



M.J. Summers

Bestselling Romance Author

# Who is MJ?

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MJ Summers made a name for herself with her debut novel, *Break in Two*, a contemporary romance. The highly acclaimed novel has received over 1900 reviews on Amazon.com maintaining a 4.4 Star rating. Released on November 6, 2013, the novel climbed to the number 2 position in the Top 100 Paid Kindle Store in Canada within three weeks. It sat at number 1 in Western Romance on Amazon in Canada, the UK, as well as the USA for several weeks. In January, it sold a book per minute for a one week period and climbed to the number 43 spot on Amazon.com in the Top Paid Kindle Category.

She is now working with super-agent, Suzanne Brandreth, of the Cooke Agency, who has sold the English language rights for MJ's four-book Full Hearts Series to Piatkus Entice (a division of Hachette UK) for the UK, Australia and New Zealand as well as to HarperCollins Canada in a six-figure deal. Translation deals are the next horizon.

Her novella, *Don't Let Go*, a prequel to *Break in Two*, was released in July, hitting the Top 100 in Western Romance as well as the Top 100 in Kindle Short Reads within the first twelve hours of sales.

Her highly anticipated follow-up novel, *Breaking Love*, will be released in e-book format on October 28, 2014 and in print in Canada, the UK, Australia and New Zealand on December 2, 2014.

MJ Summers currently resides in Canada, not far from the Rocky Mountains, with her husband, three young children and their goofy dog. When she's not writing romance novels, she loves reading (obviously), snuggling up on the couch with her family for movie night (which would not be complete without lots of popcorn and milkshakes), hiking, Zumba and yoga (to make up for the milkshakes), swimming and camping (with lots of gooey s'mores and hard ciders). She also loves shutting down restaurants once a month with her girlfriends. Well, not literally shutting them down, like calling the health inspector or something. More like just staying until they shut the lights off.

MJ is a member of the Romance Writers of America, as well as the International Women's Writing Guild.

# Contact Details

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## Social Media:



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## Agents Details

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## Publishers Details

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# Sample Interview Questions

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## **What originally drew you towards writing a book?**

I read my first really steamy contemporary romance novel in April 2013 and loved it! A few days later, my husband went on a business trip and I was looking for something to do in the evenings. I decided to try writing a romance. I wanted to create my own fantasy world and just get lost for a while. I set out to write something I would love to read. I was surprised to find that the characters and the story just flowed out of me as quickly as I could type.

## **How do you approach the concept of writing a book?**

Generally speaking, romance novels are character-driven. I start with one of the two main characters and develop their personality and backstory, then create his/her not-so-perfect, perfect match. The deepest desires and fears of the characters create the plot. I think of situations that would really bring out the worst in them, then I put them through those situations until they finally are able to risk it all and let go of their fears so they can get to their happily ever after.

## **What inspires you?**

I'm inspired by life as it is in all its beauty and ugliness. I'm inspired by the relationships that I see and am part of, as well as seeing people at their highest and lowest moments. I love to think about the whys of what people do and the why nots. What's underneath it all? What makes us strong, what makes us feel weak? How do people pick themselves up, dust themselves off and keep going when life knocks them on their ass.

## **Can you tell me what your new book is about in ten words?**

*Breaking Love*, is a sweet, sexy romance. It's about finding home.

## **What was the hardest part of writing this book?**

I would say the hardest part of writing *Breaking Love* was to not get caught up in worrying about the "sophomore curse" (to borrow a phrase from the music industry). I would start worrying that people who loved *Break in Two* may not love this as much because the lead characters, Megan and Luc, are so different from Cole and Claire. I also worried that it wouldn't be as good of a story, but after having my editors, agent, beta readers and friends read it, they all agree it's as good or better, so that's been a huge relief.

**What is the biggest thing that people THINK they know about your subject/genre that isn't so?**

I think the biggest misconception about the romance genre is that it's all fluff and there is no substance to the stories. There are so many beautifully-written love stories out there—stories that will make you think, make you laugh and make you cry. They will stay with you for days. It's so much more than heroes with rock-hard abs. But the heroes generally do have rock-hard abs.

**Are you a full-time or part-time writer? How does that affect your writing?**

I call myself an "any-time, no-time" writer. I write at any moment I have free, and a lot of days it seems like there is simply no time. I work around my kids' schedules, which means squeezing in writing sessions around their activities, sick days and school holidays. The pace around here can be a little bit intense, to say the least.

**What are some day jobs that you have held? If any of them impacted your writing, share an example.**

I worked as a mediator and taught communication skills at a large government organization. Mediating has definitely influenced my writing because I know how to dig to get the deeper values, fears and hopes that characters have. I also have witnessed a whole lot of big fights, which helps me in writing those arguments as well. I know how people talk when they are angry and what assumptions they will make. I think it helps me to create more realistic characters – they are far from perfect, but their struggles seem real (I hope).

**What makes your book stand out from the crowd?**

Toot my own horn time. Cringe. I would say I write books with characters that the average person can relate to and cheer for. They are a little older, they don't have perfect bodies, the men aren't multi-billionaires. They are people you could meet and be friends with. I give insight into the thoughts and feelings of both the hero and heroine, which I believe gives a richer experience. I like to think the dialog is on the witty side and the sex is rather detailed. I don't leave anything out.

**How do you find or make time to write?**

I make time to write by sitting down with my computer even if I only have ten minutes to spare. I write in the evenings after our children are in bed and during the day while they are at school. It can be a struggle, but it's something I love so much and want to do for the rest of my life, so making time for it is never a chore. It's a luxury.

**Do you write more by logic or intuition, or some combination of the two? Summarize your writing process.**

I would say it's a combination of the two. When the stories start flowing, I feel as though I am simply typing out a movie that is playing on a screen in my mind. The logic comes in the planning before I sit down to write as well as in the editing. I've written three novels and one novella in a year and a half, my writing process is still so new that it is hard to define. But I hope I'm learning fast.

# Highlighted reviews

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“5.0 out of 5 stars “The best book you will read all year!”

“I have read a lot of books, and a lot of westerns, yet never have a read a book that encapsulates so many different emotions as Break in Two. There are moments that will have your blood boiling in frustration and yet tender exchanges that will melt your heart and bring you close to tears. A wonderful story that twists and turns and never lets up for a second, ever page is a new experience, and I reached the end before I knew it. I would be remiss if I wrote a review and didn't mention the erotic nature of the novel. Hot is not the word for it. Scenes written with a passion that is echoed in the characters. A powerful story written by a writer I have followed online religiously in the build up to this release, and who I am certain will go from strength to strength. Setting the bar high with her debut novel, MJ Summers has all of the skills necessary to cement her name at the top of the ladder.”

“The Romance that Guys will Enjoy!”

“M.J. Summers, “Break in Two”, First, I must tell you I am not normally a romance genre reader. But, I heard so much about this exciting new book that I decided to give it a read. I really enjoyed this well-written book by MJ Summers. Her style is unique and the way she crafts scenes blew me away. As a writer, I took a lot away this read. MJ Summers has something special, guys, go get this and buy one for the wife too! A five star rating without any reservation.”

“What a tale! I loved it and my wife couldn't put it down. This is one for the Kindle.”

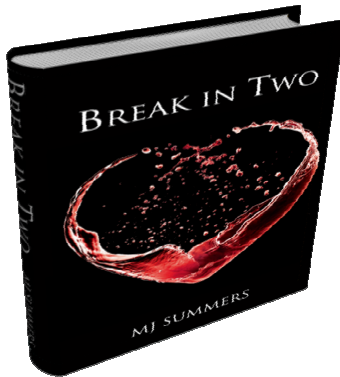
“I loved every juicy second of this one!”

“Break in Two, wow, hot!!!”

“OMG, I loved this story line. I've been waiting for this story to come out forever, and have been following the release notes on facebook, goodreads and some blog tour sneak peeks. Cole and Claire suck you right into the story line... I'm not a good one for giving a long synopsis, but trust me, you want a HOT story that will not only make you laugh out loud and pull your heart strings at the same time, BUY THIS BOOK!”

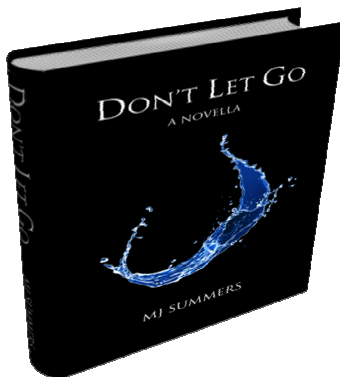
# Book List

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## Break in Two (Full Hearts Series Book 1)

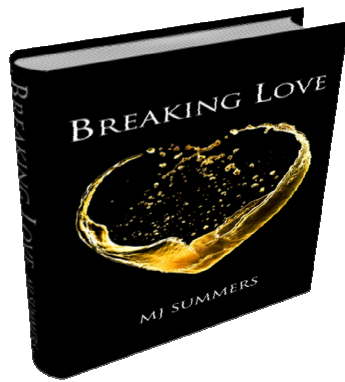
Thirty-one year old Claire Hatley is running from Seattle having just discovered that her live-in boyfriend has traded her in for a twenty-two year old hostess. Devastated and alone Claire must make a fresh start. She answers an ad for a chef at a guest ranch just outside Colorado Springs and finds herself face to face with Cole Mitchell, quite possibly the sexiest man to ever ride a horse. Common sense tells them to stay away from each other, but their attraction is not to be denied. He gives her a glimpse of what love should be, but just as she starts to trust him, the past comes back to tear them apart. Join Claire and Cole as they embark on the stormy love affair of a lifetime.



## Don't Let Go (Full Hearts Novella)

Alicia Williams has been in love with Ben Mitchell since he picked her up out of the mud in elementary school. But baseball-obsessed Ben has dreams to make it to the majors and see the world, and those dreams don't include the girl next door, no matter how perfect she is. Ben is forced to choose and he leaves Alicia behind – but dreams can change and regrets can grow. When Ben returns back home to the ranch in Colorado Springs, trying to re-discover the man he was meant to be, will the girl he can't get off his mind still be waiting? Join Ben and Alicia in 'Don't Let Go' as they fall in love and discover that sometimes life's greatest adventure is the one you find at home.





## Breaking Love (Full Hearts Series Book 2)

Luc Chevalier is a satisfied man – or so he thinks. His businesses are thriving, he has all the excitement, money and beautiful women any man could want. Megan Sullivan is a single mom with a rather ordinary life. She has a six-year-old son, Elliott, a cozy house in Boulder, Colorado, and a photography business to put food on the table. Her ex lives hours away in Florida, providing enough space for him to feed his drug addiction without exposing Elliott to his father's illness. Megan is convinced by her best friend to take a trip to Paris for a few days. Little does she know she is about to be thrust into the arms of Luc Chevalier, a sex god if ever there was one. They agree to one night together and no more. In those few short hours he manages to draw out the vixen that Megan has carefully hidden away for years. Once she has a taste of what she's been missing, she finds it almost impossible to go back to her life as it was. Will two people who don't believe in happily-ever-after manage to put aside their doubts and find their forever?