



Sweet Sacrifice

L.D. Rose

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Sweet Sacrifice L.D. Rose Heaven is hell without her...

Former Navy SEAL Sebastian “Bash” Lockard died in Afghanistan after leaping on a grenade to save his comrades. Little did he know his act of heroism would grant him a ticket into Heaven’s elite army as one of the few and powerful Archangels. Struggling with his new existence, Bash still retains his human memories, leaving behind a wife he loves with all of his heart. Although he’s forbidden to see her, he can’t resist her lure, or the mortal desires he harbors for her.

As a young widow and nurse, Irene Lockard still mourns her husband two years after his untimely death. His absence is everywhere, and when her best friend weds, she hits an emotional rock bottom. As if summoned from the skies above, Sebastian appears before her, and they share an unforgettable night. But when he once again vanishes, she wonders if she’s truly gone mad with grief.

The only way Sebastian can remain with Irene is if he makes the ultimate sacrifice. But will she overcome her fear of losing him again to another war?

A standalone paranormal romance in The Soul Mate Tree Series

Finalist in the 2018 Kathryn Hayes "When Sparks Fly" Contest for Paranormal/Sci-Fi/Fantasy Romance sponsored by RWA-NYC

Sweet Sacrifice Details

Date : Published September 13th 2017 by Soul Mate Publishing

ISBN :

Author : L.D. Rose

Format : ebook 152 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Romance, Paranormal Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary,
Fantasy Romance

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From Reader Review Sweet Sacrifice for online ebook

Lea ★ says

ARC kindly provided by author.

I usually don't read paranormal romance, it is just not my thing, so I tend to avoid, but when I got an opportunity to review this book, I read a bunch of great things about L.D. Rose's work, so I gave it a go. Well... let me tell you... I will certainly read explore more of this genre.

I tried to find words to describe this book, and came up with intense, captivating, powerful... and just simply great! There are demons and angels, and a wonderful combo of paranormal and romance.

I really don't want to spoil too much for all you readers, since I think you should just get into this completely blind. Don't read the reviews, just pick this up. You won't be sorry.

Natalie The Biblioholic says

I'm a sucker for a SEAL. Throw in the paranormal element and how can I not want to immediately dive into the plot? In *Sweet Sacrifice*, L.D. Rose did an incredible job of blending romance, suspense, intrigue, mythology, religion and the paranormal. Sounds like a total blast, right?

Bash Lockard died while in tour in Afghanistan after jumping onto a live grenade to save his team. He was a brave and honorable man, who was survived by the love of his life - his wife, Irene. Irene was still mourning her husband and while it had been two years since his death, she couldn't move on. When her best friend gets married, she stands at her side as Matron of Honor, although the last place she wants to be is at a wedding. But wait... over there... that face... it couldn't be... yet that man is a dead ringer for her dead husband! Bash is back but he's still dead. He still can't be with his soul mate. Why? He's answered to a higher calling... okay, he's a freaking ANGEL!! A demon-fighting, earth-protecting, hot AF ANGEL!! Surely fate can find a way for these lovers to be reunited. Right?! Well, for them to be together once again, Bash would have to make the largest sacrifice of all. Is the sacrifice too great to have his love back?

Goodness, this story was amazing! It was short but it didn't feel like it was lacking anything despite its length. Bash was a hero I could completely get behind and although Irene annoyed me a bit with her reactions, I kinda got it. How the heck would I react in a similar circumstance? No clue. So who the heck am I to judge, right? I was all set to find out how these two would get together but I felt bad about what the sacrifice was. Regardless, Bash and Irene were insanely hot together and their chemistry, both physically and emotionally was off-the-charts. Is it crazy that I started falling for Gabriel? I wonder how we could convince the author to continue along this line and give us a little something for him too ;)

Release Date: September 13, 2017

Genre: Paranormal Romance

POV: Dual - 3rd person

Heat: 3.5 out of 5

Type: Standalone - Book 9 of the Soul Mate Tree series

Mette says

Angels and Demons. Love and duty. Endure the pain and give in to the sweet sacrifice.

L.D. Rose shows raw emotions and pain in her new novel Sweet Sacrifice, and once again I'm blown away by her poetic writing.

Sebastian 'Bash' Lockart has died in Afghanistan, saving the lives of his group. He has become one of God's warriors and is now fighting to protect humanity from the terrors they will never know. He has a group of other arc angels around him, and he is happy. But every time he thinks of her he is filled with regrets, and he knows it's impossible for him to carry one.

Irene Lockart lost her husband in Afghanistan, and she has never really gotten over it. She misses her dead husband so much, and it's impossible for her to go on with her life. That is until one day she sees him and she realizes that there is more between Heaven and Earth than humans can comprehend.

Sebastian is made to face the consequences, and he makes the ultimate sacrifice to be with the love of his life.

L.D. Rose gripped my heart and squeezed it hard with her story Sweet Sacrifice. She made me cry big ugly tears, and I love her for it.

These two star-crossed lovers are separated by the greatest wall of them all, death, and yet Mrs. Rose manages to tell a beautiful love story with a happy ending that makes me smile through my tears.

L.D. Rose has a special gift of combining blood and raw violence with love and tenderness and every time I pick up one of her books, I know I'm in for a treat. She feeds a hunger inside of me I wasn't aware that I had. An appetite for action and boy, does she give me action! The raw force of her heroes blows me sky high.

To the fans of paranormal action packed romance, this is a must read. It will make you cry and curse, but in the end, it will leave you with a great love story.

Kahea says

*** 4 Stars***

So, I've been waffling over this review for the last oh...48 hours or so, and it hasn't been because I didn't like the story, but because I thoroughly enjoyed it and the words that I've attempted to put down just haven't been good enough. Not necessarily a good thing when it comes to doing the reviewer thing, but such is the case. So we're going to try doing the brain drain method instead and see what comes of it.

In a lot of ways Sweet Sacrifice was everything I was expecting. A nice compact second chance at love in a paranormal world novella. The writing was clean and the pacing was very good. What I didn't expect was the emotional gut punch this one ended up laying on me. From the description I knew that Bash & Irene's story would pull at my heartstrings, but what I ended up feeling went well beyond that. I really liked both of them and because of that I hurt for both of them. For what they had, what they lost and how devastating the aftermath was for both of them. Their grief jumped off the page and barreled straight through me. It was a strange mix of unexpected and yet welcome at the same time.

But while their grief was quite potent the story wasn't drowning in sorrow. There was a good balance of

humor, sweetness and smexyness and even some great action scenes as Irene and Bash found their way back to each other. I really liked how Heaven and Hell were laid out and wouldn't mind revisiting it in the future, especially since I'd love to have more of Gabriel. So, if you're in the mood for a quick PNR read with heart, then this one is for you!

~ Copy provided by the author & voluntarily reviewed ~

Whispering Stories says

Reviewed on www.whisperingstories.com

This book was far too upsetting for me – I'd picked it up on principle without reading the synopsis because L.D. Rose is one of my favourite authors and let's be honest here, I'm really lazy.

I didn't realise that the author was going to take a bat to my emotions and live off my tears (unconfirmed rumours report that she lives off tears, she may just revel in them) when I opened this book, but it became clear that this was the case early on in the book.

The main character, Bash, is a former Navy SEAL who died in the course of duty and is now working on the side of angels in a war against demons. Firstly, I knew that Navy SEAL romance was a trope but this is the first one I've ever read – I kinda like it, it automatically assumes that the hero is honourable and there will be some violence (both are perks in my mind).

The angel thing didn't entirely work for me, just because I'm not a huge fan of angels as a concept. Why I'm happy with demons and vampires, but not angels is a mystery for another day. I will point out that this book wasn't religious in any way, or to my mind, blasphemous, so.... there's that.

The writing style is so compelling, as always, which is why I devoured this book all in one. It's a mix of paranormal and mundane reality to highlight the magical bits and romance. It's a solid love between two normal people, cut short by tragedy. What's especially refreshing is that the couple is already married, so there's none of the 'getting to know each other' stage which I know some people find tedious.

What devastated me about this book was the stark reality of grief. Irene lost her husband to war two years ago and she can still barely function, knowing that there are millions of women out there like her that will never see their loved ones again breaks my heart. It's also the reason I can't watch war films or documentaries.... and don't think I'll be able to read another soldier romance again!

This is another great book from the author and I would highly recommend it for fans of romance, especially paranormal romance, who enjoy a good tearjerker!

Denise says

I voluntarily read an advanced copy of this book.

Omg! What a marvelous story! I could not put this book down. It draws you in from the beginning(in a

zoo!). LDRose gets it. She crafts a great story. I did not want the a story to end but sighed with happiness at the ending.
More please!!!!

Dawn West says

Actual Rating: 4.5

Disclaimer: I received a complimentary copy of this book.

What a great story about second chances!

This is now the third book I've read of this series and I must say that every one has impressed me so far. Each book is written by a different author but all with the same soul mate theme. This one was a paranormal romance whereas the others were contemporary or historical so there is certainly a variety of sub-genres available.

In this story, we have Irene, a widow who is having a hard time moving on after the death of her husband. She has a lot of regrets about the condition of their marriage just before he died and her best friend's upcoming wedding is just another painful reminder of the marriage she lost and the man who is gone. That is, until a little girl puts a spark of hope back into her life.

Bash might have sacrificed himself to save his fellow soldiers but it's the loss of his wife that hurts the most. And it's even worse knowing she still exists on the same planet he now roams while hunting demons. So when he spots her again, it goes against everything in his angelic being to stay away from her. Even if it costs him his immortal future, he will do anything to have just one more moment with the woman he loves.

This was a nice read. I have a love/hate relationship with angel and demon themed stories. If there is too much background given on the angels and their duties, I tend to lose interest. I'm just not into reading religious books and some of them get way too into that element of of the story. I'm happy to say that this one doesn't do that. There is mention of archangels and some backstory but it isn't loaded down with it. There was a good balance.

The plot moves steadily along and I was happy to see the romance didn't take long to come into play. Since our couple know each other and had a prior relationship, there is an emotional bond already existing. I love reading second chance stories because we get to skip straight to the good parts.

And boy does this romance have some good parts. *wink* There is a good amount of naughty time happening. I think our couple's first reunion was by far my favorite scene of the whole book. It literally gave me chills. I could easily see this turned into a movie and that scene would be a powerful one.

In closing...

I am definitely open to reading more books in this series. I've yet to be disappointed. 4.5 suns!

Full review on blog:

<https://uptildawnbookblog.blogspot.com/2017/09/review-blitz-sweet-sacrifice-by-ld-rose.html>

Monique says

The author was kind enough to give me an ARC for this review

Why is it harder to write a review about a book that I love, over writing a scathing review on one that I hate? Maybe because I couldn't find a damn thing wrong here, perhaps?

Anyway...I love this story! I read it twice. I'm sure that I will be reading it again - and again - in the future.

With this being my fourth read by L.D. Rose, she is in my top five, period.

'Sweet Sacrifice' is an awesome paranormal romance, with a *PERFECT BALANCE* of romance, intrigue, magic, intense steamy sex, nasty fight scenes, and humor.

The H/h were real people, perfect in all of their human flaws. Very likeable. (I didn't feel like killing them off). Along with Sebastian and Irene, there was an assortment of good friends, gorgeous kick-ass angels, and nasty evil monsters from hell.

Some of the scenes had me - a *hard-hearted Hatty* - teary-eyed. They were written that well.

5 flaming stars!

InD'tale Magazine says

"Sweet Sacrifice" is the ninth book in the Soul Mate Tree series.

Read full review in the 2017 December issue of InD'tale Magazine.

Siobhan says

I cannot begin to explain how much I adore L.D Rose's The Order of the Senary series. Without a doubt, it's one of my favourite paranormal romance series. Which is saying something, when you stop to think of how only two of the books have been released thus far. It's a sure sign you're a goner when you're as addicted as I am so quickly. Knowing how much I adore The Order of the Senary series, it should come as no surprise to hear I jumped at Sweet Sacrifice as soon as I had the chance.

Sweet Sacrifice is the ninth book in The Soul Mate Tree Collective. It's a series of standalone novellas, one for each month for thirteen months. We're promised a collection of wonderful stories, all linked back to the soul mate tree. Thus far, I have read the first three novellas in the collective. The first three novellas – Realm of the Dragon, Can't Stop the Music, and Between Venus & Mars – were all wonderful reads. I thoroughly enjoy them all, each offering something very different. I also have the fourth novella – The Trail to Love – on my Kindle, ready for me to dive into soon. Despite having novella number four on my Kindle, I had to read Sweet Sacrifice first. L.D. Rose is one of those authors I will willingly bump up my to-read list. I needed to know what happened in Sweet Sacrifice, and I needed a fresh dose of L.D. Rose.

Sweet Sacrifice is a wonderful addition to The Soul Mate Tree Collective. This isn't just my L.D. Rose bias speaking – it's a fact that I need to state. The story is wonderful, playing with so many of your emotions throughout. Honestly, it's a truly wonderful read. It had the trademarks I have come to recognise as pure L.D. Rose, along with offering a range of things we have yet to experience in The Order of the Senary series.

Without a doubt, this story really shows off what L.D. Rose is capable of.

If you're a fan of L.D. Rose, you need to pick this one up. If you're a fan of The Soul Mate Tree Collective, you need to pick this one up. If you're new to either, you cannot go wrong with picking this one up.

Sweet Sacrifice will be a difficult read for a number of people – it is a fact people need to be aware of in advance. Our male lead has made the greatest sacrifice possible – he gave his own life to save his brothers in arms. Sometimes authors fail to hit the right tone when telling soldier's stories, yet this one is deeply emotional. There is a certain point in this story where things become overly emotional, where the details are shared, and people need to be warned of this. Not because there is a lot of gore, but because of how heavy the emotions are. There is no denying it will play with your heartstrings.

In addition to this deeply emotional story, L.D. Rose delivers a fantastic supernatural storylines. I like to think you can never go wrong with angels and demons, but you can. There are more bad stories out there than I care to accept. Sweet Sacrifice is not one of them. The classics of angel and demon stories can be found within this one, along with enough new stuff being introduced to make the story unique. You're quickly pulled into the supernatural world, coming to love the world building and the characters.

My favourite aspect of this story was the way L.D. Rose kept us guessing until the very end. I once read an interview where a romance author spoke of how happily ever afters are a must. Romance is escapism, the fairy tale everyone is looking for. We expect to see rainbows and butterflies. L.D. Rose had me seriously doubting this. In the back of my mind, I was cursing the soul mate tree. It had to work – it just had to. Yet L.D. Rose had me seriously worried. The tension really does build in this regard. Mix it in with all the heavy emotions involved in the overall storyline, and you're left a tight ball of tension throughout.

Without a doubt, this was a wonderful read. I cannot recommend this one enough, as it truly is beautiful.

Megan says

I can't even begin to explain how much I loved this book. Even after turning the final page, I couldn't come to terms with the fact that it was over.

L.D. has a way of writing a story that sucks you in until the very last page. A movie playing before your eyes. It's incredible!

5 shining stars!!!

Anniek says

Bash saved his comrades when he jumped on a grenade during a mission in Afghanistan. He willingly died knowing that the others would live. He served his country with pride and honor and after his death he became an angel. Now he's fighting monsters and demons to keep the world safe. Bash never stopped loving his wife Irene, but he knows that he can't interfere with her life on earth. The day he sees Irene dancing with another man on a wedding he can't deny his feelings any longer. He's missed her so much, only how can he go back to her when she thinks he has been dead for two years? Will Bash make the ultimate sacrifice for the life he thought he could no longer have?

Irene has been mourning the death of her husband. He was her true love and her hero. She still thinks about their time together every single day. Irene and Bash are soul mates and I loved to read about how passionately they love each other. Bash is a stunning man with a bad temper and he dislikes all the rules of the angel realm. He loves his angel brothers and sisters, but he still aches for his human life. I fell in love with Bash immediately. He's so sweet and caring to his loved ones but also a badass warrior. I loved this contrast in his character, it makes the story really interesting.

Sweet Sacrifice is a beautiful story about a love so pure and true that it even brings an angel to his knees. It has a fast pace and is full of action. This kept me on the edge of my seat. I found myself using every minute I could find to read another paragraph. I carried my kindle everywhere. I have been hooked on the way L.D. Rose writes ever since I read The Order of The Senary series and I couldn't wait to read Bash and Irene's story. I'm a big fan of L.D. Rose's writing and I highly recommend any of her books.

Amy Shelton says

Independent reviewer for Archaeolibraian – I Dig Good Books

Wowzers. This book was heavy, so heavy. It was full of so many emotions I just can't fully verbalize the way they made me feel. It was intense. It was a beautifully well-told story.

I really enjoyed this story. I enjoyed everything about it; the characters, the plot, the details, and descriptions. The descriptions in this really made it bone chilling at times. It left you with goosebumps. It left you with your heart in your throat. It made me second guess book vs reality. Perfection!

This is the first time reading anything by L.D. Rose and I'm incredibly impressed. It was a great one to start off with and if you haven't read it before, I suggest that you should. Just be prepared and have some tissues handy.

I'd definitely read this again and it has made me want to search out for some other stories written by the author, in hopes of finding another gem!

*A Copy of this book was provided to me with no requirements for a review. I voluntarily read this book and my comments here are my honest opinion.

Dianne says

He loved his country, his fellow soldiers and most of all, his beautiful wife. Navy SEAL Bash Lockard gave his life to save his comrades on a battlefield in Afghanistan and that single act of heroism allowed him to train to become an Archangel, a warrior in the eternal battle of good versus evil. Bash struggles with his Heavenly commitment because his heart is still shattered by the loss of his soulmate, Irene, still alive and still worth more to him than any gift he could receive and he is forbidden to contact her.

At her lowest and most lost point, which he has witnessed, he can no longer stay away, and the magic of their love is a forbidden fruit that Bash cannot refuse and for which he must pay a hefty price and make a final sacrifice that cannot be changed. How far would you go for your soulmate? Could your risk condemning your eternal soul?

There is nothing better than a love that transcends all! We say we would give up everything for the one we love, but could we give up our eternal future for an unknown result?

L.D. Rose's **SWEET SACRIFICE** is a testament to the power of true love and the pain not being able to share it can bring. It is also a tale of friendship and prioritizing commitments...okay, okay, **SWEET SACRIFICE** just happens to have some hot angels and just maybe some passionate steam rising off the pages! Ms. Rose has done a fabulous job of creating a world where high tension, romance and heartbreak, even in the "perfect" world of angels is pretty consistently human. (Speaking of those angels, wow)

Are you holding out for a hero, "that guy" that loves true? Wings or not, Bash is pretty sigh worthy and his story is romantic bliss.

I received an ARC edition from L.D. Rose. My review is voluntary!

Series: The Soul Mate Tree - Book 9

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Goodreads: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3...>

Snippet and Teasers: <http://writerldrose.com/sweet-sacrifice/>

Mg ♥ The Bookishmedialite says

L.D. Rose drew me into a fantastical world of angels, friendship, and love... and not any kind of love, but true love. A love that is stronger than death. A love that has the power to bear all things.

Battles, betrayals, danger, a panty-melting chemistry and a forbidden love abound. I was never bored while reading **Sweet Sacrifice**. Bash & Irene's journey kept me on the edge of my seat from start to finish. *Rose* knows her way around this genre, her world-building is addictive. I can't wait to read more from her.

"He would show her just how much her life meant to him."

There's no doubt I fell in love with an angel... or two. Here's hoping the author gives us more from a certain angel called Gabriel.

Short but powerful, **Sweet Sacrifice** will definitely satisfy paranormal romance lovers.

You can find me here: [FB PAGE](#) | [INSTAGRAM](#)

