



Two Shades of the Lilac Sunset

Rosen Trevithick

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What is BDSM without trust? Without respect? Willow Cassidy is about to find out when she submits to the charming but dangerous control freak, Nathaniel Gordon.

As Nat gets his claws deeper into Willow, she becomes distanced from her friends and family – the very people she must rely upon to get out of her relationship alive.

In contrast, her sister Demi enjoys an intoxicating, yet loving power play relationship with Nat's friend Ross.

Provocative, sometimes gritty and with intentional parallels with the Fifty Shades trilogy, Two Shades of the Lilac Sunset is an eye-opening alternative to modern 'alpha-male' romances.

Two Shades of the Lilac Sunset Details

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Author : Rosen Trevithick

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From Reader Review Two Shades of the Lilac Sunset for online ebook

Lisa says

Intense psychological read

I was intrigued by the author explaining how she chose to write this book based on 50 Shades of Grey so she could show the difference in a Dom/sub relationship that wasn't abusive and an abusive one like 50 Shades of grey portrays. Anyone who read those books should read this one. She is spot on. I have to say I was skimming through some because I despised Nat's character so badly and wanted to yell at Willow. But I was so happy with the ending and him getting what he deserved. I also got vested in Ross and Demi's story, which was the story of the "good" relationship. It's scary how easily Nat drew Willow away from friends and family. My favorite part was the information and explanations about the lifestyle by the author at the end. She summed it up so well.

David Wailing says

As a fan of Rosen Trevithick's work, it's unlikely I was going to miss out on this book. But I must admit that I had some reservations. Knowing this novel was Rosen's response to Fifty Shades of Grey, which I was thoroughly sick of hearing about, gave me doubts. I suspected I might not enjoy it as much as the others.

So it was a great joy to discover that Two Shades of the Lilac Sunset works beautifully as a standalone story with its own strong identity. This isn't a parody, or a commentary, or a satire of anything. It's a powerful novel that looks at issues of trust and abuse alongside a character-based thriller storyline.

The ingenuity of the story is its portrayal of two developing relationships in parallel. Half-sisters Demi and Willow both get a new man in their lives at the same time. But whereas Demi and Ross are well matched (albeit not without some ups and downs), Willow finds herself physically and emotionally trapped by the domineering Nat who has no respect for her tastes, boundaries or privacy.

Characterisation is one of the book's strengths. Demi and Ross are a fun couple whose cheerful experimentation with BDSM may well make some readers wonder what they're missing! Whereas with Willow, those who cannot understand why some people allow themselves to be abused will realise just how easy it is to fall under another's spell.

For those who dislike reading sex scenes – myself included – I have never seen them handled as well as they are here. The writing throughout is elegantly straightforward but evocative, and the refreshing lack of euphemism means the story zips along without having to pause and think up ridiculous terminology for two people having sex. This is not erotica, but direct storytelling that doesn't shy away from the sexual dimension of relationships, whether exciting or horrific.

This novel doesn't deserve to stand in any other book's feeble shadow. Two Shades of the Lilac Sunset is a gripping thriller as well as a believable exploration of the black and white sides of domination.

Julie Powell says

I cannot say that enjoyed this book, although it was well-written, as is all this author's work, however, I do appreciate its message and argument that sex, regardless of preferences, is about trust and respect, not abuse of power.

I have not read, nor will I read, Fifty Shades of Grey, but understand enough about it by reading numerous comments, so that protests such as this are a great counter-balance to those who may not understand the damage done by 'abusive' stories.

Yes, people should be allowed sexual freedom but not at the expense of the browbeaten.

Lindsay says

Cleverly written

This book was interesting as it highlighted both the positive and negative aspects of BDSM and how it impacts each relationship.

Thank you

Sarah says

A well written and compelling story about two BDSM relationships - one of them consensual.

While I did like it, it feels a little like the author's main focus is telling us that a relationship like Ana and Christian have in 50 Shades is not healthy - she says in her afterword that she wrote the book because she was angry about these kinds of relationships being romanticised, and that book in particular. While I agree that 50 Shades does not portray a healthy relationship (but to me more importantly for a work of fiction, it's horribly written), that's not something to build a novel on.

It does stand on its own, just not entirely. Which also has something to do with the length (or rather, brevity) of the work. I'd have liked the chance to get to know the characters a little better. Which probably would have made it feel less like the characters were mainly vehicles for the views of the writer.

Gretel says

Well-paced and a compulsive read. In some ways an eye opener into a taboo subject. I thought Willow was just a tad too naive and juvenile for someone who is twenty-one.
