

Marcys Dark Affair

[#Marcy's dark affair](#) [#dark romance novel](#) [#secret love story](#) [#forbidden relationship drama](#) [#illicit affair thriller](#)

Delve into the shadowy world of Marcy as she navigates a truly dark affair, a clandestine relationship fraught with peril and passionate secrets. This gripping narrative explores the dangerous allure of forbidden love, where every stolen moment brings her closer to a thrilling exposure or a devastating revelation.

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Marcy's Dark Affair

A story that weaves back and forth between Tim Stallard and Marcy Dunn. The beginning of the story tells how Tim and Marcy met and some events that happened in their early teen years like her Dark Affairs that went beyond her college years. Tim had a desire to be an Investment Broker. Well Marcy you will learn just had "desires". Marcy would do anything to fulfill her desires. You will find that Marcy is a very wild uncaring person and you will find she is the most vilest person you will ever meet.

Marcy's Dark Affair

Tim is a very caring and loving man that will find true feelings that he never had felt before. Marcy was cunning and it leads to a marriage of convenience for her. Tim gave all to his marriage but that wasn't enough for Marcy. Read the story and find out just how evil and sly and lustful Marcy was through most of her life and her short marriage. Marcy is really a very lustful person and greedy as she takes on any lover that will use her body or her "nook" or "pucka", her special places. Find out how Marcy funds her lavish lifestyle and how it all ends for Marcy and yes for Tim also.

The ISIS Affair

Two backpacking curmudgeons, a crotchety Brit and an ancient American, attempt to smuggle priceless world heritage antiquities to safety and save their own skins from ISIS. They outwit themselves at every turn, saved by a Yazidi Joan of Arc in a black comedy and satire on religion and nationalism that puts the fun back in fundamentalism. The ISIS Affair was inspired by the most widely read article in the history of the Atlantic Monthly in March 2015, "What ISIS Really Wants", by Graeme Wood. Thanks for the inspiration, Graeme.

Whistle in the Dark

A psychologist hires a private investigator to find a murderer and the results of his investigation are shocking.

Donald Marcy

Featuring essays from David Olusoga, Dawn Butler MP, Kit de Waal, Kwame Kwei-Armah, and many more. In response to the international outcry at George Floyd's death, Lenny Henry and Marcus Ryder have commissioned this collection of essays to discuss how and why we need to fight for Black lives to matter - not just for Black people but for society as a whole. Recognising Black British experience within the Black Lives Matter movement, nineteen prominent Black figures explain why Black lives should be celebrated when too often they are undervalued. Drawing from personal experience, they stress how Black British people have unique perspectives and experiences that enrich British society and the world; how Black lives are far more interesting and important than the forces that try to limit it. "We achieve everything not because we are superhuman. We achieve the things we achieve because we are human. Our strength does not come from not having any weaknesses, our strength comes from overcoming them" Doreen Lawrence. "I always presumed racism would always be here, that it was a given. But the truth is, it was not always here, it was invented." David Olusoga "Our identity and experience will shape every story, bleed into every poem, inform every essay whether it's about Black 'issues' or not" Kit de Waal

Donald Marcy

A chance meeting, a forced marriage, a surprise love in "a walloping good story" from the New York Times—bestselling author (Catherine Coulter). Nell Anslow and Julian, Earl of Wyndham, are an unlikely couple in every respect. Injured in a riding accident ten years ago, Nell was left with a fiancé who abandoned their engagement and the firm belief that she will never marry. The abrupt end of Julian's unhappy marriage formed his resolve to remain a bachelor until the end of his days. But as Julian chases down his reckless stepsister, he seeks shelter from a summer storm in a cottage—and finds it occupied by Nell, who has escaped from a fortune-seeking libertine bent on carrying her off to Gretna Green. Discovered together by Nell's family, the couple's hasty wedding is the only way to save Nell from scandal. But the polite union each of them expects soon ignites into something much more powerful . . . "Scandal Becomes Her is a delightful romance—altogether a wonderful book." —Roberta Gellis, bestselling and award-winning author "A scandalously delicious read that left me wanting more!" —Bertrice Small, New York Times—bestselling author "Busbee seamlessly meshes Regency romance with haunting suspense, keeping fans riveted to the end." —Booklist Exciting Sneak Peek Inside!

Black British Lives Matter

DIVDIVIn ancient Rome, a poor philosopher races to rescue his kidnapped lover before she is abused by the sinister Christian cult/divDIV /divDIVThe son of a wealthy Roman family, Marcus gave up the prestige and riches that were his birthright to devote himself to philosophy. His noble mind attracted Tullia, a Senator's daughter whose father wanted her to have nothing to do with the penniless intellectual. The news that she is to marry a prosperous merchant shatters Marcus, who goes to her house, hoping to plead his case, only to see her attacked and abducted by disguised ruffians./divDIV /divDIVThat she was kidnapped is tragedy enough, and it gets worse when he learns who took her: the sinister Christian cult. He knows not what vile rituals they will expose her to, and he does not want to find out. His lover in danger, the philosopher must turn warrior before it is too late./divDIV /divDIVThis ebook features an illustrated biography of Barbara Hambly, including rare photos and never-before-seen documents from the author's personal collection./divDIV /div/div

Scandal Becomes Her

Don't miss the second book in The Dangerous Bachelors Club from USA TODAY bestselling author Stefanie London! Ready, player one... Quinn Dellinger is supposed to be having fun at an industry party for gamers. Instead, all she can think about is the promotion she just got passed over for at her security firm. Then she spots him. Tall? Check. Dark? Check. Dangerously sexy? Check. Hell, yes--this is the guy who'll help her forget all her worries and give her one wickedly naughty night. The next morning she discovers her one-night stand was the guy who took her job. Oh, hell no. But Aiden Odell is not just a security specialist, he's ex-FBI, and Quinn is expected to work with him--very closely--on a major

assignment. He may be tall, dark and dangerously sexy, but this is one game Quinn is determined to win...

Search the Seven Hills

Mills & Boon are proud to present a thrilling digital collection of all Sharon Kendrick's novels and novellas for us to celebrate the publication of her amazing 100th book! Many of these books are available as e books for the first time.

A Dangerously Sexy Affair

Sex, drugs, murder, and a lot of laughs are what make it hard to put down the latest work of fiction by LR Penn. Collision Course examines various facets of the American dream, contrasting the lifestyle inside the white picket fence with the fantasy world out in the fast lane. Three women are waging a 21st century version of the battle of the sexes as they search for personal fulfillment, but their intertwined lives are irreparably changed by a suspicious suicide. The novel's heroine, an alienated slacker with a strong libido, decides that she needs to get to the bottom of the mysterious death, and it is she who opens a Pandora's box from which bursts forth a whirling maelstrom of greed, adultery, and homicide. Despite a fast moving plot with an emphasis on suspense, eroticism, and irreverent humor, the narrative is richly textured and intellectually provocative. By the end of the book, who did what has been made clear, but the lines between hero and victim and villain have become blurred.

Her Secret Pregnancy (Expecting!, Book 25) (Mills & Boon Modern)

Respectable widow Gwendolyn Devane must earn a living for her daughter, though she refuses to consider another painful marriage. Meanwhile, rumors fly in Regency Bath about the shocking plays written by an author known as Lady Scandal. When glassmaker Sir Maxim Hastings enters town seeking to restore his family's name and fortune, he turns to Gwendolyn for assistance in a dangerous plan that could destroy her secrets or heal her heart. Regency Romance by Marcy Stewart; originally published by Zebra

Collision Course

The members of the Moore clan come together to celebrate the recent marriage of Myles and Marisa, but a dark secret from the past threatens to tear the family apart.

Lady Scandal

Brian Frost chronicles the history of the vampire in myth and literature, providing a sumptuous repast for all devotees of the bizarre. In a wide-ranging survey, including plot summaries of hundreds of novels and short stories, the reader meets an amazing assortment of vampires from the pages of weird fiction, ranging from the 10,000-year-old femme fatale in Robert E. Howard's Conan the Conqueror to the malevolent fetus in Eddy C. Bertin's "Something Small, Something Hungry." Nostalgia buffs will enjoy a discussion of the vampire yarns in the pulp magazines of the interwar years, while fans of contemporary vampire fiction will also be sated.

A Family Affair

Instant New York Times Bestseller "Unimpeachably terrific." —The New York Times Book Review For fans of Ruth Ware, Shari Lapena, and Donna Tartt: a twisty, fast-paced, cinematic literary thriller, and an ingenious book within a book, by the #1 internationally bestselling author of The Enigma of Room 622 Marcus Goldman is riding high. The twenty-eight-year-old writer is the new darling of American letters, whose debut novel has sold two million copies. But when it comes time to produce a new book, he is sidelined by a crippling case of writer's block. He travels to Somerset, New Hampshire, to see his mentor, Harry Quebert, one of the country's most respected writers, hoping to jar his creative juices as his publisher's deadline looms. But Marcus's plans are upended when Harry is sensationally implicated in a cold-case murder: Fifteen-year-old Nola Kellergan went missing in 1975, and Harry admits to having had an affair with her. Following a trail of clues through the backwoods and isolated beaches of New Hampshire, Marcus must answer two questions, which are mysteriously connected: Who killed Nola Kellergan? And how do you write a book to save someone's life? Translated from the French by Sam Taylor Named a Best Book of the Summer by CBS This Morning, Us Weekly, The Hollywood Reporter, Minneapolis Star Tribune, Parade, Houston Chronicle, New York Post, Tampa Bay

Times, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, and The Daily Beast Now a 10-part TV series on EPIX, starring Patrick Dempsey, Ben Schnetzer, Damon Wayans Jr., and Virginia Madsen

The Monster with a Thousand Faces

Duty compels her to turn her back on marriage. Fate drives him to protect her come what may. Then love takes a hand in this battle of yearning hearts, stubborn wills, and a match too powerful to deny. #1 New York Times bestselling author Stephanie Laurens returns to rugged Scotland with a dramatic tale of passionate desire and unwavering devotion. Restless and impatient, Marcus Cynster waits for Fate to come calling. He knows his destiny lies in the lands surrounding his family home, but what will his future be? Equally importantly, with whom will he share it? Of one fact he feels certain: his fated bride will not be Niniver Carrick. His elusive neighbor attracts him mightily, yet he feels compelled to protect her—even from himself. Fickle Fate, he's sure, would never be so kind as to decree that Niniver should be his. The best he can do for them both is to avoid her. Niniver has vowed to return her clan to prosperity. The epitome of fragile femininity, her delicate and ethereal exterior cloaks a stubborn will and an unflinching devotion to the people in her care. She accepts that in order to achieve her goal, she cannot risk marrying and losing control of the clan's reins to an inevitably controlling husband. Unfortunately, too many local men see her as their opportunity. Soon, she's forced to seek help to get rid of her unwelcome suitors. Powerful and dangerous, Marcus Cynster is perfect for the task. Suppressing her wariness over tangling with a gentleman who so excites her passions, she appeals to him for assistance with her peculiar problem. Although at first he resists, Marcus discovers that, contrary to his expectations, his fated role is to stand by Niniver's side and, ultimately, to claim her hand. Yet in order to convince her to be his bride, they must plunge headlong into a journey full of challenges, unforeseen dangers, passion, and yearning, until Niniver grasps the essential truth—that she is indeed a match for Marcus Cynster. A neo-Gothic tale of passionate romance set in the uplands of southwestern Scotland A Cynster Second Generation Novel – a classic historical romance of 114,000 words. Praise for the works of Stephanie Laurens "Stephanie Laurens' heroines are marvelous tributes to Georgette Heyer: feisty and strong." Cathy Kelly "Stephanie Laurens never fails to entertain and charm her readers with vibrant plots, snappy dialogue, and unforgettable characters." Historical Romance Reviews. "Stephanie Laurens plays into readers' fantasies like a master and claims their hearts time and again." Romantic Times Magazine

The Truth About the Harry Quebert Affair

A Lady Seeking Scandal Lady Isabel Cameron has little use for marriage and propriety. Her dream is to study art in Paris. But her father has engaged her to a waddling, bankrupt, domineering lord twice her age. When her childhood flame Marcus Hawksley reappears--handsome, single, and socially snubbed--Isabel devises the perfect escape. She will solicit Marcus's assistance to destroy her reputation. A Man With Nothing To Lose Marcus has already felt the wrath of the ton, with his business as a stockbroker deemed unacceptable. But he is no despoiler of innocent ladies--until by chance, Isabel's improper advance leaves her the only witness against a lie that could truly ruin him. Faced with her father's demands for marriage, Isabel and Marcus agree to a wedding of convenience--and six months' tenure living as supposed husband and wife. But as the heat between them grows, what seemed a pretense becomes deliciously real. . . Praise for Lady of Scandal "A tantalizing tale. . .with sizzle and characters that engage readers' emotions." –Romantic Times

A Match For Marcus Cynster

Sometimes you have to forget who you were to remember who you are. For Sydney Stanton, nothing could be closer to the truth. Suffering from amnesia, Sydney finds herself alone in the middle of O'Hare Airport with no idea how she got there, where she's headed, or even who she is. Her only clues to her identity are the ticket to Key West in her hand and the items in the backpack slung over her left shoulder. Halfway around the world, Dr. Jennifer Rekowski, Sydney's best friend and longtime confidante, holds the key to unlocking Sydney's memory. But Jennifer, nursing a broken heart and trapped in the middle of a civil war, remains agonizingly out of reach. Can two women united by love and divided by circumstance find each other—and themselves—before time runs out?

A Perfect Scandal

In this story we take up once more the history of the exploits and adventures of our Union hero Marcy Gray, the North Carolina boy, who tried so hard and so unsuccessfully to be "True to his Colors." Marcy,

as we know, was loyal to the old flag but he had had few opportunities to prove it, until he took his brother, Sailor Jack, out to the Federal blockading fleet in his little schooner Fairy Belle, to give him a chance to enlist in the navy.

Marcy, the Blockade-runner

Librarian Destiny Millbrook and police detective Daniel Parks team up to investigate the murder of a politician's daughter.

In Medias Res

Lisa Saffron is the acknowledged UK expert on self-insemination, runs parenting workshops and writes a column in "Diva" magazine about lesbian families. Now, in one unique volume, Saffron uses new interviews with lesbian parents and with their kids to bring alive the issues. Gay donors and fathers are also interviewed to find out how they fit in to the lesbian family. "It's a Family Affair" combines everything that was great about Saffron's previous work with the results of new research on how children fare in non-conventional families.

Marcy, the Refugee

From clones, family, abortion, terrorism, and the concept of the collective to economics, nuclear power, cap and trade, renewable energy, and the politics of climate change, Everest and Bedogne do something much needed and remarkably absent in today's media. They strip away the layers of liberal and conservative ideology to look at the most talked about topics of our time from the standpoint of what the politicians have forgotten--common sense. Brought to light by logic, history, and science, the book filters the issues that in today's world every citizen, student, and educator needs to understand through what we know to be sound--that which we have gained through our day-to-day trials--our all-too-often repressed ability to see things in a practical and matter-of-fact way.

Dark of the Moon

Victoria Thompson is a thirty-five-year-old business owner of "Thompson Advertising Agency." Her business was rising until she landed the Healthy Pets accounts. She hired a new employee, Marcus Mackenzie (who she later found out was married) to lend a hand from a suggestion made by her best friends--and to each other significant--Ronald and Marty. Not long after, an affair began. Even after she learned Marcus was married, Victoria found it hard to let go of that tall, dark, and handsome male phenomenon. No man had ever touched her G, H, or I spot the way he had. He had cast his spell and she was more than willing to fall under his curse. However, sleeping with a married man was the least of her worries. Someone was stalking her and wanted her dead. Could it be Marcus's wife, an ex-lover, a disgruntled employee, or a family member? Having an affair with a married man can be deadly. My name is Victoria Thompson and this is my chronicle.

Queer Pets at Marcy's

The first prediction of the Moabite parchment is coming to pass. The world is in the death grip of a devastating plague. Civilization is on the brink of chaos. Some are saying it's the wrath of God, while others are proclaiming the end times. In the small Midwestern town of Thorntree, Father Jacob Winston watches helplessly as his friends are transformed into hideous creatures and die screaming on their seventh day. When presented with half of the parchment, he is offered a way to alleviate their suffering. If he accepts the first half of the parchment he will become instrumental in making the second prediction come true. The consequences of the second prediction reach far beyond the natural order and into the realm of angels and demons. The cardinals are gathering in Rome to elect a new pope. In the intrigue of the conclave, the journal of the last pope and the second half of the parchment are discovered. If these documents are allowed to be presented to the other cardinals, their surprising contents could determine the outcome of the election, and shape the future of the church and the world.

It's a Family Affair

Behold four tales starring women that are dark and lovely & and the men who admire them. Stacey Allure, Dana Burns, Shanika Patrice and Marcus Williams contribute to a compilation of romance, lust, drama and excitement This bundle includes (also available separately): "Don't Kill My Vibe" by Stacey Allure: Playing basketball at the gym on her day off, Nia never thought she'd meet someone like Rick:

a handsome white guy that treats her like a friend and not a piece of meat. But Nia has even less of an idea what the night has in store for her than she thought, and when she arrives home the night is just beginning. "Olympic Love" by Dana Burns: Matthew and Yvonne have a lot in common: they were good friends in college, they're both natural athletes and are both trying out for the upcoming Olympic games & and they both harbor long-held feelings for each other. However, Matthew's got a woman in his life, and he and Yvonne's promising careers might mean they never reveal how they truly feel. "First Comes Lust, Then Comes ..." by Shanika Patrice: Reese and Thomas's whirlwind affair leads to the birth of Mia, their daughter. Unfortunately, Thomas got cold feet during the pregnancy, and Reese has to deal with the prospect of raising Mia alone. Shortly after Mia's birth, however, Thomas comes knocking again. Will she take him back? Does Thomas even want to get back with Reese? Will he at least help raise Mia? "His True Colors" by Marcus Williams: Coming from a struggling background, Shantelle volunteers at a care home to help those in need, and resents Connor, the rich and famous businessman who visits the place, thinking he's in it only for the good publicity. But she gets to see a different side of Connor, and when she becomes intimately acquainted with him and sees his true colors, inside and out, complications arise between her growing public notoriety and the resentful eyes of her family ... WARNING: These four stories add up to 20,714 steamy words that feature explicit scenes of passionate lovemaking and may be too much for some readers to handle!

Commonsense Guide to Current Affairs

Comic novel which looks at the complex politics of modern love and sex. By the author of "Keeping the faith".

Loving a Married Man

This summer, during these strange strange times, immerse yourself in words that have touched all of us and will always get to the core of all of us, of every single person. Books that have made us think, change, relate, cry and laugh: Leaves of Grass (Walt Whitman) Siddhartha (Herman Hesse) Middlemarch (George Eliot) The Madman (Kahlil Gibran) Ward No. 6 (Anton Chekhov) Moby-Dick (Herman Melville) The Picture of Dorian Gray (Oscar Wilde) Crime and Punishment (Dostoevsky) The Overcoat (Gogol) Ulysses (James Joyce) Walden (Henry David Thoreau) Hamlet (Shakespeare) Romeo and Juliet (Shakespeare) Macbeth (Shakespeare) The Waste Land (T. S. Eliot) Odes (John Keats) The Flowers of Evil (Charles Baudelaire) Pride and Prejudice (Jane Austen) Jane Eyre (Charlotte Brontë) Wuthering Heights (Emily Brontë) Anna Karenina (Leo Tolstoy) Vanity Fair (Thackeray) Swann's Way (Marcel Proust) Sons and Lovers (D. H. Lawrence) Great Expectations (Charles Dickens) Little Women (Louisa May Alcott) Jude the Obscure (Thomas Hardy) Two Years in the Forbidden City (Princess Der Ling) Les Misérables (Victor Hugo) The Count of Monte Cristo (Alexandre Dumas) Pepita Jimenez (Juan Valera) The Red Badge of Courage (Stephen Crane) A Room with a View (E. M. Forster) Sister Carrie (Theodore Dreiser) The Jungle (Upton Sinclair) The Republic (Plato) Meditations (Marcus Aurelius) Art of War (Sun Tzu) Candide (Voltaire) Don Quixote (Cervantes) Decameron (Boccaccio) Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass Dream Psychology (Sigmund Freud) The Einstein Theory of Relativity The Mysterious Affair at Styles (Agatha Christie) A Study in Scarlet (Arthur Conan Doyle) Heart of Darkness (Joseph Conrad) The Call of Cthulhu (H. P. Lovecraft) Frankenstein (Mary Shelley) The War of the Worlds (H. G. Wells) The Raven (Edgar Allan Poe) The Sun Also Rises (Ernest Hemingway) The Wonderful Wizard of Oz The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn The Call of the Wild Alice in Wonderland The Fairytales of Brothers Grimm The Fairytales of Hans Christian Andersen

Dark Medallion

The daughter of immigrants, Natasha Polinoff has always been on the fringes of society. When she meets a handsome and charming young viscount, she follows her heart and embarks on a passionate affair. After her parents throw her out, she soon depends completely on her lover. Living under the shadow of his late, profligate father, Marcus Templeton finds love and peace in the arms of his new mistress—until that love conflicts with fulfilling the obligations of his inheritance. Terrifying her with his demands, he loses Natasha into the dark of a cold, London night. Five years later, Marcus has finally freed himself from the strictures of his inheritance by making his own fortune. But after years of independence Natasha won't risk an affair again. Determined to have her as his wife, Marcus will do whatever it takes— even if he must resort to a little blackmail. Each book in the Group of Eight series is STANDALONE: * Lord of Regrets * Lady of Intrigue

Final Absolution

Victoria Thompson was a thirty-five year old business owner of "Thompson Advertising Agency." Her business was soaring until she landed the Healthy Pets accounts. She hired a new employee, Marcus Mackenzie (who she later found out was married) to lend a hand from a suggestion made by her best friends-and to each other significant-Ronald and Marty. Not long after, an affair began. Even after she learned Marcus was married, Victoria found it hard to let go of that tall, dark, and handsome male phenomenon. No man had ever touched her G, H, or I spot the way he had. He had cast his spell and she was more than willing to fall under his curse. However, sleeping with a married man was the least of my worries. Someone was stalking me and wanted me dead. Could it be his wife, an ex-lover, a disgruntled employee, or a family member? Having an affair with a married man can be deadly. I craved that man. My every thought centered on his existence. I needed his touch, as I needed air to breathe. His presence sent spirals of ecstasy up and down my spine. His million-dollar smile penetrated my soul. The scent of his Versace cologne would send me into a state of stupor. I would wake in the middle of the night and wonder if he was sleeping calmly. His voice was intoxicating. Just hearing him speak sent my southerly, erogenous zone into a frenzy. His essence was charismatic and erotic. His walk was bravura, his demeanor was extreme, his lips were captivating, and his touch was bewitching. I was raised to respect the sanctity of marriage. "What God had joined together, no man nor woman shall come amid," is what my mother used to say. We (my sister Joni and I) were taught that seeing a married man makes you his number two. My mother did not raise her daughters to become anyone's number two. After finding out my beloved were married, I was heartbroken. Still, I found it hard to let go of that male phenomenon. Through the eyes of god and by the laws of man, I had become a number two. He had conjured a spell and I had fallen under his curse, as a willing participant. My name is Victoria Thompson and this is my chronicle.

Gentlemen Prefer Black

Previously published as "Sugar and Spice: The DL Diaries Book One" Three people...all having sex with someone they shouldn't...risk having their explosive secrets exposed! In this controversial erotic novella, author Shondra Jackson explores the lives some of those in the upper-crust African-American community in Atlanta and the married men who are a part of it and live double lives on the man-on-man sexual down-low. Marcus married his college sweetheart, Rochelle, just as he felt it was expected for him to do and joined his father-in-law's retail empire in an upper management position. Years later, Marcus knows that he has sexual desires that his wife can't quench...which leads him to a willing younger, white guy, Eric, in his office. But when feelings beyond sex start to become involved will Marcus give up his male lover to maintain his social position? Rochelle, a former beauty queen, has grown increasingly frustrated over her passionless marriage. When she develops a wandering eye for the muscular, virile pool guy, Tyrone, will her own sexual desires take her down a troubled road? On the surface, Eric lives an out and proud life in Atlanta's gay community, but he harbors a secret from his friends that brings him shame and taboo erotic desire at the same time...an affair with a married man at work. When he begins to fall in love with his closeted boss, Marcus, will Eric fess up to his true feelings? Tyrone may spend most of his days cleaning pools and tending to the gardens of Atlanta's African-American wealthy, but his true passion lies in his lifelong dream to be an actor. When Nate Jenkins, a celebrated black filmmaker, shows interest in him is it too good to be true? Does Jenkins have a secret agenda and shocking sexual plans for Tyrone?

A Woman's Guide to Adultery

In this high-octane psychological thriller, a young woman grows up battling rape, eating and sexual disorders, husbands, miscarriage, corporate and police corruption, and the Mafia. Ultimately she finds herself and the true meaning of passion.

The Ultimate Book Club: 180 Books You Should Read (Vol.1)

Seduced For The Inheritance By Jennifer Lewis Silhouette Copyright © 2007 Jennifer Lewis All right reserved. ISBN: 9780373768301 "What are you doing here?" A commanding voice and a pair of black eyes pierced the evening gloom from inside the tiny cottage. It was him. She'd known she'd see Reynaldo De Leon sooner or later--it was his estate, after all--but she'd wanted to be psyched up and dressed for success, not sweaty, disheveled and emotional from a day of sorting through her beloved mother's belongings. Anna Marcus's fingers tightened around her bag of greasy take-out food. He stared down at her from his impressive height. A crease appeared between black brows. "Have you

come to clean?" He looked huge in the cramped kitchen, the single dim bulb illuminating his arrogant features, his wide, sensual mouth tilted with disdain. "If you're getting paid by the hour I'll reimburse you for tonight, but you must tell your employer to get in touch with me before any property is removed." He thinks I'm a cleaner? Did he not recognize her? Suddenly it was all too much to bear. Her gentle mother dead at only forty-eight, with no warning at all, just a late-night phone call about an accident on a Florida interstate-- "Well?" He crossed his arms over his expensive shirt. Tears welled in her eyes. Don't cry now. In the last year she'd survived bankruptcy, divorce and now the loss of the one person in the world she could always count on. She'd made it this far.... The bag in her hand crinkled as she clutched it tighter, biting hard on the inside of her mouth. "No habla inglés?" He raised a black brow. "I speak English," she blurted. "That bag is leaking." "What?" She followed his gaze to the brown paper bag in her hand. "Oh, it's my dinner." His hard expression softened. "Go ahead and eat it." He gestured to the Formica-topped table. "No sense letting food go to waste." Maybe she could play along until he left? Let him think she really was some minimum-wage cleaner. What did it matter? Neither he nor his high-and-mighty father had bothered to come to her mom's funeral, despite the fact that Letty Marcus lived on the estate and cooked all their meals for more than fifteen years. Working stiffs like her and her mom were nobody to these people. Yes, she had a college degree, and had briefly owned a successful real estate company, but right now she was flat broke, with no place to call home, so his assessment of her wasn't all that wide of the mark. As she grabbed a plate off the counter and sat at the table, she could feel his eyes on her. Eyes that had haunted her teenage dreams and driven her into frenzies of pathetic hope that one day he'd... Love her? What a joke. She lifted her big Quarter Pounder with cheese out of the bag and plopped it on the plate. She sat in the chair and picked up the burger, then realized her stomach had shriveled to the size of a peanut. His imperious gaze made her skin prickle. "Are you going to stand there watching me?" "Of course. I can't leave a stranger unattended on family property. Surely you understand." A stranger? She wasn't sure whether to laugh or cry or scream. Just one more insignificant person on a large estate. No one special. He probably hadn't spared a thought for her since the last time they faced each other on the tennis court. She'd thought about him, though. Far more than she cared to admit. Dropping the burger on her plate, she rose onto unsteady legs. "I have to go." Naldo reached into his back pocket and took a twenty-dollar bill from his money clip. "Here. You can come back tomorrow." After I've found what I'm looking for. "I don't want your money." She kept her head turned away from him. "And I'm not hungry. You can eat it." Naldo fought a smile at the thought of eating the cleaner's greasy take-out dinner. There was a fresh-boiled lobster waiting for him back at the house. Not that he had any appetite today. He looked around for a piece of paper to write his number. If he could put off the cleaner for one more day he'd be fine. He'd find what he was looking for tonight. The cottage was tiny. The girl hadn't bothered to respond, so he simply scribbled the number on a heart-shaped notepad next to the phone and held it out to her. A bead of sweat balanced like a tiny pearl above her pursed pink mouth. As she took the pink paper, her soft fingertips brushed his palm, sparking a strange sensation. Her eyes met his, wide and blue, and recognition swept through him like a clap of thunder. "Anna." Her chin jerked up. He stared at her for a moment, not quite able to trust his eyes. How could this skinny, nervous woman be the feisty tomboy he'd once known? "It's been a long time." "Apparently so." Her pale lips pressed together. "You look so different." The words flew out before he had time to consider their prudence. "Time will do that to a person. To some people anyway. You look exactly the same." "You're so thin." "It's the fashion." Her eyes narrowed. "Your hair, it used to be red." "It still is, until I lighten it." "You dye your hair?" It seemed inconceivable that the tough and boyish Anna he remembered would do something so unabashedly feminine. "Don't look so shocked. Most women do." "You never were like most women." "Who says I am now?" Her eyes flashed. The old fire was still there, just in a very different vessel. And it sparked more than curiosity. "I hear you're a big success." Her mother's pride had kept him well-versed in Anna's accomplishments: magna cum laude graduation from a good college, a job with a top developer, a venture in commercial real estate. A husband. "It's all relative. Success, that is. I hear the estate has branched out into retail." Her voice was cool, controlled. The voice of a businesswoman. Intriguingly at odds with her disheveled appearance. "Yes, citrus-based marinades, salad dressings, dipping sauces. They're selling well." She held his gaze. "I'm sure the De Leon citrus empire will thrive for another four hundred years." Thank God she'd managed to change the subject. Terror streaked along her nerves when he touched on her "success." Whatever brief success she'd enjoyed lay in dust. Not unlike the dust that clung to her ratty cut-off shorts and faded T-shirt. Why did he have to see her looking her absolute worst? So tired, faded, drawn and scrawny, he didn't even know her. Her heart squeezed with shame. "We're all devastated by your mother's death." The compassion in his eyes and the sincerity in his velvet voice almost made her forget that he didn't even show for her funeral. She still couldn't believe her mom was really gone. That she'd never again sink into those soft, loving arms and relax in the warmth of love that was truly unconditional. "Me, too."

Her voice emerged as a whisper. "My father died this morning." Naldo's deep voice rang with disbelief. "What?" Robert De Leon was a force of nature, as tall, proud, sturdy and indestructible as the orange trees that grew in such profusion on the vast empire he ruled. "A massive heart attack. He hung on for three days, but the doctors said there wasn't anything they could do for him." "Oh, Naldo." Her hand flew to her mouth as fresh emotion burned through her. His proud bearing belied the pain churning in his fierce black eyes. A sudden, violent urge to hug him almost knocked her off her feet. Don't even think about it. She'd always wanted Naldo De Leon. Craved his touch, his admiration--his love. She knew by now that she'd never have them. She wouldn't take this painful moment and turn it into an even more devastating one. "The estate is yours now." She said it calmly, collecting herself. "Yes." "The four-hundred-year history of the De Leon plantation is an impressive legacy to continue. I know you'll make your father proud." Naldo didn't reply. With the arrogance of the conquistadors he was descended from, he simply stared at her. She groped for something else to say. To slice through the thundercloud of emotion thickening in the air. Don't cry. She needed to get out of here. It had taken her two days to pluck up the courage to come at all, but apparently she still couldn't hack it. "I guess you're ready to give the cottage to another employee, so I'll come back tomorrow to finish packing. I'm staying in town. I have to go." She realized she still clutched the heart-shaped piece of pink paper with his home phone number. She'd never called him on the phone. Their relationship had been more a catch-as-catch-can affair. Hey, wanna play some ball? No planned assignations or formal invitations. They'd been "buddies" but never really friends in the true sense. She left the number on the counter, picked up her burger and threw it in the black plastic trash bag she hadn't yet managed to bring herself to throw any of her mom's things into, then sucked in a breath and stepped toward the door. "It is okay if I come back tomorrow?" Naldo's unmoving presence marked the fact that her mother's little cottage was his property. "Of course. Take all the time you need." She waited for a moment longer, hoping for--what? A conversational foray? An invitation to join him for dinner? Get over yourself, girl. His impassive silence suggested he was waiting for her to leave, so she hurried out the door and climbed once more into the ancient battered van that had miraculously survived the drive down from Boston. Hot tears blurred her view through the scarred wind-shield as she steered the van along the winding access road toward the estate's grand entrance. How many more times would she make this journey? One? Maybe two? Now her mom was gone she had no home and no one was waiting for her. But she was tough and she'd get it together and live a life that would make her mom proud. Two days later, Anna shivered in the air-conditioned chill of the De Leon's grand living room as an inlaid walnut grandfather clock struck four. Strangers milled about, speaking in hushed tones, waiting for the reading to start. She'd received a phone call at the motel from a lawyer, asking her to attend the reading of Robert De Leon's will. The De Leons followed the old-school custom of providing small legacies for the staff, including her mother. She had not been invited to the small, private funeral held that morning at the estate. There was a sharp divide between the household staff, gathered for the occasion in their ordinary clothes, and the elegantly dressed family members also in attendance. Naldo stood among the latter, breathtaking in a fine black suit, his thick, wavy, almost-black hair combed back to reveal his dramatic features. If he'd noticed her, he showed no sign of it. Anna stood alone, off to one side, staring out the French windows at thousands of acres of the finest citrus groves in the world. Today she was carefully dressed in a good suit and high heels. With earrings, makeup and an upswept hairdo she hoped she looked like the woman her mom had lovingly boasted about to the other staff. "Ladies and gentlemen, please take your seats." A suited young man ushered them toward four rows of Queen Anne chairs she recognized as being filched from the dining room. She knew the house pretty well, at least the public rooms, though she'd spent most of her time hanging out in the kitchen while her mom prepped and cooked the family meals. The lawyer's authoritative voice descended into a soft drone as he read the long list of bequests. All money, of course. The estate was legendary for never breaking off even the tiniest chunk of land, which was how it had remained intact for centuries. The eldest son--Naldo--got the land and the vast bulk of whatever monstrous holdings in gold and currency and other investments there were. His sister got some kind of stipend. Since she was at least ten years older than him and lived in Europe, Anna had never met her and couldn't even pick her out in the small knot of relatives. She shifted in her chair, her uncomfortable slingbacks pinching her toes. Two thousand dollars and ten thousand dollars seemed to be the going rate for staff bequests. She suspected her mom would get the latter, due to her long service. Boy would that money be welcome! Her kindhearted mother had left her savings to a shelter for unwed mothers. She had no way of knowing that Anna was almost literally down to her last dime, which was in fact owed to the fleabag motel she was staying in. "To Leticia Marcus, valued employee and treasured friend--" Anna sat up "--I leave her place of residence and the ground on which it stands, as demarcated on the attached map, and the book of recipes we developed together." He'd moved on to the next bequest by the time it sank in. No money at all? Her heart plummeted. Continues...

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Lord of Regrets

'A cross between Margaret Atwood and Patricia Highsmith ... Fielding is a master of anticipation and knows how to create a labyrinth of tension, never providing an exit until the very last page' *Toronto Globe & Mail* Marcy Taggart lost her 21-year-old daughter, Devon, in a canoeing accident the year before. But because Devon's body was never recovered from the waters, Marcy has found it difficult to come to terms with her death and keeps seeing her daughter in the faces of strangers. Now, on a holiday to Ireland - which should have been a celebration of her 25th wedding anniversary until her husband left her for another woman - Marcy is convinced she has just seen Devon walk past the table where she is sitting outside a café in Cork. Desperate to appease her paranoia and lay her daughter's ghost to rest once and for all, Marcy begins a search to find Devon. But the truth, although her only salvation, is even more disturbing than she could ever have imagined... 'Those familiar with Patricia Highsmith's particular brand of sinister storytelling will recognize the mayhem Fielding so cunningly unleashes' *Publishers Weekly*

Loving a Married Man

Prior's Ford's Women's Rural Institute finds itself on the verge of a civil war when Moira Melrose is defeated in her bid to become president for the third time by newcomer Alma Parr. Moira seeks revenge by trying to outdo the Parrs' extravagant Christmas outdoor decorations, and the feud escalates from there, setting neighbour against neighbour. A former villager returns to set up the village's first holiday home, causing deep resentment, and things are going from bad to worse at Tarbethill Farm when building starts on the field that Victor McNair persuaded his father Bert to hand over to him.

Going Down on the Down Low

Throughout high school, Evelyn professed her love for Marco, but he wanted nothing to do with the girl everyone despised. Evi's hobbies were just too weird. She collected all sorts of weird things, like insects, carefully pinning them to cardboard, or capturing them in glass jars for display. Evi was the laughing stock of her class. Twenty years, later, however, Evelyn seduces Marco at the high school reunion, and they begin a sultry affair. Marco isn't sure if it's love, but he doesn't care: the sex is the best he's ever had. But for Evi, it's more than just a fling. Because if there is one thing she loves more than anything, it's her precious collections. -- *PSYCHO THRILL* is a series of horror novellas - from classic ghost story to psychological thriller and dark fantasy. Each of the novellas was first published in German and has now been published for the first time in English. Among the writers are popular German authors, as well as newcomers to the scene. Each story is self-contained. *PSYCHO THRILL* is produced by Uwe Voehl. -- For fans of Stephen King: *Dark Tower* series, Neil Gaiman: *Fragile Things*, and the *American Horror Story* TV series.

Passion Is the Power

"A beautiful book" about the temptations and dangers of an adulterous relationship from an award-winning novelist (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*). As Simon recovers from a professional disaster—and escapes Chicago for New York—he is drawn to the beautiful, exciting, and mysterious Sarah. Even though the forty-year-old Simon has a wife and child, he falls madly in love with Sarah. Devoting themselves with abandon to the pursuit of happiness, the lovers tour New York, Paris, Venice, and beyond. Their journey takes them deep within their emotions, and reveals dangerous secrets in Sarah's past. Simon wants to save her, but is that possible? And does she really want to be saved?

Seduced for the Inheritance

Now You See Her