



Pregnant at Acosta's Demand (Harlequin Presents)

Maya Blake

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Baby by blackmail!

Shy Suki Langston has desired Ramon Acosta for years, and one shocking night he gives her pleasure beyond her wildest imaginings. But when an unexpected pregnancy ends in tragedy, Suki knows that any hope of a future together has been extinguished...

Then the arrogant magnate returns, determined that Suki will provide him with an heir! Ramon's outrageous demand reignites both Suki's longing for a child and the burning memory of his touch...

Suki agrees, certain she can keep her physical responses under control! Until their explosive reunion proves just how susceptible her body and heart still are to him...

Pregnant at Acosta's Demand (Harlequin Presents) Details

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Martha says

I read this book awhile ago and just remembered enjoying it immensely and would recommend. It is one of your normal HEAs.

Tonya Warner says

Suki Langston has always avoided men and relationships. With the lessons her mother taught her of the dangers and drawbacks to single parenthood, she never wanted to have history repeat itself. But there was just something about her best friend Luis' brother Ramon.

Ramon Acosta is more than just a super rich business man and artist. And there is something about Suki that draws him in. But their one night together is all he can offer. Until tragedy compounds tragedy and she comes back in to his life.

Suki makes the terrifying decision alone to abort the little girl that has a congenital heart defect that makes it impossible for her child to survive. Alone with her sick mother to care for, she even loses her best friend and his parents to an accident. The inheritance he leaves her puts her back in to Ramon's path. And he wants revenge for the death of his child. And a chance to rebuild a family.

But all is not as it seems. And there are more twists and turns before two broken hearts can mend together.

Carol says

I enjoyed this story. It was better than I was expecting and took a little time for me to really get into. I started off right in the thick of things but then after the first few chapters we jump nearly a year ahead and have a lot of inner chatter by the heroine to catch us up. Not to mention a lot of vague references as most the author was dragging out until it could be properly revealed at the right time. I get that, I do, but it was also a little frustrating.

Another thing is although I enjoyed the book, I didn't enjoy the random angst caused by the ex of the hero. Yes, she was obviously a nasty piece of work and the heroine by all accounts was aware of this and held strong to trusting the hero despite the crap shoved in her face to dissuade that trust. So props for that but still, the angst exploded onto the last pages of the book which lead to the HEA...of course. The last minute "I love you" being used in the final chapter annoyed me. I felt it should have been said before then.

Dottie says

What happens when you finally have the opportunity to have that one night with a man you have desired for

years, Suki Langston takes it. She has been friends with Ramon Acosta's brother Luis for years so a chance encounter was bound to happen just didn't realize the outcome. One night of passion turns into a nightmare for Suki when she finds she is pregnant but will not be a happy outcome. She tries to reach Ramon but to no avail and realizes he has not broken the engagement he said he had. What happens next is for the reader to see. Ms. Blake writes a wonderful story with so much depth and you cannot help but become immersed in the story. There is tragedy and pain but so much love that will give you a HEA that is amazing. Loved the story she is truly a marvelous author.

Geraldine Sadiku says

An at times intense romantic read that pulls you through just about every emotion that you can experience makes this a superb read.

Rgreader says

I read some reader reviews on this book and based on them my reaction- hero lives in Cuba in a villa. Really? Cuba is a communist dictatorship. Of all the countries to create a happy romance around this one is picked. After finding out the hero had a villa in Cuba I instantly thought the happy ever after would end with the Castro govt killing the hero or heroine or both and confiscating his wealth. Then I found out the heroine had an abortion. How is that escapism fitting the HP line? I read HP to escape from horrible reality and abortion is an horrible reality.

This is definitely an author using romance to preach about political matters- abortion & Cuba. That's not what I want in an HP.

Sofia says

What an infuriating man. But then again, what a loving man.

Francis says

Me sorprendió esta novela porque no es un amor a primera vista. Con unas historias trágicas tanto de Ramón como de Suki parece que los malos entendidos y las verdades a medias que se presentan en esta "asociación" o contrato están siempre presentes, llega un momento en que pienso. Acaso nunca van a hablar? Pero así parece que nunca se entienden de alguna manera los sentimientos parecen ir apareciendo aparte de obviamente la fuerte atracción física. El final con su epílogo feliz, me gusto y es lo que yo esperaba de una novela romántica

Tigger says

Good read but skipped around

lily waheed says

non Virgin heroine

Lupita Figueroa BookLoverRomantic says

Malísima. Una novela sin ton ni son. Un aborto de por medio. Un hombre demasiado rudo y humillante. Una protagonista boba y temerosa. No sé qué le pasa a Maya Blake. Por qué alguna novela le ha quedado buena y otras, como esta, tan mala.

StMargarets says

Trigger Warning: abortion

2.5 stars rounded up

H/h meet through the H's brother who has the same birthday as the heroine. The h and the H's brother were at university together. The heroine has had a huge crush on the hero for a few years. It leaves her alternatively tongue-tied and sharply defensive. When the story opens, the Cuban hotelier/artist hero has just dumped his fiancé and is in a grumpy mood when he joins the h and his brother for a birthday drink. The H/h end up going to bed together for a one night stand. Hero leaves without a word. A few weeks later the heroine sees in a tabloid he's still with his dancer fiancé.

A few weeks after that she finds out she's pregnant and doesn't tell the hero because he's with his fiancé. Eventually she does tell hero's brother that the fetus has a congenital heart defect and won't survive birth. She has an abortion at a private clinic. She makes the hero's brother promise not to tell the hero.

Meanwhile, her mother has cancer and the heroine has to take off work for stress leave. The hero's brother, mother and father are killed in Mexico. The heroine tries to contact the hero, but he's not answering her calls or emails. Then a month later, she gets an email from the hero's lawyers in Cuba. She's to fly to Cuba for a memorial service and the reading of the brother's will.

Turns out the hero knew about the abortion (but not the reason) and now wants the heroine to have a child with him to make up for all of the loss he has endured.

(view spoiler)

This was a classic HP. The hero was a grumpy jerk from the beginning and never lightened up for the entire book. He was supposed to be a sensitive artist type, but I wasn't buying it. OW was either completely insane or the hero didn't make his boundaries very clear because she had amazing access to someone who had security and billions. The heroine was just as snippy as the hero and clammed up at crucial moments when a bit of communication could save a lot of heartache. Like I said, typical HP.

The poor hero's brother wasn't given half a thought (or page) after he died. The abortion of a nonviable fetus was glossed over – hero didn't question her, the author didn't provide much info for the reader, so it's hard to judge the heroine's decision.

I couldn't warm up to either the H/h. They were both too snippy. There were some genuine moments where I was absorbed in their story, but in that my-blood-pressure-is-going-up-way and not in an I'm-enthralled-way. A mixed bag of a story.

Jenny says

Heroine aborted the hero's child (because it had a heart condition). Are we sure this book is a Harlequin?? Author to avoid from now on!!

Lindsay says

3.5

Marsha says

Ramon Acosta is one of the standards of romantic novels—the exotic, hot-blooded OTHER. He's from Cuba so he's got machismo galloping through his body like an out-of-control runaway stallion. He's a “six-foot-four tower of masculine sleekness”. Yeah, we get it; he's a hunk of sex on legs. Pure man-meat with man heat. Rrrrrrrr.

He's also very rich so he's the typical domineering, dictatorial, arrogant, controlling tool who sees nothing wrong with ordering extensive background checks, financial searches and investigative reports on a woman with whom he spent a one-night stand. All these are supposed to be signs that he cares but comes off as the ultimate signs of disturbing, 21st-century cyberstalking.

Why is this supposed to be attractive? Because he's handsome? Because he's wealthy? Because he's powerful? Because he's a hot Latino stud between the sheets? Who cares?!? He's a unnerving jerk and in real life any woman with sense would run screaming for the hills.

When he gets the wrong idea about Suki Langston after learning about her aborted pregnancy, he throws vicious slurs her way, sneers at her attempts at explanation and basically insults her. That is why he insists he'll only let her have the half million dollars his late brother Luis left her if she bears his child. Huh?

Suki Langston is broke. Of course she is. In no way is a woman ever allowed financial parity with a man, not in this type of novel. With his money and power, Ramon has her luggage whisked away without her knowledge into his villa. He donates a generous check to a charity and gets her name moved from the top of the list for a sperm donor all the way to the bottom so she loses that option for getting pregnant again. Bit by bit, he then manipulates and maneuvers her into accepting his terms so he can get a child out of her.

She becomes worried at how he's controlling her life. Me, too, sister. This is the classic behavior of abusive boyfriends. All the time Suki was considering his demands, I was furiously thinking of a way out of the net he's winding around her. Finally, I got it. The contract Suki signs means that she has to bear his child but nowhere does it state that she has to have sex with him. Since she wants a sperm donor and he's looking for a surrogate, they can use artificial insemination to get her pregnant. His sperm, one of her eggs. Since he's rich, he could afford the procedure. Easy peasy!

It's the perfect solution when two people don't really like each other but she wants to get pregnant with his child—or, in this case, he wants her pregnant with his seed. Ramon might not like it but too bad for him. It's her body and her choice, just as it was to terminate her previous pregnancy.

Incidentally, that's only reason this gets more than one star: the heroine actually aborts her unborn fetus. You don't see that kind of real-life scenario in Harlequin romances. Either the woman gets pregnant out of wedlock and the man demands she marry him or she has a spontaneous miscarriage. But abortions? Never seen...until now. A woman who takes charge of her own body to get rid of a child that in all likelihood wouldn't live is an impressive innovation in a contemporary romantic novel and a step into the modern world of feminine autonomy.

But Ramon doesn't see it that way. His barely tamped anger makes you afraid for Suki and smacks of antediluvian retrograde ideas about the female body and who should control it. Suki isn't clever enough to come up with the in-vitro fertilization plan to maintain her independence from Ramon's demands and she's been nourishing a sickly crush on him since she was a girl so she really doesn't try too hard to get away from him. She basically becomes his mistress and he whisks her away to screw her whenever and wherever he wants, happily ever after ensues, blah blah blah. Nuts to them both.
