



Illusive

Nina Levine

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He's been burnt by love.

Griff Hawkins keeps his pain locked away and the ghosts of his past buried even deeper. Three years ago, he chose the Storm MC as his family and accepted the ways of their violent world. These days, he lives his life with one rule – don't get attached to anyone but his club.

She longs to be loved.

Sophia Barnes aches to know real love, and lives her life with arms wide open, ready to embrace the possibilities that come her way.

When Griff's past is exposed and his place in the club is jeopardised, he fights for his family the only way he knows how, regardless of the consequences. That is, until he meets the woman who brings him to his knees, giving him something to lose.

Can they teach each other to leave the sins of the past behind or will Griff's demons dictate their future?

Illusive Details

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Author : Nina Levine

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From Reader Review Illusive for online ebook

Heather andrews says

I loved Sophia she was spunky, and when something got her riled up everyone needed to take cover, "I can buy my own damn gloves, Griff. Screw needing a man in my life to do **** for me, because that clearly isn't working out for me." My eyes dropped to his chest before shifting back to his face. Gesturing at his body, I said, "And for the love of God, would you please put some clothes on? When the hell did it become alright for men to answer doors dressed in towels?" Griff is a hands on type of man, "his hand landed on my a** and he dragged my body up against his. "Just so you're aware, making me wait to have you is a form of effing torture," he growled into my ear" Griff sometimes has to state the obvious to his woman, because his woman at times just doesn't get it, "a man is hardly gonna leave his woman when she's naked in the shower with him." I'm hoping Sofia's sister gets a book in the future she was a lovable character just as much as Griff and Sophia. I did wonder why Griff didn't take Sophia around the clubhouse and introduce her to the guys and their ladies, I found that odd but other than that I loved the book.

Cristina says

DNF - No rating

I really liked this series and I could hardly wait for Griff's book because what's better then a bad boy biker?

A bad boy biker DOM that is :P

The story was great and I loved Sophia and Griff but after a while I got bored and started to skip ahead...so that's when I knew it was time to call it quits :P

Lu Bielefeld *read.laugh.love* says

UPDATE: HIGHLIGHTS

"We've all got secrets and demons that take up residence in us. If we never show them to anyone, how will we know who would choose to accept us regardless of them?"

Rule number one is that you can't change a man. He might come around, but you can't change who he is at his core. Any change has to come from him. And remember, once a stubborn ass,

always a stubborn ass. Same as, once a lying douche, always a lying douche.”

UPDATE: Re-read 2017

"Let me be who you need."

"Love isn't grand gestures and fancy declarations; it's getting your hands dirty, and being there, and opening yourself up for the people you love...and letting them give all of that back to you. It's about being honest and handling their hearts with the amount of care you want yours handled with."

"How many times do you let someone trash your trust and abuse the love you've given them before you say enough is enough?"

"A mother should be there to catch her child when she falls, not be the one who causes them to fall."

"The trick is to find your tribe where you don't have to work to fit in, but where you effortlessly slide right in. And to find your person – that one person who just gets you and doesn't try to change you; that one person who only needs to take a glance at you to know if there's something wrong; that one person who would drop everything to be there for you when you need them...you're my person, Griff, and I'd do anything for you."

review in Portuguese and English - 2015

Eu acompanho a série desde o primeiro livro e adorei todos personagens e o universo criado pela autora. Todos personagens são muito interessantes e a trama prende o leitor do início ao fim. Temos romance, drama familiar, suspense, tensão entre os membros do clube onde lealdade são testadas e amizades solidificadas. A heroína é uma mulher de fibra e as cenas entre os dois são muito quentes. A tia do herói é uma fofa! Amei a leitura e recomendo a todos! Já comprei o próximo na pré-venda e estou ansiosa pela leitura.

I follow the series since the first book and I loved all the characters and the universe created by the author. All characters are very interesting and the plot holds the reader's attention from beginning to end. We have romance, family drama, suspense, tension between the members of the club where loyalties are tested and friendships solidified. The heroine is a woman of fiber and the scenes between the two are very hot. Hero's aunt is a cute! I loved reading and recommend it to everyone! Already bought next in pre-order and I'm looking forward to reading.

Jen says

Another exciting and sexy addition to this wonderful series that I love more and more as it goes on. Illusive is book #5, and is about the VP of the club. He has some history that is revealed, to us readers that could have some major negative effects on his status in his club. Griff is very concerned that his secrets will come to the light. He has found family and major loyalty within his club and he does not want anything to come between this way of life that he has grown to cherish. This is a guy who is extremely guarded and has his walls up skyscraper high! He doesn't want to let anyone in as he has been burned very badly in his relationships-especially regarding women. As rough, tough and bossy he is; Griff has a very soft side to him...Not many see it though, but it becomes very noticeable with how he is with his Aunt Josie. I have to say that I got a real charge out of her! She was a match-making Aunt, and had decided that her neighbor across the street was who Griff needed to fall in love with! Sure enough, when Sophia and Griff are introduced...sparks fly in a big way. The problem is though that Griff only believes in one night stands; where Sophia wants a relationship. She wants someone to belong too. She has had a past full of abandonment and lack of family; so she craves to have a family and to be loved. Does she think she is worth it? Nope...but she still longs for it.

When these two finally act on their attraction, holy hell there are some very hot scenes! Griff is Mr. Bossy pants in bed, and Sophia finds out how much she likes to submit to him. These two belong together in the bedroom and out! I loved the side of Griff that came out when he was with Sophia...He was so protective and possessive...an alpha male to the extreme; which is what I love!

Sophia cracked me up with her constant babbling, and I have to say that her dialogue reminded me a lot of how KA writes her heroines. For the matter, even Griff reminded me a lot of one of KA's alpha males.

My four star rating is because I found that the change between Griff fighting his feelings for Sophia, to wanting a relationship with her, happened very quickly. It was literally one minute he was fighting and the next he decided she was his and they were going the long haul. Normally I am not too fussy when it comes to that; but it just felt unrealistic within this particular story. Also, there were times that the club business had me a bit bored. I do know that not all readers felt that way though, so that could just be me being me! LOL

Other than that, I still love this series; and I will read anything that comes out in it. For that matter, anything that Nina Levine writes; I will read. I just love her stories, and her characters as well. This is a must read MC series!!! There was no major cliffy at the end either which made me very satisfied.

Judith says

"I am going to make you feel so damn good..."

It's been a while since I read the last book and I actually couldn't remember that much about Griff..but how could I have forgotten this bossy,sexy biker.I think he's one of my favourite bikers and believe me I've got lots of them stored in my mind.

The man is so HOT but also had a vulnerability about him.

Griff has been with the club for years and I loved getting his story of why he first got involved with them and when his secret was revealed would they trust him again??

And,oh my,the man likes to get his kink on and is so dominant in the bedroom...

Sophia has got to be one of my favourite female characters.Beautiful on the outside and the inside,she has such a sweet soul.

She has seen Griff in her street,amongst other things gardening...yes I know,a badass biker gardening.I had a really hot mental image of him shirtless and sweating in the Australian sun (I'm a bit young for hot flushes but I definitely had a few here !!)

Being a biker book,there's club drama going on,a lot of which is associated with his past.Normally with the club drama I get a bit bored but not here....it worked perfectly with the story.

I loved Griff and Sophia's relationship.They were both so honest with each other and I was totally rooting for them.

This is another great book in an excellent MC series.

Highly recommended if you're a fan of sexy Bikers!!

Cecilia says

3/2016:I just love it

8/2014:I can't wait to see what happens with Griff..! *.*

Nina Levine says

★ ILLUSIVE IS NOW AVAILABLE IN KINDLE UNLIMITED ★

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BOOK 6 IN THE BESTSELLING STORM MC SERIES.

"Will his secret tear the Storm MC apart?"

Amanda says

3.5 stars

I didn't know much about **Griff**, the VP in the previous books, so when his past came to light in Illusive, I was surprised by the information. I like the background story that Nina crafted for Griff. I'm totally having a soft spot for him after seeing how he cares for his Aunt Josie and his reluctance to bring up his hidden past for fear of betraying his Storm brothers.

With his aunt's matchmaking efforts, he get to know her new neighbor, Sophia.

Sophia is a straight arrow heroine. What you see is what you got. She tends to blabber and talked in long sentences before she shut up and let you reply. You will either find it endearing or annoying. Griff loves her for it though.

What I like about Sophia is her willingness to pursue her love interest despite having just dumped her asshole boyfriend. I like her naivety in love and believes she can change Griff's perspective in relationship. I don't mind at all that the heroine is making the first move. I'm so happy for Griff that he had someone to fight for him after the fiasco he experienced with his ex-girlfriend.

"You deserve so much more than a man like me."

"From what I know of you, I deserve a man just like you."

There are a lot going on with Storm even after Marcus' departure and we also have Scott's relationship issue. I can't wait to read about Scott and Harlow's book next. What's happening to Harlow?

Let's talk about the sex. I think this is the only book in the series that's borderline kinky. Okay, is kinky lite. A little dose of spanking/tying as foreplay is always welcome for me.

Overall, both Griff and Sophia are lovable characters that embraced honesty and respect towards each other. I thought the subplot on Griff's identity and the possible downfall of his status was engaging as well. I just wish that I can see Sophia being a part of the MC as Griff's old lady. I think her character was too detach from the MC as a whole. Maybe we can get to see more of her in the next book.

"A man could search his whole life looking for a woman like you, Sophia. I know what I've got, and trust me when I tell you this, I'm not letting go."

Jan says

Move over Storm MC we have a new BBF

Griff wow!

When any one tells me they haven't read an MC read yet and what do I recommend I can without pause always recommend Nina Levine.

What do you get? you get a good plot, an alpha male, a bit of angst, drama and heat in the bedroom, yep an all rounder.

Loved Griff, yes he's bad ass what MC member isn't but he's also the kind of guy who will fix your taps do your lawn and your shopping, phew and isn't the mind's eye a wonderful thing as Nina has the ability in her writing to give you a good eye full.

Griff can do my gardening any day

Loved the plot starting off with Griff's involvement in club business you are given a good idea of what's going on in the daily life of Griff and how things progress.

Sophia well she's a say what you see kind of girl and likable, I liked her story, she rambles on when she's nervous but a strong character and a good match for Griff.

loved the lol moments and the heat fan your self down kind of stuff making this a step up from previous books with Griff's Alpha bossy ways in the bedroom and tie you up in more ways than one kinky ways. .

Another great read from the Storm series

**Arc review from BBBF: <https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/...>
<https://www.facebook.com/sizzlereads?...>**

DJ Sakata says

Favorite Quotes:

"I had to concentrate hard to keep my eyes on the road. This man and that body could singlehandedly cause traffic to halt."

"There's only so much sexy a woman can handle, Griff, and I'm almost at my limit, because let me tell you, just standing next to you is hard work sometimes, so you can only imagine how hard it is to have flirting from your sexy mouth thrown in to the mix."

"Hate is a double-edged sword, baby. Sometimes it's all you've got and all you're capable of feeling. Sometimes it gets you through when nothing else can."

"If this was heaven, I'd be a good girl for the rest of my life."

"The past is part of us, part of our story, but it doesn't have to be who we are today, and it doesn't mean our story won't get better."

My Review:

I have a new BBF and his name is Griff, swoon. I am enamored with this sexy and passionate couple in Nina Levine's latest in the Storm MC series. I love her quirky characters and Sophia is now my all-time favorite sassy gal. I love how she banters with Griff and rambles out her concerns and thoughts in a manner that just strips that distant and distrustful alpha male bare. She disarms him with her honesty and vulnerability, and plants her flag in his heart without game playing or feminine wiles, and his hardened walls collapse. I loved that their story is not the constant push and pull of conflict with or against their relationship; but in supporting, building up, nurturing, accepting, and adoring each other. I always enjoy Ms. Levine's use of a dual POV narrative, and she expertly builds the story as she weaves us through their memories, fears, dreams, and present concerns in an insightful, and skillful manner. I would never tire of this pair and hope to see more of them in the future.

Rebecca says

Griff's story has two plot lines that center around his past catching up with his present, both in ways that will definitely change his position in Storm as well as his need to keep women at a distance, not allowing any attachment on his or their part.

Club business and past misdeeds are to blame for the trouble brewing in Storm and a certain honest and sexy woman is responsible for Griff reconsidering getting in deep with another woman again, but Griff's got his work cut out for him in order to fix his mess with Storm, and with Sophia, he's going to have to realize that not every girl is like his lying ex.

The Storm MC is at a bit of an impasse - the club's loyalty is split; Scott and Griff are fighting like hell to bring Storm back to a united band of brothers, but that's easier said than done when not everyone agrees with Scott or Griff's position in the club. Adding to that is Griff's reasons for becoming a member of Storm and the revelations that can not only put Griff's membership in question but it could also mean adding to the shit that's already going down around the club.

Sophia is my kind of heroine. Her life has not been easy, but she tries to put her past behind her and focus on what she wants and deserves in the present. She's a rambler who gives nothing but pure honesty in every encounter. What you see is what you get with Sophia, which is exactly the kind of girl Griff needs in his life.

Sophia and Griff don't hit it off right away because Griff doesn't see her as being someone who can deal with the no strings approach that he has down to a science, but soon, Sophia's turning the tables on him and he finds that her lightness might be exactly what his darkness needs.

Nina Levine definitely brings the feels in the newest installment of her Storm MC series. Readers feel Sophia and Griff's heartache over their pasts as well as their tension and frustration when they have to deal with people/situations from their past invading their present.

Levine does a great job of moving Storm MC's issues forward and what Scott and his brothers are doing to make that happen. A lot goes down with the club in Illusive as well as with Griff's personal life, and the two story lines work well together, giving Griff something to fight for outside of the club and realizing that the past doesn't have to be the only part of your story.

There's mention in the text about what Harlow and Scott are dealing with, and since the 6th book in the series, Command, finishes their story. I'll anxiously be waiting to see how everything works out between them and what new situations the club will find themselves in with chaos coming in from all different directions.

A complimentary copy was provided in exchange for an honest review.

4.5 poison apples (The Fairest of All Book Reviews)

Kara says

Rosa Sharon (iScream Books Blog) says

Rosa's rating: 4.5 of 5 stars

Rambling, regrouping, and man-shit...

I am most definitely a #StormChaser, I can't get enough of those sexy badass bikers and their women. After spending so much time inside their heads, I feel like I know them, inside and out. I have witnessed their pain, shared their tragedies, and mourned their losses right along with them. I have been proud of them, frustrated with them, and awed by their strength and willingness to die for their brothers. Well, most of them, that is.

Unfortunately, Storm MC has been forced to weed out some bad seed recently. Suspicious things have been happening lately. Rumors have been spreading, and the signs are pointing back at their own clubhouse. As Griff is dealing with the escalating club business, he gets a surprise visit from his past. He had chosen to keep his past a secret, not sharing it with his brothers, for good reason. Now that it has made a reappearance his hand is being forced. He must decide what is most important to him and what is worth fighting for.

Sophia is one of my favorite female characters. She is so funny when she starts rambling. You never know what's gonna come out of her mouth, but it's most likely gonna be very entertaining. Nope, she doesn't just think the funny stuff, she straight up says it out loud to whoever she's thinking about. I had a good giggle when she said, "There's only so much sexy a woman can handle, Griff, and I'm almost at my limit." She is a very appealing character, in spite of her horrible childhood and lack of family support. She somehow still keeps a positive attitude and is able to care for others, managing to give what she never received.

I was right there with Josie when she got the idea in her head that Griff & Sophia would make a good couple. Too bad that Griff doesn't do relationships, huh? He's all about the one-night-stand and has no interest in dating. While he might admire the neighbor with the short shorts and the long legs, he has no desire for more. And Sophia, she's not into one-night-stands, even with the owner of, "That voice. It's like liquid sex." Nope, she'll just continue to sit across the street and watch the shirtless biker mow the lawn, it's better than reality TV, right? That's the plan, but those rarely ever work out as intended. Especially when there are sneaky plotters and planners involved. And then there's the chemistry sparking between them, like fireworks, on the verge of exploding. Uh huh, while she was watching him, I was watching them, anticipating the BOOM! I never know when, or how it's gonna happen, but I know it's gonna be good. I'm never disappointed

when Nina Levine is the author, I just auto-click anything she writes.

Neringa Neringiukas says

Our long awaited Illusive is in our hands. That was a ride with Storm. Once again Nina did it. The story just flew. Chapter after chapter it gets more and more interesting and catchy. Though I'm happy that Griff found his peace in worthy hands of beautiful girl, I'm sad, too. Because I need so much more of Griff. And all Storm guys.

Finally, and I mean finally! I know more about Griff. He was such a 'hush hush' guy. It seemed he was more happy to be in the background then on the front. But that didn't hide the fact, that he has a lot to share with us. That there more to the man, then he allowed us to see.

And I was right. I found what demons is haunting him. What makes him tick. From the beginning I don't liked it. I don't liked that, though he felt that Storm was his family, his home, Griff don't really let them 'in' completely. He held himself back. And that hurt me so much. Because he deserved to feel happy, to feel loved, to feel accepted. And Griff don't saw himself worth of it. I so wanted to hug him and sooth his ravaged soul. To finally find the peace he so needed. It really broke my heart how much Griff isolated himself from the life. From things that made 'us' happy and alive.

And yes, I can understand why Griff lived like that. I know sometimes life brings you to your knees. And then kicks you a couple times, while you're down. And it's hurts you a lot. Makes you question yourself. 'Why bother to fight? To live?' But that's a live. Sometimes such a bitch ithe may be. But without those shatters in your life, you don't know, or understand, or cherish those beautiful things that makes so worth the hardships. Things you're truly living your life for. I so waited when Griff would open up and let those precious moments in his life.

And that moment happens, when Sophia enters his life. And though it takes time for Griff to open up. But slowly he bares his soul to her. He let her see his deepest pieces of him. A pieces, he never believed could be accepted by anyone. And especially by her.

And talking about Sophia...That woman is a special one. I really can't express, how much you gonna love her as I do. I love her because of who she is in person. But the most I love Sophia because the way she was with Griff. She fought for him. She accepted him and all his faults. And I don't say that Griff has them. He don't. As far as I'm concerned, he's perfect. But I mentioned it, because is the way he saw himself. And when he bared himself completely to Sophia and she accepted it, accepted him...It mean every-fucking-thing for him. And in results it mean every-fucking-thing to me. Because I have to confess. All this time Scott was my Storm boy. But after reading Illusive, I'm pretty sure Griff pushed him of the throne.

And talking about the club...Well, a lot of shit happens. Which will make you worried. A lot. And when you think that Storm can have some rest in their life after the thunderstorm of the past year... Another enemy rolls into the town with the plans to take it over. It's seem the guys will have to had each others back more than ever. And I can't wait to 'see' what the storm will bring this time.

Erin McKinley Carnevale says

WARNING!!! May contain spoilers..but awesome spoilers ;)

Ugh I wanted to not like Griff. After everything with taking Scott's position and looking like he was team dick face Marcus....but of course he was a broken sexy man you just wanted to mend and hold and do other things with ;) and now I can't hate him! Damn it! I knew something was up with him tho. When Scott found out his secret and thought that Griff betrayed him for real, I couldn't after that. I got it. Even tho his initial intentions weren't to be part of the club in the long run, Storm was, is his family. That moment was it for me. Griff, you damaged, beautiful man...

“Griff, I accept you for who you are and always will. You never need to change yourself for me. I’m still getting to know stuff about you, but I know who you are at your core –you’ve already shown me that. I’ve spent my entire life trying to fit in, and make people like me, and the thing I’ve learnt is that it never works. The trick is to find your tribe where you don’t have to work to fit in, but where you effortlessly slide right in. And to find your person –that one person who just gets you and doesn’t try to change you; that one person who only needs to take a glance at you to know if there’s something wrong; that one person who would drop everything to be there for you when you need them...you’re my person, Griff, and I’d do anything for you.”
tear

Sophia is sweet and funny. She's one of those woman who word vomit all the time and you're holding your hand to your forehead like "you can stop talking now omg!" but I love it. She's just too adorable! Her life hasn't been easy but what an attitude she has about life. I'm proud of her. She's strong, determined, and doesn't let Griff's thoughts about women deter her from getting her man. She didn't give up and that's exactly what he needed. What they both needed actually. I couldn't imagine not feeling wanted or loved by my family or losing the only family who ever made me feel that way. They opened each other up and gained so much....

“I’ve seen a little piece of your violent side, but I’ve seen far more of your caring side, too, and let me tell you, the care and kindness you’ve shown me so far is more than anyone in my life has ever shown me. You might have a gruff way of expressing yourself, and it’s clear you hold yourself back from most people, but none of that means you’re incapable of giving love. You have love to give...I mean, look at the way you love Josie. Love isn’t grand gestures and fancy declarations; it’s getting your hands dirty, and being there, and opening yourself up for the people you love...and letting them give all of that back to you. It’s about being honest and handling their hearts with the amount of care you want yours handled with.” I pressed my finger into his chest. “And you do all of that. I hardly know you, but even I can see that you do all of that and more.” *Awwww*

This story touched me. By the end, I was clutching my chest wanting to cry. Some of the best lines I've read are in this book. As you can see, I've added some of my favs to this review. I went crazy with the highlighting xD. God, I don't know what else to even say so I'll just let you experience the feels of this book for yourself. Seriously, ONE CLICK this book. Nina, you fucking rocked it girl!

"Griff had shown me that some of the beliefs we have about ourselves are illusive, and that we need to leave the pain and hurt behind, and step into our new skin. The past is part of us, part of our story, but it doesn't have to be who we are today, and it doesn't mean our story won't get better. Together, Griff and I would

write a new story –a better story." *sigh*

Come on October! I need Scott and Harlow but not ready to let go of Storm just yet....but I can't wait for Command!

((HUGS))
