

Monica Burns

Sensual Emotional Unforgettable

This tip sheet is designed to provide readers who've not reviewed before with tips on **how to write a review for any author** you read.

Where To Review

- **To review on Amazon, it's best if you purchased the book from them. So if you bought the book there, YAY, go at it!! However,** they aren't fond of non-purchase reviews because the almighty dollar is their only goal. Well, that and owning the world (not good for consumers). They also reward valid-purchase reviews more. So I'm always grateful for any reviews there.
- **[BookBub](#) and [Goodreads](#) are the best places to review my books (I have links below for all my books leading to these sites).**
 - BookBub requires you to sign up for their daily emails, BUT those emails are full of FREE books, 99¢ and other bargains. You can select the genres you're interested in reading, so you don't have to scroll through bargains you're not interested in.
 - Goodreads, I'm sure you've heard about and belong. If not, it's a place to follow authors, read reviews of books you'd like to learn more about, create a list of all the books you've read, and a little bit of a social media connection.
 - Book links to my individual books for Bookbub, GoodReads, and All Other Vendors are at the end of these review tips so you are taken directly BookBub, GoodReads, or All Vendor to review a specific book of mine. It saves you time looking for the book.

How To Review

- **Highlight sentences in the book while you're reading if it makes you feel something emotional.** Good, bad, funny, teary-eyed, heart-wrenching, annoyance with a character, angry feelings, etc. All of these are things you can mention in a short, three-four line review. If your eReader allows you to make notes tell yourself why you highlighted the passage to use when writing your review.
- **Jot down two or three sentences** you when you finish reading that you would use if you were describing the book to a reader friend. That's all a review is. **You're just telling someone else what you did/didn't like about a book.**

Star Ratings

- Star ratings are really misunderstood because readers haven't been told by retailers exactly what stars MEAN. Here's a good breakdown to help you decide.
 - 5 Stars means you thought the book was AMAZING. You loved it so much you're getting the paperback for your keeper shelf.
 - 4 Stars means you thought the read was pretty good. Good enough to keep and re-read in the future.
 - 3 Stars means it was good, but not as good as other books of mine you've read, but you think other readers might enjoy it nonetheless.
 - 2 Stars mean you didn't like the book. There were too many things that annoyed you. Just be sure you use some words in your review to clarify why you were annoyed.
 - 1 Star means it totally sucked eggs, you didn't like it at all, it was a waste of your time and money, but you really want to give a couple of reasons WHY you thought those things. Heroines or heroes who were TSTL, things like that.
- **ANY one of those star ratings above are perfectly fine!!! Reviews that speak from the heart are the ones other reviewers react too.**
 - **Not all my books deserve a five.** It's okay to gush. BUT if you've read enough of my books, you know one of the core themes in all of my books is honesty! It's why my heroes and heroines demand honesty from their lovers. I strongly request that you be honest too! Not everyone is going to like

any/some/all of my books. *shrug* So what if they don't like the book, I don't like every author some of you might like. :D Reviews are just opinions/feelings readers have about a book. Seriously, do you love Chaucer? Me either!!! But there are readers who do!!

- **Author's feelings** — a lot of authors need to get past bad reviews. Any reader worried about me being crushed by a low star rating needs to stop worrying about my feelings. SERIOUSLY, I'm emphatic when I say I want HONEST reviews!!! You paid for the damn book, you're entitled to giving your honest opinion. I'm passionate about that.
- **Review Quotes** I occasionally mention reviews when I promote a book. Good and BAD!! I have a **ONE STAR review that I love!!** I loved it so much I added it to my Editorial Reviews section. *"This book should be rated X"* -- **Amazon Reader** LOL
- **When to give a low star rating.** Whether there's too much sex, not enough sex, don't like hero/heroine, just didn't grab your attention, all of those things are good enough reasons for a low star rating. Star ratings of 1, 2 or 3 are actually good for any author (don't let them tell you otherwise). A variety of star ratings creates a balance point of view about the book.
- **Why give a low or high rating?** Ratings helps readers, who don't know my work, make better buying decisions. I freely admit that gushing reviews are great ego strokes. I don't know any author who doesn't love them. Seriously, I love it when a book resonates with a reader, particularly if I think that book sucks, and I do think a number of my books suck. LOL
- **What does a bad review mean for a book?** Bad reviews just mean the reader doesn't like my book for whatever reason. I write for me first, and then my readers. It's impossible to please everyone, and I refuse to try. I like angst, tormented characters, drama queens, etc. It's why you'll find them in my books. I'm true to the characters as they talk to me in my head. I'm not going to compromise for anyone when it comes to how I write. A lot of my characters often appear To Stupid To Live (TSTL), but then I **still** do TSTL things in my own life. If you want a fluffy read, I'm not the author you should be reading.
- **You will not hurt my feelings.** A lot of readers who write a bad review often make good points about the faults of a book. I've even been known to keep those points in mine as I go write my next book. I also know that some of my bad reviews are given to my first couple of books that I wrote when I just started out. TRUST ME, I think they're dreck, but a lot of readers love them. Go figure.

Just remember, I shrug off bad reviews. I just don't have time for that kind of negativity in my life, and for God's sake, review the book NOT ME.

Attacking an author in a review isn't just rude, it's a demonstration of poor manners, bad judgement, and Karma has a way of biting you in the ass—Big Time (personal experience). So, I repeat **YOU WILL NOT HURT MY FEELINGS WITH YOUR REVIEWS. BRING IT.**

- **NO SPOILERS.** Don't share info in your review that can spoil another reader's enjoyment of the book. Best way to think about a spoiler is to ask yourself would I want to know this info if I hadn't read the book yet? The ending of FOREVER MINE is a wonderful example. The ending created a group of readers who hated the book because of the ending. That's a whole different conversation, but I addressed it in my most recent updated version of the book. If it's on your eReader, download it again, and you can read my letters. So again, avoid spoilers as much as you can!!!
- **If you MUST include a spoiler there's a way to do it.** Use about FIVE returns on you keyboard, then type *****SPOILER ALERT!!***** then use another four carriage returns on your keyboard before you share the spoiler. This gives readers who don't want to know what the spoiler the opportunity not to scroll down any further.

Review Examples

The following reviews are examples of a short and medium length reviews about my ([Monica Burns](#)) books. They're strictly to give you a an idea for how to write a review that other readers will benefit from and that Amazon will not take down. **DO NOT repost these reviews as your reviews! These are simply examples.**

Review #1 Example

"This book has it all great character's wonderful story throw in a few ghosts, vile murders, and hot sex and it's hard to put the book down. Love [Monica Burns](#) have read several of her books I look forward to many more." — Actual Amazon Reader Review

Review #2 Example

"3.25 Stars - A unique story where Ruth is a 41 year old courtesan and Garrick is 29 years old and a virgin. After being humiliated for having only one bullock when he was younger and therefore not a real man, he doesn't expose himself to anyone including a valet. They meet at a ball and feel instant attraction but they have a rough start filled with misunderstandings. The emotions each felt was something I could really feel. The

way the author [[Monica Burns](#)] wrote about the first lesson was sweet." — **Actual Amazon Reader Review**

As you can see above the reader marked it little higher than just "three stars," this is perfectly fine too! Rating book in this manner indicates that you liked/hated a book, but maybe not as high/low as the stars vendors offer.

Review #3 Example

This Example Is a PERFECT EXAMPLE of How To Use Feelings For Your Review

This review is an excellent example of putting your feelings about a book, ANY book, into a short review that still tells readers a lot.

"Wow what can I say A great great book Love Quentin and Sophie I have never hated a person so much her father and sister Loved her brother Spencer And you will love the book too I enjoyed it Go buy it guys"

That's it. Just three or four sentences for a review and you're done. The rest is all up to you and your feelings. I've added links to all vendors for my books below. I would deeply appreciate you reviewing any/all of my books. Reviews help me grow my reader base, which helps increase my earnings, which helps me cut back on day job hours, which results in more books for you in a much shorter time period. It's a win win scenario!!

Review Examples That Are Longer

You DO NOT have to write a long review. I occasionally review a book by another author. I do it incognito because I don't give author quotes. But when I read a book, I really enjoy I will post anonymously. These are two books I enjoyed. Note they're both 4 stars. A book has to be truly exceptional for it to get a 5 from me. Granite Rose came close. REALLY close (and I failed to use 4.5 in my review). As you can see, I'm long-winded. Most reviewers write only two, three or four sentences. Remember, it's up to you as to the length, words, and opinion you share when writing your a review.

Once a Pirate - 4 Stars

This was an enjoyable read. It's clearly an older book. Uses shaft, manhood, which aren't used (or rarely) today. Vivid descriptions of life on board without going into the nitty gritty that was life on a tiny vessel in the 1800s. Both characters were likeable and left me rooting for them. It usually takes me a couple of days to read a book. I read this one in three hours. It's been a long time since I've plowed through a book where I kept turning the page rather than putting it down, a strong recommendation. I have a short attention span with books these days. Secondary characters were great, yet not too intrusive to the story. Overall, I would recommend this book for a pleasurable escape read at the beach or on a staycation.

The Granite Rose - 4 Stars

I'm very picky about what I read, but this is a book I loved from the first three paragraphs. It's rare that I have the opportunity to read such terrific adventure romance like Granite Rose. Politics, Romans, intrigue, Romans, romance, it all comes together in one great read. I bought this book after reading the first three paragraphs because they sucked me in. Those initial words were simply a promise McKaken made to me as a reader, and she fulfilled that bargain all the way to the end of the book. Granite Rose was a breath of fresh air amidst all the other romance on my Kindle. If you're looking for good writing, a little history, an alpha Roman General, a strong heroine, betrayal and love, what are you waiting for? One-click this book NOW!

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Review Links To Monica's Books

THE RECKLESS ROCKWOODS SERIES (Books #1 & #2 can be read out of order)

#1 — *Obsession*

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

#2 — *Dangerous*

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

#3 — *The Highlander's Woman*

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

#4 — *Redemption*

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

#5 — *The Beastly Earl* (*Coming Fall 2019*)

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

THE RELUCTANT ROGUES SERIES A Reckless Rockwoods World (Rockwoods appear)

#1 — *The Rogues Offer*

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

TIME TRAVEL

Forever Mine

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

THE BOLD AND DARING COURTESANS

Kismet

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

Pleasure Me

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

A CHANCE AT LOVE

Love's Portrait

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

Love's Revenge

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

SINGLE TITLES

A Bluestocking Christmas

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

Mirage

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

THE SELF-MAD MEN SERIES

#1 — *His To Command*

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#2 — *His Mistress*

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SHORT STORY

His For The Holidays

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

THE ORDER OF THE SICARI SERIES

#1 — *Assassin's Honor*

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#2 — *Assassin's Heart*

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

#3 — *Inferno's Kiss*

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)

THE ROCHESTER SISTERHOOD

#1 — *Tempting Jane*

[BookBub](#) [GoodReads](#) [All Vendors](#)