



Sanctum

Lexi Blake

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Some contracts are made to be broken...

A contract broken...

Ryan Church and Jill Paxon enjoyed their life as Master and submissive until the day Ryan's entire world crumbled. No longer able to fulfill his end of the contract, Ryan did what he thought was best for Jill. He let her go.

An unexpected reunion...

Eighteen months later, Ryan is working for Ian Taggart as the Dom in Residence at the elite BDSM club Sanctum when his former submissive walks through the door looking for a job. Jill has changed, but his desire for her is still insatiable. Jill, shattered by his past rejection, can't trust Ryan, but she needs the job. Back in the community where she once felt safe and secure, she longs for the life she lost and the man she loved.

A last chance for love...

Ryan is presented with an opportunity to restore his wealth and name, but it could cost him his last chance at rebuilding a life with the woman he loves. When the secrets Jill has carefully hidden from Ryan are exposed, a terrible twist of fate might take her out of his life forever.

Sanctum Details

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From Reader Review Sanctum for online ebook

Rosebud says

A short but intense read to enjoy until the next book "Love And Let Die" comes out. This story is about Ryan, the Dom in residence at Sanctum, and Jill. Jill had been a sub for Ryan in the past so they have history. Lots of snark and yes the scenes are hot. And typical Lexi, there is a twist.

This is a standalone novella installment with enough of a tease to give me my fix for the series but not enough to satisfy the addition I have for this series. Can't wait for Ian's story.

Laurie says

A sweet little novella about Ryan and Jill, master and sub, who did the number one no no in a BDSM relationship, even though they deeply loved each other, they didn't communicate. This mistake cost them 18 months. I enjoyed reading this even though it was too short.

Robin says

Sanctum by Lexi Blake is a satisfying snack of love, romance and hot, steamy sex. Sanctum is a stand-alone novella in Ms. Blake's Masters & Mercenaries series.

Sanctum is a compelling story about how lack of communication can cause even couples in love to break up. Unfortunate circumstances forced Ryan out of his life as CEO of his own company. His feelings of failure were typical for a man; and his fear of being able to provide for his submissive forced him to make the decision to let Jill go. Jill was so focused on making her master happy and didn't speak up for herself. When Ryan ended their contract and asked his friend to take care of Jill, she was so hurt by the perceived betrayal that she didn't protest. Ryan and Jill went their separate ways, each hurting and unable to move on.

When fate brought them back together, neither could deny their mutual attraction or the love they felt. However, they still had so much to learn about communicating with each other. Successful BDSM relationships are built on trust and communication. In the past this is where Ryan and Jill both failed and both needed to accept their responsibility in their breakup. They also needed to learn to share their honest thoughts and feelings if they were going to have a chance to succeed.

With help from a matchmaking Ian Taggert (always a pleasure to see Ian make an appearance), Ryan and Jill are able to finally overcome their past problems and get the HEA they desperately deserve. The sex scenes in Sanctum are hot and steamy which I expect from Lexi Blake. The love that the couple feels toward each other just adds another layer to their lovemaking, especially as Ryan and Jill slowly reconnect and learn to be a couple again.

Even if you have not read any of the Masters and Mercenaries series (and if you haven't, why not? You are missing out) you will still enjoy Sanctum. It gave me something to enjoy while I patiently await the next book in the series. Thank you Ms. Blake for this delicious treat.

Kelley says

Lexi Blake serves up smoking hot and steamy sex in this sinful short story. This tale tells of the one that got away. Ryan is the hot Dom in Residence at Sanctum and his heart still belongs to Jillian. Jillian has not been with another man since Ryan left her 18 months ago. What happens when Ian sets up an interview with Jillian to be the new bartender at Sanctum?

I loved this little short about Ryan and Jillian and of course no novel in this series would be complete without a cameo from Adam Miles. Adam has to taunt Ryan to get him so riled up that he realizes that he can't keep pretending that he is over Jillian. The lesson to be learned here is that communication is essential to keep a lasting relationship. Lexi takes a weak young girl and turns her into a very strong woman. Jillian does not flinch or argue when she is asked to strip in order to teach other Doms how to treat their subs. She is strong, sexy, and smart and takes Ryan's breath away.

If you want a short sweet and sexy romance to tie you over until Ian's story comes out then this novella is for you.

Jamie says

I began this series back in 2014, and as I went along I missed out on the fact that there were a few novellas. I think I was reading book 10, From Sanctum with Love, when I realized. I've been holding these unread novellas on my Kindle for some time now, because this is my favorite ongoing series and I tend to get really bummed out when I finish a book and have to wait a while for my favorite cast of characters to come back into my life.

I was a couple of pages into this novella and I already had that warm, squishy, "arriving home after a long day peopleing" feeling. I've put off reading the last two full length novels, Love Another Day and the just released Nobody Does It Better, both sitting in my Kindle beckoning me, until I was caught up with the novellas. Now I'm sucked back in and I've missed Sanctum the way I miss ice cream when I realize I've just had the last bite.

Only Lexi Blake can make me all hot and bothered, all swoony, all choked up in under 100 pages. This is why she's in my top 3 favorite authors.

Going back to read these novellas now is like the sweetest trip down memory lane ?

Lidia says

I liked very much this short story of Ryan and Jill because if also short, there were the details that makes great this series. The missing dialogue between two protagonists is been cause of pain and misunderstanding but nothing that love and one little help from Ian can't solve. Lexi Blake confirms be one fantastic writer.

Lana ❄️Dirty Girl Romance❄️ says

This novella was like the perfect quickie; not quite as long as you'd like it, yet oddly satisfying.

I really can never go wrong with a book by Lexi Blake, and this one was certainly no exception. I have been absolutely in lust with the Masters and Mercenaries series from the very first book, *The Dom Who Loved Me*. While many of my favorite characters from the past books made an appearance, this novella can easily be read as a standalone.

Eighteen months ago Ryan Church lost everything; his business and his millions. Distraught and facing jail time for a fraud that he didn't commit, he doesn't feel that he can uphold his end of the contract with the beautiful submissive that he's fallen in love with. So he does the only thing that he feels is right - he lets her go.

Now working as a Dom in Residence in Ian Taggart's club, he still can't forget the woman that stole his heart and hasn't even bothered trying to move on from her. His past collides with his present, when that same woman comes to the club to apply for the bartender position.

Unable to deny the feelings that Jillian still stirs in him, Ryan wants nothing more than another chance. But Jill still hasn't forgotten Ryan's rejection and leaving her behind caused, and trust no longer comes easy to her. She's not the same submissive that she was over a year ago. The one thing she definitely cannot deny is the fire that still burns between them.

Oh, God"

"No, baby, it's Ryan." He chuckled, the sound a vibration against her flesh.

"I like the way you used to shout my name when you came. I want to hear it again. I've been waiting to hear it for a fucking year and a half."

For a short novella, this book was extremely fulfilling. We get the back story and development of Jill and Ryan's relationship, while also getting a little bit more Adam and my favorite Dom, Ian.

I have been anticipating Ian's book from the very beginning of this series, and the little taste that we get of him in this book will just have to tide me over until October 1st.

How can I help you, Mr. Taggart?"

"You can fuck my Dom in Residence."

"What?"

"Sorry," Taggart said, not sounding sorry at all. "My friend tell me I don't deal with social situations. Supposedly I'm too blunt."

...

"You're kind of the worst fairy godmother ever, you know."

"I don't know. Do you intend to fuck him?"

"Yes."

"Then I would say I'm pretty fucking good. But the next time I have to play fairy godmother, I'm shoving a wand up someone's ass."

I read this book in one sitting and loved every single page of it. I also really loved Jill's sister and hope we'll get a book for her soon. It looks as if we will be getting a book next for my favorite kinky Brit, Simon. Or so I'm hoping!

If you enjoy super steamy BDSM books, you really need to give this series a try.

Now I just have to sit and wait impatiently for Ian's book.

For more of my reviews visit: [Dirty Girl Romance Book Blog](#)

Sandra says

great story, can't wait for Ian, Simon and Jesse's stories

Betty says

Dang, I love the Taggart.

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Shadow's review posted on [Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews](#)

Review copy provided for an honest review.

4.5 STARS

This short story, part of the Masters and Mercenaries series, is about keeping the lines of communication open in a relationship.

Jill and Ryan were in a contracted D/s relationship when his business failed. He found Jill a Dom to take care of her, and went to work as the house Dom at BDSM club Sanctum. He has been there for several years and is just about ready to try again to start up a business when Jill shows up seeking a job at the club.

Neither of them has been able to move beyond their relationship because they really cared for each other. But both of them were trying to live up to their contract rather than talking about their actual feelings and needs. Will that realization enable them to move forward with their relationship or will they fall back into old habits?

This was an excellent short read, with some hot scenes, including spanking and other elements of BDSM. It also emphasizes how important it is for people to actually talk, not rely on what they believe the other partner is thinking. My only complaint is I wanted more!

Mayas says

Happy to get the inside scoop on Ryan. He and Jill reminds me of Eve and Alex. All contract and no communication. I was so happy Ian (wicked fairy god mother) intervened and made them both see the light.

Sandi - Protester of Goofreads says

See Rosebud's review she enjoyed it as much as me and says it much better!

~ Cariad ~ says

4.75 stars - too short, so just misses out on the 5 for me

Other than this being too quick a read, it's perfect!
I love this series so much, it just blows me away.

Well written, so much detail for a novella, I adore all of the characters in the series and the flow is consistently brilliant. You can't go wrong with Ian and his team.

And now for the big one...Ian's story - I'm drooling already!!

Nansy says

The 1st story in between the "Masters and Mercenaries" series.

That story is an air of change at the common routine of the in between stories be about the main characters having a baby, or how tragedy once again hits before a main event like a wedding.
Don't get me wrong, those stories are amazing because it's always a joy to get a glimpse of how the characters (that filled your late night hour and obsessed about- I know you know what I mean, we all been there), after the "happy ever after" was written and delivered, lived. But when you have at your hands something out of the ordinary, you get a thrill, that is what this book is.

The story is a short one. The series so far was about a security firm which is run and operates by Doms doing their "day job". Here we take a taste and a glimpse how their "night job" works.
At the first 4 books we saw plenty of the Sanctum, the Doms and the Submissives, but here we see how the work is done so the Doms can play with their "pets", how a Dom get to graduate to be a Dom and what does it need to land a job at a place like that.

We see how the job is done.....And with that your mind goes to a hot, no ending sex installment.
The sex is kept in the low, but the intimate scenes are hot and the kind that makes you hold your breath till the end and then read them again from the top, making an extremely hot and addicting read.

Ryan a Dom at Ian Taggart's employment, but he wasn't always the employ. He used to be the employer once upon a time with his own business till he lost it all. Letting his fears, about losing his business and his wealth, guide him, he done a terrible mistake by driving the one joy of his life away to the hug of another

man who can provide her more than what he was cable of. Now he lives his day at celibacy, with her memory and the plans of getting back the business he lost.

Fate brought them back together, but still the stubbornness of both meets no ends, because they both want to do what they believe is right and safe for them. Well as u can imagine they are both wrong.

Jullian is between a rock and a hard place, having bills running to pay and two more people to feed beside herself she is forced to work for the one man she loved, the one that sent her off to another man with no obvious strangle doing so. With no options she takes the job believing she is making a mistake that will destroy her again.

They will come face to face with life changing events and they will come through and come together. After all the saying is "love conquers all" even if it a kinky kind of love.

A funny and strongly emotional book with a BDSM theme, as always Lexi Blake gives us strong characters, solid backgrounds – even if it's a short story, intimate scenes that make you hold your breath and an amazing read that makes you let it off your sight only to grab the next one of the series

LINES that made burst out laughing:

He brought his hands up and made a deeply junior-high gesture. "The penis goes into the vagina like this."

"They were very masculine flowers." Bubbling, bubbling leads to made up silly answers guys....

"Oh God" [...] **"No, baby, is Ryan"** I see that line so many times and even in the most intimate scene I laughing nonstop, true story, I am weird that way, hahaha.

"How can I help you, Mr. Taggart?" [...] **"You can fuck my Dom in Residence."**

And the best of them all **"You're kind of the worst fairy godmother ever, you know."** [...] **"Then I say I'm pretty fucking good. But the next time I have to play fairy godmother, I'm shoving a wand up someone's ass."** The said, wand shoving fairy godmother, is IAN TAGGART of all people, if you are familiar with the character then you will be at the floor of your room right about now rolling around by laughing as hard as I laughed at that dialogue...

Kate's Corner says

Sometimes contracts need to be renegotiated.

This is Ryan and Jillian's story. After 18 months they meet again and well the chemistry is still there and the love is also still there but it is buried beneath a lot of hurt and doing the right thing. For the fact that the D/s is based strongly on communication these couples sure do have problems with the communicating.

This is sweet and cute and slightly funny but that is all Adam's doing.

Ms. Blake manages to pack a good strong story into 67 pages not many authors have that kind of talent.

Famous last words.

I'm falling in love with Big Tag
