



# The Sex Therapist Next Door

*Meghan O'Brien*

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## **The Sex Therapist Next Door** Meghan O'Brien

Diana Kelley is a couple's sex therapist with a problem: it's her job to convince her clients of the importance of sexual and emotional intimacy, but after surviving a toxic relationship with an abusive ex, she's sworn off love and can't fathom ever making herself vulnerable again. When her best friend Ava is injured the night she is scheduled to assist with a hands-on sexual education workshop, Diana is forced to find a short term replacement. The last thing she wants is a new lover, even a paid one.

After a year of living in the apartment next door, all Jude Monaco knows about her neighbor Diana is that she's a gorgeous, older woman and the inspiration for more dirty fantasies than she cares to admit. So when Diana knocks on her door with a shockingly delicious favor to ask, Jude seizes the opportunity to learn more. Their professional relationship is supposed to be a clinical erotic arrangement between a sex therapist and her assistant, but at the intersection of sex and intimacy, anything is possible. Even love.

## **The Sex Therapist Next Door Details**

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Author : Meghan O'Brien

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## From Reader Review The Sex Therapist Next Door for online ebook

### Agirlcandream says

Oh my. Meghan O'Brien does know how to make erotica fun again. Read one of her books and in the words of Jude, it's hard to "harness your inner horn dog". Impossible not to get hot and bothered in the first half of this story. This is how erotica should be written. Women with real lives and real emotions not just a couple of crash test dummies with breasts and zero personality banging away like mechanics. It heightens the hotness for the reader and makes it so easy to role play right along with these wonderful (fictional) women.

I was enthralled with the first half of this read but did bog down a bit in the second half with the expected relationship challenges and need on Diana's part to keep her interactions with Jude on a strictly business basis. Diana might be a sexy seductress but her constant fretting about how much older she is than Jude and her lousy track record does wear after a while. Jude makes up for Diana's caustic side with her unfailing crush and wonderful positive attitude.

Lovely read to get your libido fired up and put a twinkle back in your eye (and other places).

ARC received with thanks from publisher via NetGalley for review.

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### Rach (Les Rêveur) says

Well, now that was something...

Jude has been having fantasies about her next door neighbour since she moved in so when her neighbour, Diana knocks on her door asking her to be a stand in at her Sex workshop for her therapy group, Jude is elated. All she has to do is sit back and endure earth shattering orgasm after orgasm. The only rule is, she must not fall in love... How hard could it be right?

This. Book. Is. Amazing!!! It's got all the usual Meghan O'Brien naughty bits but she has ramped up the angst and It was the perfect combo.

Firstly, lets talk tropes because this book has everything. Age gap, friends to lovers, boss and employee, a little bit of the ice queen and eroticism... and it's all fan-bloody-tastic!!!!

Diana has an emotional past, as does Jude but Diana's is keeping her from finding love and Jude is the biggest temptation ever when it comes to letting her guard down. Jude has been imagining having sex with Diana for a while now so when the object of her affection wants to give her all her fantasies on a silver platter, who wouldn't jump in with both feet. Problem is, Jude is falling for Diana fast but knows it's not part of the arrangement which is making her feeling worse. These two are so lovely and deserve each other in so many lovely ways. I just kept wanting more.

I really love how Meghan O'Brien writes such depth and emotion for her characters. I don't think I have ever read one of her books and not loved the protagonist and the journey they take.

The sex was, as always, off the chart in the hotness department. Meghan O'Brien writes my favourite sex scenes hands down and her level of detail is just amazing. Her sex scenes are so vivid it's like it's happening right in front of me.

Again, another erotic masterpiece from the pen of Meghan O'Brien....

5 stars!!

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### **Luce says**

3 Stars for a Meghan O'Brien erotic romance.

I knew what I was getting when I picked up this book only I was expecting more. Not more sex (frankly it would be difficult to have more) but I wanted to like one of the characters more. Diana is a sex therapist in a bind. She has a group sexual education workshop but her BFF and assistant, Ava is injured. Desperate, Diana asks her neighbor if she would be willing participate in the hands on demonstration. Jude has a crush on her beautiful, older neighbor and agrees. The book starts off great. In fact before I knew it, I read a third of the book, when I had intended to just read the first chapter to see what it was like.

Diana really needs to see a therapist herself. She was in a long term abusive relationship that she has yet to recover. She is determined not to allow anyone close again. She also has a problem getting over the age difference between her at 39 and 26 yr old Jude. Other than Jude's promiscuity, she is mature and has been on her own since she was 17. As for her promiscuity, she pretty much stopped seeing anyone after agreeing to assist Diana and she falls hard for Diana.

I wish Meghan would return to write a book or two with plots that are not centered on sex. I really loved her earlier books such as Wild, Battle Scars and Infinite loop. I haven't read her novella, Delayed Gratification because of the mixed reviews. But I'm in the minority of her readers who think this. I just think she has the skills to write stories that isn't about how much sex she can include in a book. I know, I know this isn't what her fans want or expect in a Meghan O'Brien book.

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### **Arien says**

4.2 stars.

Meghan O'Brien writes one of the best sex scenes in the genre so expect hotness turned to the max. The varied kinks and fetishes combined with enough plot to keep the book engaging made this deeply erotic read enjoyable for me.

One of the main leads Diana becomes quite unlikable at some points in the book and it's understandable why. She was traumatized deeply by her past experience. But even though it makes complete sense narratively Diana sometimes being a complete twat did lower my enjoyment and hence the rating of the book.

Otherwise, not much to comment on. The other lead Jude is a lovely character. There is a nice and more importantly developed secondary cast in the form of Diana's best friend and Jude's cousin.

The book is mostly HOT public sex so if that's your thing, go for it. I might have discovered a new fetish myself.

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## Alexis says

This book is going to be tricky to rate. Pardon my math but I loved 1/2 of it, liked 1/4 of it and hated the final 1/4.

Despite what the title may suggest, this book has a great smut vs. plot ratio. There are plenty of really hot and sexy scenes with enough dirty talk to make a porn star blush. Though the book features several sexual acts, it only lightly touches on the subject of BDSM.

As for the main characters, I really connected with Jude. Just like her I too had a major crush on my hot older neighbor. I even told my best friend the same thing Jude told her cousin: "*She's going to break my heart, Kat. I know she will.*" At least things worked out for Jude in the end.

Diana.. oh Diana, the amount of inner demons this woman has can only be cured by an exorcist or a witch doctor.. or both.. at the same time.. while someone dunks a bucket of holy water on her head. She and her awful and sometimes manipulative behavior is the only reason I haven't given this book a higher rating. She even made it into my top 3 of most hated main characters.

There were some minor issues with the book that bugged me a little. The main one being Diana's hang up on everyone's age. Religion is not a subject in this book but the amount of preaching Diana does would make you think otherwise.

The other minor thing that bugged me was the lack of safe sex or even the discussion of it. For a sex therapist Diana doesn't seem to care whether or not Jude has a clean bill of health. How has this topic not been brought up even once in this book?

This get's an overall 3,5\* rating.

**TW: mentions of physical and emotional abuse.**

*\*Do not attempt to read this in public unless you're sitting on a block of ice. (Although it's a great excuse for why your pants got wet.)?*

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## Rosi says

This book promises, in its cover and title. But it doesn't give enough. It goes from such a high starting that the downfall is expected, as in logically unable to maintain an increase or even an equal pace. So it has been a little bit disappointing, actually.

The story goes down with the change in attitude of one of the main characters, Jude. She goes from being a carefree, joyful, and disinhibited that enjoys her sexuality fully, to insecure and dependent, confusing her need with submission in a too defeated way. Diana, on the other way, goes from desperate because needs a sex partner for her sex therapy classes, that she imparts for couples with sexual issues or sex boredom, to jerk. Jerk, with motives to be it, but too insensitive.

The story has, as many other books of this author, a catalogue of sexual options, and goes through them with detail. In this occasion, being Diana a sex therapist doing live demonstrative classes, the detail is even more thorough, so it can be useful to learn one thing or two.

For me, the non sexual parts have been boring and meaningless, not only because I was expecting more action and less drama. Maybe I have not connected with the characters, even the secondary ones.

It isn't the book of this author that I'll recommend the most, but don't let my opinion influence you much. It's worth reading.

*An ARC was given to me from Bold Strokes Books through Netgalley for my honest review*

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## **Joc says**

Jude Monaco has had a crush on her neighbour, Diana Kelley, for a year when one evening Diana knocks on her door with an unusual request. Diana is a sex therapist and runs workshops for women but her usual co-demonstrator has been injured and she needs a replacement or she'll have to cancel. Aware of Jude's enjoyment of sex, if the sounds through their adjoining bedroom wall is anything to go by, she hopes Jude will take Ava's place for the workshop on oral sex. Given Jude's crush on Diana, she doesn't even need to think about it.

Initially I thought the concept was pretty entertaining but as the story developed, and I became invested in Jude, the less entertaining I found the scenario. And I liked that. I liked that I was becoming involved and that what started out as a clever vehicle for an erotic romance became a story with depth. An abusive ex has left Diana damaged emotionally so while she enjoys sex and friends with benefits, she won't allow herself to become involved emotionally with Jude. Diana's fear and lack of trust is understandable but it doesn't make her very easy to like.

Jude, on the other hand, I found easy to like and root for when she realised her need to protect herself. Diana's character wasn't static and I came to like her too, it just took longer. As an erotic romance there are numerous sex scenes with lots of variation which O'Brien has written really well. There's even the occasionally injection of humour.

*Book received from Netgalley and Bold Strokes Books for an honest review.*

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## **Kennedy says**

My oh my what an erotic romance. More erotic than romance to some extent. Jude Monaco is a woman with a messed up family life but an awesome cousin that steps up and provide not only family but security. Diana Kelley, recovering from a tragic relationship by putting a shield around her heart. The two meet under circumstances that seem near impossible to believe yet intriguing. There is an age gap which is a concern for one of the characters but not so much for the other. Diana is sexy and wants to be in control. Jude is open and very upbeat about life considering her crappy family life. When the two meet, the reader gets to ride along a hot and sexy roller coaster that has you feeling good in many places. There is an entertaining subplot between Ava, Diana's best friend, and Katrina, Jude's cousin.

ARC provided by Bold Strokes Books, Inc. via NetGalley

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## K.D. Williamson says

Jesus. Let me wipe the sweat from my brow. I actually listened to the audiobook. It was rough going at first but the narrator seemed to find herself and it really flowed then. Meghan's book *Wild* is still my fav of them all but this comes to a close second. Somehow its smoking hot and then tender in places. There were even a few funny moments. I loved the characters and wanted to know more. Then, again I always do. Plus, it was blistering hot. The more Jude and Di got to know each other the more intense and intimate the sex became. I think that was a nice bit of writing to bring that out. I think some readers see Meghan's writing as all sex but there is nuance if you take your time and open yourself to it. Again, not every writer can pull that off. Kudos. Brava. Shit was good.

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## Heinerway says

Wow, what a hot story! Porn with plot! I really liked it... though Diana was unbelievably pigheaded.

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## Corrie says

**The Sex Therapist Next Door** gives you more sex than you can shake a stick at but you already know that when you decide to read **Meghan O'Brien**. I was intrigued after reading the blurb on Goodreads and decided to give it a go.

It started out good but gradually you come to know what an enormous tool sex therapist **Diana** really is. Her emotions switching between hot and cold gave me whiplash and it really messed up poor **Jude** so much that I began to dislike this character... a lot.

I see that this is where O'Brien creates her conflict in a plot that otherwise has not much to offer (other than sex). But it does not work for me because that same character flaw (Diana is emotionally crippled because of a bad relationship in her past) is a theme on repeat throughout the whole book. Ugh!

And what's with the age hang-ups? Diana was 39 and Jude 26. So what? With all the fooferah Diana made about it you would think she was in her late 60ies.

So yeah, there are copious amounts of hot sex, some anal as well, the slow unravelling of sweet Jude and a giant tool named Diana.

f/f explicit

Themes: Jude is wetter than Niagara falls, casual sex is never as casual as you think, is Diana not afraid of STD's? she never asked Jude (who slept with a lot of different women) if she was tested, so much drama-rama, Diana should have just stayed next door to be honest.

3.4 stars

\* A free copy was provided by Netgalley and Bold Strokes Books Inc. for an honest review.

## Gaby LezReviewBooks says

Diana Kelley is a sex therapist with emotional intimacy issues who needs to find a replacement for her impending hands-on sexual education workshop. She decides to ask Jude Monaco, her younger next door neighbour who secretly has a crush on Diana. As the workshop progresses, both women's feelings and fears start to unravel. Would it lead to something deeper as Jude craves?

Meghan O'Brien is one of the best lesbian writer of erotica. There's no doubt that she can write hot, different and wide-ranging erotic scenes. 'The sex therapist next door' is a prime example of this. The best parts of the book are the erotic ones while the rest is just average; sometimes repetitive, others plain melodramatic.

Sex therapist Diana is a hard to like character, she comes across as self-absorbed, distant and sometimes manipulative person. At 39 years old, she refers herself as a 'middle age' woman but sometimes she is very immature. She plays the age-gap card (of 13 years) continuously though most of the time Jude seems the mature one. Jude is more likeable though her transformation into a needy character feels more like a plot device rather than the expected development of her relationship with Diana. Both characters spend a long time in their heads and some of Diana's arguments for why she shouldn't get involved with Jude are so repetitive that cause more irritation than empathy. However, there is a good subplot between Ava, Diana's best friend, and Katrina, Jude's cousin.

Having said all this, if you are looking for good quality, lesbian erotica and you don't mind much of the rest of the plot, this books is right for you. 3.5 stars.

ARC provided by Netgalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

See all my reviews at [www.lezreviewbooks.com](http://www.lezreviewbooks.com)

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## Bethany says

If you're looking for a super sexy read with an actual (and well done!) plot, look no further! O'Brien penned a winner with this one!

In the past I've felt like O'Brien's books have been one big steamy sex scene, but a bit lacking on the plot line. Not the case this time! This novel has her signature steaminess, but also a well-developed storyline and very developed characters. I loved the concept of this one too, it was completely different than anything else out there, and that's refreshing. Speaking of O'Brien's signature steamy sex scenes, they were abundant in this one (YAY!), but none of the scenes felt repetitive or boring in any way. With the way the plot was set up, every single scene just worked, and I didn't feel the need to skim.

And let me just say - boy I glad I took others advice and saved this to read on my couch on a lazy Saturday! This novel is Steamy, with a capital S!

4.5 stars, rounded up to 5 because I know I'll indulge myself at a later date with some happy re-reading time :-D

\*\*Many thanks to the publisher for providing me with a free copy in exchange for my honest review.\*\*

## Sprinkles says

Meghan O'Brien is...dare I say...back? Okay, she's been steadily writing, but I'm the most satisfied with this end product than I have been for her last few works. The Sex Therapist Next Door embodies all the qualities of a bona fide O'Brien Smut-O-Verse: the celebration of consent, the constant horny thoughts/dialogue, the gorgeous leading ladies, the inward discoveries, and, of course, the smoking hot sex scenes. Wow! She's back!

Amongst quite a few issues from an abusive previous relationship (don't worry, no gory details there), worries about their age difference is what holds back Jude Monaco, a twenty-six-year-old writer, and Diane Kelley, a thirty-nine-year-old sex therapist. Now, the hand-wringing (Diane's, specifically) over their age difference gets tiresome, but I get it? Diane had been through a hellish past relationship and the thought of a happily ever after with someone so fresh and un-dramatic can really affect one's self esteem. With that, the age difference is quite yummy. I'd let Diane whisk me away, too.

Both leads sounded hot. I'm not sure if I developed a crush on either of them for this one, but I was thoroughly convinced of their attractiveness. O'Brien hit the ground running on this one in the sex department. While my tastes err more for push-and-pull before all that, I forgo that for this book because this is the O'Brien universe. You know what you've signed up for. Instead, the push-and-pull is more about emotional attachment than the physical, which is refreshing in its own way.

This is a smorgasbord of smut, people. It's fantastic. Her dirty talk and femmedom scenarios had me fanning myself, my goodness.

Also, I must mention how the last two books I've read mentions The Great British Bake Off! I adore that show! Looks like it was in all our Netflix queues.

I, for one, really needed another foray into Meghan O'Brien's erotic world. More like these, please! Five stars.

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## Lex Kent says

4.5 Stars. This book was hot with a capital H. O. T. I'm a big O'Brien fan, have been for a while. However, I must admit I was a little reluctant about this book. While I liked her last book, I thought it was heavy on sex, little on actual plot. O'Brien mostly writes steamy romances or erotic romances, but they have a romantic plot. O'Brien might be the queen of wlw sex scenes, but she is also a good story teller. That good mix is why I enjoy her so much. Anyway, I'm happy to say that while yes this book had numerous and steamy as hell sex scenes, it had a story and characters I actually cared about. This was much better than I expected and I'm a happy camper.

I have to give a friendly warning that this is not a book you really want to read in public. Not when you are sitting in a waiting room, or at your desk on a lunch break, this is an at home on the couch with a glass of wine or in your bedroom kind of book. Saying this book is hot feels like I'm just mildly scratching the surface.

The story is about Diana who is a sex therapist. Besides counseling she gives classes that are live

demonstrations of different sexual acts and techniques to spice things up for lesbian couples. When her partner in the class, she uses for demonstration purposes, is injured Diana reaches out to her younger and enthusiastic next door neighbor Jude for help keeping her business afloat. Jude has always had a crush on Diana so this job seems like a dream come true. But what happens if Jude can't keep her heart from falling for a woman that is all business?

This book covers a wide arrange of different sexual techniques. I guess you could say it covers some very light BDSM. There is some dominance and submission, and even light spanking, but the book doesn't really delve deeper into BDSM than that. It really is such a wide range of sex scenes that there really is something in this book for everyone. And even with numerous sex scenes, because they are all so different, you don't feel bored and tempted to skim any of them.

Beyond the spiciness and great sex scenes, this book is about two characters that were affected by their past. This is about a character that is scared to be loved and another that just wants to be loved. O'Brien delved pretty deeply into flaws and made me really care about these characters. Heck I found myself crying during one of the bigger emotional scenes. O'Brien sure can write more than just fantastic sex scenes.

If you are looking for a book that will spice up your night, grab this. While O'Brien's books may not be for everyone, they are pretty damn good anyway.

*An ARC was given to me by BSB for a honest review.*

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