



After Their Vows

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Broken vows don't necessarily mean a broken marriage...

Angie de Calvhos meant every word of the vows she shared with husband, Roque, at the altar. Pity he didn't return her sincerity... Expecting happy-ever-after, instead Angie found herself going through a mortifyingly public separation!

Now Angie has finally built up the courage to put an end to her time as a de Calvhos wife once and for all. But she's forgotten the magnetic pull that devilish Roque possesses. and as the past collides with the present, Angie realizes she owes it to Roque—and herself—to give Roque another chance.

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From Reader Review After Their Vows for online ebook

Kiki says

Apparently he was faithful.

Even though he thought about cheating, almost went down on the other woman on public and made out with her in a way that qualifies for grounds for arrest for indecent behaviour.

Because he didn't stick his tool in apparently that's not cheating.

All because heroine had to put her brother before him couple of times! He needs to understand that just because they're married doesn't mean magically he is now the centre of her universe and she'd sever ties with everyone else and will live just to serve him. He wanted to punish her because she failed to act as the ultimate stepford wife!

Well die you bloody fucker comes to mind. Again.

Mo says

This guy... wow, this guy. I don't even know what to say. You know you get those people who, no matter their own actions, always see themselves as the wronged party? And they spend their lives being the perpetual victim, whining about how unfair life is and listing their many difficulties like they're the only person to ever suffer? Well here's a good rule of thumb for romance writers: those types don't make good Heroes. They are by their very nature whiny. And whiny guys aren't hot.

(view spoiler)

This is one of the worst romances I've ever read. Which sucks, because Michelle Reid is normally awesome.

Tina says

I like Michelle Reid's earlier stuff A Question of Pride remains one of my favorites by her because I thought it was quite intelligently written. But this one was really ...ugh.

The husband, Roque, was immature, possessive...all 'stop helping your brother or I will go sleep with another woman.'

The wife Angie was all weepy and pathetic and had the backbone of a noodle.

The younger brother was a user.

Angie left Roque b/c she thinks he cheated on her and disappeared for a year. He wants her back so he blackmails her using her loser brother as a threat. She hates him! She wants him! They fight, hurling bitter insults at each other all the while lusting for each other. He smirks a lot, she trembles a lot. This happens a lot.

All of this was interspersed with loving descriptions of Roque's Billionaire lifestyle and multiple ways of

describing Supermodel Angie's abundant, fiery red curls.

Yawn.

bookjunkie says

Angie was utterly incapable of dealing with her thieving brother, and no wonder, being a wimpy ostrich coward. When faced with a problem, she's totally "cool" and "English" (translation: da Nile ain't just a river in Egypt). I didn't hate her, but her inability to handle her younger brother in a remotely intelligent way was exasperating, and she really pushed the "fragile, breakable, wounded" thing pretty damn far, although granted she had good cause to want to protect herself.

Surprisingly, I liked Roque, although of course it was enraging that he cheated on his wife. But, junkie, he didn't *actually* cheat! Well in my eyes, a married man making out with his ex-girlfriend on a crowded dance floor with their bodies plastered together and his hands gripping her ass, with no regard to photographers and leaving his wife open to public humiliation, speculation, and ridicule, is cheating. So at first I was ready to wreck him, what with his righteous fury at being labeled a cheater when he hadn't actually slept with Nadia, and his blaming of Angie for pushing him away. I mean, how slimy can you get! However, later on he came around and realized he hadn't been totally innocent, and I actually forgave him when he fully acknowledged his transgressions and he told Angie that he'd behaved badly and been a lousy husband to her. Contrarily, I was mad at Angie for volte-facing and saying she'd forced him to do it. Woman! Just take his apology! Don't tell him it was *your* fault he cheated!! *Gawd*.

By the end Roque was racing around trying to make sure Angie didn't hurt herself or run away whenever something came up that might bruise her fragile feelings, and that was fun although I'm not sure I like it when the H is totally aware of the h's extreme emotional vulnerability. Still, very entertaining with a happy little epilogue to tie it all up.

Missy says

A good read.....lots of drama and passion.

One arrogant sexy rich playboy catches sight of lovely sweet model and falls in lust. She keeps turning him down because he is involved with another model. Intrigued he offers his help when she needs it and they talk. Finding out his is not involved with the other woman frees her passion.....they have a wild affair. Being a possessive latin man he needs claim her so he marries her.

Both have fiery tempers which leads to heated verbal exchanges and some passionate makeup sessions until one night his judgement gets clouded and he makes a fatal mistake in her eyes.....so she leaves.

One year passes and she decides to divorce his cheating ass. He is still as arrogant as before and tells her no then blackmails her back into marriage. They both have trust issues, stubbornness, passion, love, and secrets.....can they make it?

Both characters are pretty real and both were hurt by him kissing his ex (cheating is cheating no matter what

the excuse is) and her leaving. She needed to lick her wounds and decide what to do and for him to be pissed about this is stupid as it was his own fault. He does man up and take the blame when he discovers how much he hurt her and how much they lost. She too grows up and realizes she needs to start putting him first as he is needy too. All in all a well done passionate/emotional read.

Romance_reader says

angst in slow motion (you get very vivid descriptions of exactly how the H and h are feeling/ their body language/ their physical gestures, etc to accompany the dialogue) is what Michelle Reid does best and this book is testament to her talent. It's like watching one of those movies that keep the camera rolling from one scene to the next without a perceptible 'cut'. The intensity between the couple was breathtaking and you see them having some very 'real' fights and misgivings with natural responses - as in their conversations sounded like something that would occur between a real life couple going through a bad patch in their relationship.

The H (Roque) and the h (Angie) are an estranged husband and wife duo who really love each other but are torn apart due to misunderstandings and third party influences (like the h's super spoilt kid brother) and a basic inability to communicate and take each other's issues seriously. They both have valid reasons to be angry with each other- although, nothing that they couldn't have resolved by coming clean about what actually happened. So, the whole story is about that - how they re-build their marriage after a year apart; how they learn to trust each other again; how they fall in love again; and boy, was it intense! That's the thing about Reid's romances. Interactions between the couple are of paramount importance, so much so; when you read about them, it's very easy to feel cocooned in their world where emotions are always running high and the attraction is sizzling. The secondary characters seem only incidental and have no real role in the plot (not even the OW who caused so much trouble between Roque and Angie).

Eventually of course, the H and the h resolve their issues and get back to being happily married (minus distractions) via proper communication and all is as it should be in Harlequin land! However, the fact that the ending seemed a little too rushed - in comparison to the much slower paced chapters that made up the beginning and the middle- and I've read better stuff from this author, I can only give this one 3 stars. Still, this was a decent read.

Fiona Marsden says

This is a trope Michelle Reid has done several times with good effect. My favourite is Lost in Love which gave me all the feels. The Man Who Risked it All is similar but with the hero being unfaithful while they were apart which was a bit of a downer.

This story takes up a year after Angie leaves Roque. They were lovers and then married but her younger brother kept causing problems and every time, Angie would choose helping her brother over her loyalty to her husband. She was left with the responsibility of a 13 year old brother when she was only seventeen along with a mountain of debt and this has impacted on the way Angie reacts to everything, including her husband.

Roque made a big mistake a year ago, pushing Angie to choose and threatening to go to another woman if his wife insisted on chasing after her brother again. Furious at being abandoned again, he went out with an ex and ended up with a major scandal on his hands and a wife who walked away and vanished for months.

Now he's decided it's time and little brother has played into his hands by racking up an enormous debt on one of Angie's unused credit cards linked to Roque's account.

Now we might think Roque deserved all he got and the way he treats Angie unforgivable, but we are given a clue early in the book, before he takes action. He quotes a Portuguese proverb which says "Hope is the last one to die." For me, that was enough to trust him in connection to his campaign to get Angie back.

I enjoyed the story. I've read it before, before I started doing reviews so it was a reread. I remember loving it and I haven't changed my mind. Not the best of the authors books, but a solid read for me on a trope I love.

StMargarets says

Supermodel orphaned heroine, saddled with a horrible teenage brother, marries billionaire hero. It all goes south fairly quickly because she is torn between paying attention to her jealous brother or her jealous husband. Hero threatens to have an affair with someone else if she doesn't put him first and she thinks that's happened when she sees him kissing one of her friends from the modeling world. The "friend" also taunts her about the affair.

Heroine is devastated and disappears for a few months without first confronting the hero. Then she picks herself up, goes back to the modeling agency as a receptionist and it is a year later when the story opens. Her brother has taken her credit card and run up gambling debts. The hero refuses to pay unless she gets back together with him. (It's thousands of pounds) and sends her brother off to Brazil to work off his debt. Heroine agrees, but wants to know about the OW. Hero refuses to justify himself - just says it's her fault if he strayed.

(view spoiler)

The rest of the story depicts how they work out their misunderstandings and find love again. The author did show both sides - but I'm still team heroine all the way. She suffered a lot more than he did - even if he was worried when she was off the radar for a few months.

Roub says

i do not know why the book got so many bad reviews because i really liked it. but then i always enjoy books by michelle. anyway coming back to the book. from the 1st page itself, i really thought roque had been unfaithful. and he was forgiven (by me at least) because it was clear he loved his wife very very much. and infidelity can happen to the best of couples. frustration and anger can drive you to do things like that. but roque did not do it. he had intended but he stopped himself..he was lucky he came to his senses. great read..showed how infidelity destroyed angie. how she dropped from being a famous top model to a receptionist. how she hid for months and miscarried. how she was angry when she got back with roque and fought against his love making. how she had difficulty trusting him again. and roque's emotions also touched me. he was furious because his wife did not give him benefit of the doubt, did not ask him if he indeed cheated. he was worried to death when she went missing for months, where was she, had anything happened her. so when he had her back, he did not tell her that he had not slept with nadia. he let her think he had cheated and still got her back in his bed. so he had his redemption. intense read. hats off michelle you described all these emotions poignantly. i did not give it a 5 star however because my favourite of your

books is still "mia and the powerful geek"

Alex is The Romance Fox says

I enjoy most of Michelle Reid's books but this one just didn't work for me.

Angie, a former supermodel is a bit of a cardboard heroine. Yes, she's gorgeous, cares for her stupid brother and is still in love with her husband - the gorgeous feckless Roque. He's a real jerk in my opinion...what kind of man goes to fashion shows and involves himself only with models....right!!!!!! His behaviour towards Angie is so not there.....i wanted to hit him on the head.....

She let him walk all over her...what a worthless guy.

I don't know where the authors find names for their characters but being Portuguese I have never met a Portuguese man with a name of Roque....where did she find it???? and the surname Calvhos - nowhere in the portuguese language have I ever seen a word with vh in it.....well I guess it is only a story after all.....author licence and all that.

Not one of my favourite Michelle Reid's books but I will read others of hers in the future.

willaful says

Overwritten, overwrought, yet still boring, who'd have thunk it. There are snippets of an interesting story here, but it's mostly drowned in endless bickering and accusations.

What I liked: both characters have faults. The breakdown between Roque and Angie's marriage is partially caused by his threat to be unfaithful -- which Angie refuses to believe he didn't carry out -- but also by Angie constantly putting her feckless younger brother ahead of her marriage. Roque thinks ruefully about Angie's "fierce ability to love unconditionally -- so long as your name was Alex, not Roque" and he's quite right... she's willing to accept and forgive any amount of bad treatment from her brother, but refuses to even listen to her husband.

And Roque, at least, shows some intelligence and growth. I enjoyed this line, which follows the heroine having a bout of vomiting: "Roque viewed her pinched pallor from the taut position of a man who was recalling the times he had cut it too fine with the use of a condom." By category romance standards, that practically makes him Einstein. He's also concerned about possible pregnancy for noble reasons: because Angie is so young and "had been a mother to her brother for six years of her life. She deserved a break -- a chance to learn how to be Angie." Unfortunately, the heroine continues to court Big Misunderstandings as if they were her best friend.

There was enough good points in the second half that I wasn't really sorry I'd finished it, but overall, blah and not the story it could have been.

Marajean says

The hero was a user, the heroine was weak. The plot centers around a married couple. The heroine has had to raise her brother past debt left by the parents and the constant fear that if she couldn't he'd be taken away. Her brother grew up horribly spoiled and getting into trouble. She spends most of their marriage running

after her brother to help him out of some scrape. When the latest happens and she's called down to his school, the hero decides that if she won't tell her brother to shove it, he'll go find someone else to warm him bed for the night. Heroine goes not thinking that he'd actually do it. Instead she realizes that she has been putting her brother first and needs to work on her marriage so turns around. She goes to the party they were supposed to be attending at a club and finds out her husband actually meant it. He's at the party on the dance floor, making out with a model and one step away from having sex with her right on the dance floor. The heroine leaves and has to face all the papers the next morning showing him and the model wrapped around each other going into the model's apartment.

A year later the hero blackmails the heroine back to him using her brother. The heroine falls into lust with him and he considers the fact that because he eventually changed his mind and didn't actually have sex with the model, his character is lily white and he needs to punish the heroine for daring to believe that he would actually have sex with someone else. Yes, how dare she believe that he would have sex with someone else when he had every intention of having sex with someone else, went out and found the someone else, practically had sex with her in public, got himself plastered in the papers as a cheater, never denied it to the press, but it was all her fault for thinking he was capable of it. Apparently she should have lived in a rose tinted world where she didn't have a clue how he really was and just think there was no way he would. His reasoning is moronic and the heroine is no better. Instead of her telling him that a married man shouldn't behave like that, she agrees that if he didn't actually have sex with the model, then he deserved his revenge on her for leaving him. Excuse me? Someone hit these people with a stupid stick. This is about as dumb as believing that it's not cheating if it was just oral sex. And the hero doesn't even realize until over half way through the book that 'maybe' his actions weren't what a married man should be doing. But that's negated by the heroine denying his blame and instead saying of course he would cheat when she was such a lousy wife. So the next time he decides to find someone else, she better just take it to heart that the only reason why he's doing it is because she's a lousy wife and it's her fault. He holds no responsibility for his own actions. And I'm sure there will be a next time.

Sneha Jaiswal says

lousy hero!!the hero has every intention of cheating on his wife and goes half way into cheating by kissing another woman passionately and then has a change of mind!!and all this because the poor hero always wants to be the centre of the universe and couldnt tolerate when heroine gives importance to her brother !!wow what a crybaby!!I think he needs a doting nanny not a wife!the hero blaming the heroine for straying and heroine clamly accepting it was just too much.moreover I hate the double standards when the hero says he would have thrown the heroine out of his life if he saw her kissing another man but wants the heroine to accept him for doing the same!yuck!!also I feel the heroine's miscarriage was glossed over, the hero should have suffered!!

Rachel K says

I normally enjoy this author but I hated this book. The hero was an asshole! All he did was hurt her and lie to her, then explain it away like oh well, it's because I'm a man and Portuguese. The heroine forgave him way too quickly, and i absolutely hate it when the trouble-making OW gets a happy ending!!

RLA says

This is the story of Angie and Roque, they have been separated for a year after it was reported in the press that Roque had slept with another woman. Angie, a former model, has spent most off her adult life raising her younger brother and fighting to keep them out of debt. After she had married Roque she constantly felt torn between her troublesome brother, her career and Roque. Deeply heartbroken by Roque's betrayal she had retreated for a while then quit modelling to take up a regular job with her former agent. She was unaware that her brother had been stealing from Roque using one of her credit cards. When Roque finds out about this he uses it as blackmail in order to have Angie come back to him.

If you read my reviews regularly you will probably know two things about me by now. The first is that I'm pretty easy to please, most of the time a book just needs pages and I'll like it (!). The second thing is that I don't like being overly negative, so I will try and contain my frustrations about certain elements of this book. So, lets start on a positive note; as is expected of Michelle Reid's books the writing is really good, especially when it comes to describing and setting the scene.

OK so here is the stuff I didn't like. The premise of the story is samey, it's something that has been done many, many times before, and this has all the typical elements - playboy husband, false accusations of infidelity, blackmail to make the woman fall in line etc, etc. It's been done and it has been done much better than this. The next thing I'm going to talk about is what really killed my enjoyment. It raises the question of 'what constitutes as an act of infidelity?' To me any act of intimacy with someone other than your spouse/partner is infidelity, that includes kissing, embracing, sex etc. In this book the hero was caught passionately kissing another woman yet thinks he has been wrongfully accused of being a cheater because he didn't sleep with the other woman. He punishes the heroine for believing he cheated, but to my mind HE DID CHEAT! Infidelity, to me, is a no-no in books unless it had solid reasons and written with sensitivity, this is not the case with this book. If you take these things and add a rather cruel hero, a doormat heroine, a crow bared in miscarriage mentioned once, then a pregnancy that happens despite a condom and the pill (super sperm!) and you are left with a book that, unfortunately, I just didn't enjoy.

Originally posted at <http://everyday-is-the-same.blogspot...>
