they give in to it? Can she trust him with her 'situation'? Will he help her? What will it cost her?

Mari?ina says

The first instalment of a three part new series by Opal Carew, is an interesting story, entertaining and with enough sexual tension even if the actual act between the two main characters wasn't there.

Liv and Shock were good friends in college, but they lost touch after. He always wanted her, but she wasn't ready for him. Now years after those days, they find each other again and it's bound to get even messier than the first time.

Liv needs Shock's help to save her sister but in order to obtain the money she needs from him, she has to sign a contract that will bind her to him for a month. A whole month as his own sexual toy, of shorts.

The story and all was ok nothing special or unique, but the main character Liv was somewhat naive and i didn't care about all the sharing with others. I thought Shock would be more possessive of her. Anyway it's a hot little story. We 'll see how it goes.

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE BOOK

- I liked the ending.
- Dual POV.
- The contract seemed familiar. Very GSOG.
- I don't like where this is going with the multiple partners.
- Devin is sweet and considerate with her.
- Liv's secret is a twist that brings some depth to the character and the story.

ARC provided via Netgalley in exchange of an honest review. Thank you!

Angela Cramer says

Just wow. No spoilers here, but the tension between Liv and Shock is out of this world. Unrequited attraction is given an unexpected reunion and second chance. Filled with surprise after surprise. This is the first MC book I've read, but certainly not the last. I cannot wait to read parts two and three, though I think my kindle might implode from the heat.

I received an ARC copy from NetGalley and St. Martin's Press for an honest review.

Tina "IRead2Escape" says

Hotness Rating 4 out of 5

Hard Ride is the fourth book of the Ready to Ride series by Opal Carew. It is also broken up in 3 different parts, so I will be reviewing each individual installment and giving my thoughts of the overall story, as well.

Hard Ride part #1 is the beginning of a great adventure by Opal Carew. If you've not read a book by Opal Carew be prepared for hot, spicy sex that pushes the boundaries for most anyone.

Shock had a life before the life of freedom that he leads now with his MC. And that life just happened to include the pretty young thing in skin tight pants playing with fire right before his very eyes. The girl that left him behind. The girl that he's never been able to forget.

Liv has gotten herself in quite the predicament. She's alone in a dark alley and about to be attacked by a less than desirable man. Thank God someone has come along to rescue her. Imagine her surprise when she learns it's the only guy she had ever given her heart to. Only he's very different now. So much has changed. For the both of them.

Eventually, the couple get down to a conversation that reveals so much, yet brings about more questions. Liv confides in Shock that she needs money desperately. A lot of money. She doesn't tell him why, but he offers to give it to her for a price. Shock doesn't want paid back he wants Liv to sign a contract. He wants Liv at his beck and call for a month. In any way that he wants her. She's willing to do anything for the money that essentially can help save her sister's life.

They set out to agree on a contract that is agreeable for both parties. Which turns out to be pretty entertaining. At least I enjoyed it. Finally, with the contract hammered out and signed they begin their time together. Shock takes Liv to meet his gang and to begin the 30 days they have together.

The heat this couple generates is sizzling. Their sexual chemistry just leaps off of the page. But, it's not just sex. You can feel their connection. The care that Shock has for Liv. When Liv gets around to telling Shock what happened in college to make her run the other way he wants to release her from the contract and take her back to the life that she has.

You can find this review and others at www.riverinaromantics.com

Ari Reavis says

This book was given to me by Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

This was like 50 shades of grey with a biker. And uh.... minus the actual sex. Down to the contract and what the girl didn't want to do on the contract. The girl had a contract because of a loan she wanted from the biker and there was a twist in their backstories that you didn't expect. Ended abruptly though.

Jennifer says

ARC received for review

Great start to this novel. Shock needs to get his head out of his a\$\$\$. Nice cliffhanger... I need to see more of Steele and Tempest in the next part.

Kathleen says

Story Rating ~ 4 Stars

Hero Rating ~ 5 SEXY, BAD-ASS, Motorcycle Riding STARS!

Heroine Rating ~ 4 Stars

Romance Rating ~ 4 Stars

Heat Level ~ 4 HOT Stars and getting hotter!

Ending ~ To be continued

Overall Rating ~ 4 Stars

OH YEAH! I REALLY enjoyed the first part of this series. It kept me interested and turning the pages.

My favorite character so far is the hero Devin, AKA Shock. Ladies I'm claiming him as MINE! He's so dam sexy and SO MUCH MORE! I'd love to take a ride with him in more ways than one.

The heroine Olivia, AKA Liv, is a well written character too. She is a very caring type of person and I really like that.

Although they have not had sex yet, the heat level and sexual tension is very high. That is one thing that Opal Carew never disappoints me with.

I have been craving a Motorcycle romance and when I saw this 3 part series at Netgalley and that the author is Opal Carew, it was a no brainier for me. YEP, this is a 3 part story and I enjoyed it SO MUCH that I will be starting on part Two right away.

I received a copy of this book from St. Martin's Press via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Lilian Flesher says

I received an arc copy of this book from the publishers via NetGalley in return for an honest review

what a splendid story, a young heroine named Liv, and our hero Shock (real name Devlin).

This pair have a history, from college, but it was a short-lived romance, Liv distanced herself from Shock after a traumatic event. Shock's family were well off and it appeared he was destined to be mega rich. However, his father and brother lost the business and the money after getting involved in embezzlement.

Years later Liv runs into Shock again, now a member of a biker gang, he is a big muscled, tattooed, tough looking guy, he looks hard as nails but do not be fooled, he actually has a soft heart. He is a bit of a dominant person, hot as hell, and, even though, his family fortune has gone, he already has made his own fortune!!!

Liv's priority is her family, her sister is sick and needs treatment, which, of course, is expensive. Liv decides to ask Shock to help her (but fails to tell him why), of course he is a hot blooded male and takes this opportunity to get Liv to do his bidding, he lends her the cash in return for her being with him for a month. He is not being sadistic, he clearly has feelings for Liv, and this sets the bond between them both, for the 2nd and 3rd part of this series.
