



## **Elastic Heart**

*Mary Catherine Gebhard*

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What do you do when the man who raped you has the entire police force in his pocket? When you're called a slut, a whore, and a liar?

You get your own justice.

My name is Nami DeGrace, and six months ago I was a normal college student. I was volunteering on the campaign of a man I believed in, a man I thought to be good and noble. Then one night that man forced himself on me and everything changed.

The police didn't believe me. The media reviled me. My friends abandoned me. I dropped out of college and only have one mission in life: make him pay. That is, until Nick Law came in to my life.

Indomitable, infuriating, and irresistible, Law is complicating things.

## Elastic Heart Details

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## From Reader Review Elastic Heart for online ebook

Jamie ?? submits to books ?? says

???? 4 "Huck and Dandelion" Stars ????

*"True revenge consumes the spirit."*

Nami was once a strong, vibrant woman with her life filled with good friends and a good starting job with Senator Mitch Morris.

Then her world is shattered in the blink of an eye when the Senator rapes Nami, taking away every ounce of her former self.

Reporting the rape was the most logical thing to do. Her friends would stand by her. The police would believe her and arrest the monster. Only that never happened. Nami was tossed into a paparazzi attack of her character, while losing all her friends, leaving her shattered more than ever.

Alone and an invisible shell of whom she once was, Nami extracts revenge on the man that took her innocence and scattered the pieces for the world to ridicule.

Her revenge hits a road block with the Law.

Nick Law has been working to take down Senator Morris for years for the sexual attack on other women. His plan crosses paths with Nami ' s revenge and both Nami and Law are twisted together into a world of evil secrets, heartbreak and ultimate love.

Nami fights trusting Law until her desperation leads her straight into his arms for protection.

Law won't let Nami's revenge destroy the amazing woman he has fallen love with.

**"I won't let this consume you. Your heart is too beautiful."**

I enjoyed this story from page 1. The author grabs you with sarcasm Nami portrays to deal with her assault. At about the half way point things kind of got hectic and strange for a while with the Internet interaction that I didn't quite understand but in the end the author regained the flow of this emotional tale.

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## **A little birdie told me... says**

There is so much... too much going on in this book, yet there is so much left out.

Naomi, a rape victim, meets Law while stalking her attacker, a senator (I assume a state senator) who, because of his position and ties to the community, everyone believes innocent. She vows to make him pay, but Law keeps showing up just when she gets close to doing any one of her PTSD inspired, I-have-nothing-left-to-lose-so-I'll-do-desperately-stupid-things plans.

So that's where it fell apart for me. Law doesn't come clean. He tells her pretty soon after meeting her that he can't stand lies, but he lies and continues to lie for a long time. Even after he has sex with her and drops the out-of-nowhere I-bomb (Seriously, it was ridiculously soon and in no way believable; there was no way he could have fallen for her in the little time he spent getting beaten up and belittled by her.) he is content to not tell her his true purpose. It's not until after he gets caught in his lies that he begins to tell her. Sure, he hinted to telling her before, but he never did. All he did was give her a card for a reporter, who was supposed to help her but turned her away.

The author threw unbelievable reveal after unbelievable reveal out of nowhere and expected us to stomach it. I felt for Nami, but after awhile, I really kind of got sick of all the bad shit piled on her plate. One person cannot possibly have that much bad luck. I don't know how she didn't completely crack. Although the way she dealt with her situation was believable and raw and her strength commendable, I just feel all that happened in the wake of her rape was not believable. I bought the slut-shaming, the media circus and the abandonment she endured, just not much else.

To avoid spoilers, I'll not reveal any other major plot points that were hard to swallow. Frankly, it'd make the review too long. But know there are major holes in the story and some curves thrown that are too much to take.

I did really like Law's character, despite his secretiveness. Plus, besides the punctuation outside the quotation mark thing that drives me absolutely insane (is the author from England?), there were unnoticeable (if any) grammar errors.

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## **Robin Martin says**

This book is dark and full of suspense. It will open your eyes to some of the evil that is lurking in plain sight. It will hurt your heart, more than once. It is not a happy fairytale. However, the raw reality of the world that Nami has been forced to live in will pull you in right along with her. You will feel the emotions that she feels. Your heart will break, you will get angry and scared...but the bits of light that start to show up throughout the story will make it worth going through all of the darkness. The world isn't always a nice or pretty place, but that doesn't mean that there is nothing worth living for. This book shows how hard it can be to struggle through the darkness to once again find the light and how worth it it is to go through that journey. Nami and Law have a volatile and intriguing dynamic from the beginning and I had to keep reading to find out how they would end up. There were so many twists that I didn't see coming and I loved every bit of it! If you want a book that is totally unpredictable and keeps you hooked, this is it!

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## United Indie Book Blog says

I was given this ARC for my honest review. I will start by saying this was my first time reading this author and I was pleasantly surprised. It was full of angst and mystery, two of my favorite things. I was hooked from the start losing sleep just to see how it all ends.

The story starts out with a horrible event in Nami's life where she is assaulted by a senator with the power to make his crime disappear but Nami refuses to give up even when the police don't believe her even after she has lost all her friends and the media blast her at every corner. Nami is hell bent on getting her revenge against the man that took everything from her. Nami feels she is fighting this battle alone until Law pushes his way into her life with or without her consent.

Law is a mystery that Nami tries to figure out. She doesn't trust him or anyone else for that matter. She pushes him away but Law refuses to give up on her constantly trying to prove to her he's on her side. At every turn something happens to make her lose his trust. When a major event happens Nami wonders if Law is working for the enemy and almost gives up her revenge. Almost. Will she finally get her revenge or will love make her give it all up.

I really enjoyed this book it was well written and the story flowed well. Lots of suspense but low in the sexy department. I will for sure be check out other books from this author.

Review by  
Kristina Lindsey

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## Mary Gebhard says

HEY GUYS!

Thank you so much for all of your support. I've decided to keep *Elastic Heart* at 99c for a few more days as a thank you!>> <http://amzn.to/1KlK5Ag>

???Unedited Excerpt???

"Nami open your door! It's me, Law!" I perked up a bit, looking at my door with less hostility and more interest. Why was Law here? Still, my interest was not enough to get me off the couch. Law was *persona non grata* in the Degrace house.

"Go away!" I yelled, curling myself in blankets.

"I will stay here and wake up all of your neighbors if you don't let me in!"

"Go ahead!" I yelled back. "They hate me anyway!"

Silence radiated through the wood, and I hoped that Law had decided against staying. When I'd all but settled back in to my alcohol-induced comfort, I heard something truly disturbing.

Singing.

Loud, operatic singing.

I could hear Law clearly through my door, though the language was unknown. He was bellowing the notes, his voice getting higher and louder. It was beautiful, but it was also incredibly annoying. I didn't mind him

waking up my neighbors, they'd been less than kind to me. I did mind, however, my neighbors calling the police. I didn't want to deal with the police. Ever again, if I could help it.

I opened my door, angry, slightly tipsy, and using my blanket as a cape. Law didn't stop singing even though I opened the door. He continued, his voice an operatic majesty that did not belong in my hallway. He even gesticulated with his hands.

"Stop!" I yelled. Law continued to sing, gesturing at my apartment that I blocked with my body. I glared furiously at him as I let him enter my apartment. He only stopped his song when I closed the door behind us.

"What the hell was that?" I fumed, trying to block him further entry in to my apartment. If I could keep him contained to just the entryway, then I technically hadn't lost.

"Puccini. Madama Butterfly."

I raised an eyebrow, scoffing. "So you're an FBI guy who sung in the opera?" I wondered when I would get to the truth of him.

"I'm an FBI guy who has a grandfather that loves the opera."

I scoffed and, remembering why I hated Law, got to the point. "Why did you come here?"

"I decided that I do care what you think of me." Before I could think, Law pulled me in both arms and kissed me on the mouth, hard.

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## **Maria says**

In the beginning of the book the young girl Nami gets reaped. Her whole life falls apart. Nobody believes in her because the guy is a known politician. She just wants justice and is obsessed about it. One day she meets the mysterious stranger a guy named Law. But can she trust him or is he working for the enemy ?

I have read the book in one day and oh my god. It was so exciting. I couldn't stop. A gripping story with a lot of action. I felt really sorry for Nami and all that she went through. I would really recommend this book.

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## **Amanda Lee Disheveled Book Blog says**

Mary Catherine's writing and stories just keep getting better, and if you haven't read anything from her I highly recommend checking her out and this book.

This story is dark, mysterious and tackles a tough subject. Nami is faced with a lot all at once in the beginning and she has no one to help her, she's alone. She's tough and strong, and given what's happened to her she is surprisingly determined to find justice. The law is not on her side, so she basically has to pursue things on her own. But in all of this she doesn't back down when life throws so much her way, she stays strong.

Law shows up, and he's usually showing up when she really needs him. Is he on her side? Will he help her, can he help her? I had several questions running through my head about him and when I thought I knew I didn't. He's mostly a big mystery to me for a portion of the book, but he is all the same a great hero with his own reasons for doing what he's doing.

I really enjoyed every moment of this book, I devoured it over the course of a day. I couldn't get enough of every single twist and turn, or road block. I wanted to know what was going to happen next. Mostly the story is about finding revenge and justice, but there is a story of love mixed in as well.

You will without a doubt enjoy this book. The writing is amazing and Mary Catherine does a great job at weaving a suspenseful romance tale while tackling a touchy subject that some may shy away from. Going into this story you should know that this story is dark and it contains dark subjects.

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### **Bookish\_Sally says**

Elastic Heart by Mary C Gebhard

Let me just say I finished this book from start to finish in one sitting, I could not put it down. I was a little taken back by some of Nami's "operation" plans, they seemed to just pop up. On another note though I loved how this story began, it pulled the reader in right away. I loved the emotional Rollercoaster playing through in her head. I enjoyed reading Law and Nami's story come together. Fav. quotes are "If everyone's insane, then you're the mad one." "I wasn't prepared, but I was sure I would never be prepared. You can try as you might to prepare for an earthquake or a tsunami, but the fact of the matter is, it's still devastating when it hits." I recieved this ARC from the author in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Misty Walker says**

\*i was generously given an arc from the COPA crew in exchange for my honest review\*

After suffering a horrific rape, Nami is in the fight of her life to take down the high profile politician that wronged her.

The plot and characters were well developed and there are lots of twists and turns to keep you wondering what will happen next. Throughout the book Nick Law is the love interest in question and the reader is smacked back and forth over whether he is a good guy or not. Poor Nami has no trust left in her and tries her hardest to push him away.

This was a great book if you're into political mysteries, interesting read!

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### **Juli Hall says**

I was given an Arc of this for my honest review.

Wow!!! This book has it all, intrigue, romance, suspense and a really great storyline. Warning - it's dark, extremely dark but oh so good.

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### **Komal Chandwani says**

Elastic Heart is a heart-breaking novel. The words expressed by the author are powerful enough to make your world crumble. This novel is beautiful in it's own way. I've loved how circumstances are woven in this

book so that Nami and Law could be together.

There are lies, heart-breaking scenes, stubbornness and so much more. I thoroughly enjoyed the book, and at times even yelled at my kindle because all I wanted Nami to do was break down her walls.

She is a woman who has build strong walls around her heart. Feeling something is what she seems afraid of. The heart-aching situations, and the events of her life have made her what she is now, but there is one man who doesn't want to give up. LAW.

Law is one patient man. He is a character of a utopian novel, trust me. His need, his desire to have Nami's back is just...wow. I love the character of Law. It's something about him that draws you to him. He may or may not be a good man, but you love him anyways. (Read the book to find out!!)

Mary is a brilliant author and I've absolutely loved this book. I wanted it to continue, but sadly it had to come to an end. I personally recommend this book. :)

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## **H.J. Bellus says**

Elastic Heart by Mary Catherine Gebhard

I have no idea where to start on this one. How do you react? What are you suppose to do? Where do you turn? Is there a right or wrong answer to all of these questions?

Nami DeGrace is faced with all these questions during a pivotal part of her life. Gebhard does an excellent job shaping and molding an in depth character who takes life by the horns and steps to the beat of her own drums. She seeks revenge for the hurt she experienced by a certain someone who can pull strings in high places. The cops aren't on her side and now it's in her lap.

Then Nami finds someone who will fight for her, but will she let him?

I don't want to give too much away since this is such a suspenseful read with lots of twists and turns.

I applaud Gebhard for tackling a tough issue, kicking ass building amazing characters, and wrapping it all up with a nice red bow.

"Love him or occasionally hate him, he was the only Law that I would obey."

As you read this one watch out for your heart, readers!

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## **Amy says**

Elastic Heart  
Mary Catherine Gebhard  
5 stars



\*\* If you have triggers from rape and abuse do not click this up. \*\*

From the first line of this book you will be raising your eye brows and saying holy what? The amount of WTF moments from the first few pages had me fuming ... and not at the author at the reality of the situation that a rape victim goes through. Nami Degrace has been raped by someone she knows she cant fight ... he owns the law ...

There you go friends .. yup this is a zinger for sure. Having been told the rape kit could take months to process and the police officer who took her statement would look into the crime Nami realizes its not the rape but the person who committed the act that the police are protecting. Knowing he had raped someone would be bad press for him.

What I love about this book of course is that Nami has a rescued part terrier part everyting else pup named Raskol that she adores and helps her deal with PTSD from her rape. When a stranger follows her home after an incident, Nami knows "he" is working for "him." Taking to following Senator Morris she knew her instincts were correct ... that voice that followed her home, its here with him. She knew it.

No one was going to help Nami. Her life would never be normal again. The only way to get her justice was to take matters into her own hand. He would never expect the little girl he violated would take matters into her own hands. But Nami was not the same girl he busted in on all those months ago .. she was different now. She felt sorry for his wife and kids but she didn't feel sorry for the Senator. She would get her justice .. until CSF showed up ... that was his name or at least what she called him ... He called himself Nick Law.

Holy wow ... this is a fantastic read friends. Grab this up and block out your calendar for the day. There is no cliffhanger .. YAY! Im not going to say much more as this one is a doozie. You wont believe the story on these pages. I LOVE Nami and her character ... instead of giving up she fights back and she does it with a vengeance. Instead of prey she becomes the predator. YES! Is that a badass image or what ladies!?!?

What I will say is if you know someone who has been raped it is never too late to take a stand. Support them, stand by them and give them your strength. Rape victims should NEVER feel alone.

Thank you for the ARC! Review to post to Ramblings From Beneath The Sheets. This is a five star read. Go grab it up! Love finding new authors!

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## **Donna ~ The Romance Cover says**

I was in the mood for some suspense and I found this book on an Amazon trawl. In the beginning I really got into this story and was totally engrossed in Nami's story and her fight for revenge and justice. However, from around the middle and to the end this book kind of lost it's edge for me and became a little weak in plot and depth. The "I love you" came totally out of left field and was just quite frankly unbelievable so once I had re-read that line their relationship lost its spark. However, I did enjoy it, I finished it to the end as I wanted to see what was going to happen but I just felt a little out of sorts at the end.

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## Habiba Hasabo says

\*ARC PROVIDED FOR AN HONEST REVIEW\*

I am gonna start with the cover and the title of this book because they're so damn catchy. They were tempting and I just signed up for the ARC and I don't regret it.

"The world kept revolving, and I had to revolve with it. Even if I really didn't fucking want to."~

Nami is a troubled woman. She needed to heal, she thinks she wants to stay away from everyone, but she didn't know that Law was her answer. She needed love and she desired acceptance. She wanted to be free. A woman seeking out revenge, a man falling in love with her, isn't it somehow familiar? Maybe, but their road isn't easy. It's tiring, exhausting and even frustrating sometimes, but you wouldn't help to want to know the ending.

"I won't let this consume you. Your heart is too beautiful."

Law is a patient man, a saint I swear to god. He handled a lot and he didn't give up. I admire him, this persistent man. He fought for Nami, he believed in her and didn't let go. I hated the lies, but I loved how he didn't back down and just loved her.

"When was I going to learn that the only person in the world who had my back was me? I was my castle, my keeper, and my sovereign. It was a lonely existence, but it was better than constantly being fucked over."~

Nami was stubborn, but you just understand her and the hard walls surrounding her and her heart. She was like a wounded animal or a little girl who needed healing. Law is too much, in a good way. They belonged together.

"It was so much easier to hate. Hate was fuel but love was fire, and it was slowly burning me up inside out."~

What I didn't like about this book? It was slow at times, most of the book, but then suddenly it was so fast and just ended. It felt rushed and I was like "just that?". It made me feel off.

"Love him or occasionally hate him, he was the only Law that I would obey."~

Law and Nami are different characters. They were always in some kind of war. This book started slow, but suddenly everything shifts and it ends and you're left wanting more. Beware of the elastic hearts.

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