



No Greater Pleasure

Megan Hart

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From the national bestselling author of *Pleasure and Purpose*, a provocative new novel of a woman who lives to serve...

It was at the request of Lord Gabriel Delessan that a handmaiden of the Order of Solace be delivered to his manor house. For young and ingenuous Tranquilla Caden, it would be her new position of service?devoted as she was to fulfilling every demand of her new master, to stimulating his mind, stirring his soul, and arousing his body. Yet something happens that Quilla never counted on: she was falling hopelessly, dangerously in love with the enigmatic?and very married?man she was required only to service.

No Greater Pleasure Details

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Author : Megan Hart

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From Reader Review No Greater Pleasure for online ebook

Amy says

Did not enjoy this one near as much as the first book. It was very slow, repetitive dialogue and could not connect with either character.

Brandy *Ahviel* says

Book 2 takes a different turn than book one.

In Book 2 No Greater Pleasure Lord Gabriel sends for one of the handmaidens of the Order, whose sole responsibility is to bring solace to those that buy them. Quilla is the young girl that is sent to Lord Gabriel. She has read the file on him that he has provided and still finds that her new master is something that is unquie. He is demanding and stirring feeling in Quilla that she thought would never happen. She bends for him yet at the same time his insane wife throws herself at Lord Gabriel just to rub it in Quilla's face. With this Gabriel's half brother shows up and has an interest in Quilla. He knows that she belongs to his brother but there is something about Quilla that he wants and tries all different ways to approach him. I can't go into too much more detail because then the book would be given away. I will say there is death as well as a happy ending at the end of this book

Marielle Authier says

**1/2

So not what I was expecting.

I was looking for an easy read where you don't have to think much, and since I remember liking the first book, I decided it was time to read the second.

The way the story is built and written is nothing like the first one. It is much more psychological than anything else, and very repetitive, like the same dialogue over and over again. Plus, the main male character is not likeable at all, it is very difficult to believe she falls in love with him.

Julie says

Tranquilla Caden, a Handmaiden for the Order of Solace, has been given a new assignment. Lord Gabriel Delessan has contracted Quilla's services. She is sure that this assignment will be no different than others she has had, and she is determined to see it finished successfully. Quilla has gained much experience, knowledge, and patience throughout her vast array of assignments during her time in the Order. She will whatever is necessary within her beliefs and teachings to bring absolute solace to her new Master. Although

Quilla expects nothing different from this assignment than from any other, she quickly realizes her new Master is unlike any other she has ever had. Primarily, he seems to spurn, from the very beginning, the services he himself has contracted to gain. Yet, this Master's needs seem to be the greatest Quilla has ever experienced. Will he realize his true need and allow her to do her duty? Or will this be the one failure Quilla will never be able to move on from?

It seems Megan Hart has been around as a romance/erotica writer for some time. However, this trilogy was my first experience delving into her written world. It was so much more than I expected and something totally different than what I expected, as well. A story of not just "romantic" love, but a story of the kind of love that requires absolute trust and sacrifice for the welfare of another. It is a story still full of passion, but it encompasses so much more than that. Definitely not a cheap, bottom-shelf, erotic read. It is a tale of characters that depict actions and feelings somewhere outside of most of our spheres of acceptance. Their story is so poignantly told that it lingers long after the turning of the last page.

Roxanne says

I didn't like the story as much as the first novel, *Pleasure and Purpose*, in the *Order of Solace* series by Megan Hart. The last thirty pages of the story lessened my enjoyment of the story - I didn't agree with the plot twists that happened even though I knew the HEA will greet me at the end of the book. Too angsty/seemed contrived, IMO, and I don't usually balk at the story the author provides me... I also had little sympathy for the younger half-brother, who attempted to seduce Tranquilla (Younger brother had an affair with older brother's wife and said wife gives to birth to younger brother's son... Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me. I realize sometimes emotions bloom and develop even though they might be labelled inappropriate but seriously the younger brother just gave the impression of being selfish and indulgent - love square fail!) and will admit the push and pull of Quilla's relationship with Gabriel, the hero and older brother, sometimes seemed forced/unnatural but overall I felt compelled to read until the end...

Pauline Allan says

No Greater Pleasure is the second book in the *Order of Solace* series. I must admit that I liked this book even more than book one. Quilla was a beautifully graceful heroine. I loved her strength and eagerness to please. I've never disliked a hero as much as I did Gabriel. Just when I was sure there would be no redemption for this man, he surprised me and I fell in love with him. The secondary characters in this book were colorful and heart-warming. Quilla not only found how to bring Solace to her patron, but she managed to discover the needs of the others in the household as well. I enjoyed the romantic tension between the main characters. The twist of the lady wife's character made for a suspenseful plot. I loved Gabriel's little boy. The way Ms. Hart portrayed little Dane was sweet and cute. His dialogue made me fall in love with him. Overall, I would have liked to have more of the erotic liaisons between Gabriel and Quilla elaborated on. This book was a wonderful read and I would recommend it to readers who enjoy very sensual historical romance.

Kazza says

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. Megan Hart writes angst and psychological tension and raw emotion beautifully. Her writing style is very stylish with beautiful turns of phrase and wording. While I understand some people may have a problem liking *Tranquilla Caden* I did not. To me Quilla was a strong person to

handle many issues within a dysfunctional household with dignity, sacrifice, character and at times an unorthodox approach. To have handled the wife and company's dinner table scene would have cracked a lot of people (especially me as Tranquil I am not). Gabriel is a hard man to like, but has had a difficult time in his life so he is multi-layered, complicated and emotionally stunted. Several secondary characters within the pages of this book have a flawed history of their own and are dealing with issues as well, so there are subtle stories within that mesh the characters well. This book has a slow build in terms of the eroticism, which may not please all and sundry, but I loved the (unfortunately in some ways few) moments when Quilla and Gabriel did actually get together. The writing takes into account a different period and the English used is very poetic and has helped me enjoy the first two books in this series very much partly due to this fact. I hope this series continues as it is intelligent and, whilst angsty, also beautiful at the same time.

Greyland Reviews says

2.75 stars

Amy C says

This is not your typical Megan Hart book, or at least not what I've come to expect. It isn't that it's not highly engaging with characters being put in heart wrenching situations. It's that it does not have the page upon page of erotic, explicit encounters, for which I think Megan Hart steals the cake when it comes to mastering those titillating scenes of the flesh and incorporating that into an emotionally compelling read. It is rather mild for over half the book, but what you do get is a building of a friendship between the two main characters, Tranquilla Caden and Gabriel Delessan, as well as between Tranquilla and his staff.

In *No Greater Pleasure* the sexually charged atmosphere is toned down to a slow and engaging build-up as Tranquilla, the Handmaiden assigned to Delessan, learns her new master and attempts to gain the knowledge she needs to bring him absolute solace. As well as making friends with the staff and earning herself a respectable place in their eyes.

Gabriel Delessan is a dark, mysterious, brooding, unhappy man. His wife is a mad, conniving, deceitful woman. And she makes his life miserable. He'd like to think that when she has moments of clarity that she will remain that way, but she ends up that despicable person once again. So he requests a Handmaiden from the Order of Solace, hoping to find some sort of peace in his very unhappy existence. Yet Gabriel fights and argues with Quilla nearly every step of the way as she tries to sooth him. But what he doesn't realize, is that over the course of the months she's been serving him, she has been breaking through his barriers, on act, one word, one gesture at a time.

But you may be wondering the same as I did, how can this be a romance if Delessan is married and refuses Quilla in any intimate fashion? And that is where Megan Hart's talent as a writer shines, and makes her stories different from the rest. Her characters are put in situations that aren't typical and where there's a will, there's a way, and happiness lies down that road. If ever there was a man who needed some happiness, it's Gabriel Delessan (and what a great name too!) and Quilla the perfect soul to mend his torn and broken heart, giving him perfect Solace.

I enjoyed this book. It was a wonderful addition to the first one, *Pleasure and Purpose*. But I must say that I

was a tad disappointed for the lack of sex. And I only say that because I have come to expect it, especially since the first book was extremely potent, but that's the only place my disappointment lies. This one may have been toned down on the explicitness, but it still tugged on my emotions at the end something fierce. I loved the story and I think the Order of Solace is a grand concept and makes for delightful reads.

? BookAddict ✍️ La Crimson Femme says

Why do I flag this as intense? It's not because of the BDSM. It is very light BDSM. This is emotionally intense. Quilla's history which led her to The Order of Solace is rather sad. Lord Gabriel is an asshole. His wife is psychotic. Still, I couldn't help but like anti-hero Gabriel.

The twists and deaths kind of caught me off guard. I liked the ending. Ms. Hart does another excellent job of tearing my heart out.

Adrienne says

This book is a marvellous insight into the dark side of gothic romance. Whilst not erotic in content the romance side of things is laced with gothic under currents and more than it's fair share of (mild) BDSM. So whilst not for those looking for a sexy romp or those looking for a light hearted romance it would suit those who like an Ultra Alpha hero, a submissive heroine and a relationship thwarted by the fact that the hero is married and the heroine (a Handmaiden) is bought into his household to offer Solace to his tortured mind in whatever way, shape, or form that may take. This obviously causes conflict between the hero and his partially estranged wife who despite her protestations is hardly innocent of extra marital liaisons herself.

I liked this story but was drawn into it slowly. I loved the way the 4 prime relationships within the story were built, of the hero with his feelings for his wife who had betrayed him, and his growing love for the heroine and her emotional conflict between the job she was bought in to do and her growing personal feelings for the hero. I liked the added conflict with the addition of the hero's half brother which is woven into the story with his love for the heroine and also his relationship with his brother's wife. A ménage à quatre without the group sex if you like.

This story was different, a Jane Eyre type story with much darker sexier undertones.

TinaMarie says

Dominance/submissive tones, Tranquilla serves to provide absolute solace to a patron who finds it difficult to accept. Very familiar story

Quinn says

As I expected, the Order of Solace series works much better in a full-length novel than it did in the three

short stories that combined for the first book, *Pleasure and Purpose*. This was a far more satisfying read, and of an entirely different flavour.

Given that Megan Hart often writes in the erotica genre - and *Pleasure and Purpose* was definitely erotica, with scenes of BDSM and ménage - it came as a complete surprise to me that *No Greater Pleasure* is most assuredly not. This is a straight fantasy-romance, with few sex scenes (some fade to black) such as you would find in any mainstream novel, and which arrive very late in the book.

This was not at all an unwelcome surprise, as it allowed the author to focus on character development for both the main and secondary characters, and the relationship between lord Gabriel Delessan and his Handmaiden Tranquilla. And it was a complicated one at that, something that the author excels at.

Stuck in a disastrous marriage but possessed of an unerring sense of obligation, the prickly Gabriel sends for a Handmaiden to help bring some peace and order to his existence. Order of Solace Handmaiden Tranquilla arrives at his manor, dedicated to meeting his every need without request and providing him with absolute solace.

Gabriel has no intention of seeking solace, he merely needs an assistant who will not aggravate him by disrupting his work. But Quilla is devoted to her calling and can do nothing less than try to achieve the seemingly impossible. Locked in a battle of wills, Gabriel and Quilla find their relationship developing into something more than either had anticipated or wanted.

Hart excels at writing complex and difficult characters, and Gabriel is a perfect example. He was a fascinating character, even if at times unlikable. He is a man tormented by the past and stuck in circumstances from which he chooses not to escape, such is his somewhat twisted sense of honour and obligation.

The secondary characters were also exceptionally well drawn, with his mad wife a study of malevolence, and his chatelaine Florentine so real she almost leapt from the page. Gabriel's son added some necessary light and his brother some contrast to Gabriel's dark and tortured demeanor.

Almost the entire story takes place within Gabriel's mansion, and Hart imbued the story with an almost gothic feel. As with many of her novels, the reader is left not knowing how, or even if, she could possibly provide a HEA for these characters.

It is probably not necessary to read *Pleasure and Purpose* first, but that book does give a better understanding of the Order of Solace than you might find here. That said, I think this one will give you enough of an understanding.

Silvia says

Shades of Jane Eyre. Hart has built a fascinating world of Handmaidens and patrons. The first book consisted of three novellas and I wasn't certain the world could sustain a whole novel. But this was a fully fleshed out story, with enough secondary characters and side plots to keep me interested. Looking forward to the next in the series.

Sönja Dhillion says

I liked this book it reminded of the movie called the girl with pearl earring starring scarlet Johnson. When I watched that film It was interesting how the relationship between the hero and scarlet was its the same as in this book . Its like a silver lining in everything from the relationship between Gabriel and quail they were not lovers, husband and wife but they had deep devoted love for each other like passionate lovers. Their loyalty and desire to provide solace and pleasure was the same as an wife and husband may have but they were not either . The treated each other with respect sometime formality, received assistant as a employer would yet Qualla was not a servant it was same with bdsm that was there as silver lining but not truly there it was there like a background which would flicker in the lights on you see it lights off you can't see it when there was absolute bdsm it become insulting as a favour reader towards quilla you felt like you were the one insulted not her . Perfect yes I would read it again and recommend it .

Gabriel

<https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=dav...>

Tranquil

<https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=kei...>

Dane & Gabriel brother

<https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=Jac...>

<https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=aar...>

Quotes I loved

“I love you,” Gabriel said. “I know I don’t deserve to. But I love you, and I beg your forgiveness for the wrong I did you. I have found I do not wish to live without you. I want you and I need you; there is no difference between them.”

She let her eyes travel over every inch of his face. The face she loved. “You wish me to be your Handmaiden again?”

He shook his head. “No, Tranquilla. Not that. I want you by my side, not at my feet.”

She took a deep, shuddering breath. “Gabriel. I love you. But I’m not certain—”

“All I ask is that you give me the chance to prove myself.” He put his hand over the one on his cheek and again let his mouth brush her palm. “I would be what you need before you need it. I would be your solace and your comfort.”

Tears welled in her vision and she wiped them away. “You would do such, for me?”

He nodded slowly, then put his arms around her waist, urging her closer to him. His lips met hers briefly. “If it pleases you.”

And Quilla laughed, the sound like lady beetles dancing amongst their flowers, and Gabriel joined her. They laughed and kissed and laughed some more, until breathless, she pulled away to look into his eyes.

“I would spend the rest of my life pleasing you, if you allow me,” Gabriel said.

“The rest of my life is a very long time.”

He smiled, a man transformed, and even the memory of how he'd been fell away beneath it. “Then I should think we must start now.”

Quilla nodded, a smile of her own on her lips, and kissed him again. “If it pleases you.”
