



Tainted Black

Shanora Williams

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From New York Times and USA Today Bestselling author Shanora Williams comes a steamy, forbidden standalone novel about a college woman who helplessly falls for her best friend's father.

Dear Mr. Black,

I know you were hurting. I heard your cries. I wished over and over again that I could make it better, but as you stated I was too inexperienced; too good for someone as bad as you.

Perhaps you were right, but it didn't matter because what I did know was that I loved the way you felt--loved the way you smelled. I loved how hard you got for me, and when you called me your Little Knight.

I can still remember that day in the park, when you held me close and kissed me deep. How you effortlessly made me cry your name on top of sweet smelling grass, making me feel like the only girl in the world. I loved how you looked at me, how you spoke to me.

I had been madly in love with you ever since I was twelve years old, but I shouldn't have been.

Isabelle would have hated it--my best friend. I couldn't afford to lose her. Besides, you two had already lost enough. Losing Mrs. Black was the epitome.

It's Chloe Knight.

I wanted to be there for you no matter what, but Isabelle needed me too.

And she would have hated me if she ever found out I was sleeping with her father.

**** Tainted Black is a forbidden love-story about a girl who helplessly falls for her best friend's father. After a tragic accident ends the life of Theo Black's wife, he turns to the one person he has always found interesting.**

Chloe Knight, the girl from across the street, his daughter's best friend, and a person that is considered completely off limits for him. **

- WARNING: *If you aren't a fan of taboo love stories, age gaps/differences, of if you're expecting a novel with that "unicorn and rainbows" type of feel, then this may not be the novel for you. But if you want to read about an alpha male with a tortured soul that rides a motorcycle and owns a boat named Dirty Black, then READ this! You may have just have found the right kind of love story for you! -*

- Taboo Romance (Best Friend's Dad)
- Full-length standalone (98K words)
- New Adult / Erotica

Tainted Black Details

Date : Published September 11th 2015 by Bombshell Romance, LLC

ISBN :

Author : Shanora Williams

Format : Kindle Edition 311 pages

Genre : Romance, New Adult, Contemporary Romance

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From Reader Review Tainted Black for online ebook

Belle Aurora says

Patiently waiting for this one.

#GetOnMahKindleAlready

Lacey (Booklovers For Life) says

[the ending.... And there's **no HEA**. I was really enjoying the book, liking the writing, loving the HOT forbidden love sex, but then the no-HEA ruined the book for me. I'm not exactly opposed to non-HEA books (Maldeamores by Mara White is an AMAZING one I loved) but this one just didn't sit right with me. It was like there was all this build-up (and there is SO MUCH build-up) and it was all for **nothing**, because the MCs do

Gitte TotallyBookedBlog says

DNF at 54%

I was so excited to read this one as I LOVE my taboo story lines and this one promised to have me riveted. Tainted Black could have been great - if it was supported by equally great writing. Sadly the writing was riddled with flaws in regards to grammar, spelling, consistency and structure. To begin with I tried to ignore it as the story still had me hooked, however when for example, eye colour starts changing and the errors kept multiplying I had to call it a day. Such a shame because if this purchased copy had been successfully edited and the inconsistencies amended I'm sure I would have loved this story.

Cristina says

Huge spoiler:

In the end, after the book is all about a Chloe and Theo, they both get married to different people.

I just don't get it.

Anyway, if this is your kind of book, then go ahead.

Not my kind.

Olga therebelreader says

I loved this book. The story was thrilling and suspenseful, and it had romantic tension, forbidden love, angst

and hot erotic scenes. The story was well written and drew me in completely from the first chapter.

Mr. Theo Black is a fantastic character. He is dark, mysterious, handsome, loyal - a bad ass tattooed and pierced biker.

The forbidden love between him and his daughter's (Isabelle) best friend, Chloe has been slowly unfolding through the years and is climaxed when Chloe gets nineteen years old and Theo has just lost his wife and Isabelle's mother. He finds full encouragement and comfort in Chloe's arms and Chloe at last finds what she's been craving for so many years, true intimacy with Theo. The age gap is another taboo aspect of their relationship, but it seems that age doesn't matter when it comes to love.

I'd read several reviews before starting reading *Tainted Black* plus the author's note in the first pages of the book about her choice of ending the story. I have to say that the ending didn't bother me. I think it was right and wise. My only complaint is the way things changed so quickly between the two main heroes. I don't want to say much about it because I'm going to spoil it for you. But, their final encounter annoyed me and left me with questions and lack of closure. Overall, the plot was fast paced and never boring. It was fun and worth your time to read it.

Amanda says

[

One of the reason that I didn't finish this book is because I went over and peep at the ending. Oh bad decision ever! Maybe normal mature reader won't be bother by it, but I just can't. It is hitting my no. 1 personal pet peeves.

(view sp

Carissa says

3.5 'Theo Black' stars.

My first Shanora Williams read, and this author blew me away with her imperfect story of forbidden love. Everything about the book - from the name, to the blurb, the cover, and the imagery that is Mr. Black - superbly done.

When a pre-pubescent girl, sees her new neighbours and excited that there is another girl she can befriend, she rushes over to be the first one to meet them. In her excitement her attention is drawn to the handsome, muscular and ever intriguing man on a motorcycle. Sitting astride his 'stallion' in a calm and domineering manner. Yet with the softest of smiles and the gentlest of affections.

Theo Black and Chloe Knight, two strangers, whose paths crossed. A man and a girl, befriended due to circumstance. An infatuation like no other. Lustful inclinations in her adolescent years, escalated into a scorching hot desire in adulthood. Two strangers, differing timelines whose paths should have never

entwined romantically, come together in a forbidden romance, which threatens a family, a friendship and true love.

This is a complex forbidden romance like no other. Theo Black, is Chloe's best friend's father, and her neighbour. He is also twenty years older than Chloe. Who sits at nineteen and on the cusp of leaving for college. After the brutal murder of his wife, Mr.Black has succumbed to his emotions, drowning himself in the bottle. One night, in a drunken stupor, Chloe helps Theo, and her helpful hand, turns into a passionate night of intense desire and euphoric bliss.

In shock, Chloe decides to hide from Theo. By staying away from the Black household, and with Izzy gone off to college early, there is no need for Chloe to stick around. But, as fate would have it, they once again cross each other's part. The unbridled passion surfaces and soon we see them battling their emotions, and fighting to stay away.

“The urge to push him away was strong, but not as strong as my need to pull him close and never let go.”

Soon enough, Chloe's immaturity comes to the forefront, with how she handles certain situations, while the guilt of their actions, burn them to the core. With these turn of events, Chloe runs off to college, without so much as a goodbye, or even a glimpse towards Theo.

Years go by, and Chloe finally returns to her hometown. Izzy, her best friend, never knew what transpired between her father and her best friend, and Chloe plans to keep it that way. Running into Theo at the grocery store, after three years of no contact. Has both Theo and Chloe reeling with shock. It makes all their past desires, and emotions surface with a vengeance.

As the story progresses, the plot thickens and we see where certain secondary characters became more involved in the plot and how they impact the lives of the main characters. Past and present.

For me this was simply an ok read. All my stars go for the premise of the story, Mr.Black and that ending.

My major issue with this story was the women - Chloe and Izzy.

I absolutely hated Chloe and her character. If I could have reached into those pages and strangle her, I may have needed fake bail money. Her immaturity was that of a twelve year old, rather than a nineteen and then twenty-two year old. One would think, that if you're dealing with an older man, you would tread lightly. But, hell no! This girl went all guns ah blazing. She reacted to every silly thing and blew situations out of proportion.

Then there was Izzy. Talk about a pampered, brat. I couldn't imagine how a cool, hottie like Mr. Black, could have fathered that spawn. She was a horrible friend, self-absorbed and vindictive. She came off as such a 'dumb blond' to me. I hated the way she treated Chloe and what she did in the end. Uncalled for.

The redeeming factor was that fantastic ending. I was emotional after reading it. I read it like three times. The raw feelings that emerged had me re-reading this entire story, to see if I missed something.

In the end, I saw the maturity and growth with both Chloe and Theo. I feel a little more at ease with this.

ARC provided by Enticing Journey Book Promotions on behalf of the author for an honest review
THANKS!

Michelle says

Tainted Black... I was won over by two things. A friend raving about it and the freaking blurb/warning.

Forbidden love. Younger heroine, older hero... Unconventional HEA warnings... A girl falling in love with her best friend's father and healing him at his weakest... It was like my one-click finger took on a life of its own.

Chloe Knight was just twelve years old when the Black family moved in across the street. A young girl eager to meet the young girl, to finally have a friend quickly ingrains herself into their family. With a wicked attraction to Theo Black, a man two decades older than her, a man she knows she can't have. But when a tragic accident takes Theo's wife from him and Chloe finds herself, nineteen and still not over her attraction to her best friend's father, a grieving man gives in to lust and Chloe can't deny herself what she's wanted for so long.

It wasn't supposed to happen. Not that first time and certainly not the second time. And even after Chloe escapes off to college and three years pass, the feelings they both share still haven't faded. Back at her home to visit with her father for the summer, Chloe and Theo have a chance to spend the summer giving into their desires knowing that his daughter, her best friend, Izzy can never find out.

As you can tell from the blurb this is not going to be a typical romance. I'm good with that. I love the taboo nature of the story. I loved what everyone was saying about it and I knew that once I started it, I was going to love it.

The first 80-ish% was hot, drama infused and a bit emotional. It had angst and it had heat. But it wasn't until the very end. The final chapter that I lost control over my emotions. I loved it. I loved that I didn't lose it in the middle. I loved that all of it built up, slowly, chapter after chapter until it all just broke apart. The lump in my throat was there, a living and breathing thing. I choked on my emotions as I read the final pages of this story.

It wasn't hard to ignore their ages, hell if it weren't for it being mentioned, you just plain forgot. Easily lost in the feelings and pull these two had. The twists that were tossed in towards the end came out of nowhere.

As for the overall feels. This book is loaded full of them. Even if your thing isn't forbidden love or unconventional endings. This is a must read book!

Sonya ?Chatterbooks book blog? says

★★★★4 Bittersweet Stars★★★★

"We weren't a normal fling. We were unusual, rare and sadly, the unusualness- the reality- was what stood in the way of complete happiness between us."

For the first time in a really long time, I don't know what to write in my review. It's been 24 hours since I've finished reading this book and I can't articulate what I want to say.

Raw: That's how I'm feeling right now. Am I angry? happy? Sad? Utterly depressed? I.DON'T.F*UCKING.KNOW

I have all these emotions running through me and do you know what I want to do right now? Drink!!

Chloe Knight has been a part of the Black family since she was twelve years old. Having them as her new neighbors, she quickly became best friends with their daughter Izzy. She instantly feels a connection with Theo and from that moment he became her friend. Years go by and her infatuation with Theo remained but there's something more. She feels it and knows that this will be a very dangerous line to cross so she keeps her interest to herself. Until tragedy strikes and all hell breaks loose.

Theodore Black is a loving Husband to his beautiful wife and an adoring father to his only child Izzy. Having it rough when he was younger, he came full circle and life is good. New neighborhood, his daughter made a new friend and his business is doing well. Fast forward seven years and his daughter and Chloe are about to graduate high school. But life is good right? Wrong.

In the midst of a terrible tragedy, Chloe and Theo grew closer. Lines were blurred, feelings became the forefront and nothing became the same again for Chloe and Theo. After leaving home for three years, she returns for the summer and is now a more mature twenty-two year old. I don't want to give the entire plot away so I will just say that it gets messy and complicated but passionate and heartbreaking.

I didn't love the first half of the story so much. I found the pace too slow and quite honestly I just wasn't feeling it that much. The second half? Sh*t got real and this is when I sat up and started to take notice. There were some characters that I plotting their deaths and wishing that they would've just gone away but it made the story.

Finally the ending. WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAT. That's all I'm going to say about it.

Lina's Reviews ♡????????♡??Book Blog?? ♡????????♡ says

I CANNOT BELIEVE IT ENDED THAT WAY!! *SOBS*

Ahem. My heart's broken. But I feel content at the same time.

This is the best taboo story I've read in a while and certainly the best of the year for me.

Chloe Knight is twelve when she meets her new neighbours, the Blacks. She becomes best friends with Izzy Black and they grow up together. Theo Black is Izzy's father and Chloe is fascinated with him from the start. As the years pass and she gets closer to the family, her feelings turn to love. When tragedy strikes the Blacks, Chloe is there to help Theo and love him from afar. Until one night.

Lines get crossed and boundaries become blurred. Attraction is strong and the collision inevitable.

Chloe's feelings clash with Theo's morals but their connection is strong and cannot be broken by society's restrictions.

Despite their age difference they click. Love gets in the way, betrayal is inevitable and hearts will be fractured. One thing is for certain; happily ever after seems far away for our couple.

The writing was phenomenal!!! I cannot express how much I enjoyed the author's writing style. I devoured the book in one sitting and I craved for more. The characters were fantastic!!!

If you are looking for daisies and unicorns and HEA, this is not for you. If you are looking for emotion and sizzling romance then this is the book for you. Do not miss this gem!!!

5 Stars from me.

I received a copy in exchange for my honest review.

NMmomof4 says

3.5 Stars

Overall Opinion: This was a hot taboo read. I was expecting a cliffhanger, so I was actually pleasantly surprised to get a HFN ending instead. I am not quite sure I want to read the next book tbh! I am afraid that the next book will just have lots more drama, and I actually feel content with how this one ended enough to be worried about possibly ruining it. I also am not a huge fan of the best friend/daughter, and I am worried that it will all about her instead of the couple...and I'm not all that interested in that! It was an enjoyable read for what it was, but it won't go on my favorites shelf and it probably won't be all that memorable in the long run.

Brief Summary of the Storyline: This is Chloe and Theo's story. Chloe is excited when the Black family moves in across the street with another young girl, and they become fast best friends. Theo is her new best friend's dad and they end up developing a strong friendship as well. As Chloe gets older their relationship changes in subtle ways, but it isn't until a tragic event hits the Black family that it changes for good. After an unexpected turn of events they are separated for a few years while Chloe is in college, but when she returns to help her sick father the old feelings return full force. There is some friend and family drama, some hot sexy times, some sad moments...and there is a HFN ending.

POV: This alternated between Chloe and Theo's POV.

Overall Pace of Story: Good. I never skimmed and I thought it flowed well.

Instalove: No, they've known each other for years.

H rating: 3.5 stars. Theo. He was hot! There were some times that I wanted to shake him, but for the most part I liked him.

h rating: 4 stars. Chloe. I liked her. I appreciated how she never did/said anything while the H was married, and how she cared for those she loved.

Sadness level: Low, no tissues needed

Push/Pull: Yes (view spoiler)

Heat level: Hot. They have some hot tension, chemistry, and scenes -- but not so much it takes away from

the story.

Descriptive sex: Yes

Safe sex: No (view spoiler)

OW/OM drama: Yes (view spoiler)

Sex scene with OW or OM: No (view spoiler)

Cheating: Not imo (view spoiler)

Separation: Yes (view spoiler)

Possible Triggers: Yes (view spoiler)

Closure: This actually has pretty decent closure and what I would call a HFN ending. There is another book out that concludes their story, Untainted, along with what I'm sure is a bunch more drama. (view spoiler)

How I got it: It was part of my kindle unlimited subscription.

Safety: This one should be either Safe with exception or Not Safe for most safety gang readers depending on personal preferences.
(view spoiler)

Ashley says

[I read this via Kindle Unlimited]

This book....I saw this book go by on my feed a week or 2 ago - color me intrigued. I read the sample of it on my kindle, and decided: "eeeehhhh.....maybe...?" A few days later I noticed it was actually available through KU, so I decided: "eh, what the hell?"

I didn't read at all yesterday, I am thoroughly ashamed of myself. I couldn't decide what to read, so I decided on this. I am still unsure what to think about it. **I liked it, overall.** I am not really a huge fan of the younger/older thing, but the way this was written, I found myself devouring it in one sitting. I liked the main characters. I thought their lives and the people around them with all their dramatic bullshit and problems was maybe a little to unrealistic for my liking, but the main characters, I liked. **Theo was hot, just sayin'**

I can't say I liked the ending....at all. On one hand, it makes sense, I can see why it ended that way....(view

spoiler) but I just thought the epilogue was poorly thought out, and I just wish it had all ended differently.

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Sophie **2 Greek Girls Reading says**

Chloe was a child without friends, so when Izzy moved in next door in her neighbourhood at the age of 12 years old, they hit it off immediately and became best friends. Theo was Izzy's hot badass father and many years later Chloe's interest on her bestie's best friend seems to be reciprocated. But what happens when there are so many things holding them apart? The age gap, the judgemental community and mostly the fact that he's Izzy's father?

First of all, let me just say that I may didn't enjoy this one because of my expectations. Somehow I thought the storyline was about a girl and her father's best friend and instead it was about a girl and her best friend's father. Completely different in my opinion, especially for a person, who values friendship and would never do something like that. Especially, when they did it just for sex and to let their needs out of their system. Risking such an important relationship, just for sex doesn't make sense to me. Not being judgemental here, but to each its own. I can't blame anyone on that, because I should have read the synopsis better, therefore the blame is on me.

Also, I had also different expectations about the ending based on reactions from my friends, so to say that in the end I ended up disappointed was totally expected. It felt somehow anticlimatic to me, because I kept waiting for something big to happen and when it did, it wasn't as big I thought and the way the book ended didn't make me impressed and I understand why my friends weren't impressed either, but I wasn't completely negative towards it either. (view spoiler)

Let's talk about **Sterling**. He was a character that gave me a spark of hope that this person would have a big part in the end, giving me the creepy vibes I needed to hold my interest and in the end I was also disappointed by his part in this. I mean seriously now?? I'm just gonna say OTT. (view spoiler)

But I respect that the author wanted to tell this story in that way and well done for that. It may didn't work for me, but hopefully it's going to work out better for my friends. :)

Shanora Williams says

TAINTED BLACK (A Forbidden Romance)

NOW AVAILABLE!

Amazon US: <http://goo.gl/eBGR4L>

Amazon UK: <http://goo.gl/JizFJh>

EXCERPT!

“Why didn’t you text me?” I whispered. He struggled with words, eyes avoiding mine. I caught his face in my hands, forcing him to look at me. “Why?”

“You know why, Chloe.”

“You thought of Izzy?”

“I thought of *you*.”

I frowned. “No. You didn’t think of me.”

Confusion made his face warp.

“If you had thought about me, we wouldn’t be here. You would have known that I was actually looking forward to that text—a location. A place to meet.”

“I can’t f*cking hurt you, Chloe. Don’t you understand that the only thing that comes out of this is pain? Someone will get hurt in the end...”

“Don’t you think I know that? Yes, it’s a risk—”

“A risk we shouldn’t even try to take.”

I sighed, mildly agitated. “If we don’t we’ll keep ending up like this—in this f*cking park, fighting hard not to touch each other.” His lips pressed, but I continued. “If we don’t do anything about it, every time we see each other, it will result in a situation like this.”

He looked down. “F*cking you in the park...”

“You touching me,” I added.

“Unable to fight my feelings...”

“Me craving every single part of you... never forgetting what we did.”

Theo stepped forward, looking down at me, jaw locked. His smoldering brown eyes bolted with mine. With slow, cautious action, he lifted his arm, bringing his hand to my face. He cupped my cheek and his head lifted as he studied my face, breath bated.

My breath caught as well, the air between us impenetrable. The air surrounding us was hot and thick, weighing us down. Holding us in this moment. The pad of his thumb stroked my cheek, his forehead pressing to mine.

"I can't stay away from you," he said, voice low and deep. My core hummed in recognition of this voice, the deep and husky one that made my pulse accelerate and my insides overheat. "I try so hard to fight it, but it's clear now." He held my face tighter. "It's so f*cking clear now, Chloe. Avoiding you is damn near impossible."

Sharon ∞🐉 is an emotional book junkie 🐉∞ says

2.5 ★'s

A bit of advice...if you want to read this book, pay close attention to what is written in the author's bio:

"Shanora Williams is a twenty-something that creates authentic romantic stories **that, may or may not, make you question what a "Happily Ever After" truly is.**"

And...if that's not a big enough 'hint' for you, please feel free to PM with any questions. Just be advised that I will answer so be prepared for any spoilers!

So, the book is basically about a relationship between Chloe and her best friend's father, Theo. Nothing happens while she is underage and it didn't really read as taboo. Things were a bit awkward as one can imagine but eventually the story drew me in.

After the initial sexual contact, there is a three year time jump which was a good thing. Situations had happened that needed some time to be dealt with.

And then we get to the good part. I just really loved Theo and Chloe together. Chloe is much more mature and Theo is in a good place and they are very much in love. The only obstacle? His daughter *and* her best friend, Lizzy, who's been kept in the dark and we all know where that's headed.

There's a couple of other people thrown into the equation to stir up some drama. But I felt some of the connections were a bit too much *cough, Sterling, cough*.

Then, the you-know-what hits the fan and all hell breaks loose. I don't even know why I was shocked at some of the things that Lizzy said. She never really acted her age and even though this is somewhat understandable, she was still over the top!

But even with all that, I was fine with things. Interesting story and I was wavering between a 3.5 and 4 ★'s but then the epilogue from **HELL** happened.

Put it this way...I am not a happy camper. I **IMMENSELY DISLIKED** the epilogue! *SMDH* over and over again!

Unfortunately, I can't really explain it without giving away spoilers but *nothing* happened the way I had hoped. Granted, authors can do whatever they like but that doesn't mean we have to like it.

*Main story = 3.5 - 4 ★'s

*Epilogue = 1 ★'s

Overall = 2.5 ★'s

*Even though the main story was the majority of the book, the weight and drama of the epilogue made them equal IMO.

♦ ETA 7/19/17: Be advised that after this book the author did write a second one that includes a HEA. *Untainted* came out November 2016 and I was quite happy with it giving it 4 ★'s!

Favorite quote:

♥ “You are my little knight,” he murmured. “My rock. My savior.”
