



How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star

Erika Ashby

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I refused to work my way up the company ladder by sexually favoring my sleazy boss. I was beginning to lose hope. Until one day, he surprised me with an assignment that would literally rock my world.

I never imagined my first assignment being my last. But Brent Nichols worked his way inside every way possible, unlocking something within me.

Becoming a porn star was never part of the plan. Neither was changing my name.

Everyone else knows me as Lucy Rogers, but you can call me Lotus Raine.

How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star Details

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From Reader Review How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star for online ebook

Gloria Herrera for As You Wish Reviews says

This was not what I expected and boy did I love it! Lucy Rogers, invisible to the world, always trying to dress down, not be noticed and somehow slide by without turning heads, finally gets the assignment that will finally allow her to prove herself worthy. Only one problem... this assignment will make her stretch herself out of her comfort zone into a life she has secretly desired but never acknowledged.

Amusing, raw, direct, sensual and most definitely erotically entertaining, Lotus Raine is born out of the depths of Lucy's soul. She is finally free to be and enjoy.

Brent is the man we would all love to meet and admire. His easygoing style allows for Lucy's growth and unveiling into a the human being she was meant to be. How they get there is a story you will enjoy and not soon forget!

Toski Covey says

Lotus Raine.

Sounds sexy right?

That sums up this book.. Just sexy.

I started this book with the assumption this was a "porn star book" and I might not be in to all that. Honestly, porn stars are gross to me in real life. (No judgement, just not my thing)... You know that saying about assuming.. Yea, that was me. After I finished, I sat there yearning for more. Missing Brent and Lucy. Mostly Lucy. I girl crushed her so hard. That seems crazy right? This girl is just... awesome. I would be her best friend in real life, envying her everyday, proud I was friends with such a cool chick.

Lucy Rogers is your normal girl trying to work her way up the company ladder.. Minus the sexual favors, she is going no where fast. Then she meets him. Brent Nichols. SWOON. It was lust at first sight :) This man oozes sex appeal. Unknowing of who he is, Lucy knows she needs to stay away from a man like that. He is trouble.

Being assigned to live and job shadow a porn star for a week is not her ideal job but she is determined to prove her worth.. Walking in, she meets him, the porn star she will be living with for one whole week. Again, Lucy is struck with a instant connection to this man.

Their relationship is mind-blowing. LOL. I was so "in" at this point, I had no clue when she was going to become... a porn star but I didn't care, just gimme more. Now. I don't want to spew any spoilers but I will just say, this book will leave you fanning yourself wondering is anyone really this swoony? Brent educates Lucy. He teaches her confidence. He shows her how sexy she is. He awakens her in every way possible. A man who can do that is the perfect book boyfriend in my eyes.

This book, hands down the BEST from this author. She upped her writing. The story is fun and made me laugh. Light hearted and had a great ending leaving it open for more but not necessarily needing it.

Reading this made me realize, I may not agree with the profession.. but it is just that. A profession... this is how I became Toski Covey, a lover of a porn stars

HUGE BIG FAT FIVE STAR READ WITH A CUPCAKE ON TOP :) ONCE IT'S LIVE.. GO BUY IT.
YOU WILL NOT REGRET

Heidi McLaughlin says

Lotus Raine is the one that will bring all your fantasies to life. Sexy, compelling and downright sinful, Author Erika Ashby toys with your emotions until the very end

Rachael Orman says

DNF at 50%

This book looked incredibly sexy and alluring. Instead what I got was a interview with tense changes (when there shouldn't have been - interview is present tense and the actual story past.. that's not what I'm talking about.. In the past tense parts there is present tense changes and in the interview there is past tense where there shouldn't be) and pov changes that were so distracting you lose track of who is doing what. There is also extremely oddly phrased sentences through out that had to be read three, four or more times to make sense or just skipped because I got tired of trying to figure out what was meant.

The sex scenes were okay, but I was so distracted trying to figure out how the story lined up and made sense that I would've rather skipped them, which is horrible odd for me.

I felt like there was promise there but was missing a lot of follow through. The interview part was more distracting than anything and completely took away from the story to me. If it had been told strictly from her pov and how she'd gone from taking her first assignment to being a porn star, I think it would've been much more interesting than bouncing back and forth about her trying to get even with her old boss who gave her the assignment which ended up changing her life for the better so I never could figure out why she wanted to get even when it was a favor in the long run.

I was offered a finished copy of the ARC, but wasn't granted it because I didn't give a good review and couldn't give a complete break down of where I thought the errors were so I don't think I'll be picking up this authors work again.

Rebecca says

When I saw the title of Erika Ashby's newest release, I knew I needed to read it. Just from reading the synopsis alone, my expectations were elevated, and now that I've read it, I can say whole heartedly that How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star is one of the most captivating and original stories I have read in a long time. I consumed this book in one sitting because I refused to put it down until I found out how Lucy

becomes Lotus Raine! And, let me tell you – her journey is one to not be missed!

At face value, readers may see this as just another porn story with an abundance of sex and nakedness galore, but it's not; in fact, the porn industry factors very little into the events that play out between Lucy Rogers and Brent Nichols. I see it as merely a stage setting for Lucy and Brent to meet and evolve based on their time spent together.

The Lucy Rogers readers first learn about is as far away from the stereotypical porn star that anyone could be. Because her mother was a stripper, at a young age, she learned more about sex than any child should, which drove her to be the complete opposite of what she saw. Lucy is conservative and sheltered, determined to not turn out like her mother. In a way, it forces her to suppress her true self – her inner wild – because she's too afraid that enjoying sex and dressing provocatively ties her to what her mother represents. But all it takes is one person and one assignment to alter her mindset and show Lucy that holding herself back from being who she really is, is not living – it's merely existing in a life that's incomplete.

Lucy's assignment is to live with a soon-to-be unretired porn star and document his daily activities for an author who is writing a book using the industry as its setting. For Lucy, this is one of the worst tasks she could have received, but it soon turns into an unforgettable experience once she meets the porn star. What follows is a weeklong exploration of both her mind and body, and when the week's over, Lucy realizes that labels and stereotypes show nothing about who a person truly is and that anything is possible with the right frame of mind and the willingness to break out of her self imposed box.

How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star is about Lucy's revolution and evolution into the person she is meant to be. Because the story is told in both present tense and flash backs, readers get to see and understand all of the changes that have occurred since Lucy went on her weeklong assignment and her years as Lotus Raine. I love that the book is set-up in an interview format because it allows the transition between past and present to flow without confusion or interruption. Lucy may have become Lotus Raine...the porn star, but deep down she's still Lucy Rogers – just a more confident and evolved one. But of course don't let on that you know that because she does have a stereotype to live up to;)

This book is a phenomenal read that all lovers of well written storylines with intriguing characters NEED to experience. The chemistry between Lucy and Brent is off the charts, and while the sex is hot, their time together is more about helping Lucy to let go and allow herself to take risks and experience everything Brent and life have to offer her. Lotus Raine and Lucy Rogers are no one without Brent Nichols, and she would be the first to acknowledge that fact, and Erika Ashby does one hell of a job capturing the essence of what this book is trying to teach readers through the use of humor, heartfelt talks, and a whole lot of sexy talk, which is not an easy feat, but it's one she truly masters in this story.

A complimentary copy was provided in exchange for an honest review.

5+ poison apples (The Fairest of All Book Reviews)

Jaclyn says

It's not everyday I start a book with one mindset and find the complete opposite when I finish. *Lotus Raine*, on the surface seemed to be a lighthearted, sexy novel about a woman taking an assignment for work and having it change her life. What you don't see is that Lucy Rogers is already an extraordinary woman. She's beautiful, educated, employed and determined to make her mark in the literary world.

Enter Brent Nichols: her one-week assignment into the life of a porn star! Already having what she terms, an insta-lust attraction, we see into the lives of both characters as they get to know each other. I know you're saying, "Wait! This book is about Lotus Raine!" Yeah, that comes later and I'm not going to tell you how!

What I will tell you is that this book is not smut, erotica, or trashy. It has some of the most beautiful, self-searching moments I have ever read. That's not to say that there aren't some majorly steamy scenes that had me curling my toes! To quote Erika Ashby from the novel:

--The thing I enjoy so much about reading is the feelings it evokes. Whether you loved it or hated it, it still made you feel. Anything that makes you feel should matter.-- (Lucy Rogers/Lotus Raine)

Consider that a success, Ms. Ashby.

Jennifer says

** A review copy was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review **

It's Live!!!! Amazon Buy Link--->> [How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star](#)

~~ 5++ Stars ~~

Have you ever decided to read a book expecting one thing but once you dive in and read the book you get something complete different?

Well that is what happened to me with this book. I will admit that the title of the book is what initially drew me to this book. I went in expecting it to be a book that was all a bunch of sex scenes and maybe a small storyline plot to keep the reader interested. What I got was so much more!!!!

This book was a fun, sexy read that had me chomping at the bit for more. I didn't want to put this book down and I couldn't read fast enough. I thought the storyline was well developed and written extremely well. This book had me smiling, chuckling, and of course blushing ;) If you are looking for a book that is different from other books out there on the market, then this is the one for you!!! This book was so original and different. This is definitely one of my FAVORITE reads of 2014 :) I loved how this book was presented to us the reader...it was so different from all the books out there. I can't say much, but you are going to want to read this book!!!

"I'm not a prude. I've tried to be for the last ten years because I was afraid of what I would become if I didn't control it." ... Lucy (aka Lotus Raine)

Lucy and Brent were great characters. I thought they were both relatable and very likable. I loved the chemistry that they had between them, but I also loved the friendship and companionship that they built throughout this story. Both Lucy and Brent came from a messed up parent. But they didn't let them bring them down. Both of these characters knew they would do whatever they had to, to not turn out like the bad parent they had.

Lucy had a mother who put stripping and men before her. She learned some things at a young age that she shouldn't have learned until much older thanks to her whoring mother. Lucy was determined to not be like her mom, so she sheltered herself off and turn anything that had to do with sex away. That is until she meets a stranger in a bar and decides to let loose. Little did she know that meeting Brent would change her life in

the best way possible. I loved how strong Lucy was, yes she took some crap but she also knew how to give it right back.

Brentwhat can I say....He was AMAZING!!!! He was sweet and caring, but also knew how to melt a girls panties with his dirty mouth, among other things ;) I loved that we got to see more of the person Brent really was and that him being a porn star didn't define who he is. He always looked at it as a job, but he was so much more than that. I also loved how he did whatever he had to, to help bring Lucy out of her shell. These two just really worked well together.

I would 100% recommend this book to anyone looking for a unique, fun, sweet and sexy read!!! This will definitely bring a person out of a book funk and show you something different. I know some of you might be worried about if there is cheating in this story...don't worry there is NO CHEATING what so ever!!! This is a MUST READ!!!!

For more reviews go to Book Bitches Blog

*** Sara Johns* says**

4.5 stars

I didn't really have expectations going into this book; I just loved the cover and wanted it! Who knew the story would end up being so much better than that gorgeous cover?!

This book was original and incredibly entertaining! I couldn't step away from this story, and was constantly annoyed when my family tried to interrupt me. (The lengths I go for those guys... like they can't live without food or something.)

The writing style was fantastic and moved the story along effortlessly. This book was told in past and present. I'm a fan of this type of read and enjoyed the back and forth of the interview as she told her story.

The characters were so lovable! Lucy was full of spunk, and constantly had me laughing out loud at the things she would say and think. I was a little caught off guard by my feelings for Brent. I honestly thought my judgmental self wouldn't care for him a bit. I mean, who loves a porn star? I'll tell you who.. this girl! There was so much more to Brent than his job, and I couldn't wait to learn more about him.

The steam factor is off the charts! I'm not going to lie... I had to cover my eyes a few times when reading. I don't read too much erotica, and I would think this book would be labeled more as Contemporary Romance, but I'm not really sure. Either way, I would imagine some scenes from this book could put quite a few erotica novels to shame.

Overall, I definitely recommend you pick up this novel for a good time!

On a final note... if anyone sees Erika Ashby post anything about needing a research assistance... let me know, I may know someone who is interested ;)

Michelle says

ARC provided by author in exchange of honest review

????? 4.5 Lotus Raine Stars ??????

Let me first start off and say when I saw that Erika Ashby had an upcoming book titled “**How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star,**” ummm...there was no ifs, ands, or buts about it, this book screamed *A MUST READ!!!* And I got to give Ms. Ashby a standing applause on how fucking fantastic this book was. **How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star** is unlike any romance stories that I have read. Toss out your preconceived notions and judgemental views of porn stars and their romantic lives. Ms. Ashby will introduce and enlighten you on the real behind the scenes and everyday life of Brent Nichols, the porn star. They say the eyes are useless when the mind is blind and so Ms. Ashby will open our eyes in *How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star*. Nothing is black and white. What defines happiness? Who is to say what is truly right and wrong? Love is not perfect. Can a porn star truly love? And behind the eyes of Brent Nichols and Lucy Rogers aka Lotus Raine is a story to be told.

Ms. Ashby’s ability to weave the past and present into this book was phenomenal. She took an unconventional romance story and gave readers a treat when she allowed us to go behind the eyes of Lotus Raine. **How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star** is a book that must be read and experienced. I loved that readers got to read and meet a heroine trying to discover her inner self and sexuality. Who says you can’t fall in love with a porn star? We all heard the idiom “Don’t judge a book by its cover,” well Ms. Ashby did an amazing job in allowing readers to see behind the facade, porn stars are real people with feelings too. The storyline flowed so easily in this book that Ms. Ashby will have you devouring this book like crazy and begging for more of Brent and Lucy. The chemistry between these two will have your kindles heating up. And most importantly their relationship felt so raw, vulnerable, and real that you couldn’t help but fall in love with two people finding an unexpected romance.

So if you are looking for a different kind of romance story, then I highly suggest you take a chance with *How I became Lotus Raine...the porn star*. Trust me, you will have a big fat smile on your face when you can finally know what Lotus Raine can cross off her list. <3

Erika Ashby

Rustys says

This wasn’t what I expected, just the opposite. My initial reaction to the title was the life of a porn star. How she started in the business, the pitfalls, the highs, the lows, but no...not even close.

Instead, it tells the story via an interview as Lucy Rogers describes her transformation from research worker to Lotus Raine, Porn Star.

The interview reveals Lucy’s life, the time she spent with her less than perfect mother. Her fears of becoming her mother and the steps she took

to prevent that from happening.

She details her time with Brent Nichols and the result of their relationship.

Alternates between Carl, the interviewer and Lucy so stay alert.

I have always devoured and loved the author's previous books, this one however didn't do it. Maybe it's just me but some of the dialogue just didn't fit Lucy's character. I was distracted by sentences I had to re-read several times for them to make sense. There wasn't anything about Lucy I liked, Brent was hot and the sex scenes were steamy.

It was okay, I just didn't love it.

[arc received]

Elaine Breson says

Amazing.

Different.

So. Damn. Refreshing.

All books have similar plots and story lines anymore.

This book was not one of them. The premise was original. The characters were sexy, witty and perfect. (It's hard to read a book anymore without an annoying character somewhere) The writing was SUPERB.

Erika, you hit it out of the park with this one. And I'm SO glad I'll get the chance to watch it fly from the very beginning.

<3

Liz says

5 Beneath the Surface Stars

This quote alone should have you wanting to read this novel

People hardly take the time to seek out more than what's apparent. Just like how easily people judge one another based on appearance. When in all reality, what we look like is a misrepresentation of who we are within

I love the title (and the cover is beautiful and captivating), it's perfect for the story being told (*News Flash* sometimes authors give titles that have completely nothing to do with the story... drives me absolutely bonkers) . Lotus Raine was a total surprise. The writing was so smooth, and the connection was never lost or broken. I was completely immersed in the story from the very first word to the very last.

This wasn't your typical Porn Star Fantasy feeding your desires.. admittedly I first thought it would be all *Sexified* etc . It was so much more . You are exposed to many things in this book that will catch you off guard. At the same time you are beginning to understand discovering oneself, having self-worth and not always be defined by your "careers or profession" regardless if society isn't all that excepting of it.

Lucy and Brent are completely different and probably more compatible and relatable to each other then realized.

Lucy is given an assignment from her boss for a total of one week. The assignment will completely blow your mind... she observes in many ways the life of a "Porn Star" . It really has you thinking whether this arrangement would pan out or if it will be a complete failure.

Expect the unexpected with this novel, The authoress did a superb job delivering the past and present. One of my favorite parts was the way the interview was told back and forth from her to her interviewer.. I highly recommend this book, its a hidden gem.

All too often we let ourselves down with expectations. When in reality the perfect things are born from the unexpected. Whether you change for the better or for the worse, it's the people and events that take place in your life that determine which

He was a porn star, Casanova, mind reader, and a philosopher

BRENT

You shouldn't hide yourself and it's not even that you try to hide yourself, you just don't allow it to be found

LUCY

Letty (Cover to Cover Book Blog Reviewer) says

This book is completely different than what I expected. I went in judging it by the title and expected the story to be about a promiscuous woman. This is nothing at all what Lucy's story is about.

All her life, Lucy has worked at being nothing like her mother, a woman handling a string of men. She has a job she loves, yet has never received a great opportunity for advancement because she refuses to submit sexually to her boss. When she finally gets her first assignment, it is the one that will irrevocably change her life.

Her assignment consists of spending one week living with her subject. She must collect and return the data based on a questionnaire given to her by the author that will be writing this subject's story...sounds innocent and easy enough, right? Well, the subject is none other than a male porn star! And not just any porn star, either...he turns out to be the one man that Lucy met one day and had an almost one-night stand with. I started reading this book and finished it within a couple of hours. I just couldn't stop reading! Lucy and Brent are nothing like I expected. The character development was done so well, that you can't help admire and fall in love with them both. Brent is so much more than an actor in the adult entertainment industry. His feelings and his view of life are presented and you get to see how wonderful he is. The relationship that develops between Lucy and Brent is sweet, romantic, and beyond HOT. What can you expect when dealing with a porn star, right? ? Several times I practically had to hose down my kindle!!! The way he helps with her transformation is so good! You will not expect how the story plays out and will be very pleasantly surprised about the outcome. The storyline is fresh and will completely hold your attention from start to finish. Notice that I have not mentioned how Lucy becomes Lotus, but if I did, it would ruin the fun. You have to read this story and the fact that there's no cliffhanger should give you a harder push. Once again, Erika has written a very sexy and fun read. I have read all her books, and she has never disappointed me.

Amanda says

After having read Moving Forward by this author, I wasn't sure I would be giving her another chance. The above mentioned book didn't sit well with me. Most due to its endless shaming of women, especially sexually active women. Then I saw the title of this one.

I was intrigued. My hopes were that this book would be nothing like the one I'd read before by this author. A book about a porn star (/sex actress) and that industry. Perhaps this would be a more complex representation of women, sex, and the porn industry. Address the virgin/whore dichotomy.

Let me start by saying this: **I was wrong.**

She was dressed way more revealing than I'd ever attempted. I'm confident, but damn, I didn't want to get molested.

I wanted him to feel somewhat special. Even though that's only something females tend to feel

"Every girl wants to fall in love. And most books are about just that."

Never mind there's a grammatical error on the first page (and they continue throughout the book), this book does not offer a complex story with nuanced characters or a good message.

The book is an interview done by the heroine after she becomes a porn star. Our heroine, Lucy, used to work for a company doing research for authors. Lucy's latest assignment: follow the daily life of a sex actor: Brent. As a part of this deal, Lucy goes to live with him for a week. Here's the twist: she already met him, and they

almost had sex at a club. So when they meet at his home, sparks are flying all over the place. What follows is tension between them, Lucy at times uncomfortable with his profession, and at the same time morbidly curious. Regardless of her feelings, Lucy is determined to make the best of her assignment.

Here's the thing: Lucy is horrible. She's the typical ultimate judgmental heroine. She constantly judges other women - unless they're her best friend, of course - even if she's never spoken to them. There's a (possible) backstory to why she detest women who have multiple sex partners. However, that particular part of her past is more about her own fears about being sexually active, and it's not explored in the story as a believable reason to why she'd loath women on sight. Instead, her endless shaming of other women seems unnecessary and only adds to the ease of disliking her.

Her hypocrisy is clear by the following example, from the book. Lucy is interested in Brent, the porn star (/sex actor), and while at time she might wonder and also be ignorant of what his profession entails, she never quite judges him for it. She tries to see beyond his profession, which, props to her, but when she meets the first female sex actress, it's hate on first sight. Simply because this particular woman dresses a certain way, acts a certain way, and is a sex actress. Conclusion: According to the heroine, it's okay for men to be sex actors, but not for women.

The story, if we look at it instead of the characters for a second, is not much to write home about. The interview part was strange and not quite necessary except to throw a couple jabs at readers who likes to read books that feel real (and in extension, logical).

I didn't get how readers could be so blunt when in disagreement. Usually the point of reading was to escape everyday reality. But once some cross that line, they get so hell bent over something they don't find logical. Well, let me tell you something—life isn't always logical.

The funny part about it is people push aside these real life possibilities while reading a fictional story. It makes absolutely no sense to me. Just freaking go with it folks.

A few things: Yes, people can read to "escape everyday reality", but some of us likes to do so with realistic stories. Realistic doesn't mean you have to get married, get 2.5 children, have house with a white fence... you get the deal. It simply means the story should feel authentic. (And I agree, life isn't always logical, but there's a different between illogical and unrealistic.) Second, "just go with it" is an argument I'm not buying. Like, let's all write racists, sexist, abusive, and whatnot, it's cool, just go with it. **Basically, what these two quotes say is this: Don't dare say anything's wrong with a book, and if you think something is, you're reading it wrong.** Given that the heroine had a job to make sure authors wrote realistically about certain themes, this doesn't go with her personality, either. (I'm not saying the author intended for this message, but it is what it is.)

About ten pages in, it was clear what the outcome would be. Given the heroine's shaming of women who have multiple sexual partners, it was easy to guess when she became interested in Brent what the outcome would be, or rather how Lucy approached her own new profession as a sex actress. I promise, it's not a hard guess.

Melissa says

How I Became Lotus Raine..the porn star by Erika Ashby

I received a complimentary ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Lucy has lived a life that most of us haven't. She has strived to be nothing like her Mother. Lucy's Mom was beyond promiscuous and constantly had a string of men. Lucy, had a great job, and chose her tom boy appearance to be less like her Mother, yet she was never been chosen for an assignment at her job, because she refused to give in to her vial boss. Until one day he knocked on her office door and let her know that it was her turn, her turn to spend her one week with a subject, collect the interviews and data and turn it over to the author after. Who was her subject you ask? None other than a male porn star.

I devoured this book cover to cover, I didn't spend one minute being bored or lost in anything. And it wasn't just "Bam! Out there" there was a steady build up. Lucy is inexperienced and Brent is not. And while they have just one week together, there is so much more to Brent than his profession indicates. While you may say, you can already foresee how this story will play out, you can't! Ashby delivers a fresh story idea, and a novel that portrays the story in just the right way to hold the reader's attention the entire time.

This book is geared for anyone 18 and over looking for a hot steamy romance, but be warned this is not for the faint of heart, because again, this story is built based on a porn star, so those of you that might be offended should stop reading now, however if PORN was in the title, I am guessing you already did. Those of you that aren't I can't say it enough, read this book, Ashby writes a novel that keeps intertwining your emotions and will not let go until the end. No cliffhanger, thank goodness, so sit back and get ready to enjoy this novel that is fresh and new to anything you have read recently.

Thank you to Erika Ashby for allowing me to read and review this book! I am now adding anything and everything the author has written before to my TBR list on Goodreads!
