



Shades of Jade (Strivers Row)

Gloria Mallette

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Terrance. Louis. Wayne. Eric. Marissa had been warned: One of these days you're gonna mess with the wrong woman's husband. But she doesn't care. Aside from an occasional bout of guilt, she feels no shame, because after all, if their wives were doing what they were supposed to, then their husbands would not be seeking her company.

Marissa dates married men - four of them concurrently because it's easier. She gets all of the trappings of a relationship - love, wining and dining, physical pleasure - without any of the pain - cooking, laundry, and the day-to-day maintenance of a relationship.

But when it appears that one of the wives of the men she is dating is out to get her - wants her dead, in fact - Marissa begins to reexamine the choices she's made. Her selfishness gives way to vulnerability and fear, and she comes to the conclusion that she deserves a man all her own. But will she survive long enough to find Mr. Right?

From the Trade Paperback edition.

Shades of Jade (Strivers Row) Details

Date : Published January 31st 2006 by One World/Ballantine (first published April 1st 2000)

ISBN : 9780345491237

Author : Gloria Mallette

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From Reader Review Shades of Jade (Strivers Row) for online ebook

Cherrie Woods says

I liked this book. Lots of intrigue and drama with a shocking ending. I'm not a big urban lit fan, but this one I liked!

Gwen Cannon-Jenkins says

The old saying don't judge a book by it's cover is perfect for Marissa. This was a good book on someone finally realizing the errors of their ways. It took a lot for Marissa to realize it and almost cost her, her life but in the end it was life turning event for her. Really good book.

Natia says

I read this book like a torpedo yet the ending was rushed and it's the worst way you can sabotage an already just-okay book.

Mary Mckelvin says

Forget about Shades of Grey this was out way before!!

Shayra says

This book is one of the best books I have read. I recommend this book to people who enjoy reading love and mystery books. I was so into it I read this book in less than a week, that's how interesting it is:).

Ayesha Moore says

This happens to be one of my favorites from Gloria Mallette. I found it to be a quick read with a "wowzer" for an ending!! I would highly recommend this book to those who love mystery and suspense. After reading this you would definitely have second thoughts on messing around with married men!!!

Veronica says

Awesome

Shades of Jade is my first book by Gloria Mallette. Before completing the book, I purchased several of her other novels. I like the way she puts twist on her storylines. When you think you have the storyline figured out, she throws a curve in the story, which captivates you and draws you in deeper. The twist and turns of Shades of Jade kept me reading to the wee hours of the night. When I thought I knew Marissa's stalker, Gloria changed lanes on me and surprised me completely.. Gloria, has a creative writing style, which I really enjoyed. Great writer. Great book. I have added Gloria Mallette to my favorite author list.

Stephanie says

What a book. SHADES OF JADE is a very realistic novel about Marissa, a successful woman who has everything she could possibly dream of. So it is beyond me why she likes to mess with other women's men. Her best friend Charmaine always beats her over the head, every so often warning her that "one of these days, you're going to mess with the *wrong* woman's man".

Charmaine even tries to hook Marissa up with her fiance's friend Levi, an absolute sweetheart who falls for Marissa, despite her contemptuous attitude towards him.

As time moves on, Marissa begins receiving crank calls that quickly turn into threats towards her life, and before we know it we're caught up in a story that rapidly turns into a thriller. Boy was Charmaine right! But it may be too late.

I found myself trying to turn the pages so fast that I was literally skipping over words and the end came as a complete shock. There were many parts of the book creeped me out, because I know that this could actually happen to anyone who acts without thinking about the lives they may ruin.

Diana says

So, once I started this, I simply could not put it down. It is full of drama and suspense. Marissa likes to sleep with married men and feels no sympathy for their families until someone starts threatening her to leave their man alone. The threats soon turn violent and we watch Marissa reap what she sowed. Now, the story isn't perfect, and the ending seemed rushed, but it was a fun read. I am curious about the title though, because it had absolutely nothing to do with the book!

Angel says

This is the absolute worse book I have ever read in my entire life.

The premise for the plot sounds interesting enough, but was not executed suspensefully. The ending is not

worth wading through the grammatical trash that precedes it. If you have any respect for the English language, skip this book. There is almost no scene development. It is almost all dialogue, and there is a lot of quoting without attribution, which is slightly confusing and ruins the flow of the writing.

On top of that, the characters speak very poorly and since dialogue makes up the majority of the book, it is really annoying. I understand the use of dialect and local color in literature, but please! Mallette is no Mark Twain. The writer herself uses colloquial expressions outside of the dialogue which ruins the neutral tone of the narrator. She also interrupts the flow of the book by dividing scenes into different chapters. What is the point of interrupting a non-suspenseful conversation with a chapter break when you are just going to continue the conversation exactly where you left off?

It also felt preachy at times. How many times do we have to hear Brandon, the main character's gay friend, say that he believes in monogamy because he doesn't want to get a STD (as if only homosexuals get them!)?

The breaking point for me was reading the egregious use of mistaken words. Instead of decibels, the word decimals was used. Instead of libel, they wrote liable.

The most enjoyable books are ones that are well-written with a strong, well-executed narrative. There are some books where the reader dislikes the plot but can still appreciate the book for its beautiful prose. There are books that are weakly written but are saved by their suspenseful plots. Then there is "Shades of Jade," a book that has neither beautiful writing nor a decent story. The existence of this book degrades literature, and it disturbs me to think that this tripe got published over the work of some decent writer somewhere.

David R. Dowdy says

The premise of the story hooked me early. I read a little every day during my lunch break. There always seemed to be just enough to keep me interested.

In many respects SOJ lived up to "exciting thriller" as quoted on the back cover. Danger lurked constantly for the protagonist. Even though her problems were her own fault, I felt for her safety.

Despite the fact that at times it reads like a romance, I understood that was required of the plot.

I liked how the story moved and I liked the interplay of the characters.

My only real disappointment came as a result of my expectations being unfulfilled with respect to the climax. There was one particular character who should have turned out to be the antagonist.

I give it 3.5 stars overall because, no matter my opinion, it works in its genre.

LillaLovesBooks says

Shades of Jade was a train wreck. Messy, but I couldn't look away.

I'm giving this book two stars because I finished it.

Read this book at your own risk.

I was bored and finished the story out of curiosity, not for the suspense I thought I was in for.

Shay says

the book talks about a picky lover girl who only seeks married men. her best friend trys to help her find a man that's single

Shawnette says

Suspenseful & Chilling

Marissa Jenkins is a beautiful, successful woman who can have any man she wants. And she chooses married men. She's actually juggling four married men. Her friends worry and criticize her lifestyle, but Marissa loves the money and gifts her lovers supply and sees no reason to give them up. One of her lover's wives finds out about Marissa. And the woman begins harassing her. First with phone calls, then threatening notes, then destroying the car that could have been her husband's gift. Marissa starts to fear for her life, she also starts investigating the four wives to find out who is stalking her. And as she discovers who these women are, she sees them as people, and sees her actions and herself in a new, darker light. At first, Marissa is not a very likeable character. She's smug, she's selfish, she puts on airs, and believes women are jealous of her because she can easily have their men. When the harassment first starts, it's hard to sympathize with her. But Ms. Mallette slowly shows us who Marissa really is, and while you CAN'T condone her actions, you'll understand why she traveled down that road. "Shades of Jade" definitely make you think twice before you start to mess with another woman's man.

Jennifer Alexander Reynolds says

this book had everything, mystery, intrigue, love, hatred, friendship, adultery, and romance. With all of that you would think the story would get muddled but surprisingly the story not only stays interesting but highly entertaining. I loved the complexity of the characters and the details of their lives that really grabbed your interest. I would recommend this book.
