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About the Author

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Zetta Brown is a Texas girl now living in Scotland. She holds a B.A. in English/Creative Writing from Southern Methodist University and is the author of several short stories. She has had the honor of obtaining a residency at The Writers' Colony in Dairy Hollow in 2002 as well as attending the Hurston-Wright Foundation's Writers Week. In 1998 she was the regional first-place winner for The National Society of Arts & Letters (NSAL) Award for Short Fiction for her story "Black Water." Her work has been published in literary journals produced by Tarrant County College, Mary Hardin-Baylor University, and Southern Methodist University.

Zetta's experience in community theatre as a sound technician and sound designer led her to be nominated for Best Sound Design by the Denver Drama Critics Circle in 1998. In 1999 and 2000, her short stories were adapted for performance for *Letters Live!* at the Craft of Writing conference in Denton, Texas.

With over a decade of freelance editing experience, Zetta is editor-in-chief for LL-Publications, which she runs together with her husband, author and publisher, Jim Brown. Her first novel, *Messalina - Devourer of Men* is an erotic romance set in Denver, Colorado where she lived for seventeen years. It was released on June 10th 2008 and has received several excellent reviews. Her second novel, *Malice*, is currently underway as well as a new novella, *Off the Chain* for the BadAzz Author's LMAO Series.

But Zetta is more than a dirty mind. She also writes other genre and literary fiction.

Mini Biography

Zetta Brown's debut erotic romance, *Messalina - Devourer of Men*, has received excellent reviews from The Original ChickLitGurrl, Coffee Time Romance, and Erotica Revealed. A native Texan, Zetta now lives in Scotland with her husband, Jim Brown. Together, they own and operate LL-Publications/Logical-Lust Publications where Zetta serves as editor-in-chief.

Mid-Length Bio

Zetta Brown's debut erotic romance, *Messalina - Devourer of Men*, has received excellent reviews from The Original ChickLitGurrl, Coffee Time Romance, and Erotica Revealed. She holds a B.A. in English/Creative Writing from Southern Methodist University and is the author of several short stories. In 1998 she was the regional first-place winner for The National Society of Arts & Letters (NSAL) Award for Short Fiction. Her work has been published in literary journals produced by Tarrant County College in Hurst, Texas, Mary Hardin-Baylor University in Belton, Texas, and Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. In 1999 and 2000, her stories were adapted for performance at the Craft of Writing conference in Denton, Texas. She has had the honor of obtaining a residency at The Writers' Colony in Dairy Hollow in 2002 as well as attending the Hurston-Wright Foundation's Writers Week in 1998. A native Texan, she now lives in Scotland with her husband, author and publisher, Jim Brown.

Editor Bio

Zetta Brown is editor-in-chief for LL-Publications and was the editor of the 2009 EPPIE Winner for Best Horror Novel, PIT-STOP, by Ben Larken. She holds a B.A. in English/Creative Writing from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas and is the author of MESSALINA – DEVOURER OF MEN and several short stories. In 1998 her short story, "Black Water," was a regional first-place winner for The National Society of Arts & Letters (NSAL) Award for Short Fiction.

Zetta Brown

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Novel and Story Synopses

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Novel



Messalina – Devourer of Men

ISBN 9781905091119 Logical-Lust Publishing

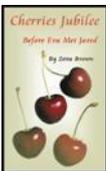


Eva Cavell is a woman with an embarrassing secret. She is sexually frustrated and believes her size and race intimidates men. In an attempt to relieve her sexual tension, every Thursday she goes to a local movie theater and allows strangers to fondle her in the dark. During one of her escapades she meets renowned artist, Jared Delaney, a smooth Southern gentleman with irresistible violet eyes. He has been watching Eva on her weekly visits and sees through her icy defence straight to the hot passion burning underneath. But Eva has an image to uphold as a tenure-track instructor at a private Denver college and as the youngest child of a prominent black family. Will she ever be able to live her life how she wants and without shame? In order to do so, she has to own up to her own choices in life. <http://www.logical-lust.com/messalina.html>

Malice (work in progress)

What would you do if you were not only implicated in a murder, but find out that murderous intent runs in your family?

Short Stories



“Cherries Jubilee – Before Eva Met Jared”

ISBN 9781905091393 Logical-Lust Publishing

Top Ten Finisher



Predators & Editors
Readers Poll 2009

Before she was a sex goddess, Eva Cavell was a virgin. In "Cherries Jubilee" a young, and innocent, Eva Cavell comes to terms with the challenges of reaching womanhood and independence. When her first job results in demotion and humiliation, Eva finds comfort in the arms of handsome blond, Casey Weller . . . comfort and revenge. <http://www.logical-lust.com/cherriesjubilee.html>



“Devil Don't Want Her”

ISBN 9781905091409 LL-Publications

Top Ten Finisher



Predators & Editors
Readers Poll 2009

How do you get rid of a body that won't stay buried? A young, spiritually righteous woman, Faith Darling, woman must face the fact that you cannot escape from your family and the truth. When Faith's notorious great-grandmother, Miss Sunny Vincent, dies, Faith, as the only surviving relative, must arrange the funeral. However, Miss Sunny Vincent's remains are hard to dispose of because God won't have her and the Devil don't want her. <http://www.ll-publications.com/devil.html>

Reviews

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Praise for Messalina – Devourer of Men

"I absolutely loved this book! Didn't want to put it down. It's unique, it has hot sex (with a purpose), and the characters are like some I've never seen in books before."

Shon Bacon, The Original ChickLitGurrl

"I give this book a GUSHING KITTY KAT rating the sex scene in this makes you wonder what the author and her husband do!!!"

Mocha's Erotic Reviews

"All that I'm going to say is, if you get a kick out of passionate character interplay, breath-taking realism and well-written prose, then you should find Messalina, Devourer of Men to be a hugely entertaining and enjoyable read."

Ashley Lister, reviewer for Erotica Revealed

"This erotica novel is what other books should strive to be."

Danielle, reviewer for Coffee Time Romance Reviews

Praise for "Devil Don't Want Her"

"I SO enjoyed reading this story - Zetta has a great style, voice, and she quickly will bring you into the characters and story. Need a quickie treat during lunch break? Been working all day and need a little quick escape?...Order your copy of "Devil Don't Want Her" today!"

Shon Bacon, The Original ChickLitGurrl

Praise for "Cherries Jubilee"

4 cups – "This is a sizzling tale sure to keep you reading."

Danielle, reviewer for Coffee Time Romance Reviews

Articles

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Publishing and Professional Courtesy

May 2010

AWH Magazine, Issue 5 - <http://www.calameo.com/read/0001490145c7897328a5d>

“Y’alright there, mate?” Writing in Foreign Character

March 2010

The Modern Reader

Act Your Age – Why the age of your character is important

March 2010

Writers in the Sky Magazine <http://www.writersinthesky.com/ezine/news-mar10.html>

Cover Whitewashing – Racism in Book Covers

January 26, 2010

LL-Publications Blog (<http://bit.ly/a63GhQ>)

If you can get a job, you can get published.

November 2009

Nite Owl Reviews Romance Blog

<http://nightowlromanceblog.blogspot.com/2009/11/if-you-can-get-job-you-can-get.html>

Settling vs. Compromising in Relationships – How Do You Choose?

September 2008

How to Love a Black Woman Blog (<http://bit.ly/niey8>)

Sex and Writing

September 2008

All the Blog’s a Page (<http://chicklitgurrl.org/2008/09/05/zetta-brown/>)

Love is Stranger than Fiction: Tales of a Sistah in Scotland

August 2008

Romance Slam Jam August Newsletter

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Interviews

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AALBC – African American Literary Book Club

February 2010

http://aalbc.com/authors/zetta_brown.html

Coffee Time Romance

February 2010

<http://www.coffeetimeromance.com/Interviews/ZettaBrown.html>

Romance Junkies

January 2010

http://romancejunkiesreviews.com/artman/publish/interviewarticles/Zetta_Brown.shtml

Love Romances & More

January 2010

<http://loveromancesandmore.blogspot.com/2010/01/welcome-to-zetta-browns-guest-blog.html>

Mocha's Erotic Reviews

July 2008

<http://bit.ly/FqcJz>

Wednesdays and Fridays Blog

November 2008

<http://bit.ly/VIQaT>

Interracial Romance eBooks

July 2009

<http://www.interracialebooks.com/?p=203>

Sample Interview – June 2008 (Reprinted with permission from AuthorIsland.com)

Thanks for stopping by Zetta, it's so good to have you on the Island!

Thanks, DeNita, for having me here. I've found a lot of books and authors that I'm interested in reading because of your site.

What is *Messalina - Devourer of Men* about?

It's about a woman trying to accept herself for what she is: a big, beautiful, *sexual*, black woman. Eva Cavell has allowed others to direct her life and shape her image, forcing her to rebel by way of her sex life.

What prompted you to create such a character?

Frankly, I was tired of plus-sized women, in general, always being used for comic relief in the media. I wanted to write a story where the main character was a big girl, black, and more desirable to others than she realized.

Are you speaking from experience?

Ha! Ha! I talk a little about this subject on my [blog](#). I've had some interesting encounters that I could write a book [grin]. Yes, I do draw from experience, but how much? I think rather than my telling you what's fact and what's fiction, I'll let you decide for yourself. You tell me. In fact, that could be the basis for a contest!

Your characters have some intriguing interests.

Every writer, at one point or another, is advised to write what they know. I was able to incorporate several of my interests in *Messalina*: sex, music, art—and comic books!

Where do you get your influences for your writing?

Music. I love music. Many of the chapter titles in the book are titles of songs. I've even created a "soundtrack" in the back of the book that lists the many songs referred to in the story.

Do you spend a lot of time reading? What do you like to read?

Yes. Apart from writing, I'm also editor for LL-Publications. If I'm not evaluating submissions, I'm editing the work of our authors. I enjoy genre fiction so that's what I try to read. I like to read two books at a time and I take a book or two with me if I'm travelling. But even so, I don't get to read strictly for pleasure as much as I would like.

Sounds like you keep pretty busy. How do you find time to write?

There aren't enough hours in the day! I wish I could say that I'm one of those dedicated authors who set aside so many hours a day or write so many pages per day or week, but I don't. It's sad, but I'm still a wage slave. *Messalina* started as a short story back in 1993, but I kept thinking that the characters had more to say so I decided to write a novel. I've been working on it in small stretches right up to publication.

Did the amount of time writing *Messalina* help or hurt you?

I don't recommend taking so long to write a novel. It can cause more work and something that may have been cutting edge when you started may be dull as dishwater by the time you finish. For example, when I started writing this book, I couldn't find black female protagonists with whom I could associate, let alone in erotic fiction. Now you have Zane, Eric Jerome Dickey, and others. Also, I had to rewrite scenes to accommodate history. When I started the novel, the terrorists hadn't attacked New York, but by the time I completed my first draft, I had to rewrite the airport scene to allow for changes in security rules. On a smaller point, I had to rewrite a restaurant scene to reflect recent changes in Dallas city ordinances about smoking in public. The fact that it took so long to complete is frustrating, but I try not to look at it as time wasted, especially now it's published. My next novel won't take nearly as long. In fact, I'm hoping for a release next spring.

What advice would you give to new authors?

Well, my advice isn't just for new authors. It can be used by anyone. First, never think you're too smart to learn something else. Second, always stay determined. My father raised me to always have a dream and don't let anyone take it away. It may take you a lifetime to realize it, and your friends and family may not show their enthusiastic interest and support. In the end, don't let anything keep you from your goal.

Anything else you'd like to say?

Yes! I'd love to hear back from people, so email me at [zetta \(at\) zettabrown.com](mailto:zetta@zettabrown.com) and/or visit my [blog](#) and leave a comment. I love to rant *and* rave about stuff!

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What can Zetta Brown do for you?

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Author & Editor

Sometimes I feel like a spy behind enemy lines—an author in editor territory. But the relationship between author and editor shouldn't be antagonistic, us vs. *them*. Editing has helped me to be a better author and vice versa. I like to share what insight I have as a published author with those who wish to be published or those who want to learn more about the craft of writing and how to get published. Here are some suggested ideas:

- Create characters—not caricatures. How to give your characters more depth.
- How to approach editors with your submission.
- The Voices in Your Head and How to Make Them Obey You.
- Setting the Scene: How to write fulfilling scenes—not filler.
- Developing Your Writing Style

Small Publishing/e-Publishing

The “big boys” in the publishing industry is finally embracing what small, independent, and electronic publishers already know: the “traditional” way of publishing is out of date. Digital publishing, from print-on-demand to ebooks, provide a more cost efficient, eco-friendly alternative.

- Prejudice “of America” – Many author organizations with “of America” in their name have a strong bias against small publishers and electronic publishers. How does this effect new and established authors?
- eBooks or Print? Which one is right for you?
- Do You Need a Literary Agent?

The Patriotic “Expatriot”

Absence makes the heart grow fonder. I may be living in Scotland and qualify for British citizenship, but I'm still—and always will be—an American (or Texan if you want to be specific), for better or for worse. As a black woman living in the UK, I now have personal experience of Ugly American *and* Ugly Brit syndrome when it comes to travel!

Topics I can discuss include:

- “British health care – Should the US copy their system?”
The US health care system is a mess with millions of people unable to afford to see a doctor for a minor complaint. The National Health System (NHS) in Britain is free for citizens, residents, and visitors. I should know because I suffered a life-threatening illness during my first few months in Scotland and was treated—for free. But is free health care for all the answer?
- Crime and Punishment – Dostoyevsky doesn't live here.
The UK and the European Union are often at loggerheads in this area, but many times, the punishment simply does not fit the crime.
- The “United” Kingdom – The Scots Will Rise Again!
Apparently Texans and Scots have more in common than I thought. There are those who want to break away from the union. What do I think? The answer may surprise you.
- English Like You've Never Heard it Before
It took me six months to understand what a Scot was saying to me without looking like an idiot. And after four years, sometimes I still fake it.

Food, shopping, customer service, men in kilts, where to find a stylist to do my hair—the scenery!—the list of issues goes on. Got a question? Ask!

Zetta Brown

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Book Reviews and Introductions

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I love leaving comments about books I've read. My taste in books is varied so if you have a book needing a review, please feel free to contact me. I'm also available to write introductions and forewords.

I am currently a reviewer for The New York Journal of Books (<http://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/>).

I am **very** interested in reviewing books by small/independent presses and books featuring and/or written by people of color. I would like to read more books written by Southern (US) writers.

I prefer to read literary and genre fiction including: mystery/suspense, thriller, erotica, erotic romance, paranormal, historical, historical romance.

I'm not interested in reading about vampires unless it involves new and exciting ways of destroying them.

I will read books with GLBT and interracial/multicultural(IR/MC) themes.

I will read non-fiction depending on the subject including biographies, autobiographies, cookbooks, travel, and how-to books.

I will review ebooks. I do own a Sony Reader, but I should warn that I hold ebooks to the same standard as print books with regard to content and presentation. I expect ebooks to be properly formatted for their software format, including PDFs. Poorly formatted and/or presented ebooks will reflect in the review.

There is a lot of power in book review and it is best to use that power wisely. Speaking as a published author, there is nothing to be gained by trashing a fellow author's work so I will not resort to "snark" as I prefer to treat my book reviews as professionally as my other writing. If I cannot give you a good review, I will tell you why—if you want to know.

I may post reviews at my blog, The Full-Bodied (Book) Blog (<http://fullbodiedbooks.blogspot.com>) if they fall into the scope of the blog. I may also post reviews at GoodReads.com (<http://www.goodreads.com/zetta>)

Book Cover Images

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If you need to download images, take your pick.

Messalina – Devourer of Men cover

[Messalina – 88 x 132](#)

[Messalina – 100 x 150](#)

[Messalina – 200 x 300](#)

[Messalina – 201 x 307](#)

“Cherries Jubilee – Before Eva Met Jared” cover

[Cherries jpeg – 83 x132](#)

[Cherries jpeg – 94 x150](#)

[Cherries jpeg – 188 x 300](#)

[Cherries jpeg – 345 x 549](#)

[Cherries jpeg – 375 x 579 \(shadow\)](#)

“Devil Don’t Want Her” cover

[Devil Don’t jpeg – 100 x 150](#)

[Devil Don’t jpeg – 200 x 300](#)

[Devil Don’t jpeg – 453 x 680](#)

[Devil Don’t jpeg – 534 x 801](#)