



Barbarian's Taming

Ruby Dixon

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As a newcomer to the alien tribe, I've struggled to find my place. It might be because I'm a tad headstrong at times. And yes, I might have thrown a few things at people's heads. But I had a good reason to pitch a fit - my shy sister was stolen away right under my nose. Of course, now she's back and mated. Everyone's happy... except me.

I need... affection.

Attention.

Okay, I'm lonely. Really lonely.

Strangely enough, the only person that I think understands what I'm going through is the same blue-skinned brute that stole my sister. It's wrong to hook up with him, even as a mindless fling.

Except... I'm not so good with the whole 'rules' thing.

And he's not so great with the 'fling' thing.

Barbarian's Taming Details

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From Reader Review Barbarian's Taming for online ebook

Monty Cupcake ? Queen of Bloodshed ? says

Ruby Dixon has obviously made deals with the devil that she was able to write a story with characters I loathed in the previous book and now I'm in like with them. Deals with the devil, I tell you, there's no other explanation.

Maddie, who was a pain in the ass bitch in the previous book, is normal in this one. She's Lilah's older sister and out of sorts being the only single, of age, female around. She doesn't even have her sister as a friend really because Lilah is only interested in her mate and her new blue friends. She's an ungrateful sister. Why couldn't she have died from a metlak in her book? Sigh. Wishes.

Anyway. Maddie is friendless and bored, because no books and she doesn't have the Survivor skills the other Earthling ladies have acquired, nor is she mated and preggo. In her boredom, she decides to hangout with Hassen. He's the guy who kidnapped her sister and is now exiled.

Hassen is all the sads about being exiled and now realizes he doesn't even like Lilah, because she's weepy and whiny. He's much more into her strong personality older sister, Maddie. Lucky for him, Maddie likes his big blue body and wants on his ride.

Their relationship starts off as friends with benefits. The benefits being sex, companionship, and teaching Maddie to hunt. It's a secret because Hassen is in exile and Maddie is worried about what her bratty sister will think about her doing her kidnapper. But hey, there aren't a lot of choices on Not-Hoth. If you can get used to being married to a blue alien with a tail and horns, you can get used to being related to your former kidnapper.

Somehow this all makes complete sense and is a good book. Again, the magic of RD. I liked both Maddie and Hassen. Their encounters were steamy smutty. I loved that she was the aggressor and all about the smut. That was definitely amusing. Both characters were completely redeemed in this book. Hats off to RD. I really liked the surprise that Maddie and Hassen discovered. I hope she continues to bring surprises into this series.

BR with the Abtastic Abs Loving Geishas

Celestine says

Dixon is shaking things up

While Maddie and Hassen weren't my favorite Ice Planet couple, I do appreciate that Ruby Dixon is expanding the parameters of her world-building and taking the tribe out of their comfort zone.

3.5 rounded to 4 stars and on to the next one!

? Garima ? says

It was really awesome!

Currently I am on vacation so it's not possible to write coherent review but I'd like to quote Ruby's author's note as it also provides bit of summary, so enjoy guys!

AUTHOR'S NOTE

This book was an emotional wringer to write. Our poor tribe is going through a lot right now, and as the creator, it was tough to build a world and then destroy it all over again. But as we get more and more books into the series, I realized that I was playing it too safe. It's a dangerous world, full of volcanic activity and blizzards and all kinds of stuff we've barely scratched the surface on. I wanted to take away some of the safety-net of the tribe. I'm sure there's a few people out there screaming at me right now. < 3

Jilly says

Big blue alien hunks? I'm on board. If they didn't live on a godforsaken ice planet, I would be okay with some alien abduction and probing. But, alas, I hate the cold. My alien-fantasies are set on a beach planet. Not-Tahiti.

Anyway, we have two very big jerks as our main characters for this book, so it wasn't exactly on my short list for a while. I figured I'd get around to it eventually, and I'm glad I did because there is a lot going on on Not-Hoth. And, this little love story was cute and sexy.

The male character, Hassen, does a good job of redeeming his kidnapping ass in this book. By the end of it, I have total Stockholm Syndrome.

Maddie, the female, actually makes me like her a little less at first, but eventually wins me over. See, I already liked Maddie in the last book. She was a crazy, loud, bitch, and I liked it. I think if someone is going to be a complete bitch, they need to own it. I can like bitches. I've been known to fit the title myself occasionally. However, I say that if you are a bitch, let your bitch-flag fly! Don't be getting all weepy about how nobody likes you because you are fat. Seriously? Nobody gives a crap about your fatness. They don't like you because you are a pushy bitch who won't let them get away with any crap. So, either own it and deal with the unpopularity, or let it go and try to make everyone like you. That always works. Anyway, as I said, I eventually like Maddie again - when she's done with her pity-party.

The best part of this book was that there is a big change in the world coming, and it starts here. I'm pretty excited for this.

Sophia Triad says

The chubby bitch and the exiled bad boy of the tribe. The two bitter persons on the ice planet will find sweet love.

"Do I need to carry you?"

"What? Why?"

"Because you are weak from mating? I have felt your legs trembling each time I pushed into you."

"Oh my god. No dirty talk while I'm trying to be serious, please."

Maddie and Hassen are so cute together!

After Hassen stole Maddie's sister and then returned her, he has been exiled by the tribe. But everything will be all right for him in this book. We are talking about the total redemption for Hassen in an I-have-saved-the-tribe-I-am-a-hero-I-got-the-best-girl kind of way.

Maddie remind me a bit Liz with her bitchiness, but I think her main problem was her jealousy and bitterness for her sister's happiness. This is something that she needs to resolve it by herself.

This is a book where the world of our lovely Sa-khui changes. The earth wakes up and there is no safe place any more. It is time for all of them to move on.

Angela (Angel's Guilty Pleasures) says

I really like this series. It's fun! The double POV's give it a certain flair adding to my enjoyment. It's a pattern I have come to adore. The books carry with them sexy hero's, likable heroine's, sweet, funny and sexy moments. I also adore the world Dixon has created and the strong cast of characters.

Things are changing on the Ice Plant. The earth wakes up and there is no safe place anymore. I liked the challenges Hassen and Maddie faced as well as the tribe. It was nice to see things shaken up. New struggles and challenges for all.

Hassen disobeyed a tribe rule and is being punished. Here he gets redemption and also finds his mate. Maddie I wasn't too keen on her, but as the book moves on we see a different side of her and why she is so vocal at the first meet. I liked her change in attitude. I loved these two together. They fit. Got each other.

Rated: 4 Stars

Shari Kay says

3.25 ★

I'm a bit conflicted on the rating. Liking where the series is going, but didn't totally love the romance in this one.

Things really get *shaken* up for the tribe in BT. Everyone's lives are going to change and dramatically. I like that Dixon is fighting against letting the series get stagnant by throwing in huge changes for her world. I didn't have a problem with any of this and look forward to where RD will take our favorite blue aliens.

The romance....eh.

Madeline is just not my cup of tea. That is certainly just a preference thing. I don't care for sexually aggressive/abrasive h's so Maddie is all that and I had trouble relating to her. I will admit by the end we got to see her heart and I warmed up to her...some.

I really had no problems with our H. I've loved most of the big guys and Hassen was no exception. Did i like he wanted Lila first? No. But, I understood why he took her and how desperately lonely he was. He very much regretted it and I forgave him his...impulsivity. (And the fact they never did anything remotely sexual with each other didn't hurt)

Maddie was the main reason I can't give this book a higher rating. Her attitude, which Hassen took as 'fierce', fell more in the bitchy /selfish/whiny realm if you ask me. The finding of the (view spoiler) was a little convenient, but I have no doubt will be integral in the overall arc.

Observation: is it just me or are Vektal and Georgie never shown in a good light anymore? Since the first book they've gotten more and more arrogant and hypocritical...what's up with that? Their attitude kind of sucks.

RD is still working hard to get us ready for Asha's story...still don't care for her. Looking forward to Stacy's. Have a feeling it will be a tear jerker.

Ivy Deluca says

Maddie is pretty bitchy and at times, funny and Hassen was overbearing, but they worked together. I thought their romance was a surprise after the events in the last book with Lilah and Roka, yet it still worked. My main complaint was their inner monologues got a bit repetitive after awhile, and I was way more interested in the changes to the world, rather than the main romance.

Basically, the formula is still plugging along, with modifications to their location. With some intriguing questions that are setting up an exploration of the planet and its history, I'm still enjoying my trips to Planet Blue Balls.

Sh3lly (grumpybookgrrrl.com) says

HASSEN. I lurv you. Total redemption. This one was way better than the last couple. I think Ruby Dixon definitely sparked some life back into the series. It wasn't simply about a couple resonating and finding their sexsoul-mate like the others. Basically, shit happens. For realz. This was a game-changer. Which frankly, I needed because I was close to fizzling out on this series. However, I'm all in again.

The two main characters, Hassen and Maddie, were NOT likeable in the last book. I was very nervous about a whole book devoted to them. They pretty much had 100% personality changes. Which, I'll allow it because I hated them both before. haha. They are frankly now one of my favorite couples!

The sexy times start early and there are multiple ~~orgasms~~ smutty scenes.

The ridges, the spurs... yep, LOTS OF ridges and spurs here. Hassen is a virgin H, which is a trope I personally like because you don't see it very often. Maddie is a "curvy" girl with jiggly thighs and butt. Some of the females in this are short, some tall, some skinny, some plump, different skin tones and hair, etc. I appreciate that Ruby Dixon works all different body types into this series.

Seriously, though. HASSEN, guys.

I think he's tied with Aehako, Rukh, and Salukh for my favorite blue alien. (Okay, so that is like half of them in the whole series, but whatever. The males are so freaking HOT in this series! haha)

Another thing I liked about this one was that, while it did ramble on a bit in some sections and there was the typical "survival" ice planet routines going on like all the books have, it didn't feel like filler, and there was a LOT more actual plot. Bigtime.

I'm not going to go into what happens in this one because spoilers, dude. It's good, though. I feel like the series has been rejuvenated a bit, and I'm excited to see what happens next! YAY!

Buddy read with the Abtastic Ab-Loving Geishas starting October 17, 2016.

Love those blue aliens!

Erika says

4 stars

After thinking on this for awhile, I finally decided to give it a relatively high rating, even though I had mixed feelings/emotions when I read it. Overall, I think it deserves the 4 star -- and in fact, most people will likely rate it higher!

My thoughts:

(1) Maddie: She was extremely abrasive and unlikable in some ways, but then on the other hand, she was also someone I felt extremely sympathetic towards. Even while I felt sympathy for her, she wasn't someone I could imagine ever wanting to be anywhere near -- until about 60% of the way into the book. At heart, she was a really good person; she just took a long time to become likable imo. She did evolve over time and thankfully, even her negative personality traits actually took on a positive aspect when the tribe ended up facing a catastrophe.

(2) Hassen: I didn't like that he initially wanted Lila, but I did get past that as he pretty quickly saw that he liked Maddie's personality better. However, I didn't like how beta he came off, but then again, in this series, only one man really gets to be alpha, and that is Vektal. I kind of hate that these men all have to basically bow down to Vektal because they simply don't have any choice. They are a small tribe and if you don't want to live alone, you have no options. You can't just go out and pave your own path. Only Rukh did that, but it wasn't by choice. He grew up alone. I just found that Hassen came off as even more beta than many of the others.

I am torn over whether or not he deserved the exile. It seemed like he just had the bad misfortune to have his abduction of Lila not pay off the way it did for Rukh and Rahosh with their mates.

I also didn't exactly like that he wasn't always 100% focused on Maddie's happiness. He was often very focused on his own issues and heartache. That was realistic -- and really understandable, especially after the tragedy, but I have gotten used to these blue guys being all about their mates!! I did love Hassen's totally selfless commitment to his tribe, and Maddie much of the time as well. Despite his awful move in the previous book, he really was a very good guy at heart. And he was very noble and brave.

(3) I have mixed feelings about the development of the relationship between Maddie and Hassen. It really seemed like just a regular relationship you would find in a contemporary romance. There was no magical element, no resonance until almost the end. While that had some pluses -- and should please people who enjoy slow-burn with no insta-love/insta-lust, it also detracted from the intensity I have enjoyed about the other relationships in this series.

(4) I was disturbed by Maddie's bargaining (towards the end) for an end to Hassen's exile. It was admirable that she went to bat for him, but to withhold information that could literally save the lives of all the tribe if she hadn't gotten her way?? Ugh. That is pretty crappy. And the thing is: there is no way Hassen would have withheld that information (if push came to shove), so thank goodness for that!

Sammy Loves Books says

******4.0 Sleeping with the Enemy Stars!!**

Nothing better than sexually desiring a man you should hate...

Leo (Queen of the Rants and the Crazy) says

I loved this book.

Surprisingly the heroine did not annoy me at all.

Hassen is the alien who stole Lila in the previous book it didn't bother me because he never liked Lila he just

wanted a mate and in the end he was glad that she mated Roka.
I felt that maddie was everything to him.

"Your sister is my greatest mistake. I do not think I have ever even liked her"

This book was awesome.

There was a part where I got scared and almost cried but don't worry it's all good..

I wonder if Ruby is going to write about Pashov and Stacie?

Aileene says

PRE READ

Buddy read with my amazing Abtastic Ab Loving Geishas
this mid October.

:::::: POST READ :::::

Pls note:

Rating interpretation:

5 Stars - if ALL my expectations and criteria are met.

NO Stars - Goodreads stars are not enough as the story blew me out of the water.

Do I have to write a review?

Really?

Was my rating not enough?

Hmmm.. guess not.

Though I have to admit, a review is a must on this one.

Why?

Because.

Because our bangin' Hassen needs a bangin' review from Aileene.

"Fuck.

Not right now."

I never 5 starred a Ruby Dixon book but this one.
This. One. DESERVES. It.

Non stop mention of RIDGES.
Abundance of RIDGES.
That alone warrants a 5 star read already. For me.

Ridges

RIDGES

And Aileene

Methinks Ms Dixon wrote this book for me.
Well, a girl could dream...

But, really, why 5 star?
Other than the glorious RIDGES, we also have:

Hassen. Even though he didn't have any active participation on previous installments apart from the last one before this, his character was bland.
Yes. I didn't care for him.
I even thought he was old like Vaza.
Until this book.

God. I can't believe it but he's utterly deLUSHcious.
He's a law breaker.
He's determined.
He's misunderstood.
He's pure, naive too.
He doesn't have a smile for everyone but definitely has a big heart and will do everything for his tribe and tribes people.
And most of all he cared for and loved Mah-dee.

**"You wish me to fuck you? I accept." **

Maddie. Our buxom blonde who has wobbly thighs and butt.
Goodness, this fierce woman, the way she reacts and acts around RIDGES, around Hassen, is totally me (of what I would do if a circumstance such as this is presented)
She knows what she wants, she gets what she wants and she has no filter.
Her character is a winner. I adore her.

The story. We did get a lot out of this book.

Many a time I checked the book cover to make sure I was reading an Ice Planet Barbarians installment.

Because this is not your usual blue ridge-y horny aliens that hump their mates non stop when they resonated. This book has offered a lot more. We had sisters-drama, (their ice) planet destruction, death, devastation and a new discovery.

I was twirling mighty hard because this is more than a smut book.

Even Vektal arseholeness didn't tick me off.

No. Wait.

I LIED.

comes back

Vektal?

Just go hump your mate, mate.

**"You are my heart, Mah-dee. Without you, I am nothing.
You saw me as an exile and still took me to your furs.
You are kind and giving." **

~~Meantime, in Aileene's sphere ~~

Ridges RIDGES.

Closest I could get. For now.

What can I say, these f*ckers are really hard to find.

Rating this **5** *RIDGES-come-at-me* **stars**

Alp says

These were my feelings during the first half.

And then...

The whole first half of the book was so boring; there was nothing new here. I wanted to know Hassen more but it seemed like I didn't get enough of his POV. I was so pissed that Maddie was even more annoying than she was in the previous book. She kept moping about how awful her life on the ice planet was. There was a series of her negative thoughts that I had to endure reading like she was fat, she was useless, no one wanted her—not even her own baby sister, she was an outsider, blah blah blah... Argh! This was horrible! I'd much rather smack my head against the wall than stay anywhere near this woman!

However, for the sake of the buddy read... so I kept on reading.

And this was me during the second half.

What happened? Did I pick up the wrong book? The second half was completely different! Maddie transformed into a strong, considerate, and reasonable person. How come she could suddenly get on with her life? Hmm... It was somewhat far-fetched, yet I much preferred her this way!

Bit by bit, I started to warm up to her as I read further into the remaining story. But what surprised me most was the big event that happened since the beginning of the last half. Gosh, it was some kind of a turning point and I loved it! Yes, I loved it! I'd like to give a round of applause to Ruby Dixon because she did a great job here. She really did!

Well, I will sum it up this way...

I hated the first half but I loved the second one. Actually, I should rate this book 3 stars, but hey, I can't do that to Hassen, my super sweet blue alien! So, 4 stars then.

Now I can't wait to read the next book in this series!

**BR with lovely ladies at Abtastic Ab Loving Geishas.

Mei says

This series is seriously fun!!!! :)

I love the blue barbarians! They're so cute with their problems with human slang and figures of speech!
LMAOOO

Here I loved the couple! I loved how the author managed to transform Maddie from a odious shrew to likeable and strong woman!

Also the hero, Hassan is transformed from callous kidnapper to lonely and passionate man (ops... blue horned alien!)

I loved, loved them! They were cute, they were passionate and they were just perfect for each other!

I'm looking forward to the next story! The author says that it will be different from the other and I'm looking forward to discover what she will do!
