



Obsession

Ivory Quinn

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My soul was nothing but an ink stain of consequence.
You made me Canute, the foolish man,
Trying to turn back the rolling tide of your dark.
And I drowned.
I drowned.

Gabriel Hallow is a damaged man. Rock star, producer and public enemy number one, he sees his redemption in quiet, wholesome school teacher Noelle Winters. Crashing into her life like a wrecking ball, he smothers her innocence and leads her down the razor's edge between submissive and victim, opening her eyes to things she didn't even know could happen between a man and a woman. Overwhelmed by his generosity and charm, how far will she go to save his soul? And when is it too late to turn back?

* With bondage and multiple scenes of a sexual nature, this descent into the darkest parts of the human psyche is not for the faint of heart, or the under 18s.

Obsession Details

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From Reader Review Obsession for online ebook

Donna ~ The Romance Cover says

OMG what have I just read!!!! 4.5 starsssss!!!

This was just WOW and totally unexpected and to think that this is a debut novel is just amazeballs!!

I really do not know where to start, I am still speechless from the ending...totally unexpected and I am devoid of all sense of feeling..the author was very brave!!

The only reason for 4 stars is that I did not cry, I am a total wimp I will admit and cry at the drop of a hat even when others are laughing..so I was a bit shocked that I didn't cry during this book, I was close but was never tipped over the edge.

Gabriel Hallow was a very broken man it was painful to read about his inner turmoil yet during the book he showed his softer side and it made you feel for him. He is very successful as lead singer of a rock band called Darkness Falls, he is a producer and song writer he is also extremely wealthy. His persona on stage is masked and he revels in the anonymity so nobody has yet put the two together of Mr Hallow and Mr Darkness. Gabriel was abused as a child and this has lead to him being a dominant and having a playroom. But he is lonely, feels that he cannot be fixed and is in need of help. He is currently being ostracised by the public as some of their songs have led to a few teenage suicides so he is public enemy number 1. He really is an enigma!

Gabriel sees Noelle Winters in a local coffee shop and immediately becomes entranced with her to the point of stalking her for days. He eventually plucks up the courage to approach her and decides to spill coffee over to enable this chance meeting, it is a case of insta lust which sometimes can be a bit unbelievable but I did actually believe this with Gabriel as his personality is the type, however it was a bit unbelievable with Noelle. Noelle is a shy, sexually inexperienced school teacher and Gabriel wants her, needs her and wants to break her...but can she be broken???

This is a dark story that takes you into the world of BDSM but not too in depth, it is about Noelle exploring her boundaries and limits and her sexual preferences and Gabriel taking her on that journey. I don't want to say too much as it will give the story away but this is a must read and the ending was just OMG you cannot be serious!!!! You did not just write that, how could you?... This boom does not have a HEA there is no hearts and flowers and all things sparkly, it is raw, aggressive, carnal and very powerful, for a first time author, truly amazing. This is why I love Goodreads and our forums as without these I never would have stumbled across this gem of a book, way to go Ivory Quinn I cannot wait for book 2.

www.theromancecover.com

Saunders says

Before I begin my review I want to make it very clear - do not compare this novel with 50 Shades of Grey. It is inevitable that it will be and yes there is the working class girl and the rich man but that is where any similarities end.

Ivory Quinn's novel takes us on a very different journey of domination, subversion and manipulation. This is no Cinderella story and it could be argued that it is not a love story either but you can also argue that love

comes in many facets and for Gabriel Hallows it was multi coloured. The story contains sex multiple sex scenes and bondage.

The author introduces us to the idea to cognitive dissonance - the theory that suggests that if an individual acts in such a way that contradict their beliefs, then they typically will change their beliefs to align with their actions (or vice-versa).

The synopsis sums the story with "Gabriel Hallow is a damaged man. Rock star, producer and public enemy number one, he sees his redemption in quiet, wholesome school teacher Noelle Winters. Crashing into her life like a wrecking ball, he smothers her innocence and leads her down the razor's edge between submissive and victim, opening her eyes to things she didn't even know could happen between a man and a woman. Overwhelmed by his generosity and charm, how far will she go to save his soul? And when is it too late to turn back?"

I don't think that this scratches the surface of the contents of this story. There were times when I felt such sorrow for Gabriel and there were times I felt disbelief and anger.

When Noelle Winters bumps into Gabriel Hallows little did she know that day would be the day that Gabriel Hallows begin the process to possess her and so begins her descent into the darkest parts of her human psyche. She had no idea who she had literally collided with - the lead singer Darkness Falls. All she sees is a face that was made for sin.

For me this book wasn't just about their relationship, it was also about their personal struggles - Gabriel's inner struggle trying to find redemption and Noelle's struggle trying to come to terms with her acceptance of her submission and what she allows Gabriel to do to her.

For a debut novel this author impressed me with her plot and characters - there is nothing subtle or graceful about them. Their story carries a lot of emotion and Ivory Quinn delivers quite a sting in the tail towards the end of the book one that I did not see coming,

I look forward to the next stage of the storyline, Redemption. It is a pity we have to wait until autumn for its release.

*****Cheryl*** says**

OMG, I think this book made me a little shell shocked. I finished it last night and had a little cry before going to sleep. It has been on my mind all day too. I have not read a book that has stayed with me like this for ages. Its certainly the best freebie from Amazon. I'd already been warned for 92% and that was where the story changed. I didn't expected it. I had to flick back and forward to make sure I read it correctly. I really loved the story and the characters were developed really well. Would have liked to have seen more of Jax from the beginning but I get the feeling he will in book 2 more. Really loved this book and can't wait for the second one.

Kirsty says

[school teacher turned sex freak and said school teacher going from one band mate to the other within the space of days after breaking up from 'the love of your life' (hide spoiler)]

Debra says

★★★ 3 Stars!

When I finished reading this book, I felt a bit like this:

I went from liking, maybe even loving the story, to being confused and growingly frustrated by how things played out. I had this freebie on my Kindle for a while and I was intrigued by the blurb and while I'm still glad I decided to give it a try, the ending didn't exactly leave me satisfied either.

Here's what I liked and didn't like...

What I liked:

✦ **Gabriel** - He was the perfectly imperfect, tortured hero. Granted, he came off as a bit of a stalker at first, but I quickly got over that and started to fall for his mysterious bad boy ways. Experiences from his past made him always want to be in control and I think that was the biggest source of frustration between him and Noelle. Being dominated isn't something she's used to and it took a lot of time for her to surrender herself to him.

✦ **The writing style and editing** - The author has a way of catching your attention and making you engrossed in the story before you even realize it. I really enjoyed the way she wove the story together and how the two main characters came to meet and get to know each other at the beginning, right up until the final few chapters.

✦ **The first 65% of the story** - From alternating POV's we follow Gabriel and Noelle as they meet, get to know each other better and start a quickly developing passionate relationship. They're very different, she being a sweet innocent school teacher and him being a depraved rockstar/public enemy number one, but it was interesting to see the two of them together and I was rooting for them to get their HEA.

What I didn't like:

✗ **Noelle** - At first, she seemed like an okay heroine, but as the story went on she started to annoy me more and more. I couldn't connect with her in any way and the decisions she made didn't make her very likable. She came across as selfish and a bit aloof and I actually felt sorry for Gabriel because he kept pouring his heart out and she never fully returned his feelings.

✗ **The last 35% of the story** - From here on out, the story went downhill for me. I began to have this sense of dread and a suspicion that something bad was going to happen and well...I was right. Somehow, the story also lost my full attention and I wasn't as enraptured with it as I was during the first half so when the "big revelation" finally came it didn't affect me as much and it also didn't come as a complete surprise.

*

Overall, this was an enjoyable read and the first 60% would have received 4 stars from me, but the last few chapters were a bit all over the place, which makes it a solid 3 star read! I'm not sure if I'll continue to read the rest of the series though...

You should also know, there's **no happy ending**, and I don't really like it when that happens. :(

Moving on to a happier read! ;)

Erica says

I finished this book yesterday and it left me so emotionally drained I had to wait a day to review it. No spoilers here, I despise them, I want to experience the best parts of a book through the book, not a review.

I adore this book, it's well written, the characters are real and you can connect with them emotionally. This book took twists and turns near the end threw me the biggest curve ball of all. It was a shock and not the direction I saw this book going in.

Gabriel Hallow is a damaged man. Rock star, producer and public enemy number one, he sees his redemption in quiet, wholesome school teacher Noelle Winters. Crashing into her life like a wrecking ball, he smothers her innocence and leads her down the razor's edge between submissive and victim, opening her eyes to things she didn't even know could happen between a man and a woman. Overwhelmed by his generosity and charm, how far will she go to save his soul? And when is it too late to turn back?

Gabriel. The man does have some serious issues, his need to be in control could have been portrayed in a thousand different ways, but his chosen path was BDSM, which honestly doesn't give him the ultimate power, but gives it to the submissive. His past has made him who he is and this is his idea of control.

Gabriel was a strong character, I loved him and despised him. I wanted him to find peace, come to terms with his haunted past and find some type of closure with it. Not to save him, not to change his entire lifestyle but I wanted him to understand it more and be able to become more than just a man living to rid himself of his past.

Noelle. The simple school teacher. She's only had vanilla sex and never been with a man like Gabriel. I know realistically her choices were what most people would make, not rushing to fall in love and marry a man she didn't know all she needed to know about. She looked at their relationship logically which I appreciate. I understand her character but to an extent I didn't connect with her as much as I would have liked. She's a strong female character which I love, but I honestly didn't see how Noelle and Gabriel could have a lasting relationship. Really she made smart choices concerning their relationship, if your not completely comfortable with the situation then don't jump to commit to it. I got that but at some point in this story I began to blame her for Gabriel's inability to become the man I hoped he would be. I realize after giving the book a day to settle that I was wrong to do that, but while reading it, you realize how much Gabriel needs her, wants her to accept him, love him as he is, as no one has done before. It's not Noelle's fault, but I need someone to blame.

I'm still coming to terms with the last 6% of this book. I really had no clue this is the way things would end. Even though I considered Gabriel's behavior in the end once he left the final meeting, I honestly was shocked

by what happened. I cried. This was not what I expected, there were no real signs this is how it would end, it was a slap in the face, a shock to my system, and broke my heart.

There's nothing better than a book that draws you in emotionally and won't let you go. Obsession did that for me. You don't get closure at the end of this book, the story continues and I'm looking forward to seeing where it goes.

This is not your typical BDSM novel, it's not your typical boy meets girl happily ever after.

There is no happy ending.

There is second book to continue this journey.

It's been awhile since a book hit me as hard as this one did, and I'm grateful it did, this book is what I love about reading, the range of emotion it drags out of the reader, the feelings you have in regards to each character, the not knowing whose side you truly want to be on because while each character has their flaws, you see a future for both of them, one where they are complete, have what they need to be the person you envision they can be. By the end of this book neither of them became that person. And only one of them came to terms with their choices, their life and their behavior. Honestly the morning after I'm still broken hearted for both Gabriel and Noelle, as well as Jax and Roger.

Thank you Ivory Quinn for an amazing story.

Michelle says

Gabriel watches Noelle. He watches her as she sips her coffee, while she works, at home in her kitchen. He watches her. He wants her. He wanted to break her.

Noelle is just your average woman. She is a school teacher living with very little in the way of luxury, but that is all about to change when a handsome stranger walks into her life. She is drawn to him, unsure if it is his good looks, that damning smile or some other unseen thing that pulls her to him. But she gives in.

The attraction is instant, but Gabriel is holding back. He must confess some dark secrets before he can move forward with her. Noelle is suddenly thrown into a relationship with a man that is the anonymous lead singer of Darkness Falls and man that has a deep need to control. She has never had much experience with sex. But Gabriel is bound to push her to the edge of her limits to expose her to the darkest parts of her mind.

As she is opened up to his lifestyle, a place where the lines are blurred between pain, pleasure, reward and punishment - she see's that this man seeking such control is horribly broken. As he confesses his darkest secrets, she knows he is utterly broken. Damaged. Fixing him might be impossible, he may not want to be fixed but she wants to find a way to save this man. Give him the forgiveness, absolution, redemption he needs

*'My soul was nothing but an ink stain of consequence.
You made me Canute, the foolish man,
Trying to turn back the rolling tide of your dark.
And I drowned.
I drowned.
But I drown no more.
For she walks with me on the razor's edge
Where love has blurred the difference between right and wrong.
She is the last bastion against the rolling dark,
The prophet to your blooded sea.
I am no longer your boy king.
I am the gatekeeper, I AM the gate
And, as long as she holds the keys to my soul,
I will drown no more.
I will drown no more.*

To say that this was just a glimpse into a dark place is an understatement. A man who is seeking control of others because he had no control over what happened to him. A man seeking peace for himself by giving his demons to someone else to carry. He will break her to save himself. He will find his salvation by finding the one person who breaking will be his damnation.

To say this book destroyed me is an understatement. This was not expected - this shattered me with one knock on a door. With three words written on the top of a page. A statement. A truth. Three words that brought me to my knees.

This book dives into the dark world of BDSM when a man uses this as a coping mechanism for his own pain rather than for a place to find pleasure. He will use and abuse his control - her willingness to please him.

This story will rock you and haunt you. This left me feeling a tightness in my throat and even after hours of trying to sort out my own emotions I am still broken. I knew this had a twist that was going to be difficult to take, I had no idea what that was going to be, but even in trying to prepare myself by not becoming too attached to Gabriel and Noelle - I couldn't help it. He draws you in. They are captivating when it is just them, the banter, the love, the light - even in the dark places you are drawn to them. But you just can't help but let them in...so when it happens, you have no escape.

Ivory Quinn wrote a wonderful story that will enchant you and break you.

Jessica Viteri says

Well then...

Let me just put it out there and give you a big, fat spoiler: this does NOT have a happy ending. Do not come into this book thinking the female lead and male lead live happy ever after. Come into this book with an open mind. It's not for the weak of heart. But it most definitely IS a well written story. The twist and turns make you want to keep reading page after page. Some parts get very...intense. Looking forward to the sequel.

Jenn Green says

"It's an expression, Gabriel. I don't really think you'd drive me crazy. It's a distinct possibility that I'd end up as a depraved nympho, but whether that's a mental illness or not is entirely open to debate."
"A depraved nympho? It might be all kinds of wrong, Kitten, but I'd really like to see that..."

Ummm, Wow. This review is gonna be a struggle, I'm at a complete loss here. Totally floored. I CANNOT BELIEVE this is a debut novel. I'm very much looking forward to a whole lot more from this author, if terrified at the same time.

This is NOT your average love story, hell I don't know what I could classify it as. Dark, definitely that. Intense, provocative, thought-provoking, heartbreaking, shocking, and oh yeah-Dark...have I mentioned that? It most certainly is not light hearted. You will giggle, blush, cringe, curse & cry, so sooo many emotions. Oh & by the way, I am totally in love with Jax, just sayin. Don't worry, you'll meet him ;)

'She was so wholesome and innocent she made his teeth ache. He wanted to break her.'

I can't really dive too deeply into the plot, this really is one of those stories you just have to let unfold to truly experience it properly. It will take you places emotionally, it will be uncomfortable at times, but you have to let it play out. Gabriel is just so damaged he will tear you apart. You will feel terrible for him, you will love him & hate him, you will struggle to understand him & desperately want to fix him.

"You're a dangerous man, Gabriel Hallow." She said quietly, after a moments thought. It was thrilling to have a conversation with someone so clearly intelligent, but his subversive ideas, especially when presented with such rational clarity, were speaking to some dark places inside that made her uncomfortable.
"Only to you kitten. I will persuade you to abandon yourself to me."
"I'm a school teacher. I don't do wild things. I don't go out drinking or take risks. I'm pretty sure I'll never forget who I am long enough to let go completely."
He let out a low, rumbling chuckle that stirred her libido and she knew she was lost. "We'll see kitten. We'll see..."

Noelle was beyond words. Her kind-hearted nature & innocence is what draws him to her in the first place & his desire to break her into submission. What I loved about her is she doesn't bend quietly or meekly. She doesn't understand her reactions to his dominance, so she openly questions it to him & often. She's discovering a whole different version of herself and she struggles to accept it. Her inner turmoil is gut wrenching. She likes what he does to her, though she hates to admit, even to herself, and is ashamed of it.

"I've never met anyone like you before. You're so...sinful. I don't know why I let you do the things you do. I'm ashamed to think of them in the cold light of day. I hardly know you, and yet I let you go down on me in the back seat of a car. You just...overwhelm me."

But the ending?!? Freakin hell, the ending destroyed me. Knocked me on my ass, kicked me in the stomach & ripped my heart out. I never, EVER, expected that. I think I'm still in complete shock, it just doesn't seem real. Which is just ridiculous, I know, I mean it's just a book right?? But that is what this author does to you.

She completely pulled me into this story, totally submerged, and then she drowned me, left me gasping. I am gonna be climbing the walls with a death-grip on my sanity waiting for the next book & it wasn't even a cliffhanger. I'm just desperate to see what happens next.

'For my demons...I shall slay you one by one. And I shall drown no more.'

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

Currently FREE 4/2/14 - sounds really good too!

<http://amzn.to/1osaPK2>

Vishous says

NO, JUST NO.....

the progress of the story, the way it's all happening... I just don't feel it...

I don't feel him, I don't feel her and I don't feel the story at all :(

I need build up chemistry, I don't even mind insta lust/love but this... this just isn't griping me to see how would I feel after some more....

the first passage made me think "oh this is gonna be good", but literally the second one killed that hope!

I am missing something, don't know how to describe it, but it's just kinda weird and stupid :(

but that is only my opinion and maybe you would really love it :)

I am kinda curious to see what goes on behind tags "dark bdsm erotica" for this book but obviously not so curious to actually get to that part because the writing isn't doing it for me :(

it's just not for me :(

who knows maybe I'll give it another try in the future...

VEL says

Holly Molly does this book creep up on you to catch you and keep you snared into its spidery web.

Gabriel is a hot controlling alpha-male rock star. He is dark, broken and damaged. He literally places himself

will be reeling from the ending of this book but it is also tied up so your not left panting for the next book. In this case for me it's going to be OK to have a gap as this story is going to resonate with me for quite some time.

Mimi says

This book caught me off guard , and i loved it!! It was a very entertaining and twisted book full of surprises . I really fell in love with Gabriel ,i never thought he would have been a character i would have fallen for ,he was tough but full of emotion.

At some point my heart actually hurt for him ,how much he felt that he loved Noelle , it was just to overwhelming .

Noelle was also a lovely character super cute and innocent . But i wish she would have been more understanding maybe i just dont know this book left me a mess ! Truly but it was worth it .

Some darkness for you.....

Janey says

I liked the concept of this story. The author wrote it well, and I thought Noelle was a great character, and we were just getting to know Jax too..

BUT I just didn't connect with Gabriel at all, and I think because of that, I found some of the scenes uncomfortable. Don't get me wrong..I like a bit of BDSM, but I just couldn't "see" Gabriel in my minds eye. I wanted him to be endearing..I wanted him to be saved from his darkness..

With that said, I will pick up #2 to see where the author goes with this story, as I loved her style.

