



Black Tie Optional

Ann Marie Walker

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Everything about Coleman Grant III oozes power and sex. And not the perfunctory kind either, but the sheet clawing, heart stopping, gasping for air after you've screamed so loud you can't breathe kind. From his dark wavy hair that stands in an artfully rumpled mess, to the blue eyes that sear your skin, to his full, sensual lips - on the surface he's pure perfection.

Too bad he's an asshole. An arrogant, uptight corporate raider hell bent on destroying the environment one species at a time.

Everything about Olivia Ramsey screams hippie humanitarian. From her blond hair tied in a sloppy bun, to her faded jeans with the Bonnaroo patch sewn on the thigh, to her combat boots still splattered with mud from the previous day's site visit.

So it makes perfect sense that they would get married. In Vegas. Stone-cold sober.

Cole needs a wife. Olivia needs to save an endangered species. But what starts as a marriage of convenience soon turns into a battle of wills and sexual tension. Love is a game, and Olivia and Cole are ready to win.

Black Tie Optional Details

Date : Published May 30th 2017 by St. Martin's Press

ISBN :

Author : Ann Marie Walker

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Adult

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From Reader Review Black Tie Optional for online ebook

Wit & Wonder Books says

** ARC provided by the author for an honest review **

Black Tie Optional by Ann Marie Walker was a funny, high sexual intensity, and had 2 characters that were similar but so different. It was a marriage of convenience that got them together in Vegas because of needs they both had. She wanted to save endangered species and he needed to be married so he doesn't lose his families estate and wealth. What started out to be just a marriage of convenience turns into a sexually charged relationship that brought 2 completely different people together and united them.

They start out as enemies, then friends, the friends with benefits to lovers. It was so much fun reading how they progressed with each other.

This was a funny, lough out loud book. Enjoy it!

Christine says

Reading Black Tie Optional I felt a bit like the characters Cole and Olivia. I had been in a reading drought (I was super busy), but it was time to dive deep into a book and really connect with it. Black Tie Optional was the book that I got to connect with.

The fun thing about Black Tie Optional is that I think we can all identify with aspects of both Cole and Olivia. From their passions, to their cars, and maybe their embarrassing moments too. Well maybe not the embarrassing moments.... At least not that I'll admit to.

Ann Marie transports the reader to Chicago with two lovable characters, humor, angst, and the power of love. This well written, and well paced story is a great summer read, whether you're on the beach, a plane, or a lunch hour at work.

Ellen ♦ Book Bellas ♦ says

Fun, surprisingly witty and verrrry sexy!!

I LOVE the enemies-to-lovers romance trope and Ann-Marie Walker executes perfectly. This story has heart and heat and soul!

Coleman and Olivia seem an unlikely pair: she's an activist who hates everything Coleman stands for: wealth, privilege and corporate America. Their smart and witty banter and the uber-steamy sex scenes elevate this contemporary romance above many in the genre and make this story a definite must-read. The Chicago setting is fabulous!

Looking for a smart and sexy beach or poolside read?Then grab 'Black Tie Optional' and enjoy a few

delicious hours of escape.

"What do you want, Olivia?" he'd asked.

"Everything," she whispered.

(ARC provided in return for an honest review.)

Amy ~ Love At 1st Read says

I love romances and I love the feeling when a good book makes me laugh out loud. Sure, authors can be funny, but creating a story that's both funny and sexy is a talent not many people have. New-to-me-author, Ann Marie Walker, has that kind of talent. *Black Tie Optional* has a generous measure of humor and passion. So prepare your ribs to be tickled and your heart to be melted in this first book of Walker's *Wild Wedding Series*.

Olivia Ramsey had spent her adult life and most of her teens speaking on behalf of those who couldn't. Working for non-profits, she championed causes that meant most to her. Her latest target though was proving tougher than most. He might be a gorgeous, sexy CEO but he was an arrogant ass. A self-righteous megalomaniac with a total disregard for the environment. Not able to get an appointment with him, she'd taken to cornering Coleman Grant III on his morning coffee stop. Every morning. For the last 3 months. Olivia never gave up and Coleman Grant was not going to blemish her record. Her life had become a routine of wake, stalk, research, sleep, repeat. She was looking forward to her weekend trip to Vegas with her BFF and a break from dealing with the asshole.

In the last 6 years, Cole Grant had turned Grant Industries into something greater than his parents could have ever imagined. But he was ready for a break from business and dealing with his viper of a grandmother. His attorneys were working around the clock to put an end to her reign of tyranny, but Cole could lose it all if he couldn't find a loophole in the codicil to his parents' will. And to make matters worse, this was day 83 of dealing with the "hippie humanitarian". "With her stack of spreadsheets filled with mind-numbing data and photos of snotty-nosed bats, she'd pushed her way into his life one aggravating day at a time." She was not his type and definitely not worth the aggravation. So why could he not quit visualizing erotic images of her? This upcoming weekend in Vegas was just what he needed to get those images out of his head.

The Vegas trip had barely begun when trouble fell right into Cole's lap. Literally. In the form of Olivia Ramsey. Evidently, they were in Vegas for the same bachelor/bachelorette party and, as luck would have it, they were running into each other at every turn. Needless to say, this was Vegas, and after much drinking, they woke up in bed together with a fuzzy recollection of frantic hands, greedy lips, and earth shattering sex. About the same time they both agreed the whole night was a mistake that would never be repeated, Cole got a call that the lawyers couldn't get him out of the requirements of his parents' will. If he's not married by his 30th birthday- in 3 days- he loses Grant Industries. So Olivia and Cole find themselves in front of Elvis at the Hunk O Hunk O Burning Love Wedding Chapel tying the proverbial knot. They'd made a deal. If she married him for 3 months tops, he'd back her conservation project. They'd either made the worst mistake of their lives or taken advantage of the opportunity of a lifetime.

This has to be one of the funniest, most well-written books I've read in a long time. From start to finish, it was a delightful read. Smart and witty, this story is consistently funny and genuinely affecting. The plot is exceptionally clever and imaginative. The wedding scene and visit to the country had me giggling and snorting. Olivia and Cole are 2 unique characters you can't help but love and need to see them united. Despite the fact that Olivia was smart-mouthed and annoying, Cole wanted her. For Olivia, Cole went

against the grain of everything she stood for, but one touch from him and all her self-control and logic went out the window. The passion between them was undeniable. I loved watching their relationship evolve from adversaries to tolerating each other to falling in love. The secondary characters were every bit as enchanting. Conor, Cassie, and Rebecca were great additions to the story and I hope future books have more of them. I can't even begin to tell you how much I loved this story and Ms. Walker's writing style. This is a series for which I will be anxiously awaiting each new book. I voluntarily reviewed an Advanced Readers Copy of this book.

Caz says

I've given this a B- at AAR, so that's 3.5 stars rounded up.

It's no secret that the Marriage of Convenience is my favourite trope when it comes to historical romance. But it's a plotline that is less easy to pull off in a contemporary, so I was keen to read **Black Tie Optional** – the first in Ann Marie Walker's *Wild Wedding* series – to see whether it could be made to work in a non-historical setting. The answer is yes, for the most part, but it seemed to me that some of the things I so love about the trope – the couple getting to know each other and eventually falling in love – were rushed and/or glossed over, and I came away from the book wondering where the actual romance was. That's not to say this isn't an enjoyable read, because it is; the central couple has chemistry so hot it could strip paint, their verbal exchanges are often quite funny and the wedding scene is hilarious – but when they're not having sex, they're thinking about how much they want to have sex and remembering how great it was the last time they had sex... and I can't help wishing there had been less of that and more time spent on the development of an actual relationship.

The story is your classic enemies-to-lovers one, as environmental activist Olivia Ramsey butts heads (and other body parts) with tall, dark, handsome sex-god Coleman Grant III, the gorgeous arsehole whose multi-billion dollar company is about to develop land inhabited by the northern long-eared bat, an animal recently recognised as a threatened species. For eighty-three days, she's confronted him on his morning coffee run, and for eighty-three days, he's blown her off. It's infuriating, she moans to her best friend Cassie – who teases Olivia about the fact that all she ever seems to talk about is Cole and suggests she's got a thing for him. Olivia is adamant that she hates his oh, so handsome guts – because, yeah, denial ain't just a river in Egypt.

For some reason, this eighty-third day is different. Cole notices how fabulous Olivia's arse looks in her scruffy jeans and his head is suddenly filled with lots of salacious images while his small head perks up hopefully. It's ridiculous – he doesn't even like the woman – but then liking has little to do with wanting to get down to the horizontal mambo with someone.

However, he can't afford to spend too much time lusting after a crazed environmentalist; he has a bigger problem to wrestle with, namely the clause in his late parents' will that stipulates if he's not married by the time he's thirty, Grant Industries – which he has worked hard to transform from the successful investment firm his parents left him into a global leader in the emerging technologies market – and all its assets will automatically be transferred into the hands of his formidable grandmother. With his birthday just days away, he can sense her circling for the kill, but hopes that the lawyers will find a way to circumvent the stipulation. They don't, however – news Cole receives after a spectacular night of unbridled passion in a Las Vegas hotel room... with none other than the woman of his dreams? nightmares?, Olivia Ramsey, who is in Vegas

attending the same pre-wedding party as he is.

Anyway. Cole is backed into the proverbial corner and has just four days in which to find a wife. Olivia is trying to sneak out of his suite and embark upon her walk of shame, but he stops her in her tracks when he asks her to marry him, explaining his reasons for asking and offering to back her conservation project in return. They'll get married, divorce after three months, the bats get a home and voilà! Win-win for both of them.

That's the set up for the marriage of convenience, and it works fine. What doesn't work so well is the fact that the pair of them then proceed to pretty much ignore the need to make their hasty marriage look convincing. In spite of Cole's warnings that his grandmother is an incredibly shrewd, ruthless woman, Olivia expects the fact they're actually married will be enough to stop her being able to gain control of Grant Industries. Even their closest friends, who are in on the secret, are amazed that Cole and Olivia haven't sat down to invent a backstory and decide how they're going to act once they get back to Chicago.

The section of the story in which Olivia takes Cole home to meet her parents allows her to see a more relaxed version of him and discover he's even more irresistible when he's not so buttoned up, while Cole comes to understand more about Olivia's passion for her work, and to see a less prickly, more affectionate side of her. Her parents are terrific; her mother a committed environmentalist (so Cole can see where Olivia gets it from), her father a vet, and it's obvious they adore each other. Cole finally starts to think that perhaps what they have is something he wants for himself. He has never really known what it is to be part of a family; born into money, he didn't see much of his parents when he was younger, and was brought up by nannies and servants. The author touches briefly on how much Cole is hurt that they put that clause in their will, but doesn't dwell on it overmuch.

The premise is right up my alley and Cole and Olivia have smoking chemistry, but the romance is under-developed and we go from intense lust to love with almost no steps in between. The pair spends most of their time together thinking about sex – how great it was last time, how it can never happen again and... oh, bugger, we're in bed again but this is absolutely, positively the last time. Until the next one. And the one after that. They never talk about how they are going to handle Cole's grandmother, his high-profile lifestyle, public appearances, or about how – or even IF – they are going to tell Olivia's parents the truth.

The central characters are amiable enough, although neither of them is particularly memorable and some of their actions – most notably Olivia's insistence on getting plastered on the plane and then at the party – are immature and made me actively dislike them. Cole's obvious affection for his half-sister is a point in his favour, although this – like the grandmother side plot – is another thread that is introduced and then suddenly dropped.

Black Tie Optional is a quick, sexy read that isn't without charm or humour, but which ultimately lacks that certain something that would have made it an out-and-out winner. There aren't enough of those 'moments' that show us two people falling for each other; the moment they discover a shared interest or opinion, the moment they see the other person with fresh eyes, or those funny little episodes that show them growing closer together. The characterisation is pretty superficial and we never really get to know exactly why Cole and Olivia fall in love as opposed to lust. I did enjoy it, but not enough to be able to get past its various weaknesses or give it a wholehearted recommendation.

Sissy's Romance Book Review says

Book Review For: *Black Tie Optional* by Ann Marie Walker 'Black Tie Optiona'l by Ann Marie Walker is book One in the new series called "Wild Wedding". This is the story of Coleman Grant III and Olivia Ramsey. Cole is the true picture of a Rich Business man with no care for the little things or the environment. Which is whole opposite of Olivia's world. Olivia cares about every little thing and saving endangered animals if they are ugly or cute. An right now she is working on getting Cole to help save some endangered Bats that are on one of his many properties. But every morning when she comes running to talk to him before he goes into the coffee shop he just makes a joke of what she is talking about. Cole finds Olivia attractive but doesn't really understand why she is so much involved with these issue. So he basically brushes her off each morning. But both have a destiny in Vegas for a bachelor / bachelorette party. Which puts them together and they act on their sexual attraction. The next morning before Olivia can do the 'walk of shame' out the door Cole throws her with an arrangement offer to suit them both. Cole has to marry in just days or he will loose his company. This was a really great enjoyable read. I so liked how they kept bickering and how they both slowly start to change. "My honest review is for a special copy I voluntarily read." <https://www.amazon.com/gp/profile/A2H...> <http://sissymaereads.blogspot.com/> <https://romancebookreviewforyou.wordp...> <https://www.tumblr.com/blog/romancebo...>

Claire Robinson says

4 - **"You're a lot less charming when I'm sober."** Stars!

Nothing gives me more pleasure than discovering an author whose work I get along with, but that I haven't read before, and although well-known Ann Marie Walker is an author now to me.

Black Tie Optional is the first book in the *Wild Wedding* series, and Cole and Olivia's story was just all round easy reading. Plenty of humor, lots of chemistry and verbal sparring, and two characters that you cannot help but like.

He might be hotter than Ryan Reynolds and Ian Somerhalder combined, but underneath that perfect exterior beats the heart of an ogre...

I think the dual POV really added to this story, both Cole and Olivia on the surface seemed quite cut and dried when it came to their characters, one free-spirited, flighty and always fighting for the under-dog, while the other staid, bound by expectation, and expects to be the top-dog in every situation he finds himself in. They say that opposites attract, and even when pushed into a marriage of (in)convenience they really do on this occasion.

"Under normal circumstances, you wouldn't be my first choice. Hell, you wouldn't even be my last choice, but I'm out of time."

If I am honest, nothing in this story came as a major surprise, but it was so well written, and the characters so well developed, that it was just a pleasure to read. Definitely a book I can see being made into a successful Rom-Com in the future that's for sure!

But even with the laugh out loud situations, and stellar verbal sparring this is a couple with their own vulnerabilities and the author added them to this story at really pertinent points. Secondary characters also made an invaluable contribution to the overall story as well and I would love to see some of them get their own books at some point in the future.

"I don't care how this started. All that matters is where we end up."

Book Two; *Icing on the Cake* is due for release December 17, so not too long to wait for more wedding style shenanigans, Ann Marie Walker style, and if you take into account the amount of tropes out there that can be fitted into this style of book, the author has the opportunity to keep this series running for as long as she has the inspiration to keep adding books to it!

"Always busting my balls aren't you?"

ARC generously provided via Netgalley, in exchange for the above honest review.

Lana ❄️Dirty Girl Romance❄️ says

3.5 STARS

***What do you want, Olivia?" he'd asked.
"Everything," she whispered.***

Well, hello there, new series to obsess over. It's nice to read ya. Ha! See what I did there? OK, that was totally cheesy so just ignore me. But seriously though, Ann Marie Walker has a super fun new series in the works and this was a great way to start it! Black Tie Optional was cute, sexy, and fun. If there's one thing this author can do, it's write one heck of an intense alpha and may did she strike gold with the grumpy, cynical billionaire Coleman Grant III. #Yum

Now I love me a good marriage of convenience trope and man did this book bring it. The opposites attract force was strong with this one. Here you have a tree loving, animal saving, vegetarian activist meet brooding alpha billionaire and boy do the spars fly. I loved the banter between Cole and Olivia and Olivia definitely wasn't shy about telling him what she thinks of him. #Winning

Cole has a problem; he needs to get married in less than a week to get ownership of his father's company that he helped build into the success that it is now. His viper grandmother brings everything but the warm and fuzzies in her bid to make sure that he doesn't. What's a guy to do? Propose marriage to a woman that's been driving him nuts for month in her Save The Bats campaign. So what if they accidentally had one of the most sizzling one night stands while in Vegas. This is all business now. If only he can continue to keep his hands off her and his grandmother wasn't determined to prove their marriage for the shame that it is.

You drive me fucking crazy," he growled before once again claiming her mouth in an unforgiving kiss. A battle he was destined to lose waged inside him. He'd sworn to himself that what happened in Vegas was nothing more than a drunken lapse in judgment. A one-time event never to be repeated. But even though a part of him already knew he'd regret it

*later, all he could think about was how much he wanted her.
“Really?” she rasped. “Cause I don’t give you a second thought.”*

I seriously enjoyed this book! A LOT! So you're probably wondering why the 3.5 rating. This is entirely a reader preference thing, so do take this with a grain of salt; but the heroine didn't quite work for me. Keep your tomatoes to yourself now! I fully admit it's a me thing. I'm just not a fan of the tree hugging save the world types. *cringes* Oh man, that sounds terrible doesn't it? But I can't help it. There were just certain aspects of her personality that slightly grated on me. Cole was simply delicious and made up for almost all of it. I also really loved Livvie's family. This would have been a solid 4 star read for me if not for the ending. I couldn't help feeling like it was very abrupt. I wanted more closure with the grandmother. More details. It felt somewhat rushed and I just wanted....more.

Aside from my few quibbles, this was still a fabulous read and I can't wait for the next in the series.

ARC courtesy of publisher in exchange for an honest review

Find me on:

Nissa | Of Pens and Pages Book Blog says

3.5 stars

Review and Excerpt at Of Pens and Pages.

Coleman Grant III and Olivia Ramsey are on two opposite sides in society—the 1% vs. the rest of the world. The rich asshole and the hippie tree-hugger.

You would think they don't get along, and you're right. They don't. With Olivia pestering Cole every morning to save the endangered northern long-eared bat and Cole ignoring her, love and affection are obviously the least likely result.

They don't expect to see each other in Las Vegas, but when they do, the attraction they've always felt for each other is awakened by booze, booze, and more booze. **By morning, they're naked in bed, sated and hungover.** They plan to keep it in Vegas, but when Cole faces a roadblock (a.k.a. his grandmother), he offers Olivia a proposition that will benefit them both. Cole will fulfill the marriage clause in his father's will right on time for his 30th birthday, and Olivia will save the endangered northern long-eared bat.

Apparently, tying the knot in front of an Elvis Presley look-a-like isn't enough. **They have to convince Cole's grandmother that their marriage is real or they could be in big trouble.**

This was such a delight to read. **Cole and Olivia are a hoot, and it was great to see that despite their physical attraction for each other, there's not much love between them at first.** In most of the fake relationship and hate to love books I've read, either one of the characters is already harboring feelings before

the ruse. So to have a somewhat genuine dislike is so fun to read.

I loved Olivia! **She's such a fun, free-spirited woman who fights the good fight.** There was a thing she did that made me cringe (airplane moment omg), but overall she's a great girl. Smart, confident, and a go-getter.

Same goes for Cole. He's such an alpha, powerful and in control, and he fights for what he wants, inside and outside the bed. A handsome force to be reckoned with. Makes your heart and panties melt.

I would have given a higher rating if the story focused more on their budding relationship and the initial conflict/antagonist, Cole's grandmother. Somewhere along the way, there were more conflicts added that I believe the story could have gone without.

Other than that, I still enjoyed the story.

Black Tie Optional is a standalone novel **told in alternating POVs**. It's a hot, fun, and fast-paced story with a modern marriage of convenience, opposites attract, hate to love romance.

**ARC received in exchange for an honest review.*

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.Under the pages says

Review available at Under the Pages.

Nicola says

3.5 stars.

Ann Marie Walker is another new-to-me author who's added herself to my pile of future reads and *Black Tie Optional* is pretty much what you'd get if *What Happens in Vegas* and *How to Lose a Guy in Ten Days*, had a lovechild.

This was definitely a book that hooked me more in the latter half: the humour was spot on, the heat levels nicely steamy, it had a good injection of light and sweet and didn't scrimp on the verbal sparring between Olivia—vegetarian and saver of animals—and Cole, billionaire asshole and grouch in urgent need of a wife to prevent Granny Grant getting her mitts on everything he's worked for.

“No woman could ever live up to the fantasy of being unattainable, and who was more unattainable than a woman who hated your guts?”

It's no secret that I'm partial to a grump who shows his softer side as the black void in his chest transforms in to a beating heart and Cole was exactly that man. Olivia tests his resolve on every level, as he does hers, but they're great together, even though neither may realise it.

“...for the first time in what seems like forever, I’m actually happy.”

It wasn't flawless—I did think the aspect involving his gran fell flat and I would've liked the ending to pack a bigger punch—but for what it lacked on that score, Olivia's parents, best friend, Cassie and an angry pig made up for. All in all a sound start to the *Wild Weddings* series and I'll be in line for the next book at the end of the year.

*Stock Image

Mindy Lou's Book Review says

3.5 Stars!

A cute enemies to lovers, marriage of convenience to true love, opposites attract story. Olivia has been hounding billionaire Coleman Grant III every morning to get him to move one of his deals because it's endangering the northern long-eared bat. He barely gives her the time of day until they both end up in Vegas, drunk and giving into their mutual attraction. Mortified the next morning, Olivia tries to leave only to have Cole give her a proposition. Marry him and he'll save the bats. Cole's father stipulated in his will that Cole must marry by the age of 30 or lose his inheritance. Cole has 3 days.

A light and fun read with likeable characters and believable chemistry between the MC's. ARC provided by NetGalley.

Julie says

Black tie Optional by Ann Marie Walker is a 2017 St. Martin's Press publication.

This fast-paced, quick-witted romantic comedy is an 'enemies to lovers' themed story, with a side of opposites attracts.

Olivia is a humanitarian, hippie-ish, organic, animal lover, who is hounding the obnoxious, but very wealthy, Coleman Grant, about saving an endangered species.

The pair mixes like bleach and ammonia, sending toxic fumes into the air every time they meet. But, neither one of them are blind and secretly acknowledge, to themselves, a grudging attraction to the other.

But, when Olivia heads to Vegas for a girl's night out, she drunkenly ends up in Coleman's bed. The next morning, nursing a painful hangover all she wants is to make a hasty, albeit humiliating exit, but Cole

surprises her with a little proposition.

Cole's father left an odd codicil in his will, and it is apparently etched in stone. His grandmother is hoping Cole won't be able to find a bride in the allotted time frame, so that she can control his money.

Desperate to save all that he has spent his adult life working to achieve, Cole strikes a bargain with Olivia.

If she marries him, he will do whatever she asked to help her endangered species. Once the will is settled, his company is safe and securely in his hands, they can go their separate ways.... If they don't kill each other first.

I haven't read a romantic comedy like this one in a very long time, and after reading some serious, heavy, and dark material, I was ready for something fun.

Opposites attract, enemies to lovers, and pretend marriages have been covered six ways to Sunday, and this story doesn't necessarily introduce anything all that unique or original to those tropes, per se, but the lightning fast pacing, the sharp wit and dialogue, the laugh out loud funny predicaments, topped off by the sizzling hot chemistry between the main characters, kept the story from falling prey to the dangers of predictability.

I did appreciate the level of intimacy, which stayed inside my comfort zone, and the character growth that developed in the midst of this zany, madcap, scheme.

At the end of the day, sometimes the most important thing is how entertained I was, how much fun I had reading the book, and if, by the last paragraph, I have come away with a smile on my face or find myself in better spirits.

That's a pretty tall order these days, for me, but this story managed to pull it off, giving me a slight reprieve from life's stresses, and if you can pull that off, you deserve a round of applause and have my sincere thanks.

4 stars

Anita says

Advanced Reader Copy (ARC) provided by the Author and Publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an fair and honest review.

Coincidence is the foundation of many a romance plot and I accept that. It can be quite funny when the H/h end up bumping into each other during the course of their romance. However, there comes a point when it is not funny anymore and becomes just silly. Almost, but not quite there with "Black Tie Optional". This is a really fun, contrived and delightful romp about two *totally* opposite people, with seemingly nothing in common, who enter into a "Marriage of Convenience" and fall totally in love in a plot that could also be "what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas" except it didn't start in Vegas or stay there.

Olivia Ramsey is a kind-hearted, crusading environmentalist who has been stalking Coleman Grant III to help her save the endangered Northern long-eared bat whose habitat is on one of Cole's projects. To make

things very uncomfortable, she finds Cole totally hot even as she hates everything he stands for. After months of getting nowhere with Cole in her effort to save her bat, Olivia is glad to get away for a bachelorette weekend to Las Vegas with her best friend, Cassie.

Coleman Grant III is a multi-millionaire CEO of Grant Industries. He has worked very hard will not let anyone get in his way. After months of wrangling with both his grandmother and a ding-bat environmentalist, who he is starting to have some very hot fantasies about, he is more that ready for a long weekend in "what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas" with his best guy-pal Conor and, hopefully, lots of willing women.

Dali says

Lighthearted, sexy and fun.

He wants to keep his family's empire. She wants to save the endangered species that's being threatened by his empire's latest development. The only way for Coleman Grant III and Olivia Ramsey to get what they both want is to compromise and... get married in Las Vegas? Because that's what two sane people who despise each other on site because they're completely opposite and have nothing in common do right? RIGHT?

Well, perhaps there is ONE thing they have in common, and that's the outrageous attraction to one another that's been building for the last three months during Olivia's daily coffee run Coleman stalking. And sometime between their mutually beneficial business transaction in Vegas, a.k.a. their marriage by Elvis, dancing at banquets and moving in together to keep up appearances lines got blurred and feelings got involved. Can they have the empire, save the endangered bats and find happiness?

I loved how fun and carefree this book was. It's engaging, with a good pace that had me smiling and laughing and before I knew it I had read it in a single sitting.

Coleman comes off as a great big dough-canoe, with a great big stick up the wazoo a no regards for anything or anyone except for what benefits or interests him. And except from his strikingly good looks which continually distract Olivia, there's nothing that seems to be appealing about him. But when they're forced to interact, Olivia gets to know the man behind the ridiculously good looks and panty melting bedroom moves and as it turns out, the inside does match the outside.

What can I say about a woman who sticks to her guns especially when it comes to save the planet? I. LOVED. OLIVIA! She's quirky, fun and dedicated and I'm so glad she could appeal to Coleman and find her happy with him. Besides their obvious attraction, the back and forth between Coleman and Olivia was teasing and highly entertaining.

The story has a pretty cheerful, sexy and fun feel to it with a decidedly sweet happy ending. Black Tie Option is a standalone contemporary romance by Ann Marie Walker. Told from both points of view. Amazon -> <http://amzn.to/2ryD2pX>

* I was given an ARC of this book courtesy of the author via NetGalley and Tasty Book Tours. The excerpts taken are from that copy. *

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