

Sweet Bitterness Reviews:

5 stars **Interesting and intriguing story**

Janet Walters Reviewed in the US on 10 February 2022

"Young love goes wrong. An abusing father drives a young couple apart when he has left town to work for an ailing uncle. When he returns, he finds his girl with an infant, his but with another man's name. He leaves London for Australia, but he can't stop thinking of the girl he left behind. Following this love story was an interesting journey."

[Harlie's Books \(harliesbooks.com\)](http://harliesbooks.com)



Sometimes a good angsty book is right up my alley, and this one from Ms. McGill was perfect. This one is very tropey, too. Second chance, separated by family, young lovers, and surprise pregnancy. Oh yes, it's got it all for me. Ms. McGill serves it up in spades, and I couldn't get enough. And the icing on the cake: there is a hint of suspense and a crazy ex-lover. Not to mention the family that is just awful.

Melody and Tony are perfect for each other. I couldn't get into Melody at first, but once the story got going, I was with her all the way. Her brother and father are just awful and provide the suspense element and separation that provides the angst that I was looking for. Now, to say that her brother and father got what they deserve is an understatement, but it was satisfying in the end. It not only affected Melody and Tony but also Melody's mother, another brother, and Tony's mom. Ms. McGill knows how to pull at the heartstrings with all the drama, but it was very plausible, too. You just had to feel for them and all the wasted years.

What I really loved is that while separated, Tony spent a lot of time growing up. He still loved Melody, but he also knew that he had to move on. Even though he did, she was always close to his mind and heart. He never gave up, while Melody did. Melody did her growing up afterward with Tony. It was almost like she didn't know how without help from him. In some ways that were good, but in other ways, I would have liked to have seen more from her.

Overall, I really enjoyed the book. Angst and all. I didn't think it was going to work. But Ms. McGill has a way with her words and emotions that she wrings out of her characters that did it for me. One other thing about the book, Ms. McGill, is a Brit, and the book takes place in both England and Australia. Love that...

4 stars [Iron Canuck Reviews & More \(home.blog\)](http://IronCanuckReviews.com) recommended on [BookBub](http://BookBub.com)

This was a good story, and I liked how it ended where it started, very romantic. Melody and Tony overcame all obstacles to finally be together, even halfway around the world. There were moments when I wasn't sure whether I liked them or not, but they sort of grew on me. **Love grew stronger with time, and overall, it was an enjoyable read.**

I received a copy of this story through Goddess Fish Promotions, and this is my unsolicited review.

4 ½ stars [Sweet Bitterness Review](http://SweetBitternessReview.com) | [Gina Rae Mitchell](http://GinaRaeMitchell.com)

Sweet Bitterness is a tale of love, mystery, and family. The story covers many years and travels from England to Australia and back again.

The premise of the storyline is fascinating. From young love spoiled by a domineering father to obsessions to happy-ever-after, the author wrings emotion from the reader. Whether you are loving a character or hating one, it's difficult to maintain neutrality in this story.

Overall, the pace is smooth and the plot easy to follow. The book has a little of everything. You have a father intent on ruling his wife and children, bad cops, mafia, obsessive love, and a devious ex-girlfriend. Once you add in the cute kids and dogs, the story pulls you in page by page.

Recommended for light, escapist reading with a happy-ever-after ending.

If you love a good romantic mystery tale, you should grab a copy today.

I received a copy of the book for the tour. This review is my honest, unbiased opinion.

[Gimme The Scoop Reviews](#)

My Thoughts: Short but sweet and heartbreaking. Not much I can reveal without blabbing the whole story but it just kinda reiterated the old saying about one never really forgets a first love and I could relate so much to this story. My heart went out to Melody and Tony.

I despised Melody's father and brother so badly for being such bullies and using their positions and power to keep these two apart as it was so very clear they were meant to be together. It was destiny doggone it!

I was provided a copy of this book for my honest review.

4 stars [Fabulous and Brunette](#)

This book is such a sweet, interesting, intriguing, and romantic read!!

This book tells a powerful love story full of strong emotions, relatable characters, and realistic plot points that are sure to keep the reader engaged from page to page.

Oh, first loves, full of drama, excitement, energy, passion, and racing hearts - and this book is no exception as it dives headfirst into a forbidden love story full of complications, obstacles, resistance, struggles, heart break, and second chances. Oh, you never forget your first.

This book is a short, quick, easy to read story that quickly grabs a hold of the reader early on.

This book has strong character development journeys that are hard not to root for and excitingly watch as their story unfolds.

This book is character driven as I found myself completely swept up in Melody's and Tony's love story.

Like myself, I think many readers will be able to easily connect with the characters and the story line.

There are some predictable scenes. However, there are still a few unexpected twists and turns that you won't see coming!!

All in all, I really enjoyed reading this book and would absolutely recommend it!! I think all contemporary romance readers and first love fans will like this book too!! So, add it to your TBR List and get to reading – you won't be disappointed!!

3.5 stars "A fairly nice read" [Sandra's Book Club](#)
Kindle Verified Purchase

It begins with Tony and how he met Melody, the girl of his dreams. "Within a month, he was totally besotted by her charms—and a slave to her every whim."

Everyone kept telling him that she was leading him on and using him, but he refused to listen to any of them. After seeing her manhandled by her boss, jealousy and possession start to take root. There was no question about it: she was his. Then the best time of his life turns into the worst moment when she confides that she can only marry him if he was rich. She promised that she would if Tony came back rich. But when he returned and found out that she had already married, his whole world—including his heart—shattered. He knows that the baby is his and that Melody is the one for him, so he tries to run away with her, but she never showed up. With that being the last straw, Tony leaves for good.

In this extensive prose, we see the courtship of the main characters. It would seem that Melody was one deceptive and lying shrew...until it's revealed that Melody's father, a cop, was abusing his power and doing everything he could to sabotage her relationship with Tony. For years, Tony and Melody lived separate lives with her being stuck in a bad marriage and him dating someone new that doesn't compare to the love he lost. The 2 never forgot each other. Story has a slow and simple narrative. It's an interesting read overall full of drama, love, and, of course, sweet bitterness. It can be long and complicated at times. Still, turned out to be a fairly nice read.