



Kept

Maya Banks

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From the author of *Mastered* and *Dominated* comes the third of the Enforcers novels. *Kept* is the searing story of a woman who finds sanctuary in surrender...

He can't change who he is.

A horrific childhood has made Silas the man he is today: dangerous, distrustful and demanding. He's lived in self-imposed solitude, convinced that no woman could ever accept his need for absolute control—in business and pleasure. That is, until a young violinist walks into one of his buildings and into his life.

She can't change what she wants.

Hayley has been struggling to fulfill her father's dying wish: for her to attend a prestigious music school in New York City. But even working multiple jobs, she can't afford the tiniest of apartments. Seeing her hopeless and near tears, Silas vows to help and protect her, no matter the cost to himself. But when Hayley meets his every demand with unwavering acceptance and love, he is overwhelmed by her goodness and gentle spirit. He knows that the dark stain on his soul can never be erased—and rather than risk destroying the most beautiful person he's ever experienced, he'll have to do the hardest thing he's ever had to do. Let her go. But he's totally unprepared for the lengths to which Hayley will go to fight for his love and for a future brighter than the sun...

From the Trade Paperback edition.

Kept Details

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Author : Maya Banks

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From Reader Review Kept for online ebook

? BookAddict ✍ La Crimson Femme says

Featuring the silent and steadfast friend of Drake, Silas meets the woman of his dreams. This dream seems out of reach for a man of his past. He was dealt a bad hand with his despicable parents and the so called child protection services. Ms. Banks appears to be upping her usage of tortured pasts. Perhaps this series should really be called alpha hot guys who have terrible childhoods. It is what binds these men all together.

Haley is a bit better than Evangeline. She may be all alone in her life, but she is determined to make it. She fights for everything. She is the underdog and so scrappy. I love that she is a musician. Her violin playing soothes the savage beast within Silas. Their dynamic does follow the same formula as the previous book in the series. A secretive male afraid of weaknesses shuns relationships only to fall head over heels in love with a young and innocent girl.

This series is advertised as BDSM. Meh, kinky light with a little flogging and a vanilla interpretation of a dominant man. The BDSM is romanticized and sweet. The sex scenes were a little too tame for me and I could have done without them. I do not read Ms. Banks' books for the sex. I only read it for the engaging characters and story-line. This erotic romance is recommended for romance readers who like angst ridden story-lines.

**provided by NetGalley*

Take Me Away To A Great Read says

Kept by Maya Banks

(The Enforcers #3)

Berkley

Release Date: November 1, 2016

Rating: 3 Stars

I would like to thank the publisher for providing me with an advanced copy of Kept for an honest review.

Kept is an emotional, sexy journey. I loved Silas in the first two books in the series and was hoping this book would stand out in the series. I liked his backstory and dark brooding nature. I did however feel that it was very similar to the first two books. The story lines arc in this book was almost exactly the same as the others. That left me a little disappointed.

FULL REVIEW GO TO: <https://takemeawaytoagreatread.com/20...>

Snow says

the dialogues in this book...

i don't even have a word to summer up the vomiting pulse of dislike...

Urrrghhh...

Predictable.

One dimensional.

But at least i rounded up the series! Yaaay!

Sophia says

Full-filling a dying father's wish, talented violinist, dark protector, and danger surrounding them really drew me in and made me eager to experience my first book by the author. While I have mixed feelings about this book, I'm not sorry to have read it.

Kept is actually book three in The Enforcers series. The first two books were about one couple and this book started a new romance arc with a new couple and the ongoing trouble with the mafia types out for revenge. I didn't read the first two books, but I did alright jumping in with this one because the author set the table well bringing the new reader up to speed on the situation and characters.

I went into this one loving that the heroine, Hayley, is attempting to fulfill her own dreams and her father's dying wish that she attend a prestigious school and hone her musical talent. She works hard and faces the big city alone. I was also captivated by this dark soul, Silas, who is moved by her music during the night and it gives him peace even though his life has been anything, but peaceful.

I had high hopes of loving this pair and their story.

But then, it stopped working. This was instant everything and it rushed it way through each moment in the romance and character development. I might have tolerated this better, but for a few factors.

First, Silas introduced BDSM elements that was not addressed or presented in a healthy, safe, well-developed way. They've known each other for mere days and this is their first serious conversation about a relationship. After a five minute general (no specifics) convo about his unique control needs in the bedroom and his need to control her whole life, she basically nods and is all in. They don't really know each other and she has no idea what he means or what she's getting into. Other than his physical attractiveness, her feelings hinge on her gratitude for all he has done for her and that he seems this dark, lonely type. This naive innocent is ordered to present as a submissive right after he gets done swiftly telling her that he has control issues with no details or discussion and then she just does with no questions or hesitation. She goes along with everything from bedroom control to control of her life after only meeting him a few weeks before. And this is while she thinks he's got another woman and he's with this other woman. What is wrong with this girl?

There was just no depth to Hayley and the part that is introduced about Silas doesn't really factor in for long other than overblown dramatic feelings of guilt over stuff and 'his darkness'.

This romance was just there for two near strangers with no development or explanation or conversation- and it's a dominant/submissive too. They both wallow inside their heads about stuff and don't talk.

And for the second half of the book, I was left scratching my head over the new layer of conflict for the pair. Like I said before, I didn't read the first two books about the previous couple, but there was enough of an explanation to get the gist. So, here in this one, same scenario (sounded like it was exactly the same) and Silas, who was there all along, does all the same wrong stuff that Drake did and caused the same drama. Made no sense.

In summary, it wasn't a total loss in that I was able to finish the book and remember some high points in the midst of it all. Too much of this needed more time and development and shouldn't have been introduced into the plot if it was just going to get raced over like potholes in a swift moving car. I want to still try her older books particularly the historicals, but I'm not at all sure I want to touch another modern.

I rec'd this book from Penguin Group in exchange for an honest review.

Varied Books says

3.5 stars

My random thoughts

The writing wasn't consistent. It felt as if there were 2 writing voices.

I liked both the H/h. Insta-lust story turned into love. h is a Mary-Sue in the sense that everyone loves her. The story did keep my interest but it wasn't fantastic & the current ebook price of \$9.99 is ridiculous IMO.

H is all alpha who needs to be in control & keep the people he loves safe.

h is submissive but is not a pushover. She's Not TSTL. I loved how she believed scum should get what's coming to them in non-legal ways. She was happy when it happened. She has courage.

"She loved the approval that warmed his gaze when she willingly did his bidding. It made it sound like she was a child desperate to please or gain the approval of a parent or adult. It would no doubt make her appear needy and pathetic to other people, but she didn't give one fuck about what anyone except Silas thought about her. Making him happy wanting to make him happy was something she did for her every bit as much as she did it for him."

There was miscommunication between H/h that caused strife between them. There isn't a formal d/s relationship between them & no master talk. There are pleasurable punishments doled out by the H.

Both thought they weren't good enough for the other which is meh to me.

Book is told in 3rd pov. Steamy slightly kinky sex. Both Book ends in a HEA. Some loose ends about other side characters so I can see another book in the series.

Trigger warnings: (view spoiler)

Debra Presley says

4.5 STARS.

I read the first two books in this series and I really enjoyed them but this book I really fell in love with. The pace of this book was a lot more my speed and Silas was a character that I was very intrigued with in Mastered and Dominated.

I loved that Silas got a dose of his own medicine, sort of speak, with how crazy protective he became over Haley. He now realized that love can make you do, say and act in some crazy ways.

Haley is a pretty strong female lead character and I think this right here is the BIGGEST difference between the previous two books in The Enforcers' series. Even though she's young, life experience has made her strong. She gets Silas' protectiveness and even allows it but she doesn't really understand why until later on.

In this book you'll get a lot of steamy scenes but you get a great plot with a bunch of suspense. Something that for me makes a book that will keep me engaged. This book truly stands alone. Totally worth picking up.

Krissys says

He can't change who he is...

A horrific childhood has made Silas the man he is today: dangerous, distrustful, and demanding. He's lived in self-imposed solitude, convinced that no woman could ever accept his need for absolute control—in business and pleasure. That is, until a young violinist walks into one of his buildings and into his life.

She can't change what she wants...

Haley has been struggling to fulfill her father's dying wish: to attend a prestigious music school in New York City. But even working two jobs, she can't afford the tiniest of apartments. Seeing her hopeless and near tears, Silas vows to help and protect her, no matter the cost to himself. But when Haley meets his every demand with unwavering acceptance and love, he is overwhelmed by her goodness and gentle spirit. He knows that the dark stain on his soul can never be erased—and rather than risk destroying the most beautiful thing he's ever experienced, he knows he'll have to do the hardest thing he's ever had to face. Let her go. But he's totally unprepared for the lengths Haley will go to fight for his love and a future brighter than the sun.

Kept is easy to relate to when you have been there and know just how far you will go when you've lost everything and have no where to turn.

That's where we find Haley is from the start which is why I think I liked her so much. I could see myself in her shoes because I've been her before.

It took a lot longer for Silas to grow on me because he was such a punk through most of the book and by the end I was still a little unsure about him and his relationship with Haley but in the end despite their own baggage and backgrounds I think they both found their sense of home.

My feeling in the end about Kept is that I think I liked it more for its personal journey and my relation to Haley that made me like this book more than her intimate relationship with Silas. I think this book is really great and worth the read for both the sexy readers and the emotional ones.

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If any of Krissy's Bookshelf Reviews has been helpful please stop by to like or let me know what you think! I love hearing from followers! Thank you!

Hannah (The Irish Banana Review) says

You know what? No. I can't even with this series. I wanted more - I *expected* more. After the disappointment that was MASTERED and DOMINATED, I expected Silas' book to be like the Maya Banks I know and love but this was a cliché mess.

Hayley makes Bella Swan look like the world's most independent and strong woman. I have never met such a weak character. And her background is sob story after sob story - her mom died, her dad died, she has no friends, she's attacked by 3 rapists ... But she's beautiful. And perfect and talented and did I mention beautiful? So Silas falls for her on sight.

Except Silas wouldn't know what a good thing was if it smacked him in the face because he constantly chooses everything and everyone over his "princess".

And can we talk about the pet names in this series? Princess? Angel? I can't even.

What could have - and should have - been an amazing story was just rife with one disaster after another simply for the sake of angst and drama. It served zero purpose.

I'm done with this series.

Astraycat says

3.75 stars. This book had hot scenes, threats you didn't know when will strike, and alpha males.

I felt deeply for h's situation at first, and when H helped her without hesitation, I admired H so much, esp when he saved her.

However, I didn't like how suddenly they just slept together...felt sth miss at the plot. The built-up from beginning was so great that I didn't understand why the rush all of a sudden.

Then my admire to H disappeared when he pushed h away. Really ridiculous. Gladly to see h yelled at him and pushed him away after he wanted her back. Served him good!

Wish there's an epilogue.

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Shadow's review posted at Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

4.5 stars

This is the third book of three in the Enforcers series, It is a standalone, but is tied to the characters from Mastered and Dominated.

This is a much better book than the first two. Silas is a much more sympathetic character than Drake, and while he screws up, he does it for a good reason, unlike Drake.

Haley Winthrop has had a tough time of it lately. Cheated out of her late father's life insurance money, she is struggling to hold on, working two jobs and going to school full time. When she comes to the attention of Silas Goodnight, he provides her with a place to stay, and then is captivated by her talent as a musician. He gradually starts taking care of her in other ways, not realizing that he was endangering her by showing his interest.

Haley isn't at all sure at first that Silas has any romantic interest in her, but that quickly changes. But how can she offer her heart to a man who puts another woman, Evangeline, before her. In fact, she sometimes feels she is the lowest of his priorities. When Silas finds out she's been targeted, can he protect her and his heart?

The story line is complex, pitting three gangs against each other. The characters are likeable: Haley is strong, dedicated, and caring, while Silas is a delicious Dominant. The two strike sparks off each other, all the while complementing each other's weaknesses. The sex is hot, with mild BDSM, and the emotions run high.

While Maya Banks has been hot and cold, recently, Kept is one of her better reads. It is fine to read as a standalone.

Review copy provided for an honest review.

Yolanda says

2,5 Como dice Noe, la trama no es para darle muchas vueltas, la verdad. Es lo primero que leo de Maya Banks y la verdad no me ha atrapado su manera de escribir. Dicho esto, tengo que decir que el protagonista es de los que me llaman la atención. Desde luego, Silas, nos ha hecho pasar unas tardes de escándalo porque, como digo, es uno de esos personajes que tanto a Noe como a mi nos gustan, de los que disfrutamos y que nos ha dado unas tardes de escándalo. Generoso y mandón, nos has gustado Silas.

le doy 2,5 al libro, a Silas le daría un 3 en nuestra categoría AY. Tengo que hacer hincapié en que ha tenido

un par de frases de esas lapidarias que han hecho que nuestros teléfonos echasen chispas XD

Silas, por Dios qué ratos nos has dado, porque nos los has dado buenos, pero nosotras hemos ido añadiendo cosas que si las lee la autora.... vuelve a escribir el libro jajajajaja.

Nos lo hemos pasado pipa no.... lo siguiente. Ha sido una de esas lecturas buenas buenas de verdad pero por quien te acompaña leyendo, no por el libro.

Elfinia Renee says

Ramblings From A Chaotic Mind says

Kept was a surprising roller coaster ride of emotions that had me wrung out by the end! Banks definitely had me going through the gauntlet with this one. I found myself amused, distraught and annoyed within the span of a few chapters. As always, Banks weaves a tale full of redemption. Silas believes himself to be damaged goods, unworthy of love. When Haley barges into his life with her innate goodness and gentleness, he finds it difficult to continuously push her away. He doesn't make it easy on her, he tests her limits and demands nothing short of perfection, yet she takes it all in stride and he finds himself falling for her despite his reservations. Since he's been a solitary person, save for his band of brothers, he finds letting her into his life hard but she slowly gets him to open up about his difficult past. He blunders along the way but more than makes up for it in the end.

Haley was one of those characters you just have to like. Not naive but hopeful in a way that makes her sunny disposition despite her odds enjoyable. She was determined yet not headstrong or bitchy. The woman could give as good as she got but not in a way that made her come off as rude or annoying. Even though Silas took every opportunity to confuse her with his hot and coldness, she never lost her edge or her zest for the life she knew she deserved. I loved that about her. Her unyielding loyalty and goodness.

Dare I say how much I'm loving this series? I don't want to jinx it, but damn, this had everything I'm looking for! I can't wait for more!

I give Kept by Maya Banks 4 stars!

JuD says

Tenía muchas ganas de saber la historia de Silas y la verdad es que me ha gustado e impactado saber su pasado.

Es cierto que este libro quizás no aporte nada original o diferente. Sigue muchos estereotipos y los mismos patrones que los dos anteriores pero aún así, consigue mantenterte enganchada a sus páginas.

Y aunque parece que solamente va a ser trilogía, a mi me falta por saber la historia de muchos de los hermanos. Es más, la de Maddox la necesito.

Mysticnox says

Este libro no es de los mejores de Maya Banks, aunque su erótica me apasione. La trama no es para darle muchas vueltas porque ni siquiera se nos aclaran los negocios turbios de Silas y compañía. Sin embargo compartir lectura con Yola ha hecho que la lectura sea de lo más divertida. Porque dejémonos de tontadas y seamos sinceras, Silas es un protagonista para hacerle la ola, al igual que en las entregas anteriores fue Drake. Silas nos has hecho pasar unas tardes de escándalo a Yola y a mí. Bravo Silas por tu dominación, por tu saber hacer y por tu generosidad. Ay que tardes de whatsapp, ay que frases y que momentos querido. Por ello te doy 3,5*

AY SILAS AY
