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Simon Jefferes, the Marquess of Sainthill, has done the unthinkable—he's fallen in love. The so-called "Saint" has spent his life gambling, dallying with women, and satisfying his every whim. And he fully intended to continue his wicked ways, until he met the mysterious, exotic, and irresistible Madame Venna—the one woman he can't have...and the only one he's ever wanted for more than an evening. The proprietress of the Golden Pearl, one of London's most exclusive brothels, Madame Venna takes pride in the lush, decadent club she's created. With a half-mask to conceal her identity, she's careful to safeguard something even more valuable—her heart. But Saint is determined to tear down the walls she's built around herself, and to finally expose the truth—that Madame Venna is a woman very much in love...with him.

All Afternoon with a Scandalous Marquess Details

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From Reader Review All Afternoon with a Scandalous Marquess for online ebook

Linda says

I have been looking forward to reading this book; since I have fallen in love with the Lords of Vice, those sexy , naughty men that fall hard for the loves of their lives.

The Marquess of Sainthill " Saint". Is enamored with Madme Veena. The Golden Pearl's madame and owner who over the years has sent her girls to the Lord's of Vices club Nox. The two of them spent one passionate night together after a year of flirting when they first met but she had him escorted out after because she felt too much for him and feared that he could be her downfall , especially with the secrets she must keep.

Six years later Madame Veena is still keeping secrets and Saint is still in love with her. People are brought in to the story line who threaten to reveal her secret and destroy her and the parents and family she does not acknowledge , Saint stumbles unwittingly into her predicament , this works to his advantage of getting back with her.

This is where some of my problems arise , the story felt a little rushed. The story line which she introduced of these jerks who are meddling never comes to a conclusion and it feels like there may be whole chapter or two missing near the end that oils tie up these loose ends.

As much as I wanted to give this 4 stars and as much as I loved the story line between Saint and Veena the feeling of the book being rushed and story lines not completed took away from the book for me.

Tiffany Day says

This series is becoming increasingly disappointing. It seems as though Hawkins put effort into Book 1 and then barely fleshed out the ideas for the rest -- as if she hadn't thought through the full contract or something. First off, it has a very "already done" feel: a brothel madam wearing a half-mask with a victimized past (sounds an awful lot like Hoyt's "Princes," no?) leads a double life (good girl by day) and our Lord of Vice (Saint -- but does it really matter which one, since they are basically all the same guy save for Frost?) falls for both versions of the heroine. We're also stuck hearing everybody in her life call her "Madame Venna" or "Madame V," which really rather grated on me and seemed so unnatural (why not just say "Venna"?). Then there's the writing style. Grammatical and editorial errors abound (somebody please teach her the if/were rule). It's also extremely repetitive, almost condescendingly so (on page 282 - nearly the end of the book(!)- she describes how the group of guys were surprised about something said because they didn't know about the h's dual personalities and I wanted to scream, "NO DUH! That's the whole point of the plot!!"), and comes off feeling more like she's telling us about events rather than experiencing them with the characters. (view spoiler) I know these books are fluff and I don't expect Pulitzer-worthy craftsmanship, but this one felt way too much like E.L. James for my liking. All-in-all, the only reason I'm coming back is to read Frost's tale. I sure hope she's been busying herself so much with that one that these last couple failed to receive much attention. lol 1 - 1 1/2 stars

Maureen C says

Loved this series when it first came out, but now.. It was bad enough that the last book was OK with large gaps in the story leading to a rushed and lackluster finish and now after hoping the last book was a minor hiccup we are given another book that again seems rushed and unfinished. The story concludes with no resolution to what happened to the villains - Are we to believe that Saint and Catherine got their HEA with those people still lurking around and did I miss what Catherine said to Lord M to pay him back for his involvement in what happened to one of her girls? I can only hope since the next 2 and final books in the series are not coming out until next year that the author takes the time to give us a book like the first 3 in the series that left us eager and wanting for more of the Lords of Vice.

ies says

fyuh... gw baca buku ini sebel banget sama Frost, baca buku berikutnya makin sebel sama Frost! ampun deh... tp emang ga mungkin si ya, kl sebagai pemilik rumah bordil tp ga pernah uhuk2 sama siapa2 ahahahaha...

Ceritanya dimulai dari, Catharine 15 th, abis di rape sama kakak angkat merangkap sepupunya trs kabur dari rumah. Jadi Catharine ini anak haram Earl dan Countess apa ya, pokoknya emaknya ini istri orang yg pada saat hami suaminya lg pergi jd ga mungkin ngejadiin anak nya sbg anak suaminya, maka Catharine dikasih ke tetangga / sepupu / apanya si Earl deh buat diakuin dan dijadiin anak. Yang ternyata, setelah ngambil uang bapaknya die malah diperlakukan kek budak, tiap hari dikasih tau kl die seorang pendosa, ga punya tempat di mata masyarakat dan Tuhan, digebukin bpk angkatnya, terakhir di rape sama kakak angkatnya, menderita sekali! sampai die bersumpah bakalan ngehancurin keluarga emak-bapak kandungannya, kalangan terhormat yang ngebuang die.

Setelah kabur, marah, ga punya duit, sakit hati, Catharine diterima jadi courtesan, dan digembleng sama si empunya rumah bordil dan akhirnya jadi pemilik tempat prostitusi itu, die pakai nama Madame Venna (iyap yg sering di sebut2 sama Lord of Vice itu) + selalu pakai topeng. Nah pas awal2 pembukaan Golden Pearl, si madame V ini liat Marquess of Sainthill, aka Saint yg masih 20 an deh umurnya (sama2 20-an) dan suka, 1th tarik ulur akhirnya mereka bobo bareng dan si Madam V ini takut setelahnya kr die suka sama Saint, padahal ga ada tempat buat die di kalangan ton, die jg musti balas dendam ke emak-bapak nya kan, Catharine ngusir Saint, dan Saint yg sakit hati pun pergi. Selama 6th mereka berdua perang dingin, Saint bobo sama anak2 asuhnya madam V biar die kesel, dan si madam V jg menghindari Saint sebisa mungkin dan ga nunjukin kl die cemburu dan die jg bobo sama lord laen, meski ga sebanyak Saint (gw rada kecewa di mari).

Marquess of Sainthill aka Saint, jadi Marquess pas umur 6th (keknya kl ga salah), Bapaknya meninggal pas lagi sama mistress nya yg bikin malu emaknya, dan 1th kemudian emaknya merit lagi dan ngirim saint ke sekolah. Dari kecil ude di judge bakalan ga beda jauh sama bapaknya, sinner bla bla.. (ada ya eman kek gt), untungnya ada Lord of Vice yang jadi kek sodara buat die dan Madame Venna yg die yakin kl die jatcin sama tu madam.

6th kemudian, Saint ude cape banget ngehindari si Venna, die jg kaga bisa move on, sampe berhari2

nongkong di Golden Pearl tanpa bobo sama siapapun, cuma ngeliatin si madam V dari jauh. Sampai suatu hari, die diminta emaknya (yg ngebuang die) buat nyari adek iparnya (tiri, anak emaknya sama suami barunya) yg katanya ada di Golden Pearl dan mau ga mau die minta tolong madame Venna yg malah mergokin si V ini lagi bersitegans sama Lord dan ada secarik kertas nama Catharine Da(argh gw lupa namanya). Awalnya Saint ngira ni si Catharine nama gadis muda yg bakalan dijual ke madam V, die niatnya bantuin sampai nyari siapa Catharine, ketemu deh.. Spinster, tinggal sendiri (sama pelayan), cerdas, asik diajak ngobrol, sampai Saint bingung kenapa die suka sama si Catharine padahal jelas die jatcin sama si madam V kan.

Gimana lanjutannya? siapa lord yg bersitegang sama Catharine? gimana caranya Catharine buat ngusir Saint dr sisi die? gimana caranya Catharine bisa diterima ton, sbg istri saint? (jelas hepi en kan) baca dehh.....

Greselley says

When Saint was always missing during the gathering of the Lords of Vice and the ladies in the preceeding book, I was wondering and curious about his whereabouts during those times. I didn't expect my question will be answered in this book. Much more surprising is the answer, itself. Nice one. I didn't see that coming. After escaping her own hell, the heroine lives her life in two persons. The irony of the lives between that two women amazed me. One, as Catherine living a mundane life who is known as an innocent, kind and independent lady by her neighbours. Two, as Madame V wearing a half mask, the owner of an infamous brothel who is known to be a sensual woman. She didn't really have difficulty living her life as two different persons. Well, not until the Marquess of Sainthill shove himself into the lives of both Catherine and Madame V. The hero was crazy over Madame V's body and her sharp tongue while Catherine appeals to his protective instincts. He was going mad but he wanted both of them just for himself. Little did he know, the two is only one woman.

This is really an interesting, sexy and great read! My only concern is that there was no scene where they have to deal Mr. Royles. I mean, it's not enough to assume the matter has been settled. But nevertheless, it turns out good!

Danette Steward says

Heroine is creepy. She was a true whore. She was going to sleep with her half brother out of spite for a scandal!...she got interrupted before she could accomplish it. She slept with the hero's best friend too. I cringed all through the book because the heroine is nuts and has mental problems. Big disappointment. Never should have been published. Icky.

Danielle Carpenter says

This book is totally scandalous. The ending is not very plausible considering the time period. Catherine Deverall is the illegitimate daughter of an Earl, who gave her away because the Lady of Eyre, a married woman hid her pregnancy while her husband was in India. The Royles raised her, beat her and allowed their son to rape her. One night she escapes and takes to streets where she becomes a prostitute to survive.

Years later, the Marquess of Sainthill goes into the newly opened brothel, the Golden Pearl. There he and his friends meet Madame Venna. One of the most beautiful women he has ever met. No one ever sees this woman's whole face, because she always wears a half mask. While he tries to seduce her, she realizes she has feelings for him and has him ejected from her bedroom and pretends he means nothing to her. While in his anger, he beds every woman in her brothel in front of her.

Six years later, Saint comes upon a name, Catherine Deverall. Thinking this woman is in some type of danger, he courts Catherine and becomes friends with her. At his friends home, the women are preparing for a masquerade when one of the wives holds up a half mask to her face and Saint realizes that Catherine is Madame Venna.

Here is where the story becomes not very plausible. All that follows here, goes against all of the tons rules and how Catherine would be viewed in society.

Readsalot81 says

I really enjoyed Sunrise with a Notorious Lord.. so I was excited to read this one going in. Talk about meh.

I've read a couple of books recently with OUTSTANDING heroes, so this one came up relatively short. "Saint" really did nothing for me, in anyway, shape, or form. Bland or boring might be better adjectives. And I do take issue with throwing in rape/sexual assault to help move along or build a story. And that's how this one starts out.

I'll wholly admit this is my issue. I get REALLY cranky if I don't perceive that the assault/rape is handled well or in a thoughtful manner. It gets my back up quicker than lousy editing, typos, and huge ass plot holes.

****Mini Spoiler ahoy****

The back & forth between Saint and Frost over bedding Madame Venna got old very quickly. It felt like it was put into the story to give Saint something to fight over. I stopped counting how many times Saint went after Frost's throat for some ill made remark. "Don't you dare say something bad about my woman".. sigh.

The ending was terrible. Less than 1 page supposedly took care of all the issues throughout the book. The

ending is actually what pissed me off the most. But ugh, I've read enough reviews on GR to hate spoilers.. so I shall resist the urge.

? Sassy ~ Amy ? says

Catherine has 2 lives. One as her quiet reserved unnoticed self & that of Madam Venna. Saint has been in love with her for 6 years & finally he has had it. He's going for it!

This was another great installment in this series, however, I felt it missed an entire chapter or 2 of family resolve at the end of this book. You were left wondering what happened to the a**holes that caused all the problems. Maybe it is planned to be resolved in the next book??

I would have given this book a 5 star rating if the other half of her so called family had been dealt with, but NOPE! Oh well!

Jessi says

Oh man, this came so close to being a perfect five stars.

The characters were well-developed. There was a rich back story for both Madame Venna, the madam of the Golden Pear, and the Marquess of Santhill, "Saint." Madame V wasn't your average wilting-flower heroine. She saved herself from a horrible situation and then found a way to make money. She never apologized for how she made her way in the world. Saint never blamed her for her situation and the only problem he had was that she slept with his friend Frost. And Frost rubs it in his face. That was one of the issues that I had with this book. The two men fought. Over. And over. And Frost is such a douche. The other problem I had with the book was one that I've seen from other reviewers. All of the problems in the book were wrapped up in the last ten or so pages. Except that they weren't. All of a sudden the h/h had their HEA with no actual resolutions to any issues. About 40 pages out, I began to wonder how Hawkins would wrap up the many plot points. Well, she just didn't. I don't know if there was a page limit imposed by editors or a writing deadline but to have such a wonderful story end so abruptly was just disappointing.

Adria (Musings and Reviews) says

Originally posted on Adria's Romance Reviews

I liked this book a lot, it's not my favorite of the series but I enjoyed it and didn't put it down until I was dead tired each night. There were a few issues I had with the storyline, most of them towards the end of the book but they didn't diminish my overall enjoyment of All Afternoon with a Scandalous Marquess.

The Marquess of Sainthill, or "Saint" as he is known to his friends, The Lords of Vice, is obsessed with a woman. Unfortunately for him, she is entirely unsuitable to be anything more than a mistress because she is the owner of an exclusive brothel. After spending one night with Madame Venna, six years earlier Saint found himself tossed out of her bed and her life seemingly for good. Now Saint has resumed pursuing the elusive Madam and discovers there is more to her than meets the eye and there is a startling reason why she

hides her face behind a half-mask.

Madame Venna has many secrets, she was an innocent girl once and that innocence was brutally taken from her. Now she hides in plain sight, making money off of the gentlemen of the ton. She's content until Saint shakes things up by relentlessly pursuing her and forcing her to trust someone other than herself for the first time in her life.

I love the Lords of Vice and frankly it surprises me that I do. These are men who at times straddle the line between hero and villain, some even gleefully jump back and forth between sides *cough * Frost *cough* and I think that's what makes them so interesting.

Saint is no exception. His nickname definitely doesn't describe him, in fact he's the total opposite: Arrogant, seductive, bull headed and bossy. So when he finds those same qualities in the woman who captured his attention, he's not exactly sure how to handle her and he makes all sorts of bad decisions regarding the woman. Saint and Madame Venna spend a lot of time circling each other like boxers, each waiting for the other to strike so that they can block the attack.

Shockingly, though a lot of the scenes with Saint and Madame Venna take place in a brothel, there isn't much sexy time in All Afternoon with a Scandalous Marquess, but when there is, it's pretty intense. I did feel that there was an emotional connection from the first time Saint and Madame Venna were together, though neither one was aware of it. Each time they were together tore down part of the barriers between them and made room for something better.

My biggest issue with All Afternoon with a Scandalous Marquess was the rushed ending. I felt that the ending was incomplete and left me with several questions, the biggest one being: What happened to the villains? Why doesn't the reader get to see that end tied up? I'm assuming that Saint and the other Lords of Vice didn't let them walk away from what they did to Madame Venna, yet it seemed like Saint just shrugged it off once he got the woman he wanted. That's a pretty big loose end to leave dangling there. I would have liked a slower pace towards the end, with more development and possibly one or two chapters showing Saint and Madame Venna working out their remaining issues because "I love you" doesn't magically solve everything and they had a lot to go over and get over before they moved on and built a life together.

Other than the rushed ending, All Afternoon with a Scandalous Marquess is still very much a Lords of Vice novel and I enjoyed it. Now I'm off to pick up the next book in the series and revel in the fact that after Hunter's book is Frost's.

Amanda says

I think that this author is on heavy duty meds and must have forgotten one or two doses, while writing this book.

This book is a mishmash of ugly words thrown together and stirred up and then spat out. Pure dreck. At one point, the madame of the brothel (the heroine) contemplated bedding her half brother. Seriously. This must have been during one of periods, when the author forgot a dose of her meds.

How the fuck was this book published???

Sangria says

I honestly considered leaving no review for this. 2.5.

I have no idea why Saint got this book? I found myself feeling bad, disgusted and disheartened by this so called romance and furthermore found the historical accuracy completely implausible.

Catherine Deverell or AKA Madame of Golden.....had an abusive childhood. Full of abuse and rape. She becomes a prostitute then a madame and lives 2 lives.

Saint becomes enamored of her and well, it's also revealed that she's serviced one of the other Lords of Vice, if your reading the series I bet you can guess which black hearted scoundrel that occurred with.

Nothing in this book was romantic to me. I was purely in it for the discovery of what's going on in everyone else's lives.

Melissa Vasquez says

Stubborn...both of them were but I loved it. Made the story so much better. I cannot wait to get Hunter and Frost's story.

I loved how Saint found out who Catherine really was. The way Frost egged Saint on through out the book was a great touch.

Ellen says

[Catherine (hide spoiler)]
