



The Winning Side

C.M. Doporto

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Lexi's determined to keep her word and stand by Raven's side because her love for him is too strong to deny. As Raven learns to deal with the issues that are destined to destroy him and their relationship, their love is taken to a new level. As doors are closed and new ones are opened, Lexi and Raven find themselves in a heavenly bliss, but not without the challenges from Raven's past. With a true test of love, Lexi and Raven have to decide if they are willing to do whatever it takes to be on the winning side.

The Winning Side Details

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From Reader Review The Winning Side for online ebook

??uM says

This book was good, even though it had taken me awhile to finish it.

Lol. In book 3 for Lexi and Luke birthday omg that part me has done for, I couldn't stop laughing especially the part where they said what Lexi had done. And for Raven, I can't seem to hate him even if he does the most stupidest things. In the end, everything turns out good. Can't wait to read part 4. He better not do anything stupid in that one. Lexi has been through enough.

Heidi says

First and foremost I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Thank you for letting me read your book CM Doporto.

Wow. ok so this one had me go through all of the emotions. With this being the third book in the series, you become connected to the characters. I feel the development of each character has tremendously added to the depth of the story. Lexi has gone from meek and mousy to strong and a bit stupid. I am not sure I could keep going back, but love makes us do crazy things. Delaney is one of my favorites. She is smart and mouthy (love that). While I loved this book I wasn't a huge fan of Raven in this one. I wanted to slap him a multitude of times. That added to the charm of the book. Anytime an author can pull out those emotions out of a person is phenomenal. I am anxiously waiting for the next book!

Alisha Webster says

What a rollercoaster ending to the series. I enjoyed it even though Lexi and Raven are both immature in many ways. Being a mom, I wanted to slap them more than a few times. I was silently screaming 'STOP DRINKING AND STUDY'. They both made so many stupid mistakes, and I found myself siding with their parents more than I would have liked. It's what makes them more than characters; Real people make stupid mistakes. I know I did some dumb things when I first started dating my now husband at 17 . As I always say, the heart wants what the heart wants. Lexi was going to do everything she could to get through to Raven; He fought her almost every step of the way. The ending made the whole series for me. I didn't expect it to end like that, but it couldn't have ended in a better way. I'm looking forward to reading the story from Raven's point of view in her new book 'A Different Side'. 4/5

K says

I feel like I read a different book than everyone else...

This was not the amazing lovestory I thought it would be and it definitely wasn't as fulfilling as all the reviews made it out to be.

There was just too much angst and conflict without enough resolution. According to the book, if you just

want something and wish enough it will happen. The author completely skipped over the couple seriously working through their issues separately and together and instead went straight for a unicorns and rainbows epilogue.

This just wasn't for me. If you are going to fill your novels with angst, heartbreak, and emotional issues, at least allow the readers to see growth in the characters before ending it all.

Kathy says

The winning side is the 3rd book of the university series. Lexi and Ravens love gets stronger and more complicated while Raven battles his inner demons and Lexi stands on the sidelines and tries her best to help him through it. After reading this book I cried like a baby and screamed from happiness. I give this book and author 10 stars plus more! I fell in the Raven trap too!

Rita says

I was disappointed in the series period. I felt like she did more begging and groveling than anything. Oh I'm stuck in the this Ravens Trap, he is so beautiful, blah, blah, blah. He screwed up so many times. Who asks you to marry him, but leaves you by leaving town without a word. I really didn't enjoy this one.

Amanda Coffey says

The love between the main characters is true passion, a love that we all dream about. Lexi goes through so much heart ache, but knows that her life will never be the same without Raven. The struggles that Lexi and Raven go through is a roller coaster of emotions that will have you laughing and crying. I felt like Lexi's feelings were my own. If she cried, I cried. If she got angry, I threw my kindle. This story was amazing from the beginning to the end. I would recommend this series to anyone who wants to know what real love is all about, struggle and compromise. I'll say it, CM Doporto, you've got me caught in the Raven's trap and I wouldn't have it any other way. Thank you!

CoffeyAndBooks

Claire - The Coffeeholic Bookworm says

Lexi's world crumbled when she learned about Raven's near-death mishap on New Year's eve. Against her family's wishes, she went to Raven's side and stayed with him until he regained consciousness. It was a bittersweet union, with Lexi knowing that his life was in danger and his career might just end.

But like in any other relationships, there were challenges that threatened their relationship, and Lexi strove hard to make it work with her man, even though everyone had been telling her she'd made a mistake choosing to get trapped on Raven's nest.

Another whirlpool of emotions tried to escape from my chest after reading *The Winning Side*. C.M. Doporto never fails to amaze and impress me. They say, third time's a charm, and boy, what a charming story this Book 3 has been! Again and again, I was caught in the Raven's trap and I'm not gonna get tired saying it. And I'm not gonna make any moves to get away from it.

Now, I really crave for Book 4, *Different Sides*, which is all about Raven's perspective. Somehow, I just know that their story is one for the books and I could never get tired of rooting for them. Raven and Lexi are captivatingly perfect!

Jessica-🐉Chatterbooks Book Blog🐉 says

3.5 stars

Victoria says

Raven had a lot of issues, issues that I could never even imagine someone having to deal with and live through. He pulled at my heart strings when he admitted the real reasons behind his actions. It's impossible not to love a man as beautiful and vulnerable as Raven and C.M. gave us everything. I felt all of his anger, pain, and frustration which made the book resonate with me even more.

I love Lexi as well, she did seem naive at times but I think that was why her and Raven worked so well together. She was his opposite and complimented his extremes. I was glad that she stood up for herself and decided to own her choices and the outcomes. I was worried that Lexi would continue to let her mom railroad her into doing things that she didn't want to do. Oh and the scene with Collin...*SIGH*...he almost had me going to team Collin instead of team Raven with his little speech. But alas, *The Raven's Trap* is strong but I was happy with Collin and Lexi and how things wrapped up for them.

But at the end of it all I LOVED IT!! Absolutely stoked that Lexi and Raven were able to work through all of the heartache, they definitely deserved it. I didn't want it to end but I was soooo happy to see Raven overcome all of his demons and give Lexi the life she deserved.

Curly Carla Celebrity Readers says

<https://celebrityreaders.wordpress.co...>

DNF

This story was sooooo slow. I started reading this series in 2014 I think and I breezed through the first two books. Then when I started the last one I stopped reading it. Fast forward three years later and I figured I'd come back and try to finish it since I've been on this kick lately about trying to finish all the series I have ever started. (This is gonna be a lifelong commitment.)

I don't know if my tastes have changed but I found this book kinda basic. The scenes were going from showing to telling quickly with little to no transition. It was choppy and repetitive. And I found some things that just didn't jive with the plot. It's too bad. I really wanted to add this to my list of series finales for the year.

Paige says

I almost gave this one four stars, I wanted to give it five because the previous novels were so wonderful and I always cheer for the home team since I'm the DFW area.

I just couldn't do it. I liked the book but there was just too much about it that frustrated me. Raven keeps breaking her heart, throughout the entire series and finally in this installment Lexi just reminded me of one of those punching bags that keeps popping back up for another round, emotionally speaking. How many times does he get to knock her for an emotional K.O. before she knees him in the boy parts?

So, the three stars is mostly for the writing skill rather than the characters because by the end I was just glad to have them done with my life, like a pair of needy friends that never seem to get their stuff together.

Beth, Hurricane Readers Book Reviews says

Amazing!!! I received this book this evening and couldn't put it down. This is one of my favorite series. After book 1 I fell hard into the Ravens Trap, book 2 drew me in deeper, and now with book 3 I love them even more. Raven and Lexi go through hell because of Ravens passed and the demons he still carries with him. Their love is strong but through the continuous bad choices that Raven makes, will he push Lexi to her breaking point, will their love with stand or will Raven and Lexi lose everything? Everything is on the line, his football career and his relationship... Will Raven be able to get passed his demons before its too late? Come find out and get swept away by the sexy hot football player and fall into the Raven's Trap... This is one trap you'll accept gladly. I recommend for everyone of all ages. Don't miss out!

Romance Between The Sheets says

The Winning Side - where to start?

I am trying to remain calm, not to rant and rave, I have so much I need to say about this book but I am going to keep it short and sweet. I apologise in advance, I am not going to give too much away as I believe this is the best book of the series!

Firstly Lexi is fantastic and such a strong female character, the crap she puts up with from weak people in her life - OMG She has this energy that draws people to help her and I loved how even Raven's friends stepped up and carried her burden after spring break and towards the end of the book.

Secondly Raven, he needs to get help, stop using what happened to his mother as his crutch, she is a strong mum, Raven needs to be a man, own and make the right choices and stop making Lexi pay for it in drama and emotional crap. What transpired after spring break, she is one strong lady for sure. He needs to grow a

pair and say no to his football friends. He needs to stop sulking off to a corner and running away from shit in his life, I was so angry after his final meeting with the school board.

Thirdly one of the most significant moments I loved in the book was when Colin and Lexi met up. I was dumbfounded and really sad for what they lost, I think Colin would be a wonderful boyfriend, husband and father if you were the person he loved. I so would read a book about him as a person as I think it would be pretty heartfelt.

Fourth, Lexi's mum and dad, swear to god I love them all the way to the moon and back in book 3, her dad is like a super hero of epic proportions and her mum who I hated in book 2, I now love and have forgiveness for.

Lastly and again, Lexi the amazing young woman she is, how strong is she to stand up and fight for what she wants in life and unfortunately for me it is Raven. I admit I did not like the ending in the front garden, I wanted Raven to crawl on his hands and knees and beg for her to let him back into her life.

The end of the book was wonderful when we did get to see all the characters 12 months on and how their lives had turned out, great way to see this series to an end.

I see there is a book coming out for Raven so we can read his POV. I would really love to see a book on Colin or Delaney and Luke.

Julia says

Those 2 stars are me being generous. I think I've read a completely different story than everybody else. First off the relationship between Lexi and Raven is just all kinds of wrong. They never talk through their problems and everything is just okay without ever talking about it.

Plus the book gives the impression that love and faith is enough to change a person even though they have major issues.

That's the next point, all the talk about God. I mean it's okay when it's mentioned but this was ridiculous. I rolled my eyes so much during the book cause of lines like "I prayed that everything would turn out just fine" in situations where it's clearly up to the character to get his shit together and do something about it and not just praying that the situation would change.

Also Raven's character just irked me out. There was something about him that just doesn't sit right with me, I just can't put my finger on it.

Moreover the whole ending was just so wrong. I can't get into it without spoiling the story but no this just teaches a completely wrong way of how relationships should be.

Okay my rant is over now.
