




ALP BOOKCLUB Romance novel *spice levels*

 **Level 1. Sweet Romance.** There will be kissing, hand holding, touching; very low level of sexual tension between main characters. There is attraction and thinking about the other character. Fade to black sex scenes.


Examples: Dial A for Aunties by Jesse Q Sutanto, The Bodyguard by Katherine Center

 **Level 2. Sweeter Romance (sweeter than sexy).** Kissing, touching, more kissing, and sexual touching; higher level of sexual tension. Sweet and tender, love scenes. Sex is described in euphemisms. Story ends with a happily-ever-after.


Examples: Nora Roberts books; old fashion romance, People we meet on vacation by Emily Henry

 **Level 3. Sensual to Sexy Romance.** Kissing and few sex scenes happen. The love scenes can be thoroughly and often realistically described. Sex is important to the plot but scenes are shorter. Sex causes conflict, or defines character -- in other words, not just sex for sex's sake, but sex as part of a developing relationship and leads to the couple's happily-ever-after.

Examples: Red, White, and Royal Blue by Casey McQuiston,

 **Level 4. Kissing and multiple sex scenes happen.** The love scenes are graphically described. Sex scenes are longer, there could be masturbation and/or sex toys involved.

Examples: You had me at HOLA by Alexis Daria, The Kiss Quotient by Helen Hoang, The Bride test by Helen Hoang, Only when it's us by Chloe Liese

 **Level 5. Steamy Romance.** Very sexy and erotic in nature; multiple sex scenes with elements of erotic sex play. Could include multiple partners, light bondage, sex toys, and increasing level of eroticism, along with a developing plot and a happily-ever-after ending (or in some cases, a happy-for-now, satisfying ending).

Examples: Neon Gods by Katee Robert

