



# First Light

*Samantha Summers*

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## **First Light** Samantha Summers

A government experiment. Sixteen teenage boys on the run. An innocent young girl caught in the middle. When Ronnie Rose meets the handsome and alluring Kalen Smith, she can tell there's something he's hiding - something dangerous. But in trying to uncover his secret, Ronnie is plunged into a terrifying world she isn't prepared for... and the consequences could be deadly. Can we choose who we fall in love with?

## **First Light Details**

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Author : Samantha Summers

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## **From Reader Review First Light for online ebook**

### **Mandy says**

I received First Light as part of the blog tour hosted by AToMR Tours in return for a honest review. For Veronica (Ronnie) Rose life hasn't been easy her mom walked out leaving her father to raise her and her older sister. For her older sister it wasn't easy she was always the needy of the two and half the time it fell on Ronnies shoulders to take a back seat while their dad gave extra attention to Rachel. Ronnie is a senior in high school turning eighteen in a few months when her father passes away leaving her on her own since her older sister has her own life.

Ronnie is the kind of girl that's super kind and lets her older sister walk all over her when it comes to everything however mostly just into babysitting so she can go shopping. It is the day of her father's funeral that she catches sight of a strange guy in all black that she's never seen before. The rumors around why his in town are vast everyone assumes since he lives with 4 other guys he's dealing drugs but as he starts to hang around Ronnie we learn his real story.

Three years ago Ronnie was attacked on the beach by a would be rapist but her hero whom she still dreams about when she needs to feel better saved her life. Now it seems that Kalen the new guy in her life is hanging around and even saves her life a few times. Both her sister and best friend are against her spending time with him but Ronnie can't help her attraction to him. Learning that her father has a gambling debt causing her to lose the house Ronnie sets out to find a plan to save her father's home. She also didn't set out to fall in love with Kalen who keeps his past a mystery little does she know that his secret is what keeps him and his friends safe.

I was instantly drawn into the story, my heart went out to Ronnie because I know what it's like to lose a parent, and she reminds me a lot of myself. Ronnie is a great character she's kind to a fault, and has issues trusting after her mother left, she even lets her sister walk all over her. I wanted to bash her sisters head in many times the way she lets her boyfriend Jared manipulate her, as well as the way she treats Ronnie. Thankfully Ronnie meets Kalen who didn't have a normal childhood but is making a change in his life as well as changing Ronnie for the better. I really found First light well written the story flow smoothly I was able to read it in one span without stopping. I really liked the cloak and dagger aspect of the story it kept me on my toes plus who doesn't love a suspense story with a romance in the mix. I was nervous as I ran out of pages because I know that it's part of a series and I was worried it would cliffhanger but the ending was exactly the way it should of ended. I loved the book and I can't wait to read the next chapter in Ronnie and Kalen's story.

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### **Tee loves Kyle Jacobson says**

First Light is one of those books that captures you right from the beginning if you are a sci-fi reader. I love books that have government conspiracy in them. They grab you and keep you guessing the entire time your reading. I kept thinking to myself man the government could be doing this and no one would ever know the difference.

What do you do when you a parent? The grief is all to consuming and for Veronica it is devastating to her

because she is left with her sister as her only family. Reeling from her father's death at the funeral she meets a boy Kalen who seems to be grieving for her father just as hard. She becomes curious and wants to know why he is grieving so hard for her father. As Veronica starts to dig into the reasons Kalen knew her father she gets closer to Kalen but he tries to keep his distance from her. But with her determined to find out what he knows about her father Kalen can't resist her and that could be very bad for both of them because Kalen is part of a government experiment and he is on the run with his friends.

Kalen is a part of Project Five Fifteen of The S.R.U. They are trained young adult assassins and Kalen is on the run from the government with his friends. He just wants to live a normal life and not be associated with the project anymore. As the story goes on you find out what kind of relationship he had with Veronica's father and what he meant to the Kalen. What's worse is the more time Kalen spends with Veronica the closer he gets to her and the more he wants a real relationship with her. But can he have a normal relationship with her? Will he put her in danger? Will the government come after her? Will she even want to date him? What is the project really doing to the boys? All these questions and answers will have you turning the pages faster than you can eat melting ice cream. Come along for the greatest government experiment yet!

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## shre ? says

\*A copy was provided for review purposes\*

I really like *First Light* because it enraptured me with its intense plot-line from the beginning pages till the end. At first sight, to tell you the truth, I did not think I would enjoy this book half as much as I actually did, number one, because I just don't like overly emotional books, and number two, the summary made the book sound like nothing I've ever read before. I must say, it was a new and interesting experience. There were government conspiracies involved as well as secret rendezvous. The whole government kidnapping children and then turning them into killer assassins who will do their bidding concept was very Bond material, and I LOVED it. The plot was thick and unique, the characters were likable, and the book flowed really well as a whole. I have to be honest with you, I did finish this in two sittings.

Ronnie was a very sympathetic character who I grew accustomed to over a couple of chapters. The fact that her father died and how, from there onward, her whole life fell apart to secrets and lies is very tough to go through for a teenage girl, and is what got to me the most. She was a bit irritating at times, but like I usually say, no one is perfect, otherwise I'd hate them. Flaws are somber but beautiful things, because they tear apart yet strengthen a character's soul like they did to Ronnie. My most favorite aspect of Ronnie is that she tended to think things through a lot and was very responsible when it came to making important decisions. This is really underrated because there are some heroines in other books who just piss me off because of their dumb decision-making skills. Ronnie also had enough sass and wit in her to make her interesting and not totally boring to read about.

I really liked how the lead male role in this book, Kalen, was so starkly different from Ronnie. This is because he was a great contrast to her character and being together highlighted both of their best and worst qualities. Kalen was a very self-deprecating character to me. I feel like he's always thinking in his mind about his kills and what he does for a living in life and how he should just rot in hell, of course, the guilt tearing up at him is completely normal. As a result of being captured and turned into a deadly assassin, he becomes very ruthless, unforgiving, and secluded from the world. I also liked how the author went into some of Kalen's backstory so we knew how he was raised and grew up as a child. Of course, I can't forget to mention the numerous amount of smoldering-smoking-hot-bad-boy vibes he always keeps on throwing out

which make me want to run to the nearest water fountain. I really, really, liked his point of view in the book and I hope Summer's gives us more of him in the books to come.

The rest of the characters were also very humorous and interesting to read about. Especially Kalen's group of assassin friends. Maybe we'll get a little snippet from each of their point of views in the next book, who knows, but \*fingers crossed\*. Another thing I'd like to see more of is Ronnie's relationship with Kalen growing. It wasn't great, perfect, or a happy ending, but that's because it's a series, and this author likes to keep us waiting. Together they form an.....intriguing couple. Really..really...intriguing, and I'll just leave it at that, ha ha. And I didn't mention this before, but do not worry guys, with a bunch of assassin's that work for the government running around, how can this book not deliver some of that action that makes our hearts beat and blood pump for more? Although it comes in the end, Summer's makes sure to deliver it.

Overall, a very interesting, climactic, romantic read which can and should definitely be picked up by those of who need a book desperately in hand. The ending was NOT a cliff-hanger, thank god, so I think the wait for the next book won't be too bad. But for now, I really can't wait to see what Summer's has stored for us in her next book in her series, Project Five Fifteen.

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## **Arlene says**

### **Rating Clarification: 4.5 Stars**

First Light by Samantha Summers was nothing like I expected. This book captured my attention from the moment I read the prologue to the time I stumbled on the epilogue two short days later. Breezing through a novel so quickly is quite rare for me as of late, so I can only attribute it to the fact that I was pretty much hooked on this high impact, high energy YA novel. First Light is a story about trust, survival and friendship that feels like a combination of Bourne Identity slash Outsiders. The plot was quite unique, the characters were extremely likeable and the pacing of the book kept me focused on the events as they unfolded.

The story commences in Clanots County, a small town near London where we meet Veronica Rose (Ronnie) on the day she's burying her father after a long illness. At the funeral, she's trying her best to keep it together, and as she looks a bit beyond the distance, she sees a mysterious guy at the funeral grieving right along with her. She's never met him before but she knows from town gossip that he and the crowd he hangs out with is bad news. Ronnie sets out to discover who he truly is and how he knew her father.

Kalen Smith was orphaned at a very young age and adopted when he was four by a mysterious couple. He was then taken to a camp where he spent the next ten years learning new languages, defense techniques... all the skills for becoming a professional assassin. After learning what his fate would be when he reaches his "shelf-life" at the age of sixteen, he and a band of boys in Project Fifteen escaped the Special Requirements Unit in the hopes of surviving another day. They travelled from town to town and across borders, never setting roots in any particular place. Then one day the SRU comes close to capturing Kalen when a civilian takes him in and saves him from being "disposed of."

I was extremely intrigued by this whole concept of government agencies taking children to brainwash and condition them into perfect assassins as the ultimate guise or weapons that targets would never suspect. Probably not farfetched from any true possibility. Extremely interesting to say the least.

I really liked the group of runaway assassins including Ace, Denver, Nash and Laith. They had that

“Outsiders” dynamic going on where each filled a specific role. You had the young one, the charismatic one, the responsible one and the elusive member of the group. They were all so different but blended so perfectly as a band of brothers. Caring for them was not difficult for me to accomplish. They have a bond and loyalty for each other that’s easy to admire. The sacrifices they had to make to stay together and keep each other safe really added a whole new layer of depth to this story that made it even more captivating.

I also came to like Ronnie and Kal as a couple. There was that beginning skittishness that I like to read about when the author develops two characters as a couple. What was more refreshing was that Ronnie and Kal’s feelings for each other felt genuine and real. I really enjoyed reading about these two characters and I rooted for them as they battled the odds stacked against them. First Light kept me at a constant state of high interest because the pacing of the novel never slows down. Summers really knows when to execute a twist or high impact event to make this an ongoing adventure with two likeable protags.

Overall, I’m curious where Ronnie and Kal find themselves in the upcoming installment. Summers delivered a unique and gripping story with her crafty plot, setting and perfect pacing that easily hooked me into her adventure. Definitely enjoyed this one!

*This review can be found along with my other reviews at WinterHaven Books*

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## **Mary Ann says**

### ***Review and Giveaway(Int)***

Do you ever felt somehow lost in a place or a moment that something was not right or misplaced but then as everything takes place you realize you’re in the right set and it is all perfect?

That’s the thought that I felt with this book. When I first read the title the first thing that comes to my mind was that it’s definitely another paranormal book or somewhere in a fantasy genre but to my surprise it’s not. I’m happy that I stumble with this book and was given a chance to review it.

First Light is an action filled book with a perfect blend of romance in it. Ronnie Rose is person who faces a lot of responsibility in her life. She loses her father, there is a huge debt left in her sister and her hands, and her best friend seems to be slipping away out of her life too. But when a mysterious guy enters her somewhat jumble life everything changes. Kalen Smith is a mysterious, protective, intelligent and of course handsome and hot guy\*swoon\*. I liked how the author used both the protagonist to change each others life. Ronnie let her self welcome new other things in life and meet other people as well as Kalen. Ronnie became more responsible, strong, bold and independent thorough out the story. The plot was poignant it really captured my taste for mystery/thriller books. And it has snippet of Kalen’s past life which helps me to understand more of him.

There were the old friends and new friends were built. I totally love the other ‘Four Guys’—Nash, Laith even if sometimes he’s rude, Denver and of course Ace. All of them brought something to the story that makes it more captivating and will have you finished it in a day or less.

I felt that the end of the book was great and I think that the book was good to be left like that. But there’s a sequel so...I have to wait...

But I'd be definitely happy to be one of the first readers of it! Oh did I mention I was a sucker for action stories? And because of it this book deserved a 4 stars :))

**Follow the tour here** Teen Readers' Diary

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## **Julie(Reading By The Beach) says**

As seen on -> <http://readingbythebeach.blogspot.com...>

Reading the blurb for First Light, I was instantly attracted and eager to start reading. I could sense the excitement, the struggles and the romance from just that tiny amount of words. You know I love those inner, emotional struggles and First Light did not disappoint! In fact, it way exceeded my expectations.

I was drawn to the two main characters in an instantaneous moment. Kalen and Ronnie, two opposites in many, many ways, but with one major struggle to overcome. Samantha Summers, in my opinion, successfully portrayed Ronnie and Kalen in a way that showcased their strengths, weaknesses, and sheer determination. In my opinion (and I hope others will agree), Ronnie and Kalen are high-ranking favorites. But let's not forget the surrounding characters, because I found them (even the not-so-nice ones) to be just as well-placed, and pivotal. They were very effectual.

There is one major struggle that both Ronnie and Kalen fight with, and that's the choice between following your head or your heart. This is a key factor for the romance of this book and like it says up above in the blurb, can we choose who we fall in love with? Samantha Summers successfully tackles this hurdle with genuine inner turmoil that will appeal to readers without making it cliché or overly done. It added that much needed tension between characters and will also help the reader see the surrounding characters in a new way. The thriller aspect was absolutely phenomenal! I was constantly on the edge of my seat, held in anticipation and trying to predict the ending outcome. There isn't extreme mystery, but that's a good thing. First Light doesn't need that mystery, the thriller aspect mixed with the heart-tingling romance is what this book is all about. As you read, you'll kind of know what is going to happen, but you won't know the specifics. . . that was what I wanted from First Light, so I was happy to receive that. Plus, mystery would have fogged over the glorious details. Well, actually, Kalen is the mystery, but only because he's such a complex character with many layers to investigate. The flashbacks that Samantha Summers provides (from Kalen's past) are extremely important in digging deeper into his character. First Light would definitely not be the same if those flashbacks were missing. They allowed us to get inside his head, see the inner workings of Project Five Fifteen, and witness his change.

There is some action, mostly towards the end, but it's still satisfying. First Light is laying the groundwork for the books to come, it's that necessary first step for a series that I know will be insanely good. First Light is introducing us to the important characters, showing us some of the history that we need, but mostly it's all about that decision to lead with your head or heart. A decision that will fuel the series.

I can openly admit that I'm extremely finicky about endings. A lot of them don't hold up to my expectations, but I can happily say that the ending in First Light is by far one of my favorite endings. It was just pure perfection. I was not left wanting, there was a finality, but it also leads perfectly into the next phase of the story and adventure. Well, that's an assumption since I haven't read the next book, but it's just one of those

things that I know. I was grinning ear to ear as I read those last two chapters.

If you are looking for a book to sweep you off your feet with thrilling entertainment and sweet yet scalding romance then read First Light.

I just have one question: When can I get my hands on the second book?

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## **Laura says**

So I found this book on amazon for free, and I thought "why not?"

Well this taught me that sometimes things are free for a reason.

This book reminded me a lot of Peter Pan for some reason.

Ronnie is basically Wendy, especially around all the guys, who represent the lost boys. She cooks for them, spends holidays with them, acts like their parents when they're being irresponsible, goes with them to "never land" (a.k.a their dank mansion) without knowing who the hell they are. And Kalen is like Peter Pan. Peter Pan delivers Wendy to the rest of the lost boys,

He goes into Wendy's house and room uninvited,

He undresses her when she falls asleep when he barely knows her- wait a second... Maybe that last part didn't happen in Peter Pan. Oh right.... I forgot this was a much *creepier* version of Peter Pan. And Peter Pan was pretty darn creepy in my opinion.

There's this one time that Ronnie and Jared (the brother-in-law from hell) were in an argument, and the lost boys (that's what I'm calling them now) were there and Jared says some comment about her dating one of them. Then Kalen shows up behind him like the grim reaper and says "he's not her boyfriend. I am" keep in mind they were most definitely *not* dating at this point in the book. It's just a little weird, because last time I checked relationships were suppose to be *consensual*. Why don't you just pee on her, Kalen, to mark your territory? Needless to say, I wasn't Kalen's biggest fan.

I wasn't too fond of the supporting characters either. I seriously just wanted to wedgy her sister (and maybe junk punch her sister's boyfriend while I'm at it). They were just so awful. Her sister is 9 years older and she



moved out of the house, and I swear, she didn't even care that their dad died. The day after the funeral her sister comes into her room like nothing happened and tells Ronnie to clean up after the *party*. Last time I checked, when someone dies it's called a *wake*, not a party. Then Ronnie is understandably upset, and her sister is just like "god Ronnie, like geeze, like dad died a whole 48 hours ago, like stop being such a big baby. Shit happens, like, suck it up". Her sister never checks up on Ronnie, who is now living in a house all by herself at 17. She only drops by when she wants Ronnie to babysit her kid when she has to go to the mall or spa or something equally as dumb. And all Ronnie wanted was a little affection.

Also, why does everybody wink all the time? I know that it is suppose to come out as sexy...

But am I the only one that pictures it more like this?

Okay now for the thing that I disliked the most in this book: the sexism.

It's not that bad, but there are some comments that got to me. For example this was said to Ronnie by her neighbor, "I know you're only young, Ronnie, but you should try to be like your sister now. Get a nice man who can take care of you".

Find someone who can take care of her? I'm sorry, but have they momentarily been transported into the 1950's? Ugh, I have no tolerance for this. Women can take care of themselves. Stop acting like they can't.

Overall, this book was okay, but definitely had me rolling my eyes at times. If you can look past the sexism, the overwhelming testosterone of the male lead, the helpless and defenseless main character, and the winking then go ahead and read this book. If not, good for you. You're awesome.

Check out the rest of my reviews on my blog [Read All Night, Sleep All Day](#)

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### **Sian says**

I thought this book was amazing. I was told to read this by my librarian at my school because she wanted to know what I thought. I LOVED it, and I can't wait for the second one to come out in November!!

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## Michelle Lucas says

I read on average a book a week as I commute in to work and it makes my train journey go faster. I am completely obsessed with certain books including the Twilight series, Harry Potters, True Blood's and I now have to add this book to my obsession list! I read First Light so quickly and I was disappointed every time I had to put the book down, and when I finished it I was very sad that I didn't have the second book to read straight away.

I give praise to the author who has created an amazing book. The characters are well established and completely come to life. I must admit that I am in love with Kalen and I think the love story between him and Ronnie is perfect! I also loved all the other characters, even the horrible ones. I know I will read this book time and time again and I can't wait to see what is in store for Kalen & Ronnie in the next book!!

If you haven't read this book, you must!

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## Stephanie Ward says

3.5 Stars

'First Light' is the first book in a young adult thriller romance series that follows the main character, Veronica "Ronnie" Rose as she deals with the death of her father and the gaping hole he left behind. Ronnie meets the mysterious Kalen Smith - a gorgeous guy that has trouble written all over him. Everyone, including Ronnie herself, tells her she should stay far away from Kalen and his friends. Only she doesn't listen - she wants to know more about him. Soon, Ronnie finds herself falling for Kalen even though she knows she shouldn't.

This is a great first book in an interesting new series. The plot isn't exactly original, but it is well written and has a fresh voice in the genre. The characters are easy to like and identify with, especially Ronnie. She's very vulnerable at the beginning of the story with her father's death and we can see her character changing and growing throughout the novel. There's plenty of action, mystery and suspense in the book, which I thought brought an original blend to the story. The romance is well done for the book - not too overwhelming or corny, but definitely sizzles. Overall, this was a well written and intriguing beginning to a new series that paranormal and fantasy fans will surely enjoy.

Disclosure: I received a copy of the book in exchange for an honest review.

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## Sam says

*First Light* is a book full of action and romance. If your looking for a gripping read with plenty of action scenes then pick up this book.

Veronica Rose is trying to cope with the loss of her father while juggling her complicated life; her father has

left her and her sister with a big debt. Ronnie is on the verge of losing everything including her much-loved childhood home, Only one person can make her feel better. Kalen Smith has just moved to town with four other boys, they keep to themselves but that doesn't stop rumors spreading. When Ronnie sees Kalen at her dad's funeral, she is determined to find out what he had to do with her dad. And she will stop at nothing to discover what Kalen's secret is.

Ronnie is one of those characters who are just too kind for their own good. I also felt like she trusted people far too quickly. When she met Kalen she did not think twice about having him in her home. What if he was a killer? But looking past that, I loved the way the characters got to know each other through out the book.

I really liked how at the end of every chapter there was a snippet from Kalen's past. The snippets gives you a better idea of what he had to live through while he was young and also a better insight into his personality.

I'm not going to lie, this book slightly reminded me, ever so slightly, of Twilight. There was the whole: "*Stay away, I'm dangerous*" and "*I'm leaving because I know you'll get hurt if I stay longer*". But, I did find the book very hard to put down and extremely interesting, Twilight comments aside. There was plenty of action and endless flirty scenes that made me laugh and smile.

Overall, I really enjoyed *First Light*; the premise and writing style kept me hooked until the very end. I'm looking forward to reading the sequel and finding out what happens next! Make sure you put this one on your TBR list for this summer.

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## **Candace says**

Samantha Summers hit a home run when writing her novel, *First Light*, the first book in her new Project Five Fifteen series. It has everything a great Young Adult Literature novel needs: romance, action, mystery, heartache, and unforgettable characters that you will quickly fall in love with. I started reading *First Light* with the expectation that it was just another YA novel, a good read but nothing extraordinary. I could not have been more wrong, I truly think that the Project Five Fifteen books could be the next \*it\* series. For this reason I have already begun telling my friends about this book and their need to read it! If Hollywood is smart, they will quickly be snatching up Project Five Fifteen to make it into the next big movie franchise.

Samantha Summers' *First Light* takes place in Clanots Ocean, an hour train ride from London. Ronnie, short for Veronica, lost her father after a long illness. In the midst of her grief at the funeral, Ronnie notices a strange teenager paying his respects to her father from a distance. Glad to have something to distract her from her crumbling life, Ronnie wonders who the boy is and how he knew her father. After running into each other more than once, Ronnie befriends the troubled Kalen and his group of dangerous friends. Ronnie quickly realizes that there is more to Kalen and his friends than meets the eye, but this doesn't stop her from falling in love with Kalen (all the while being discouraged by her sister Rachel and best friend Mae.)

Kalen shares with Ronnie that he and his friends Denver, Laith, Nash, and Ace were all plucked from US orphanages at a young age. But instead of living happily ever after with a new family, it was a secret branch of the US government that adopted them. The government raised them to be nameless assassins, sending the boys all over the world to do their dirty work. However, once Kalen found out the agency's plan to have the boys killed before they turned sixteen, he and his fellow assassins fled. Once Ronnie learns the truth about just who Kalen is, she will have to decide if their love is strong enough to hold them together through the storm that is quickly building.

I absolutely loved the relationship between Kalen and Ronnie. They definitely hold their own against other famous YA couples such as Edward and Bella (Twilight) or Rose and Dimitri (Vampire Academy.) The difference is there is no paranormal happenings in First Light. Other than Kalen and Ronnie, the other character that captured my heart was young Ace. At just fifteen years old, Ace is the most innocent and optimistic of the group. Never having experienced a true family life, Ace loves the feelings of normalcy he has when around Ronnie. Through Ronnie, Ace (and the others) are able to have home cooked meals and decorate for Christmas, things they never thought they would have.

I most definitely, without a doubt, recommend Samantha Summers' First Light to all YAL fans. You will truly fall in love with Ronnie, Kalen, and the other boys in his unit. I am now anxiously awaiting the news of when the next book in the Project Five Fifteen series is coming out. Trust me, I will be first in line to purchase As You Were. Watch out world, Project Five Fifteen is about to take over!

Samantha Summers has provided me with a complimentary copy of her book, First Light, for the purpose of review.

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### **SJH (A Dream of Books) says**

I don't review many self-published books but 'First Light', the opening book in the Project Five Fifteen series by author Samantha Summers is something special. It exceeded all my expectations with an explosive plot, fast-paced action scenes and not one but five gorgeous boys thrown into the mix.

The story centres around teenager Ronnie whose father has just died. Her older sister can just about look after herself and Ronnie is living all alone in her childhood home. Trying to get her life back together, she's haunted by an event from her past and thrown by the mysterious boy who suddenly appears in her small town.

I really, really loved this book but I have to say that there were a few typos near the beginning and I found some of the initial dialogue between the characters a little stilted. However, this didn't detract at all from my enjoyment and once the story began to kick up a notch, I was absolutely hooked and there was no looking back. Each chapter just kept getting better and better and although I'd only planned to read for a short while, I didn't move from my chair all day.

Some of my very favourite series (such as Joss Stirling's books about the Benedict boys) feature a group of brothers and while Kalen and co may not be linked by blood, they are irretrievably linked together by their past experiences. Laith is mysterious, Ace is so sweet and cute, Denver upbeat whatever the circumstances and Nash utterly dependable. Then you've got Kalen whose romance with local girl Ronnie is at the heart of the story. Believe me, you will lose your heart to these boys!

As I was reading 'First Light' I could definitely picture it as a television series. I think the story would translate so well to the small screen. I love the concept of Project Five Fifteen and I'm excited to see where Samantha Summers will take the plot next. 'As You Were', the second instalment, is out now and I'm dying to get my hands on it. If like me, you don't often read self-published books then I would strongly urge you to make an exception for this very talented author.

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## **Diana says**

I am totally in love with this series! From the first pages it became certain that I would like the characters and the story. I won the first two books of the series in a contest and I've waited for a long time to get them, after some problems with the mail, but it was worthed, especially since I've got also the author's dedication and the story is so great!

Ronnie Rose is very sad after the loss of her dad and spends a lot of time by herself. At the funeral, she sees Kalen, a boy who has a very bad reputation in the town and is decided to find out the reason he was there that day. But after every meeting she becomes more and more infatuated with him and she can't get him out of her mind, ignoring even her sister's warnings. It begins like any love story, but this one is totally different. Better.

Kalen lives with four other boys: Ace, Nash, Laith and Denver, who are also considered bad boys by the people. All they have in common is their secret past, The Project Five Fifteen, and the enemy that is constantly searching for them. I don't have enough words to say how much I adore these boys, each one for his particular character. They are so different, but in the same time so alike. While I was reading, I was constantly thinking about the kids with bar codes from Dark Angels (the series/books), who are similar in some ways.

Samantha Summers' writing is excellent and full of emotion. It contains action, drama, love, all that you would ever need in a book. The characters are perfectly portrayed and you can easily connect with them, you understand their actions and fears, you have this fierce desire to help them, to see them happy, and I am talking mostly about these five boys who had a hard childhood and who suffered a lot in their transformation into soldiers. Ronnie is a very mature girl who becomes like a sister for them and who will fight along with them to regain their freedom.

After writing this review, I really need to read the series again and to buy the last book, *Becoming*, to find out what happens next. Soon I will come back with the review for the second book, which is as good as the first one, if not better. If you haven't read it yet, you should definitely to start right now.

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## **Ellen says**

Ronnie Rose is 17 years old, and even though her sister Rachel is 9 years older than her, she has always had to be the adult in the family. Her father has just died after an extended illness. Ronnie had taken time off from school to take care of him. While at the funeral she sees a mysterious boys from around town there, staring at her from across the way. She thinks this is odd, but then when she looks back again, he is gone. When Ronnie was 14 years old, she was attacked while walking home one evening on the beach. A stranger saved her. Ever since the attack, her coping mechanism has been to daydream about him, though she never really saw his face. Ronnie finds herself in a local cafe after her father's death, doing just that. She realizes that she has forgotten her wallet and the waitress starts to make a big deal about her not paying, when once again, this mysterious boy pops up, paying her tab.

She later manages to find him, and tries to pay him back, but he's not interested in her money. She agrees to meet him the next day, and though not in either of their best interest, becomes friends, and then much more with Kalen. Kalen lives with his four other "friends," who are more like brothers to them. They all share a

secret, dark, and dangerous past, a past which can not only destroy them, but could destroy Ronnie also. The story begins to unravel about Kalen's mysterious past when he finally opens up a little and shares it with Ronnie. A series of treacherous, life-threatening events occur, and Ronnie must choose between the boy she has come to love, and what is left of her family, but can she do this before it's too late to save anyone?

I found *First Light* to be a very interesting and enjoyable read. The plot is very unique and original, which I really liked, keeping my interest from beginning to end. I enjoyed Ronnie's character. She has been through a great ordeal in her life, and has made some mistakes, but is also mature beyond her years. Kalen is mysterious, dangerous, athletic, and totally hot with the whole bad boy thing going on, as are his four friends, Ace, Nash, Denver, and Laith, who I also liked, with the exception of Laith. I enjoyed the romance between Kalen and Ronnie also. They were attracted to each other from the very beginning, but their relationship was built over time, and also involved some heart-wrenching decisions on both parts. *First Light* is also action-packed, and filled with mystery, intrigue, conspiracy, and murder. Overall, I really enjoyed this YA romance/thriller. If you are looking for a book that has a different twist, with some romance, conspiracy, and action, then you might want to check this book out.

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