



Liberada

Lorelei James , Raquel Duato (Translator)

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Desde que Amery dejó a Ronin, éste se ha dedicado a destrozarse el cuerpo en combates ilegales, tratando de amortiguar el dolor por la pérdida de su amada. Sin embargo, cuando ella se entera de que está hospitalizado, acude a su lado y decide darle otra oportunidad.

Juntos harán frente a los intentos de Naomi, la exnovia de Ronin, de romper su relación y a los conflictos familiares que se les presenten. Además, se ayudan a crecer, tanto en su profesión como en sus aficiones, lo que incluye actuaciones de bondage japonés en un club.

Cuando su pequeño secreto salga a la luz, Ronin se planteará si realmente él es el hombre que Amery se merece. ¿Conseguirán afrontar las dificultades que tienen como pareja o deberán alejarse para siempre?

Liberada Details

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From Reader Review Liberada for online ebook

Vanessa Boone says

Amazing. Simply breath-taking. Bound (book 1) of the Mastered series left us on somewhat of a cliffhanger, but lucky for us Unwound picks up right where the first book left off.

I don't think I can say very often that I like the second book in a series more than the first, but this was definitely the case with Unwound. Lorelei James opens the book with a prologue starting six weeks after Ronin and Amery's breakup/blowup/fuckup. I loved this opening prologue because it immediately had me on the edge wondering what kind of trouble Ronin had found himself in since losing Amery and it brought me back to the shattered state of mind that Bound left me in. The prologue leaves us with a teaser of a very broken Ronin knocking on Amery's door in the middle of the night. The first few chapters sort of jump back in time, but they do a great job leading us up to the point where Ronin and Amery see one another again.

I really enjoyed this story because it focused on Ronin and Amery building their relationship back up on a foundation of honesty instead of secrets. There are definitely challenges that both Ronin and Amery face and I thought it was great that the author really made their struggles real instead of wiping the slate clean within the first few chapters. We get to see a very different side of Ronin. He's pretty much vulnerable and broken in the beginning and the situation really gives readers the hope that he's going to be a lot more open.

I found it ironic that throughout the story Amery wants Ronin to be completely forthcoming with her, but she isn't entirely honest with him about some things. For example, Ronin's sister offers Amery a contract as the designer for their food company and Amery doesn't immediately talk it over with Ronin, which I found really odd because it's a pretty big deal. I think it definitely plays into Amery's insecurity of her relationship with Ronin. She's hesitant to let him to tell her he loves her and she's even more hesitant about moving in with him.

There are definitely some hot scenes throughout this book and I don't think the word "hot" even does it justice, but Lorelei James does an amazing job showing us the heartbreaking and the intimate moments between Ronin and Amery's relationship. I loved all of it and I was really sad to come to the end of this book. Not because it's sad, but because I didn't want their story to stop.

Although this is the final book in Ronin and Amery's relationship I'm really hoping to see them again, even if it's as background characters. Ms. James has definitely set up some interesting supporting characters and I'm hoping we'll see Ronin's sister, Knox, or Deacon's story next. At least we can hope! **I'm crossing my fingers.**

Michel Reinhard (Smut Book Junkie Reviews) says

3 1/2 Stars for Unwound by Lorelei James.

Unwound is the continuation of Ronin and Amery's story. We met this couple in the previous book Bound. Bound ended on a slight cliffhanger that left this couple separated.

Unwound picks up where Bound left off. Amery and Ronin are separated because of revelations concerning Ronin's family. Amery has accepted Ronin in every way, from his mastery of binding to his need for sparring. She has been honest about her past life and is upset when she finds Ronin is not paying her the same respect.

As their story evolves the reader sees how they individually deal with their breakup. Amery withdraws into herself. Ronin fights.

After Ronin is injured in a fight it changes the dynamics of their relationship. Ronin will have to face the limitations as a fighter. He will have to bare his secrets to win Amery's heart. Just when things start moving forward his past comes pounding on the door and won't go away. This will put their relationship to the ultimate test.

This book focuses on Ronin's fighting limitations, his bad family history, and the regaining of Amery's trust. It also builds up the secondary characters that are an integral part of the Dojo. The reader does not see as much of a focus on the art of binding like we did in the first book. We do get to see the sensual aspect of the binding art and how it relates to their relationship, but it is not the important factor in Unwound. The main focus is dealing with the past, putting it in it's proper perspective, and moving forward with a new purpose.

I felt this book was a little long winded and did not quite hold my attention like the first book Bound. This book could have been included in Bound and made it a very satisfying read. It was well written but dragged out some of the circumstances. Overall I would recommend both books. It is an unique and sensual romance.

Leslie says

Reading the sequel to Bound by Lorelei James has been a long time coming but the I knew I would read it sooner or later since I loved its predecessor so much (just read my review to see why). Unwound was a great follow-up to put a ribbon on Ronin's and Amery's story. While it wasn't on the same level as Bound (as is often the case with sequels), the story itself was gratifying in a way that fit the shift/change of the couple's dynamic while still providing the eroticism and sensuality that made the first book so amazing for me.

Whereas Bound was an introduction to Ronin, Amery and their relationship, Unwound was about the fallout of the revelations at the end of the first book and how Ronin and Amery find a way to work things out to be together. And in a certain way, the book's title is very fitting. It is a word that can be used to describe Ronin's state of mind after Amery's disappearance, the shift in him when he's with Amery and vice versa and how the things we, along with Ronin, thought we knew regarding Ronin and his family was not as they seemed. So, in many respects, this book was as much about Ronin as the first book was about Amery. It was interesting to see the story from Ronin's perspective (in third person narrative) to go along with Amery's so you get a more in depth picture of what's going on. I enjoyed getting a look into the mind of a character who so grabbed me with his alluring strong-willed personality and how complex and vulnerable he really is. I liked Amery standing on her own, taking control of what she wants from Ronin and their relationship without sacrificing the innocence and hope that attracted Ronin in the first place.

This book may be more story-driven (not to say the first book wasn't but relatively speaking), it doesn't mean James skimps out on the bondage and sex. In its own way, the bondage and sex scenes have a certain level of intimacy in them since it's an exhibition of the couple's openness to one another and their feelings.

There's a feeling of uninhibited passion and appreciation that wasn't present in the first book. Again, it's another good way to illustrate the change in Ronin's and Amery's relationship.

Unwound (along with Bound) are great examples of what good story and storytelling mixed with erotica can produce. James beautifully combined emotion and eroticism to tell a wonderful love story that had me hooked from the first book, to its sequel and the subsequent installments in her Mastered series. Not only did this book provide an ending to Ronin and Amery's story, James also managed to set things up and arouse our interest in the other characters (i.e., Shiori/Knox, Deacon/Molly) and their stories for the subsequent books. While this book wasn't at the same level of Bound (which in of itself was something new I haven't come across), Unwound was a perfect partner to end this particular story arc and start another's.

Autumn says

Perfect ending!

Full review to come on Martini Times...

Amy McGlone says

****ARC received via Netgalley via Penguin in exchange for an honest review****

In the continuation of Bound. We get the majority of the story from Ronin's POV. I was a little distraught that we didn't get more of Ronin's story in Bound, Unwound more than made up for it.

Ronin is in despair from his separation from Amery. In an attempt to block the pain, he steps foot back inside the cage. Not the best decision he's made. Amery knows she's made a mistake walking away. From where she's sitting? It needed to happen.

In Unwound, Ronin and Amery explore their intimacy issues in an attempt to salvage their budding relationship.

Unwound was the perfect ending to Bound. It was a Masterful, Breathtaking, deeply sexy novel. While this novel as some smoking H.O.T. scenes, it explores the deep intimacy shared between 2 people who are obviously in love with one another. And how that intimacy affects their daily lives, communication, and overall understanding of one another.

K. says

4.5

Jennifer says

First Thought

Lorelei James is now my radar! I will be trying more of her books.

Why I'm Still Enjoying this Series

The characters grow! They don't make the same mistakes they did in Bound (book 1). Sure there is drama that could be avoided but really this time around much of it has to do with other people causing drama for them. It's also easy to see that Amery and Ronin are not just about the hot, hot, hot sex. They really love each other and grow not only as individuals but as a couple.

The story wraps up with a nice HEA for Amery and Ronin and I hope we get looks at them through other character's books.

I also enjoyed the fact that Unwound ending was not tied up in a perfect pretty bow. Let me example. Amery has a strained relationship with her parents and rightly so. And it 100% on the parents fault for their messed up thoughts about Amery's life choices and well the world as a whole. They are VERY religious and try to shame and control Amery. There is a major conflict that happens between them and while it's a shame that things are left they way they were it was realistic to the plot and I'm glad that Lorelei James didn't try to make a Hallmark moment out of it.

Issue I had

I thought that one part of the story line (I won't go into too much so not to spoil you) was a little rushed and I would liked to have more details and see the bitch go to jail. If you have read or plan on reading this series you will know who the bitch is. LOL

Final Thought

NEXT PLEASE! I can't wait to get Shiori and Knox story in book 3, Unraveled. March will be a long wait. Lorelei James told me on Twitter that there will be Novella in December so I'm hoping that will help with the long wait for Unraveled.

Narration

This time we get Luke Daniels as the sole narrator and it makes sense since we get most of Unwound from Ronin's POV. Daniels does a fabulous job with Ronin's voice and all the other characters. The only thing that bugged me a little bit was that the female Japanese characters had an accent where as Ronin did not. Not a big issue but I wonder why he decided to give Ronin's sister an accent. Yes she has lived longer in Japan but not enough (IMO) for her to sounded different than Ronin. But hey I loved his voice for Ronin so if he did give him an accent I might not have liked it. LOL Overall the narration was great. I wonder who will narrate Unraveled since it's a new couple.

Nicole Tetrev says

I expected a lot from Unwound, Bound had completely captivated me and I knew following up Bound would be an extremely hard task. Was Unwound as good as Bound? Yes & No... It had some things Bound didn't which made it better to me, BUT it was very slow going in the beginning, I didn't get really excited until about 60% in. That being said I really did enjoy the Unwound, I loved seeing Ronin and Amery again, and how they approach their relationship head on with "less" secrets then they had in Bound. It was an amazing conclusion to their story, I HOPE to see them more as background characters in Ronin's sisters story... as well as Knox and Deacons?? That may just be wishful thinking though but a girl can dream!

The BookChick says

Sigh...I'm so disappointed to leave a three star review for this book. I absolutely loved Bound and gave it five stars. The story was both sexy and unique. It was fiction gold. Sadly, Unwound left me feeling quite..."meh". The characters seemed to take on a bit of a cardboard feel to me. Don't get me wrong, Ronin was plenty emotive in this book as was Amery but the emotions felt contrived opposed to natural. The drama created between the couple felt artificial and the Naomi thing just feel flat. There was no resolution about what she did to Ronin. Like none. The story also seemed to contain a whole lot of filler that just didn't benefit the story at all for me. I was expecting Unwound to be a potent follow up to Bound but book it felt a bit anemic in that vein. I still love Lorelei as an author...this just wasn't a favorite book for me.

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Angeline and KcLu's reviews posted on Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

5 STARS

Review copy provided for an honest review

Angeline:

I grew up in a martial arts family and was excited when I heard the concept of Lorelei James' The Mastered Series. I have read so many others that disappointed me because they focused solely on the fighting aspect and less on the respect and integrity involved in martial arts. James wrote the perfect balance and I am so grateful!

I love the unique approach James took with Book 1 (Bound) being in Amery's voice and Book 2 being in Ronin's. I was a little hesitant at the idea at first and it was different than what is normally available, but it totally worked. Proving once again that there is no limit to James' talent.

I adored both books separately and together. After completing them, the entire love story came full circle. I love that I got two full length Lorelei James novels out of one story. Sometimes it takes that much to tell a story. That's a win in my book! (laughs)

In Unwound, Ronin and Amery continue to fight through their own demons as they struggle to find their way together. James takes us on an emotional ride full of heartache, redemption and most important love. This light bdsm story explores the sensuous art of Shibari and Kinbaku. I found this absolutely fascinating and beautifully erotic.

The secondary characters are real and deep and I am in love with all of them. I truly hope that this series continues so I can read what happens to these great characters.

Lorelei James is an extremely talented author who writes beautifully in any genre. I am looking forward to reading about all of the places that James plans to take us and meet all of the kickass characters that will be with us along the way!

KcLu:

I give UNWOUND 10 stars...

Bound left us completely wanting the next installment in this series immediately, and if you are like me you were cursing a bit at the fact that you didn't have it already. The character of Ronin Black had me in his snares from the moment he walked onto the page and into Amery's line of sight, but he remained a mystery because we didn't get to see into his thoughts. With Unwound we get to go into the perplexing brain of his, and oh what a treat that is!! You get the inner struggles, and why he holds part of himself back.

We open this book not long after the end of Bound, and these two are sooo broken by their fight. For Ronin the only way he can deal with the emotional pain is to get back into the fighting cage. Oh what bad idea that is. When you want to be beaten, MMA fighting can be beyond dangerous, and he pays for it. He shows up on Amery's doorstep injured and bleeding. He is babbling nonsense to her, and she is struggling with wanting to hold him close and self-preservation. Can she open her heart and life to him again without break again? Can she trust that he will open up with her 100%?

Ronin is determine to prove to Amery that he loves her and wants a future with her, but she isn't going to let him in easily. He just might be in for this biggest fight of his life, and one that could break him permanently if he loses.

He wrapped his hand beneath her jaw. "Look at what you do to me. I'm about to crawl out of my damn skin from wanting you" –Ronin Black

There are many books out there that center on the world of BDSM, but not many of them that focus solely on the Bondage portion of it and there is definitely a lack of rope centered books. Ronin Black is a rope master. It is a big part of who he is. As someone who has had a small bit of experience with rope work in this manner, you can definitely tell that Lorelei did her homework. She truly got into the headspace of someone that is in the ropes as well as the one doing the binding. This is one of the things I love about her writing, and why I have her on my auto buy list. You never have to worry that she just threw a book together, and you know she cares about her readers.

Don't miss this series!! It is a definite must read. The Mastered series will rope you by the heart, and tie you down till you hit the end! Unwound is a heartbreakingly beautiful trip to Ronin and Amery's HEA. In closing I have to say thank you Lorelei for another amazing man that has taken over my daydreams.

Jess says

Review posted: Happily Ever After - Reads

Blog rating: C

Unwound picks up where Bound leaves off, sort of. There is a time jump of a few weeks, but Ronin and Amery are in the same place, apart and both are miserable. So you really should read Bound first to get a sense of their relationship, the non-truths that they're both dealing with and what they've been through to get to the point of where Unwound begins. They haven't spoken for 6 weeks and during that time, Amery has been miserable and Ronin has thrown himself back into fighting and pretty much letting whoever his opponent is, beat him to a pulp. This is how Amery finds him one night on her doorstep. Ronin goes to her after a brutal beating and she gets him to the hospital. And just like that, they reconcile. Seriously, I kept thinking where's the talking? Where's the discussion of their pasts and where they went wrong in the first place? Nothing, Amery appoints herself Ronin's nurse and stays with him during his recovery and it just sort of happens, they're back together. Don't get me wrong, they do eventually talk a lot and have quite a few outside influences to deal with so they do have progress in working through their issues. I was just a little taken aback with how brutal Bound ended and that within the first chapter of Unwound, they're already getting back on track.

As far as the romance between Ronin and Amery, I found it to be much of the same cycle we saw in Bound. Lots of sex, a little more talking, rope work by Ronin, more sex, talking but still not enough and so on. The sex between them did get repetitive and I ended up skimming through those scenes to get back to actual dialogue. The sex is hot, Lorelei James can write a steamy sex scene no doubt, I just found that I wanted more between Ronin and Amery on page than just another sex scene.

I did enjoy the dialogue that opened up between Ronin and Amery, not just talking about things with each other, but Ronin's sister plays a larger role, Shiori, as she tries to rebuilt her relationship with Ronin and makes some big changes in her own life. I found myself really taken with her and I hope that there's a book for her coming in the future. There are actually plenty of opportunities for James to continue this stories in this world with either Shiori or any of the men from the dojo, all of whom are interesting and make me want to know more about them.

Ronin and Amery also each deal with their parents, Amery's mom and dad and Ronin's mother all make appearances and it's like night and day seeing how the parents treat their kids. Let's just say Amery's parents take the cake for being heartless to their only daughter and I wanted to reach into the book and smack them both. On the flip side, Ronin's mom is loving, accepting and I really enjoyed her scenes with Ronin as well as with Ronin and Shiori.

And it wouldn't be complete if Ronin's crazy, psycho ex-wife didn't show her face on page. She does, she's a bitch, to put it plainly, and she's all about stirring up trouble for both Ronin and Amery. She does some horrible, mean things to both of them and I was letdown with how her storyline resolves itself. But her appearance does give Ronin and Amery a chance to again, talk about the things she's bringing up and I liked how for Ronin, he's able to see that Amery's moved beyond running at the first sign of trouble. She's in it for the long haul and having her love unconditionally is something that Ronin's never had before and it leads to some nice scenes between them.

I can't say I was as taken with Unwound as I was with Bound. There are some nice moments between both Ronin and Amery and I was really intrigued with the scenes they both had with their families and other

various supporting characters. But the sex scenes got old and didn't do much for me with the story progression, but skimming them didn't feel like it too away from anything storywise. Looking at the two books as one long story for Ronin and Amery, they'd both together get my recommendation for a nice read, but just looking at Unwound, it was good but not the emotional, gripping conclusion I had hoped for.

Francesca the Fierce (Under the Covers Book Blog) says

Lets start off with clarifying that the Mastered series is one story told in two full length books. You absolutely cannot pick up UNWOUND without reading BOUND first. So that being said, BOUND left us hanging a bit on what would happen next and this book picks up shortly thereafter. Ronin and Amery haven't talked in weeks and Ronin is not in a good place without her. He dives deeper into his darker world until he's almost too far gone to recover. But then Amery is there to slowly draw him out.

This is a book of reconciliation and balance. Balance because while they are together, they still have plenty of things to work through in order to make their relationship work. There's trust that has to be earned. There are limits that need to be put in place or tested. And their natural behavior outside of the bedroom that has to be controlled. I enjoyed seeing that balance put to the test. Ronin is an overprotective male and that can, at times, be overbearing for a strong woman like Amery. And at the same time Amery has insecurities that need to be overcome, with trust in a strong bond. That to me was the beauty of this story. It was tested time and time again. And it's not about one overpowering the other, but how they can complement each others lives going forward while they both thrive. After quite a bit of heartbreak, I can totally see that at the end of UNWOUND.

As always, Ms. James hits it off the hotness charts with this one. I always wonder how she will top her last book and then she does it again. Ronin and Amery get down and dirty, hot and flexible ;) and will leave you steaming and panting and googling. But just as hot as the scenes can be, there was always a reason why they were there, a function to the story they were telling. I loved how we see BDSM in this world and in combination with the martial arts discipline. It makes it a beautiful art and a pleasure to "see". I can definitely tell there was quite a bit of research put into the developing of this story and I think readers can appreciate that.

This was the perfect ending for Ronin and Amery, however I am not ready to see the world end. There are still many stories left untold back at the dojo and I hope there are plans for more!

*ARC provided by publisher

Ilene says

This has to be my least favorite L.J. novel ever. I really only read it because the first was somewhat of a cliffy. I needed the closure.

Ms. James does Cowboys beautifully!!! Zen rope Masters...not so much.

I liked Ronin Black enough. Amery was okay but mostly all the characters fell flat. This whole book was missing a lot of everything.

I thought it was just a 2 parter but now it's continuing with Knox and Ronin's sister. I can whole heartedly say, I am out, I will be skipping those.

Ena May - Swoon Worthy Books/Enticing Journey Book Promotions says

Krista says

What a fantastic end to Ronin's and Amery's story. The focus shifted in this book. It wasn't quite as much on the Japanese art of binding, but rather the focus was put mostly on Ronin and his limitations as a fighter. There's still plenty of the art aspect, but I liked that more of a spotlight was placed on the things that are necessary to make a relationship work - trust, communication and loyalty.

Ronin is getting older and is having a very hard time coming to terms with that fact. His fighting days are likely over and he needs to shift his focus to more of the management side of things. But, how is he supposed to relieve his stress now, when throwing punches is the only way he's ever done that in the past?

Ronin was awesome in Unwound. It was easy to see the difficulty he had in coming to terms with his limitations. It's not something he's ever had to worry about before. And he really struggles. It was such a dichotomy from what we already know of this strong man. He has only ever allowed the outside world to see him as extremely capable, strong and intelligent. Even his best of friends and Amery, the woman he loves, only ever saw him completely in control. So, it was incredibly refreshing to see how Ronin had to come to a place where accepting help from others did not equate to weakness. He came a very long way over the course of the book.

Amery, however, made me absolutely stabby. She spent most of the book turning her judging gaze on Ronin and calling him out for his lies and secrets that spilled out at the end of Bound. And, yet, in Unwound, Amery kept just as many secrets as Ronin did. Where Ronin made real efforts to change in order to keep Amery in his life, she seemed more interested in watching him wallow and apologize repeatedly than in truly making forward strides in their relationship.

Luckily, Ronin is still the strong, amazing man we were introduced to in Bound, and when he calls her out, that is when the book took a really awesome turn. The end was incredible, and I closed the book feeling very satisfied.

Although the binding wasn't as much of a part of Unwound as it was in Bound, it was still there, and I loved those moments as much as I did in the previous book. I also really loved the glimpse into the business end of MMA fighting - it was a unique perspective.

I'm hoping this isn't the end of this series, even if it is the end of Ronin's and Amery's story. There are still plenty of other intriguing characters that I want to know more about (Knox! Shiori! Blue!). Please, Lorelei,

write more!!
