

A close-up portrait of a woman with dark, wavy hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a white lace top and small pink flower-shaped earrings. The background is a soft-focus green outdoor setting. The word 'Interview' is written in a large, white, cursive font across the lower right portion of the image.

Interview

Jodi Ellen Malpas

LIBROS DE
Romántica

Interview

Jodi Ellen Malpas is the author of the 'This man' trilogy, books that came strongly were very popular in the Spanish romantic literary market.

Before we start the interview I want to thank Laura Díaz from the Department of Communication of Grupo Planeta who has made this interview possible and for having me in mind for it.

Jodi wellcome to Libros de Romántica, it's a honor for me to have you here.

1. You say, in your website, that the story about Jesse Ward was: 'A lingering idea that I just couldn't ignore'. How was the process to create 'Jesse Ward'? Did you always know that Jesse would be a strong and complicated character?

Jesse developed over the course of around 18 months before I braved writing his story. He was always a very complicated character. He's a man who shows passion in everything he does, and I know he drives readers crazy with his unreasonable way – even the readers who love him instantly!

2. Jesse is arrogant, bossy, authoritarian, and a large ego nevertheless many readers fell in love with him. What would you say to those readers who hate the behavior of Jesse, those who believe that he mistreats Ava?

I always knew that I was walking a fine line with his behavior. But it didn't really matter because I never intended for anyone to read about him! Of course, I loved him instantly, but I knew his history, what makes him tick and how he feels. My readers have to get to know him during the telling of the story, and I hope by the end of This Man Confessed, they will both love him and understand him. In fact, I hope that happens in part at the end of This Man, but I understand that some people will take more time and explanation.

3. Ava is the opposite of Jesse, no resistance at anything that Jesse tells her, some readers believe that what she has low self-esteem. From my point of view, and Ava recognizes too, when Jesse is around her, She stop thinking. Could you please say to us why have you created Ava so? Is she the perfect pair of Jesse?

Ava is a normal girl about town. She's strong-minded and independent. Her only weakness is Jesse. He blindsides her with his intensity and passion and has her relenting on things that she knows are unreasonable, but because of her feelings for him, lets go of. As the story develops, you see Ava learn to deal with Jesse and his unreasonable ways.

4. In 'BENEATH THIS MAN', the story becomes much more intense, and the end is more quiet. 'THIS MAN CONFESSED' will be published in Spain about the 23rd of this month. What will we find in the third book, will we have more surprises or problems between this couple? Will be it as intense as the second one? Will we know more about the past of Jesse?

I loved This Man, I adored Beneath This Man, but This Man Confessed, for me, is utterly perfect. The intensity continues – it's a given with Jesse and Ava, but this is the part of their story that This Man and Beneath have been building up to. I can't wait for my Spanish readers to get the final instalment. Many things will fall into place and I hope those who haven't taken to Jesse will do by the end of Confessed, and those who already love Jesse will fall for him even more.

5. In this third book, will Jesse be less controlling? Will Ava be less submissive?

Haha! Jesse will always be controlling, but you definitely see an understanding develop between them.

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6. Is 'THIS MAN CONFESSED' the last book or the story will not be closed with it?

So many readers want more Jesse and Ava! I'm not sure myself. But I never say never.

7. Have you ever imagined that the trilogy would be as successful and published in Spanish? Has it been published in other languages?

I couldn't have dreamed it would be so successful. It's amazing, but a little overwhelming! 2014 will see the trilogy translated into 16 foreign languages. Very exciting!

8. On February 8th, 2014 you will attend the "Encuentro RA" in Madrid. How do you feel knowing that you will find many fans of your books? Will you do a book signing elsewhere, if so, could you tell us where?

I can't wait to visit Madrid. I've been to many places in Spain, but never Madrid. Yes, I will be signing books, and I'm so looking forward to meeting some of my Spanish readers. I haven't had my full schedule just yet, so I'm unsure whether I'll be signing elsewhere.

9. Are you writing another book? If so, can you tell us something about it?

Of course! I can't divulge much right now as I'm waiting for news on how we're going to proceed with my new story, but I can say it's another trilogy and another crazy passionate love story! I can't wait to share it with my readers.

Jodi, it was a pleasure having you here, thank you for giving me this interview.

Thank you!

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