



## **Broken Pasts**

*C.M. Stunich*

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Broken Pasts - an Adult Contemporary Romance recommended for ages 18 and up

“Until Nathaniel Sutherland was open and all his soul was bared for me to see, I wouldn't be satisfied.”

Theresa McMaster does not have a good track record when it comes to men. Her first husband walked out on her after a terrible miscarriage left her unable to carry any children of her own, and her estranged second husband has revealed himself to be more than just an emotional danger – he's been stalking her.

Fearing for her own safety as well as that of her family, Theresa hires a private security service and meets Nathaniel, the man whose secrets and heartaches may just outnumber her own. Drawn into the arms of the sexy stranger, Theresa fears that both of their pasts may very well be the things that keep them apart.

“You can't escape your past by running from it.”

## Broken Pasts Details

Date : Published January 5th 2013 by Sarian Royal

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Author : C.M. Stunich

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Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Romantic Suspense

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## From Reader Review Broken Pasts for online ebook

### Crissy says

I really enjoyed reading "Broken Pasts." I can definitely see myself reading this book over and over. Theresa knows just how much love hurts. Her track record with men is just as bad as her love life. After all, what's worse than having one ex-husband whose an a\*\*hole; two. Theresa first ex-husband left her when she needed him most. Her second refuses to let her go; He believes in "til death do us part," and if he can't have her no one will. When Theresa's life is threatened she hires Nathaniel as her bodyguard. The attraction and chemistry to each other is there but are they both feeling it for all the wrong reasons. Can Theresa put her attraction to Nathaniel aside long enough for him to save her life? Nathaniel might be a bodyguard but he still has a past and it's a past he'd rather forget. Will Theresa be able to trust Nathaniel with her life after she finds out what he's keeping from her? Just when Nathaniel thinks Theresa is safe, he learns that sometimes instead of running from danger you run right into it.

I recommend "Broken Pasts" to anyone who is looking for a light read that's funny and romantic with a little bit of drama.

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### Michelle [Helen Geek] says

02/16/2013 --

Very short review on this one. Just an okay read for me. I was fresh off the "Never" books and wanted more by this author. I'm over it now.

**Overall Rating = 2.5 Stars**

**Book Cover / Book Blurb = 4 / 3 = 3.5 Stars**

**Writer's Voice = 2.5 Stars**

**Character Development = 3 Stars**

**Story Appreciation = 2.5 Stars**

**Worth the Chili = 3 Stars [\$0.99 Amazon]**

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### Autumn says

Theresa is a twice divorcee with a nine year old child. Her first husband left her at her weakest point and left her vulnerable to the wiles of husband number 2, Gary. Theresa has left Gary and is trying to divorce him. Gary becomes stalkerish and crazy so at her best friend's expense she hires a bodyguard from PPSD. Enter Nathaniel and the sexual frustration hits the roof. I thought this book was pretty good but i felt it took too long to really get anywhere. I just could not relate to the characters although i did like that Theresa was in her thirties and her daughter had a penis obsession. So after plodding along and building up frustration it all the sudden just explodes and then ends as quickly as the action started so i was left with a severe case of whiplash. Some parts really confused me but those are spoilery so i will not divulge them. overall, i am not

sorry i read it. i liked it but it just didn't wow me like Ms. Stunich's other works.

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### **Candice says**

This is my 4th book by Ms. Stunich and I can say with 100% certainty that it won't be my last. LOVE LOVE LOVE her writing.

Broken Past is a story about just that. Theresa has 2 failed marriages. One due to him being an asshole and leaving her at the worst possible time and the other because he turned into a psycho.

Now, the psycho won't leave her alone and her best friend won't let her not do anything. She offers to pay for private security. Theresa thinks this is a little over the top, but when the constant calls don't stop she knows she does the right thing. Little did she know her bodyguard would be a total hottie badass.

Gary, Theresa's psycho ex, turns stalker and Nathaniel, hottie badass bodyguard, is there to protect her and throw sexy innuendos her way ;) Things with Gary escalate pretty quickly when he sees Nathaniel, but he will stop at nothing to protect Theresa from harm.

What happens when the emotions come into play? Will Theresa be able to let herself fall in love again? Trust someone again?

(view spoiler)

Overall, loved the writing. Emotions were real. Hey, Stunich, care to throw me your grocery list? Cause I'm pretty sure I'd read that, too.

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### **Pamela says**

A quick read with a simple premise. I would have enjoyed it more had it not been for the abrupt ending. A little more info would have been nice. It felt like the author reached a certain point and just wanted to end it any way she could. Also, a little more descriptive info when it came to Teresa and Jamie would have been appreciated as it was hard to conjure up their images in my head. Now Nathaniel, not a problem figuring out what he looked like. Actually, it felt like a lot of details were glossed over, which in turn made for a quick and entertaining read.

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### **Gemma says**

I was a bit disappointed with this book. It was just rushed through. I like this writer, but yeah this one turned me off.

The ending was like BAM we're done, it didn't delve into stalking more so read almost like a copy and paste of "text book" stalking.

She tried to throw in humor there with comments and drawings the main's daughter drew but it kinda missed

the mark. I have 6 year old twins and as a mother... ummm.. not too funny. And the daughters relationship with her dad was not a good one, but the author trying to make light of it failed.

Yeah sorry hate to write a bad review but I regret buying it.

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### **Jodie says**

Ok, this is a MUST READ!! I'm so in love with Nathaniel and Theresa I actually want to start reading this again but that's what CM does to me EVERYTIME!!!

Theresa has the worse track record with men in her life, her first husband up and left her after a traumatic event and then there is Gary the stalker, out of control 2nd husband who gives all ex's a bad name but he does bring Nathaniel into her life, so I guess he gets one bonus point.

"Nathaniel Sutherland was not average, not normal, and he wasn't just tough, he was a fucking bad ass. "Oh my god."

Yes Nathaniel is that perfect and their attraction is immediate!! I laughed, I almost cried, I might have yelled A\*\*hole once or twice but I definitely LOVED EVERY MINUTE!! I like to refer to CM Stunich writing as book crack and I can't get enough!! The characters in this book are so relatable from the best friend who we all have, her daughter who is priceless and a little penis obsessed and of course all the others that stole my heart.

Did I mention you have to meet Nathaniel . . . .

"...don't worry about how or why or when or what. You've spent your whole fucking life worrying about those things and it hasn't worked out. Follow your fucking heart and let yourself be happy."

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### **Jennifer says**

I would like you to know in advance that this is one of those books that stays with you. I was very happily graced with about a 12-hour book hangover after I read Broken Pasts. That being said, lets get to the review. Broken Pasts is an amazing story with a spectacular heroine/role model. Theresa McMaster is a woman who has been through it all and come out with less than herself. She has the fun and slightly obnoxious friend every girl has and she is ready to get back on her own. Nathaniel is straight out of one of my favorite dreams \*wink wink\*. I instantly fell in love with these characters. It was as if I had known them for years. They were relatable, dynamic, and assertive. The writing was absolutely captivating. CM Stunich had me from the first sentence. This book gets happily placed on my "I finished it in one sitting because god only knows what would happen if I tried to walk away" shelf. This story is not all puppy dogs and kitty cats. It hits some hard places and sheds light on some dark truths about our society. CM had me laugh out loud, gasp, cry and inevitably scream and throw a mild tantrum all while finishing it off with some hot cocoa and marshmallows and I loved every second of it.

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### **Sabrina Olteanu says**

I received this book in exchange for my honest review.

Another great book written by CM Stunich! I just finished Broken Pasts, unfortunately it only took me a couple of hours because I couldn't stop reading. It was amazing and I didn't want to end! Finally I read a

wonderful book where the female characters are smart and have the courage to fight for themselves, to speak they're mind whiteout any hesitation.

Theresa McMaster is a 32 single mom, who just got divorced for the second time, but it was the greatest decision she made. She has a daughter named Rhea who is the silver lightning in her life, despite all her problems.

“Your life is not a mistake, just an experience.”- Theresa

Both of her marriages were failures, first husband Glen divorced her because she had cancer and couldn't have children's, and making a family was his purpose in life, not taking care of a sick women who can't give him what he wants. Then she met Gary, a man who was all cuddly until the got married, then he started to threaten her. She got a divorce but things didn't stop there, Gary was stalking her. He was everywhere!

“Gary was sitting in a white car that I'd never seen driving down the street in front of my house. His brown hair was clean and combed back and his face was pleasant and relaxed. He in no way looked the part of a stalker. But that's all I could think. Stalker.”-Theresa

The stalking becomes so dangerous that Theresa's best friend, Jamie convinces her to hire PPSD for her safety, to help her make a case against Gary . She finally caved and hired a bodyguard for a week, none other than Nathaniel Sutherland. He started taking control of things, teaching her all the things she needs to know, and won't leave her side not even for a minute.

“Nathaniel Sutherland was not average, not normal, and he wasn't just tough, he was a fucking bad ass.”- Theresa

From the start you can see the attraction between these two and the non stop flirting. She starts acting like a teenage girl and can't seem to have enough strength to act normal around him, or even speak normal. He is the perfect man for her, a perfect gentlemen, a men who makes her feel safe and loved. After spending two days with him she wants more, she wants to know his story, to know how he became the man he is, what made him became a bodyguard.

“You're trying the limits of my self-control, Ms. McMaster.”-Nathaniel

But things couldn't be easy, all sorts of things get in Theresa and Nathaniel's way. But with a little of help from Cedric – Nathaniel best friend- and Rhea, things work out for them. They sort of all of they're problems and Nathaniel tells her his life story, a dark one. But that won't keep them apart, she won't let anything came between them.

“You don't have to worry. I'm here. I promise that I'll always be here.” And then he kissed me like he couldn't get enough, would never get enough.

I kissed him back and hoped that he never did. Never once did he break that promise.- Nathaniel

As I said I love the book! The only problem I had with it is that I almost had a heart attack at the end of the book. I couldn't believe that this story could have that ending. Lucky me there was an epilogue and the story got the ending it deserved! Great book, great characters! Give this author a try and I think you will be pleasantly surprised! She has amazing books and she writes the most incredible story's!

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## **Kendall {Book Crazy} says**

This was my first C.M. Stunich book and I had been really looking forward to reading her books so I took a break from reading books for Blog Tours and I sat down to read Broken Pasts! loved it but even though I really enjoyed this book there were several points in it that made me give it 4 stars instead of 5! The plot was pretty good and it kept me on my toes as it was quite mysterious and it sucked me right in! The plot developed quite slowly at some points but then something would happen which would make you zoom through it! I also really liked the characters! Theresa was the main character and Broken Pasts was told from her point of view! I liked Theresa but she annoyed me sometimes but as there was also something about her that I liked it was quite a weird experience reading this book and not being sure of what I thought of the main character! Nathaniel was the perfect guy! He took his job seriously but you could completely understand why after you find out his story! Theresa and Nathaniel as a couple were so hot! They were pretty broken characters as they have both been through a lot but they sort of saved each other as soon as they met! The ending was over so quickly! I was not expecting it to be over as quickly as it was at all but the author gave you enough for it to be a satisfying ending! I nearly cried at it until a certain point which I can't tell you about or it will completely spoil the book for you! This book is definitely a stand-alone as the ending was perfect! The cover initially drew me into this book as it is stunning! I can honestly say that I will definitely be reading more C.M. Stunich books in the future!

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## **Jen O'grady says**

I really enjoyed this story of twice divorced Theresa with a nine year old adopted daughter and the crazy ex called Gary. Gary's behaviour becomes increasingly disturbing and her best friend advises her to gain protection. Enter Nathaniel the man who comes to protect her.

Theresa and Nathaniel need to keep their relationship professional despite the feelings that they are both developing for each other. We know about Theresa's past, but what about Nathaniel's? All becomes clear in the story. It's a great read.

4 stars.

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## **Vikki ~ \*squee\* lite ~ says**

[ she looked like his ex wife - wasn't it enough that they we in the same situation - did they ha

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## **Lucia says**

"Romance" story about brainless woman who is stalked by her ex and falls in love with her highly inappropriate bodyguard. It lacked logic and drive. Plus many things made me angry. I'm moving on.

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## **Pam says**

3 stars

Broken Pasts had a little bit of everyone and everything, Theresa the two-time-divorcee, Nathaniel the sexy-bodyguard, Jaime the crazy-but-totally-loveable best friend, Rhea the nine year old girl with penises on her mind, Gary the crazy-stalker-ex-hubby and Glen the asshole-ex-husband.

Theresa is trying to get a divorce from Gary, he won't sign the papers and now calls her nonstop, leave tons of voicemails, e-mails her and shows up where ever she is, even drives by her house or parks outside her house. It all gets a bit too much when he threatens her after she goes out on a date and Jaime gets Theresa to call for protection, enter Nathaniel the mysterious hottie.

It was a cute short read; I actually liked Theresa, she had a dry sense of humor, and wasn't opposed to making fun of herself. It took a bit of time to get to know Nathaniel but in the end it was worth it, he was very mysterious in the beginning.

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### **Lise \*friends don't flag\* says**

**“Your life is not a mistake, just an experience.”**

Theresa McMaster is 32, single and hopelessly alone. The only bright light in her life is her nine-year-old daughter, Rhea. Theresa is twice divorced and being stalked by her second husband, Gary. The stalking becomes so dangerous that Theresa's best friend, Jamie convinces her to hire a bodyguard.

**“Nathaniel Sutherland was not average, not normal, and he wasn't just tough, he was a fucking bad ass. “Oh my god.”**

Theresa is instantly attracted to Nathaniel (no kidding) but Nathaniel is all business with a hint of flirting on the side.

**“It's a pleasure to meet you,” he said and I wasn't sure if I were hallucinating or not, but I'm almost certain he emphasized the word. *Pleasure.*”**

Theresa goes into a bit of a tailspin that sends her into some crazy fun inner dialogue.

**“Am I wearing deodorant? I wondered. Did I forget deodorant? I decided that now was not the time to check, not with Nathaniel just a few, careful inches behind me.”**

The sexual tension between these characters is off the charts. In fact, their flirtatious banter acted as some of the best foreplay I have ever read.

But life is not all flirty and fun, there are some real issues going on in their lives that prevent Theresa and Nathaniel from coming together.

Nathaniel has some dark secrets from his past, as does Theresa.

With some encouragement from the wonderful secondary characters, Jamie, Cedric and the adorable penis-obsessed Rhea, things do work out for Theresa and Nathaniel.

**“I let you give me some tongue over the desk, but no you cannot stay the night and protect me from**



**my evil stalker, you bad ass, sex machine.”**

**“Don't make fun of me, but I ... ” He paused to catch his breath. “I believe in love at first sight.”**

**Ahhh... I swoon for Nate**

So... give this author a try and I think you will be pleasantly surprised. I really liked her new adult novel, Tasting Never... as well!

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