



## Glorious Sinner

*Sherilee Gray*

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**Glorious Sinner** Sherilee Gray

People say Tomas Mendoza is dangerous.

They're right.

But he saved my life.

I owe him, and all I have to repay the ruthless crime boss...is me. I tell myself it's not pity that burns in his eyes when I dance for him, that my walls are so high he can't see how broken I am inside.

Now danger stalks me again, and Tomas swoops in, only this time he shows me a different side of himself. Fierce protectiveness. Raw hunger. A tenderness that could sear through the barriers I raised to safeguard my heart and soul.

My past taught me not to trust. But this glorious sinner might be the one man I need to learn to love again.

## Glorious Sinner Details

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# From Reader Review Glorious Sinner for online ebook

**Sandy S says**

4.25 stars--

ABOUT THE BOOK: Release Date September 17, 2018

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REVIEW: 4.25 stars-- GLORIOUS SINNER is instalment 4.5 in Sherilee Gray's contemporary, adult LAWLESS KINGS erotic, romantic suspense series. This is mobster Thomas Mendoza, and exotic dancer Stephanie Gable's story line. GLORIOUS SINNER can be read as a stand alone without any difficulty. Any important information from the previous story lines is revealed where necessary. Thomas and Stephanie first appeared in Ruthless Protector Book #4

NOTE: The story line contains scenes of graphic violence, and may not be suitable for all readers.

Told from dual first person perspectives (Thomas and Stephanie) using present day and memories from the past GLORIOUS SINNER follows Stephanie Gable as she must come to terms with the demons from her past. Married to an abusive man Stephanie knows should anything happen, long time family friend Thomas Mendoza is only a call away, a call that would eventually save her life. Seven years earlier, Stephanie caught a glimpse of her potential future when her then boyfriend Ryan started showing signs of abusive behavior; fast forward six years and our heroine is in for the fight of her life when Ryan leaves Stephanie alone to die, forgetting about her connection to local mobster Thomas Mendoza. With all potential threats against her life no longer in the picture, Stephanie returns to exotic dancing until the fateful night the mysterious messages and gifts start appearing at her door. Enter Thomas Mendoza, the man who has loved our heroine for a number of years but a man who believes he isn't worthy of Stephanie's love. What ensues is the building romance between Thomas and Stephanie, and the potential fall-out as Ryan returns to finish the job.

GLORIOUS SINNER is a story of power and abuse; friendship and love; second chances and a happily ever after. Sherilee Gray pulls the reader into an intense, gritty and emotional story line as one woman struggles

to move on from her past, and one man battles his attraction to a woman who isn't ready to move on with her life. The premise is raw, real and spicy; the romance is passionate; the sex scenes are intimate, erotic and seductive without the use of over the top, sexually graphic language and text; the characters are broken, spirited and energetic. GLORIOUS SINNER is a dramatic and powerful story of healing and love.

Own a copy

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## **Timitra says**

Rated 3.5 Stars

I liked Glorious Sinner. It was a bit of suspense, a bit of action and a bit naughty which I loved. What took away from it was the fact that the villain kept eluding captor even when he was practically right in front of them, it defied all logic and disturbed my brain to no end. With that said I still found it to be an enjoyable, quick read.

ARC provided by author in exchange for a honest review

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## **Maura says**

This picks up on and goes more into detail on some obvious tension that we saw between a stripper at Stilettos and Tomas Mendoza back in a previous book. We get some of their background and a conclusion to their romance. Tomas is the bad boy - which is putting it mildly. In this universe, he is the crime boss who gets things done and doesn't care how. But his hard and fast rule is that he doesn't hurt women. Stephanie Gable has been hurt plenty, by her husband Ryan. She knew Tomas back when she was a young kid and in puppy love with him, but he knew she deserved someone better so he stayed away, but swore to protect her if she ever asked. She didn't ask until she lay near death from the most recent beating and Tomas realized how much she meant to him. But he wanted to make sure SHE had the control in whatever relationship they had, since she'd had so little in her marriage. But Steph has walls that are miles thick and Tomas just can't seem to break through them. But when her husband shows up again, she runs to Tomas, giving him hope. He will do anything to protect her this time and to show her that love is worth it when it's done right.

This kind of works as a standalone, since it's only set in the universe and the characters from the King Agency are present, but not really integral to this story (at least not their backgrounds). And this is a nice little slice out of that universe. I admit the interaction between Tomas and Steph back in the previous story intrigued me and I wanted to know more. This delivered. Tomas, with his willingness to do anything for the woman he loved, was pretty awesome hero material. Not that he's a hero in any other way...he's still a crime boss. But Steph could consider herself one lucky bitch with a guy so dedicated to her happiness. He's patient, he's loyal and he's absolutely in love with her. And no matter how much baggage she has or how thick those walls, he refuses to give up on her. And on top of that, they have some pretty damn sexy scenes together.

So why only 3 stars? First and foremost, the grammar and typo errors in this book drove me up the wall. I

can look past the first one or two, but when they start adding up, I start going apeshit crazy. Just how I roll. Secondly, and this is more my preference, I wanted some elaboration or further addressing of Tomas's job. We only ever get the explanation that he's a crime boss, he sits on his laptop quite a bit doing God-only-knows-what and that people live in absolute fear of his anger. Ryan at one point indicates that he was a drug-dealer and a pimp. But we never really find out WHAT he did that was so bad...assuming maybe he dealt in drugs, guns, prostitutes and murder. I mean, how the hell else does he have that much money? Supposedly, he gave up quite a few of these ventures once he realized he was in love with Steph, but this is a throwaway line with no detail or explanation given. He's still a crime boss, so he must still be doing some of them I guess. Without the author's going into detail, I'm left believing the worst of this hero...what kind of awful stuff has he done in his past and why doesn't the author have him dealing with that. If he's done the worst that I'm imagining and he's feeling no guilt about it (other than maybe feeling like it would hurt the heroine), then he's a sociopath, and this is not a good trait for a hero. It's hard to make the claim that your "criminal hero" is reformed when you don't know what he did in the first place and you give no proof that he's any better now. I'm given to believe that if he's still wealthy and still a crime boss that he's still having gamblers who can't pay back their debts, beaten or murdered or something, despite his claims to reform. So having that swimming in the back of my head while I'm reading about this loyal and loving hero kinda dims the appeal of him.

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### **Ash P Reads says**

Short, sweet and very romantic. This has to be one of my favorites in the series. Even though Tomas is not a member of the King Agency, he is as close a brother to them as one can be without a blood connection. And the way he is with Stephanie is insanely romantic. Makes me wish I had a Tomas of my own.

Advanced Review Copy provided in exchange for voluntary review consideration.

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### **Bookgasms Book Blog says**

I have absolutely loved the Lawless King series and seriously could not read this book fast enough. There is something about the alpha growly heroes this author writes that drives me insane. I absolutely loved Tomas and Stephanie and their connection. I was super curious about them from Ruthless Protector and hoped we would get their book. Boy oh boy did I get my wish and then some! Glorious Sinner was an epic five star read! Gray brings all the explosive chemistry and a hot af story to singe your e-readers!!

Glorious Sinner was such a sexy and intense story. It had heart, feels, swoons and steamy chemistry. I loved how protective Tomas was and how he always had a connection with Stephanie that could not be denied. He was alpha and protective and yet so considerate and loving towards her. I seriously loved EVERY word and never wanted this to end!!

All in all, this was another outstanding five star read from this author and I seriously can't wait for more! Bravo! 5 stars! ~Ratula

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## **Carvanz says**

Oh my gawd! I've wanted Tomas' story for so long and now that I've gotten it I'm so giddy! He was absolutely perfect in every way! So protective of Stephanie, always there when she needed him, he was gentle when her life had been filled with brutality. For a man who lived life hard, he was able to reach through to her through kindness and love. I freaking loved him so hard!

This is a fast paced read, relatively short, that felt like a much longer book in the way that it covered so much. Nothing felt rushed or short changed. The character development was spot on. My heart hurt for the pain and agony Stephanie had had to experience, but I absolutely cheered as she slowly transformed into a woman of confidence and strength. Her life had some very dark times in it so beware of triggers but holy heck did Tomas shine when he was finally allowed to show his feelings to her.

I've been a huge fan of this series but this is one book that I'll have to shout about forever! Gah! Everyone needs a Tomas in their life and I'm claiming him as my own, prorated back to the minute he was first created. Sorry ladies, but he...is...MINE!

I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

Dual POV

Safe (view spoiler)

Triggers(view spoiler)

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## **Karen Roma says**

As like many other readers of the Lawless Kings series, I have anxiously awaited the day when Thomas would finally get his story. I'm so happy to say that the wait has been worth it as Ms Gray has penned a wonderful tale of two broken souls who have come together to mend and find happiness in a future that was once inconceivable.

For a man who has lived a hard and gruelling life, Thomas shows a depth of tenderness and understanding of Stephanie's needs that is heart warming and refreshing. A woman whose life has been plagued by darkness and brutality, Stephanie finds in Thomas a safe haven that she never dared to believe existed, r that she would some day find.

Glorious Sinner is a fast, intense and gripping read that will hold you captive till the very last page. The storyline was well developed and the characters were portrayed with emotional depth and genuine personas. And of course, Thomas is exceptional. He is every woman's fantasy of what a true lover and protector should be. The Lawless Kings is a fabulous series and this book is a definitely one of my favourites.

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## **Carol [Goodreads Addict] says**

Glorious Sinner is book five in the Lawless Kings series by Sherilee Gray. Sherilee's books are like

chocolate to me, I can't get enough of them. I previously met the notorious crime boss, Tomas Mendoza in the previous books in this series and have been so looking forward to getting his story. There was obviously so much more to this man and I couldn't wait to get to know him better. I was not disappointed.

Stephanie Gable first met Tomas when she was sixteen years old. He was seven years older and she fell in love. Only Tomas never seemed to reciprocate. For two years she pined after him until she finally gave up and started dating Ryan. He was her first boyfriend so she had no experience at all. The signs were there, she just didn't pay attention, and eventually married him. Ryan was controlling and abusive. Her life with him was nothing but pain. When he nearly killed her, the only person she could call for help was Tomas.

Tomas Mendoza has been in love with Stephanie since the first time he laid eyes on her. But she deserved so much better than anything he could offer her. He was a bad man, had done bad things. But when he got the call from Stephanie and found her bleeding and broken, something inside him shifted. He would make himself into the man that Stephanie could be proud of.

***“How could he not see me as some pathetic creature? Especially when that was how I saw myself. Now I was there asking for his help again, exposing the most vulnerable parts of myself.”***

It's been a year now, since the day Stephanie called Tomas for help. She has walls around her heart so thick Tomas isn't sure if he'll ever break through. But now the danger is back, and Stephanie once again has to ask Tomas for help. This is his chance to finally break through to her. To show her how he feels.

***“Tomas exuded something darkly erotic. He was walking, talking sex on a stick, and honestly, it was intimidating. I trusted him with my life.”***

Tomas was desperate to get through to Stephanie. Now that he had her in his life, in his home, there was no way he could let her go. But it had to be on her terms. Control had been taken away from her and he wanted to give it back.

***“He could be carved in marble. Only I knew how hot his skin was, that there was nothing cold about him when it came to me.”***

This book! Tomas was dark and broody and possessive. Everything you could wish for in a hero. Even though he continually questioned himself, he seemed to know just what to do to help Stephanie to let go of her pain. These two were perfect. Their chemistry was hot, hot, hot, and steamed up the pages. This is a fairly short book, about 126 pages, but let me tell you, there is so much contained within it's covers.

Sherilee Gray has done it again! She wrote a book that captivated me in every way. I couldn't put it down. I can't wait for you to meet Tomas. I have a feeling you are going to love him just as much as I did. This can easily be read as a stand alone. You do not need to have read the previous books to enjoy it. But then you would be missing out on the rest of this fabulous series.

*“Thank you for showing me what real love is.”*

For more about this book and so many more, come and join me at Carol's Crazy Bookish World.  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/44036...>

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## **Emma says**

3.5/5

Glorious Sinner has a Ruthless King feel to the narrative, with the crime lord having a softer side where the woman in his life is concerned while maintaining a callous exterior to everyone else.

Stephanie and Tomas first meet when Stephanie is 16 and Tomas is working construction for her father. Their age difference and Tomas's background prevent Tomas from admitting to reciprocating Stephanie's feelings. Leading Stephanie into a relationship with a popular boy in her high school; while on the surface their relationship appears perfect there is a lot of ugliness waiting to break through the surface. Over the years the hideous overtakes any perfect leaving Stephanie a shell of her former self. The only things that keep Stephanie surviving are the knowledge Tomas is there in the background if she were brave enough to reach out to him and dancing.

Only when Stephanie is broken and bloody does she reach out to Tomas for help. Unfortunately, this only adds to Stephanie's belief that Tomas views her as fragile and broken. Slowly piecing the broken parts of her life back together, Stephanie only survives by being virtually numb but when her sociopathic husband returns to terrorize Stephanie, she has to confront her fears and the underlying emotions she has always held for Tomas.

I loved how protective Tomas was of Stephanie, kind, and patient in all areas. A complete contrast to his everyday crime lord persona and terrifying reputation. His determination to be the man Stephanie deserved almost cost him the thing he coveted the most. Giving this second-chance to be with Stephanie ensures Tomas will do anything to make it happen.

The chemistry between the pair is combustible but Tomas guarantees a slow-burn in order to pave the way for a lasting relationship beyond the physical.

Through Tomas's believe in Stephanie and the protection he offers, Stephanie is able to resurrect the pieces of herself she thought were long dead and buried. I loved watching Stephanie blossom and become the woman she was always supposed to be via her connection to Tomas.

Glorious Sinner is fast-paced with thriller elements woven into the narrative, while the romance is at the center of the plot there is a lot of character development in a short space of time ??

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## **Misty (Reds Romance Reviews) says**

From the moment his eyes landed on her beautiful face Tomas Mendoza fell hard for Stephanie Gable, but



with her delicate age, and his less than stellar reputation, he decided it was best to keep his distance. But then one night when he witnesses her boyfriend being a little rough with her at a party, he decides to make it his mission to keep her safe, so he intervenes, and makes her promise to seek him out if she ends up in trouble again. On one hand he hoped she'd never call, knowing it would mean she was in danger, but on the other hoping it would reunite them, and keep him in her life in some small facet.

But when the call comes late one night, nothing could have prepared him for what he found, finding her lifeless body darn near crushed him, but he got her the help she needed, and promised once again to keep her safe. But unfortunately her ex has decided to not let her live a peaceful life, and begins to terrorize her again, but this time Tomas isn't letting him get close enough to do damage, even if it means moving her into his home, and keeping her by his side. Knowing this could lead them to a place they have both wanted to be for so long now... and fully aware it could change everything!

Glorious Sinner brings us into the lives of Tomas and Stephanie, and right out of the gate this highly emotional and gut-wrenching story line hits you deep, and leaves you in complete agony; you can't help but feel for these wounded souls. Barely two chapters into it, and I felt my heart start to crack, the pain endured by Stephanie spoke to me on a level I understood all too well, but I held out hope that the words would bring her the happiness... and they did in the form of an uber sexy protector determined to give her a better life. (Swoon!) I have absolutely loved every one of the books in the series, but this one struck a special cord with me, and for that reason, and so many more, I have say it has claimed the top spot as my favorite! I highly recommend you make time to read this one, you won't be disappointed with what you find!

I requested an advanced copy of this title, and I am leaving my honest opinion.

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### **Mindy Lou's Book Review says**

I'm so happy Sherilee Gray did a novella on Tomas. He was such an intriguing side character in the Lawless Kings books. I'm a bit partial to the bad boy and I love to see what type of woman it takes for them to fall in love.

I'm actually a bit surprised with Stephanie. She is an abused wife with a lot of emotional baggage. Her husband abused her physically and mentally. It wasn't what I was expecting for Tomas and yet I loved how it showed a different side to his character where she was involved.

I liked the connection they had from years earlier and how these two ended up coming back to each other. I especially love how the author brought the girls from all the other books together in each and every new book. I like the friendships they formed and I never get tired of seeing past main characters after their HEA.

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### **Dolly Sickles says**

Tension is one of the great hallmarks of romantic suspense. Whether it's sexual, emotional or situational, the best kind of tension is between characters when they're drowning in unresolved feelings and unfulfilled needs. Sherilee Gray's fifth book in the Lawless Kings series, Glorious Sinner, has them all. It's a sexy, emotional roller coaster that's worth the price of admission.

The Lawless Kings series follows the lives of five men who grew up together (two brothers, two friends and an outlier who's more of an ally than friend). Tomas Mendoza is the outlier — a ruthless crime boss who never hesitates to exploit a person or situation to get what he wants. And whereas the rest of the guys in the series banded together to form The King Agency, Tomas focused on building his own empire.

Until the woman he's loved from afar since they were teenagers needs him. Then everything changes. And if he was dangerous before, he's apocalyptic now.

Years later, Tomas has remained on the fringe of Stephanie Gable's life. She married an abusive man, hiding the horror of her situation until one attack nearly killed her, and she had to call on Tomas ... a man who struck fear in the hearts of most who came across him. And even though Steph thinks Tomas sees her as a "weak, broken little bird," she knows she's safe with him.

I love this ragtag group of men Gray has brought to the literary world, where their flaws are as noticeable as their strengths, and their moral compasses are both interpretive and their divining rods. Wrong isn't always wrong, and the bad guy is definitely not always bad. I'm a longtime fan of retribution and vindication, and when it's written into a sexy, suspenseful romance, I'm a goner.

\*Originally published with USA Today's Happy Ever After: <https://happyeverafter.usatoday.com/2...>

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### **Nicole P says**

This was a nice addition to the *Lawless Kings* series. Tomas Mendoza has been a side feature in most of the books in the series and his broody, tough, scary personality was intriguing and all kinds of hot. Then there was Stephanie, an exotic dancer who has known Tomas since she was a teenager, and had a major crush on him. Fast forward a few years and Steph is reaching out to Tomas for help when her husband almost kills her. This was a turning point in their strange relationship. Tomas sets out to be a different man for Steph and protect her at all costs. He really was the epitome of being an alpha. Stephanie had a lot to deal with in terms of what happened during her marriage and accepting and owning her feelings for Tomas.

This was a quick and easy read and my only gripe were the spelling and grammatical errors throughout.

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### **Claire Robinson says**

4 - "Until you..." Stars!

This is me when Sherilee confirmed that Stephanie and Tomas would be getting their own book –

And boy did book five in the *Lawless Kings* series deliver. You don't have to have read the books that came before *Glorious Sinner* but it does give you an insight into this couple before we get up close and personal with them in it.

**"You can do better... So much better."**

This is a couple that goes back years, but Steph's age initially, and then her dead-beat husband keep her and Tomas apart. But he has always been there for her, and generally in her darkest hours.

**"Everything I've done for you I'd do again in a heartbeat. I don't expect, I don't *want* anything in return... You're worth everything I've done and so much more."**

Twelve months on from him removing said husband from her life, Tomas can no longer hide or deny his feelings for Stephanie, and although it's been a long road to getting her confidence and sense of self back, Steph is starting to think along the same lines... that is until it looks like her past has come back to haunt her.

**"I've wanted you since the first day I saw you... That never changed, not in all these years."**

Being forced to keep close quarters with each other for her protection, as you would expect does nothing to mute the sexual chemistry between them, and it doesn't take long for both of them to decide that they aren't hiding from it anymore either. But Steph is still a little gun-shy when it comes to moving things into the bedroom due to lack of experience, and fears that Tomas will only ever see her as the broken girl he has rescued on more than one occasion, rather than the woman who wants him more than her next breath.

*I was afraid the scars on her soul were as permanent as the ones on her skin...*

Sherilee gave this couple the story they deserved, and the resolution they needed to be able to move on with a stronger, fully defined relationship. I devoured this book, and it just left me desperate for more of the series as a whole. I am so glad she took a side-step from the *King Agency* to fill in this little gap in characters, and she filled it so well!

ARC generously provided by the author, in exchange for the above honest review.

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### **Kimberley C. says**

I have a feeling this is the last in the lawless kings series and I'm quite sad about that. I have really enjoyed it! Tomas' story did not disappoint! I felt for Stephanie soooo much and Tomas really redeemed himself. I love Sherilee's books and can't recommend them enough. Next up for her looks like it's a fantasy type book, which is something I don't go for at all... but I will make an exception and give it a try.

5 stars.

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