



Maxen

Stephanie Witter

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They were married but never kissed.

That night years ago never had consequences...until now.

"I wasn't into the love bullshit and I didn't really believe in forever between two people."

If I had my way, I would have never seen Maxen Walton again, the womanizing drummer of Kinky Shine.

When I met him in college he was already going through girls as if they were disposable. I had always hated him. Yet, for some drunken reason I ended up marrying him in Las Vegas. That night, right before I puked in the fake flowers and left the tacky chapel was the last time I had laid eyes on him.

Until my boyfriend asked me to marry him.

Now, I was in LA trying to get a divorce from my husband without the press hearing about it.

What I didn't expect was that my famous husband affected me and that getting to know him would change a lot more than I ever planned.

"All I saw now was Lark, always and forever out of my reach, always driving me crazy."

I had only ever met one woman who equally drove me crazy and made me want her until I forgot my name.

Lark Hardin.

And I married her one crazy night in Las Vegas.

Freshly out of rehab and trying like hell to get back in the game while convincing my best friend I wouldn't relapse, seeing my wife again was the last thing I needed for that.

Life liked f*cking with me, though.

Here she was, so sexy I would damn myself to be inside her just once, but she wasn't here for me. She was here to get a divorce so her perfect boyfriend had free range to marry her.

She still hated my guts on the sole principle that I was a womanizing f*cker, but maybe she would open her eyes and see beyond that part of me.

I just hoped it wouldn't be just for the sex because this woman had always been my weakness.

She had the power to destroy me.

"I'd spent the better part of my life hiding behind my bright smile and loud laugh, pushing everything away by using sex, but that was over."

*For readers over 18.

Can be read as a standalone but if you want the full *Kinky Shine* experience don't miss the first book.*

Maxen Details

Date :

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Author : Stephanie Witter

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From Reader Review Maxen for online ebook

Heather andrews says

Maxen has just impeccable manners, “it’d be easier to talk if you sat on the couch instead of standing up in the middle of the effing room.” Maxen is quite the honest man, “I’m hard and too horny not to jump on you.” There are times Maxen likes to be fast paced, and other times not so much, “there will never be anything slow between us, unless it’s about *** because going slow can be effing good.” I loved this book, Maxen was so lovable and sexy.

Book-Bosomed blog says

DNFed in the freaking prologue!!!

I debated about signing up for this one. I knew Maxen had been a manwhore and had a drug habit, and I knew the heroine was seeing someone else. The *Sweet Home Alabama* premise was either going to work or not, and I figured a lot of that depended on the story focusing on the H and the h and not other people. But I had hopes that the author could pull it off. The only reason I considered this title was because Dex, the first book in the series, was so well written and the rockstar hero was a celibate wet dream, a refreshing spin for sure. So color me utterly disappointed that the opening scene of Maxen is one of the most trite, overused, and unromantic tropes in romance.

When oh when will this ‘h hears/sees the H having sex with another woman’ theme go away??? It’s like a bad venereal disease that not only keeps coming back, it spreads. It’s unoriginal, unattractive, and it’s completely counterproductive to creating chemistry between the H & h. I can’t unread it, and I can’t connect with the characters as a couple afterwards.

My supermarket was out, so this one gets tossed in the DNF pile.

Edited to add: I should also note that the entire chapter of the prologue is written in italics. This is very annoying and unnecessary. As the prologue, it’s easily understood that it’s taking place before the rest of the chapters or in the past. Italics is something to be used sparingly.

**I volunteered to review this ARC. All reviews written by Book-Bosomed Book Blog are honest opinions. In the interest of providing unbiased book reviews and to avoid misleading other readers, it is the blog’s policy not to withhold or delay any reviews no matter the star rating. To the best of my knowledge, this title was presented to the blog without any conditions or stipulations.*

Victoria Smiser says

Contrary to the tagline “whatever happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas” isn’t necessarily true. Particularly for Maxen Walton, the legendary Rock Star, drummer for the band Kinky Shine. Despite a drunken fight to Las Vegas with the band and friends while in college, there might have been a drunken bet. Shortly after Vegas the band was signed to a recording contract. Now five years later, the memory of a little oops has never left him, and now that oops is demanding to be acknowledged and resolved. Maxen’s only tangible memory is

the plain silver ring he wears on a chain around his neck. Despite years filled with successful creative music, countless one-night stands, a comfortable home, and more money than he can possibly spend, the memory of that trip to Vegas has never left his dreams and memories of the one who got away.

To be completely honest, I was not prepared to love this book as much as I did! Stephanie Witter has captured real and engaging characters, the fact that they play music for a living is secondary to the bond and humor they share. Hysterical dialogs, confessions, intrusive press, worried parents, conniving parents, and the fact that passion can only be masked for just so long, make this a non-stop read. Happy to give MAXEN five stars, as I plan to re-read and enjoy again.

Book-Lover Book Blog says

Move over Lark Hardin, I want me some Maxen Walton!! Boy is this character Hot, not only is he a pretty face but he's also the kickass drummer from Kinky Shine. This tattoos, muscles and swoon worthy grin would make any woman weak at the knees.

Lark is nice, but she could be irritating in a stuck-up, snooty Kinda way. She's the polar opposite of Maxen but they're oddly suited, in a roundabout kind of way.

I found the 'steamy scenes' a little long winded and seemed to go on forever and ever and I thought to myself 'girl, you need to get him naked already' but it was still hot none-the-less.

Loved the whole storyline, it's different from anything I've read before and it was eye-catching and adrenaline-rushing all at once.

Another fabulous story from Stephanie Witter, I'm a huge fan and her work never ceases to amaze me.

Doris says

The Kinky Shine series just keeps getting better. Ms. Witter has given us yet again another rock romance that you can't put down. There is a fine line between love and hate and that is exactly what Lark has going on with Maxen. They had known each other since Lark's freshman year at college because Alan, who is a close cousin to Lark, was friends with the guys in the rock band Kinky Shine.

Their very first meeting was one for the books. Lark had been disgusted with Maxen and the way he lived his sex life which really wasn't out of line for a sexy looking drummer in a band about to make it big. Lark made it known to Maxen that she wasn't like the other girls he was normally with. A quick trip to Vegas Lark and Maxen got married on a dare while partying hard to celebrate with the guys signing with a label. No consummation to this marriage since Lark had taken off for home the very next morning wanting to forget what had happened.

Now five years later what better thing to tell your current boyfriend that you can't accept his proposal for marriage because you are already married! Things just get better from there when Lark heads to LA to ask Maxen for a divorce. I loved the chemistry between these two which is what made this book so d*mn good. I can't wait for this series to continue and even though Maxen could be a standalone do yourself a favor and read Dex's story first.

I received this book as an ARC for a freely given and honest review.

Jennifer Aldrich says

A behind the scenes look at a rockstar's life. Maxen is book two in the Kinky Shine series. Book two follows the drummer of the band that we met in book one. Maxen can be read as a standalone, but I suggest you read book one as it reveals information that enhances this book. Maxen has everything you need in a book. You have drama, romance, secrets, and heat.

When reading the blurb, I knew I had to give this book a try. I love enemies to loves and fake marriages, which is kinda what this book is about. The author did a great job writing this plot. It wasn't just a single plot. There was a main plot with several smaller plots that intertwined and added such depth to the book. I was impressed with how well the plot of this book came together.

Lark is my favorite character so far. She has such a feisty attitude that I can get behind. What I love most about her is that she uses her attitude as a shield. She has walls built up, even if she isn't sure why. She has this ideal of a perfect life which doesn't necessarily pan out for her. I loved her journey. Then you have Maxen. My heart has always ached for him, but this book made it ache even more. He is such a strong and happy guy, on the outside. Inside, he has a lot of pain and suffering that he hides behind his smile. He has a reputation that follows him around like a dark shadow, but he embraces it rather than dispute it. I was waiting on his journey because I knew he needed something to change in his life.

The heat between these two burns up the pages. They each feel the attraction towards each other, but due to their past, they resist. Their constant bickering with each other adds another layer of tension in the air. Once they finally slip, sparks are flying. Maxen is a sexy man with a dirty mouth. Lark is an attractive woman with a lot to explore. Put these two together and they are bound to combust.

The writing style of this book is done very well. The pace of the book is steady. I love the back and forth between the characters. It is like they take a small step forward then two large steps back. It has such a style to it that you feel invested in the characters. You feel like everything is happening organically. This story has many layers. There are some minor changes I would have personally made, but honestly, it is just me nit picking at this point. This is an amazing read.

Overall, this is a wonderful book. I give this book 5 stars because I lost myself inside it. I had to know if there would be a happy ending for Lark and Maxen. I also loved the minor characters as well. I cannot wait to see the other two members of the band get their own stories. This band has captured my heart.

Ratings:

Plot: 5/5

Characters: 5/5

Heat: 5/5

Writing Style: 5/5

Overall: 5/5

Mojo_Mama says

H did not cheat on h. They were never together romantically before they met again. They HATED each other and there are no chapters of them in college. I'm only adding this review because one reviewer influenced so many by complaining about the Prologue. There were no OW in this book beyond the prologue. The H was a manwhore and a recovering addict (he started taking drugs cuz the h moved in with her BF). He only has eyes for the h from chapter one to end.

♥?Fantasy Land Blog Book Reviewer♥? says

I LOVED this story. I am not big on second-chance stories but this one is not like that. There is no real history between these two characters other than a small friendship (more like drove each other crazy), so when they get married on a dare and Maxen disappears the next day to get on with his band life. Nobody is the wiser. Until Lark is proposed to and she needs to get a divorce.

When Maxen and Lark get back into each other's sight the chemistry jumps off the pages. I love Maxen. There is nothing about this book I would change. I couldn't put this story down! I was so happy to have read this book for my honest review. I can't wait for the next story.

Nadia Debowska-Stephens (Obsessed by Books) says

This is my first in this series and my first by this author and I was totally sucked into the Kinky Shine world. When the past and the future collide it leaves Lark with a bitter taste in her mouth, having buried her head in the sand her moment of madness has returned to haunt her. This is an almost sending chance romance as first time around they got off to a bad start and it quickly became annoyance and frustration. Second time around they are more mature and realise that maybe the attraction they feel is something worth exploring. Both characters have things they need to work through before they can be open with each other but the spark between them is undeniable.

I really enjoyed this, it was fast paced with a little angst a journey of self discovery and a couple twists thrown in. I enjoyed the characters even though they were frustrating at times and I wanted to slap them that I always take that as a sign of a gifted author as I am invested in the characters. I love the rockstar genre and I would recommend this story.

A four and a half star kinky shine read.

~*~ Reviewed on behalf of Obsessed by Books ~*~

Julie says

A wonderful story.

Lark unfortunately has to turn down her boyfriends proposal of marriage because she foolishly married someone else for a bet. The guy in question was someone from college, and he's now a famous rock star. He doesn't act like a married man at all but Maxen still remembers that drunken night and Lark's sudden disappearance, and her reappearance and seeking a quick divorce, has opened a lot of long forgotten feelings for Maxen. They have a lot to discuss.

The plot was well thought out and beautifully written, and I was drawn into Maxen and Lark's story. They had chemistry but it took a long time for them to realize and when they did there was no stopping them. This is an emotional read and steamy, I enjoyed it very much and would highly recommend it as a sexy read!

Brittany from Can't Quit Books says

Lark should be having the most amazing night of her life, but unfortunately, she just had to turn down her boyfriend's proposal because she is already married. Maxen is a rock star who doesn't act like he is married, but still remembers that drunken night in Vegas. What should be a quick divorce turns into a whirlwind of events. Will Lark get the divorce she is wanting, or will she see that things aren't always what they seem? Lark is stubborn, outgoing, and outspoken. She says what she is thinking and doesn't care what anyone thinks. She is very protective of those she loves and has such a big heart.

Maxen is a womanizer who hides his pain behind extracurricular activities. He uses his smile and laugh to distract others from getting to know the real him.

These two have hated each other from the start, and they cannot have a conversation without arguing. The chemistry between these two is apparent to everyone but them. The back and forth between these characters was tension packed and you tell when they started to shift from hate to love. Their walls around their hearts start to crumble and you finally get to see the softer, more vulnerable side of both characters.

This book was such a fun read. Learning about these characters and their friends left me wanting more. I'm going back to read Dex now. His story seems very intriguing. I can't wait to see how his story began and how the other guys' stories play out.

-An ARC was generously provided in exchange for an honest review.-

Danii Hughes says

Maxen and larks book was so so brilliant I bloody loved it so much there is so much chemistry between maxen and lark it takes a while for lark to realise it.

Deep down maxen always knew there was something special about lark.

When I was reading their story it's tugged at my heart and gave me so many feelings.

Well done Stephanie witter on yet another book you never fail to amaze me with the words your write ♡?

Danielle Marlowe says

I've been waiting on this story. Stephanie Witter did a wonderful job on it. The story was well written and had a great plot. I couldn't put the book down. Maxen and Lark were perfect together. I enjoyed their journey. They were made for each other. Maxen and Lark's connection was strong and the chemistry was sexy. This was a great read. I enjoyed it. I recommend reading. Thank you, Stephanie Witter. Great work :) 5 Stars!

Aaly says

*** ARC kindly provided by the author for an honest review. ***

This is not a secret, I've been expecting Maxen for so long and I had to admit that sometimes you tend to be disappointed once you read the book.

Damn it was definitely not.

I went into this intense and passionate ride, about two people who married years ago but never been together? Insane, right? Well, it's Maxen and Lark's story. All started with an uncomfortable encounter and a wedding later, they became strangers.

I was so excited to read their story. Maxen might be seen like the playful and joyful one, being a womanizer but his smiles were hiding all the ugly and scars he tried to bury, with all the partying and also women. He had this emptiness and sadness that he kept out to the world. Hidden between all the smiles and easy-going personality.

Lark nailed the art of « I love you/ I hate you », seeing only what Maxen wanted to people to see, a womanizer who was just enjoying the benefits of fame. Thing is, she felt more for him that she wanted to, instead of giving a chance, she turned that fire into such anger and hate for a man she had obviously judged too quickly.

There was more depth that you would have expected for a « rock star » romance. The author managed perfectly to show how two people who obviously were in love could draw a line and turned it into hate. Showing their flaws, the ups and downs, bringing such passion and intensity. I loved it!

They might not have started their relationship in a usual way but that what remained, all the deepest feelings that awoke every they were together.

They were hot-tempered at times, knowing exactly how to drive the other mad but always honest and true to each other. They made me smile so freaking hard.

The road to happiness might have been long, with some dark days but the outcome was so worth it, bringing them together, fighting against their fears and demons, surrounded by friends and family.

Book Reading Gals says

THOUGHTS: This was my first book by Stephanie Witter, but I can assure you it won't be the last. Even without reading book one in this series, it was easy to connect with the story and the characters. Maxen is an excellent frenemies/rock star type romance, and the author did an excellent job of not just capturing that, but also the emotions between these characters. I loved the angst and the sheer need that Maxen radiated, which me left me eagerly devouring this book. If you have like the Preload series by Scarlett Cole, the Bad Habit series by J.T Geissinger, Rock kiss by Nalini Singh, or the Shaken Dirty series by Tracy Wolff, you will really enjoy Maxen as well!

Review by: Sarah
<http://www.thebookreadinggals.com>

