



Sins of the Flesh

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Caterina Shaw's days are numbered. Her only chance for survival is a highly experimental gene treatment—a risk she willingly takes. But now Caterina barely recognizes herself. She has new, terrifying powers, an exotic, arresting body—and she's been accused of a savage murder, sending her on the run.

Mick Carrera is a mercenary and an expert at capturing elusive, clever prey. Yet the woman he's hunting down is far from the vicious killer he's been told to expect: Caterina is wounded, vulnerable, and a startling mystery of medical science. Even more, she's a beautiful woman whose innocent sensuality tempts Mick to show her exactly how thrilling pleasure can be. The heat that builds between them is irresistible, but surrendering to it could kill them both . . . for a dangerous group is plotting its next move using Caterina as its deadly pawn.

Sins of the Flesh Details

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Author : Caridad Piñeiro

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From Reader Review Sins of the Flesh for online ebook

Paranormal Romance says

I couldn't get into this book. Something about it just didn't jive with me. The characters never really had the connection and the fact that they were supposed to be in love by the end of the book was not believable to me. It was sex. Lust. And even the sex scenes were forced and didn't contain that must romance. The author could have done a lot more with the whole experiment plotline because The hero has a dilemma. Apparently he's an mercenary with a conscious. He didn't know this about himself until the second he stepped into his new clients office and realizes something was not quite right about this mission. The money is good-real good-as in a whole lot of zeros good-but the whole thing stinks to high heaven. He accepts the job but can't seem to find it in him to cash the check. Instead, he does a good amount of digging and uncovers genetic experiments and mistreatment of those who are in need of help. His target is one such unfortunate souls who sought out his employer as a last ditch effort for life and instead was experimented on. She was a beautiful and gifted musician who developed a brain tumor that resulted in her loss of sight before threatening to steal her life. After the good doctor was finished with her she was something more than human. When he finally tracks her down, he watches in fascination and horror as her skin literally changes colour like a chameleon. But she is injured and pleading for help and that good guy aspect of his personality just can't ignore the torment of a creature in need. The heroine came to in the woods. Naked and confused, not knowing who she is or where she came from but knowing something very bad must have happened to her. She knows that she's being hunted and there's no way she can survive being returned to that lab. When she meets the hero, she is shot and scared, not knowing who to trust or what to do. He brings her back to his house but he ties her up. The first few days are spent with the heroine coming down from the heavy doses of drugs in her system and learning that this man is there to help. The hero has a soul and he has a family. He treats her like wants his sisters treated and try as he might he can't think of her as a target any longer. There's no way she killed that doctor like she's accused of but there's defiantly something wrong with her. She has violent fevers and only flashbacks of memories of who she was before the lab. He knows he has to keep her safe and that he's not the only merc hired to retrieve her and the other guy is the worst of the worst. When the hero's sister is kidnapped as collateral, the heroine instantly knows she must put her unwanted but handy talents to the test. I never really got invest in the book. The author could have delved a lot deeper into the genetic experiment theme that she did because the plot was boring and unimagivative .90% of the book was set in a house with the heroine, the hero and his sister. It was a contemporary theme trying to be suspenseful but failing horribly. I also thought the characters to be lacking in chemistry. What lay between them felt like nothing more than lust not love. I could believe that they would last past the ending of the pages and that's never good for the happily ever after types who read these sorts of books. The hero was alright, perhaps a bit on the fence regarding his feelings. He spent a great deal of time being nice and tender before immediately switching to anger and dismissal. He tried very hard to convince her he was a bad guy but of course she didn't believe him. The heroine wasn't a well developed character. All she was could basically be summed up as betrayed, musician with a skin change ability. Oh and they were both Hispanic. If the author was of Mexican descent herself I would have cried a tad of racist stereotyping. Not very inspiring storytelling I must say. Good god the bad guys name was Mad Dog....It's extremely disappointing because up until this point I quite enjoyed this author and what she writes but this was a flop. It was neither sexy, exciting or creative really.

Sarah says

I loved this book. A great combination of suspense and romance. It is worth a read.

Merredith says

This book reminded me of the bionic woman..a famous cellist has terminal cancer - she's blind, and in so much pain she can't do what she loves (play music) so she enters into an experimental treatment. Only, this treatment involves adding non-human dna into her, and from this project, mutated people are created. I like the idea a lot. Well, the idea of the book, that is, not that happening to these poor people. I started out liking the book a lot, but it got slightly worse as it went along. By the end, I noticed, this book won't actually be totally resolved. Turns out it's a little to be continued to the next one in the series. I'm not quite sure if I care enough about these people to read the next one or not - maybe.. Good book, but had that sort of introductory feel that often happens at the beginning of a book or movie series.

Farrah says

Sins of the Flesh was not what I first expected and that's not a bad thing. It was a nice change to my typical paranormal reads. It was a read that had me turning the pages and crying in frustration when I temporarily misplaced it over the weekend right at the climaxing part. Talk about book withdrawals!

I enjoyed reading the bits of gene therapy science she based the new series on. The manner in which she portrayed the heroine, Caterina, playing the Cello both in her head and in hand had me swaying with eyes closed to the music in my head as she played for comfort. Watching her get stronger as a person after her ordeal and standing by her man is always a plus. Whiny wimpy women (say that 3 times) always annoy me and wanting me to slap them if I could. Pineiro did a grand job balancing the hero, Mick, as a hard man when it came to his work yet a soft man at heart when it came to his family. Mick's younger sister, Liliana was a minor heroine I think in Sins of the Flesh. She's the doctor who helps to heal Caterina and in turn I believe soften the heart of her older brother to finally find love.

After reading the preview to her next in the Sins series, I look forward to getting a copy to continue the story of finding the others like Caterina and seeing what happens next to Mick's sister Liliana when's she's kidnapped. I recommend this book to anyone who has an interest in science, suspense, and love. Caridad will have you turning the pages to see what will happen next and if you're like me, Googling more on gene therapy.

You can check out the author guest post I hosted at The Book Faery Reviews here:
<http://tbfreviews.net/2009/11/10/sins-of-the-flesh-caridad-pineiro-review-author-guest-post/>.

Kara says

I am genuinely surprised at the good reviews that this book received. Although the story is okay, there are some very basic problems that should have been addressed before publishing. For example, there are quite a few grammatical and sentence structure errors that should have been noticed by even the most careless editor. Also, there are problems with the characters' personalities. The main character is this military assassin-type guy who gives his sister a hard time about how her fiance manhandles her. He expresses that he

does not approve of this type of relationship and doesn't like that she has bruises on her wrists. Then, he proceeds to manhandle this woman (who he knows is a victim of kidnapping, abuse, etc.), grabbing her by the wrists and yelling at her. Those types of contradictions are throughout the book. Overall, mediocre writing, bad editing, and poorly constructed characters earn this book one star.

Catherine says

Ms. Piniero has done it again. Her stories flow from page one throughout. Her characters are as loveable as they are believable. Cat is tossed one bad luck of the draw after the other until she meets Mick who needs her nearly as much as she needs him.

I love how the author brought to life the greedy side of people and made the bad guys the humans in this paranormal. A wonderful twist on paranormal romance that will make you write the publisher to ask why we have to wait an entire year for the next book.

Caridad... your books simply get better and better! Well done!

Shawna says

4-4 ½ stars – Paranormal Romance/Romantic Suspense

Cellist Caterina “Cat” Shaw is suffering a slow, excruciating death from a terminal brain tumor that first stole her eyesight and then made her desperate for a cure when she lost her beloved music to the pain. As a last resort for life, she consents to an experimental and risky gene therapy treatment at Wardwell Biotech, run by Dr. Raymond Edwards and Dr. Rudy Wells. If only she'd known.....

Miguel “Mick” Carrera is an ex-Army Ranger turned security specialist and mercenary who's hired by Dr. Edwards to track down and capture (dead or alive) a Wardwell patient, Caterina Shaw, who is accused of savagely murdering his partner, Dr. Wells, before the police investigation uncovers some unethical, dangerous facts that Wardwell wants to keep hidden.

When Mick finds Caterina on the run, wounded, abused, malnourished, vulnerable, suffering from memory loss, and with super human traits and skills that are shocking to believe, she begs him for help. Mick is a loner used to detaching from his emotions for the job, but he can't seem to turn his back on Caterina. The more time he spends with her, the harder it is for him to see her as the psychopathic killer that Dr. Edwards claims her to be, and it also becomes increasingly difficult for him to separate his emotions. His mission requires that he view “Shaw” as a target and nothing more, but Cat's inner strength, kindness, beauty, tenderness, and vulnerability touch Mick's heart and unearth the protective, hero part of him that he thought was long buried. When Mick uncovers Dr. Edward's true motives and Wardwell lab's multiple deceptions and sins in the name of science, he vows to save and defend Caterina at all costs.

There's a sub-plot involving Mick's doctor sister Liliana, who assists him with treating and caring for Caterina, dealing with an abusive, fellow doctor, fiancé that IMO was an unnecessary distraction from the overall progression of the story. I think she's the heroine in the next *SINS* story, **Stronger Than Sin**, so perhaps there will be more explanation and closure to that storyline in it.

Sins of the Flesh has a nice dose of chilling suspense and exciting action with an intriguing sci-fi element and paranormal edge, and although there are a couple of sensuous love scenes, they aren't quite as steamy as I thought (and hoped) they would be. Still, the romance between Caterina and Mick, two damaged souls who need each other, is believable and heartfelt. It's a good debut read in a unique paranormal/sci-fi fantasy/romantic suspense series, and I'll definitely check out the next book when it comes out. 4-4 ½ stars.

Mandi Schreiner says

Caterina Shaw is a world famous cellist, but her career has been cut short by a debilitating brain tumor. With the tumor invading her optic nerve causing her to go blind, her options of care become limited. She enters a clinical trial run by Dr. Edward and Dr. Wells. However, when Dr. Wells is found brutally murdered, all signs point to Cat as the murderer and she is missing.

Mick Carrera is hired to track down Cat and bring her back dead or alive to Dr. Edwards. Mick comes from a strong, close Hispanic family. He has military experience and you are not quite sure if he is a lethal hit man, or one with a conscience throughout the book.

Cat is on the run, and she is not in good shape. She has no memory of what has happened to her, and she is weak and disoriented and has a strong urge to find a safe place. Worse, when she stubs her toe running through she notices she bleeds fluorescent green blood and it heals almost immediately. Even more scary and unbelievable, when she stops near a tree, her skin changes color to match the tree exactly. The same happens later when she stops by a cement wall. Thinking she has clearly lost her mind, she goes to the only safe place she can remember, to the Music theater.

Mick has also tracked her to the theater, and it is here he notices first hand of her odd blood camouflaged skin. He sees a woman who is frail and afraid, not a viscous murderer that Dr. Edwards has painted her to be. Mick helps Cat back to his house and with the aid from his physician sister, they start to unravel clues to what experiments were performed on Cat, and if she really is the killer she was set-up to be.

Sins of the Flesh starts with a bang with wonderful descriptions of Cat's skin disorder and her sheer panic and disorientation of her current condition. Using science as the basis for her "supernatural" ability is a fun twist in the book. I think Mick and his sister could have been a bit more shocked at what Cat can do, but I have a hard time accepting reactions to the unexplained in characters.

Mick from the start trusts Cat, maybe a little too quickly in my opinion. She has been experimented on, pumped full of LCD and other unknown drugs. In the first paragraph of the book he is described as "Ruthless. Determined. Skilled in the art of killing." Except for being determined, I never saw his ruthless or killing side pronounce itself. Yes, he became violent towards the end of the book protecting Cat, but I would have expected him to turn some of this coldness towards Cat at the beginning since he really had no idea what kind of person she is. It was more he takes pity on her, than treat her as a criminal. His character wanted to be cold hearted, but I saw more compassion than anything.

For the first half of the book, Cat is so weak that there really isn't any place for romance. I found that realistic and satisfying though, much more than if Mick and Cat had shacked up while she was still in a half delirious state. There definitely is romance in this book, but it takes a back seat to the suspense, which I wanted to be cranked up a bit during the middle of the book. The ending has a decent action scene and the very end is creepy, one that promises there is more in store for Mick and Cat.

***Avonna says**

An excellent start to a new Paranormal romance series that isn't about your common 'monster'. I am looking forward to reading more in this series!

Brianna (The Book Vixen) says

Review copy provided by publisher

Caterina Shaw is a world renowned cellist battling a brain tumor. The tumor has taken her vision and now it is causing her so much pain, it has robbed her the only pleasure worth living for: playing the cello. She is dying and it's only a matter of time before the tumor takes her life. With nothing to lose, she participates in a radical gene treatment. She begins to wonder what exactly she has signed up for when she discovers her new powers. She's been accused of murdering Dr. Wells and is on the run.

Mick is a mercenary hired by Dr. Edwards to capture Cat and Mick is being paid the big bucks to carry out the mission. For Mick, there was an instant attraction to Cat. But he has to keep his emotions and desires at bay and take on the mission he has been hired to carry out. Until, Mick discovers that there is more to the story than what Dr. Edwards leads him to believe.

This book has what I like: action, drama, romance and suspense. I normally don't dabble in sci-fi but *Sins of the Flesh* wasn't overwhelming in that aspect; it was minute enough that it didn't lead me astray. I liked the main characters, Mick and Cat, and found myself rooting for them. Cat is definitely a woman who can hold her own, which Mick finds irresistibly sexy.

There is a bit of a cliffhanger at the end of *Sins of the Flesh*. Caridad leaves the ending open for the next installment, *Stronger Than Sin*, which I will definitely read. At the end of *Sins of the Flesh*, you will find chapter one of *Stronger Than Sin*, giving you a sneak peak. It's a taste of what's next to come, including an introduction to a new character, Jesse. He's another victim of the gene-treatment-gone-wrong, looking for a way out. Now, that little teaser, that was a cliffhanger! I can't wait for *Stronger Than Sin* to come out!

Review originally posted on The Book Vixen.

Amanda says

Sins Of The Flesh is a fresh and wonderful read. It was filled with Action, adventure, tender moments, romance, and suspense all wrapped in a beautiful cover. The authors great gift of writing, will draw you in till the last moment and her characters will endear themselves to your heart for a long time to come. The strength of the heroine and the even the sister of the hero is inspiring and the vulnerability was sweet and a little unexpected. This will surely delight any and all types of romance readers.

SheLove2Read says

Caterina "Cat" Shaw's days were numbered. Suffering from a fatal brain tumor that had robbed her of her sight, she willingly agreed to enter a program of highly experimental gene treatment - anything to give her back the music she dearly misses. Cat is a concert cellist and since she has gone blind, the tumor has ravaged her ability to enjoy music while it slowly kills her. Cat didn't count on being imprisoned and treated as a lab rat. Injected, experimented on and treated cruelly, she no longer knows who she is or what will become of her. She only knows she DIDN'T kill someone.

Mick Carrera is a mercenary for hire. He's been solicited to catch Caterina at all costs. Yet the woman he finds is far from the vicious killer he was told about. Out of her mind, wounded, starved and drugged, Mick feels an empathy for this woman even though he knows he shouldn't. Making a split second decision, he takes her to a safe house in order to try and find out what is really going on.

Lots of action and a storyline that pulls you in from page one. If you're at all a science geek, this story will thrill you and horrify you. Pineiro did a fabulous job at keeping you turning the pages to see what happens next. My only complaint is that the romance was very much secondary to the plot and there was too little of it. I loved Mick and Cat separately, but I didn't feel they had the chemistry to pull off a full fledged romance when put together.

There's a preview of the next book in the series starring Mick's sister Lilliana and I cannot wait to read that one!

Stephanie G says

World famous cellist "Caterina `Cat' Shaw" consents to undergo risky experimental gene therapy at "Wardwell Biotech", to treat an inoperable brain tumor. She is considered a terminal case. She is willing to undergo an experimental treatment to get her music back the one thing she values more than anything in her life. Now she finds herself covered in blood and fleeing from the medical facilities where she was held. She finds that her skin is changing like a chameleon and adapting to the colors of the things she touches. Her blood is a glowing green color. What has happened to her? She is disorientated and can't remember how she got there or who she is. She just knows she must get away from this facility they must not catch her. Mick is a mercenary and has been hired by the doctors who created what is in Cat. They knew he would be perfect for the job because he is a get the job done by any means necessary. Now they want Mick to track her down and bring her in dead or alive. They claim she has killed one of their doctors in a gruesome rage. Mick takes the job, but is a bit weary of the doctor. Mick has a strong sense of integrity and will stop at nothing to make sure the right thing is done. Mick couldn't even bring himself to cash the check because he felt deep down in himself that these men were lying and holding back with him and he refused to just take their word for it and deliver this woman. After careful detective work Mick finds her and he sees that she is not this horrible murder they presented her to be but this meek scared woman, Mick takes the wounded, obviously abused and malnourished woman to his `safe house' and enlists the help of his physician sister "Liliana" to treat her. Liliana is an orthopedic resident at the local hospital and through connections is able to have Caterina's

unusual blood secretly analyzed. Along with the obvious signs of abuse on her body it is also discovered that Cat has a significant genetic DNA abnormality, and she has been given a lot of medication that causes dissociative behavior, and hallucinations. This would explain why she was so confused in the beginning as to where she was and who she was. But as the drug wears off she becomes more aware of her surroundings and of Mick. Mick is a strong, handsome man with an air of danger that attracts the kind of woman who enjoys a quick affair and moves on. He has never been able to settle down into a relationship, he felt all the other women never truly knew or loved the real him. Mick convinces himself that 'Cat' is his 'mission', 'captive', 'target', even making a conscious effort in referring to her as "Shaw" and not Cat.

However, as the days go on and the drugs wear off enabling Cat's true personality to come clear, Mick cannot deny his developing feelings for her. Cat is a beautiful, sensitive, delicate, refined musician. She also possesses a determination and strength that belie her other qualities.

Cat finds that she needs Mick in a way she never needed anyone. He makes her feel welcomed and safe all in one. As soon as she feels she is getting through to him and she might be able to break that wall he puts up he shuts right back down. She is not sure if he just feels pity for her or if he really feels for her. But she is not willing to give up, she will help him to save herself and she will save him to.

This book was different; some parts were a bit hard to understand because it was a lot of medical terminology that I didn't really understand. It was fast paced, well written and a quick read. I liked the ending I thought it worked out good, all the characters were strong and well written. There is not a whole lot I can tell you about the book because that would spoil it for you. I am defiantly interested in reading the next book I would like to see what happens next.

Aimee says

Caterina Shaw has fallen victim to terminal cancer. And there is no time left for her. It has already taken her sight, and now her music is lost to the pain. So she agrees to an experimental genetic procedure to restore her life.

Things don't go the way she expected. Now she has strange new abilities that no human woman should naturally possess. And she finds herself prime suspect in a brutal murder.

Mick Carrera is a paid mercenary who's been hired to bring her in dead or alive. But when he finds her, she's not the crazed monster he expected. Instead, he finds a vulnerable, injured woman in need of help. His honor binds him to help her. But the two of them find themselves in the middle of a dangerous game where they have become the pawns.

This was listed as a paranormal romance. I would categorize it as more of a romantic suspense with a mild paranormal element. Luckily...I like romantic suspense! And this one put a cherry on top with characters that I liked.

Mick was the tortured alpha male. But he wasn't over the top or overly domineering. He took charge when it was needed, but also knew how to do it without flooding the room with testosterone. I liked Caterina too. Though, admittedly, not as much as Mick. She wasn't that too-stupid-to-live fragile little poppet. She was a damaged, yet strong woman who knew what was right and fought to make it so.

The side story with Liliana was a little distracting. But I'm pretty sure that's going to lead up to the sequel (which I am anxious to read). And even though the story arc was pretty complete, Ms. Pinero left just enough

to carry over nicely to the next book.

The romantic aspect of the book was a little milder than I was expecting. The relationship build-up was good. Their emotions were believable. It was a little sedate compared to most other books in the genre that I've read. And from the description on the back cover, I expected a bit more steam.

I'll most definitely be keeping an eye out for Stronger Than Sin. I'm anticipating more from Liliana.

Nikki says

Well, I got this book from goodreads, and I am so glad that I did. It blew me away. The Mick and Cat were brilliant.

Moving on, what kind of sicko could do something so wrong to humans, the villain in this story is just that. However, there is more than one so you kind of get like a villain buffet.

Cat suffering from an illness, looks for a solution with doctors that can help her through gene therapy. After having the experiments done to her she is transformed into something a little more than human. An accident occurs that puts her on the run for her life.

Mick has made his choices in life and he is good with that, until he lands his new job. Trying to shift through the truth and the lies he is faced with the challenges that open up a new part of him. The one he has the most trouble with, matters of the heart. Trying to protect the ones he loves, he is willing to put his own life at stake.

This book was wonderful, a complete thrill ride up until the very end. I would suggest that everyone give this book a try. It was amazing.
