



## **Blood Deep**

*Lindsay J. Pryor*

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Bad can feel good, Jessie. Bad can feel as good as it can get.

The tattoos covering Eden Reece's arm tell the tale of a con with an appetite for danger. Even so, arriving at The Circus – the criminal heart of Blackthorn – and demanding an audience with the notorious Pummel, is the sign of a death wish.

Jessie knows that Eden is trouble. Serious trouble. Held captive by Pummel, despite her powers, she also knows how dangerous a game Eden is playing. Yet she can't ignore a connection far deeper than the physical spark between them – because Jessie has seen Eden before...

Jessie is the only one who can help Eden save those he loves. But as he uncovers her secrets one by one, he can't ignore the emotions she stirs in him – feelings neither of them dare face. He risks death. If she trusts him, she risks a fate far worse.

As Pummel's twisted plans become clear, there's no doubt all hell risks breaking out in Blackthorn. With time running out, together Jessie and Eden might be the only ones that can stop it.

In a thrillingly sensual novel, the stakes in the dark world of Blackthorn just got higher.

What readers are saying about Blackthorn...

‘I am officially addicted to this series. Why, you ask? Because Lindsay Pryor is my kind of fearless author. She isn’t afraid to “go there”, to create characters and situations that challenge me as a reader.’ The Demon Librarian

‘Not only are Pryor’s characters and fathomlessly dark love stories fabulous, but her continual world building of Blackthorn blows me away.’ Gravetells.com

‘A shining, brilliant new talent in the Paranormal genre!’ CC MacKenzie

‘She writes paranormal romance mixed with urban fantasy the way I like it – clever world-building, intense characters and no easy options for them to take.’ Nocturnal Book Reviews

The Blackthorn Series

1. Blood Shadows
2. Blood Roses
3. Blood Torn
4. Blood Deep

## **Blood Deep Details**

Date : Published 2014 by Bookouture

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Author : Lindsay J. Pryor

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## From Reader Review Blood Deep for online ebook

Μαρ?α Γεωργοπο?λου says

**Reread and still a 5-stars-review! Now, finally for the next that I haven't read it yet!!**

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**LOVED IT!!!** Although, at first, I had a problem remembering details for the world-building and some of the characters from the previous books, soon everything became clear again and the story not only kept my interest but made me want more!

This series has a very dark world-building and very interesting characters. It's the story of Eden and Jessie. Both of them are much more than what they appeared to be. I am not going to say anything more because I don't want to write any spoilers.

What I am going to say is that I liked both characters for different reasons. Jessie, a very lonely woman with great powers, managed to stay untainted in a decadent and dangerous world. Eden is a decent man who stepped lower too many times because he wanted a better world.

Both of them are survivors and fighters. Different kinds, of course. But both of them felt lonely and they found each other in the darkest part of a dangerous world.

I am very curious about what the future will bring to the characters from all the books so far. The author is very talented and she's building a great story!

If you haven't start this series, I believe that it's time to do it!

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### Lindsey says

Sequels so rarely hit the mark. I remember reading books two and three in the Blackthorn series and wondering how on earth Lindsay had managed to successfully pull it off. But to reach book four *Blood Deep* and to find it is even better (if that's possible?!) than the first three? Surely it can't be done?

But yes, I'm VERY pleased to say that *Blood Deep* is very much the crowning glory of the series so far. Before now, we've seen Lindsay weave the threads of her plot very expertly throughout the first three books, although she always maintained each could be read as a standalone and not necessarily in order (although I'd

urge you to ignore that and go for the sequence read!) and now, in book four, it still amazes me how she can still surprise with each new turn of event, each new twist, whilst also adding into the mix completely new characters who keep the reader hooked from the word go.

It's a skill to keep readers interested when you get them invested in characters, just to then switch characters in the next book, but somehow, magically, Lindsay manages to do this and quickly you find yourself torn over which ones are your favourite - personally my loyalties lie with Jask AND Eden, and I just ADORE Jessie. She's another fabulous female character to bring the men to their knees - as do ALL of Blackthorns's leading ladies - feisty, strong, courageous and with the right amount of vulnerability to make them believable and real.

It's never easy to work out just where Lindsay will take us in Blackthorn - more supernatural creatures, new villains, wonderful twists and harsh revelations (not to mention the uber sexy scenes!) but I am more excited than ever to read the next book - bring on Blood Dark 2015!

Well done Mrs Blackthorn - five stars!!

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### **Sara Reece says**

#### **Reviewed by Sara Reece Owner of Smut Lovers Wonderland**

I started this book knowing my heart belonged to Caleb!... but i was not expecting a very cocky full of himself human Eden Reece to walk in and rock my brain and heart! Both Eden and Jessie story is one that makes, breaks and steals your heart. Both have a tragic past, one that no one should go through an yet they fight on, to survive a life in Blackthorn. I loved the fact Eden showed Jessie (in he's very cocky and mischievous way) that not all people are evil and it is possible to trust another. I felt like i have had an affair with Eden behind Caleb's back! But i will gladly take any punishment has it was soooo worth it for Eden!!

??????Spoiler Alert???????

DONT READ PASS THIS IF YOU DONT WANT THIS AMAZING STORY SPOILED BY SPOILERS  
?????????????????????

This story also has a dark side, when i learned about what Pummel plans for the children my heart hurt, i wanted to gut him myself!! But of course Eden and Jessie did what they had to to save them and im so glad they did. Learning about Jessie powers my feeling was right. The second Eden found them scares i was jumping in my seat shouting SHE IS A ANGEL, SHE IS A ANGEL.....

I love this series. It means so much to me. I feel like can open my book and go into another world and live another life. Still feel all emotions that the characters feeling and go thought one hell of a journey with them.

After i read the last page and closed the book reality hit me, hit me hard! I had to sit there for a bit and just breath.... not think.... just breath.... has this was one hell of a great story!!

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### **Caroline Mitchell says**

As a forty something (don't ask) woman, Twilight was a guilty pleasure of mine, watched and read behind closed doors. So I was very pleased to find the Blackthorn series written by author Lindsay Pryor. Her latest book, Blood Deep features sexy couple Eden and Jessie, and will leave you turning the pages (or clicking the kindle) until dawn. An addictive read which takes you to another world, vampire fans won't be disappointed with Lindsay's latest offering.

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### **Jilly says**

Thank you, book, for bringing back my faith in this series! After the disaster of the last book - namely Sophia the Idiot, I was worried coming into this one. But, it brought the goods this time. The yummy deliciousness of a super dark world filled with amazingly complex characters and the promise of even darker things to come. It was like a really good chocolate layer cake - dark, decadent, and tempting.

This is me reading this book:

*so much good...*

We've been getting to know this world for a while now and learning about Blackthorn which is a city that is the dumping grounds for any supernatural creature and human convicts. It's a horrible pit with dirtiness, overcrowding, pollution, crime, and all of the vices of poverty and desperation. It's basically the Pit of Despair.

Our Pit is divided into four sections - like a big pizza. And, each section is ruled by a different group.

The Meat Lovers section: This is the area ruled by the Lycans/shapeshifters/werewolves. They eat meat. See what I did there?

The Ham & Pineapple part: This area is ruled by a vampire named Caleb. He's very salty. But, his brother, Jake, is kind of sweet. So, they make a good team overall.

The just Cheese area: Another part that is ruled by a different vampire named Kane. Kane is a loner. The cheese stands alone.

The Mushroom pizza: The area where the convicts live. They revel in darkness, are kind of scummy, some are poisonous, and grow in shit.

We've already sampled the first three parts of the pizza, and in this book we delve into the mushrooms. It is just as we would expect - dirty and smelly.

*Okay, I was looking for a mushroom meme and found this. Why? Poor little mushroom kitty.*

Anyway... In this book we have Jessie, a supernatural female of unknown origin who is trapped with the convicts and treated badly, and Eden, a new convict who is on a mission to get close to Jessie. Things start

out well for them as Jessie saves Eden's life. That's right, suckers, the GIRL saves the GUY. Ha!

Okay, so maybe I got a little carried away there, but Jessie is awesome and kickass. And, at the same time, she isn't a bitch. She's strong but still kind and sweet.

So the romance was fine. Both characters were likable and that is really important in these books because you get inside the character's heads like crazy in them.

But, going back to my pizza analogy - you know what happens when you try to make a pizza with different toppings in distinct sections, right? There is always topping overspill. The person who wanted pepperoni is always going to get a few unwanted mushrooms. And, the cheese pizza lover isn't happy to find a piece of pineapple on his slice. But, that's what happens.

*Hmmm. I eat vegetarian pizza. This chart nailed my dieting life!*

So, we get a lot of spillage from the other pizza toppings in this story and it's awesome. Everything in this world is starting to come together into a giant and delicious meal. And, just like if we ate this pizza, along with the chocolate cake from earlier - there is a shit-storm a brewing and it's going to get very ugly.

*could help..*

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### **Delphine says**

how can you not love the incredibly kind Jesca or the pure male that is Eden. He has such a heart - totally loved this book, and once again, very addictive. :)

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### **★Moonrise Books says**

What a great addition to the series! Blood Deep is gritty, captivating, and richly illustrated, with an exciting plot and fascinating characters. Lycans, vampires, humans, and other creatures come out to play in Blackthorn. But it is a dangerous playground, where hapless souls oftentimes find themselves on the receiving end of the oppressive cons that rule the otherwise lawless city. Succumbing to the rampant corruption may be a means of survival for its inhabitants. Still, there are magical elements that -- despite the dangers -- make Blackthorn an intriguing place.

Eden Reece is charming and handsome, but with a deadly past. The tattoos that cover his body reveal the depth of his crimes, and warn others of his truly formidable nature. So, when Eden is left to fend for himself in Blackthorn, it isn't surprising that his presence brings forth the most hardened cons from the darkest corners of the city, willing to challenge him, and eager to remove a new, potential threat.

Jessie spies an attack, and does her best to stay in the shadows -- getting involved would be a risky venture.

But she is impressed with the handsome stranger's fighting skills, and can't resist getting drawn in. Up close, she finds something shocking in the stranger's badly beaten face... she knows this face.

Now warned of the dangers, the stranger has moved on, and Jessie can refocus on keeping the events of the night hidden from Pummel, the brutal con who has provided her with shelter for too many years to count. But Pummel is far from charitable, and nothing comes without a price. So when the stranger, Eden, shows up at Pummel's door, Jessie knows trouble is brewing.

The truth behind Eden's motives are more complex than Jessie could imagine. They are both keeping secrets. But once the truth starts to surface they wonder if they can trust each other. What is being hidden will impact both of their lives, and will determine the fate of all those living in Blackthorn.

Such an amazing tale! I really loved the characters in this story, and enjoyed revisiting those from previous books. This is the fourth installment, but it can be read as a standalone, and is a must read for paranormal romance fans.

Note: This book was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Rebecca says**

This is becoming a common theme for me, I am starting new series' and powering through the first few books but by the time I get to book 3/ 4 I end up disliking the series. It's becoming annoying and I'm considering starting shorter series' or leaving more time between each book. This book was no exception to the rule.

The main characters, whoever they are, were not interesting to me at all. I found them to be conflicted in their motivations and annoying with their justifications. I get that this book was the epitome of the under belly / horrible side of blackthorn with criminals and bad people but these characters were just horrible. In previous books there has been Bad Boys with a softer side and Strong Sassy girls with serious problems in life. But these characters were just nasty, mean, terrible people with no silver lining apart from apparently a six pack and a curvy body.

There are secondary characters but they are just as annoying as the main characters so I'm not going to comment on them.

The storyline was similar to previous books in the series 2 characters who should dislike each other who fall for each other only in this book the two main characters were unlikable so it fails instantly. The pacing was OK but to be honest I wasn't really a fan of this book because of the characters so I can't say I paid that much attention to the pacing.

3 stars not the greatest book. I'm going to take a break from this series and may return to it later in the year

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### **Michelle says**

5 STARS!!! I LOVE this series!!! Lindsay J. Pryor knows how to make me shiver in a very good way and a very bad way! lol The woman also knows how to keep me up all night reading! I once again was up till 6am reading until I just couldn't keep my eyes open any longer. Woke up with my kindle by my head! Lmao Eden Reece a very dangerous con according to all the tattoos on his arm. He's damn sexy and has an appetite for danger. He wants in with Pummel the leader of The Circus...the criminal heart of Blackthorn. He will do whatever it takes to get what he wants. Pummel has Jessie held captive despite her great powers. Jessie is also off limits to everyone. She's not to be touched. Pummel makes it clear that she is his and his alone. That is until Jessie saves Eden's life one night.

A lot of exciting things went on in Blood Deep. We get introduced to another third species. We also get some shivers from some of the fourth species that are "leaking" into Blackthorn.

Of course toward the end others from previous books make an appearance to set up for the next book Blood Dark (coming in 2015). I for one can't wait to see what happens when all these powerful couples come together. Every book feels like it is a build up to the next. It's going to be explosive when it all comes together. I will be the one over here with dark circles under her eyes from lack of sleep. But...I will have the biggest cheesiest grin ever!! Oh!! Don't forget horny as hell because Lindsay J. Pryor is so fucking good at writing the powerful connection between her main characters!!! Fabulous job woman:-)

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### **Caroline says**

5 shining stars again! What can I say? I adore this series, each book is a stunning read, unputdownable, gritty, captivating, entralling, richly illustrated with exciting plots, fascinating characters (Lycans and vampires) and other supernatural creatures (third and fourth species), lots of secrets, wonderful turns and twists, beautiful magical elements, some harsh revelations and explosive sex scenes...

In this book, 4th in the series, Jessie, a slave and supernatural woman with the power to heal, meets Eden, human and undercover cop pretending to be a convicted murderer... OMG, I was stunned, again. What a bumpy, dark and sexy ride!

But please, make yourself a huge favor and read this series in order because each book will introduce you to a pair of heroes and each book is a build up to the next. Lindsay is a genius and I can't wait for book 5 to be released next year. It's going to be explosive when the 8 of them work their connections and abilities together...

Book 1 = Blood Shadows – Caitlin Parish (third specie) and Kane Malloy (vampire)

Book 2 = Blood Roses – Leila McCabe (Serryn witch) and Caleb Dehain (vampire)

Book 3 = Blood Torn – Sophia (Serryn witch) and Jack Tao (Lycan)

Happy reading!

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### **Wopsywoobookblog says**

Blood Deep

Oh Eden Eden Eden, be still my immortal heart.

I think I've fallen in love.

I'm seeing hearts and kisses and naked things.

I LOVE this instalment. Enough said!

Haha no seriously, every instalment gets better and better. I've got to say I really loved this one. Eden and Jessie's relationship although hot also seemed sweet too. This one felt like love. Although I believed that there was love involved in all the other relationships in the Blackthorn series, this just screamed love to me.

I know that from now on though SHIT. GETS. REAL. Not that it hasn't already but that was just the premise to the main storyline. I can't wait. Bring it on.

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### **Tracie Delaney says**

Blood Deep is the first book in the Blackthorn series that introduces a human hero. Eden Reece is a con (or is he?) who arrives at The Circus – the criminal heartland of Blackthorn – and demands an audience with Pummel, a fearsome criminal who rules the human south side of Blackthorn as viciously as Kane Malloy rules the east and Caleb Dehain the west.

At The Circus, Eden meets Jessie. Jessie is an angel who is being held captive by Pummel (I'll let you discover for yourself how he manages to do that). Jessie knows Eden is serious trouble who could get her killed, but neither of them can deny the undeniable attraction between them

As Eden digs underneath Jessie's secrets, it leads them both into danger, but Eden can't ignore the feelings Jessie stirs in him...

Blood Deep introduces the final couple in the Blackthorn series. Although Eden and Jessie may seem the weak link when compared to the other three couples, they are anything but.

I admit, this book started out as my least favourite of the four Blackthorn novels, but as I dug further into Eden and Jessie's story, they drew me in until I was hooked.

Eden may not be a vampire, or a Lycan, but let me tell you, he has his own set of special skills! And Jessie is a perfect foil for the all-too-fragile human with a huge heart.

God....bring on the next installment. I'm exhausted.

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### **azerjaban says**

4.75 stars. So close to 5.

First, I expected to hate this book. I wanted to know what happened with the kids and Jask and Caleb and I

was furious at the author for introducing two random people into the series.

That said, Eden is officially my favorite hero of the series. (Jask you were so close!). He was smoking hot, not sure what it was about him, his humor? His mint? His swagger? His verbal games? Outsmarting everyone?

It seems I like my hero's respectful, empathetic and self aware. Don't get me wrong, Kain and Caleb were great, but both had narrow views of acceptability/morality and didn't care for anyone outside their circle/family.

For example, if I was in a burning building Eden and Jask would probably save me, Kain only if he was in the mood and Caleb would probably kill me faster to put me out of my misery.

Jessi as a heroine wasn't bad, I wasn't crazy about her, she didn't have the mouth of Phia or the brains of Leila, and made lots of stupid mistakes but she was alright.

I've never liked how easily some heroines gave it up, (Jessi did so after seeing Eden with a woman minutes before). Especially the 'virgins'. I also hated this authors pattern of using sex to a) punish, b) prove a point c) Seduce to kill or d) reveal their emotions. This book was no different. But not enough to detract from the plot.

I was also irritated that the author kept the part I was looking forward to (Jask!) to footnotes, did she run out of time? Didn't feel like writing them meeting? Felt like a copout, :-(

But... I can't can't wait for the next book.

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### **C.T. Phipps says**

The Blackthorn novels are my favorite Paranormal Romance series.

Period.

I think it's because they straddle the line between genres so well. They're predominately romance with lots and lots of sex but don't sacrifice plot, drama, or world-building. The world is well-developed, divided on cultural as well as species lines with a heavy-emphasis on social ills. The character arcs are nicely done too, each lead showing genuine growth by the end of the novel.

The books have a signature style too. A pair of lovers meet, initially antagonistic, only to grow closer as they struggle against one another. This is always in the decaying urban hellhole of Blackthorn, a ghetto where the supernatural is segregated away from quote-unquote "polite" (read: human) society. Each couple is somehow tied to the Vampire Prophecy, which predicts the rise of a leader who will overthrow the human-run establishment to set up a more egalitarian society.

Blood Deep is the fourth novel in the series, introducing our fourth and final pair of star-crossed lovers. Jessie and Eden are a human male and supernatural woman caught up in covert operation gone horribly wrong. Eden, the man, has been sent to infiltrate crime boss Pummel's twisted "Circus" in order to extract Jessie for his employers.

Eden has been promised medical treatment for his niece if he can extract Jessie in three days. Jessie is a member of an unknown Third Species (non-humans like vampires or werewolves) with the power to heal. She is mystically enslaved by Pummel and if she tries to turn against him, she'll die.

Eden, of course, falls in love with Jessie but can he deliver her from one slave master to another?

Read and find out!

Interestingly, I find Eden and Jessie to be the healthiest relationship of the four series couples despite the fact she's a slave and he's an undercover cop pretending to be a convicted murderer. Previous romances in the series have involved a lot of emotional blackmail and even attempts to kill one another.

Here, Eden wants to help Jessie but he's caught in a situation where he can't blow his cover. Jessie would dearly love to trust Eden but she's a woman who has been seeing nothing but the worst of humanity in Blackthorn since its creation. Trusting a man who appears to be a hardened felon (and who isn't that far from one in reality) is a risk she isn't willing to take.

At least, initially.

What I really liked was the Noir elements and how they were taken to new heights this volume. We get a real sense of the injustice of Blackthorn's world and the segregation of species. The Circus isn't that far from John Carpenter's Escape from New York, a place where criminals are dumped to live out lawless lives where the strong feed on the weak. The immense poverty in Lowtown and surrounding districts also highlight the troubles of Blackthorn aren't as isolated as initial books implied.

We also get some development of the Vampire Prophecy plot and how the major powers are dealing with it. I admit, I wasn't too keen on the metaphysical results of our heroes "defying destiny" implied by this book and hope there's an explanation as to who (exactly) is so offended by it. I am, however, glad to see fictional power brokers dealing with prophecies in a proactive way. Which side is more evil is up in the air and I wouldn't be at all surprised to find out that Jessie is premature in her belief humans are worse.

I like the characters of Jessie and Eden, both of them appealing to me for various reasons. Jessie's Third species race turned out to be a genuine surprise and yet made perfect sense with all of the clues dropped earlier. While, "I did it all for a sick relative" may sound somewhat contrived, you can tell Eden is a ruthless man at heart. Jessie is hard in her own way, cleverly manipulating Pummel to avoid the worst of his abuses while plotting to figure out her next move. Jessie could easily kill Pummel, in all likelihood, but where would she go instead? As events reveal, there's nowhere safe in Blackthorn's world.

I liked the supporting cast, too, which is surprising given the majority of them are unrepentant psychopaths. Everyone from Mya to Chemist to Tatum is one sort of scumbag or another but they're all likeable scumbags. I wouldn't mind seeing the survivors come back in future books as allies of convenience. It takes skill to make likable protagonists but it takes an artist to make bad guys you enjoy reading about.

I really liked this book, arguably as much as any other in the series if not more so. This is one of those rare series I think which may get better the further you get into it like the Dresden Files. The fact the main plot finally getting off the ground is good too. I'm eager to see how the Vampire Prophecy ends and hope we'll see a conclusion in the next couple of books. Despite this, I'd still be happy to read more in the world.

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## Tracey says

Bad does feel good. So very good in this latest enthralling instalment of the Blackthorn series.

My initial response when I finished Blood Deep (well when I managed to rejoin reality several hours of recovery later!), was that this is the best book in the series. However, that would be an injustice to the three previous books of brilliance. The Blackthorn series is simply getting more and more addictive, with a plot that gets stronger and more compelling with each page turn. It's hard to compare all the books in the series as the author offers something fresh in each one of them, while maintaining the integrity of the world building of Blackthorn.

In Blood Deep you are taken into the depths of Blackthorn where 'bad' is a way of life and humans are as much of a threat as the third species are. The lowest of the low are sent to Blackthorn, and Eden Reece is intent on fitting right in where trouble resides. Eden's tattooed arms are proof that he is a worthy resident at The Circus, and of what he is capable of. Pretty soon he gains the attention of Pummel, the most feared criminal in The Circus.

Jessie saved Eden once, so why didn't he heed her warnings to escape while he could? Something she can never do. No one riles Pummel and gets away with it, but Eden seems to push each of his buttons. She doesn't know what Eden's plans are, but only that it won't end well. And if they don't ignore the spark between them, it can only get worse.

Eden will do anything to succeed with his plans, and he stoops to depths so low to achieve his goals that you can only applaud him when you discover the reason behind his determination. Jessie is a big part of that plan, but she's hiding secrets too. Secrets that involve the prophecy.

I adored Jessie. I was desperate to discover her secrets and I must admit I squealed a little when I did. Her story is heart breaking and when she meets Eden you so want Eden to be her hero, even if he doesn't appear to be hero material at all. Except he is. This was where the emotion got me when Eden's back story is revealed. Oh my. And this is Blackthorn, so Jessie and Eden are in for one heck of a bumpy ride. They jump from one heart pounding 'oh heck' moment and straight into the next one. Lindsay J. Pryor doesn't just glide over boundaries, she tramples right over them. The story moves along at pace, and with a few familiar faces joining the fray and more revelations made, it makes this a stunning read. The darkest and sexiest yet.

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Pure genius!