



Cherished

Maya Banks , Lauren Dane

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Contemporary BDSM Duology

Exiled by Maya Banks

Enticed to the island paradise where an enigmatic prince is living in exile, beautiful, virginal Talia is introduced to a world of forbidden pleasure where the prince's every whim is fulfilled and her fantasies are rendered in exquisite detail. But when the prince is summoned back to fulfill his duty to his struggling country, reality is thrust upon Talia all too soon. She returns home, heartbroken, convinced she was a passing fancy for an idle ruler and his most trusted men. Until the day they arrive on her doorstep, determined to have her back where she belongs.

Sway by Lauren Dane. Book 1 of the Delicious series

Taken from Ms Dane's website - SWAY will be in the CHERISHED Duology with me and Maya Banks – both our books will have a contemporary BDSM theme. It's also the start to my DELICIOUS series, the spin off from The Brown Siblings books.

Levi Warner is an established, older man—wealthy, powerful, and above all, respectable. Then Levi meets Daisy, an uninhibited 24-year-old dance instructor and artist, not exactly the kind of woman Levi is accustomed to. But the young, free spirit, brings out something in him he only experienced in fantasies. When their scorching affair turns into something unexpectedly deeper, Levi finds himself torn between preserving his reputation, and exploring a wilder and much more satisfying kind of life.

Cherished Details

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Download and Read Free Online Cherished Maya Banks , Lauren Dane

From Reader Review Cherished for online ebook

Dina says

*** NOTE: This rating is for Maya Banks's EXILED only! ***

Ridiculous and unbelievable plot, unlikable characters (Prince Xander was far from being *charming*, Talia's ingenuity was idiotic, and Xander's friends were one-dimensional sidekicks to his sexual antics), stilted dialogues and awkward sex scenes that failed to titillate me. Need I say more? :(

Amy says

Exiled by Maya Banks

Rating: D

Enticed to the island paradise where an enigmatic prince is living in exile, beautiful, virginal Talia is introduced to a world of forbidden pleasure where the prince's every whim is fulfilled and her fantasies are rendered in exquisite detail. But when the prince is summoned back to fulfill his duty to his struggling country, reality is thrust upon Talia all too soon. She returns home, heartbroken, convinced she was a passing fancy for an idle ruler and his most trusted men. Until the day they arrive on her doorstep, determined to have her back where she belongs.

Prince Alexander (Xander) Carrera's country, Christofino, is in turmoil and he is exiled to a remote island until the raging rebellion ends. Xander first met Talia Montforte four years ago when she was only eighteen, but her innocence and beauty rooted an attraction that he could not deny. Talia's dream was to attend university in Paris and travel the world until she returned to personally contribute to their mutual country. Her dreams, or so she thought, came abruptly to an end when her mother was diagnosed with cancer. Upon learning of Talia's mother's illness, Xander took charge of Talia's life providing treatment for her mother so that Talia could attend university in Paris. He further provided her living expenses and a monthly allowance all under the condition that when the day arrived that he would call for her, she would come to him.

Four years later Talia has been summoned by Xander. Now a young woman of twenty-two, she thought she was prepared for what to expect believing that her pride, her body and her soul were worth the sacrifice for her mother. Still a virgin, Talia has no illusions to the fact that her agreement with Xander would involve a sexual relationship for a period of six months. What she was not prepared for is not only is she to submit completely to Xander but also to his three closest and trusted friends, Sebastien, Garon and Nico.

I've discovered if an author writes a sexual relationship with more than three people (ménage), I have a hard time believing that intimacy and satisfaction can be had by all. With that being said, after reading the sex scene in which Talia takes all four males, I had déjà vu of Ms. Bank's novel, *Sweet Temptation* and the 30+ page sexfest that took place in that book. Truthfully, I feel no sensuality or sexiness when I read a detailed description of a woman taking four men or more in all three of her orifices. It becomes cold, methodical and the farthest thing from sexy in my mind.

"Back and forth, from man to man, hands on her face, in her hair, holding her, pushing against her. It all

blended together until she was only aware of the cocks pushing in and out of her mouth.”

The heroine states that she has never felt more cherished after the sex acts she participates in with multiple partners and I just had to shake my head at the absurdity after reading about the body fluids of three different men running down her thighs.

“Then Nico pulled out. She found herself pitching forward, her knees digging into a pillow on the floor. Xander mounted her from behind, slid deep into her ass and began fucking her in earnest as cum slid down the insides of her thighs. Semen from three different men.”

Ultimately, Talia belongs to Xander and once he has claimed and shared her with his friends, he is determined for their relationship to be permanent. In the end after Xander sends Talia away for her protection and then returns for her, this is what both desire and agree to. Overall, the story lacked the emotion, warmth and sensuality that I desire in erotic romance reading. The sex scenes came across as passionless, systematic and lacked the erotic connection that I know Ms. Banks can deliver.

Sway by Lauren Dane (Delicious)

Rating: B

Levi Warner is an established, older man—wealthy, powerful, and above all, respectable. Then Levi meets Daisy, an uninhibited 24-year-old dance instructor and artist, not exactly the kind of woman Levi is accustomed to. But the young, free spirit, brings out something in him he only experienced in fantasies. When their scorching affair turns into something unexpectedly deeper, Levi finds himself torn between preserving his reputation, and exploring a wilder and much more satisfying kind of life.

Ten years ago attorney, Levi Warner had a wife and a marriage that appeared to be perfect to society and his upper class family, but in reality Levi was miserable. He was considering divorce until the fateful night his alcoholic wife was in a head on collision that killed herself and her unborn child. Since then, Levi has dated and had his share of women in bed with the goal of having a good time and not opening himself up to any future emotional hurt. What Levi didn't count on was meeting artist and dancer, Daisy Huerta while attending dance lessons for his brother's upcoming wedding or the instant attraction he would feel for this young, vibrant, willful woman.

“I'm not afraid of your age. I want to fuck you. I also want to eat four cupcakes at once but I restrain myself to two. I have self-control.” She looked at him again. Sometimes.

After their second unexpected run in at the grocery store, Levi can't resist asking Daisy her age to which she agrees to answering on the condition he asks her to dinner or drinks. Daisy felt an immediate chemistry upon their first encounter as well as Levi's dominant nature and she wants to explore the sexually charged vibe that is obvious between them both. Daisy quickly learns that Levi's intensity is unlike any man she has ever been with and he unleashes a truthfulness and intimacy she has never experienced in a relationship. Levi knows he should not pursue anything with this much younger woman but she stirs an attraction and sensuality within him that he cannot ignore or walk away from. Although their connection is sizzling in the bedroom, Levi is still not completely open about his family or his developing feelings for Daisy of which she is all too aware. He makes her feel special and precious behind closed doors but then he hides her like a dirty secret to the other people in his life. Daisy knows the only way they can have a meaningful relationship

is for Levi to own what they have in public and to his family. The question is, will he?

“She knew her worth as a woman. She’d been raised by not only a kick-ass mother, but her grandmother and sister were also strong, smart women. Whatever her concerns about her talent and her art, she’d never beg a man for his attention.”

“He wanted her or he didn’t. So she sat back a little and let him work through it.”

Sway is a nice introduction to the new Delicious series by Lauren Dane. I am a fan of Ms. Dane’s Brown Siblings series so I was excited to see that there is a crossover of characters including Adrian and Gillian as well as mentions of others. What I love about Ms. Dane’s writing is she always develops a strong, loving connection of family and friends that leaves a lasting impression on the reader. Her characters are likable, relatable and you find yourself engrossed in their lives and anticipating their happiness. Beyond that, all of her heroines have a refreshing balance of independence and self-assurance and Daisy was no exception. She had no problem owning her wants and needs both in the bedroom and in a relationship. In the end I felt like Daisy had more on the ball in maturity and how she valued commitment than Levi. We learn the root of Daisy’s confidence is not only from her family but also the bond she shares with close friends Jules and Mary. All are strong, confident women who encourage and love each other. Their friendship sets the stage for the books to come and I am even more excited about where Ms. Dane will lead these characters in this new and enticing series.

Favorite Quote:

“Tell you what. I have a raspberry honey tart. Well, three-quarters of one. I’m only human. Bring some wine. I’m working now, but I can be finished in an hour or so, if you want to come over. Bring your pajamas.”

“I don’t sleep in pajamas.”

“Well then, bring your cock.” She hung up.

Originally posted at <http://www.fictionvixen.com/review-ch...>

Booklover, Indianapolis says

(2.5*)I love Maya Banks – she writes polyamorous relationships with such earnestness – she really wants us to believe this is normal – or can be accepted as normal in small towns (Colters) or even in big cities (Stay With Me). Not only have I never met a poly participant, I’ve never known of my friends to mention it either (“say, you know, this nice young couple just bought the house next door – funny, they seem to have his best friend living with them, but I’m sure he’ll move out soon” or “mommy, I have a new friend in school – she has 3 daddys and a mommy and they all sleep in one bed – I want more daddys too!”). But you gotta love her belief in “love conquers all.” That said, her story Exiled was typical for her – sweet, long blonde haired virgin who is on the timid side catches the attention of a prince who has been exiled from his country. He meets her once (or maybe twice?), sends her off to Paris for cancer treatment for her mom (he pays, also

pays for her living and school expenses), and now a few years later he summons her to him – making her sign a contract before she gets there (shades of 50!), and she discovers she's expected to be his sexual plaything – oh, and his 3 bffs too (I liked them, more than the prince!). She feels like a whore at first- because she is (sorry, when you exchange financial recompense for sex, that makes one a John and the other a whore – no matter how much you pretty it up.). Much sex ensues, misunderstanding happens, and (shocking) they all live happily after – the King, his former maid queen, and their sexual playmates! (3*)

Lauren Dane is very hit and miss with me. This story was a miss for me. There were too many side characters introduced, left me feeling like I was dropped into the middle of a story (this is a spinoff of her Brown family series – I only read the first and was not compelled to continue). On one page Mary says she can't wait to finally meet their bff's fiancé, but three pages later they are all having dinner together and he's saying how they are all family, etc. Just felt off. Daisy seems too old for her age – all her friends are older, and she just seems too – I don't know – just not 24 (she takes off her yoga pants and puts on trousers – I swear I don't know any 24 year old who even knows the word trousers!). The characters all seem so successful in this economy – people in their 20's making a living from being an artist or opening their own catering company (but she also seems to own a café and be in charge of a supper club of sorts which I don't get) or being a successful baker. Doesn't ring true. The transitions were odd between characters – two paragraphs are from his pov then all of a sudden the next is hers and I actually found myself getting a bit lost as to whose perspective we were hearing from! He was kind of a jerk to her, but it ended up HEA. (2*)

Auntee says

Review now updated to include Lauren Dane's Sway...

Exiled by Maya Banks:

A modern day Cinderella story with a kinky, erotic twist...

Um...what do I say? I liked parts of this story, but wasn't all that excited with the hero, Prince Xander of some little island country (Cristofino?) or the somewhat unbelievable plot. But I was looking for an escape-type read, so decided to go with the flow (as much as I could).

Xander...

Xander first meets the heroine, Talia, 4 years ago when she was working some menial job in his palace. One look at her and one tiny conversation and Xander knows she's the one for him, except Talia is barely 18 and too young (and innocent) for him. Talia's working a lot of small jobs to help pay for her seriously ill mother's medical care. Xander gets wind of this and offers to pay for the best medical treatment *and* send Talia to the university in Paris. How could she refuse? But there is a stipulation--one day Xander will call for Talia, and he will expect her to come to him...

Four years pass. Mom is miraculously all better, Talia has graduated from the university...and Xander (who is in exile from his homeland) has summoned her. Should she go? Of course she is eternally grateful, and she should repay her 'debt' to Xander, but what he expects from her? Oh my!

This is where the story gets a bit unbelievable. Xander and his bodyguards/friends will love, protect, spoil, lavish attention on Talia--for a 6 month period she will 'submit' to him--and then her debt will be considered paid. Does that make Talia a "whore"? A mistress? A sexual slave? And what happens after 6 months is up--what if Talia develops feelings for Xander...or the irreverant Sebastien...or the muscle hunk Garon...or the quiet but hung Nico?

Yikes.

Sebastien...

Garon...

Nico...

An okay read, some hot sex scenes, and the guys really did lavish attention on Talia...but I never really connected with the characters. I kind of thought Xander was a bit lazy with his wooing of Talia--it seemed like his henchmen did all his dirty work!:) Yeah, he paid them back by 'sharing' Talia...but still, I just couldn't see his appeal. (And actually, I would've chosen Garon, Nico, or Sebastien to run off with--they seemed more in tune to Talia's feelings!) And then Xander had a TSTL moment near the end of the story, and I just wanted Talia to move on and forget about him. Oh well...

Not one of my favorites by Maya Banks. 3 1/2 stars

Now on to **Sway**...hoping for a better story..

Warning: Explicit sex (oral, anal) M/F/M/M menagé (no M/M action), explicit language. No real 'submission' other than Talia being told to not wear clothes...and to be ready for sex when Xander says so.

Sway was much more to my liking. This was a very sexy read about an older (40) man (lawyer Levi Warner) and a young (24), beautiful, free-spirited, tattooed Mexican artist (Daisy Huerta). Daisy is part of the group of friends who readers met in the last Brown Siblings book (Never Enough). This novella is the first in a spin-off from that series. Anyway, Daisy and Levi meet cute--he's going to take dancing lessons (which he doesn't need) for his younger brother's upcoming wedding, and Daisy (helping out at her friend's dance studio) partners with Levi. Both feel the sparks between them, but Levi puts on the brakes because he thinks he's too old for Daisy. But after running into her a few more times he knows he can't resist her (and why should he) and then the relationship takes off from there. Levi has some baggage (due to his relationship with his former wife; and from a mother who expects him to live up to the family 'name') and wonders if he has it in him to open up to Daisy. Should he show her his kinky side? Daisy is such a loving, giving, positive person; so very mature for her age; and knows what she wants out of life. And she wants Levi, for as long as she can have him. And she lovvvvves his kinky side! Will Levi be able to put his issues with his past and his family behind him, and move forward with this young beauty who fills his world with joy?

Levi...

Loved Daisy! I loved how she was so open with Levi. I loved how strong she was, how talented, how loving

and helpful she was to her friends. She was the kind of girl you could see yourself being friends with. She was the perfect compliment to Levi; a little more outgoing and adventurous than he was. A perfect sexual match for him too. These two really had some sexy, wild scenes together. Levi was a dominant lover, and Daisy was his perfect submissive. These scenes were hot, without being too explicit. A lot of the stuff they did that was on the kinky side was alluded to--not everything was spelled out in graphic detail, which was fine with me.

I liked Levi for the most part, except I was pretty peeved with him for (view spoiler)

If you enjoyed Ms. Dane's Brown Family series, you'll love the update on Adrian and Gillian as they prepare for their wedding in this story. You'll also see where this series is leading as Daisy and her friends Mary (caterer) and Jules (bakery owner) (view spoiler)

I think this was an awesome beginning to the new series (called "Delicious")--I really didn't want this story to end. Can't wait for the first full-length book (Tart). Highly recommended 4 1/2 stars

Warning: This book contains explicit sex (including oral); graphic language; some BDSM elements--blindfold, handcuffs, restraints, the use of a crop, and some spanking. Not for the faint of heart!

Mariann {at} Belle's Book Bag says

What could be better than 1 book containing 2 stories from 2 of my favorite authors??

This review is only for Sway by Lauren Dane.

I have been anxiously waiting to read Sway ever since Lauren Dane posted that she was writing it and Sway was everything that I hoped it would be and more!!!

I am a BIG fan of older man/younger woman romances, so I was excited to read about Levi, an older established man and Daisy, a young free-spirited woman. I cannot express how much I absolutely adored their characters and this story. I definitely think that it is my favorite Lauren Dane book with Levi and Daisy being my favorite of her couples/characters (a title that was previously held by Brody and Elise from Coming Undone.) I love Daisy's character so much and I love her even more with Levi~they are perfect for each other. Levi maybe my favorite character but that didn't stop me from wanting to kick him in his junk at one point~thankfully he made up for that!! LOL

I loved seeing Adrian and Gillian as well as Gillian's friends. I cannot wait for the rest of the books in this series. Oh and I fell in love with Levi's brothers and I am hoping that Lauren writes their books as well, especially Jonah *sigh*.

Sway captured me right from the very first page and I was sad to see Levi and Daisy's story end but I hope to see more of them as the series continues. It had everything from laughter to tears to romance to hot steamy sex to lovable realistic characters that I can't wait to read more of. Just an awesome book that I definitely wished was longer but I think the story was wrapped up perfectly. Such a great ending that left a smile on my face and is just another example of why I love to read and keep coming back for more from Lauren Dane. Definitely a reread and going to the top of my keeper pile.

Lauren Dane has always been one of my favorite authors, with the addition of Chaos Burning and now Sway, she continues to earn my adoration!!! It is always a pleasure to read a book that captures you right from the start with a great story and great characters and Lauren never disappoints. Thanks again for entertaining me with Sway, it was truly my pleasure to read and I look forward to reading it again.

BEST OF THE BEST rating.

Melanie♥ says

Exiled by Maya Banks

1 star

Sway by Lauren Dane

4 stars

Exiled had a ridiculous story line. I've enjoyed Ms. Banks menage stories in the past, so it's not the genre that turned me off this novella. but rather the overly contrived set up. I read to the 50% mark and then skimmed the rest. I didn't like any of the characters or the story.

Sway, on the other hand was a wonderfully hot little story with a unique heroine and a hero who knows he messed up and readily admits that he needs to grovel to win her back. Great read with a nice connection to her Brown series.

Jill says

3.5 stars for Maya Banks Cherished

5 Stars for Lauren Danes Sway

These were two great books but let me start with Cherished.

Now I wasn't expecting a menage when I picked up this book, I don't know why, Maya Banks write wonderful menage. I hadn't read the blurb, so yeah, nice suprise. By nice I mean nice.

This was a very hot read, but the characters could of been a bit I don't know, more.

I also thought the tension could of been drawn out a bit. I wanted more anger, more feeling. So thats why this is only a 3.5 stars for me.

Sway by Lauren Dane

5 stars!!

This was by far the best Lauren Dane couple I have ever read. Their descriptions were so clear and crisp they just bounced off the page, I could see them clearly. Everything seemed real, the emotions, their reasonings. The sex was off the chain hot and in the past I have not enjoyed Lauren Dane sexy scenes. These were just perfect, red hot and erotic, just amazing. I loved Levi, loved that he was a bit older. I will be continuing on with this series.

Be warned though this has Brown sibling series overlap in it. I haven't completed this series but I will be going back and finishing it. In saying that it didn't take away anything when reading this book.

Smut Junkie says

Oh....where to start...I loved both stories in this anthology, but I didn't doubt that I would since it's two of my favorite authors.

Exiled, by Maya Banks was awesome! Again, Maya brought me to tears, in less than 210 pages! At first I was a little creeped out by Xander's infatuation with Talia, but it's all good. And honestly there were several occasions when I thought to myself - how can a PRINCE/KING of an entire country be such a dumb ass?! There are times when I wanted to ring his neck for being such an idiot. But let's be honest - I would have happily run away to that island with Xander and his 3 cohorts FOREVER! So delicious. One thing that bugged me a little bit, is actually something similar that really irked me about that STUPID BOOK, you know the one, 50 Shades of Stupid (oh! sorry! I'm getting snarky! oops!)....So Talia is a virgin going into what she thinks is basically 'selling' herself. She feels like a whore. But she is modest and shy, hard working and dedicated to her mother....so this modest, shy, virgin turns into this bold sexy vixen, who is being played with by four different men in a day and fucking 4 guys in a matter of weeks - and walking around naked - I just have a REALLY hard time buying into that. Now, did that make me like the book any less - HELL NO! Still a HOT HOT HOT story that I enjoyed VERY much. All of these men treat Talia kindly, gently and cherish her with all their hearts....what woman wouldn't want that?? So....as long as group sex/menage doesn't bother you, run out and read it - HOLY HOTNESS!!

And Sway - Oh Lauren Dane - I LOVE YOU! And I love your characters!

So, if you've read her other series - The Brown Siblings (AWESOME AWESOME!! If you haven't read it, add it to your TBR pile immediately!!) - you have a little head start on this one because we already met a lot of the key players in the last Brown Siblings book. And honestly, I loved them then, so of course I was chomping at the bit to get this book! Let me start by saying - Levi, forget that saucy little thing, Daisy, and come take me, PLEASE! Oh, right! Since that's not going to happen, I sure am glad that that cute, sassy little thing Daisy and Levi worked out their differences! I am a fan of D/s, so for me, Levi was pretty damn HOT. And Daisy's sexual submissiveness is beautiful. It's great when a girl can be strong and sassy outside of the bedroom, but beautifully submissive in. I love how quickly the spark ignited between these two and just kept on burning. And man - the sex is hot between these two. I just loved everything about this story and can't wait for Tart to come out....I'm so looking forward to Lauren's new spin off from the Brown Siblings - it's going to be HOT HOT HOT!

Jess says

Review posted: Happily Ever After - Reads

Exiled by Maya Banks - 1/5 stars, DNF

This was a DNF for me. The setup is this: a 22 year old virgin feels as though she has to fulfill an agreement she made with a Prince four years ago. He stepped in, paid for her mother's cancer treatments and put her through college. The deal is, when he calls for her, she must go to him and obey his every command. He summons her and she goes thinking she has no choice. The Prince, Xander, plans to share her with his three best friends, something they often do. Honestly, the story already lost me by about page 40. The heroine came off as being very weak and timid and I'm supposed to believe that because of this agreement, she'll do whatever is asked of her? I just couldn't buy it. Maybe as the story goes she gains some confidence and a

stronger personality, but it wasn't enough at the start to make me curious enough to find out. (202 pgs)

Sway by Lauren Dane - 4/5 stars

Lauren Dane has a way of writing relationships and friendships that draws me in every single time and makes me feel like these characters are my own friends. They feel genuine and come across on page as such. It was this way with her Brown Siblings series and she's done it again with Daisy and her tight knit group of friends all living on Bainbridge Island, outside of Seattle. Daisy is twenty-four years old and an incredibly driven person. She's an artist and helps run a gallery with her Grandmother, she does numerous odd jobs, mainly to help out her friends. She's smart, funny, caring and acts very mature. The maturity is a huge key because it helps her relationship with Levi, a forty year old attorney work.

Levi had a bad marriage that looked good from the outside, but he was moments away from divorce when his pregnant, alcoholic wife crashed her car, killing herself and the baby. He's vowed to never open himself up emotionally again and has been living the single life for years. After he mistakenly walks into a wrong dance class, a dance class his soon-to-be sister-in-law is forcing him to take for her wedding, he sees Daisy. He's attracted but nothing comes of it until he starts running into her all over town. They date and hit it off instantly. The age difference is big deal to him, but I really liked how Daisy summed it up so simply, telling him he's not too old and she's not too young. And I thought it worked.

He took a deep breath and exhaled hard. "And I'm thinking I'm too old."

"Too old for what? Do you have trapeze fantasies or something? And how old are you? Sixty? Eighty-four?" Her mouth trembled as she held a smile back.

The pressure in his chest lessened.

"Eighty-three. Don't age me before I'm ready."

"You're not too old. I'm not too young."

She stayed where she was, his hand in both of hers. Those big brown eyes watching him carefully. Waiting for him. Christ. She had no idea what that did to him.

"I'm forty. I'm nearly twice your age."

"So what?"

"Yeah. So what?" He took his hand from hers and touched her chin, tipping it. "I want your mouth."

Her eyelids slid down a little and she took a deep breath. "Take it, then."

Levi has a dominant nature that comes out naturally around Daisy and she's loves it. She falls into a bit of a submissive role, finding pleasure in taking care of him in small ways as he does the same for her. They connect really well in the bedroom, but outside of it, they still have some issues to work though. Levi doesn't open up fully with her, not introducing her to his family and not wanting to meet hers. These things all start adding up and bring in a bit of angst, forcing Levi to get his act together. I thought this couple was sexy together and it was romantic seeing them fall in love. Yes, the age difference is on the significant side, but for these two, it's just a number and it's easy to forget their ages as they really just become Levi and Daisy

together, nothing more or less.

This story also set the ground work for the coming books in the series centered around Daisy's close friends Jules and Mary who are in the process of sharing business space for their companies. Jules is a baker, Mary a chef and these are two more strong women who are so easy to like. All the characters introduced in this story (if you don't count Levi's nasty sis-in-law) are so likeable, relatable and characters that are easy to fall for.

I could have easily read 200 more pages about Daisy and Levi. I enjoyed their relationship and the supporting characters surrounding them, Daisy's friends and Levi's brothers. Sway was a nice introduction to this new series, and it's a great extension of Lauren Dane's Brown Siblings series. It's not necessary to read the Brown series first, but for fans of that series, they'll enjoy picking right back up in the Pacific Northwest with this new group of friends. (147 pgs)

Vashti says

This review is only for the Maya Banks book. This was so totally unbelievable for me. It would have been better if a royalty storyline was not included and just made it a regular erotic romance with the menage scenes thrown in. You have said virgin and you expect her to perform oral sex on all four guys one after the other, then have sex with each man, again one after the other, she has stamina, this virgin. Now towards the end, everyone lives happily ever after in the palace as one big family. Yes, to the world they are prince and princess with their loyal bodyguards, but behind closed doors, all bets are off. Can you imagine Prince William with this scenario? Now Harry, on the other hand.....this would have been the perfect Harlequin, barring the menage. 2.5****

Francesca the Fierce (Under the Covers Book Blog) says

This review was posted at Under the Covers

Book Overview

Both these stories are contemporary BDSM erotic romances. As a whole I enjoyed the book, but definitely one more than the other. Ms. Dane is kicking off a new series with Sway. I'm not sure if Maya Banks will continue writing a series after Exiled or if it's a standalone.

Exiled by Maya Banks - 3 Stars

I was extremely excited to read this story, then I started reading and... well, I wasn't so excited anymore. From the very beginning I felt like I couldn't connect to this story. Briefly, the premise is of a girl that used to work in a palace. The prince of said palace took a liking to her after seeing her just a few times and talking to her in passing only once. When politics go to hell in the country and his family is forced to leave, he finds refuge in a beautiful island but he has his "people" make an arrangement with the girl that she will get an education and treatment for her sick mother in France, but when Prince Alexander wants, he will collect on that debt. That right there annoyed the crap out of me! So then yes he collects, but he has the nerve to collect by having her have sex with not only him but 3 other guys. Yes count them... FOUR men. Then the story gets going and there is a lot of sex, some that I should've been getting into, but I just couldn't. I don't know if the dynamic of the m/m/m/m/f was not working for me as it should, or the fact of how it all came to be bothered me. I can't put my finger on it. I did enjoy some scenes and parts of this book, but overall I

struggled reading this story and took me forever to finish it.

Sway by Lauren Dane - 4 Stars

I am soooooo excited that we are getting a spin-off of the Brown Siblings! I love how the characters are always artsy, tattooed, pierced and just not your average Joe or Mary. The Delicious series will basically follow the women that we met during Never Enough, Gillian's friends. First up is Daisy. She's a beautiful latina, she's a part time dance instructor and a full time artist who works alongside her grandmother in their own shop. She's not the typical woman you would think a well to do man would want to bring home to meet the parents. She's outspoken, she has a lot of tattoos, and some piercings in interesting places. She's also young. All this is going through Levi's head when he meets Daisy and faith keeps putting her in his path. Their attraction was instant! They accidentally meet at a dance class and sparks start flying in all directions. Levi has a bit of a dark and repressed past. Things he had to deal with from his ex-wife and his family. And then there's the issue of him being older than her. There are many things I liked about this story. Obviously the connection between the characters made the whole "couple" believable. They were obviously perfect for each and incredibly compatible. I also LOVED Daisy. I fell in love with all of Gillian's friends in Never Enough and I can honestly say I still adore them. Daisy is no exception. She takes life by the balls and does what she wants. And instead of overthinking the whys she shouldn't be with Levi she kept moving forward and doing what her heart told her to. I also really liked that she didn't jump into bed with him right away. The respect she has for herself sets her apart from every other woman Levi has known before. What got a little on my nerves was Levi. Yes, his attitude made sense for who he was and what he'd been through in his life. That doesn't mean I had to like it. Other than that he was extremely hot, especially when he let go of his preconceptions and let his wild side free. ;) As a reader of the Brown Siblings series I loved all the cameos and I think I see a setup for one of the girls in this upcoming series with maybe one of Levi's brothers. It might happen. I am definitely excited to read TART.

*ARC provided by publisher

Dee says

Originally read/rated September 2012....Currently in process of reading again (Mainly to catch up with Lauren Dane's Delicious series) June 2013....Updated review to follow!..... SEE BELOW

UPDATED JUNE 2013

I hold my hand up and own up that when I read the MB's story I obviously wasn't in the mood for it and really shouldn't have rated it at that time so I take back most of what I said in my original review. I will still say that I am not sure that I really like MB's writing in that genre which is strange as I do like and read other authors in the genre so I really cannot explain why I feel that way. It still felt a bit like a gone wrong Harlequin (See my comments) story but I obviously enjoyed it a bit more the second time around so upgrading her story to ★★★ and still give the LD story a very solid ★★★★★ which would give an overall rating of ★★★★★½

September 2012

I mainly wanted this book for LD's story as it is the first in the new Delicious series, and I knew we would get to catch up with Adrian & Gillian from the Brown Siblings series. I also like MB's work too so it was definitely a bonus, right?!...NO!...IMO it definitely wasn't!

Exiled - Maya Banks **2 Stars**

Sway - Lauren Dane **4 Stars**

Overall rating **3 Stars**

UPDATED JUNE 2013

I hold my hand up and own up that when I read the MB's story I obviously wasn't in the mood for it and really shouldn't have rated it at that time so I take back most of what I said in my original review. I will still say that I am not sure that I really like MB's writing in that genre which is strange as I do like and read other authors in the genre so I really cannot explain why I feel that way. It still felt a bit like a gone wrong Harlequin (See my comments) story but I obviously enjoyed it a bit more the second time around so upgrading her story to ★★★ and still give the LD story a very solid ★★★★ which would give an overall rating of ★★★½

Marla Mei says

THREE STARS FOR ALL THE HOT SEX. THAT IS ALL

Jacqueline says

[There was a whole lot of the heroine submitting sexually to 4 guys. There was coming on her chest and cum dribbling out of her mouth and sex with one guy after another and I swear it was in that weird position they have in porn movies so th

Sunny? says

This book also contains a fantastic bonus called Sway by Lauren Dane. The book is the first one in a new series called Delicious. This review is only for the first book Cherished.

The story for Cherished of of a young girl (18) who is working many jobs to pay for her mother's medications. One job is as gardener assistant to the royal family of a small coastal country. As she stumbles it is the royal prince who helps her. Infatuation at first sight.

Prince Alexander or Xander as he prefers then pays for mother's bills and puts Talia through university. When she graduates she comes to him in exile on a paradise island. His three bodyguards Nico, Garon and Sebastian like Xander all fall for her sweetness and fiercest right away. Prince of course shares with his friends and guards.

Oh, By the Way, Talia is a virgin, or should I say was. There is a touch of Dom/sub but only slight. and definitely hot group passion.

After three months in paradise, Talia's life goes to hell in a handbasket. Her world is shattered. But of course the gorgeous hot prince eventually sets the world straight.

This is a must read in my opinion for lovers of group sex and for followers of Banks or Dane. The book certainly provides bang for the buck. pun intended.
