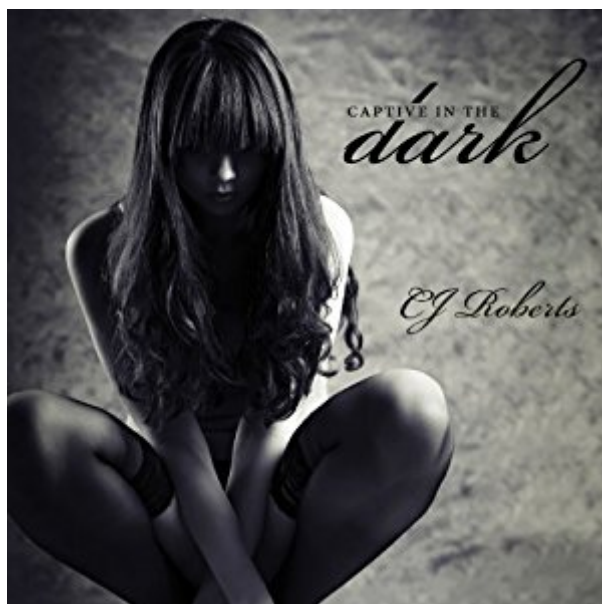


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Captive In The Dark: Dark Duet, Book 1



Synopsis

Caleb is a man with a singular interest in revenge. Kidnapped as a young boy and sold into slavery by a power-hungry mobster, he has thought of nothing but vengeance. For 12 years he has immersed himself in the world of pleasure slaves searching for the one man he holds ultimately responsible. Finally, the architect of his suffering has emerged with a new identity, but not a new nature. If Caleb is to get close enough to strike, he must become the very thing he abhors and kidnap a beautiful girl to train her to be all that he once was. Eighteen-year-old Olivia Ruiz has just woken up in a strange place. Blindfolded and bound, there is only a calm male voice to welcome her. His name is Caleb, though he demands to be called Master. Olivia is young, beautiful, naïf and willful to a fault. She has a dark sensuality that cannot be hidden or denied, though she tries to accomplish both. Although she is frightened by the strong, sadistic, and arrogant man who holds her prisoner, what keeps Olivia awake in the dark is her unwelcome attraction to him. **WARNING:** This book contains very disturbing situations, dubious consent, strong language, and graphic violence.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

In my continuing 2013 quest to read things that have been on my Kindle for a really long time, I finally got to this one. Ok. Where to begin? Is it well written? Definitely. Did it hold my interest? Yes. Did I find it thought-provoking? Yes. Did I enjoy it? No. Do I have to have enjoyed it to find it worth reading? No. Am I conflicted about Caleb? Not one bit. Caleb's a sick SOB & no amount of recounting how he came to be such, did a thing to sway me to rooting for, liking or absolving him. I

knew I wasn't going to be giving this guy any passes when it was disclosed that he'd watched Livvie through the fence at her highschool for weeks before she's taken. Really. I was interested in him in the same way one is interested in the criminally insane & sadistic. In that way that you would sit on a jury & not flinch as he's sentenced to spend the rest of his days in a locked down psychiatric facility with a team of MDs & PhDs trying to unwind his psyche. Call me a provincial chica, I don't want the heroine to "help" this guy. He can't be "loved" better. There is no special snowflake that can "fix" him. He needs clinicians to get to work on that. For years. And even then, not a guy I'd spend a second whinging on about his damage, scars & feelings. That is what I felt as I read this book. I didn't feel sympathy or solace or anything close to redemption relating to Caleb. And to my mind, that's perfectly fine. He wasn't acting out fantasies, he was perpetrating a criminal endeavor on Livvie. He felt absolved at times because he deemed actions "her choice" but there's no freedom in the matter when the underlying act is against one's will.

This story is one of the best written that I have enjoyed; although it is a gritty novel and certainly not the story of "a knight of honor coming to rescue the damsel in distress". Both characters have emotional scars from childhood that would make the average person bitter and angry. Caleb and Livvie (Kitten) have become survivors through their personal struggles and interestingly both are people who become invisible by blending into their environments. Caleb had been kidnapped as a child and brought to a brothel, he was rescued by a Pakistani military man, Rafiq, who raised him with the intention of bringing vengeance upon a Russian slaver who killed his mother than used and sold his sister. He has taught Caleb to be a cold, unconscionable killer and destroyer of lives. Livvie was raised in a tough neighborhood by a mother who never found a man to stay in their lives and had a number of children by a number of fathers, Livvie being the first born. The mother was so concerned about her daughter that she was constantly accusing her of being a whore and a disappointment. The character of Livvie, was of an innocent young woman trying to appease her mother and discovering that she was always falling short. Livvie is vulnerable and intelligent; she would have been able to earn a scholarship with the dream of writing. When Caleb captures her, the life that should have been hers is sacrificed so that Caleb can fulfill his obligation to Rafiq. The author builds the characters throughout the story in such a way that it is obvious that both Caleb and Livvie are lonely and starved for the kind of love that unconditionally accepts them, is healing and long lasting. Love is confusing to those of us who have never suffered degradation and control.

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