



Black Silk

Sharon Page

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touch of ecstasy...

Maryanne Hamilton had expected to be shocked, but the wanton orgy she finds in Mrs. Master's salon makes her wonder if she has walked into hell. Desperate to escape, she comes upon the master of sin himself - Lord Swansborough. Fascinated by his nakedness, she longs to touch every inch of his long, hard body. And when he bids her come near, she quickly surrenders to his wicked promise of carnal pleasure and sensual ecstasy...

Black Silk Details

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From Reader Review Black Silk for online ebook

Eastofoz says

The second book in the Hamilton Sisters series was a big ol' dud for me. I didn't like Maryanne the I'm-not-sure-if-I-should-be-doing-this-24/7 little bit dumb nympho and Dashiell's devil-may-care apathy about everything which just get on my nerves. I wanted to shake him and yell 'are you even alive buddy!!'

The story starts off well-enough and is similar in premise to the first book Sin. Maryanne is an editor for erotic novels. As she edits she imagines that she's the heroine and the dashing Lord Swansborough is the hero. She's a shy woman who no one ever notices. Dashiell Blackmore, Lord Swansborough, is her complete opposite. He's the incarnation of some sex god participating in wild orgies and has a reputation for being a screw 'em and leave 'em kind of kind of guy. Their paths cross at a masquerade and the romping sexfest ensues. Maryanne shouldn't have been there but she received a mysterious letter from her partner to meet her there to help her. When she can't find her associate she decides to throw caution to the wind and enjoy what a stone-drunk Dashiell has to offer. So everything is fine up to this point storywise. There's a sub-story about a murder that may involve the hero and he's trying to get to the bottom of it.

Once the party is over though the book takes a nosedive fast. Gone is the kinky sex/story that you saw throughout Sin and it's replaced by lots of introspection, hand-wringing, weirdo family members and a very stupid sub-story that turns into a kidnapping. I didn't feel much for the h/h who seemed like total strangers even when they hit the I-Love-You part. Sure they had their steam but she's in a particular situation that just didn't seem to lend itself to incessant sex-o-rama. Why Dashiell felt so insanely protective of Maryanne I didn't understand as I'm sure there were other women he left in that situation at some point. They really had nothing in common and their characters didn't particularly change making this one great true love believable –for me anyway. His brooding and flippancy were hardly good character traits and they remained throughout the novel. Usually the heroine 'helps' the hero face his true feelings, but I thought her help was all very superficial and I just kept expecting him to pay her off at some point because they weren't compatible. It's like he tried too hard to fall in love with her and managed to convince himself that he was.

The sub-story that inevitably involved the h/h bugged me and took away from the main story near the end. The violence was excessive even though the author was trying to portray a psychopath. What Page didn't write in vivid steam she made up for in vivid violence which just didn't add to the love story.

As for the writing style, it's good, it's just the story that's lacking oomph. It's written in a very austere kind of way that I enjoyed and I kept hoping that the 'good stuff' would come back but it never did. Page can be very "imaginative" and if you feel like reading that kind of book she did a fabulous job with Sin but not here. There was also too much trying to fit in the title "Black Silk" everywhere.

Good erotic historicals are very hard to find and this one unfortunately gets lumped in with the not so good ones. It just barely makes 3 stars for me. Hopefully the next one Hot Silk is better.

Tiffany says

Book 2 in Sharon Page's historical erotic romance trilogy, this story features middle sister Maryanne and

dark Lord Swansborough. When Maryanne finds herself in a world of sexual wantonness when she goes to an orgy in search of a friend in trouble. She stumbles into Swansborough's lair and he mistakes her for a courtesan. When he takes her virginity and she becomes pregnant, her older sister and brother-in-law see that Swansborough steps up and marries her. The ensuing story is a sexual exploration that brings this marriage of love into one not only of intense attraction but deepening love. Once again, Sharon Page is able to combine copious erotic love scenes with a truly emotional love story.

Alison says

I was looking for a less traditional historical romance/erotica. This book started out strong - the heroine is more "worldly" than a typical historical heroine. But after the initial encounter/night, the storyline reverted back to traditional and I quickly grew bored.

Chitra *CJ* says

Another sinful addition by Sharon page to the Rodesson's daughter series!

Maryanne, the secret erotica writer has always adored Lord Swansborough/Dash from afar. When her partner goes missing, she ends up in an orgy hunt to find her, but what she ends up meeting is Dash instead. They have a lust filled scandalous night together and the story follows their relationship, a bunch of kidnappings and murders, and how Dash finds someone to love.

This wasn't as sinful to other SP books when it comes to lewd sex scenes (though the book does start with an orgy)- and I enjoyed the married relationship between the H and h.

One tiny complaint..

Lord Dash had his suspicions on Maryanne, and I had wanted her to confront them- and shake him for them. She was too trusting and in love at times!

Anyways, I adored the end and cant wait to read the next book.

Kudos for the smokin' balloon scene!

Safe with exceptions ???? (view spoiler)

4/5

jenjn79 says

As much as I enjoyed book 1 in this series (*Sin*), I think I enjoyed this one more! It was a real page turner for me, and every time I put it down, I kept wanting to go back and pick it up!

Black Silk is about the middle Hamilton sister, Maryanne. Like her sister Venetia, Maryanne also has a secret life that delves into the world of erotica. But where her sister paints risque scenes, Maryanne has teamed with a known courtesan and together they edit and publish books of erotica. Now that her sister has married and become part of the ton, though, Maryanne must be very careful about not being discovered. But when her partner sends a letter requesting help, Maryanne rushes to the rescue...only to find herself smack dab in the middle of an orgy and then alone with the debauched Lord Swansborough, Dashiell Blackmore,...the one man of the ton who she has secretly yearned for. Before the night is over, her innocence is lost and she finds herself mired in the mystery where the man she's just slept with is either an evil murderer or the victim of someone even more evil.

It's kind of funny because even though this is an erotic romance, I think I enjoyed all the other parts of the story the most! Actually, compared to book 1, this one is rather tame. There's still enough yummy hot sex, but this book doesn't have that all-out sexual playground feel that book 1 did. Which is a smidge disappointing, but the sex was still hot, and I enjoyed the rest of the book so much I didn't really care.

From a romance perspective, I thought the romance in this book was a lot stronger than in book 1. Stronger emotions, stronger communication between the H/H, a little more sweetness. The story just came across more loving and romantic. Which I enjoyed quite a bit. I really liked Dash (and Maryanne). They worked well together. I wasn't sure about Dash coming into this book because of the way he was portrayed in book 1, but I think author Sharon Page wrote his character well and turns him into a nice borderline tragic hero.

Storyline wise...well, I have to give kudos to Page for surprising me at the end. The revelation of the antagonist...well, I hadn't even considered that character! But it actually fit perfectly. So kudos to Page for sneaking one by me. That doesn't happen often! Aside from that, interesting storyline all around. Someone has it in for poor Dash and Page did a great job weaving in suspects and making you curious about who is actually the bad guy (and then surprising everyone!). The story had me hooked and I read this one straight through.

And honestly, I have no major complaints for this book. Everything worked for me...okay, I still find the use of ballocks, quim, etc a bit annoying, but oh well. The only other thing was that in this one, book 2, Dash and Marcus (from book 1) are referred to as being longtime close friends, but I didn't remember that from book 1. It seemed like a new thing in book 2. And also, I would have liked it if we'd gotten a small scene where Dash thought back to the orgy from book 1, where Marcus and Venetia were in attendance (and he hit on her). There were references to that orgy from both Venetia and Maryanne, but not from Dash. It's a little thing, but I would have liked him to reference that. But all the above are just little minor points. I liked everything else about the book.

So I'd definitely add this one to my recommended reading list. Especially for those of you who read book 1, *Sin*, or who like erotic historical romance.

Warning, this book contains: explicit m/f sex, anal sex, toys, light bondage, exhibitionism, voyeurism, threesomes not involving the H/H, and references to other stuff...plus some violence involving whipping and hot wax

Cristina says

I don't know how I feel about this one. I'll put it away for now.

Disneygal says

I liked this book better than the first book, "Sin". Overall, I felt the story and characters were stronger. I liked Lord Swansborough, even in book #1. In this book, we get to see why he is who and what he is.

Sure, it's a bit over-the-top that he falls so hard so fast after all his depravity. And yes, Maryanne is a bit too-too; but her innocence, such as it is, is part of her charm. And it's why Lord Swansborough is drawn to her.

The story is cleverly built around revenge. Someone is abducting and/or killing women with dubious reputations. Women who are known to have known Swansborough or were supposedly last seen with him. But are the witnesses reliable? And who's behind all of this? A past enemy? His uncle, who's been trying to kill him since he was a young boy to gain his title? His cousin trying to assist his uncle? The lord with shadowy dealings with a possible white slaver?

There are almost too many suspects... too many red herrings. As it turns out, there is more than one nefarious person doing awful things. But sorting them all out...

I have to say, the villain of the piece is the most unbelievable thing about the whole story. I am a mystery fan, who is rarely, if ever fooled. And I had no idea who was behind it all. I certainly didn't suspect the real villain. And I don't say that in a good way. While it made for a good story and lots of suspense, the crux of the revenge was... silly and unbelievable. But the rest of the tale was charming and delightful. A good read.

twelvejan [Alexandria] says

4* for Black Silk.

My sweet Dashiel Blackmore

He clasped her hand in his as they reached the top of the steps. "You are with me. At my side. That's where I find my strength."

I thought the Hamilton Sisters series are just pure historical romance. I wasn't expecting a murder mystery! I preferred this over Sin. Unlike Sin, Black Silk has a stronger plot and character development. Lesser emphasis on debauchery, but more on the reasons that drove Lord Swansborough to indulge excessively in carnal delights. I like how the relationship between (yummy) Dash and Maryanne was being portrayed. From meeting and lustng over her disguised as the mysterious "Verity" whom he met at the Scavenger Hunt, to discovering the saucy and bold side of his wife, to falling head over heels in love with her. Amongst other things, Black Silk is about the infamous debauched rake's journey from lust to love. And I loved it! Oh, and despite his reputation for promiscuity, he is sweet **and** honourable! *swooon*

"I want a dangerous man. A sensual, uncivilized, passionate male who merely dresses up as a gentleman but is utterly primitive inside."

While Venetia Hamilton paints erotic art, Maryanne Hamilton edits erotic manuscripts. Ahhh, what an

exciting family! (Their father was an artist of erotic art as well!) She has always had her eyes on the delicious Dash, who portrays the hero in all the manuscripts she edits. What more, Dash dresses immaculately like a gentleman but is primitively ravishing in bed.

"You are lovely, Verity. But then, the truth is always beautiful. Dangerous but beautiful."

Maryanne sneaked off to the Scavenger Hunt in search of her partner. Instead, she stumbled into the arms of the sexy Dash Blackmore, Lord Swansborough.

He'd married her out of honour, and despite his notoriously dark sexual appetite, his sister and Lady Yardley insisted he was the most honourable man. On the other hand, they also believed him besotted with her.

One thing led to another, and the next thing, Maryanne was pregnant with Dash's child. Despite both never having the intention to be shackled down, the sweet and honourable rake felt that it was his duty to wed Maryanne. It's inconceivable that a rake would do such a thing, but my deluded self will attribute this to a budding love.

"Maryanne, will you marry me and become my wife because I love you and because I cannot imagine living without you? You agreed to marry me out of duty. Now I'm asking you out of love."

The incident that happened made Dash realised his love for Maryanne. And it was the sweetest thing!

This one's a page turner, and you could easily finish it in one sitting! I hope the story about Grace Hamilton in Hot Silk could top this one!

Francesca says

Più due e mezzo ma stamattina sono buona. Di cosa si parla in questo libro? In teoria si dovrebbe parlare di un misterioso caso di omicidio, della scomparsa di giovani donne, di pazzi che concorrono per l'eredità. Se ne parla... appena.

In realtà questo libro parla di sesso, poi ancora sesso e sesso di nuovo. Un vergine arrapata peggio di Rocco Soffredi e poco altro.

Mah... non so nemmeno io se consigliarvelo o meno, sono incline verso il no in realtà.

Corduroy says

Premise: heroine sneaks into an orgy to save a friend, gets involved in a sex scavenger hunt with the hero. Other stuff happens, I'm sure.

I didn't finish this, but it isn't bad. I think it's just much more erotica and much less a romance, which didn't turn out to work for me, because I tend to not be interested enough in two people having sex for an entire book unless I am invested in them as characters, and in the dynamic between them. But I would try again at some point. I thought the prose was quite good. And if you've ever wondered "What would it be like to Do It in a hot air balloon?" this is your book.
