



The Story of Son

J.R. Ward

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First released in the anthology Dead After Dark, dive into this hot novella from #1 New York Times bestselling author J.R. Ward. Available for the first time ever as a standalone ebook, get lost in the sinful pleasures of a vampire so obsessed with one woman, he will relinquish her blood, if only he can have her heart...

Held captive by a dark, seductive vampire with an unworldly hunger, the beautiful Claire Stroughton fears her life as a lawyer has irrevocably taken a turn for the worse. But when this deeply sensual-and highly dangerous-vampire convinces Claire that his desire for her is stronger than his lust for blood, she is compelled to give everything up to him, body and soul...

Please note: this is not part of the Black Dagger Brotherhood even though it's set in the same "world".

The Story of Son Details

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Author : J.R. Ward

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Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Romance, Paranormal Romance, Vampires



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From Reader Review The Story of Son for online ebook

Sammy Loves Books says

I read this story in the anthology, Dead After Dark that I picked up at my local library, and Loved it!!

A definite 5 star love story of a lawyer and a vampire finding love against all odds. This story was very touching and I loved the heroine. She was smart, aggressive, and fiercely loyal. All traits making her worthy of an alpha male vampire.

I would love for Ward to develop this into a full novel or allow these characters to find their way to the BDB world. Who knows...maybe Son will find his way to the BDB Training Camp! LOL

Sarah says

3.5 stars

I've seen mixed opinions on whether **The Story of Son** fits into **J.R. Ward's** Black Dagger Brotherhood series or not, some people say it's set in the same world but about stand alone characters while other's say it's in an entirely separate world. I can't confirm for sure either way but to me it feels like a story written by the author before she had finished fully developing the BDB world. In a lot of ways it has a very similar feel to that series (although these aren't characters you'll have met before and I didn't spot any cameos from familiar faces) but it doesn't quite follow the BDB rules, it's almost as if this was a trial run and she used the story to help her figure out the vampire mythology that a lot of fans are now familiar with thanks to the BDB series. That isn't a negative, I just thought it might help to clarify things for readers who (like I was!) are confused about where this story fits into the series.

It's also worth noting that this story was previously included in the **Dead After Dark** anthology before being released as a stand alone eBook. Again not a complaint but just something you might want to be aware of so you don't end up buying something you've already read.

So, now we've got that out of the way let's talk about the actual novella! **The Story of Son** is fairly short so you're going to have to just go with the almost instant connection between the main characters but I don't think you'll find that too hard because it's written to **J.R. Ward's** usual high standards and both Son and Claire are extremely likeable characters. I don't want to say too much about the plot because it would be very easy to give spoilers but when lawyer Claire is asked to visit an important client about a last minute change to her will she ends up getting a lot more than she bargained for.

Son, who Claire thankfully renames Michael, has had a pretty horrible time of things and I felt terrible for the way he had been treated by the people who should have cared for him. Claire is the first person to see underneath the monster he's been told he is to the sweet, caring guy that he actually is and it's her love that helps to save him. I really liked both of these characters and I enjoyed their story even though I would have loved to see this turned into a full length novel. I'd quite like to see more of Michael and Claire but I'm not

really sure how that could work, I can't see them being able to appear in the BDB books because of certain inconsistencies in the world building but I can't imagine **J.R. Ward** creating a whole new series around them when it would be so similar to the books she already writes. It's a shame really because they could have been a great couple to spend more time with.

I'd kind of lost my love of the BDB series a little over the last few years and have fallen behind by not reading the last few releases but this reminded me why I always loved **J.R. Ward**'s writing so much. It's made me realise how much I've missed the BDB world so if nothing else I'm glad it's rekindled my excitement and I'm now looking forward to continuing with the main series.

Jason Bradley says

okay, so.... Let me tell you how much I was enjoying this story. It was great. A strong powerful woman who doesn't feel like she needs to have a man or children to define her, who can be alone without being lonely. Who doesn't bend to the pressure to be a certain way, who is happy with who she is. She stays strong in the face of being abducted. She acts logically and asks the right questions.

Then there is Son (Michael). He was the gentle monster. The beast that Claire falls in love with.

But then it becomes a JR Ward book. Anything nonconformist is a flag to wave, a reason for pride, until love comes along. You see, love cures all. Once in love, you no longer like BDSM, piercings... and now it even cures the strong woman. Claire realizes that up until she fell in love, she was just a man inside a woman's body... because a REAL woman couldn't be strong and independent and not need family to define her. Now she suddenly wants baby food on her blouse and no longer wants to work as a powerful lawyer.

And the book was ruined. I stopped reading at about 70%.

CC says

4.5 Stars!!

Son/Michael is a vampire who is forced to endure a life in captivity until Claire gives him a chance at hope, love and a valued existence. Claire is an attorney who lives for the job and the competition, but she has never had the urge to settle down into the married life. When she is summoned to meet with her client at the Leeds Estate, Claire soon discovers her client has ulterior motives. The short client appointment turns into a weekend stay that irrevocably changes Claire's life.

Once Claire realizes she is being held captive in the estate, she is confronted immediately with the reason why she is imprisoned, so Son can "take from her" the vital sustenance he needs. The interaction between Son and Claire is friendly but also cautious. While they are fearful, they still treat each other with civility. Additionally, Claire is immediately taken by Son's overwhelming male presence.

"His six-foot five frame was dressed in a red silk robe that fell to the floor and was tied with an embroidered sash. His hair was as black as night and pulled off his face, falling down in vast waves...The perfection of it was stunning, with his square jaw, thick lips, and straight nose the pinnacle of male magnificence."

In their short time together, Claire and Son (whom she names Michael) develop a deep bond and they wonder how they can continue their relationship given Michael's captivity and circumstance. Their discovery is quite lovely, selfless, and very hot – let's not forget how hot vamp sex can be! After Claire is released, she is determined to find a way to rescue Michael, but she does not want to create a different type of caged existence for him. As the plot continues to develop, Claire and Michael find their way back to each other and they do get their version of HEA.

“This was him staking his claim to her in addition to loving her. This was a possession by something other than a human man and it was totally fine by her.”

Having only read the first book of the Black Dagger Brotherhood a few years ago, this novella was a perfect compliment to the world in Caldwell. I don't know if Claire and Michael ever weave their way into the BDB series, but their story was beautifully written and left me wanting to know more about Michael's origin.

Elfina Renee says

Excellent...excellent, it was nice rereading this story again. True love, act of desperation and for once a vampire of male worth was in distress. So it was an awesome read....but what is a little bloodletting among humans and vampires? Hahahahahahah

warhawk says

Type: Standalone Novella

POV: Third Person

Rating:

Claire Stroughton was a lawyer specializing in estate management. When one of biggest and long time client called for a meeting, she didn't think much about the long drive to Caldwell. A simple trip for a signature turned out to be more than she bargained for when her client apparently had something else in mind.

Son was different from the day he was born and that unfortunately earned him a life in isolation. He never wanted something more until he met with the headstrong Claire. He was afraid of the possibility while she was determined to show him something new.

I've always been a fan of the Black Dagger Brotherhood series since I first picked up the first book. However, since the books are so long, I stopped at book 2. I've been meaning to continue the series, but still

can't find the time. So when I saw this novella, I knew it would be a good substitute until I can get to commit to reading the full books. Yes, this novella certainly helped with my craving, but at the same time made it worse because it reminded me what I've been missing.

“Let me help you. Give me your word.”

The Story of Son was about two individuals taking chances, doing something outside their comfort zone. Sometimes you never realized what you need until it presented itself to you.

She might look like a lady from her chignon to her sensible pumps, but on the inside she was a killer.

I love Claire as a heroine. She was strong willed and assertive, always knew what she wanted in this life. But when something happened that required a change in her beliefs, she wasn't afraid in adapting.

He was as beautiful as his voice, as beautiful as his scent, as beautiful as an angel . . .

Son, or Michael as Claire renamed him, was hard not to fall in love with. His innocence and sadness pulled me to him. He was incredible polite and old fashion – a perfect gentleman. But do not be mistaken for him being a pushover. He was alpha to the core. And he had long hair with red and black!

All the feeding scenes were incredibly sexy. I don't even mind that they fell in love within three days. I mean vampires are different from human. They probably excrete some kind of hormone making women dropping their panties in a snap. I know I've been affected by that haha!

Overall, this little standalone novella is great addition to the BDB series whether you're a huge fan or just started to dabble in the sexy world of fangdom.

“Mine,” he said. “You are mine. Always.”

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Exina says

2.5 stars

I read this story in the anthology *Dead After Dark* years ago, but sadly I didn't like it more now than back then.

The story is enjoyable enough but feels a little half-baked to me.

Still, a must-read for fans of the series BDB!

Jen says

Of course I loved this novella from JR Ward! In true "Warden" fashion this was full of sizzling sex, and a ton of emotion. She sure knows how to pack a punch, even if the story is short and has so much crammed into so little! I wish it were longer, as I wasn't ready to say goodbye to the tall, dark, tortured and sexy vampire. Yes, poor "Son" aka Micheal was like so many of JR Ward's heroes...tortured...Poor guy, and I fell in love with him from the first page he was introduced! How could I not?? He had black and red hair that fell down to his waist..oh yeah...I am totally buying what she is selling! LOL My favorite thing about Ms. Ward is how she is able to describe her characters so that it feels like I am watching a movie. I have never had diffuculty visualizing any thing that she writes.

I don't really want to give any part of the story away; but we have Claire, who is a lawyer; and Micheal; who is a captured vampire who has an innocencs about him that is so endearing. If you love the BDB series, then this is a must read! It will keep you satisfied while we are stuck waiting for a year for the next installment of our beloved Brothers!!! I can't believe I waited so long to read this one! It was origionally included in an anthology but now has been released on its own. Worth every penny in my eyes!

Stacie says

[What a deceptive wicked *itch! And WHAT THE HELL WAS FLETCHER!? At first I thought he was a doggen, but noooo....? (hide spoiler)]

P says

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(view spoiler)

Kimberly Carrington-Fox says

Un breve y demasiado simple relato situado en el universo de los vampiritos pero no relacionado con ellos. Obviamente al ser tan breve es todo muy apresurado y con lagunas por todos sitios pero tiene un macho de valía que es un encanto y al que le huele el pito a canela y una sesión guarрeril decentilla. Una lectura para echar un ratito

Dorsey aka ♥? Wrath Lover Reviews ♥? says

My review for this novella is posted on the Dead After Dark anthology book.

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

Tanja ~ KT Book Reviews says

Well that was a great little story! I hope they find the brothers and make their way into future books. I am sure there are question and concerns they can help each other with.

Perfect little taste until the next BDB/Legacy book comes out :)

Me likes!

, • * ° *••Gwendolyn•°***★°***★ says

5 Caldwell Stars!

Michael, I adored him.

And, his story is so hear wrenchingly beautiful. And, OOh my, there is so much hidden in the Blackdagger's town of Caldwell.

And Son, was a precious treasure find.

Gosh, I enjoyed this. I loved when I when find a book that the female is NOT a damsel in distress. Claire was no where near a damsel in distress. I liked her a lot, she was rich, smart and cocky. This small snippet could have easily earned more stars if it has been longer, and the world was open a wee bit wider for Son. but, I do have to say what I read read was awesome. I loved to pieces and I hope Son, shows up in another book. And he finds others like him. He was wonderful to read.

OOh, and the cover, I love it but....

I do not understand it. It looks nothing like Son's description, given in this book?

So I choose a pic of my own, based on the description given in this book of Son.

This was a beautifully vivid treasure.

5 Rock Soild Stars, and I want more for sure.

P.S.

This book , even though none of the brothers oh Blackdagger's are in this book. I still really, really is a VERY SWEET book.

Sophia Triad says

Michael and Claire

He grabbed on to her in so tight her bones bent. As he buried his head in her hair, his voice dropped to a growl.

"Mine," he said."You are mine. Always."

A short story thar takes place in the same world as BDB, but it is not part of the main series or the spinoff. Maybe at some point in the future, we will have a connection with the Brothers, who knows? Ward has hinted that there might be something there that we will see again in the main series together with some answers.

Michael has been a prisoner of his own mother all his life. His only joy in life are women that his mother brings him as a present once per year. Michael is extremely innocent, gentle and nice...for a vampire.

Claire is an attorney who visits strange Miss Leeds for one of her cases. After a cup of tea, she will wake up at her client basement and she will become acquainted with Michael. She will spend 3 days with him before she is set free. But she will never forget him.

This is a really well-written short story. I wish it was longer, but I have the feeling that we will see again Michael and Claire.
