



Big Sky

Kitty Thomas

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Veronica Cason lives in a small apartment with no clear view of the sky. It's uncertain which might crush her first: her debt or the buildings squeezed in so tight that they surround her like ominous sentinels. She can't breathe in the city. Her success is a lie, and her debt is coming to collect her—unless someone else gets there first.

When a stranger offers her a job at a ranch, it feels like salvation, but it could also mean her death if his motives aren't pure. Which door has the tiger behind it? The claustrophobia of the city or ranch life under an open sky?

Big Sky Details

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From Reader Review Big Sky for online ebook

Aleatha Romig says

When I need a break from reality, I can always count on Kitty Thomas to give it to me! This wasn't as dark as some of her books--which is neither good or bad. I love her writing, and how she can totally capture me in her world. If you like erotic with a hint of dark...I recommend all of her books!

Vivian says

How much do I dislike this book? Let me count the ways...

1. The "heroine", Veronica, is so incompetent and disassociated from herself and her surroundings that she inspires nothing but contempt.
2. The "hero", Luke, is equally as mental as Ronnie and disappointingly never managed to snap enough to kill her. Talk about let down.
3. The 70s bodice-ripper attitude of "Please...please...no...no--orgasm". If you can't accept your own desires, you don't deserve good sex.
4. The utterly misguided/moronic understanding of feminism espoused. It's not about behaving a certain way, it's about having the rights and abilities to choose what you want in a society even if that choice is to give up choice for yourself.
5. The sex-- 'cause lets face it, it should be a significant factor in rating this book--was boring. Had to be the most uninteresting gangbang I've read. The non-con elements--boring. Lame D/s.
6. Read the status updates because I pointed out things that I'm not going to reiterate. But I categorize this under "chronically stupid".

This book actually makes me wonder if Thomas is a misogynist. I think this is the final nail in the coffin as far as reading Thomas's books go. I've read several and while the storytelling was less mindnumbingly dull in others, all of her heroines are such wastes of space that I have zero interest in reading about them.

Overall, this book is a train wreck and a boring one at that.

Recommended to readers who think Wuthering Heights is a romance and think "Every Breath You Take" is a love song.

Favorite quote:

"Let the fucker kill her. What difference did it make at this point?" --my sentiments exactly

? BookAddict ↗ La Crimson Femme says

Veronica aka Ronnie is an advertising executive who is shallow, spiteful, insecure and beyond vain. Honestly, other than her looks, she's a worthless excuse of a human. She earns a wage of 6 figures yet she's in hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt and she's homeless. How is this possible? This is obviously a woman who wasn't spanked as a child and has absolutely no impulse control. I can't stand people like this; I want to smack them upside the head - repeatedly.

She hits rock bottom and what happens? A handsome, 6'5" cowboy SAVES HER! How does this happen? Why is she so lucky? Well, Ronnie doesn't think she is lucky. Destitute and homeless, Luke finds her and basically kidnaps her. This non-con story just takes off! Thank goodness, because the first couple of chapters reading about Ronnie was painful to say the least. It was cruising at a 1 star for me. Even though it was well written, the character was just so disgusting for me. Her hatred of men which seems to stem from some "Daddy abandonment issues" *rolls eyes* was too much for me. Her self sabotage was unpalatable for me - what a wasted space.

Back to the good stuff! Luke save Ronnie only because of her looks. She resembles someone he knew before and wants again. The entire story of it is so sad. It makes me want to cry. Yes, Luke does a bad thing, but good golly he's so hot. I melt just thinking about it. And, this is a good question on if the ends justifies the means. In this case, I'd say yes.

The branding in this story was unexpected and totally turned me on. Actually, everything kinky in this dark erotica turned me on. I'm not a waterplay fan for myself, but reading about Luke doing it to Ronnie was so good. Personally, I think Luke needs to exert more corporal punishment for Ronnie. Ronnie definitely flourishes and becomes a better person under Luke's care. She's literally been given a new life. And she's still not exactly grateful for it.

What really caught me off guard was the cow play which ended up as milking/lactation fetish. I love this one. It was so hot. The added humiliation and with another woman too was so bloody hawt! I do love how Ms. Thomas writes her BDSM fantasies. The progression of Ronnie as she slowly submits to Luke is a lovely journey. Ronnie becomes someone I can now stand and even at times feel pity. The ending of this story is rather bittersweet. I'm not sure if it is a happily for now or completely an unhappy ending. I can see it both ways. I will say, it is a perfect ending and I enjoyed it. I also wish there will be follow up scenes with Ronnie further humiliated, used and abused. Because Ms. Thomas does these so well and in a manner that just always arouses me. Love it! This dark erotica is recommended from bdsm readers who enjoy the fantasy and particularly the darker ones with hot lesser known fetishes.

JaHy?Hold the Fairy Dust says

Wow, that was **udderly** crazy . . .

....Nuff said. :-)

B.E.L.L.A.Mc says

5*

I'd give it more *'s if I could. I loved this story, and am already planning on re-reading it. It's just got everything I love; all my fantasies were brought together here, in this one book, and then some.

There is a gorgeous, dirty, bad, tough, strong, never-changing and kinky as hell, Alp; swoon. But he also isn't fussed as to who gets a piece of the 'action' either. If this bothers you, don't read this book. He is one scary Alp; he's done things that are bad imo; he's got skeletons in his closet – big ones. He sees Ronnie; he wants her; he asks; she refuses; he takes. That's Luke.

There's Ronnie, a pretty heroine who is strong in some ways but has allowed mismanagement of her finances, to put her on the streets. Ronnie is also kinky but who knows her own mind – some of the time. Ronnie is shocked by the situation she finds herself in, but knows deep down she needs to stay in it for her own good. She also hopes for Luke's love – eventually. She's desperate to be 'loved and taken care of'.

Big Sky has a brilliant, believable and real story/plot. There are several twists to the story that keep you gob-smacked and sweating. He can't really mean to do that to her, can he; those kinds of moments.

It has excellent writing; tight and lyrical; some beautiful pieces here to drool over too. However the sex will not be to everyone's taste; not sure it's to mine either but I felt a bit like Ronnie. Once I was 'in'; I was 'in' and couldn't seem to 'get out'. Well that's my excuse.

The pace is fast and furious; never dull. At. All. Action and more action; pain and more pleasure and humiliation in abundance. If you're a bit of a voyeur this will appeal to you; if not – don't bother with it.

There is no HEA here as such; there's a reconciling oneself to the situation kind of ending. I admit I'd have preferred Luke to have protested his love for Ronnie, and kept her to himself but that's not what this story is about; it's much more complex. I found Luke to be one of the darkest and dangerous characters I've ever come across in a book; I still have not figured him out. He is really scary. There's more to him than we see here, and I'd love to get to the bones of this character but that would take another book. I don't 'buy' his story about his former live in lover; there's more to it than he's admitting to.

There are secondary characters here that are really great; Miss Thomas could write books about them all. They are that good (or that bad, if you get my meaning). They all interact with Ronnie, and they are all very different. It's kind of spooky this book; I was on edge, a lot of the time. Wondering what the hell was going to happen next. I was very scared for Ronnie at times too.

I'd love, love, love to know what happens next but Miss Thomas doesn't look like she's interested in satisfying my curiosity. I would read about her secondary characters if she ever got around to telling their stories. ;-)

I recommend this book to all those that love a bit of 'Non-Con', that turns into 'More-Please', and hurry up or I'm going to die.

I've read a couple of Miss Thomas's books already, and found some of them to be really special. I particularly loved Comfort Food and Mafia Captive. Her books are the type I'll read over and over again. I'm going to read more by this author, that's for sure.

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

3 stars!

Oddly arousing but disturbing to the nth degree, Big Sky is a boundary-pushing, vomit-inducing, WTF-was-that!!! kind of book. It's twisted, it's kinky, and it's downright filthy.

For someone who's so independent and haughty, Veronica just can't stop spending money and has accumulated over \$200,000 in debt. And she thinks she's all that...

What a smartie. Anyways, she's fired from her job, evicted from her apartment and has nowhere to go when all of a sudden, she meets Luke and he offers her work at his ranch but she turns him down. Not one to take no for an answer, Luke kidnaps her and takes her to his ranch to work as a sex slave. It's there that Ronnie truly learns how depraved and sick Luke is.

Here's a list of things you might want to know about the book:

- Orgies: M/M/M/M/F. Oh and some F/F action. Yum. (Not)
- Kinky BDSM – most are M/F but some involve the ranch hands.
- Breast milk obsession: weird kink but ok, these guys love drinking breast milk. (view spoiler)
- Strong animal imagery: calling Ronnie a cow after they drink her breast milk, branding her with the Ranch's symbol, etc...

What's worse is that Ronnie is the spitting image of Luke's dead ex-girlfriend Trish and he kidnapped her so she could replace Trish and take up her role in his life.

I think Kitty Thomas is a strong dark erotica writer and she's great at shocking the reader; however, I'm finding that I dislike her endings. Similar to Comfort Food, I'm left heavily dissatisfied with Big Sky's ending – it was rushed, tad bit unrealistic, and didn't even read like an ending (I thought I was missing a few chapters) but maybe that's just me.

If you'd like to be shocked and disgusted out of your mind, then give this book a go!

Erica Chilson says

The beginning of Big Sky hooked me from the first page. It begins lighter than Kitty Thomas' usual novels. Knowing Kitty's writing, I was prepared for it to turn into something dark and twisted and I wasn't disappointed.

I realize that from the beginning it wasn't hearts and flowers, but I'm a bit jaded. Even as Ronnie was abducted by the Cowboy from Vermont, I had a shit-eating grin on my face. I chuckled a few times and even I wanted to smack Ronnie. But who I'd actually be smacking is myself. Ronnie and I share a few attributes- feminism being one of them. I'm not a man-hating feminist, but after how my teenage years and my early adulthood played-out, I have a few triggers to contend with. So Luke and I agreed on a few things that we wanted to do to Ronnie (myself).

Now Luke was awesome in a creepy kind of way for a large part of the book. Now the above mentioned triggers of mine reared their ugly head and I winced as I read. I wanted to stop reading, but didn't allow myself the comfort. There is a reason I read Dark Erotica. It's the same reason I write Dark Erotica- self-therapy. Every word resonates to my soul bringing emotions screaming from its depths- emotions I've buried deeply. My numbness thaws as I read and feelings erupt in its absence. This aliveness lasts for a while and then I seek my next fix- either I read another story that evokes feeling or I write my own.

There is a reason Kitty Thomas is one of my favorite authors, sometimes she puts my feelings into words that I have no name for. She writes my thoughts better than I can, and as a writer saying that about another writer, that is a huge compliment. I am honored that she wanted me to review this book for her.

I will not go in-depth on the actual storyline as I do not want to ruin the reading experience. I will say that this novel is largely psychological and thought provoking. As with all of her novels, the story never truly leaves your thoughts and it's long lasting.

I'm writing this review at 80% read... My thoughts at this point of the novel. I wanted to capture them before they fled or changed upon the completion of the novel. I'll be back...

...Finished...

Psychological, as I stated before, doesn't cover it. It is all a progression. Ronnie, the feminist, would have baulked at the things Veronica, Trish's ghost, did. I read these novels because when it is over I feel ME. I am happy to be me. I have similarities to Ronnie and I've fallen down the rabbit-hole of allowing your power to be taken away by someone undeserving as Veronica is now doing. I know about the pretty lies you tell yourself to make it alright and when the lies don't work you simple pull into yourself and pretend it's normal. I know about how now's normal is what the past you would find disturbing. I understand that normal for one person isn't normal for the next.

*****Warning*****

This type of book isn't for everyone. The majority would enjoy the first half while laughing off the uncomfortableness of the abduction. They would try to reason it into a romantic entanglement between two broken people. They would believe that Veronica would heal Luke. Life doesn't work like that- you heal yourself; no one does it for you. That is romanticized BS. If you have no issue with raw, brutal reality or if you aren't squeamish about humiliation then go ahead and read Big Sky. If you find it not to your liking,

don't forget, I warned you...

Elaine says

Here goes!!

Dark and Twisted

Meet Veronica... She has an attitude, she's rude and she likes to spend money.. on her credit cards. She has a good job, a home. But the debt is Spilling out of control to such an extent she not only loses her job but in the end her home as well.

She also hasn't any real time for men.

Enters Luke... tanned and rugged, he has been watching her. On his first meeting with her she is rude but that doesn't put him off. He follows her, he watches her..

When Veronica eventually becomes homeless Luke makes her an offer.

He asks her to work for him on his ranch.

All pretty normal!!

Hell no... crazy is about to start

This was dark and twisted but the story kept you on the edge not quite sure what was happening next.

This was one crazy story.. but I liked it...

'*•.,(*•.,♥Laura♥.,•*')•*` says

I'm kind of at a loss for words.

Did I hate it? Yup.

Did I love it? Yup.

So this will work for now until I can figure it all out.

In a few short moments of reading:
Now this is getting interesting!

Whoop! Here we go!!

Hmmm, where is this going?

OK. So, WHAT is this guy's damage!?!?

A little over half way thru ! I was like umm, say what now?

Oh then I went to full blown:

But quickly went to a stronger reaction of : Aw Hell No!

The End:

Julz says

2.5 rounded up.

Well, son of a What a let down.

I love this author. She's not afraid of writing really messed up stuff and allowing the dark side to come out on top, but this just left me with a knot in my gut and a heavy heart.

It started out wonderfully dark and creeptastic. Guy kidnaps the heroine (I hated her so it was ok ;D) and makes her his sex slave. There was lots of crazy BDSM type scenarios, the H being all crazy and controlling, freaking the h out, and her coping while being terribly turned on. Of course it's just as well (wink wink nudge nudge), because the h's life was going into the tank, he save her from living under a bridge, and now she's satisfied sexually for the first time in her life.

Some stuff was more weird and harder to take than others. He's not above sharing. (I thought it was strange, but I got used to it.) And come to find out, he only kidnapped her because she was a doppelganger for his dead girlfriend.

The worst was the milk thing. That was just...ugh...not hot. It made me think about men and sheep (or in this case, cows), which is not something you want to be thinking about when you're reading a psychological thriller/dark erotica. And then there was that ending that left me feeling like crap, and not in the fun angst way either.

I can't recommend this one, not even based on the WTFery. There *was* that, but it wasn't fun. Don't get me wrong, the first 75% to 80% was a blast, but then came the milking machine and then that ending...just...no. Like I was saying, Thomas's stuff (the ones I've read before this one) have always thrilled me because they delve deep into the dark side of the human psyche, and things don't always end cookie cutter. In fact, the bad guys win. This is no different, but it just feels more desolate or something.

Too freaking bad, too. I just loved Comfort Food and was hoping for a repeat. But, alas.

~ Becs ~ says

Which door is the tiger behind?

First a warning – this is Dark erotica with a big old capital D and you should be aware of that before you embark on this one. If issues of dubious consent and all that goes with it are going to be an issue for you, don't even consider reading it. It is intended for a mature adult audience.

Personally though, I love dark erotica – I love books that push my boundaries, books that shock me and force me to curl my toes in a kind of fascinated disgust and Big Sky most definitely ticked all those boxes. It's challenging, will make you question long held principles as Kitty Thomas has this magical ability to turn scenes of very dubious consent into something deeply erotic. I have to say that Big Sky and what happens to our heroine is maybe a step too far even for me as a seasoned dark erotica reader and reviewer, but I firmly believe that Kitty Thomas' wicked intention was to shock and my rating reflects the fact that she most definitely succeeded in that and also because I was completely unable to put this book down – it's so incredibly compelling.

So, to the story – our heroine is Veronica Cason, a big deal ad executive earning a six figure salary in New York but she's a complete shopaholic and is struggling under crushing debt. We join her as she is staring out of her apartment window staring up at the sky – just a grey sliver that she can see in the gap between her building and the next. She wishes for a bigger sky and I just wanted to yell at her 'Be careful what you wish

for!'

She meets Luke Granger in a diner when he attempts to hold the door open for her and she is incredibly rude to him. She can't help her attraction though as he looks a little like the Marlborough Cowboy. Veronica is a hard-assed, ultra feminist and much too stubborn to accept help from anyone. When Veronica loses her job, Luke is on hand to offer her work at his Ranch in Vermont but she turns him down, again. When her financially destructive ways find her homeless, Luke is once again on hand to offer help – she flatly refuses but he decides an intervention is in order and abducts her and takes her to his ranch.

When she gets there, it's apparent that he intends to keep her barefoot in the kitchen as some kind of sex slave and is to be shared with the ranch hands. Worse, she's the image of his dead ex-girlfriend and slave, Trish, and he wants her to replace her and assume her role in his life.

Veronica is horrified at first and wants desperately to escape but she realises she has nothing really to fight to get back for. Despite her outrage and indignation at what Luke is doing, her body is betraying her with arousal. She's always had bad vanilla sex in the past, going out with men with the pathological need of a nymphomaniac to be fucked even though the act brought her no satisfaction – a form of masochism in itself, perhaps.

She's a warring mass of contradictions – the part of her that hates and mistrusts men is being won over by the part of her wants to surrender, to be owned and dominated as she is now faced with the embodiment of all her sexual fantasies. The wrongness of it all is what is arousing her as half of her wants to rebel while the other half craves the glimmers of kindness that Luke shows her, if she behaves as he wants. She struggles against her mind which wants her to escape as her body instinctively craves to submit and please her Master. His inexplicable pull on her is so strong, the proprietary way he treats her as if she has been brought into the world solely for his use is so arousing to her despite her long-held principles. She soon begins to believe that this is not about imprisonment and misogyny but more about pure and raw animal lust.

Then, of course, Kitty Thomas takes it even further than I think she's ever taken it before and there a couple of plot lines which I believe will ensure this book will thrive on its notoriety – not things I was entirely comfortable with but it sure didn't stop me from reading and devouring this book in one sitting! Let's just say that Luke Granger is no fluffy kitten even though parts of me really did adore him but I do think he is a little unhinged by his grief.

The opportunity for escape does present itself to Veronica and you have to wonder if she has just traded one form of slavery for another. Before she was a wage slave, a life dedicated to the nine to five dressed up as free will – now she has a roof over her head, will never go hungry and has all the sexual pleasure she could ever have hoped for but she is not free. What will she choose?

Once again, Kitty Thomas has found the means to shock even the most jaded erotica reader, I feel and I warn you – I did find this one really SHOCKING but I think this is right up there with Comfort Food for me as a favourite Kitty Thomas.

4 darkly shocking erotic stars

With kind thanks to the lovely Kitty Thomas for a review copy of this book

For more of my reviews, please visit my Sinffully Sexy Book Blog

boogenhagen says

This story is dark, no doubt about it. There is no HEA with this one and given the complexity of the characters and the situation I really did not want one. I liked how Veronica changed within herself and really felt for her situation as the story went on. I also had surprising empathy for Luke even though he does some srsly screwed up things, but he does them in the grip of overwhelming despair so in a sense I really understood his motivations. I left this one with a very unsettled feeling about the future for both of the main characters but I also felt that there was no good resolution for either them in their relationship without them changing into unrecognizable people and that wouldn't have worked in the context of the story.

Be warned, there are scenes in this book that are not for the faint of heart and there is a real and ever sense of danger for the heroine throughout the book. If you like dark psychological exploration and can handle the humiliations, give this one a read - just don't expect or be shocked when true love doesn't conquer all and life still has to be faced in all its stark reality.

Pam says

4 mindfucking stars

Just give in. Whatever he wants. Just do it.

Ronnie once had it all, the perfect job and home, but her need for useless things brought her perfect little world crashing down. Now jobless, homeless and utterly alone, she is taken against her will to a place where the sky is big and blue, and a man who makes all the rules.

No family. No friends. No one to miss her.

What can she do, run & scream? and where will she go, she has nothing...at least with him she has a roof over her head and food on the table, even if it means going against every single belief she has. When you have nothing else to live for, to fight for, what would you do???

“I want everything, Ronnie. Not just your body. I want your soul, your every thought and desire. I want it all. By the time I’m finished, you’ll give it to me.”

Luke is a broken man, who lost the love of his life, but finding Ronnie has given him a second chance to make it all right, to live the life that he was supposed to live, happy and free. How do you know what you feel is real when you don't even know what you want or need; when the rules you used to play by no longer pertain ... is it all a lie or are you just making your self believe that everything is ok???

Big Sky was a darker read, full of mind fucks and some kinky ass shit, but I liked it, no surprise there... The story has a lot of triggers that may make most uncomfortable, their brand of kink isn't for everyone, but it was theirs, it's what made the story unique. In a twisted way, I understood why she did what she did, to me the author was convincing enough, that there was no other choice but to submit, making everything seem alright. The scenes are not overly erotic, this story was more about fucking your mind, than the actual act.

Eda # Dax Lahn's Golden Tigress # says**

KITTY THOMAS MARATHON!

**** 4,5-5 STARS ****

“Please what, princess? Please stop? Please keep going? Please treat me like the livestock I am? (...) You’re going to give me milk like a good little animal, aren’t you?”

Holy f*ck. That was disturbing.

I LOVED IT!

Melanie says

This is a pretty quick read, but is really dark, as are all Kitty Thomas's books. I knew a little about this book because she blogged about it a couple of times. I don't consider this review to have spoilers because Kitty has blogged and tweeted about this issue a lot, but if you want to go into this story without knowing anything, then stop reading now.

****possible spoiler, but author blogged about this part of the book****

In this book, Luke kidnaps Ronnie while she is extremely down on her luck. He takes her back to his ranch and turns her into his homemaker and eventually into his sex slave for him and his ranch hands. It goes even further to give her hormones so that she starts lactating. He and his farmhands proceed to milk her. It is a little weird to me, but people drink human milk all the time. I know people that have tried drinking "straight from the tap" after their wives give birth. I've never heard of taking hormones for this purpose, but to each his own.

The part that kind of got to me, was the Luke was trying to use Ronnie to replace his ex-wife. He even calls Ronnie by his ex-wife's name. That creeped me out the most. Very serial killer. Ronnie already looks like

her. He then makes her wear the same clothes, no shoes, etc.

I really enjoyed this book, but it is not for everyone. It is extremely dark and includes some non-consensual kidnapping, and what amounts to rape. If you've read any of this author before and liked it, you will like this too. If you haven't read this author, just know that the stuff is really dark and will play with your mind.
