

PRICE OF ANGELS

Dartmoor Book II



A Novel

LAUREN
GILLE

Price of Angels

Lauren Gilley

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Lauren Gilley

Price of Angels Lauren Gilley
Book II in the Dartmoor Series.

Holly Jessup came to Knoxville in search of the Lean Dogs MC, hoping to find a killer among them. She's spent four months cozying up to Sgt. at Arms Michael, and it's time to make her move.

Michael McCall isn't in the habit of accepting contract hits, but Holly isn't the kind of girl who chases after Dogs. She's petrified, and infatuated, and she might be the first woman to see him for the man he is, rather than the outlaw he seems. Maybe, for Holly, he can become St. Michael at last.

After the events of **FEARLESS**, the Lean Dogs can't afford any more scandals. Michael never expected he'd be the one to bend the rules. And no one thought his feelings for one woman could shake the balance of the Tennessee underworld.

Be sure to look for Book I in the Dartmoor Series, **FEARLESS**, and be on the lookout for Book III, coming Summer 2015.

Price of Angels Details

Date : Published March 23rd 2015 by HP Press

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Author : Lauren Gilley

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From Reader Review Price of Angels for online ebook

DW says

Another 5 stars for this fantastic series!!!

Who would have thought that Michael, the Lean Dogs Sergeant at Arms has a soft spot!? He absolutely does and her name is Holly. I fell in love with Holly and Michael. Two broken souls finding one another was so perfect.

Michael was not a nice man. He wore a scowl on his face and didn't have friends. He has his Dog brothers but never considered them "friends". When he met Holly, he didn't really notice her until she insisted on him being her friend.

Holly is broken and has been through hell and back and still fights daily just to get through the day. She lives in fear and wants nothing more than to be loved. When she finds Michael, she knows that he is the one that can save her. She sees the good in him and loves him so much.

I admit that I may have cried a couple of times. I just felt so sorry for Holly. She had no one and everyone was so mean to her. I just wanted to reach through my kindle and hug her. I wanted to be her friend. I needed to be her friend.

I love each and every Lean Dog and their Old Ladies!!

Bring on book three!!!!

Naksed says

Michael McCall may call the members of his motorcycle club his "brothers" but that does not mean they are his friends. Sure, they love to stick him with the dirty work but in guise of thanks for his efforts, he instead gets the uncomfortable averted eyes, behind the back whispers, and aloofness from the rest of the Lean Dogs.

I thought it was very interesting how the author showed that despite all this talk of a family, brotherhood, and loyalty, an introvert like Michael can still be outcast from the bosom of a family, even one made up of outlaws. This is not talked about in other biker books I have read. It is mostly assumed that it is very black and white, either the club members are besties or they are traitors. I appreciated that the author went beyond the cliche here.

None of the club members have bothered to draw Michael out, to get to know him, the living, breathing person he is, not just the sergeant at arms. None of the club groupies have treated him as anything other than a quick notch on their bedpost either.

No one sees him, let alone looks at him, except for Holly Jessup, that cute new waitress at the bar Michael frequents. Holly is also very much a social outcast and a victim of a traumatic childhood, just like Michael, but that is not what initially draws her to him.

She is looking for a killer, someone who can finally free her from the terror that she has been hiding from and which is on its way to take her back. Holly's pretty, green eyes are the only ones not to look at Michael like he is a scary monster but rather, an avenging angel.

The Price of Angels is the second volume in Lauren Gilley's Dartmoor biker series and though it focuses on this new pairing of Michael and Holly, it also follows the story of the main characters from the first volume, Fearless, Ava Teague and Felix Mercy Lecuyer, as well as the extensive cast of characters who were introduced there.

I would not recommend reading Price of Angels as a stand-alone because you would simply not get the references and background story of the characters, which, in my opinion, are imperative to getting a full understanding of what occurs in this new story.

I was ambivalent about the new villains introduced in this second volume, as well as the many TSTL moments that these otherwise savvy characters displayed in order to move the somewhat predictable plot along.

I did not appreciate certain rather lengthy descriptions of abuse and torture, not because I squirm from stories that have these elements, but because I felt they were akin to torture porn. Simply put, sometimes, alluding to past events, and showing the reactions of the characters to those events, can pack a more powerful punch than meticulously reciting the details of those events in a lengthy flashback.

I recently read a book that deals with a character's traumatic past and it was done in such an effective way, showing the present emotional damage to the character rather than dissecting the past events themselves.

Having said all that, the romance aspect of the book was leagues above the romance in the previous volume. These were characters who I could one hundred percent get behind. Their coming together was so beautiful. It really was poignant. I am definitely hooked on this series now, especially because I see the author is not going to discard her characters in favor of new ones with each volume rather she is going to organically follow their storylines as well as introducing new ones.

I feel that we are getting something really epic here with the story of the members of the Lean Dogs motorcycle club, a slow build up until the inevitable volcanic ending, and I am looking forward to it very much.

Deborah says

4.5*

Re-read the 10th March -11th March 2018

Original Review

At 423 pages this is half the length of the previous book 'Fearless' but it's still a good length and again a book you can get totally lost in.

In 'Fearless' Michael was a bit of an enigma and I was pleased to discover this book was his, we'd also been briefly introduced to Holly so we hit the ground running so to speak.

Holly lives in fear and she's looking for a killer and thinks she's found that in Michael but Michael's not exactly approachable and even after four months she's still working up the courage to make her move.

Michael knows he's not friendly and he knows what people think of him and therefore Holly confuses him but he's not anywhere near as cold and unfeeling as people think and it's beautiful to see him open up and realise that he could have a chance at more, a 'normal' life is now more than just a dream.

We slowly discover not only what Holly needs Michael for but her past and it's awful, it makes difficult reading and while it's handled well be warned.

Michael and Holly are two damaged individuals direct results of their pasts but they slowly realise the future could be theirs.

One of the many strengths of this series is the fabulous characters and Ava and Mercy are not forgotten or even just a side note, they're still here and still very much part of this story which I liked.

In the interest of leaving a totally honest review I have to mention this is written the same way as 'Fearless' with the constant POV changes with no warning, even though I was ready for it it's still a little disconcerting at times

This is another enthralling read and even though I have a huge list of books waiting to be read I'm in this series for the long haul so it's onto 'Half My Blood' for me next.

Baba says

[that's no way to bargain for three lives." (hide spoiler)]

Elfina Renee says

The action or danger doesn't stop in Lauren Gilley's sequel! This hardcore author brings all kinds explosive drama, intensity and suspense you'd expect from a kickass MC novel. Making Price of Angels one of my favorite reads and beloved series.... now onto the review!

Tiss the season, to hang holly, string some lights, don the old Christmas tree, and maybe hire a hit man! An angel of death, who would kill without mercy and be the hand of salvation.

Michael prefers the quiet, blends in the shadows, being unobserved.

Rarely does the standoffish sergeant at arms spend Q&A with his fellow brothers, or anyone else for that

matter. So when a certain terrified waitress seeks him out, his curiosity is more than piqued. But getting involved with Holly on any level, tests the loyalty he has within the club and shakes the foundation of potential enemy.

Mo says

Another good read. Maybe I didn't connect with Michael and Holly as much as I did with Mercy and Ava, the characters in the previous book.

"I named you after Saint Michael. Do you know what that means? I named you after the archangel. The angel who put the devil in the pit."

"I think that there is a price ... and I think that we paid it already."

"Why is Dartmoor called Dartmoor?"

I liked catching up with the characters from the first book. Some fairly gruesome scenes. Poor Holly had a horrible life.

~Anna's ?a?????g\$~ says

I love it love it love it love it love it love it!

Review of the whole series: MY REVIEW

Elaine says

4.5 Archangel Michael Stars

One of the great things about this author **Lauren Gilley** is the writing. It makes such a change to read a book in this genre that's so well written. This is the 2nd book in the **Dartmoor** series and comes with a much more darker disturbing story....

Michaels and Holly's story.....

Michael a member of the **Lean Dogs MC**, he is a bit strange and different from the other Lean Dog brothers. He's a loner and doesn't mix, quiet, no friends except his Uncle Wynn who brought him up after his mother dies.

The only thing he does is each night, is to go to the local bar for his evening dinner. There he meets Holly.

Holly

Holly has been watching Michael for months because she has decided he is the one....

She has a proposition for him, one that will change their lives for ever.

This is another outstanding story. Michael the loner and Holly who is running from a terrible life. They come together because when Michael is with Holly he can really be himself and Holly scared, can finally find something in him that helps her heal too.

Once again this story pulled me in, the author writes in a way that you find yourself consumed by these characters.

Although dark, it opens into a beautiful love story of two broken people tarnished by their past, that together can overcome anything.

It does follow straight on from **Fearless** and is NOT a standalone.

I don't want to tell their beautiful story in my review I want you to read it for yourself.

Bev says

I enjoyed this one so much more than **Fearless**, there was a lot less filler so less wordy and the writing focused on the characters rather than the world building. Loved both Holly and Michael, if ever two broken souls were meant to heal each other it's these two.

Once again Ghost didn't let me down (insert sarcasm here lol), he was his usual inconsiderate, unfeeling dick of a tool. Ugh I do NOT like that pillock.

I am so intrigued by Tango, I think his story is going to be brutal.

A few days later I'm still stuck on this book so am upping my rating. When a book stays with me like this one has it's worth the 5* rating to me. I think Michael and Holly will be one of those couples that stay with me for a long time. What they went through to get to where they are now, and did this alone with no support

or help but just got on with it. I LOVE the way the author told their story.

Michelle [Helen Geek] says

09/24/2016 -- Okay, my second time reading this and I'd bump it to 5+ Stars. I really love Michael. I really do. I bet this guy would score somewhere on the autism spectrum due to his lack of social skills. Saying this, he is self aware. He never thought he'd ever meet someone who would want to BE with him. Someone he'd like as a person anyway. Then came Holly and all her baggage. Baggage is probably too nice or generic a term. Really amazing the story Lauren Gilley gives us with this one. She weaves the title and its' meaning all through the story. I'm re-reading the whole series. Or at least this is my plan right now. I've rarely found an author who writes a book I can get so immersed in. When you read to escape the tension of life, for relaxation, like I do, books like these are rare. Love this author.

09/09/2015 -- I really like this author and this series. 4.5 - 5 Stars!

Judy says

You really should read before reading this one. The H, Michael, is introduced in book 1 as well as other characters in this book. First let me say this author/series is turning into my favorite MC series for 2015. I love the writing style of this author and the way she brings all of the characters to life and makes you feel them. In this book we find that Michael isn't the cold hearted killer we saw in book 1. We find out about the tragic death of his mother and the events in his childhood that shaped the man he is today. We see a man that appears to the world as a supreme alpha, hard ass, unloving man but when it comes to Holly, he shows the deepest levels of love, dedication and loyalty. He will do anything for Holly, including killing. Holly has suffered immensely, a victim of incest, as well as physical and mental abuse. Michael is her savior and her true soul mate. Wonderful love story written in such a way that the author drags you into the story and makes you feel part of the cast.

We catch up with Ava and Mercy, major characters from the first book. I liked the way the author weaves these characters from previous books into the current story. Ghost, as usual, continues to be an awesome leader and is so funny when he calls his men down like a parent would with a child. There's angst, suspense, violence and continuing deep love between the romantic couples in the book.

I can't wait for the next book and hope the author keeps them coming.

~IreneOust~ says

How do you repay a friend who recommends an author like Lauren Gilley?? I don't think you can but I certainly am going to try and even up the score. Somehow.

To say I am BLOWN AWAY by this series (and I am only two books in) would be a HUGE UNDERSTATEMENT! The first book Fearless left me breathless so I kinda knew what to expect [in terms of writing] going into Price of Angels. What I didn't expect [even though someone mentioned the word 'heartbreak' and the author herself said it's 'a dark one'] was how dark the subject matter really is in this story.

This book is about two people who were going through hell and just kept going. Two survivors. I am in awe of Lauren's ability to tell their story, as gruesome as it gets at times, in such poetic way. To me, noting tops the journey of two damaged souls who come together and find comfort in each other's arms.

There are many scenes in this book that are so raw that they bring tears to your eyes. The way they are written is so vivid that you feel character(s)' inner turmoil as you read them.

I think I stopped highlighting paragraphs about 30% into the book because, just as it happened with book one, it is easier to highlight stuff that doesn't leave your head spinning with the beauty of Lauren's writing vs stuff that does.

I mean, how can you not fall in love with this:

I would recommend this series to those who appreciate exceptionally well written stories that are more of a slow burn vs fast pace MC stories that are full of clichés.

TRIGGER WARNING: if reading about non-consensual sex and domestic violence is not something you can stomach, you may want to avoid this book.

For one of THE most amazing reviews of this book, please check out **TeriLyn's spoiler-free review of Price Of Angels**.

Cheers!

Val Shameless ?? Steamy Reads ?? says

4 Stars

spoiler-y

I really liked this, just not as much as the first book.

I don't think it had anything to do with Holly and Michael.
I really liked them both.

It was something about the rest of the story...

Half of my enjoyment of MC books is the bromance and loyalty between the men of the club...and that was

kind of missing here a bit, sadly.

Yes, Michael was a loner, but I knew that going in.

It had more to do with Ghost and his willingness to trade Holly to people he knew had hurt her.

I didn't like that.

Thank God the club voted to protect her or I might not have wanted anything else to do with the men of this series.

There is being an outlaw, yes...but there is also taking care of your own.

Anyway, Ghost miffed me a bit in the last book with his willingness to trade his daughter's future to get rid of Mercy...and he gained another black mark against him this book in my eyes also.

Not that excited about Walsh's book to be honest, but I love this series and hope to enjoy it.

S.M. West says

Another knock out adventure! Full review to come.

TeriLyn says

5+++ "Are you afraid?" Stars

Another stunning book from Lauren Gilley. The Dartmoor series blazes forward unapologetically with more phenomenal story-telling and brilliance from Gilley. This writing in *Price of Angels* takes the reigns leading the reader on a very deep and meaningful, a very dark and sinister, a very healing journey in the lives of Micheal and Holly. Nuanced with the constant running theme of family, Michael and Holly dive into a world unknown to each of them. The result of that plunge took me on an unbelievably emotional journey through the deepest shadows and haunted eyes of Michael McCall and his Holly - the likes of which catapulted *Price of Angels* to my list of greats.

Told from Gilley's signature style of 3rd person limited perspective, *Price of Angels* takes us back to Knoxville in the thick of the Lean Dogs MC propelling the plot of the club forward with it's motley crew of intriguing bikers, their equally intriguing old ladies, and their seriously compelling enemies. My expressions of awe in relation to this writing style of the Dartmoor series remain hard to fully explain and I refuse to even touch upon the breadth and depth of the captivating, creatively literary, dark plot of this book because it's something that Gilley's writing gives you completely.

What I felt when I was reading this book was a complete immersion into the story. With a 360 degree, vividly stimulating seat in the middle of Knoxville watching this story come alive, playing on a wide spectrum of my emotions, it's no doubt that reading Lauren Gilley's words is a total experience. It's not simply reading a book, it's not simply entertaining you for the sake of entertainment. It reaches into your reading soul, grabs hold, and rocks your world.

I can't pinpoint the exact reason my reading soul resides in utter fascination, loyalty, and devotion to archangel-type heroes avenging the morally corrupt and shadowy evils of the world while straddling their own moral and emotional codes of love and loyalty, of right and wrong. I don't know why the darkest stories are my best stories. All I know is that it does and they most definitely are. The tortured, broken men who give so freely in their own tortured and broken yet gorgeous offerings emotionally touches parts of me in the most glorious ways. Michael McCall is this kind of tortured, broken man. It takes the fractured, broken parts of Holly, the parts he recognizes so completely as their mirrors to his own soul; these parts blinding him as they exude the most strength, courage, and conviction the human spirit can create.

As mentioned I refuse to spoil the plot, what I've relayed about Michael and Holly's character I hope resonated. This is an experience in reading that needs to be wholly experienced. But I do want to mention, although lengthy yet still vaguely, one specific part of this book that held me enraptured to the point I've read it several times over with tears sliding down my cheeks each time.

This being the qualities of this hero that are so unmatched to me from any other hero, save one other archangel type. As a character, as a man, Michael McCall is who he is, absolutely atypical from your normal hero, without remorse, regret, or guilt. He's closed off emotionally because of who he is and what he does both being cloaked in mystery shrouded with a foreboding menace no one even tries to touch. Protection from him is like a salve to any bleeding wound, his safety is potent - transcendence floating right off the pages. His form of penance, if you will, comes from a naively, astute woman he's so strangely and securely tethered to. Her protection, her worth, her beauty all enslave him and her protection becomes his priority. Holly has both figurative and literal demons to escape. In one of the most brutally passionate, deeply haunting, romantically raw love scenes I have EVER in my life read Michael proved them both redeemed no matter what life holds for them from that point thereafter. His facing off with Holly's fears, her demons, had me crying and vulnerable and completely unraveled. The writing of that particular scene, the artistic choices Gilley chose to take me to that personal place so acutely - yeah, transcendence. Undeniable beauty.

The stories and people of the Lean Dogs MC are ones I fully recommend to MC loving readers. So full of intelligent dialogue, witty banter, happy as well as sad, honesty, and loyalty - The Dartmoor series is beyond worth the read. And while I loved Ava and Mercy and every single Lean Dog in *Fearless* so very much, I'm not in the least bit afraid to admit that Holly with her broken parts, her honesty and her will to survive coupled with Michael McCall, the archangel with his dominance and grace, are my favorite without question. *Price of Angels* is not for the faint of heart. In my opinion though, you should be brave enough to experience it's beauty.

**Major love to my reading bestie, Irene. My reading experience was further enhanced having read this book with her. Check out her amazing review [here](#). Biker bitches for life, babe.

My 5+ Star review for Book One:
Fearless

First Read: January/February 2016

Second Read: January 2017

