



Lilith

Willow Aster

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Not your typical prostitute ... this is a story of unconditional love.

Beautiful, intelligent, independent, strong-willed, wealthy—Lilith Fontenot seems by all appearances, to have it all. But that's not how the highest paid prostitute in New Orleans sees herself.

A stain on society. A scourge. A waste. Outsider. Prisoner...

Any idyllic dream of the normal life she may have once imagined, Lilith buried long ago. Her only plan now is survival.

But mob boss Nico Santelli and community center owner Soti Christos have not given up on Lilith. Each has his own very specific, very opposing, plans for her, and neither will rest until it becomes a reality.

LILITH is a singularly bracing take on an ancient tale of tireless love, betrayal, and the possibility of redemption.

(This book was formerly titled WHORE)

Lilith Details

Date : Published (first published December 26th 2017)

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Author : Willow Aster

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From Reader Review Lilith for online ebook

Eve Recinella (Between The Bookends) says

The first 50% of this book was solid 5-Star material. Then halfway through a character pulled the biggest shit for brains move that overshadowed the entire second half. I was left going...seriously? You believe that of her knowing all you know about her life up until that point?? The threats made against her?? I also felt the second half of the book was rushed with too many jumps in time and a lot of over the top events.

That said, I still found myself pulled into the story. This is the first book I have read from this author but it won't be my last. She has a very captivating way of writing. I loved the setting of New Orleans. The pace was good for the first 50%. Like I mentioned above I found the second half to be rushed and I am not particularly a fan of time jumps in my books and the second half used this technique a lot. The plot was engaging and kept me turning the pages. It was full of feels and heartbreak but also hope and redemption. There were a few sex scenes but I wouldn't say it was overly spicey. There was a nice selection of secondary characters as well.

Both of the main characters were likable (mostly). For the first half of the book I ADORED Soti. He was sweet. He treated Lilith like gold. He wore his heart on his sleeve. Then the halfway point came and I have to say Soti lost some of his luster for me. He was too quick to think the worst of Lilith considering he knew about her previous life. The threats made against her, etc. I mean for heavens' sake did he forget the damn car chase?? How do you claim to love someone from the ends of earth and back, but a SINGLE letter convinces you that it was all a lie??!! He seemed to be a somewhat intelligent man, so how could he not put two and two together? He gave up on her SO easily...sigh. Lilith I loved from beginning to the end. She was a strong heroine. She had to be with all the shit that kept getting thrown at her. Last, it was all wrapped up in a sweet ending that again was rushed for me. I would have liked more page space given to Soti and Lilith (view spoiler) All in all though I enjoyed it quite a lot, so yours truly is giving this one two thumbs up.

TheCrazyWorldOfABookLover says

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"I think my whole life has been leading me to you."

This book was such a pleasant surprise. Having found out about this from another author, I was actually nervous to read it. There seems to be a lot of mixed opinions, with people saying they either loved it or hated it. For me, I most definitely enjoyed this story, **especially** after the halfway mark.

Short summary of the book: Whore is about Lilith. Her occupation: I think you can guess, right? She's a prostitute forced to work in a whore house run by her own selfish and vindictive mother. Her ex Nico is in the mafia, and though they haven't communicated in years, he's still oddly infatuated with her. But there's another unexpected man who comes into her life. Soti. I don't want to say much about either man or what happens in the story, but I will say this took some unexpected turns and has some mystery woven in. And while there were some slow moments, the author would just drop in little unexpected bombs (one moment you think all is fine and then the next sentence, BAM!) that had me speed reading to see how it'd all turn out.

What I loved: I couldn't put this damn book down. Though the writing is a little ... odd (I honestly can't think of the word for it. It was sort of choppy, sort of simplistic? It also did that whole "telling not showing" thing most people hate but I don't know why, it kind of worked here. At some points, it kind of reminded me of Tarryn Fisher's writing.) I NEEDED to know what was up with Lili's mother and why Nico was doing what he was. I ADORED Soti. What a fucking man.

"I want to right every wrong that's ever been done to you. Not because of obligation, but because my heart burns for you, Lili—you've given it a reason to start beating."

And his and Lili's insta-lust-love-whatever actually kind of worked, too. I'm usually the first person to proclaim how much I hate insta-*anything*. But I swear to Christ their relationship was making me **stupidly emotional**.

"His lips are my redemption, laying claim on something in me that hasn't been alive until now."

Maybe it was the way Soti so fiercely wanted to protect Lili. Maybe it was the way he just so easily went all in for her. Maybe it was the way they were just so sure about the other. Whatever it was, I was ALL about them together.

"Our bodies leave no room for doubt. She engraves her name on my heart; I know exactly

when it happens. She leans back just long enough to look in my eyes, as if checking to see if this is real. What she sees there reassures her, and we both shake with the knowledge of it. Two lost souls, found."

My only two complaints: I wanted more backstory on Nico!! As the antagonist of the story, we really get so little on him, his motives, his personality, his background. I for one love getting inside the head of the bad guy. Especially those in the mob. I really think the book would have benefited from getting his POV or just more info on him. The author also heavily used time jumps to move the story forward, which I'm just personally not the biggest fan of.

But I have to say **the ending of this made the book for me. I loved it.** It started a little slow, and with little given in the blurb, I wasn't sure where this story would go. It turned out to be a really good read and I just love when you wind up devouring a book, not thinking you'd even really enjoy it.

*"Our kiss feels like saltwater and sunshine and blood and pain and bliss, culminating in two hearts finally syncing up to the same heartbeat. Believing.
To believe in love is to accept it, to be sure of it.
I finally believe."*

Whore is out now! | <http://amzn.to/2ku7paZ>

Find Me On:
Instagram ♥ FB Page ♥ FB Blog ♥ Blog ♥ Twitter

Christine (Shh Moms Reading) says

Enjoy a look into Whore. Thank you to Becca the Bibliophile for the amazing trailer!
<https://vimeo.com/247272664>

This is Willow's first book out in 2 years and WOW! She completely blew me away! With romance that will touch your heart and soul, edge of your seat suspense, and a unique story that kept me glued to my kindle, this is her BEST WORK YET!

I can't wait for you all to read this one!! Whore is a complete masterpiece!

Preorder:

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SueBee★bring me an alpha!★ says

LIVE! | AMZ US | AMZ UK | B&N | KOBO |

Stand-alone.

LIVE! | AMZ US | AMZ UK | B&N | KOBO |

Blurb:

“I need a reason to exist.”

Beautiful, intelligent, independent, strong-willed, wealthy—Lilith Fontenot seems by all appearances, to have it all. But that’s not how the highest paid prostitute in New Orleans sees herself.

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Any idyllic dream of the normal life she may have once imagined, Lilith buried long ago. Her only plan now is survival.

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WHORE is a singularly bracing take on an ancient tale of tireless love, betrayal, and the possibility of redemption.

ARC provided to me by author Willow Aster in exchange for an honest review.

Christy says

4 stars!!!

It's been a while since I've read a Willow Aster book, and I couldn't wait to read this one! Her writing is so stunning and poetic. *Whore* was one of those books that captivated me from the start.

The title *Whore* describes the leading lady, Lilith. It's her job, the family trade. It's not what she wants to be, but it's all she knows. She's not a cheap whore, though. She's expensive. She's from New Orleans and lives in a house that's been in her family for generations. She thinks this is all her life will ever be. Until she meets Soti.

“I think my whole life has been leading me to you.”

Soti... that man was near perfect. I adored him. He was swoony, sweet, and loved Lilith. I loved his big heart. As much as I liked Lilith, Soti stole the show for me. This story was so complex and had so many things I want to talk about, but I don't want to spoil it for anyone! It had hella angst, made me angry at times, broke my heart at times, but by the end, I was content. My heart was happy again.

I love reading addictive stories, and that is the best word to describe this read. Addictive. I love book that can hook me from the start. The writing was phenomenal, the story was unique, and even though there were a few small things that didn't jive with me, I still enjoyed it overall. If you're a fan of angsty and suspenseful reads, I would recommend this one!

Angie - Angie's Dreamy Reads says

DNF 58%. I wanted to love it, I just struggled with the writing, the characters, the pacing, and ultimately the instalove that carried this storyline. I couldn't connect to the chemistry between the characters and didn't believe the connection they had. I kind of blame my high expectations going in to the book. For some reason I expected a wickedly sexy love triangle. This isn't that. At all. It's totally different. I just couldn't get into it.

Malene says

Whore started out amazing. Fast paced and intriguing characters. I ate the story up but close to the 50% mark I felt the story started to fizzle out and I lost interest. Nothing happened. It wasn't until the 85% that the story started to pick up again. Lili was a great character who never gave up despite the cards she was dealt and the same can be said about the gorgeous and kind Soti. These two were incredible and I enjoyed their scenes together which delivered laughs, romance and heartbreak. Overall a great book.

Maybe my expectations were too high cause I'm left feeling a little disappointed.

3 BadAssDirtySotiStars

Wil Loves Books! says

Really, really good!

This was simply a great read. Kept me on my toes the entire time. Super likeable main characters you would want to root for the entire time. Although I own many Willow Aster books, this is the first one I've actually read. It definitely won't be my last.

Pavlina Read more sleep less blog ❤️❤️ says

4 UNIQUE STARS

REVIEW TO COME!

Paige says

5 “Believing” Stars

Gah! I just loved this book. The story was compelling and intense. It was swoon-worthy to the max and left me breathless more than once. It was so much more than I expected and I expected a lot based on the blurb and that gorgeous cover.

Whore is a story about Lilith who the book is named after. She's been groomed for her role her whole life growing up under her mother's tutelage. She does her job, she's good at it, and doesn't expect much else. Making attachments is something she learned not to make. Two years ago she made that mistake and has determined never to do it again. But when her past comes back to haunt her, she finds herself in the middle of a mysterious triangle that she can't seem to find herself out of. But meeting a stranger: Soti. He seems like the exact opposite kind of man that Lilith would find herself in the company of. But he saves her in more ways than one. And as she gets to know him, she struggles to find herself. Just when things seem to be looking up for Lilith for the first time ever, her real life comes crashing in and nothing is as it seems.

This book was an experience to read. I never knew what to expect. My heart lept in my throat more than once and my heart cried over and over. It also had some of the best quotes. I hardly ever highlight while reading, but I found myself constantly wanting to remember quotes all through out this story. While it wasn't easy. And just when I thought the worst was over, the hits just kept on coming. And yet. I loved every word. Every struggle. And every reminder that love finds a way.

ARC provided to A is for Alpha B is for Books for honest review.

?*? Alicia ?*? says

3.5 For Soti Stars

Lilith/Lili is a prostitute at her families brothel Maison D'amour in the french quarter of New Orleans. The brothel was started by her great-grandmother and passed down, her mother the queen ~~bitch~~ Madam now runs it.

No one plans to be a whore. Except maybe my mother. It certainly wasn't my life's dream as a little girl.

Nico is a former lover of Lili's, when she finds out he was marrying someone else she walked away from him. Now 2yrs later he's back and Lili knows he has something bad up his sleeve and insists she will not see him, unfortunately her mother has other plans.

Shit hits the fan the next time Nico visits, with someone being murdered and a huge fire only to end with Lili being arrested.

Soti a man Lili has seen only a few times around Bourbon Street, he sees the incident at the brothel on the local news and when he sees Lili who he is captivated by he knows he has to help her.

I can't really go further into the plot but I will say I loved Soti he is a whole lot of Alpha sweetness. That huge surprise/twist Soti spits out did throw me a little as it was totally unbelievable (in my opinion) and left me like.....

So for a book with a name like Whore it sure did skimp in the sex department or what sex there was was vague. Overall I enjoyed this but it had too many unbelievable/unrealistic parts also a few mistakes in the plot but nothing major. I think I was just a little disappointed I had high hopes for this one, maybe that was the problem. You read it and let me know what you think.

? Reviewed on behalf of the 1-Click Addict Support Group

Claire Contreras says

I could NOT PUT THIS BOOK DOWN! I opened it up with the full intention of reading some today and the rest tomorrow and yeah... that didn't happen. I regret nothing. It's so good.

Lana ✨Dirty Girl Romance✨ says

DNF

You know that moment when you read a book that everyone loves and raves about? That book that you're giddy with excitement to get your hands on? That book that you simply drooled over reading the synopsis? And then you end up the redhead stepchild of the bunch because you're in the **severe** minority that the book just didn't work for?

This tells you two things automatically:

1. Clearly this is a me and not the book thing, based solely on my own reading preferences and tastes
2. Whore was a huge winner for SO many other readers, so take what I say with a grain of salt because odds are, you may not feel the same way.

I feel terrible because of just how much I struggled with this story. I've tried time and time again to come back to it and push myself through just one more chapter. Unfortunately after a while of doing this, you simply have to admit to yourself that you're on a fruitless endeavor and cut your losses.

I struggled with the writing style from the very beginning, and ultimately it's what caused me to stop trying. Clearly the writing style didn't click with my particular tastes. And that's nothing necessarily wrong with the book, or with me for that matter. Just that the two didn't click. I couldn't connect with the heroine for the life of me. I couldn't connect with the connection of her and the hero. It was too instant. Too out of the blue. Just too...out of my taste.

Sometimes you go to a great restaurant and you order a meal from a renowned chef and it just doesn't settle with your taste buds. You don't need to consume the entire meal to know it's not for you. Doesn't make the restaurant bad or the chef bad, just a case of that particular meal not doing it for you. That was exactly what happened with this book. I wish I loved it like the rest of my reading peers, but alas it just wasn't meant to be. To each their own and all that.

ARC courtesy of author in exchange for an honest review

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Katy Loves Romance ❤? says

4 STRONG STARS****

Ahhh what have I just read?? This was an addictive read to the T I was hooked from page one..

Lilith has been brought up and taught to be a whore, ahh can you imagine? But it's the most elaborate kind, in an expensive hotel 'as such' so she wasn't not looked after. Well not in the ways of luxury, but maybe she wasn't cared for emotionally.. with her boss as her own mother Lilly was crafted to be the perfect 'whore' and that's just the start..

Soti oh the man who is a man that helps his community, but also a slightly broken man that maybe just needs Lilith for the same reasons as she does him.. I loved how they bonded, how they connected and how love knows who's heart they belong to even if the world isn't on the same page yet..

And then there's a nico and the mafia who has their own agenda..

That's all I'm going to say on that matter, this read is a well crafted read that tangles in your heart. I felt connected to the main characters the more I read, and the more I read the more I wanted happiness for them..

Why not 5 stars you ask?

I loved everything about this read and it was addictive in the best way.. but I felt certain things were slightly rushed, but that doesn't mean it wasn't good cause it was FANTASTIC. Do not underestimate that star, I just wanted maybe (view spoiler) but please please read it.. if you love addictive reads, a mafia read and one that has a loving girl inside that just wants to live her own life then pick this up, you won't regret it..

Enjoy Xoxo

ARC generously gifted in exchange for a honest review

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Heather Book and a Blanket says

I was intrigued by this book from the blurb. I loved that this was based on the biblical story of Hosea and Gomer. It's kind of like a modern version of one of my favorite books *Redeeming Love*. It started off really good. Lilith has been essentially raised by her mother to be a high end prostitute. She has never really been given the option to be anything else.

There are two men in her life. Her ex Nico is in the Mafia and a new man Soti who walks into her life. I won't go into details to avoid any spoilers but this book starts off with a lot of action and a series of events puts Lilith in an environment outside the watchful eye of her mother and where she is not seen as a whore. She meets people that show kindness without any expectations and this is a truly novel concept for her. Their goodness confuses her. She starts to believe that she could actually live this wonderful life.

However this life gets ripped away from her and the book takes a dark turn. There is quite a bit of suspense and it almost reads like a dark romance for a while. Now I will say that this story was certainly not boring. This was very action packed but I thought maybe too many things were happening and it was a bit too fast for me. I felt like there were pieces to the story that I didn't fully grasp and some parts just felt rushed.

So I will say I absolutely loved this plot. I also loved this hero. His love for Lilith was selfless and his commitment was unwavering. However, I just could not connect with these characters. For a while there about midway through the book I actually stopped caring if the H and h got together. The end I think definitely redeemed this book though. As the story wraps up we get a few plot twists and Lilith really turns out to be a badass who I had to respect.

So overall I would say to give this book a try. It was not as great as I was expecting but I promise you will be entertained!

3 Stars

Contemporary Romance

Heat Level: Light to Moderate

POV: Dual

HEA

COME FIND ME!
