



## Sullivan's Woman

*Nora Roberts*

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**Sullivan's Woman** Nora Roberts

**A classic story of inspiration and desire from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Nora Roberts.**

**AVAILABLE DIGITALLY FOR THE FIRST TIME**

Colin Sullivan has a vision—the painting of his career, with Cassidy St. John as his model. She'll be a challenge to paint, with her passion for life and captivating beauty. But as Cassidy stands in front of him every day, Colin begins to realize that the real test won't be capturing her image...it'll be capturing her heart.

**Includes a preview of Nora Roberts' latest hardcover, *Whiskey Beach*.**

## Sullivan's Woman Details

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Author : Nora Roberts

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## **From Reader Review Sullivan's Woman for online ebook**

### **Sonia Cristina says**

Acabei por gostar mais do que previa no início. Apesar de não ser nada de especial, é uma história fofa, principalmente o final que me derreteu o coração. Colin e Cassidy foram um casal querido; não costumo apreciar artistas e as suas manias, mas estes foram surpreendentemente nada irritantes.

Não gostei foi de Gail, mas penso que qualquer leitora que tenha lido, não gostou dela também. lol

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### **Sara Dalengren says**

Precis som resten av Roberts böcker jag läst, där vi endast läser ur kvinnans synvinkel, består konflikten av att hon inte inser att mannen ifråga faktiskt har känslor för henne. Förutsägbart? Japp! Men jag gillar ändå.

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### **Barb says**

He loomed out of the fog, like some mythic figure, but Cassidy St. John soon discovered Colin Sullivan was flesh and blood and all man. He had fame, wealth, charisma and a reputation with the ladies. Yet, from the moment Colin focused his mesmerizing attention on Cass, she was torn between prudence and the irresistible desire to be reckless with her heart.

Its so hard for Cassidy to find a job that she is good at, that can pay her rent and allow her to eat everyday. She just got fired from her job at the exclusive boutique. She tends to be to up front and honest with the customers. I guess telling them they are a size 16 not a 14 won't win her any friends. Then out of the fog her next job literally runs her down. The great painter, wants her to sit for him. She'll be set for another 2 months with this job. If she'd only sell her book. That would make things alot better. I guess thats why they call them starving authors.

This book allows us behind the scenes of the struggling author, and the notorious painter. They get along.... sort of.... he finds her charming, and witty... he has a nasty mean streak that he doesn't bother to control. How will she get through this setting? She just wants to get out with her heart still in tact. Its a quick read, with just the right plot. Its a typical Nora Roberts writing, even if it is one of her earlier books. I gave it a 5 star.

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### **Ashley Christensen says**

“I can see how differently she would write this now.”

I really enjoyed this book, but like with a lot of these older romances where the writer has a more prolific career (such as Nora), I can see how differently they would write the characters now, what they would allow them to put up with, and how the romance would play out.

I shouldn't be reviewing her old books based on how her new books are, and I know that. And I did enjoy the story – artist falls in love with the model, who is an artist herself?  
I just miss that little more, that little extra she gives now.

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### **John R Bergh says**

#### **Love the whole thing**

Great short read. NR does it again with wonderful dialog and amazing characters. I fell into Cass and could feel the story

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### **Aayesha Khatri says**

This book is another book that is on my top ten favourite books. It was the second Nora Roberts book I had ever read, at the age of 14. It was also one of my first romance novels.

My friend had lent a twofer of this and Irish Rose to me, I read Irish Rose first and didn't like it that much, then I read Sullivan's Woman. *I loved it so much.*

The heroine is so sweet and wonderful and innocent, but it is the hero that makes up this wonderful story. Moody, eccentric, brooding, he is a very special hero. I have never read any hero quite like him. Nora Roberts has a gift for creating the most special heroes, Roarke from the In Death series is my heart, I even named my iPad after him. Roarke is the root of my obsession with all things Irish.

What I also loved about this story was the misty, surreal mood it gave, and the painting theme. I have always loved art. It became even more special to me when I started painting, and - I LOVE THIS BOOK SO MUCH. EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, IT CAN STILL MAKE ME WRITHE IN ANGUISH AND PAIN JUST READING ONE OR TWO SCENES. SULLIVAN MADE THE STORY SO, SO VERY SPECIAL. DON'T ASK ME WHY I AM TYPING IN CAPS, I HAVE NO IDEA. ALL I KNOW IS I LOVE THIS BOOK.

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### **Mari says**

This was a double book of this title and LESS OF A STRANGER. Sullivan was a famous, temperament painter who runs across beautiful, Cassidy. He is enthralled with her and "needs" to paint her. Of course, this artist, Colin Sullivan is fabulously rich and she is a starving would-be author. There's ups and downs in all the relationships, she is quite mesmerized with Colin. He is difficult and so good looking, she needs the work to survive. It ends like a Hallmark movie.

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### **Grace Kelley says**

(Updated)

I am incredibly annoyed with this book.

Colin is a douche bag. I don't see anything suave or charismatic about him. I just saw a horny SOB who is supposedly suave due to him being Irish. Nora Roberts really likes Ireland, and I can see why, its a great place, yet she doesn't need to hammer in that he is Irish and that he likes Cassidy because she has Irish blood.

Speaking of Cassidy, I am just so irritated with how he treated her. At the start he promises her that he isn't interested in her in a physical and sexual way, he just wants her to model for his portrait. Yet when he wants her to look a certain way, what does he do? He KISSES her. Why couldn't he have just instructed her to look like she's been kissed? Soon after the kiss, he tells her that he wants her sexually. And he gets pissy when Cassidy refuses him, yet he pounces on her and makes advances that she doesn't want from him.

I'm upset about this because if I had things in my perspective, I wouldn't expect or *want* Colin to make a move on me. I'd trust him to keep his word, especially if I don't want it from him **and** expect him to honor his agreement. Yet if I suddenly felt that he wanted to make things too personal, seeing as how he would get mad at me if I refused him and would force himself on me, even if they were kisses, I would not like it. It sure as hell wasn't what Cassidy signed up for and it is a very unprofessional move. It also shows how much Colin respects women, as he is *such* a charmer that he believes that any girl will spread her legs for him on command. What. A. Dick.

Seriously, he gets uncomfortable when his models fall in love with him, yet based on his actions with Cassidy, the vibe I got was that the last girl didn't fall in love with him right out of the blue. He flirts with them, demands physical love from them and then wonders why girls fall to his feet and profess their love for him. He even calls Cassidy by pet names and endearments, the most notable being when he called her "Cass, love".

Human beings are emotional as well as logical and when someone goes to all that time and effort to make a person feel attractive and even loved, to realize that it was all for sex is heartbreaking.

It makes the last girl more sympathetic than pathetic. I feel bad for her because Colin used her as a cheap lay. Not that he'd admit it.

I can sense that Cassidy respects herself enough to not be another notch on his bedpost. Yet at the end, she shows that if he wears her down enough, she will do whatever he wants her to do.

I am done with berating Colin, I'm sorry to say, yet I need to move on because if I don't, the whole review will be about how flawed he is as a character and ideal of what a man should be.

Now onto Cassidy. She is dull and bland and a thoroughly uninteresting character. I am sick of girls like her. The heroines who become very lame and useless whenever the supposed hero is in the story. It makes me sick every time. Its sad because I know Cassidy has potential to be a great character with a stunning personality that makes up how interesting she is, yet all I really got from her is that she daydreams and blabs out whatever is on her mind regardless of what other people say.

I still don't see why she lost her job. You don't deeply daydream to the point where you talk aloud while daydreaming. I only know from my own experience, I daydream a lot but from personal experience I have never begun to have a conversation with someone while not paying attention. I get faster if I'm walking somewhere and sometimes my facial expressions reflect my expressions in my daydream if I'm dreaming deeply enough. With Cassidy, It feels stupid, and the 'best' part is that it has no further use in the story except

to get her fired.

Besides this, we know little about what Cassidy is really like. I have a vague idea of her family life, but outside I know she doesn't have a boyfriend and never had sex and is a pure little maiden and OH GOD I am SICK of hearing about all these girls who have no experience in sex or kissing and are in their twenties. Real girls who have never had sex probably know more about it than Cassidy does. It is NOT realistic and it insults our intelligence.

Another thing I hate is how she got so insulted that the papers called her a beauty. I understand that Cassidy doesn't want to be seen by anyone as another girl who slept with Colin, yet they don't imply anything, pick apart her body or analyze her flaws. They just say that she's attractive.

But now that I've picked apart the characters, to the plot we go!

So as you probably know, its another girl meets arrogant man, is attracted to arrogant man, they have a falling out and get back together. The plot isn't really something I'd like to discuss but there are two spoilers which irritate me.

1. Cassidy doesn't go after Jeff.

Why? Why would she choose Colin over Jeff. Jeff is great and when Cassidy is around him, that is the only time that I see her behaving like a person instead of a lovesick fangirl. She jokes with him, chats and shows more positive emotions than she does with Colin, who irritates, violates and confuses her. Why I'm so upset about this is because Cassidy becomes more relatable with Jeff and they have amazing chemistry together.

2. Colin's speech at the end

So towards the end of the story Colin comes back into Cassidy's life after insulting her and viciously thrusting her out of his life. While trying to win the woman of his life back he says something along the lines of "I will hurt you but no one will love you more."

What? *No one* will love Cassidy more than *him*? Oh isn't that a sweet thing to say!

Only problem, it isn't. See, I was looking up advice on how to spot an abusive relationship and funny thing is, that line is mentioned. Not the "I can hurt you" (although thats a HUGE red flag for you ladies and gents and should not be taken lightly either) but the words after.

"No one will love you more than me."

While that sounds sweet and like a pledge of undying love, it means that no one except for the abuser loves and will love the victim. So when Colin says that, he means that he is the only one who "loves" Cassidy enough to put up with her.

And if you think that I'm reading too much into this and that Colin really isn't abusive, re-read his line. He guarantees hurting her. He doesn't specifically address how, only that he will. And while yelling at her doesn't sound mean, just remember that he has forced himself on Cassidy, (and I don't care if they are kisses, no means **no**) and has insulted her before.

Plus, he immediately gets Cassidy to marry him, AND since she is virtually a loner, he can easily get her ties

with Jeff severed.

Now this is definitely not what Roberts meant by this line. If I was trying to write a romance, I wouldn't want to imply that the hero may have hidden abusive tendencies too. Unfortunately, when people do analyze the characters just past the skin, they *will* see good and bad traits that appear in either good people or bad people and Colin just happened to have some traits of an abuser lurking beneath his personality. And Cassidy, the innocent girl that she is, seems like the ideal candidate for walking into a trap.

The characteristics are there, and authors have written sadistic characters in romances whether or not they recognize it. My prime example is Elizabeth Lowell's Lincoln McKenzie from *Desert Rain*, who raped the woman that he loved because he thought that since she was attractive, that made it ok. Also he called her a whore several times and assumed that because she was attractive, that it made it alright for him to do whatever he wanted to her. He can't stand to see his sister with makeup on. Calls women who do like wearing makeup and sex "toys" and uses a woman's beauty as a punishment, and since Holly (the heroine) committed the crime of being a gorgeous fashion model, that gives him the right to punish her by raping her. For being beautiful

He's a sick emotionally disturbed man, even if he was sorry about it. He needs therapy and jailtime. He shouldn't even be allowed to have custody of his sister since he'd probably rape her if she wore makeup during one of his episodes.

Anyway, I digress.

*Sullivan's Woman* didn't satisfy me at all.

Otherwise, I hope you enjoyed my review, if you like rants that is. XD

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### **Carole A. Perkins says**

**Romantic and a fast read. Loved it.**

Well written . Very romantic without too descriptive intimate scenes. Great for young readers. Could not put it down once I started.

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### **Debby says**

Cassidy St. John is an unpublished writer. To make ends meet and to experience life more fully, she is currently working in a boutique as a salesperson. After being less than discreet one more time, she's fired and wanders down Fisherman's Wharf, where she's "found" by famous artist, Colin Sullivan, who's been looking for a model to pose for a particular painting he wants to do. Cass reluctantly agrees to do it, but is leery because Colin is a major attraction to her and she doesn't want to be another in his string of one night stands. However, there is a major attraction between them which she fights and he doesn't understand. By the time the portrait is finished, she's in love and it shows in the portrait, his best work. The misunderstandings aren't quite over, but eventually the two admit their feelings to each other and get on with it.

CLEAN, sweet story - easy read.

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**Asma says**

I never thought I'd ever like romance novels!! Weird! I simply fell in love with Colin!

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**Lyndi W. says**

Would have been **4 stars**, but Sullivan was kinda abusive-ish at moments. I've found I enjoy an antihero every now and then, but this guy was hard to swallow.

Also, holy shit this has gotta be super old to be Silhouette Romance #280.

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**Laura Miller says**

I thought this was an Excellent story. It really kept me interested and couldn't wait to see what happened next. The main characters she made lovable I thought. Written so well that I could picture was was happening, and felt like I was there, now I would like to go to San Francisco because of this book. I could see myself having the main characters as friends in real life.

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**Renee Vincent says**

LOVED this book! Colin Sullivan is a spectacular hero and Nora does a great job of making you desire him. Plus, he's an Irish artist - gotta love that!

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**Trudee Hunter says**

As a stand alone romance, this story was light and entertaining. Man meets woman. Lust and love ignite. Conflict occurs; happy ending. Had I not read a couple of her other books first, with gutsy story line, with fuller content and beautifully written prose, I may not have sought her out as an author. I am very grateful I read Northern Lights before Sullivan's Woman. There is no doubt however that the author knows her genre well and knows how to captivate her readers.

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