

Heart Thief

Claire Thompson

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After a stint in the Army, Luke Malone finds himself far from his country roots, working casino security in Las Vegas. Just beginning to come to grips with his submissive side, he doesn't stand a chance when powerful Houston millionaire Glenn Griffin sets his sights on the Texas cowboy.

After one hot night of instant connection, Glenn offers Luke a dream job and a lot more. However, all too soon Glenn tires of his latest boy toy. To clear the path for his next conquest, Glenn sends Luke on a business trip to an East Texas ranch in which he has an investment interest. There Luke meets Sawyer, a man with very different ideas about erotic submission and mixing pain with pleasure. In addition to bondage, suspension and whips, with Sawyer there is also tenderness, affirmation and a deep sensual bond like none Luke has ever experienced.

On his own path in search of meaning through spiritual D/s and erotic pain, Sawyer has had troubles of his own. With Luke, he embarks on a journey that opens both their worlds in ways neither had ever imagined. That is, until Glenn decides he wants his boy back. And what Glenn wants, Glenn gets.

Heart Thief Details

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From Reader Review Heart Thief for online ebook

Saskia says

This book shows two relationships. One that has everything that can be wrong in a BDSM relationship and one that shows how it can and should be.

I really couldn't stand Glenn. I just wanted to hit him with that whip myself. I really felt for Luke, he knew that there were things missing and not right, but he was also confused about his own feelings.

i really liked Shawyer and his approach to the Lifestyle. I have never read about this spiritual approach before. I loved how he embraced it and helped Luke deal with his feelings. There was a wonderful easy comradery between them and a sense of rightness.

Chelle says

All heart ♥

Avery and JD's story is full of humor, tragity, heart and heat. Like melt your kindle heat. Also love. The storyline pulls you in from the first chapter and keeps you turning pages.

Claire is one of my favorite authors. M/M is not my normal genre. I have found with this author you can't go wrong with anything she writes including this genre. I highly recommend.

Dar says

There was a lot of emotion in this book, a lot of sexiness too! Luke has been looking for that one, and he thinks he has found it. He feels hollow emotionally, but the sex is good, and when things are going as he plans, it feels right. When things aren't, he feels horrible, so when it all falls apart, he is upset. Even he realizes he isn't heartbroken, just hurt. When another opportunity presents itself, and feels right, Luke rejects it outright. He doesn't need the hassle, he'd rather be by himself. He doesn't trust he won't get hurt again

Sawyer sees the pain in Luke and knows he needs to have a soft touch and earn his trust. He is willing to take that chance though, because Luke is everything he wants in a partner, in every way. It isn't easy, and there are setbacks, but Sawyer knows Luke is worth it, now he needs to convince Luke of that!

Mel Bradley says

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The heat started right from the start and was very intriguing. A very powerful, wealthy and aggressive Dom going after a hot security guard, a cowboy to boot! As they explored their relationship, their interactions started off sizzling, until their dynamic shifted. Or rather, Luke (the cowboy) finally realizes that their dynamic is not based on love, but something else.

The heat between Griffin and Luke was immediate and intense – I couldn't put the book down. However, when things shifted for Luke, it was a bit hard to continue reading. The whole "safe, sane and consensual" mantra was, well... missing. I tend to fight it hard to relate as soon as that boundary is crossed. I struggled to continue with the story as it was not clear where it was going. But I kept on, and it was definitely worth it! When Luke figures out what he is really looking for and what a D/s relationship should be about, the results were very enticing.

For the most part, the sex was hot with a good dose of D/s – including some bondage and the somewhat less explored/written about, needle play (I could have done without that, but it was done tastefully). There was a lot of sex, so probably not for someone who likes their plots interrupted or furthered by sexual interactions, and not for the new D/s or m/m reader – there were key missing elements from their D/s play mainly the "safe, sane and consensual" part, along with missing safe words and trust.

Out of four...

Overall Read: ♥♥♥
Sex Heat: ♥♥♥

Plot: ♥♥

I'd recommend this book to those who love a good cowboy story in Texas; hot sex with a new-age feel to a D/s relationship; and most importantly, someone who is committed to reading through the rough parts to get to the goodies awaiting the other side!

Gab says

What happens in Vegas does not stay in Vegas!

That's what a young security guard finds out when a swaggering wannabe dom, with a flash personality, swipes him off his feet with the offer of a splendid job and to show him the delights of being his "boy". Pretty quickly the young man gets shoved off to Texas, his home state, and there he learns was true submission entails.

With uncanny knowledge of the workings of a gay D/s relationship, the author unrolls the true meaning of a bond that is built on trust, understanding and love.

Badh says

I love Claire Thompson's way with words and the way that she talks about submission and pain. It's just so different to what other authors are doing. It's beautiful and deep and intimate.

Luke is a cowboy who is working in Las Vegas as security. He's always kind of wanted to belong to someone and serve them, but has never found the right man.

Glenn is a rich businessman who comes to the casino where Luke is working, and just whisks Luke off his feet. He gives Luke a job in his organization in Houston, and a place at his house, in his bed. Glenn is a Top, and he wants to Top Luke. They have kinky fun, but Luke starts to feel like something is missing.

All of a sudden, Luke gets sent off to a ranch outside of a small Texas town. He's supposed to evaluate this ranch and take a few weeks and treat it like a working vacation. It seems that Glenn may have moved on. Sawyer is the ranch owner's son, and there's pretty much an instant attraction between Luke and Sawyer.

Oh man, I pretty much wanted to smack seven shades of sh1te out of Glenn from the very first moment we see him. It's pretty obvious that he's a user and doesn't care about anyone else of the feelings. As long as Glenn gets what he wants, he's happy. Sawyer seems like such a nice guy, and I mean a really nice guy, not the kind of nice guy who has to tell you that they are a nice guy. I love how he really sees Luke and wants the best for Luke. The connections that the characters make in this book are just amazing.

Doreen Frantz says

Glenn is a total jerk. I wanted to scream at Luke not to follow him. He was so cold.

However, Luke meeting Sawyer was almost like coming home in the literal sense. The instant connection they felt, and the intensity of their interactions. The hotness had of their explorations was off the charts.

Really and truly awesome!

Debra Guyette says

After a stint in the Army, Luke Malone finds himself working security in a Las Vegas casino. After one mind blowing night, Luke agrees to return his home state of Texas as an employee of powerful Houston millionaire Glenn Griffin. Luke is intrigued with Glenn as he takes him into submission, but at the same time, Glenn can be abrupt and uncaring. When Glenn tires of Luke, he sends him to evaluate a ranch for investment potential. This clears the way for Glenn's new boy toy.

Devastated, Luke resolves to do his job at the ranch where he meets Sawyer and his father Ben. Realizing their desire for each other, Sawyer shows Luke how he can soar to new heights with Sawyer's care and compassion Sawyer has a very different views of submission and erotic pain. The two establish a deep bond that helps both men cope with their pasts. But then Glenn decides he wants Luke back and he will not take no for an answer.

The contrast between Glenn and Sawyer was obvious. Glenn takes what he wants with little consideration given to his partner. Sawyer, by contrast, takes what is given. Sawyer and Luke together was a thing of beauty and for both men, the real thing. A truly feel good story, pick up Heart Thief and route for Luke and Sawyer. Claire Thompson is blessed with the ability to create amazing heroes and put them into intriguing situations. Add Heart Thief to your list of book and be prepared to enjoy an amazing story.

Elizabeth says

I really thought I was not going to like this book as I couldn't stand Glenn and every time he called Luke "boy", I thought of 'Heat of the Night' and all the racist negative, attitudes of the South. Sawyer on the other hand was lovely, perhaps because of who he was influenced by what he had been through, but his insight was just what Luke needed. The readers emotions are testament to Claire Thompson's skill in character development and her ability to draw the reader into the emotions of the book.

Simsala says

4-4.5 stars.

Heart Thief is trademark Claire Thompson.

Strong BDSM theme and content but always exploring the sensual and spiritual side of a D/s relationship.

What I really, really liked about this book - Dom and sub were equals!

Elisa Rolle says

I don't particularly care for BDSM, especially when it's done more for show than love, and so I wasn't particularly liking Glenn, the man Luke falls in love with; I read the blurb, and I knew there was a moment in the story where Luke was finally meeting his real love, but still, with the "bad" introduction he had to D/s, I wasn't really sure it was possible for him to still enjoy it.

Sawyer is a completely different man from Glenn, not only he is sweet, and caring, he is also open with his feeling; it's not weakness to admit you are in love, on the contrary it's proving that you are confident and a well-balanced man. That is a man that can really understand the meaning of BDSM and how it can enhance a relationship.

It's strange but the story doesn't span much in the lives of its characters, on the contrary from the moment Luke meets Glenn to the last page, it's probably little more than one month, but nevertheless, while the reader is sure Glenn is the wrong man, you are also sure Sawyer and Luke's relationship is destined to last; it's in their ability to trust each other, despite past misadventures.

Claire Thompson is probably the first author I read with a BDSM theme, Golden Boy, and years later, she is still among the few that is able to deliver a full BDSM novel that rings true to my ears, and not some fake stage act.

http://www.amazon.com/dp/1463687230/?...

Jeff Erno says

Luke Malone is a security guard for a Las Vegas casino. Young, and fresh out of the army, he's searching for answers about himself, who he is as a gay man and why he's so intrigued with submission and the deep desire to serve dominant men. When he meets Glenn Griffin, a wealthy Texas tycoon, Luke thinks all his questions have been answered. Glenn is very dominant, cocky, and self-assured. He takes Luke under his wing, offers him a lucrative job offer in his company, and moves Luke back to Texas with him. At first it all seems perfect, but soon Luke discovers Glenn is not only confident, but he's also extremely selfish and self-centered. He begins to treat Luke as if he's little more than property, just a trophy and sex object. After a few months, Glenn tires of Luke and replaces him with a new boy toy, then banishes Luke to an assignment in rural eastern Texas on a horse ranch.

It's here on this ranch that Luke really finds his answers. He meets Sawyer, who also is a Dom, but he's very different than Glenn. Sawyer does not pressure Luke, but instead leads him on an incredible journey of self-discovery. He becomes Luke's mentor and breaks through some emotional and mental barriers that Luke didn't even realize he was harboring. Ultimately they fall in love, but of course, life is not that easy. Just when it appears Luke and Sawyer will have their happily-ever-after, Glenn reappears and all hell breaks loose.

Wow, what an amazing story! This was absolutely beautiful. When I finished reading this book, I set it aside for a few days before writing my review, allowing myself some time to absorb the message. I went back through and read some of the scenes that had touched my heart. One in particular really tore me up, and it is where Luke is forced to confront his anger over the hurt that Glenn inflicted on him. "I'm the damn fool that thinks this means anything. I'm the idiot who thought, because I wanted to submit and serve, it would make someone love me! But it never happened. And it probably never will."

This is so heart-wrenching. The sad reality is that so many Doms are more like Glenn than they are like Sawyer. I wish in real life there were more amazing Doms who really loved and cared for their boys the way Sawyer did. I think he's the most wonderful fictional Dom I've ever read. But he's presented in a way that doesn't come across as "too good to be true". He feels real and genuine, and he is also flawed. Beautifully. He's so protective of Luke, and that's what I loved most. Their love for each other is really an example of how the D/s dynamic is supposed to function. They compliment each other, fulfill one another. You know, as in soul mates.

There were also many details of the story that fascinated me. I've never explored (or even heard of) needle play. It kind of grossed me out a bit, but still I thought it was a masterful, well-researched scene that symbolized the bond of trust Sawyer and Luke shared. Also, I liked the inclusion of the Native American and metaphysical elements and the link between pain therapy and spirituality. Really, the story was quite deep...and yet it read like an entertaining, engrossing romance.

I should not have been surprised that this book was so good. Consider the author. It has immediately earned a ranking in my "best-ever BDSM books" pile.

Pat says

This very enjoyable read lured me right in from the very first page with the great character and storyline

Carole-Ann says

Luke Malone is drawn into a relationship with Glenn Griffin, a multi-millionaire, and when Glenn tires of him, Luke is sent to evaluate a ranch owned by Ben and Sawyer Croft.

I like Luke. He knows he is submissive and is desperately seeking a Dom who will not only play with him, but develop that relationship into a loving one. His mistake is in believing Glenn might give this to him. Glenn is arrogant and selfish, and Luke soon learns that Glenn only pleases himself; so when a new 'boy' comes along, Luke is dismissed and sent off to the Croft ranch.

There he meets Sawyer, a quiet, thoughtful man, who recognises Luke's submissiveness immediately. Since Luke was originally a farm boy, he naturally sinks into the life of the ranch, realising how much he has missed ranching and horses. He accepts Sawyer's dominance quite easily; and there is an incredible scene where Sawyer ties Luke up and takes a whip to him in order to make Luke get rid of his (denied) anger.

Although the relationship between Luke and Sawyer builds rather quickly, it is evident that both men are deeply affected. The ending, where Glenn is given his marching orders, and Luke remains on the ranch, is very predictable.

An enjoyable read.

Monique Hebert says

An emotional hot and sexy read. I truly enjoyed this book. Although I enjoy smut books like I call them, I enjoy them even more when there is a beautiful love story full of emotions along with the steamy scenes. This book also contains an arrogant alpha male who brings along drama with him. Great book! Love MM stories!