



Strip Me Bare

Marissa Carmel, M. Never

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I may have had more lovers than you, and I may take my clothes off for countless women, but you are the only one who can strip me bare.

Do you ever stop loving someone just because they're gone?

Five years ago, Ryan Pierce disappeared from Alana Remington's life without leaving so much as a post-it note behind. He was the one she gave her heart to, her soul to and her virginity to. So imagine her surprise when she finds him dancing at one of NYC's hottest male reviews as Jack the Stripper.

Ryan never stopped loving Alana, and now that she serendipitously dropped back into his life, he's vowed never to lose her again. But being together has its costs, and challenges Alana isn't sure she can handle. She finally has Ryan back; but how in the world is she supposed to share the love of her life with half of the women in New York City?

Strip Me Bare Details

Date : Published October 7th 2013 (first published October 5th 2013)

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Author : Marissa Carmel , M. Never

Format : 227 pages

Genre : Adult Fiction, Erotica, Sex Work, Strippers

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From Reader Review Strip Me Bare for online ebook

Didi says

I really, really liked this! It was nothing like I'd thought it'd be. I was expecting a sweet and light romance. It was that, but so much more. It was realistic, angsty and sexy. Second chances are beautiful. It wasn't your typical stripper story and the ending was very realistic. It wasn't a fairytale, it wasn't overdone but it was completely satisfying.

I really liked Alana. She knew the risks involved in being with Ryan, but she went after what she knew was right. She was wealthy but lacked love and emotional stability from her father. Ryan was great! He did everything he could to make his relationship work with Alana, and although he stripped for a living, he never let it define him.

There was quite a bit of drama happening above and beyond Ryan and Alana's relationship. His family was complicated but I admired Ryan for the things he did for them, even if it wasn't right. Alana had a difficult relationship with her father, but at least she had an extended family that supported her emotionally. I loved the ending and the epilogue, very sweet.

The only thing I would say bothered me was the concept of time. I would be reading something and then the next paragraph would see Ryan and Alana a year and a half later with no prior mention of how the time passed. By the climax they had been together for 2 years but I found myself questioning the timeline. It was confusing but not enough to detract from how good the story was or how much I ended up enjoying it.

I did think of 'Magic Mike' a lot, but maybe that movie was the inspiration. Regardless, a great book and characters I loved!

Natalie The Biblioholic says

3.5 “We meet again” stars!!

M. Never shocked the heck out of me with the surprisingly warm, heartfelt, charming and sweet story found within the pages of *Strip Me Bare*. I found strippers, lawyers, broken hearts, injustice, heartache, family strain, family ties, and an amazingly wholesome attempt at a second chance at love.

Ryan and Alana fell in love five years ago. It was the stuff of legends, the type of love that everyone searches for. One night they went all the way and the next morning he was gone, without a trace, never to be heard from again. When they had met, Alana had an emotional wall made of steel, one that Ryan easily penetrated. His seeming abandonment erected those walls again almost instantly. In the present, Alana's out with her cousin for her bachelorette party, which happens to be at the hottest strip club in NY. When her cousin is up on stage being treated to her own strip show, imagine their surprise when the stripper is none other than the love of Alana's life - Ryan.

There was never a question of Ryan's love. When he explained what had happened to keep them apart for the last five years, it was easy to forgive and understand his actions. Their love story was back on track, but there were a lot of obstacles standing in their way. However, somehow these two knew that if they stood

together, if they concentrated on their everlasting love, that everything else would work out.

The characters were easy to like... Ryan most of all. I think I would have given my left nut to get his perspective. If I had nuts, that is. There were so many moments of hilarity and I enjoyed the ways that Ryan chose to show his affections. I asked myself repeatedly if I could be with a stripper and dream of happily ever after. If I could get past the many women who would see and touch his body. If I could see through his whoring past. Well, if the man was someone like Ryan... ;D

Release Date: October 5, 2017

Genre: Contemporary Romance - Second Chance

POV: Heroine - 1st person

Heat: 3 out of 5

Type: Standalone

Deanna says

Rating: 1.25 / 5 stars

Not my cup of tea. Disliked the fact that heroine was a wishy-washy doormat character to her father; disliked the fact that she let her insecurities/jealousy get the better of her one minute, and the ignore it the next; disliked the protagonist (who came off as snobby and elitist, in my opinion); disliked the **slut shaming**.

The second I saw the protagonist slut-shame characters, I was pretty much **#done** with the book. She was catty, petty, over jealous, and so "perfect and amazing and too good for the hero" that she exuded a snobby, pretentious attitude toward Ryan and others in the novel.

The timeline of the overall story felt disconnected, with the time skipping around from a few weeks to a few months to, pretty much, half of a year.

I get that this is a story that you have to suspend your beliefs in order to read it, but I drew the line the second it became OTT angst and drama fueled around the hero and heroine both being TSTL characters with martyr syndromes. I get it. You two both want to make the people you care about happy. Jesus. It's as if neither one of them had backbones.

What I don't understand is the wishy-washy behavior from any of the characters. Everybody was just OTT. Everybody was just flat. I like characters that are flawed, realistic, or have personality. If you want to read about two types of doormats that keep professing their love for each other, based solely on a short relationship that happened years before the setting/time the book takes place--than this book is for you.

If you want to read about strong, kickass female characters and tortured heroes, than this book is not for you.

I would not recommend. Not unless you like doormats.

Shabby -BookBistroBlog says

That's what this book will do to ya!!.. Don't say I didn't warn you ;) nobody writes hot sexy , panty melting alphas like M. Here she creates Ryan Pierce out of her imaginative mind . He's hot AF , he's smoulderingly sexy and he can mooooooove baby! . Gyrating, dry humping ladies to make them scream and shriek. Yeah cause he's the hottest stripper at Culture , an upscale club in Manhattan. In walks in Alana Remington, a prim and poised Law student who was his dream once.

Dreams shatter and life gets trampled

Time to rekindle fire from the dead embers.

She's leading a dismal , dry life, no love , no moral support , just a Daddy who's there as a Letterhead figure

I saw black and white for so long that I didn't recognize pigment even when it was splashed right in front of me. The first time I saw a rainbow since my mother's death was when I met Ryan.

But time travels in one direction and lost time never gets recovered, sadly!

The story is full of thermonuclear passion and deep running emotions. M brings out the feelings big guns to situate a heart in the overtly sexual profession of stripping . Trust & Loyalty would be the last thing you'd expect in this world since it's overflowing with horny , crazed women whipped into a frenzy by undulating almost naked , perfect bodied , sexy men.

She writes imperfect people in imperfect world and still we fall in love with them perfectly.

“the pauper doesn’t end up with the princess, he ends up on his ass.”

Maybebut then that story wasn't written by our M , was it :)

4.5 Jack The Stripper Stars

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Bookhooking (Tanya Childress) says

What a breath of fresh air that just might strip you bare ;0) I really really enjoyed this book. It was a nice change for me with extremely likable characters, witty dialogue between them and some issues that hit home for me personally. I was laughing and swooning at only 10% in and in my book that's a great start.

The story starts out with Emily, her friends, and her cousin, Alana, on their way to Culture, a male strip club, for Emily's bachelorette party. These ladies have quite the time and I was instantly laughing especially at Alana who seemed a little uptight at first.

I'm not even capable of an auditory response; my vocal cords have shorted out and my jaw has dropped to the floor. Raunch-y.

Alana is smart, beautiful, polite, the essential good girl if you will. I mean after all she is the daughter of a judge but something or should I say someone has been missing in Alana's life, actually for about five years to be exact, and what she doesn't know is she is about to come face to face with that something or someone, known as Jack the Stripper aka Ryan Pierce, a man she fell in love with, gave her heart and soul to, the realest thing in her entire life, but sadly she wakes up one day and he is gone. This brings on several issues for Alana but most of all she has questions! Lots of them. Why is he a stripper, why he never contacted her and most importantly why he left?

Ryan is sexy, loving, energetic, protective and certainly not perfect, but he loves Alana and that is as clear as day.

"I never thought I would touch you again, " he says smoothly, his tone laced with emotion.

Naturally they are both shocked and Ryan has some serious explaining to do which he fully intends too and hopefully Alana will understand. I enjoyed these two so much, in every way and the banter between them had me laughing and smiling. Their relationship never really ended, if you know what I mean.

"I've been dead for five years Alana." "You look pretty alive to me." He shakes his head, "I came back to life five minutes ago."

As Alana ponders what to do she decides to meet with him in hopes to have all her questions answered. Ryan slowly explains things to Alana and as they both take their time getting to know one another again, they find themselves in a relationship that is so natural and meant to be.

Ryan and Alana worked as a couple, they had chemistry, understood each other and loved each other unconditionally. She came from money, her father paid for everything and that included law school, somewhere she desperately wanted to go.

"I'm not lucky, I'm just privileged. There's a big difference," I clarify indifferently.

Ryan came from a home where his father wasn't around, his mother was a functioning alcoholic and his twin brother was a drug addict. All of which touched me in a very personal way. I laughed and I cried. These two have a lot to work through and they do. They learn to trust each other and fight for everything they have ever wanted. I envied them both for their unconditional love and strength.

Alana amazed me, especially when it came down to the fact that he was a stripper because let's face it, how many women could handle that. Ryan wasn't exactly thrilled about it but he had a plan and everything made sense. They both had insecurities and strive to love one another and I was completely in love with both Ryan and Alana, their determination in life, progress in their relationship and their ability to trust one another and work through the good times and bad.

I want to be the father I never had and the husband my mother was cheated out of. So if I have to take off my fucking clothes to make the money I need, I'll do it. And I pray you want me enough to suffer through it. Because I promise I'll make it up to you for the rest of my life."

Marissa Carmel did a fantastic job writing a story that I devoured in a day and fell in love with wholeheartedly. She has extreme talent, writes with passion, emotion, humor, love, reality and it all shows through her characters and the story being told.

Why did Ryan leave, what kind of future do they have, will he continue his life as a stripper, will their

families approve of their relationship? All of these questions will be answered when you read this book. It is a standalone with no cliffhanger and I highly recommend you go buy it and read it for yourself.

So many quotes I loved in this book as well so I will leave you with just one more.

"You have power, you have force, and you irreversibly own my heart."

One more thing this is undoubtedly one of the best stories I have read about unconditional love!!

Laura- BookBistroBlog says

Strip Me Bare

By: M. Never

4.5 Stars

M. Never has become one of the Authors who I can guarantee a satisfied one-click purchase. This one doesn't disappoint!!

Alana is on track to becoming the successful lawyer her father set out to make her. Starting law school in the spring, moving into her own place, life is getting better. It's taken a toll on Alana's life but for 5 years, she has wondered why... Why did he leave?

Ryan has fought his demons, tried to carry all the burden a twin brother could handle. Now he seems to be doing better. Jack the Stripper is his money making, woman staking, way to survive in this world.

"The pauper doesn't end up with the princess, he ends up on his ass."

When two people come from two totally different sides of the track, can a meeting in the middle happen and a successful relationship happen?

This story is a great, easy flowing, unable to put down book. These two characters really spoke to me and had me reading non stop till the last page.

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Aestas Book Blog says

Male stripper alert!!!! OMG!! Love the sound of this!

“I may have had more lovers than you, and I may take my clothes off for countless women, but you are the only one who can strip me bare.”

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Five years ago Ryan Pierce disappeared from Alana Remington’s life without leaving so much as a post-it note behind. He was the one she gave her heart to, her soul to and her virginity to. So imagine her surprise when she finds him dancing at one of NYC’s hottest male reviews as Jack the Stripper.

Ryan never stopped loving Alana, and now that she serendipitously dropped back into his life, he’s vowed never to lose her again. But being together has its costs, and challenges Alana isn’t sure she can handle. She finally has Ryan back; but how in the world is she supposed to share the love of her life with half of the women in New York City?

Amy says

This book is in the top favorites for 2013. I absolutely loved this book. I never wanted it to end and couldn't put it down. To see what Alana went through and what she had to deal with from her father was heart breaking. But to see her grow as a character and realize certain things was amazing. She was a great character and I loved reading about her.

Now on to the really good stuff. Ryan also known as Jack the Stripper. Ohh how I loved him. The way that Alana finally saw him at the beginning of the book after not seeing him for years was hilarious. I wouldn't know what I would of done if I was in her place. Ryan is of course hot as sin (duh he's a stripper) but also sweet. He has a twin brother that I wanted to punch the crap out of and a mother that should be ashamed of herself but that is life. Ryan makes himself better. He makes his life better. Even if doing it a little strangely with stripping.

This book was abo-freaking-lutely amazing. This book had me giggling, falling in love, and swooning like crazy. I will be telling everyone about this book. This is a must read in my eyes. I can't wait till it is out and I can read it over again because I will definitely be re-reading this one.

Rustys says

Summer at the Jersey shore, two young people meet and fall in love.

Alana Remington and Ryan Pierce couldn't be more different, Alana comes from a prominent family, her father a successful Judge and she attends the best schools. Ryan coming from the wrong side of the tracks, the poor side with an alcoholic mother and drug addicted brother.

They shared a short and intense relationship which ended when Alana gave herself to Ryan and then...he disappeared.

Five years later at a male review nightclub, Alana is celebrating with her cousin Emily

at her bachelorette party when Ryan comes into view, only this time his name is

What a surprise this book was. I'm not going to tell you why Ryan disappeared(spoiler free I hope) you need to read this yourself, but I can tell you it was one helluva story.

The author's right on descriptions of the different locations made me feel like I was

walking next to Alana and Ryan in their travels. I could almost smell the scents of the city,

hear the sound of the people as they walk the streets of NYC and feel the emotions each felt as they try to come to terms with their feelings.

Trying to reconnect isn't easy, Alana has a lot to lose if her uptight and cold as ice father finds out she's dating Ryan and there's all the women who constantly want a part of Ryan, a part she's not willing to share.

Who can blame her; Ryan has magnetism that screams pure hot and sexy.

This isn't just a story of lost love but of family and the hardships and outcome of drug and alcohol addiction. Of course, there is love and intimate moments the two shares, not the erotic hard core in your face

but more demure and romantic.

And no, you don't have to worry about a cliffhanger, that surprised and made me happy because there was a lot going on and spans over an eight year period, everything is tied up nicely, completely

and you will have a smile on your face at the end.

Be on the look-out for Stripped From You, a prequel... their beginning.

I know I will!

You can add to your TBR list today!

Michelle says

I think I will settle at around 3.5 stars.

So let's just let this sink in. Our hero, well he's stripper. Yep. A hip-rolling-crotch-gyrating-pants-taking-off stripper. And he's hot and he knows it.

When Alana shows up at Culture for her cousins bachelorette party the last thing she expected was to find the man who took her virginity and disappeared five years ago.

But there he is, decked out in jeans and a cowboy hat riding her cousin like it's going out of style.

When Alana flees from the club he chases, bound to explain what took him away from her for all those years and bound to make sure that now that he's found her, that he won't let her go again. Alana never stopped loving Ryan, but him leaving her the way he did made her insecure and more emotionally closed off than ever before. There are too many secrets in the details of what happens throughout this story to really say more than that. The reasons for being away are not sealed in his past, but resurface to threaten their relationship once again.

I did enjoy this story. But there was one thing that kept me a bit reserved in fully enjoying it. The prologue was very intense. It's one of those that is a clip from a future scene in the book. So you have to work your way back to it, knowing it is coming and constantly trying to figure it out before it happens. But the intensity of the prologue didn't really exist in the rest of the story. Their love was a sweet story that had me more melty and squishy than on the edge of my seat. The set up left me wanting something more gritty, so waiting for that to happen kept me off balance for most of the book.

It was a good stand alone novel with a different sort of story. I can honestly say that the plot and themes were original and you get a complete story tied up in a nice little bow. Nothing is left unanswered or unresolved.

Romance Readers Retreat says

I've read a number of books by this author and I've loved them. They are gripping, compelling and gritty.

With this book, I'm really torn. I really struggled to get into it to begin with. I found Ryan a little deficient, for want of a better word. I couldn't put my finger on why but I just couldn't feel that connection. I found him frustrating.

As for Alana, I'm not often a big fan of the female lead in books and this wasn't any different. She capitulated far too quickly. I think that her family relationship could have been explored a little deeper and earlier in the story. I was dying to know more about their dynamics.

I felt the story dragged and without getting the real substance that I've become accustomed to from M Never, I was left feeling a little flat. However, this book suddenly took a turn about two thirds of the way in. That suspense, that palpable tension, was there! As if woven from thin air, this book hits its stride.

The last third of this book is filled with everything that was missing from it before. That earlier relationship is delved into and there's a surprisingly emotional edge to all of the characters. Not literally characters crying, but a deeper and more poignant contour to their core. There's a more tangible connection to the characters. This is what I was expecting and looking forward to!

Although it was a slow burner, I thoroughly enjoyed this book and will certainly seek out even more by M Never.

Dre says

So I'm not going to rate this book because I should have DNF'd it from the first few pages, but I'm a glutton for punishment, so I kept reading. I greatly did not like this book because I am so against this weak, needy female lead who forgives too easily, and Alana is one of them.

Alana meets Ryan, they fall in love, and he takes her virginity, only to disappear the next morning. He's gone for 5 years when Alana sees him at a strip club as Jack the Stripper. Now, instead of leaving, she runs backstage to look for him, and when she sees him, she bolts the club. He, of course, comes after her. She wants answers, and he won't give them in the alley, so she agrees to meet him for coffee the next day.

Umm... he told you he loves you, took your virginity and disappeared, and you're going to look for him backstage instead of leaving and then meet him for coffee the next day?! Then when she gets her explanation that he got busted for his twin brother's drugs and was in jail for 3.5 years, but he never called her or looked for her after, she's all forgiving. I guess it's me who clearly has issues because there is no way in HELL that he'd get to explain, or even if he did explain, the fact that once he got out of jail but never contacted me loses him any chance he had at getting back together. His stripping job becomes an issue for her, but every time she brings it up to talk about it with him, he somehow changes the subject, and she just let's it go. She even goes to the club once, sees him leaving a back room with a girl who kisses him on the cheek. When she finds out that they kiss and do other things behind the beads, she goes back with him and they start going at it on a couch that countless strippers have made out with and had sex with customers. And even though the job bothers her, she continues to let it go and fall all over herself to be with him. Honey, have some pride and grow a pair and tell him that it bothers you and why is it ok for him to go to a back room and kiss and do god-knows-what with patrons at a strip club while you're home waiting for him?! Oh because he makes great money, and he's an ex-con, so he couldn't possibly get another job.

I had been looking for a stripper book forever, and I finally came across this book, so I was really excited to read it, and now that I have, I really wish I would have DNF'd it at the beginning because all it did was annoy me and make me mad.

Nashoda Rose says

"M. Never delivers an emotional, sexy, and passionate second chance romance that'll have you fighting for Ryan and Alana's love right along side them."

Louise Roach says

Whoah!! I was not expecting that book at all... I went into this pretty blind, not even reading the blurb, yet having been a follower of M.Never's writing for some time I was pretty sure it would be an enjoyable read. Well I think it has just become my favourite book of hers!

A story that started off well, following a great plot, steady, but nothing physically blowing me away... then suddenly it just switched for me and I just had to keep turning the pages. I could not put it down, have devoured it in less than a day and am now a blubbering mess of emotion, tears, and happiness.

Ryan and Alana's relationship is beautiful, although met with so many struggles and issues to overcome. After an initial meeting 5 years ago where their relationship started, they have not seen each other in years. Alana was left heartbroken and it has had a huge impact on her life, but were there reasons outside of Ryan's control?

As the layers unfold and the story unravels, we learn more and more about these two as a couple and as individual. Why they have done the things they have done, do the things they do and what makes them tick.

Ryan has had an extremely unsettled past, as has Alana, yet in two totally different ways. Their 2 worlds could not be more different from one another. This story proves that there really is chance for everyone, and second chances really can exist, even in the most unlikely of events.

This book is hugely emotional, especially towards the end where the build-up and tension created by M.Never is superb. My heart was racing, and the tears were flowing! This is a story about families, love and overcoming even the biggest of obstacles in the way. With some humour and the sexiest of scenes thrown in, it has it all!

Absolutely brilliant story with so much more - LOVED IT HARD!!! Highly recommend to all!

5 STARS

Lou
4TLOReading Blog

Angelina says

OH.MY.FUCKING.GOSH!!

I LOVE READING THIS!!
