



Rhythm & Blu

S.L. Jennings

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I fell in love with a boy whose laughter was the soundtrack of my heart. And I played it on repeat until life's streetlights flickered on and stole him away.

Riot Blu.

Top 40 f*ckboi.

Paparazzi player.

Trashy reality TV trainwreck.

But once upon a time, he was the boy next door.

Once upon a time, he was every note in every song on every mixtape he had ever made for me.

Now he's back. A lot more arrogant. A little more tortured. And more gorgeous than any memory I held dear could do justice.

I know no good can come from being anywhere near him. But Seattle is only so big, and if I'm going to get the exclusive of my career, I have to swallow my pride, take that dreaded walk down memory lane and agree to his terms.

Move in with him.

Immerse myself in his life—the life he left me to build.

And try not to fall back in love with the man who ripped my world in two.

Rhythm & Blu Details

Date :

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Author : S.L. Jennings

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From Reader Review Rhythm & Blu for online ebook

Alla says

Really, really good even though it got a bit predictable towards the end and I had a strong feeling that it would play out like it did.

Overall I really liked it and had a hard time putting it down today until I managed to finish it.

Shari Kay says

not my kind of H...or h

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

Helen Altafulla says

THIS BOOK WAS EVERYTHING!

So many emotions, but the biggest thing was the constant smile on my face. This story, Riot and Rox, took me on quite a ride. It had me laughing and laughing and swooning, and it even brought tears to my eyes.

Rox has a mouth on her, but her best friend Haze? I NEED a Haze in my life. These two girls continuous banter was Comedy Central worthy.

“Seriously, the girl is so starved for attention, I’m afraid she may gnaw off Riot’s arm. Which would probably be the only decent meal she’s had in years. Like, come on. Try a biscuit, bitch.”

Those two, I could read an entire book of just them having pointless conversations. Almost stealing the show.

But, then comes in Riot Blu. Everything turns to background noise once that man takes the scene. The relationship between Roxy and Riot was such a delicious slow burn and a hidden secret that might destroy them forever.

A first love that was completely shattered with no hope for a future. Twelve years apart and a first look again has them both struggling to keep hidden feelings at bay. A million obstacles between them and an entire social media world against them.

I want to talk all about these two, but I’ll end up sounding like a gossiping grandma and give the entire plot away.

Just know, these two had such sexual chemistry that nearly burned my kindle away. Riot and his delicious swagger with a hidden good big hidden within that had me constantly drooling. And the love these two shared over 90’s RnB music had me take several trips down memory lane.

I loved everything about this book! Open it up and let your body feel the rhythm and groove to the love and music.

Claypot_ Reads - Michelle says

This was just the story I needed today. Binged in one session this book had me smiling so hard one minute and tearing up the next. It's a fantastic take on the rock star romance and I adored Riot and his Rox. First loves are hard to forget and second chances are rare. Add in fantastic secondary characters and music references that made my heart happy and you've got a kick ass read.

I received an arc of this book.

Camila Matuella says

Eu não senti a conexão entre os personagens, parecia que eles tinham zero química, além da mocinha cair em todos os clichês possíveis e imagináveis.

Blu foi um mocinho sem muito carisma também.

:(

Melanie (mells_view) says

You don't have to play the villain in order to save someone.

Second chance romance with a popular musician hero, Riot, and a music loving journalist heroine, Rox. He left her when they were just teens. Broke her heart and in her opinion sold out, but she's keeping a secret from him. One she thought she'd never tell, because she thought she'd never see him again. But now he's back and in her town, and he's her next story!

I enjoyed this story. It's an angsty second chance. There is another man and another woman, but only one of them causes some drama for the couple. I'd venture to say this one is slow burn. There is a lot of tension, and honestly at some points I didn't know where the story would actually end up going. I wasn't 100% until the very end.

All in all a great read, and if the author decides to do more I hope that Kaz and his pretty face get a book. Maybe with a certain sassy bestie who doesn't consider him her type.

Christine (Shh Moms Reading) says

DNF at 45%

I absolutely adore S.L. Jennings. I have read almost every book by her (except for the Dark Light series which I SO need to get back to) and have loved every single book I've read.

Unfortunately this one didn't work for me. For some reason, I couldn't get into the story or into the characters. I hated how Rox was walked all over by Riot and his easy way to get "into character" with his people and Poppy bothered me. Nothing really seemed genuine and almost too forced. The blurb for this one

sounded really good but I was underwhelmed. :(

Three Chicks says

Review by Lisa Kane

The moment I read the blurb I couldn't wait get my hands on this book. But once I started reading the story, I found myself getting angrier with each page.

Rox is a good person, but man she is a doormat. When Rox and Riot were kids they had dreams of a life together. But Riot had a chance for fame and he grabbed it, never looking back. Rox's life was changing too, but she wasn't prepared for what was happening. So she did what she thought she needed to do, with the choices Riot left her.

Not even a couple of years later Rox went to one of Riot's shows and waited for him to get an autograph. Some way of a connection between them. Surely he would talk to her, find out about her life. Nope, he didn't even recognize her...Are you kidding me?

But now it's the present and Rox is forced to move in with Riot for the story of the century. Only Riot is still playing games and putting himself first. Let's just say crap is going to hit the fan, Rox is going to pay the price..because of Riot and his stupid actions once again.

I just could not move past my feelings for Riot. He is not the stuff my dreams of a book boyfriend are made up from-he's selfish and spoiled and he greedily took his chance at fame and willingly paid the price for it by leaving Rox in the dust. Fast forward ten years and he's still no better.

Snow says

ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review

since the very ARC came in a nick of a publishing time, I didn't really have the time to speed it up, so i'm taking it slow *wink*

S.L. Jennings is one of my fave authors in a *fantasy* genre but she's proven to be a master magic worker in contemporary romance as well, and this sounds pretty damn good by the blurb alone....

BUT

Unfortunately, I found no reasoning for the main characters' actions that don't go beyond cliché-ed formula of 'boy leaves girl in pursuit of fame and fortune as it's his destiny and she stays alone with a huge secret to bear...fast forward ten years, she's filled with anger and resentment over him leaving her and he's still lingering on that "real feeling" he had with her, inspite all the heights of fame, drugs, sex...it's the real music and art that he's trying to hold on to and to find it all again with the girl he left behind' kinda *second chance* love story...

And I am known for having a hard time giving a second chance at all...

here, none of the 'reasons' these characters provided as explanations to justify their stupid and rash behavior had made me 'believe' in their sincerity and therefore, I can only stay apprehensive of my huge respect for SL Jennings' writing as it is superb as usual and there's no mistake of her talent in doing so, yet this very story lacked in originality and consistency of actions that would/should, in any other case, evoke sympathy and empathy for mentioned participants...but sadly, it's not the case here as I pointed out in earlier lines, and extra drama filled with angst and unsaid secrets in prolonging the plot do not substitute a good storytelling.

And as always, this is my opinion alone and will probably not agree with the general opinion as it's not supposed to in the first place. So, you should make your own decision in contributing and partaking in this venture as such.

Ellie says

I can't even.

Annie says

One of the first tropes I read in mass was rockstar romances, and while this isn't *technically* that, it's pretty close and it's also by an author I always enjoy. *Rhythm & Blu* is a second chance romance between high school sweethearts who reconnect after twelve years apart. There's definitely a fair amount of angst in this book, as well as a "sort of" love triangle that plays out, so I'd wager there will be plenty of readers who aren't crazy about it. However, I really enjoyed this book from start to finish. I liked the characters, found the chemistry palpable, thought the story was fairly believable, and enjoyed the smoldering, sexy scenes. However, it was the music that stole the book for me. The author's commitment to weaving the importance of music to Riot and Rox throughout the novel was perfect. I loved all the little tidbits about current music as well as the music these two grew up on. And the links to a 90s R&B playlist sprinkled within the narrative was sweet icing. If you're a fan of music, especially if you listened to the music of the 90s, I can't imagine you won't like this one.

From a character and romance standpoint, *Rhythm & Blu* was well-developed. I didn't love how much overlap there was with other love interests for both main characters, but it did lend a certain honesty to the story- especially considering their circumstances and ages- and some of the details that came out later made those moments a little more palatable in hindsight. Rox herself was an interesting character, strong in many ways, but anxious and easily reserved in others. Though I love the brash heroines, I also like seeing characters who are studies in contrast and I found Rox likable overall. Riot was a little harder to flush out. The book is told entirely from Rox's point-of-view save for the epilogue, and while I got to know a lot about Riot through Rox's eyes, I didn't quite understand him or his motivations for the bulk of the story and wouldn't have minded a little more from his character. That said, their connection was always palpable. It never felt entirely lust-fueled, but rather the emotional bond and history was always present below the surface creating a tension that kept me invested in the book cover to cover. Though I'm sure *Rhythm & Blu* won't be the book for everyone, if you don't mind some angst and enjoy rock/music romances, this title is definitely worth trying out.

eARC received via author's PA. The author and PA had no influence over this review

Deborah says

Got to chapter 18 and honestly it was sheer determination that got me that far not the writing.

The thing that has really annoyed me is I think this book could have been amazing! As soon as I seen the blurb I knew I NEEDED to read this book, sadly it doesn't hold up.

I cannot accept how weak Rox is, like guy leaves her 12 years ago with no explanation and they day they're reconnected she moves in with him? Then they're fucking around when though riots got a girlfriend who's in the same apartment as them!?!

Hard pass. And by that I mean pass the vodka cause I'm planning on drinking until I've no recollection of this.....except Kaz. He's the only good thing.

Anne OK says

Unfortunately the rhythm was off and Blu didn't send me into screams of adoration either. Frankly, I thought he was a royal jerk for three-fourths of the book. And Rox, why ya gotta be such a doormat? With a name like yours, I expected more! I just didn't connect on any level with this rock star romance. Dani, the chef was pretty much my favorite character with her breakfast burritos!

And there were missing words right and left throughout the book. Nope, not a happy reader at the end. A positive is that I was able to chalk it up to a bad pick on Kindle Unlimited's monthly fee.

Cyndi Becker says

Leave it to SL Jennings to make me question what I wanted for the heroine. I was so captivated by this unique Rock star, First love, Second chance romance that I inhaled it in one sitting. Rox is a smart young woman who is offered the chance of a lifetime; make her career by writing a story of music IT man, Riot Blu, while he works on his comeback. Riot being her first love, Riot being the man that walked away without a word or explanation, and Riot being the Rock star that Rox now has to live with to get her story. But will Rox be sacrificing her pride and heart and is it worth it?

I felt a bit of emotional whiplash as I hoped Riot's intentions were good. It was hard to get a bead on Riot and his methodology certainly made me question him. Riot's life includes a pretentious girlfriend and a few tight knit friends, but mostly his life is a show. The circus includes a lot of hanger on-ers and one man who is a very recent acquaintance to Rox and her bestie. But Rox is out of her element as she observes and rightly judges the people Riot has surrounded himself with:

"It's just the audacity of these women ... of all these people. They literally have the world at their feet and care very little about destroying such valuable items to front and floss for a few likes on social media. In their world, popularity equates value. If you're not making a scene, then you're simply not seen."

How could she not see Riot as a sell out? And Riot knows it and I wondered what his game is. There are points I sincerely wanted Rox to walk away as I felt Riot's redemption an uphill battle. But things start to shift, slightly, and then Rox gets a dose of what it's like to be the center of Riot's world, which about breaks her (and me). God my heart bled for this girl, for the past and all that she endured, how she is targeting by Riot's obnoxious and very evil gf, Poppy.

I really enjoyed this story and SL Jennings writing and storytelling in exquisite. Jennings includes a playlist which goes along with the story and the "feels". I would love to see more of this couple and perhaps some of the crew. 4.5 Stars and recommendation.

Imani (Enamored Reads) says

“I’d been searching for inspiration. I found her.”

What a whirlwind! GAH! This book was SO much more than I was expecting it to be. But to sum it up in two words? Stunningly nostalgic! It was the best blast from the past any 90s baby could hope and dream of! Rhythm and Blu was EVERYTHING!

This is one of those books you could easily connect to the characters! You have Riot who is so unapologetically captivating! Like he even had ME sucked into his undeniable charm. Rox didn't stand a chance. She definitely held her own and I loved her role of bringing Riot back to who he really is.

Their love story nothing but epic. It gave me butterflies the way they need each other. SL Jennings always EXCEEDS my expectations where contemporary romance goes. I love the 90s spin she put on this one! This was my first read by her and it won't be my last!
