



One Shade of Gray

Monica Corwin

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They say the hottest ones are the craziest.

I got myself into this mess. What started as a little harmless fun with the boss turns south when the man whispers another woman's name with his face between my legs.

Things get more weird when he confesses to being Dorian Gray. THAT Dorian Gray. Immortal Bad Boy, creepy picture—which turns out to be a lot more science than science fiction.

Do I give him another shot? A man with 150 years experience might teach me a thing or two.

After all, he is the original Mr. Gray.

This is a standalone romance with an HEA.

Sexy immortal hero meets a sassy American girl who knows what she wants. Find out what happens as they grapple for control. Grab a towel your ereader will be steaming up from the inside out.

Warning: Some dominance/submission elements in this book.

One Shade of Gray Details

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From Reader Review One Shade of Gray for online ebook

Karlee says

Dorian Gray has lived more many years, now in present day Paris, he runs into Isobel. She reminds him of his past, but is he only drawn to her because she reminds him of Sybil? Isobel falls for Gray even after he tells her of his true nature. I really enjoyed this story and the hurdles that these two have to go through to try and make it work. But with Dorian going insane and Izzy's brother trying to keep her away from Gray, will they be able to work it out in the end?

Rosa says

[the psycho-brother (hide spoiler)]

Novel Grounds says

Another steamy read to mark down for this year.

I thought this book was a lot of fun. It was a quick read and definitely had a unique plot. I was a bit iffy in the beginning for me, but it did catch up and I got hooked on the story.

It had a good dose of conflict, some great secrets, and just enough drama for me to fall for.

I love drama in a book, I love the chaos and the characters having to figure everything out.

Dorian Gray was SUCH an entertaining character. He was multifaceted and interesting and just, I liked him.

It was a unique twist with enough rush and pull to really enjoy. The characters were a bit wish washy in their feelings but I felt like that made them more relatable for me.

I give it a solid 4 stars.

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Synopsis:

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Tiblu says

Dear sweet heavens m I hated,hated this book...

O sweet lord do I HATE this book...

I wanted to give this 3 stars to be kind,but I couldn't I just couldn't ...

Ok, to to say these two ppl are confusing and confused is an understatement!!! Dear lord , Dorian is weak willed and waffling one minute and almost dark and dominate the next,Izzy is cool and aloof one minute literally pushing Dorian to dominate her the next and then taking control of him the next...

Dear lord ppl make up your damn minds!!!

There is more push me /pull me going on here than the doors at a popular restaurant and more angst and moody brooding than a class of teenagers almost ... it's ridiculous! Dorian starts off stalking Izzy "because he just HAS TO BE near her" but all she has to really do is tell him to shove off and he's backing off like a hurt F'ing puppy, WTH !?! I thought Dorian would have been more dominate more Alpha ,not the kinda where he's a jerk and a a hole but not pushed and and slapped in to a response , and then self loathing and running scared ... I know he had problems , you can't expect being what he is (what ever that is to be easy) but he waffled around soo much between fighting for her and running away w/his tail between his legs,the man no pride and almost no self esteem, he just needed syrup and butter to be served for breakfast ...

Now their are ppl out their who are called "Switches" these are ppl both men and women like to both dominate and to submit they like to "switch" between the two , but these two ? These two didn't seem like they were switches they just seemed to unable to decide what the hell they wanted..

Sighs, I lost respect for Dorian early in the book, I love and respect kindness and manners and consideration etc. but he just came off as weak being determined to win her one moment and getting deeply hurt giving up every time she didn't fall into his lap,while Izzy just seemed like an decisive beyotch not really wanting get to know Dorian or caring about his feelings and then practically forcing herself on him,then in the middle of this craziness her brother pops up and does things that are rather unkind and totally over the top and then needed (in more ways than one) , but then it's all forgiven and forgotten like it never happened...

Sighs...

No this was just a big HOT MESS!!!

I'm just thankful it was short and wasn't expensive... interesting premise but just a mess...

Coral says

This was an interesting concept: a mash up fanfic of The Picture of Dorian Gray and Fifty Shades of Grey (which I refuse to link).

Unfortunately it suffered from common novella length issues: not enough depth of the characters and

romance, and too much telling rather than showing.

I liked the heroine the best; she had the most character. But holy shit why didn't she tell her psycho brother to take a long walk off a short pier?

The writing was decent so it had that in its favour.

Love Reading says

I really enjoyed this book. I'm only vaguely familiar with the Picture of Dorian Gray but from the bits I know let me enjoy the book. I liked Isobel and she came across very well unlike some female characters that are portrayed as strong but are not written very well. Dorian is a character you can fall in love with. Especially the way he's written by Monica Corwen. I am a recent fan of hers and am so far enjoying everything.

Katherine McIntyre says

Really unique take on the character of Dorian Gray, and an incredibly hot romance to boot! Izzy is one of Monica's trademark take-charge women, and a total joy to read :)

Fran says

This was a good book overall with lots of steamy sexy scenes. I loved the chemistry between the characters but I wished the story could have take place over a little more time so it wasn't an instantaneous love kind of thing. Also I still wonder what happens to him later. He is immortal and Izzy is not. As happy as the ending is, and funny too, it is kind of open ended about the what will happen later.

Lu Brammer says

Monica Corwin never disappoints. Just as you think she's reached a genre limit, she knocks another out of the park. Isobel is spunky, driven and a solid lead. Mr. Gray has his everlasting issues and centuries old demons. There's courting, stalking, simple romance, a rambunctious sibling, and realistic life issues. Monica rolls it all into a nice neat little bundle of erotic, frustrating and victorious joy. Do not fret, if you have missed the previous editions of Mr. Gray's adventures.....Monica provides adequate background and personal stories to quickly bring you into the here-and-now of this story. I'm on the edge of my seat awaiting their future.

Christina Rose says

It's always interesting to see "after the action" and alternate universe takes of well-known characters. "One Shade of Gray" is a fun and funny unique continuance of Dorian Gray's story. Dorian is still arrogant, like he is in the Oscar Wilde novel, but he's got vulnerability too. When Dorian sees Izzy, his new theater producer, he's struck by her resemblance to his long-dead love. Convinced he's been given a second chance, he pursues

Izzy with a single-minded devotion. Except, Izzy isn't having any of it. She's not happy with her boss's attentions, even though she's incredibly attracted to him, and so Dorian needs to change his strategy if he's going to get his happily ever after. That's assuming something else doesn't go wrong.

I really enjoyed this book. Dorian and Izzy were great characters and there were some unique twists... including something I didn't see coming but looking back I can see the foreshadowing was there. The author's take on the stresses of living forever mirrors what actual scientists and psychologists think will happen to someone forced to live more than 120 years. And the fact that the main character knows this and acknowledges it is refreshing.

I have a couple of lines that I straight out laughed out loud at like
"After she read that God's forsaken book about the sadist who shared my surname, she couldn't look at me without snickering for a week."

"The words hung there in the room, heavy and pregnant, waiting for someone to offer them a chair."

Yep.. ^_^ Great lines

It also took a refreshing and realistic look at mental health, something that is near and dear to my heart.

It's a book I definitely recommend and am happy to give it Five Stars.

*** I received an ARC from the author. Opinions expressed are my own.

RoseyLovesBooks says

Theater director and producer Isobel Vale has had enough of her hot boss following her around and confronts him but of course, he's got the perfect excuse ... they work in the same location. Izzy decides she'll let him off ... this time. When Mr. Gray asks Izzy out to dinner, she tells him she's all business and no pleasure. Theater owner Dorian Gray has had 150 years of getting what he wanted and he wants Izzy. Dorian is convinced that Izzy is the reincarnation of his long dead lover Sibyl and this might be his chance to make amends. Izzy is stubborn and refuses to give Dorian a chance so Dorian kisses Izzy to give her something to think about. Dorian's kiss changes everything for Izzy and she invites him out for a date. One date turns into many but what will Izzy do when she reads the information her Navy SEAL brother Jake dug up on Dorian? And what will Dorian do when he finds out about his deteriorating condition?

Monica Corwin delivers an interesting, suspenseful and steamy story in this modern day adaptation of Dorian Gray that will grab you by the throat and not let go until the end

I voluntarily read an advanced reader copy of this book

Devika Fernando says

To begin with, I've read neither of the other 'Gray' works out there that are so famous (for completely different, justified or rather unjustified reasons). But I know enough to get the references and hidden jibes in

this book. And anyway, I think it's best to view this story on its own because it's got it all: sizzling chemistry, conflict, emotional depth, believable characters, irresistible hero, interesting heroine, suspense with a dash of mystery.

I loved Dorian. I'm pretty sure I'd have fallen for him just like Izzy did. It's that mix of danger, dark past, brooding intensity, dominant streak and hidden weakness as well as oodles of charm. Had me hook, line and sinker, right from the start. As for Izzy, she's got spunk and she's smart. It was wonderful to see the shifting dynamics between them, with both of them taking charge at different times, sometimes even fluently shifting from dom to sub. The steamy scenes were explicit with an edge yet also sensual and came alive as much as all the other scenes between the leading pair. I'm still not sure how I feel about her brother Jake...

This story has made me think about a dozen things, and it'll stay with me for a while. If you enjoy hot, well-written romance with a twist, this'll be a treat for you. I devoured it in one go.

Seraphia says

One Shade of Gray by Monica Corwin is a unique twist on the Dorian Gray story that so many of us are familiar with. Izobel Vale is a young woman who works at a local theater in Paris. She loves her job and does well at it. Dorian Gray has developed a serious interest in her. In his mind she resembles one that he once loved and lost many years ago. He asks her to go out with him but she refuses on the basis on him being her employer. Despite this rebuff the attraction is there between them. Izzy expresses her own interest in him and they both begin the process of acting on that mutual attraction. When Izzy learns the truth about Dorian she finds it hard to believe. So she contacts her brother. He digs up some information and sends it to her but becomes more than a little concerned. Dorian and Izzy must work to discover the path that they will take in concern to their relationship.

One Shade of Gray is a unique story as it is a twist on the Dorian Gray story that most of us are familiar with. In this book Dorian is not a supernatural creature but just a "regular" human. He has found himself studied by the government in concern to his uniqueness. He hides it well and only discloses his secret to certain individuals that are few and far between. Izzy becomes one of those that he chooses to reveal his secret to. Izzy wants to keep things cut and dry – use him for pleasure and then keep on doing her job business as usual, no feelings attached. Dorian wants more but won't push to get what it is that he wants. On a level he knows that he should leave Izzy alone but he just really doesn't want to.

This is a unique take on Dorian Gray. I've seen the movie about Dorian Gray but not taken the time to read the book. This book goes up and down for me. It has its engaging moments and then it lulls and I start to lose interest. I find the interaction and back and forth between Izzy and Dorian to be interesting overall. Dorian gives off an alpha/dominant vibe but so does Izzy as well. When she tells him to back off from following her he backs off. It shows how that, even though he has lived for so long, he has learned more than a little healthy respect for not being a creeper.

I like how the author keeps him very human. He has his moments of weakness of where he himself needs to have the control taken from him and handed to another. There are elements to this story that I don't like though. When Izzy's brother just shows up and tells his sister what he's done it blows over too quickly for me. Up until that point for me the characters were true to reality for the most part. Eccentric millionaire has a thing for local theater director. He wishes to have a relationship with her but she just wants friends with benefits until things change. But for me, then the situation with her brother and her being so quick to let it go is just too out of place for the story. A more normal/believable reaction would for her to be furious with her brother and not speak to him for a good while at the very least.

I enjoy books by this author but this one doesn't rate as being a future favorite of mine. I did enjoy reading it

though. For me, when this story is engaging and on a roll then it's a good story and very enjoyable. I am rating this book 4 out of 5 stars. Overall it's well done and well written but I think in some areas it could have been a bit better. I look forward to reading more works by this author in the future.

Rosemary Hughes says

How would a modern woman handle the idea of an immortal man lusting after her?

This book looks at this situation and answers the question from one woman's point of view.

The story unravels rapidly and is spiced with amazing electricity between the two main characters.

A thoroughly entertaining tale.

Lauren says

My Favorite Gray

I was surprised I liked this book so much. I didn't care for the 50 shade series and only read enough from the sample to not want to continue further. Monica is a much better author and it shows. I picked this book up for \$.99 sale and very glad I did. Looking forward to check out her other books. I love Dorian and Izzy's chemistry. The sex scenes are steamy but well placed. Like others have mentioned, it was a bit rushed in the end. Wish the book was longer.
