



## With This Collar

*Sierra Cartwright*

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## **With This Collar** Sierra Cartwright

Julia Lyle will have nothing to do with domineering men, no matter how tall, dark, and sexy. But Dom Marcus Cavendish will be satisfied with nothing less than collaring the fiercely independent Julia.

Nothing could have shocked her more...

Julia Lyle is invited to her best friend's wedding and is stunned when Lana kneels to accept her husband's collar. When Julia starts to object, firm, relentless hands land on her shoulders. The man behind her threatens to turn her over his knee if she interrupts. She's outraged, but there's no doubt he's serious.

After the ceremony, he offers her a glimpse into her friend's lifestyle, if she's brave enough to accept.

Master Marcus Cavendish is everything she doesn't want in a man—dominant, self-assured and arrogant. So why can't she resist him?

Telling herself that learning about the lifestyle will make her a better friend, Julia agrees to submit to Master Marcus, but only for the evening. Firm and unrelenting in his handling of her, he introduces her to his tawse and the pleasure/pain of a spanking delivered by a competent Dom. The experience unnerves her, making her question everything she thought she knew about relationships, and his forced orgasms leave her shattered.

No doubt the scene seduced her, and that makes her doubly determined to avoid him. She has fought hard for her freedom and vowed only to date nice men, and Master Marcus is anything but safe.

Marcus is undeterred. Julia is a natural sub. The way she responded to his touch, his voice, his punishment proved it. Now he has to convince her to yield to him, submitting to his tawse as she kneels to accept his collar.

## **With This Collar Details**

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## From Reader Review With This Collar for online ebook

### Regan says

*"Submission is different. You consent to do something because it pleases someone else." ~Julia*

Fiercely independent Julia Lyle has only one wish for her future beau: he must be a “nice guy” and therefore not domineering. Without a warning Julia attends her friend’s wedding, which is really a collaring ceremony. Thrust into a display of the BDSM world she agrees to scene with Master Marcus for **ONE** night and **ONE** night only. Master Marcus has only had no-strings playmates but he’s determined to leave Julia wanting more; he can see that Julia is a true submissive and wants to make her his.

*With This Collar* could have easily been titled BDSM: 101. While I found it very eye-opening and a realistic display of true BDSM I couldn’t help but to sigh a few times at Master Marcus’ explanations of **EVERYTHING**. Even Julia complained about his constant info sessions *“Quit talking me to death and f\*ck me.”*

The sex scenes in this book were probably the longest scenes I’ve ever read in a book- that being both good and bad. Don’t get me wrong they were **HOT** and **INTENSE** but at the same time I didn’t feel there was a solid plot to the story- there really wasn’t any conflict. I prefer stories with a twist, something gut-wrenching, some angst, drama but this one was tamer than I usually enjoy.

Julia and Master Marcus were both very genuine characters and fit each other well. Although I didn’t relate to either their chemistry was apparent through the writing... Julia was a “boring” person who became bored with her life. Master Marcus was missing a certain piece and he found it when he met Julia and introduced her to the lifestyle.

I’d have to say this was a 3.5 star read for me... but since I loved the undertones of Julia’s sensual awakening I will settle with a 4 star rating. Seeing her come alive in her own skin was the best part of the book and left a small mark on me. Overall I enjoyed the story, enjoyed the steam, and thought it was very well-written but it didn’t wow me enough to continue the series.

*"You can have it all. And more. It depends on how far you're willing to colour outside your self-imposed lines." ~Master Marcus*

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### MsRomanticReads says

This review can also be found on my blog.

Julia Lyle attends her best friend’s wedding, only she’s horrified at the turn the ceremony takes. Her feminist sensibilities scream in protest when Lana kneels before her husband to accept her Master’s collar. Only the quiet restraint of a stranger keeps her in check to observe and not speak. After the ceremony, the stranger introduces himself as Marcus, and it’s obvious he lives the lifestyle that Julia is curious about. It is that

curiosity coupled with Master Marcus' ability to cut to the chase and see right through her that changes Julia's view of things in a very short amount of time. Her last relationship with a domineering man has left her angry and fearful of ever letting a man control her again. Instead she wants a nice, pleasant and uncomplicated man, and Marcus is anything but. However, his offer of a no-string attached introduction into the BDSM lifestyle is too tempting for her to pass up. He's about to take her on a sexual and physiological journey into pleasure, trust and perhaps even love.

Marcus is intrigued by Julia's innocence, beauty and sass. Despite the intense attraction between them, he doesn't want a permanent arrangement. His last sub became dependent on him for every decision causing him to sever ties with her. The possibility of broadening Julia's mind and sexual repertoire without a romantic entanglement is something he can't and doesn't want to resist. But he soon finds himself caving first, but when he pushes for more, Julia walks away. He must rely on the assumption that he's taught her enough to trust him, but more importantly to trust herself.

I loved this story! It was well paced and very well written with great dialogue and humor. The characters were well fleshed out, and it didn't take forever to get their back stories which made them easier to interpret and understand as the story unfolded. A few reviewer have complained about the "BDSM 101" that threads through the story, but it hardly bothered me. Not every reader is familiar with the lifestyle or its rules, and since the heroine is a complete novice herself, the author would have done the plot and the reader a huge disservice by leaving out the very basis of BDSM – trust, rules, information. I liked the chemistry they had even though it may have been focused mainly on the sex because of the type of story. However, I enjoyed the periodic intellectual back and forth that Marcus and Julia shared on their journey.

Julia was a strong character when it came to asserting herself and guarding herself from the mistakes of her past. Despite her very strong stubborn streak, I was interested in seeing whether or not she would eventually learn the difference between submitting to domination willingly and just plain cruelty. It was pleasing to find some of my questions getting answers through her own epiphanies and through some talks with Lana. Marcus was a very straightforward character who lived up to his motto of not wanting to play games. He never minced words either. What he said, he meant.

The sex scenes were very hot, and focus mainly on Julia's experiences. The scenes where Marcus experienced his own completion were short and not as descriptive. You may even find them a little abrupt, but no less steamy.

Towards the end I felt a little confused by Julia. After months of playing together I would have thought that she had made more progress in accepting the fact that she was a natural submissive. Instead, she still preferred to lie to herself and by extension, Marcus. She was also still holding on to the fear that he was like her ex. I guess it didn't make much sense for me to have her still hung up on issues so far into the story and their relationship. Then again, her stubbornness would test anyone's patience. The ending tied up the story nicely and suited them perfectly. Overall, this was a great story, and one I would highly recommend.

### **Favorite Quotes/Moments**

“But with your reactions tonight, you seem like a woman who has repressed sexual need. You jump when I touch you. And when I use this tone...” He dropped his voice an octave or two. The sound sent little skitters of awareness up her spine. “You need the right man to set you free.”

~\*~

“Shall I keep going Julia?” He imprisoned her chin. “Or have I offended your feminist sensibilities with my boldness?”

~\*~

“How many spanks have you had, Julia?” Damien asked.

“Two, Sir.”

“What colour are you on?”

“Mortification,” she mumbled.

~\*~

“I want a man who is sunny-side up, with a large sausage, and two hot buns.”

~\*~

When he secured the first clamp onto her nipple, she cried out. “That, Sir, is a son of a bitch.”

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## Saunders says

I have taken my time to review this book. I struggled to be objective with this story.

As the title implies, the story is about being “Mastered” and collared. The story started well enough and I had high hopes. We meet Julia Lyle who is attending her best friend’s wedding. Julia is horrified the way the wedding ceremony turns. She gasps out loud when she sees Lana kneeling before her husband to accept his collar. Her feminine sensibilities clash with what she is seeing. A hand clamps down on her shoulder and she is ordered to “be quiet” and he threatens to put her over his knee if she interrupts – yeah right this comes from a total stranger!

Despite that fact that we are told that Julia Lyle does not want anything to do with domineering men she caved in so easily to the Dominant Marcus. I thought that Sierra Cartwright was going to produce a BDSM story with a difference but it wasn’t and it followed a theme that I have read over and over again.

After the ceremony he offers her a taste into the BDSM lifestyle and she convinces herself that it will make her a better friend to Lana if she learns a little about her lifestyle and she and submits to him but only for one night.

His handling of Julia is firm and unrelenting. He introduces her to his various methods of pleasure and pain including spanking, the tawse and humiliation. He makes her crawl to him with his tawse between her teeth and before we know it she completely submits to him and kneels to accept his collar and professes her undying love for him.

Julia also confused me towards the end of the books. Despite months of playing together she didn't make much progress in accepting the fact that she was a submissive. I could not understand why we were still hung up on all the issues we were introduced to at the beginning of the story. Overall the book failed to deliver and I found their relationship hard to accept.

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### **Andi says**

I loved this book. There were so many elements that make it a great read for someone that likes BDSM-themed stories. Some of my favorite topics in books is watching a character learn about BDSM and open their mind to it or following along as someone is realizing their submissive nature. This book hits on both of those.

I love the way the book addresses a very common reaction to BDSM/ submission and especially M/s. Julia's fears are things that many people have probably thought/ felt at some point before they understood it. I think this book does an excellent job of debunking some of the common stereotype and misconceptions about this lifestyle.

There were a few parts that I thought could have been handled differently/ better but I won't go into it so I don't spoil any of the major plot points.

Marcus is a pretty dreamy Dom. He's nurturing and patient Julia is uptight and opinionated but Marcus is drawn to her and sees potential in her (although I didn't see it).

It was a sweet & hot story and I'm really glad to have read it.

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### **★★Sara Lizzy★★ says**

I barely managed to finish this book. Honestly it was one of the most boring books I've ever read. From the description of this book I thought it might be entertaining - I was wrong and wasted my morning reading it. I have read plenty of books with BDSM themes but this is the first one I have come across that I didn't like. The first sex scene was ridiculously long. I didn't think any of the sex scenes were good. I will definitely not be reading the next book in the series- if it is anything like this book it would be a total waste of my time. This is the first book I have ever given 1 star and the first book I had been VERY close to not finishing and putting it on my DNF list. Some people may like this book, but it definitely was not for me!

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### **SassySami says**

I loved this story, particularly the way Julia grew and started to accept her own nature. Marcus was the ultimate alpha, all sexy and growly. Yum! And I really liked that the book wasn't non-stop drama and angst.

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## **Christine says**

It was almost 4 stars, but...not quite.

The sex was extremely hot and steamy, but there was just something missing. It seemed like Cartwright was just phoning it in...Although they were likeable characters, neither Julia or Marcus had a lot of depth. Julia did the usual "I'm never going to do anything like that" speech at the beginning, and then promptly did everything right then and there.

Perhaps if the book had been slightly longer, Cartwright would have able to give more dimension to the characters. It's a shame, since there's basis for a really great story here.

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## **gremlin says**

For me, this was just kind of ok. The sex was hot, but I just didn't feel any emotional connection between the two. Without that I didn't get into the story and don't buy them getting from total strangers at the beginning to where they were at the end.

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## **Natasha says**

For me this is THE book about a vanilla heroine's introduction into the BDSM lifestyle. LOVED it! IMHO this is a way more realistic representation of what it is like to be in the lifestyle. The book does a great to explain the philosophies and different protocols. Don't worry if you're not into any of that, this is not 'heavy' SM, there is no edge play and everything is consensual (way more so than other 'mainstream' BDSM erotica like the 'Up In the Air' series). If you're curious... I highly recommend this book!

Okay, enough about that.

The story:

Julia attends her best friend's wedding / collaring ceremony without having a clue about the lifestyle or that friend is into it. She is outraged to see her friend strip & kneel at the ceremony and Master Marcus stops her before she can make a scene. Afterwards, he offered to show her what the lifestyle was about and out of curiosity she agrees to submit to him for one evening only.

After she left, she was convinced that she would return to her old life but she couldn't stop thinking about that night with Marcus. She tries to date 'nice normal' guys after that but they suddenly have no appeal for her. None of them can make her feel the way Marcus has. She makes contact and he is more than pleased to have her submit to him and they share this journey together.

The characters are both strong, their interaction was great, the scenes were hot, and the dialogue was open, honest and enlightening. I liked everything about this book.

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## **Jamie says**

*MASTER MARCUS.....*

This one was smoking hot!!

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## **EroticaAfterDark (Lilith) says**

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## **? BookAddict ✍️ La Crimson Femme says**

This series from Ms. Cartwright is a hit or miss with me. I finally went back to read the first in this series. I think if I read this one first, I wouldn't have continued on. There are some things about the BDSM in here that just rubs me the wrong way. Not that it's wrong. It just irritates me.

First off, Lana is a shit friend. If she was really best friends with Julia, she should have prepared Julia. I got why Lana said she didn't tell Julia anything or prepare her, but that is a total cop out. Dragging a vanilla into a lifestyle ceremony unprepared is a completely ass hat move. Especially when Lana tells Julia she was afraid Julia would talk her out of it. Hello - is this not a clear sign you probably don't want Julia AT the ceremony because shit may hit the fan and your beautiful meaningful collaring could be destroyed by someone who doesn't understand it? Lana is shit for brains.

Then there is this Master Cavendish. What an asshole. He's not the kind of dominant I'm around so I guess I'm just lucky. The way he "broke" Julia into this was a total ass hat move too. Maybe in a romance story this is how it sweeps females fantasizing this off their feet. In real life, he'd get a swift kick to the balls. The actual BDSM scenes were not off. It's the way Ms. Cartwright approached it which pissed me off.

After reading this book, I didn't feel good about the lifestyle at all. I felt taken advantage of and pushed into something I didn't want. For Marcus to require Julia to call him "Sir" all the time when they just met, WTF? She's not even sure she wants to do this and he's all about slavery, submission, "you know you want to be my slut". WTF. Not the way I'd introduce someone new to the lifestyle. Now if Julia knew what was going on and expressed interest instead of this dub-con interest, then I would have been on board. Honestly, from my point of view, Marcus was more domineering than dominating. Total turn off for me. He did fess up for being too pushy at the end. This whole dynamic felt off and put me ill at ease. For some this is a wonderful kinky fantasy. For me, it just didn't work.

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## Rain ~miss kinky knickers~ says

"Tell me your safe words."

"Yellow and red. And I am so green right now it's like being in a forest."

When Julia Lyle was invited to her best friend Lana's wedding, the word 'submission' was the last thing she expected to hear. Although she's been warned the wedding will be 'unconventional', once Lana kneels in order to accept her husband's collar, Julia is torn between running away and shaking some sense into her friend. The dilemma is solved when a man behind her threatens to turn her over his knee if she doesn't keep quiet. The man – Marcus Cavendish – also promises to explain things to her, if she behaves herself.

As promised, after the ceremony they keep talking, and Marcus offers Julia a quick introduction into the BDSM lifestyle. Since they agreed on a one-time deal, only for the evening, Julia accepts to submit to him and experience what she firmly believed was impossible. But that turns out to be only the beginning...

The problem is – Julia wants nothing to do with domineering men. She's determined to find a sweet, nice, uncomplicated man. Her last relationship went from sweet to sour real fast, when her charming boyfriend turned into a controlling, overbearing freak. Just being close to Marcus is making her want to run away, as he's everything she vowed she'd avoid, but at the same time he's making her want to follow him wherever he goes. And, as he explains more, and demands more, she feels she can't resist him.

Marcus, on the other hand, although an experienced Dom, has never been with a novice before. It turned out to be a unique evening for him, as it was for Julia. But while the thrill is incredible and the attraction between them is indisputable, he refuses to consider a relationship or any kind of permanent arrangement. The one woman he'd collared ended up relying on him for all her needs and losing herself in submission. It made him wary and unwilling to try again...until Julia calls him a month later, and they end up getting closer and closer. It was Marcus who eventually pushed for more, and Julia walked away, unwilling to surrender and risk a relationship with another demanding, domineering man. The question is – will she settle with a nice guy, or find the strength to embrace her submissive side and make a commitment?

Ms. Cartwright managed to deliver yet another amazing BDSM story. I enjoyed reading *With This Collar* immensely. It is well written and perfectly paced. The characters are great—even the side ones that I can't wait to read more about—and there are just enough witty lines to highlight the sassy part of their personalities.

In a way, this is another 'BDSM 101' sort of book. There are a lot of explanations, slow introductions to the scenes; the story mostly concentrates on Julia's experiences, her struggle to accept the new lifestyle, the rules and the whole idea of power exchange and its true meaning. Still, even if it's not your first BDSM story, it shouldn't bother you, as it is perfectly mixed with the rest of it and highlights the beginning of Julia's journey to submission.

The thing that turned this story from good to great is this – although there's instant chemistry between Marcus and Julia, they did not fall straight into commitment. Their past relationships that made them –

especially Julia – uncertain and wary in the first place kept them from changing overnight and doing things that would feel all wrong. This way, they stayed true to their characters and kept things slow – with a couple of inevitable mistakes along the way.

**4.5 stars** for the first book of the *Mastered* series. Can't wait to read more!

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### **Tia says**

This was a good book to read but what else can you expect from Sierra Cartwright. Sierra has a talent that drags you into the novels she writes and has you panting with every command. I love her talent. This novel was perfect for the avid reader that wants a bit of kink, a new sub or Master in the lifestyle or someone well experienced in BDSM.

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### **nd ♥ kitten ♥ says**

This was the best book, by far, that i've read about the lifestyle.

i'm in an M/s relationship, and most books i read portray the lifestyle on such a cookie cutter fantasy level that it's almost laughable. This book was as true to form as it gets without being textbook (of which there is no such thing!)

i have made this the BOTM on my group and the comments have been nothing short of outstanding thus far.

The characters were believable and i was invested in each of them from the beginning, no matter how small their parts. It takes a lot for me to become so invested in a character that i wonder about them when i have to put the book down.

The D/s - M/s dynamics in this book were well researched. Thank you, Ms. Cartwright for this story.

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