



## Sin for Me

*Jackie Ashenden*

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It was anything but easy, but Gideon Black has finally managed to create a safe haven for himself on the gritty streets of Detroit. He worked hard to get on the straight and narrow, pulling himself up from an underground crime syndicate before it consumed him completely. But the past isn't staying put, and now that it's come calling, it's not after him, but the woman he considers the closest thing he has to family . . .

Zoe James has always loved Gideon more than anything in the world. She knows he only wants to keep her safe, but his overprotectiveness has taken over her life and it's got to stop. She's sick of him treating her like a little girl, but is she woman enough to handle the truth when it finally comes out?

As old enemies close in, a complicated but undeniable passion is growing between them. Gideon tries to hold on to Zoe and keep her safe, but he may have to let her go in order to save them both . . .

## **Sin for Me Details**

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Author : Jackie Ashenden

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## From Reader Review Sin for Me for online ebook

### **Jeanne says**

I've been waiting for Sin for Me. I've wanted to read Gideon and Zoe's story since the series started. These two have a very long history starting when Zoe was a very young child. As they matured their relationship hasn't in some ways. Zoe's certain her feelings have changed from the idolization of Gideon she felt as a child to adult love of the man. Gideon is slower to look at Zoe as the 25 year old woman she now is and subsequently treats her like a child still. He hasn't even noticed her in a sexual way which is good. If he'd been attracted to her much earlier it would have been creepy. This story was in large part an exploration of "where do we go from here". They both have a lot of introspection to do and it's not easy for them to move from their childhood closeness to forge a relationship as man and woman.

Gideon has always looked after Zoe since they shared a foster home when she was six. He hasn't been in the habit of explaining his motives to her. In today's environment, his not letting Zoe go to college or leave his home probably rubs a lot of people the wrong way. He is high-handed with her for some very good reasons though. She willingly allows him to be controlling without forcing him to explain himself. They both need to learn to communicate.

Ashenden often writes outside the lines of what's comfortable to readers. Her characters are gritty, not always likeable and that can be said of Gideon and Zoe. Their first sexual encounter is rough. The way Gideon treats Zoe isn't the loving, caring, sweet sex you'd expect a man who cares so much to give his virgin lover. Zoe's OK with that. Because she'll take Gideon any way she can get him or because she genuinely likes it? It's hard to say...probably some of both. The entire course of the book these two struggle. It's not a clean and easy rode to their happily ever after.

Personally, I like that this book, and the series, has not been full of politically correct romance and characters. It's refreshing to read something with an entirely different angle to it. I will admit, it's harder to identify with the characters but maybe we don't always need to the rote hero and heroine of typical romance novels. I suspect far more real life relationships work like Gideon and Zoe's than the Cinderella stories we love so much. I, personally, get tired of stories where some little, silly misunderstanding is all the challenge the beautiful heroine and Alpha-but-caring hero must overcome.

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### **Helen says**

MS Ashenden knows how to write a story that is powerfully emotional, that will pull you in from the first page, and keep you up late reading. I loved this one, a story of two tortured people, Zoe and Gideon had relied on each other for a long time, they have been through so much, and although it took them a while to see that love had been growing for all of that time that the type of love was changing.

Gideon has worked hard to keep Zoe safe moving her to Royal and starting a new life bringing in friends that become family they are a close knit family and we have seen the others find love but people are moving in people from the past that can cause a lot of trouble for them and Zoe is now in danger it is time that Gideon tells her the truth and this is going to change a lot of things in their lives.

Zoe has loved Gideon forever and that love has changed and gotten stronger over the years but it is now time for her to grow up and take charge and it takes a lot to convince Gideon that they are perfect for each other what a sexy sensual journey that is.

I have been really looking forward to this book and was not disappointed it is gritty, dirty and so very strong a must read. I loved seeing Zoe finally win Gideon over as danger steps in and this brings them closer thank you for another keeper.

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### **Maria says**

"Received an Advance Reader Copy in exchange for a fair review"

I always enjoy reading Jackie Ashenden and I liked this story, especially the part concerning the hero's resistance and following surrender to the heroine. I liked how such an alpha hero suffers later in the story with the heroine's absence, the "Zoe-shaped void".

Despite that, this book is not one of my favorites by this author. Overall I liked the alpha tortured hero, possessive and domineering, a man with a violent and painful past that is now a mechanic. He's fiercely protective, loyal and a doer and I liked those traits, but sometimes he was just too much (alpha, domineering) and bordered jerkiness. I didn't read the previous books so perhaps I'm missing something in terms of characterization.

I also liked the family the main characters and their friends (who have stories in the series) made, more satisfying and strong than the dysfunctional biological families they had to endure as children.

The heroine, who has a crush on the hero since she was a kid, didn't move me. All that blushing and insecurities and her worshiping the hero – justifiable in a way because Gideon was really her knight in shining armor – is not my type of thing. And the loss of virginity quest is so... childish?

There are a lot of sex scenes and I've skimmed most of them, didn't interest me (I liked, though, the way Jackie Ashenden wrote the sex scenes in "The Billionaire Beast", an awesome book!).

Some repetitions bothered me: Gideon calling Zoe "little one" (it sounds a bit fatherly) and the hero's "dark eyes".

I also liked the setting (Detroit) and the world created in the story.

I'm grateful to the publisher, Kensington Books, the author, Jackie Ashenden, and NetGalley for providing a free copy

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### **Mindy Lou's Book Review says**

3.5 Stars

You know when a book has all the right things going for it except maybe a couple of things a reader personally dislikes? That's pretty much what happened here. I love Jackie Ashenden. I love her books. I love this series. I do not love when the heroine has to chase and beg the hero to love her.

Now, I know Gideon loves Zoe. It was obvious with how much he did for her to keep her safe but he wasn't willing to look at her as more than a foster sister.

Zoe has loved Gideon her whole life. She's dreamed of more with him, but was constantly placed firmly as the little sister. Zoe is now 25 and realizing that Gideon will never see here the way she wants. She tries to move on but Gideon is so firm on protecting her, even if it's from herself, she isn't able to move on.

I didn't like the unequal balance in power between these two. Zoe is basically protected and sheltered so much that she is a 25 year virgin who has to completely rely on Gideon. She's in love with him but has to watch him treat her like she is a kid all the while he has his own piece on the side.

Eventually, the shift in their relation changes, but it still felt very one sided for me. I'm glad I read the book since I've been curious about them from the start. Personally I just didn't enjoy how much Zoe had to push, beg and give of herself to get Gideon to love her like he should.

ARC provided by Netgalley.

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### **J says**

It was ok. I've found Jackie Ashenden's books to be hit or miss. Her male characters tend to be very... coarse. I can deal with the alpha male, I can even deal with an alphahole, and if her books stick to that I usually enjoy them. But sometimes they go so far beyond that and the guys are just downright cruel. As was the case in this book. I can't reconcile in my mind the caring Gideon from the previous books to the horrible excuse of a man in this one. He was over protective with Zoe in the first books but still kind and caring towards her. I did not expect him to bend her over a car and knowingly and willingly hurt her and make her cry when he took her virginity. To teach her a lesson. That they didn't need to be together. I think he probably could have taught her the same thing by, oh I don't know, NOT having sex with her at all. He never showed any remorse for it either. It was a sad and uncomfortable scene to read. Not what I'm looking for in a book.

I didn't mind the age difference so much. Other books have age differences like this and I don't blink an eye. But it was mention over and over until I started to feel weird about it. I probably could have also let the "he was her guardian" thing slide but again it was focused on in excess to the point I got really creeped out. I kept thinking about Woody Allen and his adopted daughter he married. I mean just saying "well they aren't biologically related" would never cut it. Not in a million years. It's just wrong wrong wrong. And THAT is how I started to see Zoe and Gideon. Because the topic was just beaten to death. Definitely not what I'm looking for in a book. Ew!!

So, a miss for me. It wasn't all bad. I enjoyed some of it. But unfortunately the bad outweighed the good.

I received this book from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Bird says**

This book made me angry. Literally, physically angry. The hero was such a flaming asshole, and the heroine was a complete doormat. The sex completely lacked emotion. I hated everything about this book.

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### **Molly says**

I haven't read the first 2 in this series, so as a standalone, it was a bit of a bumpy ride. Past characters and events were explained reasonably well, but for a storyline which involves a somewhat questionable situation (i.e. keeping Zoe separated from a lot of normal activities), it was a bit confusing. It was explained in the story, but I think it would have made more sense had I read the first two books in the story. That being said, I don't mind gray moral areas; I think they can create interesting scenarios, and that happened here. Gideon was the consummate alpha, and while Zoe seemed immature at times, I think that was intentional, to show her character growth throughout the story. If you're into crime romance with lots of steam, this may be the book for you.

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### **Jennifer Schultheis says**

4.5 stars! Review at <http://wp.me/p2F7IH-g24>

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### **Jennifer says**

ARC received for review

I've read all three books in this series. There's normally one book better than the others, but not this time. They were all just mediocre.

I was about to smack Zoe and Gideon both. There was so much internal dialogue that was the same stuff over and over and over...and over. Gideon was just a plain old jerk when he finally said yes to Zoe. There's plenty of the previous couples included in this book. Nice little epilogue.

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### **Heather 123 says**

Having read the other books in this series and loved them, I had high hopes for Gideon and Zoe's story. Unfortunately I was incredibly disappointed.

First off, the Gideon in this story just didn't match the one in the other stories for me. We only saw glimpses of his protective streak in this book. Instead we were introduced to Gideon the a\*\*. I hated the way he treated Zoe throughout the book but especially once he gave in to her. I hated how immature Zoe was throughout the book. She honestly acted like a 16 year old girl instead of a 25 year old woman. If Gideon was going to fall for her, I would have expected it to be because she didn't act like an immature little brat all the time.

Gideon kept Zoe too secluded and protected after taking her from her mother's home but never told her the real reason. We don't know if Zoe finished school or how Gideon handled her going to school (how was she registered?), although we're told she received a scholarship to an Ivy league school. Gideon made it so Zoe was dependent upon him for everything; she had no chance to meet anyone else or have friends her own age.

This was a very disappointing book in this series. I'm not sure if there will be another book after this one, but if there is I hope it reverts back to the style of the first two.

\*\* ARC received from Netgalley \*\*

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### **Christine says**

Going into the Motor City Royals series, I was the most excited about Gideon and Zoe's story and it turns out I was most disappointed by them. I love a good unrequited crush story, especially when the crushee suddenly wakes up to how desirable the crusher is. But when the crushee has basically been your foster brother/guardian/jailer since you were 13 years old? Ew.

Jackie Ashenden usually creates strong, smart heroines who fully challenge their tough guys. Not so much Zoe. The "taboo" aspect of Gideon and Zoe being briefly foster siblings wasn't troublesome for me, even if their friends (Zee and Tamara from *Dirty For Me* and Levi and Rachel from *Wrong for Me*) are bothered by it. What did bother me was that Gideon made himself Zoe's guardian and proceeded to treat her like a precocious delicate child for over a decade. He wouldn't let her go to Princeton (!) because he was worried about the campus' security so he made her stay in Detroit and work in his auto shop (how is that safer?). Gideon won't let her date or go out, so Zoe is now a 25-year-old virgin lusting after him because he is the only man she is ever around. Oh, and then there's the fact that Gideon never told her about her biological father, a dangerous and shady politician, so Zoe is completely blindsided when Gideon announces that she can't leave their apartment because her father may find her.

**SPOILER and RANT:** So when Zoe throws tantrum after tantrum and threatens to leave, Gideon does what every responsible guardian/caretaker/friend does - he spanks her, mocks her for liking it, and then roughly takes her virginity on the hood of a car in his auto shop. Gideon justifies this to himself by saying he is doing this to frighten his "little one" from his dark desires. Oh, and his calling this 25-year-old woman "little one" is just creepy, both in and out of bed. Protector of the Year, this guy.

I still look forward to this author's books, but as a personal preference, I think I will stay away from any of them with such a power imbalance like Gideon and Zoe's.

Note: I received an ARC from Netgalley in exchange for a honest review.

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### **Jenny says**

Again with the double standards. Zoe is the protected virgin at 25 while Gideon gets to have his hook ups. This story reminded me of Stockholm Syndrome. Gideon kept her in a gilded cage as it were. She had a scholarship to an Ivy school in STEM and he torpedoed it for a very stupid reason.

She could have had so much more. The story should have let her grow and come back to him but instead she's never allowed to test her wings.

Why, in 2017, are women written like this?

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### **Timitra says**

I found *Sin For Me* an enjoyable and filthy read despite being frustrated with the characters at times because of their attitude, actions and decisions that they made. That said I'm looking forward to reading the previous two books.

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### **Ellen says**

I've read quite a few of Jackie Ashenden's books and the Motor City Royals series is one that I've especially enjoyed. *SIN FOR ME* is the third book in the series, and is Gideon and Zoe's story. I must say, I've been dying to read their story since the beginning. Gideon has a history, one that he isn't proud of, one that lead him to Zoe and resulted in his rescuing her and bringing her to live with him to raise, even though he wasn't that much older than Zoe. Gideon has a commanding presence and Zoe has begun to test him and his overprotective nature. Zoe has always loved Gideon, but Zoe's no longer a little girl, and is more than ready to test her wings, and if Gideon won't help her do that, she's determined to find someone who will.

Gideon has a dark side, however, and the secrets that he has been keeping regarding Zoe and his past have finally come out in the open. Gideon's dark side also involes the bedroom, and he is quickly becoming well aware that Zoe is no longer a little girl. He's determined to make her see what a bad guy he really is, something that backfires on him big time.

*SIN FOR ME* is hot, sexy, and dangerous, and I loved seeing these two characters battle through their past and present in order to have a future together. I loved seeing what was going on with the other characters in the series as well. Overall, I enjoyed *SIN FOR ME* and would definitely recommend checking it out.

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### **Bette Hansen says**

I loved this story! I've read all three books in this trilogy and they've all been amazing. Glad to finally have Gideon and Zoe's story. Jackie Ashenden never fails to amaze me with the complex and raw characters she develops. If your looking for a nice gentle alpha hero this isn't the book or series for you. There are times in this book that Gideon is downright cruel. There is no OW drama or physical abuse triggers to worry about but he is gruff, rough, and cold at times. Getting past that and down to the reasons why he is that way is what makes this story so good. The fact that Zoe can love him through all of it is amazing. In the end, the heart you know he has deep inside comes out and he's just fantastic. Definitely a book I recommend.

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