



Play Dirty

Lorie O'Clare

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Hearthrob bounty hunter Greg King knows how to work it—and he knows that he can have any woman he wants. But there's more to Greg than meets the eye...and he's still haunted by the memory of his beautiful, estranged wife. Much as he's tried to move on, he's never been able to stopstopped wondering why Haley left him. Or what he could have done to make their marriage better—and make her stay...

After putting a vicious criminal behind bars, Haley King had no choice but to leave her loved ones behind and enter the witness protection program. Turns out that, in her new life, Haley has once again found herself in serious trouble—and needs help from the only person she can trust: her husband. Now, as old secrets threaten to tear them apart and danger closes in from all sides, it's up to Greg to keep Haley safe...and convince her that this time, he's playing for keeps.

Play Dirty Details

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From Reader Review Play Dirty for online ebook

Robin *loves sexy books* says

This was ok. It seemed to have a lot of potential but I think the story ended up so convoluted and there were too many moving parts that it just didn't seem to flow very well. I liked all the characters though and the premise seems good. A hottie bounty hunter and his 2 hottie bounty hunter sons. There is a book coming out in April about the son Marc, I'll have to decide if I'm going to read that one. Not sure yet.

Megan says

Really good book!!

Michelle says

I had high hopes for this one but it fell a little flat. It jumped around a lot, plot threads where dropped, others weren't explored at all. I was screaming at them to investigate a person cause it was so damn obvious they were behind it or partially so. The next books may be interesting as they are centred on the son's of the couple in this book. I was screaming at them to grow up! I found it really hard to relate to the Heroine, you couldn't get me to voluntarily leave my Hubby or kids for anything, not a chance in h*ll!

It's probably 2.5 Stars to be honest.

Aquit says

The author certainly have a fetish with huge muscles, abs, and asses. I think she could go on for ages describing a man's body and make it sound dirty. Really dirty.

I was bored with the book before the half-way mark. Haley got on my nerves too much for me to like her. She kept telling Greg to treat her like his equal but all her actions says the opposite. She acted really immature for someone who's been in the business of hunting bad guys/killers for years.

And, the sex scenes did nothing for me. Nada. Ok, I lied. One of the sex scene had me in tears.

He thrust deeper and deeper. Her heat scorched him alive. Haley's soft gasps added to the intensity of the moment. She loved what he did to her, how much she could feel his love for her.

I don't know why but that mistake had me rolling on the floor laughing. Maybe it's the lack of sleep.

Amy says

Move over "The Dog" there's a new bounty hunter in town. And while he's big, broad and all alpha male, his overall impression left little to be desired for this reader. Play Dirty is the first installment of the bounty hunter series by Lorie O'Clare and unfortunately one that left me flat and frustrated.

Greg King, former police officer, now bounty hunter, thrives on the adventures his profession brings. Catching a criminal runs through his blood like being high on a drug and now both his sons Marc and Jake crave the same action the job brings. All three work together for King Fugitive Apprehension, a private investigative service founded by Greg. While on a routine stakeout for the latest criminal, Greg sees a woman down the street in the shadows who looks like his wife. He immediately knows it's her, but does not know why she is there at the scene. Haley King (a.k.a. Hannah McDowell) left her husband Greg and their two boys after testifying as the key witness against a major drug lord (Perry Pierre). Without telling her family about her departure, she entered the Witness Protection Program, left Los Angeles and took on her new persona in Nebraska as a private investigator for Payton Investigative Services. Her boss and mentor John Payton has suspiciously gone missing at the same time Perry Pierre dies in prison. Now that Pierre is dead, Haley is back in LA after not having any contact with her family for six years.

This was my first read of Ms. O'Clares and while I had high expectations going in (particularly with such a hot cover), I was frustrated throughout the book. While I like the concept of a fiction based life of a bounty hunter, Play Dirty had a very unbelievable storyline. Ms. O'Clare tries to create a story of a loving husband and wife (former high school sweethearts) who are dedicated to each other and their two teenage sons. However, I found this entire plot hard to believe for several reasons. First, Greg and the boys (now men) were quick to accept Haley back into their lives. They almost treated her six-YEAR absence as if she'd only been gone for six-HOURS. As the reader, I struggled with the mentality that this was just a regular part of the job to leave your family for six years and them be okay with it. Second, it was unrealistic to me that both Greg and Haley knew exactly where the other one was during her absence, but did not contact the other or work out some way to be together. I was not convinced that Greg could keep tabs on Haley and her new life and not be endangering himself and the boys. Otherwise, why not join her in the Witness Protection Program to keep the family unity they both claimed to want. Third, Haley's actions and words seemed to directly contradict any semblance of dedication she had to her family.

"Why didn't you tell Dad?" Jake asked.

"Because he would have stopped me, or intervened, or forbidden me to keep working. I knew what I was doing was dangerous and I was hooked. There was no way he was going to take me away from my first bust."

To me, it was obvious in the above quote that the thrill of the hunt was the most important thing to Haley. She chose the love of her job over her husband, her children and her life as she knew it. She made it clear that while she hated giving up her family and identity for six years, she would do it again in a heart beat to take down a major criminal. I simply cannot relate to this thought process and never would give up a life I made with a husband and children that I claimed to deeply love for a profession or "rush".

Also, though Haley and Greg were high school sweethearts and married almost two decades, I never felt a true emotional connection between them. Their sexual moments seemed quick and detached - more of a "friends with benefits" feel and not really connecting in the intimacy of the moment or with each other which left me asking why was this couple even married when their deepest connection was to their profession. This

leads me to the continued fight for control between Haley and Greg that grew very tiresome as well. Haley was constantly trying to prove to Greg that she was his professional equal. She wanted him to trust her at the helm in giving the orders when she had all the information. Greg was constantly trying to take the lead in the decision making and also assert the "alpha role" of dominance and protection of his woman.

While Play Dirty provided some suspense, it was a flat attempt and didn't have me on the edge of my seat like I expected. The informant and the villain were predictable as well as the ending. Also the easy acceptance of Haley's choice in leaving her family and the reasons behind it left a bitter taste in my mouth throughout the story. The overall family dynamics and lack of emotional depth definitely hindered my overall enjoyment of the story and left me questioning whether I will continue in the series.

Jodi says

I am enjoying the bodyguard series. I love older hero with grown sons story as well.

Michelle says

I totally agree with the person's review that said, "Reading this book was a little like listening to a boring old relative tell you a LOOOOONG story."

I couldn't get into this book at all. The H/h were supposed to be mid-40s, and yet she came across like a 20-year-old. The internal dialogue (will he take me back, we'll still have the argument over my job, he'll always want to protect her, he's so muscular and bigger than she remembered, that last big fight was SO bad, etc) became so tedious, and I didn't even make it a quarter of the way through the book. It was boring and monotonous and the writing was choppy and completely lacked creativity. I lost interest with the sons, too, as reading about early 20-somethings really does nothing for me.

Paige says

Overall, this was a really great read. I just have a few minor issues with Play Dirty.

Greg King was a cop turned Bounty Hunter, he was married, he had 2 sons. He had a pretty good life right? Well that changed 6 years ago when he discovered his wife was working under cover and was sending one of the biggest drug lords on the street to jail. The catch? The only way to keep him there though was for to testify then go into Witness Protection.

Never big on wanting Haley to having anything to do with his line of work, this caused many arguments over whether she should or not. Looking at the bigger picture, Haley knows she doesn't have a choice. She testifies and is put into protection that afternoon.

Which is where my first problem comes in at. I didn't just love Greg's double standard about Haley working

with him. She's smart, loyal, and had a real dedication to the work. She even told him she was studying to do what he did, but he never took her seriously. I think I guy like Greg King should have been one of the last men to be a victim of being sexist.

So, Haley is gone for 6 years. During that time, she begins a new life under the name Hannah. She goes to work with a private investigator John Payton. They form a respectable bond and Haley learns more from him than what Greg would teach her. She did try to keep up to date with her family if she could. Greg on the other hand was obsessed. He makes it his mission to find Haley and upon learning her location and who her boss was, he allowed her to stay without her knowing he was keeping a close eye on her.

Problem number 2. What hot blooded male would let his wife, whom he loves to walk away from him, finds her and lets her stay away? We're not talking a few weeks, but 6 freaking years! Not too realistic, especially since Greg is so protective and I don't want to say controlling, but to a degree he is.

Right as Haley learns the man she testified against had died, her boss, John goes missing. Now that she can return home, she does in hopes that Greg can help her find him.

Problem number 3, the reunion. Okay, this woman, despite the reasons, left her husband and two sons ages 17 and 19 at the time. No contact for 6 years, yet when she returns she's welcomed back no questions asked. Sure she explains why to her 'boys' that she left, but my gosh, no anger or resentment at all?

Getting off that subject, it's clear that Greg and Haley have much to work through. Although he feels he hasn't changed, he can clearly see and hear that Haley has. Working for John as given her that field work taste and now she demands he see her as his partner is both marriage and work.

Unfortunately they don't get much time to discuss their new roles before the case surrounding John pulls them into work.

Problem number 4, the mystery plot. Okay, so we all know I'm not a mystery genre reader. I felt this complicated plot took away from the romance of these two people who had been apart for 6 years. I'm still not completely sure what the whole bad guy thing was about.

The whole thing was above my head and I wish there had been a simpler one. Not that there weren't good things that came from this in depth plot. Like Greg getting to see Haley working and finally coming to the conclusion that she's great at the job he tried to keep her from. Marc and Jake were a part of the plot and were nice to read about. So yes, good things came from the mystery plot.

Unfortunately, Greg didn't make it out of said plot unscratched. And after spending about a week in the hospital recovery from a gunshot wound, he's sent home to recover.

Once he is, Haley finds him working on his motorcycle. After agreeing to be 100% partners, they take off together.

Sammy says

This is the first book I've read by this author and due to this I may not pick up another. At least not in the

near future. Where to start? This is a story about a wife who goes into the witness protection program to protect her family. She has testified against a drugdealer and is concerned he will come back and hurt her family to pay her back. Six years later she returns to seek help from her husband. Her boss has dissapeared and she hoping her hubby can help find him and solve the who dun it. That said 10% into this book I was already questioning the heros actions. He seemed to have a grudge against his wife because she left him. Since the reason she left was explained to him from the beginning I really didn't understand why he was so mad. He even dated when she first left to make her jealous. WTF? Unfortunatly there were way to many of those moments in this book. I didn't understand why these characters were acting the way they were. It made no sense. I couldn't stand the hero the first half of the book. He come off as a gigantic selfish ass! He did improve as the book went on, but not enough for me. The whole book was pretty much a WTH? experience for me. ugh...

Chana says

Poorly written and poorly edited. In my opinion, the book didn't have much going for it as either a romance or a thriller. The plot was disjointed, the romance was childish and unrealistic, the cover art was untrue to the story and besides, who rides a motorcycle without a shirt?

Danielle says

This book took me less then 24 hours to read, for all the wrong reasons. Unfortunately I should have listened to the old saying "never judge a book by its cover" because was I disappointed. Oh how this author murdered her cover. I thought heres a book with a badass man who's going to save the day. Well I was wrong. First off the age difference between cover and characters were way off. The dialogue in the story seemed too forced and fake and my god could you have a more boring plot! I'm sorry to say I skimmed so much in the book just to get to the few steamy parts and the climax and end. It's just such a drag, books have really been disappointing me lately, sorry to say. Not such a good read.

Cheryl says

Six years ago, Haley King testified against one of Los Angeles biggest drug lords, Pedro Gutierrez and that is when her life change. She entered the Witness Protection Program. Now, fast forward to the present. Haley's boss John has gone missing. Haley turns to the one person she knows she can trust and relay on...her husband, Greg.

Greg and his two grown sons, Marc and Jake run a bounty hunting business. Greg never imagined that he would see Haley again. Well not in the flesh anyways. There hasn't been a day that has gone by that Greg hasn't thought of Haley. Now that Haley has returned, Greg doesn't plan to let her leave again. That is if Greg can keep both him and Haley alive. The same person who is involved with John's disappearance is after Haley.

Play Dirty is the first book in The Bounty Hunters. A brand new series from author, Lorie O'Clare. I got to tell you that if the rest of the books in this series are as fabulous as Play Dirty, then readers are in for a yummy treat. Greg and Haley scorched the pages of this book together. They showed that when you are in

love that the sparks never leave. Greg is exactly the type of man I picture when the words bounty hunter appears. There was a nice balance between action and romance in this book. If you are looking for something to occupy yourself for a few hours other then housework, then you have got to reward yourself with reading **Play Dirty**. You won't regret it! I can't wait to read **Get Lucky**, the next Bounty Hunter novel.

TinaMarie says

He's a bounty hunter and she has been in Witness Protection for the past six years.

Shawna says

2 stars – Romantic Suspense

I won't waste my time on a full review because I'm already frustrated over the hours that I've lost by reading this.

Previously I'd only read Lorie O'Clare's story *Love Me 'Til Death* in the Men of Danger anthology, which I liked and rated 4 stars.

I thought this first book in her new Bounty Hunters series sounded promising, especially with the studtastic biker hunk on the cover. Unfortunately, nothing about **Play Dirty** really worked that well for me. Not the characters, story, action, suspense, romance, or writing. It just never held my attention, and I found it rather dullsville. I actually skimmed through parts of the story to get through it.

And the biker cover stud looks much younger than the hero, 45-year-old bounty hunter Greg King. Not that there's anything wrong with a hero in his 40's. My husband is 44, so I'm not age discriminating here, okay? But the cover is misleading. So considering that the rest of the book is disappointing as well, buying a book mainly for the cover hotness really let me down this time.

Now I'm off to look for my receipt.

Mandi Schreiner says

Couldn't finish this one. The relationship between the hero and heroine after they are reunited was making no sense. I also thought for touting themselves as such good private investigators, they didn't investigate a certain someone I think will end up a baddie.
