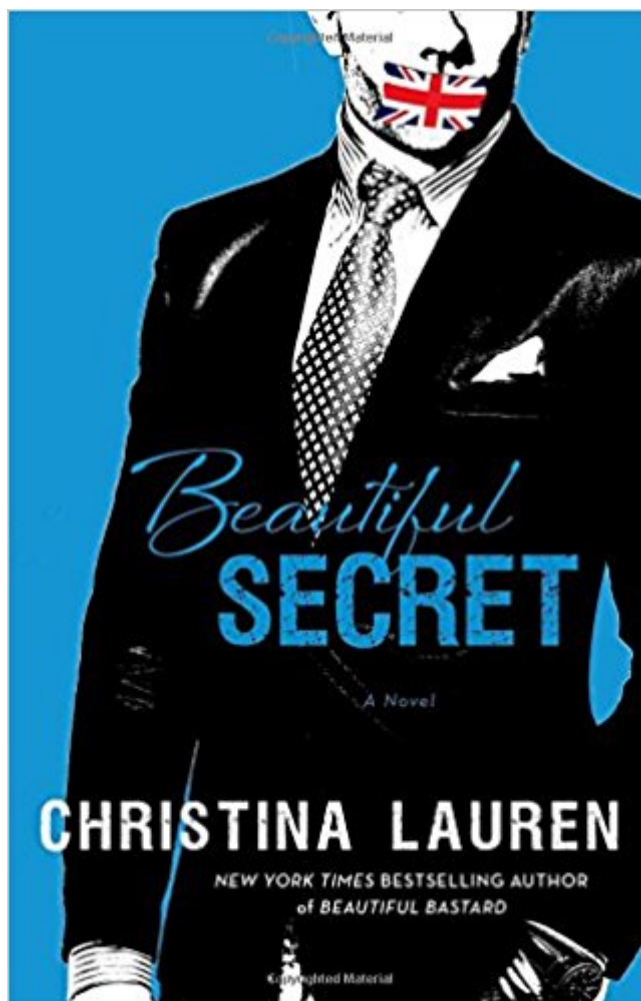


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# Beautiful Secret (The Beautiful Series)



## Synopsis

AN UPTIGHT BRITISH EXECUTIVE. AN ADVENTUROUS AMERICAN NEWBIE. A SEXY INTERNATIONAL SCANDAL IN THE MAKING. New York Times and #1 internationally bestselling author Christina Lauren's Beautiful and Wild Seasons series hook up in Beautiful Secret for an erotic intercontinental romp that celebrates the best of both worlds! When Ruby Miller's boss announces he's sending her on an extended business trip to New York City, she's shocked. As one of the best and brightest young engineers in London, she knows she's professionally up to the task. The part that's throwing her is where she'll be spending a month up close and personal working alongside—and staying in a hotel with—Niall Stella, her firm's top urban planning executive and The Hottest Man Alive. Despite her ongoing crush, Ruby is certain Niall barely knows she's alive—until their flirty overnight flight makes him sit up and take notice. Not one for letting loose and breaking rules, recently divorced Niall would describe himself as hopeless when it comes to women. But even he knows outgoing California-girl Ruby is a breath of fresh air. Once she makes it her mission to help the sexy Brit loosen his tie, there's no turning back. Thousands of miles from London, it's easy for the lovers to play pretend. But when the trip is over, will the relationship they've built up fall down?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Mmmm delicious awkward, nervous hero. Part of the reason I really enjoyed this book is that

it's absolutely laden with UST. A lot of time in New Adult the sex happens so fast that a lot of the tension fizzles out. Beautiful Secret does a remarkable job of keeping the sexual content heavy (all Lauren's books are pretty damn hot) while keeping the tension high. (Smart Bitches, Trashy Books on Beautiful Secret) "The thing that I love the most about Christina Lauren and the duo's Beautiful books is that there is always humor in them. As well as hot steamy moments and some of the sweetest I love you's."

(BooksSheReads.com)"The perfect blend of sex, sass and heart, Beautiful Bastard is a steamy battle of wills that will get your blood pumping!" (S.C. Stephens, bestselling author of Thoughtless) "Filled with plenty of hot sex and sizzling tension." (RT Book Reviews) "deliciously steamy" (EW.com) "Smart, sexy, and satisfying...destined to become a romance classic." (Tara Sue Me, bestselling author of The Submissive,) "A devilishly depraved cross between a hardcore porn and a very special episode of The Office|For us fetish-friendly fiends to feast on!" (PerezHilton.com) "Hot . . . if you like your hook-ups early and plentiful..." (EW.com) "Beautiful Bastard has heart, heat, and a healthy dose of snark. Romance readers who love a smart plot are in for an amazingly sexy treat!" (Myra McEntire, author of Hourglass)"Beautiful Bastard is the perfect mix of passionate romance and naughty eroticism. I couldn't, and didn't, put it down until I'd read every last word." (Elena Raines, Twilightish)

Christina Lauren is the combined pen name of longtime writing partners/besties/soulmates and brain-twins Christina Hobbs and Lauren Billings, the New York Times, USA TODAY, and #1 international bestselling authors of the Beautiful and Wild Seasons series, Sublime, The House, and Autoboynography. You can find them online at ChristinaLaurenBooks.com, Facebook.com/ChristinaLaurenBooks, or @ChristinaLauren on Twitter.

"It's yours, you know." "What is?" "My heart, of course, but also my body. My hands, my lips, my c\*\*k. I trust you with all of it more than I even trust myself." "My mind is still reeling because this book was my complete and utter undoing. I am writing this review while literally still hugging my now beloved paperback copy, secretly hoping that the beautiful words in it would somehow escape and infuse themselves into me forever. With one of the most phenomenal writing styles of our generation and flawless, iron-clad character development, this talented writing duo has

given us once again an unforgettable, emotionally engaging storyline to become addicted to, this time with two incredibly intricate characters and a perfectly paced, meticulously crafted relationship that is never rushed, never even hurried, and solely driven forward by the characters' emotional growth and self-awareness. I gobbled up every word, immersing myself into a story that had my attention from the get-go, and I fear I will never be able to fully express how much I truly adored this book.

"I'd been wrestling with my Niall Stella crush for six months, and I was pretty sure he still didn't know that I was an employee at the firm rather than a regular takeout delivery girl.

Ruby Miller is a twenty-three-year-old American intern at one of the largest and most successful engineering firms in Europe, now living in London. Attractive, smart, witty

Ruby's open and honest personality shines through her every action, but is regularly stilted by her ongoing and downright distracting infatuation with her office crush

the very handsome but unreachable, Niall Stella. Fully aware that the object of her affections might not even be aware of her existence, she is happy to appreciate him from afar, relishing every moment spent in his presence, every stolen glimpse of the man who feeds her most intimate fantasies, but still secretly hoping that one day he'd notice her.

"What was it you said about repressed sexual energy?"

"Enough to power the whole bloody city, if you ask me. That's where his real urban planning skill would come in

hooking himself up to the grid.

Niall Stella is distinguished, reserved, his every step measured and poised, but behind that firm facade lies a man who is stuck in a rut of self-imposed boundaries and expectations, a man who struggles daily with regret and self-deprecation, his failed marriage having left a deep emotional scar that makes him question whether he could ever make a woman truly happy. His old-fashioned view on relationships and love in general is shaken from the moment Ruby enters his life, her vivacious and unrestrained personality, coupled with the kind of openness and honesty that is foreign to him, drawing him out of his shell and forcing him to push his own limits.

"Do you think I'm weird?"

"Yes, weird in the sense that you are unexpected and I am rarely surprised by people. I think you rather exquisite.

When they find themselves together on a month-long business trip to New York City working alongside each other every single day, they quickly discover that their greatest difference lies in the way they perceive relationships and the way they each process the growing emotions they feel for one another. An extrovert by nature, Ruby's honest and communicative disposition shake the very foundations

of Niall's introverted, quiet reserve, making him feel adventurous, interesting, fun for once. Sides of himself he never got to see during his decade-long marriage to a woman he barely knew. Everything he feels for Ruby is new to him, part of the uncharted territory of his inexpressive personality, thus forcing them to commence a carefully paced, open and honest exploration of what a sexual relationship between two such opposites might entail. And what it would take to overcome all the emotional hurdles standing in their way.

"If I wanted to make love to her tonight, I could. If I wanted to feel myself deep in her throat, I could. If I wanted limits, I would need to be the one to set them. But did I truly want limits, or did I think I should want them?"

What starts as a sexy, rather flirty storyline, quickly morphs into an even sexier but deeply emotional romance that is truly remarkable in its approach to the way these characters learn to discover one another, and themselves in the process. We hear both their voices throughout the story, that precious insight into both of these characters making us appreciate their deepest fears and hang-ups a lot more intimately. I laughed, I cried, I felt my body burn from the sheer sexiness of too many scenes in this book to count, never knowing a guy merely touching a woman's calf could make me literally combust in my own skin like that. And I felt every single emotion these extraordinary authors had expertly woven into this story. Their signature climax in the end carries that sweet punch of angst that we've become helplessly addicted to, perhaps even pricklier this time around as it left me a sobbing mess in its wake, only standing to show that there is no emotion these authors are unable to stir in their readers. A beautiful read, an astonishing love story, a couple whose journey I understood and felt from beginning to end.

this is a book I would recommend with all my heart.

"And what if after the rush of conquest wears off, you realize that I'm not what you've built me up to be?"

I'm new to this author and I was highly skeptical. But boy I have ZERO regrets. I feel like I've ventured and found a whole new level of my favorite genre while reading this series. I feel like I've never read such intense and passionate relationships in my life. I started off this series all out of order but that hadn't been an issue at all. I started off with Will & Hannah's story first and I thought this my favorite of the series without a doubt. Making me hesitant to read the others because I couldn't possibly like them as good too. I was wrong. Very, very wrong. I read the first book in the series and I liked that one but when I got to Max and Sara's story, I thought this is it. This has got to be my favorite book. I had never read anything like it. I was charmed but Niall's appearance in that

book so I thought to give this book a try and I have to say I am totally in love. I loved EVERYTHING about this book. I have to admit I fell in love with the hero as soon as I read he was reserved. It touched on my fondness for shy guys, like my significant other. Shy, reserved guys don't usually make an appearance in Novels, especially not as the hero and usually come across more creepy than endearing. Not the case with NiallStella. His name is all one word because apparently that's how the heroine saw it. The constant use of his first and last name were a tiny bit annoying by the end and I thought the amount of time Ruby stayed away was a bit much by the end but that's me just trying to find something to complain about because honestly this book is amazing. The hero was great but the heroine Ruby was amazing as well and that's quickly becoming one of my favorite things about this author. The heroines in all the books I've read on this series so far ALL are intelligent successfully kick ass women who aren't weakened or made to choose between their love and careers or accomplishments. Women in the romance genre can be many times be turned into the damsel in distress being saved by the hero. And that's all good and we'll sometime you need saving and sometimes you need to be the one to do the saving but it bothers me when a love story overpowers a heroine. When there needs to be a choice between work and love for example. The topic comes up in some of the books in this series and it did in this in one too, but the way it is overcome and written was beautifully done and is exactly how it should be. More than anything I loved that. I could go on raving about this book forever so let me close with this. It was captivating (I couldn't put it down like all of the books from the series) , intense, sweet, and PASSIONATE. Man this author know how to write passion. GO ON AND READ IT!

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