



Texas Surrender

Claire Thompson

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When JD Reed shows up at the Circle R horse ranch, Avery Dalton is fully prepared to hate his guts. Tapped by his aunt to help out at the horse ranch, the greenhorn thinks he can just step in and run the show, but Avery's not having any. JD's got a line on Avery's secret, though barely acknowledged need to be sexually dominated, A loner used to making his own way, Avery'll be damned before he submits to the arrogant Yankee.

JD Reed can never resist a challenge, and Avery Dalton is no exception. Determined to seduce and claim the tattooed, tough cowboy, JD teases and taunts his prey until he goes too far. In a battle of wills that turns physical, the sexual tension seething just below the surface explodes like a Texas tornado that sweeps them both off their feet.

Texas Surrender Details

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From Reader Review Texas Surrender for online ebook

Serena Yates says

This book is an interesting mix between a cowboy story, a journey into a D/s relationship for an inexperienced sub, and a plot about a ranch's survival after the old owner dies.

This is as much a story about finding love and a home for both of the main characters as it is all of the above. I really liked that part best of all. Avery is an interesting character who has had to fight for survival since he was a kid. His background and rationale for acting the way he does were very clear to me, and I felt for him. JD was a little more difficult for me to understand, but then, he himself doesn't really know where he belongs anymore - Texas, his old home, or New York City, where his ambition now lies.

The cowboys are hot, but the lack of commitment or even just emotion between them took me out of it a few times. If you are interested in some imaginative D/s scenes, you will like this story.

Tam says

Late to the party on this I guess, but it was a DNF. It's really not my kind of BDSM and the fact that it bordered on sexual harassment from day 1 was a turn off to me. Just not my taste, no rating because I didn't really read it, skimmed to find out the ending.

Melanie Marnell says

Avery Dalton and JD Reed, the cowboy and the city slicker. Nevermind that JD was born and raised in Texas. As far as Avery was concerned JD was a green horn. What did a NYC chef know about horse ranching? JD wasn't shy about his intentions towards Avery and aggressively pursued him. JD has long been involved in the BDSM lifestyle and he recognizes Avery's natural submissive nature. Although Avery gruffly avoids JD's advances, Avery is drawn to the man and what he's offering. JD sets out to train Avery and slowly starts to fall in love. It takes the impending sale of the ranch for JD to really see how much Avery loves the place and the horses. JD also realizes that he wants to stay by Avery's side. They work out a solution to buy the ranch themselves and both get what they want. Each other and an HEA

Beck says

I found it hard to enjoy this book because I really disliked the character JD ... his arrogance & selfishness just left a nasty taste in my mouth. Although there was a HEA, I was indifferent & unmoved by it because I kinda wanted Avery to find someone better.

JenMcJ says

Oh, this one is hard to rate. It falls into a few clichés that bug me but the BDSM journey that JD and Avery undertake is very interesting.

This book encompasses everything from bondage to pain play once JD introduces Avery to these concepts. Up until he meets JD, Avery had no idea he was a pain slut and that BDSM existed. It doesn't take JD long to have Avery begging for more, more, more.

So, the sex is kinky but the relationship was a little one sided. JD was too often condescending to Avery for me to feel that they had a real balanced exchange of power going on until the end. By the end of the book they are true partners. However, the end was one cliché after another that brings the story from a solid four stars to a three star review.

Claire Thompson is a skilled enough storyteller to have been able to find a less common ending than the one she gave us.

Amy says

JD had his heart set on being a big New York City chef but had just lost his job due to the economy when he received notice that his uncle had died in Texas. He returned to Texas and his uncle's ranch. Here he meets Avery, his uncle's right hand at the ranch. He sees his other half in Avery but Avery is into a straight M/M relationship. He has never experienced a D/s relationship. Avery also has a chip on his shoulder because of his lack of a high school diploma. The two slowly realize they were meant to be together. I didn't like JD at first. He was just too much too soon and just kept hammering away at poor Avery until Avery finally reacted. But JD mellowed out and I ended up liking him. This is a great romance and a quick read. And proof that just because you don't have a fancy education doesn't mean you aren't smart. Great job!

Badh says

Cordon bleu plus cowboy

When JD's uncle dies, he rushed home to help at the ranch. He didn't expect that he would meet Avery, who was everything he didn't know he needed. Avery just thinks that JD is privileged, entitled, and a jerk.

I love how Claire Thompson makes this work so well. There are a lot of things that JD and Avery have to figure out alone and together, not even counting their relationship and where it might go.

Erotic Horizon says

Bad luck comes in three, at least that's how the saying goes – but sometimes there is a deal breaker. When JD Reed had a run of bad luck first with his job, then with his current lover and to top it off – a personal loss, he thought how much worse can this get.

It can get worse or it can get really better if the eye candy that is Avery Dalton the man on his aunt's ranch is any thing to go by. JD is a member of the BDSM lifestyle and he knows what he wants and how to go about getting what he wants, the one thing he is not up for however is forcing someone to do something that they are not willing to do. Caught between a rock and a hard place in helping his aunt with the ranch when his uncle dies and getting on with his life, JD – knows it was going to be difficult because no matter how hard the life of a chef was, the manual labour of farm work is an entirely different matter.

Looking at Avery makes JD's days bearable, but Avery was not about to play nice when there was work to be done. JD knows what he wants and he also knows that Avery needs what he wants even if he doesn't know it yet.

Avery Dalton the ranch hand who has seen more life than he cares to talk about is in an unsure position, with not knowing what will happen to his job and his home. When he meets JD, all it meant to him was just another person to waste his time and as a relative he would be the boss of the spread for the duration. The JD that he built up in his mind and the JD that he got for the next two mornings are two totally different people and JD is not about to make Avery forget it.

Avery does not know if he is ready for what JD is offering and he can't resist as JD seems to know him better than he even knows himself, but life for the two was more than just about who tied who to the bed at nights and this is where the true problem lays

If you are looking for an author that takes the time with not only a plot, but characters and a built up – Claire Thompson is one author I can say for a fact give a try.

When I started this book I knew there was going to be BDSM material in there somewhere, the story starts off immediately with an angst moment. A few pages later in and I went through a whole range of emotions surprises, regret for circumstances, sorrow for a loss, that panicky feeling of uncertainty and the shuddering feel of that first look, that first touch – that idea that something big was about to happen and I could not stop it.

This was how much of this author's talent came through in this book. She put two men before me, JD Reed with his quite confidence and take charge attitude, who was wanting to do the right thing but knows he has a life he needs to carve out for himself – mix that in with him wanting someone so much yet even in his certainty he is unsure of his reception.

Then there is Avery, I fell for Avery for his name and he did not let me down. Avery is in his own eyes a self made man, from the moment he could do for himself he has worked hard and even when the odds look set against him – he worked hard. His sole focus now is on the day to day running of the Circle R horse ranch but when he is put in a position of having JD around he is made by JD to look at a part of his sexuality that he has never thought he would have to.

What follows from there is a journey of trust on a scale that only the purest of heart can know as JD literally takes Avery by the hand and led him through the uncharted territory of self awareness, pain, pleasure and eventually total self satisfaction, then there is anger, as men – things like the gentle touch does come easily, especially when it's tempered with naivety and the fact that only so much room can be given to naturally

expectation after that there is only an emotional high and both JD and Avery have to roll with those punches.

TEXAS SURRENDER is not all about Avery and JD, family interaction, life expectations and challenges makes up a few scenes and these are not only scenes for the sake of filler – they tied the book together beautifully and they give that realistic feel to the whole thing.

Ms Thompson bring a freshness to the BDSM scenes for me, I have read loads of BDSM, fetishes and all other manner of books – but the approach Thompson takes with this book as well as the time and patience that she invest in these two men to not only give them a chance grow and to experience there all, but also leave them enough room to opt out without losing face and this only makes the book a winner with me.

Ms Thompson also round up this book nicely as well, no five minute sprint to the finish line did I get with this book – all the storyline got resolves – there was assured HEA and I felt good about leaving them at the place where they were.

Gab says

This story comes very close to 'real life' D/s relationships.

The Dom is slightly cocky, not always in control of himself or his intended sub. His methods of persuasion are not suave and polished but inconsistent. His language sometimes downright derogatory.

His young 'mark' is gay but firmly in the closet. The belief to give in to his dormant needs would make him less of a man, a sissy-boy, deeply entrenched.

This relationship seems at best temporary and doomed to failure from the beginning.

Still, there is that spark that lets them fight and stumble through miscommunication, misunderstanding and fear of loosing themselves. Only when they are able to establish a tentative trust are they able to understand what they have found in each other.

Far from being the perfect couple novels are written about, those two find their happiness through compromise and reevaluation of long held ambitions and beliefs.

Wren says

Claire Thompson is able to get inside the heads of the protags, in terms of the bdsm. I found this interesting, particularly as Avery struggled with his own desires. JD was hard for me to like at first, but he grew on me. I wished that some of the events that happened off-page would have been shown. As usual, I want more more more!

Debra Guyette says

Avery Dalton is happy with his life even if it is a bit lonely. When his boss unexpectedly dies, Avery is hoping to continue working the ranch with the help of maybe one other hand. When the widow asks her nephew to help out, Avery is not at impressed with greenhorn JD Reed, but JD recognizes something in Avery that even Avery does not. Avery is a sexual submissive. JD is not deterred by his than receptive

attitude and, in fact, enjoys a challenge. He teases and taunts Avery, determined to seduce and even claim the tough cowboy. As the tension between the two heats up, it explodes into something neither was prepared to handle.

Avery was a prickly young man and did not believe JD had anything he would possibly want. JD, a Dom through and through knows what Avery needs. He pushes and pushes and it explodes and the two begin to explore what it means. You can't help but fall in love with these two as they work out their differences and there are many. JD turned out to be so much more than expected. He knew what Avery wanted and needed and worked hard to give it to him. What a delightful couple they turned out to be. Just when you think you know what will happen next, an amazing twist is thrown in to keep us reading. Another excellent tale from Claire Thompson. She is so talented, I know there are many more books to read where she leaves us with a sigh and a smile at the end.

Kassa says

"Texas Surrender" is an indulgent story about cowboys with some kink. The BDSM included is not necessarily hard-core but it's not exactly light either. The elements included are familiar to many readers and stray more towards formal rules and titles. Unfortunately while some readers will be attracted to the sexual component ~ and really who doesn't love kinky cowboys ~ others may be disappointed at the lack of imagination and depth to the story. The plot and characters ultimately feel very flat and one dimensional with the final resolution contradictory.

Highly trained chef JD Reed returns home for his uncle's funeral after being let go from his high profile job as a sous-chef. Although JD has no experience working on a ranch, he is asked to stay on and help out until decisions can be made about the ranch's future. This means working with the ranch's only employee, Avery, very closely. JD immediately decides to have a little fun while he's in Texas and sets out to sexually dominate Avery. Along the way though both men must come to grips with their emotions and what it means for their future.

The plot set up is rather basic and somewhat far-fetched. There is no real reason for a celebrated chef to be working as a ranch hand, especially given that JD does a lot of the chores poorly and needs constant supervision. Additionally, JD makes inappropriate sexual comments to Avery within minutes of meeting the man and continues regardless of Avery's persistence that JD stop. Although this is rather unrealistic, the story is indulgent and meant to entice, so readers may not be bothered with these details. This is very much a fantasy story with BDSM between two cowboys. What is more problematic is that neither the characters nor the plot holds much complexity or interest.

JD spends a good portion of the story lecturing Avery about BDSM: what it means, the rules, the nature, the strength and weakness and demanding Avery's trust and compliance. Yet JD violates Avery's trust multiple times with his words and actions. JD never really has the depth of conscience to acknowledge his mistakes and the irony of demanding Avery's trust while lying to the man. Furthermore, JD admits that he misses the city and would not be happy living his life on the ranch so his final decisions felt weak and contradictory. Similarly, Avery felt wooden with his easy acceptance and listless actions. He rarely takes initiative in either his work or life yet gets angry when decisions are made for him.

Overall the characters from JD to Avery and even the aunt felt one dimensional and lacking any real interest or spark. None of this was helped by the dependence on rhetorical questions in the writing. The story is filled

with questions that the characters mentally ask themselves without answers, so much so that this became an annoying feature. Instead of evaluating the reasons for thoughts or actions, the characters would simply ask themselves questions without ever thinking of answers. Instead of developing the characters, their personalities, and the emotional connection, each man would wallow in their minds asking rhetorical questions they couldn't answer.

Although I'm a fan of cowboy stories with some kink thrown in, nothing felt unusual or fresh about this particular offering. Instead the writing combined with the wooden characters had even the sex scenes feeling rote and without much to recommend them. The story is basic and perhaps those readers who are looking for something light and easy can ignore some of the problems and enjoy the story for what it is.

Saskia says

Another book in the Serving his Master series, but it can be read as a complete standalone. It features a brand new couple.

I loved Avery, he was a wonderful character. She was actually really sweet and innocent, but also a survivor. J.D. was a character I wasn't sure about in the beginning of the book, but he grew on me and I thought he treated Avery better towards the end. He really saw his worth.

This line said it all for me "The odd thing, or great thing, he guessed, was that as he became stronger and confident in himself, he was actually a better submissive to JD".

DeeNeez says

Cowboys and kink. JD comes back to Texas to help his grieving aunt with the family ranch. He may be a chef, but he's also a Dom, and he has his eyes set on the ranch hand Avery. It actually took me a while to even like JD. The way he hounds Avery at first struck me as a pushy asshole, even a overbearing bully. But once Avery and him actually start their relationship, he was a totally different person. Outside of JD's original attitude, the story turned into a sweet read.

Dar says

Avery and JD surprised me with how much I was rooting for them! JD seemed too arrogant, a little bit snobby, and entirely too sure of himself, and I agreed with a lot of what Avery thought of him. Avery totally enchanted me from the beginning. He was whole heart, proud, and kind to everyone. He knew he may be viewed poorly by others, but he was proud of who he was, and what he did. Once JD really stopped and looked at him, got to know the man Avery is, only then did the sparks fly, and I needed this couple to be together!
