



The Piercer's Game

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Luke sees a lot in his job as a piercer, but for all that, he's shy and lonely. Can live-in-the-moment Temple open his eyes to life's pleasures?

Luke's a piercer and owns a successful business with his tattooing partner. Despite his job and his inked and pierced appearance, Luke is actually quite shy and lonely, not to mention inexperienced. An event from his past has left him unable to open up completely to anyone and it's easier for him to just keep to himself.

Temple is a cancer survivor, coming up on five years cancer free. He's travelling across North America on the back of his motorcycle, just going where the wind blows him. Ever since first being diagnosed, he turned into a true believer of living in the moment.

When Temple first turns up at Luke's shop, Temple is immediately drawn to the quiet piercer. First he's going to have to convince Luke that there's something between them...then he's going to have to work his way past Luke's defences.

Reader Advisory: This book is best read in sequence as part of a series but can be read as a standalone.

The Piercer's Game Details

Date : Published December 5th 2014 by Totally Bound

ISBN :

Author : Sean Michael

Format : ebook

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Erotica, Bdsm, Contemporary, Adult Fiction

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From Reader Review The Piercer's Game for online ebook

Ayden says

I was not a huge fan of the writing style in this one but, despite all the sex, Luke and Temple were really sweet together.

CB says

Note that this is #6 in the Chess series but it really is almost a stand-alone because it only very briefly just mentions the 4 MC's from the other books and Luke, one of the MC's in this book, only makes a brief appearance in the series as the guy who pierces Knight, Rook & Jason.

I still recommend the whole series. A total of 7 books - it's like porn with really lovable characters and an actual plot. Who else but Sean Michael can pull off 6 books about ménage à quatre?

Six of the books focus on the same 4 MC's. But, the last book in the series, Pre-Game, is actually the story of how the original 3 (Rook, Knight and Bishop) met and can be read first; however, the rest all need to be read in order.

So here is my planned re-reading order:

- #7 - Pre-Game
 - #1 - Opening Moves
 - #2 - Middle Game
 - #3 - En Prise
 - #4 - Helpmate
 - #5 - End-Game
 - #6 - The Piercer's Game
-

Liz (Bugetta) says

This is part of a series but works as a stand-alone. This is the best recent Sean Michael book I've read lately. It still had the weird short sentences but there was something about these characters that made it work better for me this time. The debt settings sexytimes were really sexy but the whole "raw food cured my cancer" thing bugged me.

Caroline Brand says

REVIEWED FOR PRISM BOOK ALLIANCE

3.5 Stars

We have previously met Luke in the Chess series when he pierced Knight, Jason and Rook under Bishops careful eye. Although we didn't get a great insight into the man I was quite surprised he turned out to be so shy and unsure of himself.

Luke has suffered in his past and as we get to know his character you see just how much that event has affected his life. He has a good group of close friends who he can rely on but there is definitely something missing from his life.

Temple rides into town on a motorbike, in fact since surviving cancer Temple has ridden everywhere on a motorbike never settling in the same place for too long. He has an important milestone coming up and to celebrate he wants a tattoo. He meets Luke and almost immediately there is a connection between them.

It's fast and there is a lot of intimacy between them very quickly as there has been in the entire series. Temple seems able to override Luke's fears and affects him like no one before. I liked Luke but I can't say I feel the same way about Temple maybe because I finished the story feeling like I didn't really know him.

Angie says

~I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads Review Team~

I love this whole entire series, this one doesn't involve the characters from the previous five books, and we briefly saw Luke in a previous book. Luke is a piercer and unlike his wild appearance, he is super shy.

Temple is a cancer survivor who is just going with the flow and wherever life takes him. As with the other books in this series it had hot steamy sex but it also had a story that melted your heart. There wasn't much angst in this story, it was just a great love story and one I will read again.

Characters: well written

Sex: oh yeah!

Religious: no

Would I recommend to others: yes

More than one book in the series: yes

Genre: M/M Romance

Would I read more by this author: yes

~Wicked Reads Review Team~

Love Bytes Reviews says

3.5 star review by Tara

In Sean Michaels sixth book in the chess series, The Piercer's Game, we meet Luke and Temple. Luke owns a tattoo shop with his partner/friend Donny, lives a quiet life piercing his clients, and hanging with his friends. He is heavily pierced and intimacy for him is a huge issue. One late night while closing up, a tall, skinny man in leathers walks in with the most captivating brown eyes Luke has ever seen, eyes that seem just as entranced with Luke. After introducing themselves, to Luke's surprise he agrees to go out for a bite to eat.

Temple Garrison is in a five year remission from cancer. When Temple found out he had cancer, he did a complete revamp of his lifestyle. He changed his diet and took off for a ride on the back of his motorcycle. He is a few days away from his appointment to finding out if he is in remission for the long haul. As he shakes Luke's hand in the tattoo shop, he feels the chemistry between them and his mind is set. As Luke and he have a bite, Luke feels something that he hasn't felt in years, an attraction and against his usual instincts; he invites Temple back to his place. This starts a journey of completion that neither of them expected but both of them need.

I will start off by saying I am a huge fan of Sean Michael. I just love his writing style. This book was very sweet, almost achingly so. It can be read as a standalone as well. Although I will say that the majority of the book is mostly sex and if that turns you off then don't read it. The instant love although hard to believe in the real world was cute to see. You can't help but love Luke. He is kind, caring, and very warm. He loves deeply and I adored how close he was to his friends. When you learn why intimacy is hard for him, you can't help but want to grab him up. He goes past his boundaries and allows Temple to stay with him. Temple took a little bit to grow on me. The raw food being constantly mentioned kind of turned me off to him at first. It was bit hard to believe that he "cured" himself as well. The whole vegan hipster vibe to him kind of made it hard to see him as a "Dom". It seemed almost like an afterthought. But it was sweet how he treated Luke, like he was the most precious thing to him in the whole world. What I missed in this book was more insight into the mc's past. We know next to nothing about them both and Temple's past career was mentioned in one sentence towards the very end.

Still despite the lack of information, I am a sucker for a HEA. So be prepared to go awww quite a bit, and fan yourself at the plentiful sex scenes. If you are like me, or looking for a sweet short read, pick this up. I don't think you'll be disappointed.

A copy of this book was provided in exchange for an honest review. Please visit www.lovebytesreviews.com to see this and many more reviews, author interviews, guestposts and giveaways!

Debra says

Sean Michael is a fairly new author to me, although I am aware that his books are known for being heavy on the sex. While this one also contained a lot of sex, I found the story to be unexpectedly touching and sweet and the best one I've read from the author so far.

There is an instant connection between tattoo and piercing shop owner Luke and Temple, the man who walks into his shop looking for a tattoo appointment. Both men feel it and Luke does something out of the ordinary and goes out with Temple. Things move rather quickly after that and we soon learn that as a cancer survivor, Temple has a life is too short so live for today attitude. A horrible event in Luke's past has left him unwilling and unable to be close to anyone to the point of celibacy for the past 10 years.

After meeting, the two men become inseparable and Temple easily integrates into Luke's day-to-day life. With Temple's support Luke begins to trust enough to try to let go of that hurt. While Temple is almost too good to be true I liked what he was for Luke, with his unwavering positivity. Even though there was a lot of sex, I found the scenes to be beautifully written and felt they did a good job at conveying the unique connection between the men. There is no real outside conflict other than concern over Temple's upcoming medical tests and what his future plans will be once the results are revealed. It is clear from the start that the two men were almost fated to be together and the story is focused on them forming and strengthening their

bond.

I haven't read the other stories in the series yet, so I'm not sure what part, if any, Luke played in the prior stories, but the book worked easily as a standalone. I recommend this for anyone who wants a light, well written story with plenty of time spent between the sheets.

A copy of this book was provided by the publisher for an honest review.

S.M. Harshell says

****I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads.****

Listed as the 6th book in the Chess series but can definitely be read as a stand alone.

I loved getting Luke's story. You first meet Luke while he pierces Rook, Jason and Knight at Bishops insistence. Having the profession he does, I was taken back by how shy and quiet he is. Luke had a horrible experience years ago that he has let affect his life in the here and now.

Temple is a cancer survivor He's travelling across North America on his of his motorcycle without a plan. He has become a big believer in living in the now. When he walks into Luke's shop, Temple is drawn to Luke. He knows he wants to spend time with him. Will Luke let down his walls enough for Temple to get close?

Veronica says

I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads.

Luke and Temple meet when Temple goes to Luke's business with the idea of getting a tattoo. They are instantly attracted to each other and they go from meeting to inseparable in a flash. Luke has been celebrate for many years after a bad experience with a former boyfriend so the inclusion of Temple in his life is a big change.

Temple is into clean living and eating but he doesn't force his way to life on others. He is a laid back, open minded, patient guy. Luke is a real sweet heart and Temple is just what he needs.

Piercer's Game is a drama free hot romance with two guys who are quite loving. I really enjoyed this story. While it is part of the Chess series it could easily be read as a standalone.

Serena Yates says

I was excited to see a spin-off from the 'Chess' series that features Luke, the hot piercer who makes house calls. He was extremely professional and made sure he didn't pierce anyone against their will when he visited Jason, Rook, Knight, and Bishop in 'Helpmate' and 'End Game'. So I already liked him and was happy to find out more about him in this book. What I found fascinating about him is that he is so shy. I mean, he handles all kinds of body parts all day, yet when it comes to his sex life, there is none. And then he runs into Temple, who has survived cancer, and is all about living in the now, and finding enjoyment in everything. Talk about a challenge! But at the same time, they each had a lot to learn from the other, and their slow progress was not just hot and heavy to watch, but also deeply touching.

Luke may be professionally successful, and he loves his job, but he does not have a personal life. There is a reason, something gruesome that happened in his past, but it's been ten years, and time for him to move on. Luke has never found the right man to help him, not even his best friend Donny with whom Luke owns a tattoo/piercing parlor. Then he meets Temple, and while the man is a little overwhelming, Luke feels attracted to him and manages to open up a little, then a little more, and finally, after a lot of coaxing, Luke is ready to trust and make a real connection.

Temple has no ties to any person or any place. He is out to enjoy his life, his second chance after surviving cancer. For him, it's all about the sensual experience and finding fun things to do. He isn't superficial, but he needs to celebrate being around. Finding Luke is brilliant for him because he can see the potential for a kindred spirit in him. He has the patience to wait for Luke to learn to trust him, and the journey is certainly exciting in itself.

If you like hot men enjoying hotter encounters, if slowly building trust is something you like to see, and if you're looking for a read that is as filled with sensual experiences of all kinds as it is with man-on-man activities, then you will probably like this novella.

NOTE: This book was provided by Pride Publishing for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Devan Huff says

This review was first written for Nautical Star Books. I was provided with one copy of this book at no charge from the publisher in exchange for my review.

Luke has been a piercer for years and is happy as co owner of a tattoo and piercing business in a relatively small town. After having been the victim of a sex crime many years ago he has walled himself off from other men and has zero interest in getting involved with someone. Then, Temple walks into his shop and makes Luke reconsider his single status.

Temple is a cancer survivor. Having left the corporate rat race 5 years earlier has turned his life around completely. He has become a raw vegan, taken up meditation, sold all of his possessions and bought a motorcycle. Now he goes wherever the urge strikes and tries to enjoy life every moment of every day. And

he really wants to enjoy Luke!

Luke and Temple meet, fall in love, have a VERY physical relationship and live happily ever after. That is the basic summary of The Piercers Game. Luke has a few sexual hangups he needs to overcome and Temple is waiting for the 5 year all clear mark from his oncologist but for the most part there is zero conflict in the story.

While I thought that The Piercers Game was a sweet story I think it was just TOO sweet. There was never a single emotional conflict in this story...whether it was Temple's need to have Luke not swear or Temple's decision that Luke was going to start eating healthier....Luke just went along happily with everything he was told. There is a lot of sex in this story although almost all of it is the exploratory kind and not full on sex. It was well written...sweet and sexy...but the main characters spend more time IN bed than out of it. Not necessarily a bad thing but I didn't get as much character development as I was looking for.

The Piercers Game was a nice short story with characters I liked but didn't really feel like I knew very well. Their relationship was sweet and it seems like the universe really did put these two in each others path but I wanted more from them than I got.

V says

2.5 stars

I have a very different opinion of what it means for me this Blurb's sentence" Luke is actually quite shy and lonely, not to mention inexperienced"

Shy : Tending to avoid contact or familiarity with others; retiring or reserved.

Well, Luke doesn't have any problems to go out for dinner with Temple a guy he met 2 seconds earlier, invited him to his place and give him a BJ on the same night???

What about Temple? who said he cured his cancer by himself, dear dear ..this it's for me

Sue bowdley says

I've been waiting for this one....I love the Chess series and even though my four guys weren't in it well it was still a hot read.....This is about Luke the piercer we met in book 2 and meeting his guy Temple.....It was sad to read that Luke had a bad experience and that he'd been celibate for ten years but Temple changed that very slowly..In fact they don't have full sex till near the end of the book....Temple is new in town he's just riding his bike after recovering from cancer....This is typical Sean Michael and I loved...Sad to see this series come to an end x

Ruthie Taylor says

~~I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads ~~

As the previous book in the series seemed to have the quartet of Bishop, Knight, Rook and Jason all settled - I was not sure how this would link. And the only link is that Luke was the piercer in their stories. It is really

a story that can be read as a standalone - which is not true of the previous 5 books (which are all excellent, I might add!)

Luke has a profession which means he sees a lot - literally - of people, yet is in fact alone. Until one day a guy walks through the door of his shop. Such a simple start to a tale, and it works beautifully. This is a story that cannot fail to please the heart as these two guys not only get it together, but get together, and get each other. It is passionate, sweet, hot, loving and super sweet, but never in a sickly way. I read it in one go, forgoing sleep in my desire to read all of it, and then sort of having the regret that I had come to the end ... you know that feeling? There is just a lovely calm vibe about the whole book, that it is in my list of books to read when I need to sigh happily and smile.

Thank you Mr Michael for a delicious tale.

~☆~Doxni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~☆~ says

This novella may be the sixth in a series, but it absolutely works as a standalone.

The book is told in the third-person present tense and had a slightly manic, surreal narrative quality, with short, staccato sentences and conversations that read more like thoughts than words.

The sex to plot ratio is high. At least 60 percent (possibly more) of this book is sex, mostly touching, kissing, exploring. It's quite lovely and sensual, but it did feel repetitive at times.

One of the MCs, Luke, is a piercer and has multiple piercings all over his body. The other MC, Temple, a cancer survivor, loves to play with the piercings and tell Luke how beautiful he is.

There was a definite connection between the men, but the relationship happened in a vacuum.

We know next to nothing about either MC. They talk about raw food and praise each other, but don't have any meaningful conversations. Luke had a traumatic experience in his past that is mentioned in two sentences and magically fixed under Temple's care. An element of sex play is introduced around the 70 percent mark but never properly developed.

Temple didn't feel like an entirely real person. He's a total vegan hippie who has been riding his bike around the country for five years since "curing himself" of cancer.

The idea that someone can "cure" himself of a disease that kills nearly 8 million people worldwide each year feels preposterous to me. It implies that someone could have lived if only they tried harder, did more, prayed more, gave up meat, ate raw, quit their job, bought a motorcycle, stayed positive, etc. Frankly, it's insulting, and it really niggled at me here.

This was an easy book to read. It was sensual, sweet, but the detached, dreamy quality meant I never really connected with the MCs.

