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The Agreement (The Unrestrained Series Book 1)



Synopsis

Kate McDermott is a good girl who has done everything she can to please her very powerful and domineering father -- a Justice on New York's Supreme Court with hopes for political office. When she decides to write an article about BDSM in popular culture, she tells herself it's just research and nothing personal for she can't afford to become the target of gossip or scandal. She hopes that the carefully worded agreement she writes up will keep her relationship with the Dominant she will interview strictly professional. Then 'Master D' - Drake Morgan - walks into the interview and Kate is mortified for not only is he gorgeous, he's the son of her father's best and oldest friend. Billionaire Drake Morgan, MD, bass player, philanthropist -- Dominant. Known as Master 'D' in Manhattan's BDSM Community, Drake must keep the kinky side of his life secret to protect his very successful career as a neurosurgeon. After a heartbreaking divorce, Drake doesn't do girlfriends, he doesn't do sleepovers, and he certainly doesn't do breakfast in bed the morning after. He keeps everything in his well-ordered life separate and under his firm control. Then Kate McDermott crosses his path and screws everything up. Now, nothing is neat and tidy anymore, and no longer under control for Drake is smitten and things are going to get messy. From USA Today and Bestselling Romance author S. E. Lund comes a story of two people who find themselves in each other's arms. The Agreement will stay with you long after you read the final page. 18+ only for mature content.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When you read a story in the erotica genre, there are only so many twists that are plausible enough to get into the story line. Otherwise, you're just reading for the thrill of the sex scenes, which is ok too, if that's what you like. One of the reviews of this book points out all the similarities between this and FSOG. OK, it's true, there are similarities, and it wouldn't surprise me if nearly half the BDSM/Romance books that have come out since FSOG are also very similar. In fact, I'm reading another one now. Some of the knock-offs might be better than the original, which had some now-famous problems itself. I'd say *The Agreement* is readable. If you like to read this genre, you probably have a favorite formula, and this one is a favorite of mine. I don't like hard-core SM (although a little bondage and spanking is A-OK!), so the plight of a Dom that has trouble controlling his sub and ends up falling in love with her is fine with me. I find it amusing, and I'm a sucker for HEA. Six months from now, I'll have to check my library to make sure I haven't already read this one. But while I was reading it, I enjoyed it. Except for the interfering friend, who I wanted to slap.

It gives me no pleasure writing reviews like this, but I found this book to be almost unreadable. Largely, it felt like a *Fifty Shades of Gray* knock-off, which has more in depth research than *Fifty*, but follows the same tropes. Kate McDermott, the main female lead, is a good girl who has an ambitious, domineering father with political aspirations. Research for an article leads her into the world of BDSM, but it's not the only thing. Kate is curious. There she meets a man in her familial and social circle, Master 'D' - Drake Morgan. He's a billionaire, philanthropist, a neurosurgeon, a bass player and involved in the lifestyle. Yeah. He's unbelievably busy. Kate and Drake are set up to be partners in Kate's exploration of BDSM. Drake is divorced and wary. He doesn't do relationships or sleepovers, but Kate might change his mind. Kate is surrounded by people who boss her around from a best friend who blackmails her to a father who sets her up with Drake to Drake the clingy, needy, stalker guy who won't take no for an answer. I didn't find this sexy. I wanted to reach for some mace. Maybe this is a "it's not you, it's me" scenario, but I ended up hating finishing this book and then was annoyed with myself that I kept on with it.

I received this book for free during a BookBub offer, if memory serves correctly. I did verify that the purchase amount was \$0.00. While this book wasn't terrible, it wasn't one that hooked me. I forced myself to finish reading because I thought there would be a twist at the end. SPOILER There was all this lead up with the antagonist that amounted to absolutely nothing. The ending was weak and simple. I just couldn't get into the sex; the two leads just not a good couple for me and the fact that Katherine constantly asks the same questions over and over, it was like she never learned about submission. I found myself constantly skimming over the sexual scenes due to the fact that I just wasn't interested in them. No chemistry meant boring scenes. While this series does continue, I would likely only look into reading more if the items were made available on Kindle Unlimited. As it stands right now, I have no desire to spend any money on this author.

If you're looking for a light-bdsm book, or want something that presents pros/cons/whys of this kind of lifestyle, this might be a good one to read. I wasn't looking for that, so I found this book to be okay....not great, not completely horrible. The story goes from the heroine wanting to write an article about BDSM, and needs a Dom to help her. Then suddenly she's looking for an experienced Dom to treat her as a submissive; I'm not sure where she went from writing an article to wanting to participate, that transition just seemed to happen out of nowhere. There's a whole lot of repetitive internal dialogue from the heroine, and honestly it gets rather tedious. Her previous boyfriend was interested in BDSM, but she was so shocked and horrified by it, she couldn't deal. At all. Now suddenly, she's being told that she's a submissive...and is presented with a billionaire, handsome neurosurgeon who also happens to be very good friends with her father. (Eeeewww much?) The heroine is pretty emotional, she does a whole lot of crying throughout the book. She also questions her Dom constantly -- which is fine except that she chooses to ask questions at the most inappropriate times. As in, not when they sit down to discuss things, but in settings that quite frankly would have driven me crazy if I was him. The two of them do have long, long discussions regarding BDSM, and I felt some of that was actually well done. It's not insta-love or even insta-lust for them, but, during some of those talks, I felt like he was trying to get her to believe that it's society's norms that make her reticent and shy, and that without society's influence, she would have been embracing her sexuality more openly and willingly. Since he's a good 10 years older and is incredibly accomplished, it seemed a bit like manipulation to me. (Not even going to get into the whole thing of why such an accomplished man would be interested in a weepy, unsure, repressed girl)*possible spoilers* When they do finally get to an agreement, what follows is him telling her to

get undressed, and then having what would be considered vanilla sex. There's one scene where there's a spanking, and only one I think of very light bondage. There is a scene at a club, which I think evolved into tears...because of course. Otherwise, there's not much BDSM happening except in the dialogue. On top of the constant back and forth between the H/h, there is a very creepy 'best friend' who is more stalker than friend. She is so completely against the hero, that she takes to threats and sitting outside the heroine's apartment just to be sure the two are not together. The heroine tried to distance herself from this friend, but it never lasted long. It was another very frustrating and unbelievable plot element. Apparently there are more books to this series, but I won't be reading them. I feel bad for the hero that he's staying with the heroine, she's way too emotional and wishy-washy. And for her, she needs to find some nice, stable, vanilla guy and let this other stuff go.

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