



## Love the Sinner

*Avril Ashton*

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## **Love the Sinner** Avril Ashton

Detective Gabriel Ashby has never looked twice at another man, yet the criminal across from him, the man he's interrogating, isn't like any other. Gabe can't deal with the sudden, intense need he has for one of NYPD's Most Wanted. Everyone close to Angelo Pagan ends up dead, with the smug gang leader standing amid the rubble. Gabe would love nothing more than to bust Angelo's ass and lock him up. So why is he seeing the bastard in his dreams at night?

Angelo Pagan knows attraction to Gabe is suicide. He's resolute to ignore the chemistry...until a police raid goes wrong. He critically injures Gabe, changing the trajectory of both their lives. Now the two can't get close enough. They settle into a forbidden affair threatened by lies and betrayal, living on different sides of the law with no way of breaching the gap between them. With the authorities looking to make an example of Angelo, Gabe has to decide if it's really worth it to hate the sin but love the sinner.

## **Love the Sinner Details**

Date : Published May 9th 2012 by Ellora's Cave

ISBN : 9781419939686

Author : Avril Ashton

Format : ebook 229 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Contemporary, Gay Romance, Gay For You, Adult Fiction, Erotica

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# From Reader Review Love the Sinner for online ebook

## Breann says

So a totally straight cop is going to fall for a gang leader after a first meeting? Pft. Yeah, okay. And then the cop continues to see him after the dude shoots him? Pft. Yeah, okay.

I'm with Ann here on the violence. Why is it alright for two guys to beat up on each other when they're in love? All relationships should be held to the same standard regardless of gender. You don't hit those you love (or anyone, really, for that matter).

But it was smmmmmoooooooooooookin' hot. Bonus star for the complete sexiness of it all.

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## Karla says

4 amado stars!

My first book by this author. Found her book randomly in GR and right from the start it became a challenge. The reason why? Because I couldn't find it anywhere and you know how it goes the more you can't find a book the more you want to read it. But finally I got my hands on it and it was worth all the hassle.

"Love the sinner" (book #1 in the Brooklyn Sinner series). I really enjoyed this book and I was really intrigued by the blurb a "forbidden love between NYPD detective Gabriel and Angelo the leader of a notorious Latin gang". Their first meeting was intense and they both felt the attraction even though Gabriel tried to deny it since he never felt attracted to a man before.

These guys fell into a insta lust tuned to love pretty fast, but I didn't mind at all considering how hot their chemistry was it played out well. Add to this the fact that they shouldn't be together that they are in different sides of the law.

I loved both guys, but my favorite was Angelo his sexy, but also a ruthless killer, and he did everything necessary to protect Gabriel, and his mama. Gabriel I liked well enough he was also protective, and fierce about his feelings for Angelo but I just annoyed me some when those doubts and righteousness started creeping in.

I have to say I was a bit scared I thought this book was going to be dark but I was surprised by how emotional it was. Which I didn't mind since I haven't read a dark book in a long time and I've become a bit of a scary cat.?

But anyway I'm glad the story went the other way I enjoyed it. It still had plenty of violence, drama, twists

and turns, betrayals and new allies. And the sexy scenes between Gabriel/Angelo were off the chart sexy I think my favorite part about their relationship was how they took turns being the dominant, and when Angelo spoke Spanish to Gabriel, swoon!!  
Can't wait to read Pablo's book which is book 2 in this series.♥

Big shout out to my dearest Exina! Thanks so much for helping me find this book and putting out with all of my annoying PM's. Lol! xoxo

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### **Jenni Lea says**

Gimme an H! Gimme an A! Gimme a W! Gimme a T! What does that spell??? Well, it doesn't really spell anything but you get the point when I say that...

**This book is on FIYAH!!!!!!!!!!**

My eyeballs have scorch marks on them and my eyebrows have been singed completely off.

And the sound effects! All the "hmms" and "unghs" and the "fuck, fucks!" And Gabe's dirty talk.

**Oh.**

**Em.**

**Gee.**

I wish I could hear them out loud... WAIT!!!! HOLD THE PHONE!!!! Does this book come in audio book format? Is there an audio book??? Please, for the love of GOD, please tell me there is!

Avril Ashton has now been declared the master of sex scenes.

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### **karlakolumna says**

Why, oh *why* do so many romance/erotic novels (of any kind) have to start in the same unrealistic fashion? All it takes is one look, one eye to eye contact and suddenly..

**BOOM!!**

Lust, desire, unbearable attraction to one another, cocks filling and twitching at the slightest mention of the name of the new object of one's every wet dream, electricity crackling during the slightest touch... All that, from 1 to 100 in 0.001 seconds. Truly amazing.  
Gah.

If all these novels were to believe it'd be hard not to come across guys with raging boners bulging their trousers every few minutes in RL. It really must be so *hard* to be a member of the male species...

It's really sad that that many books get spoiled because of this kind of utter, unbelievable insta-everything, which is overdone to such a degree that I can't possibly find anything remotely believable in the whole setup of said romance.

I need build-up, god damnit. A more realistic setting. And in this particular book: a little bit more brain and common sense. Because, really? Tossing your whole set of principles over board, risking your career and your life (because prison becomes a very likely option here) in favour for a quick fuck, because lust is clouding your brain? Not a thing any halfway decent cop or detective would go for if his object of desire was not only a criminal--a gang leader with dozens of murders under his belt--but also the person who shot said cop just a few weeks ago. I believe that men are a little bit more in control of themselves than that. Or am I that wrong, that delusional?

I was about to give the book and its author brownie points for, at least, settling for overdone insta-attraction instead of the whole insta-love thing (which is even worse)... but I was wrong about that, too. Insta-love, hello my dear friend, how have you been??

I can't even decide what's most ridiculous here: that they're agreeing on some rules regarding their relationship according to which they have to leave all gang and cop business out of their love affair, thinking that *that* will actually work out, that they call it a relationship pretty much after their first shared kiss, that they *trust* each other immediately (hello? Gang leader? Cop?), or that the great Detective Gabe constantly tries to comfort Angelo regarding the hard and difficult gang-related decisions that he has to make, like making an example of one of his gang members whose loyalty wasn't a 100% with the gang by torturing and killing him. Gabe constantly tells Angelo that he's there for him and that he can talk to him about anything... which, what? Rules! Have they really already forgotten about them after like 10 seconds?

That being said, this book's setting/premise had potential. If done well, in a more realistic and believable way, I find myself enjoying the bad boy – cop liaison (even if this setting is actually rather unrealistic in RL, I'm well aware of that.. I'm merely asking for a more realistic *execution*).

The action part didn't hurt either. Long time since I read suspense and, yeah, it was time to go there again.

But this book was definitely the wrong choice. Or rubbish. That little word sums it up nicely.

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## ~Mindy Lynn~ says

This author isn't new, but she is for me as this was the first of her books that I've read. But ironically it's not the only book of hers I own. I bought a different series but have been hesitant to read it because I have seen many say her books need to be read in order since a majority of her characters and some events in her other books bleed into her following stories. I guess this makes some of her stories feel confusing and incomplete. So I am starting at the beginning in hopes I will be able to enjoy the rest of her writing as much as I did this story.

This story... I'm not going to lie; the quickness of the relationship between these men threw me off of the story a bit. But a part of me was also thinking that it was a bit refreshing that I didn't have to wait half of the book for these guys to hook up. So in other words, I got over it pretty quickly. Lol

I liked how emotional these two men were for each other. I admit I got a little teary eyed there at the end when Gabe was pleading to Angelo. Usually all the crying is a big pet peeve of mine, but in this case it didn't because it fit the moment.

The chemistry and the sex were on point between these guys. I think it was the chemistry between Gabe and Angelo that had me getting over the quickness of their relationship so fast. The sex was pretty steamy and the whole alpha thing really worked for these guys.

### **SPOILERS AHEAD:**

What really worked for me with this story is how this author just didn't wrap up the ending with Angelo miraculously getting out his gang and outta trouble with law so easily. I liked that she had him doing some time. Also that she had Gabe testing the waters with another man even if it was futile. It just made it a better reading experience for me.

### **END OF SPOILERS**

If you enjoy great chemistry between characters, steamy lovin', and a good story with some insta love thrown in it, this is a book for you.

Enjoy, Dolls! xx

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### **Exina says**

**2nd read: May 13, 2015**

**Loved it, even more than for the first time. 5 stars now, and highly recommended!**

***"I need you alive. I need you breathing." He took in a breath then let it out in a rush. "I need you."***

I love when some external reason makes the relationship difficult. Gabe being a detective at NYPD, and Angelo being a criminal, precisely the head of Los Pescadores, one of Brooklyn's most notorious gangs, are definitely dealing with this kind of problem. **They are perfect together, their chemistry is sizzling hot, and uncontrollable.**

*He stroked his tongue over Pagan's teeth and tongue, searching deep, needing more of that taste. That indescribable taste of Angelo Pagan he was quickly getting drunk on.*

*"Oh my God." Gabe didn't recognize the words falling from his lips. They sounded wrecked, ravaged. Like his insides. Staring at Pagan's lips, red and glistening from his kisses, he couldn't catch his breath.*

*Rough fingers palmed his throat. "Can you forget that, amante?" Soft kisses brushed his forehead, nose and eyes. "I can't. I dare you to try."*

**Gabe** is an open-minded person: he feels natural being attracted to a man, and refuses to freak out.

*"Sometimes it scares me how natural this is," Gabe whispered. "How I don't question the way I feel about you. I don't think anyone else can make me feel like I'm fucking melting every time*

*I look into their eyes. But you do.” He grabbed a fistful of Angelo’s hair and yanked his head back. “Every single time, you do.”*

**I loved the way Gabe dominated over Angelo, the feared gang leader, in bed, taking control of him, and how Angelo enjoyed that.** It was perfection. The erotic scenes are breathtaking and inspirational.

**Angelo** is amazingly self-giving and I appreciated that he tried to be honest. But it simply was not in his nature to be completely open about his ‘occupation’. He needed time for that, and it was nicely done. His character is well-developed, and every aspect of it, even the ugliest, is presented without glamour.

*Angelo Pagan leaned against the archway leading into his living room, arms crossed, relaxed sensuality oozing from his every pore. Clad in head-to-toe black, the man looked like the sexiest freaking burglar ever.*

There is a **perfect amount of drama, suspense, and violence** in the plot for an erotic romance.

The secondary characters are intriguingly done too.

#### **All in all**

The story is sometimes unrealistic, here and there sugary sweet, but still enjoyable, with **great characterization, well-built plot, and decent romance**. The main appeal of the story is the steamy and intense erotica.

**Originally posted on my blog, on May 13, 2014.**  
**My favorite quotes.**

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#### **Lorraine Lesar says**

I sit, wait and think  
Does Angel contemplate our fate  
Does anyone know  
Of our love and the things we had to do  
‘Cause I have been told  
That salvation is my Angel  
‘Cause I know our love is not dead  
So when I’m lying in my bed  
Thoughts running through my head  
I know you will come to call, you won’t forsake me  
So I’m loving Rafe instead.  
Gabriel to Angel (with a little help from Robbie Williams ?)

Reread time!

He is what he is. He's certainly not perfect and crime is his name of the game, but when he loves, it's with the whole of his heart.

Let me introduce you to Angelo Pagan, Leader of the Los Pescadores. When he meets Gabriel Ashby, a Police Detective, everything changes...for both of them. Their clear cut black/white areas of the lives, suddenly shades to very grey areas. If they are found out, they are dead. So how are they going to make it work when the odds against them are stacked so high?

Finally I've got back to book 1 and how this amazing journey all started ?. I don't often get a chance to do a reread, and therefore I cherished this time.

This was my original review back in 2013...

Just WOW! I thought this book was excellent. I know nothing about "gang" culture, so I cannot comment on the authenticity of the author's portrayal of this life, but for me, it was a eye opener! I loved the concept of the "good, straight guy cop" and the "bad, gay, gang leader" approach by this author. I also appreciated the way, Avril Sinner didn't try to "gloss coat" decisions made within the gang and the consequences of said action. The love scenes were very hot and sensual, coupled with a compelling storyline, this makes a really great read. I will definitely be investigating more works by Avril Ashton. Recommended.

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### **SheReadsALot says**

**THREE & A HALF STARS**--M/M romance between a gang leader and a detective in the streets of BK (NYC stand up!!)

At times the sex scenes felt repetitive (I do not need to see the word "ridge" or "underside" for awhile after this book). It did become mushy at times and...\*sigh\* there was some excessive crying at times. Also sometimes the words from the male characters had a feminine tone, like I couldn't imagine the characters that were originally presented speaking or reacting that way. But the premise is pretty solid (I do like crime love stories) The epilogue was a bit boring and sugary.

But it was a decent read and I think most of the secondary characters are interesting (\*cough\*possibly a Kane and Mr. S pairing?\*cough\*)

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### **DaisyGirl says**

1.5 Stars

Gabriel Ashby is a straight NYPD cop. Angelo Pagan is the leader of the Los Pescadores, one of Brooklyn's most notorious gangs. The two meet, fall in lust and then immediately in love. Despite their obvious differences, they buck impossible odds to make their relationship work.

I recognize that many of my GR buddies enjoyed this book and I'm happy for them. I can say that the smexy scenes were pretty hot and the editing was good for Ellora's Cave. That said, I could not get past this sad excuse for a story line. First, a totally straight (never even fantasized about men ... ever) cop suddenly and inexplicably falls head over heels for another man, who is a known crime lord and public enemy number one. After one meeting ... count 'em O-N-E ... the two are hopelessly attracted to each other. In fact, their



very next encounter becomes physical. Um, what!?! Second, their relationship starts out with a level of caring and trust that was totally unbelievable (did I mention that Gabe's a cop and Angelo is a criminal? Oh yeah, and (view spoiler)). Despite this obvious setback and the fact that they don't know each other from Adam, both Gabe and Angelo cover for and protect the other. Um, why!?!?!? Third, they immediately start a steamy love affair ... yes, LOVE ... casually ignoring their respective roles (again: cop, criminal). Lastly, they then establish a routine of fuck - bicker - fuck - get pissy and possessive - fuck. Lather, rinse, repeat. Mind you, the sex is pretty hot. But, alas, not even hot sex could save this sad puppy.

Bottom line: hot sex notwithstanding, this one was a bust.

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## Ingie says

*Written June 3, 2014*

### **3 1/2 Stars - Sentimental and bloody boiling intensively - and after all, extremely captivating with a good topic with a few flaws**

At some point —quite long ago— was this a freebie at Amazon and a few days ago I added it with **the audio book** for just a few dollars.

*..and a half*

#### **When I'd listening to the last page (a sweet epilouge)**

I'd to think a few moments about what I actually felt for *Love the Sinner*. I knew that I should point out that this novel is incredibly erotic and that those parts (many) actually are really well done (at least in the narrated audiobook).

....But what about the story? There was a good, great actually, plot and story-line. My question was if it was here with us often enough and in an expected (by me at least) moderate part? I'm not sure...

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*Love the Sinner* is an *Brooklyn, NY* pretty erotic M/M romance about the (until now straight) **Detective Gabriel (Gabe) Ashby** and his huge attraction and need for one of NYPD's Most Wanted. From their first meeting in the interrogation room is the smug **gang leader Angelo Pagan** in Gabe's dreams day and night.

Shortly after their first meeting becomes Gabe shot in the shoulder in an attempt to frame Angelo Pagan and some gang members. During Gabe's convalescence from the hospital stands there suddenly Angelo one evening in his doorway. An intense, steamy hot and partially forbidden story takes off...

“Tell me what you want.”

“To kiss you.” The words tumbled from his lips, harsher than he intended. “Just once. To know what it's like. What you taste like.”

Pagan's eyes darkened.

“Maybe then I'll be able to forget you.”

Pagan arched an eyebrow and stepped forward. "You think it's that simple?"  
Gabe held his ground. "Yeah."

\*\*\*\*\*

**This book is really tough to rate for me...**

The characters were interesting and I really liked these two men. The audio narration was always captivating intense but it was still, after all, far too many (long) —with short intervals for other stuff— amazing tiny kinky sex scenes, for my taste. I wanted more time and a lot more space for much else that was also very interesting here.

When it is a story with both insta-love, a GFY character, and to that also a closeted criminal gang leader and a recently single cop as MC's, then it becomes easy a lack of credibility. *Love the Sinner* could have been an fantastic romance if the substance and intrigue (the intriguing questions, the problems, the unlikely severe, etc) here had been given just a little more space and opportunity for development.

**Anyway, I couldn't but enjoy** to listening to *Cop & Angel's* lovely romantic love tale. I'll try to find time for book #2 as well some time not too far away (*Sinner, Savior* - about another interesting (closeted) gangster character who showed up here sometimes. A stand alone sequel with a higher average ranking).

"I can't change it and I don't want to. You're it for me." Angelo's body shook between Gabe's legs. "I gave you my heart in that fucking interrogation room, cop, yet you've been holding yours hostage from me."

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have a thought of downloading (I shook up \$ 4) and [listen to the audiobook edition](#) (9 hours) then let the book get a little time before you start to roll your eyes too much. There is no denying that some of the characters is told by the narrator Renard Pasquale with pretty silly voices here. But don't worry to much you will (I did anyway) get used to it after a while.

*I will not forget it in a hurry stuff and moments:*

**Imagine a horny sexy black haired intense lover, with a husky Brooklyn dialect** (added with Spanish accent), whispering:

"Kiss me, cop. Then try to forget me."

Overall, was in the end, this narrators way to tell it all quite nicely done. I was, perhaps first reluctant, finally wholeheartedly captivated by it all. ...and it's a lot of yummy stuff for all you smut ladies.

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**Perhaps not a *must-read M/M*, or particularly unique** or brilliant, but still tantalizing hot and exciting to be enjoying.

My opinion; amusing to read (...listen to).

**I LIKE - good enough - a smut read...**

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Next: #2 - Sinner, Savior about Pablo Castillo & Devon McGhee.

*Two free short stories about this couple, #1.5 Always a Sinner and #1.7 Sinner's Knot, to get here:*  
<http://avrilashton.com/books/free-reads/>.

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### **Bitchie says**

I know this one got some great reviews, but I just didn't feel it. I loved the premise of two total opposites, a cop and a gang leader falling for each other, but this one just felt to pat, too easy. They meet across an interrogation table, and BAM! that's it, twu wuv. Never mind that the cop was straight and never even thought about a man in that way, or that the gang leader was being questioned for murder.

I found these two supposedly tough guys to be too sweet, and they cried too much. The sex was hot, and there was a LOT of it. I actually found myself skimming the scenes, something I rarely do.

All in all, a really great idea, really well written, but it just missed the mark for me.

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### **Romancefantasy Ebookmaven says**

Awful. I don't even know what to say about how bad this one is. I see it has a lot of 5 star ratings so I guess I am wrong on this one. I am a romance fan; I just like to read romance novels and don't care if they are gay or straight as long as there is genuine love to be found. I don't like 'gangsta' sex books. And this book is about a 'gangsta' who has gay sex period. And the 'gangsta' is weak and unrealistic, and the cop is weak and a loser and unrealistic.

But besides all that fake 'gangsta' stuff is the bad writing and awful character development. I don't like the "heroes". They are trash. I wouldn't want to be caught in the same room with either one of them. A dirty cop and a murderer. Isn't it romantic? Can't you just feel the love? Not!

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### **Nazanin says**

#### **3.5-3.75 Stars**

To be honest, it was a 3 stars for me if it wasn't for those last chapters! I loved them and they higher up my rating. This story was about two guys; one a cop and the other a gang leader. They met each other in an interrogation room and fell in love instantly. I think their insta-love (or I should say insta-lust) wasn't my thing. It was a forbidden love; one cop, one gang leader! For God's sake! I expected some angst, or something like cat and mouse/hide and seek game! But nope! They were so lovey-dovey, so cozy that I wanted to punch them in the head! But I say again that last 40% was amazing! Another thing that I liked was

about the characters. Pagan was a gang leader, out of the house he was a little scary, powerful and all the time he was in charge but in the house with Gabe, he lets Gabe take charge and taking decisions! I loved this about his character!

The story is told in dual POV, 3rd person. It's the first installment in the "Brooklyn Sinners" series but it can be read as a stand-alone novel and I'd like to thank my dear friend, Karla for telling me about this series! Thanks, darling! I'll definitely continue reading this series. Over all, it was an enjoyable read for me, hope you like it as well!

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## **Lenore says**

This book is so bad, it ends up being good.

The sappiness! The cheesy lines! The bad sex! The narm!

It burns. It burns so good (sic).

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„•\*°\*~Gwendolyn~°\*\*★°\*\*★ says

**Wow!**

**Hot Damn!**

This fitted my today's mood fabulously!

These men wore their heart on their sleeves and I love that!

Re-read to get ready for new series, love the writing, hate the storyline concept, not my thing. *Sigh....*

What I Found & Loved in this Book~

Love

Jealously

Possession

Regret

Murder

Tears

Family

Despair

Redemption.

Hope...♥

Re-read to get ready for new series, Dec 2015.

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