



Manhattan

Liz Meldon

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This is an alternate title/cover edition for B00NAFPRTG

The glory days of Ancient Greece are long gone, and the gods of the Old World are scattered across the globe. As their popularity dwindles, as their worshipers forget, their power fades. Luckily for Aphrodite, she's a household name. After all, how could anyone ever forget the Greek goddess of Love?

Unfortunately, no one seems to know or care about her divinity. In a world of skeptics and technology-crazed mortals, loneliness and boredom have taken hold. Her life consists of romance advice columns, martini bars, and flings with empty-headed men—until she meets Loki.

She's intrigued: it's been decades—centuries even—since she laid eyes on another god, particularly one outside her pantheon. In their short time together, she realizes just how much she needs the companionship of one of her own. Loki, however, seems more interested in catching a murderous maenad than swapping stories about the old days.

Can she convince Loki to stay and make her life a little less lonely, or will he persuade her to join him on his quest for more worshipers? His questionable tactics make her uneasy, but how can she turn down the opportunity to live as she once did: freely, powerfully, and lustfully as Aphrodite of Olympus.

Manhattan Details

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Author : Liz Meldon

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From Reader Review Manhattan for online ebook

Liz Meldon says

I felt totally awkward reviewing my own book, so I figured I'd just throw in a little text blurb--because that's what all the cool kids do. I had a blast starting this series off with a bang (literally), and I'm so excited to share it with my readers. Mythology has been a passion of mine since I first learned how to read, and weaving it into something new and exciting has always been my dream as an author.

I love angsty, devious, mischievous characters, so incorporating Loki as my male lead almost felt like a no-brainer. I've never felt any particular closeness with Aphrodite, however. The way I wrote her highlights many of the issues that I disliked in myth: her petulant behaviour, her materialism, her occasional selfishness. But, after I started writing her, I realized her flaws were why I love her so much now.

Anyway, I won't ramble on for too long. If you like smut, intrigue, and mythological characters in a realistic setting, you'll have a good time with *Maenad*.

Lakshmi C says

This book was a fantastic read and combined various elements in an inventive manner. Aphrodite is working as a romance advice columnist but she is restless and bored. She is living in luxury, on her own terms but misses the presence of other Gods. As humans grew in number, the gods scattered across the globe and have lost touch with one another. Gods who are still remembered and worshipped retain their powers, while the forgotten gods fade away or grow weaker. Loki is working as a supernatural detective and has hatched a plan to gather more followers. A chance encounter gives Loki the opportunity to work with a partner and allows Aphrodite to have some adventures. This book was a novella, I am trying not to reveal a lot. The author has a gift for creating complex characters, her writing is flawless and the pacing is great. This is the first time I have read a book with Gods playing lead characters. Usually, humans have to adjust to the supernatural but it was the Gods who struggled to make their way among humans. The book also combines Greek mythology and Norse mythology with some monsters thrown in. I enjoyed the fresh perspective and was sad when the book ended.

I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review

KathyAnne says

I really liked this... of course it kind of helped that I had the bad boy image of Loki in my head the whole time... yep, that worked for me!

A creative modern tale of what happens when gods are no longer worshipped and they now have to find a way to live amongst the humans in modern times. Loki has resorted to being a sort of supernatural detective and Aphrodite is a love columnist! When they accidentally cross paths it's lust at first sight of godly proportions. No... these two are not Vanilla... and, they make the most of their godly talents between the

sheets, or pretty much anywhere Loki wants! The Gods are slowly fading out of existence and even though Loki and Aphrodite are an unlikely match they make the most of a desperate situation. They are both struggling with the loss of power over the centuries and a sense of longing and loss.

This is a short length story but well written, steamy, entertaining and left me wanting more... I'll definitely be looking out for part two coming in 2015 as Loki and Aphrodite decide to join together as a supernatural team while on the hunt for a vampire...

This can be read as a stand alone and is a fun read for someone looking for something short and quick to fill up an afternoon.

Thanks to the Lovers of Paranormal group for the Advanced copy received for an honest review!

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Razzy Ron -- Hoh! Hoh! says

I received this book in exchange for an honest review (Lovers of Paranormal) and here it goes...

Maenad of Manhattan focusses on Aphrodite, goddess of love and lust and Loki, Norse deity known for his trickery, lies, and thievery. This book is set in an urban setting where Gods are nearly forgotten and are separated like an estranged family. To be honest, I am not too fond of this book. I felt Aphrodite was too shallow and desperate. To me her character was all about being bored and cute. The character I was drawn to in the book however was Loki. In fact, I wish the book was in his POV especially when his character can be so dynamic. I would love to pick his brain and see underneath all that deception. When I read the blurb, immediately I thought the MCs' to be an odd pairing and after reading the book, I still stand by it. Maybe it's because I think Aphrodite is a weak heroine but that's where I think having sequels in the series allows the characters such as Aphrodite to grow. Overall, I do recommend this book for anyone who is looking to start a new paranormal romance series in an urban setting. I'm expecting to see more Gods in the upcoming books in the series. This pairing although odd, it will be interesting to see their interactions as long as it's more than just sex.

With that said, here is my Aphrodite and Loki

Modern day Loki

Isabella says

Actual Rating: 4.8 Stars

Soundtrack: *Toxic (feat. Cheesa)* by District 78

"Flatterer." He held a finger under her chin, tilting her up to meet his eye. "You're the first I've seen in some time."

"First?" Her eyebrows shot up. "First what?"

"The first like me."

Clever, sensual, and so utterly captivating, Manhattan pulls from ancient mythologies and modern idiosyncrasies to craft an imaginative and lyrical adventure.

When I went into this, I expected a cheesy, disconnected mess of erotica and empty dialogue. What I got in return was a witty tale blending the elegance and whimsy of a fantasy and the quickness and charm of a contemporary. I could feel the rich history of each character, yet relate utterly to the modern lives they were being forced to live. Loki is sensual, dark, clever, and snarky, the trickster god with a motive that seemed to step out of the old texts and into my kindle app. Aphrodite is sassy, romantic, smart, and feminine, the powerful goddess of love that brings roses to Loki's ashes and then burns a fire over them. They are a perfect duo, full of intense chemistry.

How is this not insanely popular? If you have not read it, GO NOW. Download it, start it, savor it.

I am so glad I found this beautiful story. I was basically squealing inside from beginning to end, and I will 10000% follow this author's work from here on out. I feel like I have been waiting for a story like this for so long and didn't know it until it came to me. Brilliantly done, Liz Meldon.

Others in this Series:

- 1.) Vancouver - To Be Reviewed
 - 2.) Westwick College - To Be Reviewed
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Sarina Langer says

This was my first read by this author, and not my usual genre at all! After having interviewed Meldon here, I really wanted to try one of her books, and decided to start at the beginning. (I'm sure you can see my reasoning)

I went in completely unbiased since I haven't read this genre before, but fell in love quickly. It's the story about Aphrodite, who lives in modern day Manhattan and works as a columnist dishing out love advice under the pen name Rose. She's bored with her everyday life and mortals, and so, when she runs into Loki, she's excited to finally be in divine company again.

While this is an erotic novel first, there's more to it than that, too. Loki doesn't happen to be in Manhattan by coincidence, but he's there on business - dangerous business, made even more so by the fact that he has lost much of his power. Humans just don't prey to the old gods as much as they used to, and over time they have grown old, and weaker. Aphrodite, who's still revered at times by love-sick couples and around Valentines Day, isn't in as bad a shape as he is, but they've both suffered. Loki can't stop the threat he's come into town for alone, and needs her help.

This is a short story, and fast paced. There's love as well as action in equal measures, and the last chapter promises plenty of both in the sequel, too. If I'd had enough time I could easily have read this in one sitting!

The Maenad of Manhattan was extremely well written, with exciting characters, fast-paced action as well as intriguing lore regarding old gods. I definitely recommend it, but please be advised that the sexual content makes this unsuitable for younger audiences. I'm looking forward to Meldon's other books, which are now high up on my tbr list!

Rosanna Leo says

I greatly enjoyed Ms. Meldon's foray into the world of the gods. This is a well-written novella, boasting some very sexy moments between Greek goddess Aphrodite and Norse god Loki. An inventive pairing, their romance sizzles as they pursue a murderous maenad in modern Manhattan. I will definitely look for more from this talented author.

Laura says

I Really really enjoyed this, i only wish it was longer, Loki and Aphrodite coming together from different houses of the old Gods and solving paranormal crimes.... along with the smut, unfortunately on that front although they need each other i don't actually feel they like each other more of a frenemies with benefits but still a great read.

Ashley Carlson says

I really enjoyed this novella; Meldon is fantastic at creating well-rounded characters in Aphrodite and Loki (the Norse god she meets).

I could absolutely envision her life as a goddess, and the feelings of boredom that went along with it--she was rich, gorgeous, and tired of it.

The only thing that I had a somewhat hard time with was "liking" Aphrodite. It is completely understandable that she would have the personality she does (and Meldon writes it incredibly well), but for me personally it can be hard to relate to someone WITH all of those material things. I think this is a true testament to Meldon's skills; she writes a character and lifestyle so completely detailed that you truly feel you understand the character. Also, Aphrodite does give giant tips to every service person she meets, and I liked that. :)

Excited for the next installment; the little teaser at the end had me pretty furious when it didn't continue!

Deirdre says

The Maenad of Manhattan was overall well-written and well-edited, an excellent distinction for this indie. In this quick read, just seven chapters, author Liz Meldon blended various mythologies with the modern world lending to a fascinating and compelling page turner. I sensed that as the author tried to find the balance between the modern and the classical, the voice sometimes came off stiff and theatrical. I'm hoping as readers get to know the characters in future installations, Meldon will hit her stride and develop her authentic voice.

Aphrodite's job as an advice columnist was an inspired twist on the traditional love goddess role. And watch

out, she's tough. I enjoyed the description of her ancient power. And Loki was SO Loki. Although I would have liked more character and plot development, this was a novella, meaning it's just a taste of what's to come. I look forward to the follow-up, A Vampire in Vancouver. For those who enjoy myth and contemporary, this is a must read! Note: the sexual content in this novella is for mature readers.

Jennifer McDonald says

The Maenad of Manhattan is a short, steamy read about mythologies colliding in the modern world. Long after humanity has forgotten the old gods, Aphrodite is stuck in a lackluster existence. Then she happens upon a Loki in a chance meeting and adds a little supernatural spice to her life. Meldon's writing is beautiful. Her world building is imaginative, and characters memorable. I loved Aphrodite as a love columnist. She's strong, smart, and knows how to handle her testosterone-fueled Norse God. I also liked Loki working as an immortal PI in effort to gain worshipers and rebuild his bank account. It is a fun twist on the rich, perfect god routine we usual see. The love scenes are hot, and we get to meet a heroine who can stand on her own. Recommended for romance lovers and fans of modern mythology tales. I received this book in exchange for an honest review on Lovers of Paranormal.

Debbie says

Aphrodite. the Goddess of Love is making a living answering lonely hearts emails, and is bored. Long ago, she was loved and worshipped, but those days, and her power, have long since dwindled and she makes her money as she knows how: collecting of ex husbands, and the lonely hearts column.

Until she runs into Loki, Norse God of Mischief. Not for an eon has she seen one of the Old Gods, and the attraction is instant and powerful. But Loki has ulterior motives, and when Aphrodite finds out, will she play ball, or will she use her power to send him packing?

A delightful little tale, of whats happened to the Gods of Old, in the modern world! Delighful, it really was. Thats the best word I can use to describe it.

Its short, only 70odd pages, so less than an hour reading time for me, but it packs quite a punch. It has hot and steamy but very rough scenes between Loki and Aphrodite, and thats the reason I;ve filed this on my over 18 shelf. Its not violent sex, not really, but borders on the edge. All agreeable between both parties, I might add!

What Loki is up to is, as a PI, he hunts those which pray on humans, so making his money, and Aphrodite helps him close the case. Loki doesnt get his say, its written from Aphrodite's POV, and I would like to have heard from him. THIS reason, and the fact that its so short, is the only reason that it gets 4 fangs and not 5.

There is a second book with these two, and I do hope I get the chance to read it, and its a longer tale. Cos this was really good, but too short.

Reveiwer for Paranormal Romance and Authors That Rock

Claire Robinson says

4 - *No one can force anyone to fall in love...* Stars!

Things have changed a lot for Aphrodite in the last *howevermany* years, gone are the days when the Gods and Goddesses were worshipped and revered, now a girl has to think on her feet, marry for money, take her thrills where she can, and work for a living!

Then one night while innocently sipping on her G & T in a bar, and watching the action unfold on the dance floor she bumps into Loki. Like her Loki has had to adapt somewhat with the times, and has turned himself into a mythological / paranormal Bounty Hunter if you will. It isn't often that Aphrodite has the opportunity to have some sexy fun with a man who can match up to her in strength as well as stamina, and they both take full advantage of the opportunity presented to them.

She was far from home

This novella was a surprise and a bloody marvelous one at that, the synopsis piqued my interest in the fact that it was unique and unusual, and I like a little of both on occasion. The author, offered up something completely different and I loved every second of it. It is also the foundation and beginning of what I hope will turn into a really enjoyable series. Vampires are thrown into the mix in the next installment, and now that Loki has Aphrodite by his side I am hoping that there will be plenty of action, a lot of sexy times and loads more verbal sparring between the pair of them to come.

ARC generously provided in exchange for the above honest review.

Erin says

This is not the first book to work itself around mythology. Nor it is the first Romance ever written about the Greek Goddess of Love. However, this is the first book I have read that weaves mythology, crime/suspense, romance, humor and the culture of today so seamlessly.

Long after the Gods have dispersed from Mount Olympus, Aphrodite finds herself in the Upper East Side of New York, trying to get through each day with some semblance of excitement among mortals. That is, until she encounters Loki, the Norse God of mischief and trickery, who happens to be drop dead gorgeous. Although they are recognized as fellow Gods by one another, they in fact have never met (something I find brilliant since their mythologies originate from two contrasting cultures). The result is all of the things and all of the feelings.

Meldon takes great care to incorporate characteristics historically attributed to each mythological being, and yet "translates" them wonderfully to the modern world. It's almost as if classic mythology is our prologue and we are the Lucky Ducks that get to see how the story keeps unfolding!

My only complaint about this novella would be that I wasn't ready for it to end. So immersed in her world, I was ready to stay for a while!

I'm totally hooked.

Elisa Carrillo says

Meldon has done it again. An excellent novella and a great way to start off her Lovers and Liars series. I've read Meldon's work for as long as two years, and she has never disappointed me on what she publishes. She has a way of writing that makes you become so intrigued with the story that you're dying to know what's going to happen next. You also love and become attached to her characters that their own happiness and sorrows affect you. What I love the most about Meldon's work is how much she tries to keep it realistic even if her work has to do with mythological figures. Apart from the gods and goddesses and creatures, her stories literally feel real as if it were your own life because of the real-life dilemmas her characters face. Once you start reading *The Maenad of Manhattan* you won't want to stop. It is a marvelous novella that instantly gets you hooked. I'm thrilled and can't wait to know what will happen next with Aphrodite and Loki on their adventure. Deities that love and lust and lie while protecting humans from deadly mythological creatures. I mean, who wouldn't want to read a tale that's going to have everyone on the edge of their seat?
