

# PASSIONATE • Pursuit

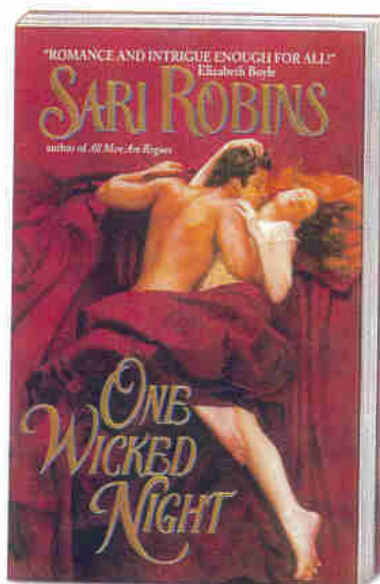
“I thought only rogues and scoundrels knew how to kiss like that,” she breathed, only half-jokingly. He gently stroked her arms with his palms, quieting her as one would a skittish colt. He moved his lips to her ear, deftly nibbling on her lobe and sending shivers racing down her spine. “All gentlemen are rogues and scoundrels, we simply dress better.”

EXCERPT FROM “ALL MEN ARE ROGUES”

**if** there's any truth in horoscopes, Sari Robins must be a Gemini. One of her twins led her to law school and legal service. The other seduced her into writing romance novels. Who knew a lawyer could have so much fun?

Tickled to be telling tales of tempestuous love and longing, the Atlanta author will be releasing her third book, “One Wicked Night” (Avon/HarperCollins) in July. A fourth is soon to follow. The smoldering response to her first two has been sensational.

“As soon as I tried it, I was hooked,” said the New York native, who left her position as a senior attorney with Delta in 2000 to be a full-time mother and writer. Now, instead of penning lackluster legal briefs in the confines of an office she's conjuring up love stories in the comforts of home.



To escape her tyrannical father's designs, Miss Lillian Kane gambles her reputation and transforms herself from insipid Miss Wallflower to Daring Sensation, drawing the opportune attention of a notable marquis in the process. But when her kindly protector is wrongly accused of murder and dragged off to Newgate Prison, suddenly Lillian needs more than a pretty face and a plan. She needs Nicholas Redford, the one man in London who wants nothing to do with her. But despite his reservations, the dashing investigator soon learns the exquisite Miss Kane is not as she appears. And it is only after one wicked night of passion that Nick realizes that of all dark places where danger lurks, the most unsuspecting is his heart...

One Wicked Night of passion can change everything.

Atlanta author Sari Robins swept up in the world of romance



SARI ROBINS

The inspiration for Ms. Robins' debut novel actually came from a dream. “Her Scandalous Intentions” follows the plight of an innocent woman who lands in the middle of an espionage mess while a tainted suitor tries to figure out her role in the fiasco. The narrative is set in England's Regency period, roughly 1811 to 1820, when high society was in full bloom. “I like women who made a mark within that time period despite all the restrictions,” she said.

The book took top honors in the Historical Category of the 2001 Royal Ascot contest sponsored by The Beau Monde Chapter of Romance Writers of America and was selected as a Best of the Best of 2002's Romance Books reviewed by the Oakland Press. It was even used as a prop on HBO's “Six Feet Under,” with one of the characters reading her book on the show.

Soon to be available in Russian and Italian editions, “Her Scandalous Intentions” also scored her a two-book contract with Avon/HarperCollins. She followed up with “All Men Are Rogues” and “One Wicked Night,” both Regency-set historical romances. Much more is in store.

“It's an amazing escape and it's a positive message,” she said of the genre. “The people in the books are challenged to become better.” And, she added, the reader is guaranteed a happy ending.

Ms. Robins' said her foray into fiction has been a learning experience. Her first book – not counting the one she wrote in the third grade about a flying genie – took nine months to deliver. It was her baby. “It went through at least seven different start-to-finish drafts while I figured out how to write a full-length novel.”

Her legal expertise as a tax lawyer and legislative lobbyist steered her through the business of publishing. Once she signed on with Avon/HarperCollins, she reworked the “Scandalous” manuscript yet again to make some changes requested by the editor. “I've learned a lot since going through that process,” she said, adding that her second book proceeded much more quickly.

Ms. Robins' new calling doesn't come entirely as a surprise. “I've always loved to write, whether it was a legal brief, legal articles or stories. It's just something I enjoyed doing but was usually too busy with school or my legal career to have enough time to do an extensive extracurricular project,” she said. “I love this new facet of my life and look forward to a long and productive writing career.”

She's certainly brimming with ideas – if only her fingers could type that fast. And she's still just a tad time-challenged. “Although writing edits in carpool line can be challenging,” she says, “it has been done.” ■