



The Barter System

Shayne McClendon

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Research might be work...but that doesn't mean you can't enjoy it.

Riya O'Connell goes straight to the source for her dissertation on male sexuality. She sets out on a journey that will take her all over the country...and deep into her own desires.

*Thirteen thousand applications.

*Eight chosen men.

*One woman's heart.

They provide information and ensure she reaches her next destination safely. In return, Riya gives them what they want - and helps them discover what they didn't realize they need.

*Meet the subjects.

*Push your inhibitions.

*Experience the passion.

Sean (37) Internet Entrepreneur - Florida

Victor (31) Fisherman - Georgia

Joshua (22) College Student - Texas

Lucas (42) Rancher - Montana

Ricardo (32) Police Officer - California

Bobby (27) Musician - Massachusetts

Micah & Max (34) Financiers - New York

Step inside Riya's world right now.

A contemporary erotic novel by Always the Good Girl, Shayne McClendon.

NOTE: This story contains explicit sexual scenes and language (including D/s, menage, and same-sex) and is intended for mature audiences only. Do not read this novel if explicit sexual content offends you.

The Barter System Details

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Author : Shayne McClendon

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Contemporary, Adult, Fantasy, New Adult

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From Reader Review The Barter System for online ebook

Michelle says

So I put this book off for far too long. The reviews from friends were amazing, but I just did not think I could get into the theme/story. Boy was I wrong. I took my time reading this one - devoted all of my Saturday to this book - and that is a lot of time for me for one book, I read 3 just last night into the early am today. But shit - this book had moments of complete hotness and some parts that had you in tears.

Riya is has a secret adult oriented blog, writes erotica under a pen name and after having 2 horrible partners in her bed and a 3 year forced dry spell she decides to do her dissertation on sexual behaviors - seeking out the differences (or similarities) of men and woman when it comes to intimacy. She gets over 13,000 applicants and narrows it down to 8 men. She will stay with them for about a week - live with them, go out - let them take care of her - have sex with them - indulge in their fantasy and document their interaction. Each of the men lacking something that has led them to her site. While she is on this road trip of sexual experiences she finds out that as much as they are helping her - she is giving them something in return.

This story could have taken so many different roads to the finish - each subject would have made for a wonderful ending. Each one had something else to offer - and in the end it could have ended up with Riya with any one of them or just back to herself with much more knowledge about herself and the story still would have been perfect.

Sean is was hot. The sex was hot and even though he was the first encounter, you wanted her to stop right there. He was perfect. Then came Victor, the big guy with a simple mind and a huge heart. You loved him instantly and felt such sorrow for him at the same time. Joshua was a jack rabbit and the twist with this one was hot.

Lucas. Where to even begin. I do have to admit that being in my early 30's I have to dig way back into early works of Sam Elliot, but I do recall being of a certain age and watching him all dirty and biker like in Mask - then in Tombstone as a much older cowboy. I have always had a crush on him and thought he was smoking. I instantly was drawn to Lucas. His story and relationship with Riya was the most touching for me. I cried through this entire encounter. It broke my heart.

Ric was the sexy cop that had the hot fantasy of bad cop. He was just what was needed to bring you out of the depression of Lucas. Then we have Max & Micah. I was a bit intrigued and surprised as to what these 2 men would be. The early interactions were funny and hot. I actually found myself more involved in this aspect - it was a bit more taboo but scorching hot. The fact that they are drop dead gorgeous doesn't help, oh yeah and they have British accents.

Danny was horrible - but they needed this aspect of the subjects.

All in all the ending was amazing, I would have been happy with any alternative ending the author would have offered. I fell in love with each of them (except Danny) and I just wanted to be hugged between Max and Micah - if even for a second. Jesus, did I mention it was hot - they were hot?

I am so glad I gave in and read this one . It was brilliantly surprising and made you question your own sexual experiences and your inhibitions. Would you be daring enough?

Jonathon Tuttle says

Over the past couple of decades years I have only read non-fiction books and during the last six months I have been working on four or five books simultaneously, without any of them sufficiently compelling to complete. I read "The Barter System" in three days !

I stumbled upon some of Shayne's posts on Facebook via one of her profiles. I don't recall what inspired me to download "The Barter System" because although I had received a collection of "erotic" stories years ago, I could never "get into it" and it continues to collect dust on the bookshelf. Additionally, my perception, however incorrect, of erotic writing was "romance novels," i.e., damsels in distress rescued by chest-shaving, muscled men and although I don't know for certain, I suspect that I am not Shayne's target demographic, that is, I don't think she writes for me.

What kept me interested in "The Barter System" was not the sex scenes, which were steamy, but the character development, especially of the main character, Riya and the emotional turmoil she experienced throughout the story. "The Barter System" made me laugh in sections, tear up in others and even cheer!

Even if one is not a fan of erotica I wholeheartedly recommend "The Barter System" and anything else Shayne puts on paper/kindle/pc, et al, because the book is much more than that: I was moved by Shayne's treatment of loss, depression and introspection, topics I did not expect to encounter in such a book.

~*~Brooke's Stripped Down Reviews~*~ says

Now *THAT'S* what I'm talking about!

I envy Riya, she found a legitimate way to have sex with men without being considered a slut! **LOL** I loved her! She was strong, sexual, confident, and sassy...the perfect heroine!

This book was smoking hot, lots of sex, but smart! Riya found herself leaving bits and pieces of her heart with each of her subjects but in the end, she found the pieces that made her feel whole again. The only thing I wish is that we could have read Riya's dissertation. It would have been interesting to see what she wrote about each of her subjects. However the story was still great, well written, and wrapped up nicely without leaving any unanswered questions. I will definitely read more by this author, she's very clever!

Johanna says

DNF'ing this TRIPLE XXX PORN fest

This is just too much.. It's straight up porn, for that I shoulda just rented a porn flick with my boyfriend. There is no sustenance or dialogue.. Just straight up f*cking.. I need to be wine'd and dine'd before you start pounding my vajayjay..

Look I can appreciate a good smut book but it needs to have some kind of sustenance with likable

believable characters.. But no way!!

Maybe I will pick it up later when I decide that i need to prime myself for my boyfriend..

Denise - Shh Mom's Reading® says

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THE BARTER SYSTEM
by Shayne McClendon
4.5 stars

Those who know me know I like my books hot. But there is a caveat - I want there to be story as well. This is not always easy to find especially when you learn a book has so many different encounters in it.

So I went into this book with a bit of trepidation, wondering how you could pull off encounters with different men and still have a story; well Ms McClendon proved me wrong in spades.

I don't often start my reviews with a summary but for this book I think it is necessary, as this not your traditional boy meets girl, couple falls in love story; though there is an end that melted my heart the path this is unique and well crafted.

Riya O'Connell creates a website called "The Barter System" in order to support her dissertation on male sexuality.

She narrows all of the submissions of willing men to eight, all across the country. The men agree to answer her questions and participate on her study and in return Riya will give them, whatever they want, yes anything and yes that is where the fun begins.

Honesty is one of primary things Riya screens for and she offers it in return, making no secret about the fact that she uses looks as a criteria in her selection. These men although different are striking and compelling for different reasons.

It is interesting to see the surveys created and the data she requests from each man. The author really laid out a fully developed concept.

As her project moves forward Riya realizes she selected men who would love and care for her and that she could easily love them in return. And this starts to affect her in ways she never imagined. This journey teaches her about herself while helping each man learn about themselves, truly building friendship with these subjects.

The affect these men have on Riya felt truthful and real; her affect on their lives was powerful and meaningful.

Sean, Victor, Joshua, Lucas, Ricardo, Max and Micah become real to the reader; they are described with such individual details and backstory allowing you to see each man as his own person and feel Riya's

attraction to them. (and yes their stories are so powerful I just listed them from memory).

This book is hot, erotic and explores the nature of sexuality on so many levels but it is also emotional and powerful.

Ms McClendon managed to craft a story for each man, each encounter and Riya's bond to each is different. Riya's reaction to each is described so eloquently your heart will feel for her during and after each "subject." She also manages to make each sexual encounter unique, Riya's approach to each and their reaction to her was enjoyable to read. And again yes, very steamy!

The ending of this book was masterful. Ms McClenden manages to provide tears of joy, tug at your heart strings and create a smile on your face for what the future holds for Riya and her chosen path. No, I am not telling you or what Riya choses for her life, you have to read the book to find out how her story ends!

I highly recommend The Barter System to our followers who like well told stories with a lot of heat!

Rough Draft Book Blog says

The Barter System by Shayne McClendon

Riya & Hell, her subjects!

YOU WANT IT, YOU GOT IT AND SO MUCH MORE!!!!

Holy hell, this book is HOT HOT HOT!! In my 43 years, I have never, I mean NEVER read a book quite like this one and I'm pretty sure I never will again!! Some reviewers called this porn and gave it a shockingly bad review... Shame on you dorks!! You had to have read the synopsis... AND it clearly states in there.... NOTE: This story contains explicit sexual scenes and language and is intended for mature audiences only. Do not read this novel if intense sexual situations offend you... So what gives people... just about every damn romance/erotica book now-a-days has a certain amount of sex in it... this one just had a bit more!!! Hee!!

I'm here to tell you that I was intrigued by Riya's study and thought it was so fucking cool... I wish I thought of it when I was younger. It's absolutely brilliant!

Riya is not your typical girl. She's so much more and has an open mind regarding just about anything that comes her way! She's genuine and seems to jump in feet first into everything and everyone she does! She fiercely loves and protects what is hers and will go to great lengths to make sure those she loves around her are content and satisfied without regard for her own feelings. She's definitely one chick I'd keep in my arsenal of friends. Now, Tawny, her best friend, well that girly played such an instrumental part in keeping Riya on track and focused on the end game. Great friends are so hard to come by these days, but Riya knocked it out of the park with Tawny! Now Riya's daddio, well, he seemed nice enough, just made me want to punch him in the dick a few times, that's all!

So many supporting characters (mostly men) that I feel compelled to mention a little bit about all of them!!!! Here it goes... I'll start in order with Sean. I'll admit, I was a little freaked out about the "study" and how

things were going to play out, but after plowing through his part in this magnificent story, I felt so much better. He's handsome, smart, and seems very passionate about taking good care of Riya.

Next up, Victor, one of my faves by far!!! He may just be a fisherman... but whoa... what a body!!! I mean 6'6" and everything BIG to go with that impressive height! Even his heart is BIG! I would equate him to the biggest, most handsome teddy bear I've ever met!

Third on my list is Lucas! When I say this man stole my heart, I mean he left just the box it came in and I don't want it back! His part in this adventurous story is one of heartbreak, denial, and trust. I was so engrossed in the story by the time I got to him, that I was blindsided by the emotions that bubbled up in me when he finally made his appearance! He will forever hold a special place in my heart!

The next hotty in my travels through The Barter System is Ricardo. Hells bells, that man is one hot piece of @\$\$!!! A tall drink a water sitting on top of a freakin' Harley for Godsakes AND he can dance like a mofo! I get moist just thinking about it!! LOL!! I'm still waiting for him to read me my rights... "You have the right to scream my name when I make you come. Anything on my body can and will be used against you. You have the right to beg for mercy. If you are too weak to beg for mercy, you will withstand further pleasure. Do you understand these rights?" I SURE DO RICARDO!!!

Now... let me tell you about the M's... Max and Micah...mmmm... I just love these guys! So beautiful inside and out that I find myself longing to touch them... to hug them.. to kiss them all over!!! I think Riya said it best, " Could you honestly pick just one? I must be greedy. I'm taking them both." They have it all... beauty, brains, compassion, and tons of ca\$h!!

All in all, I felt very absorbed in this story... very much like a part of it... living it... it's not porn.. it's a hot, steamy, sexual love story that will take you to new heights and pound you down to new lows... it's approximately 375 (Kindle version) pages long and I'm surprised Shayne managed to fit it all into that! The pacing is perfect and the dialogue flows very nicely. Too many highs and lows to mention, but the climax will have you reeling for days... Onto "Hudson" now...

5 stars!

Pam says

This book surprised me a lot. I had a lot of trouble getting past Riya's subject matter for her dissertation and her extremely casual viewpoint of sex. I came close to stopping this book several times during the beginning. But I found that I could not take my eyes away from this story....I almost felt like a voyeur watching two people having raw, hard sex with no emotional involvement. As her project went along, Riya began to feel some of the same emotions that I was feeling reading about her. By the time she came upon Lucas, I was hooked. Riya began to grow with each relationship she had and she shared a part of her heart in return. This book was amazing and insightful with emotions running high. To say that this book was hot is such an understatement. It was way beyond hot and well written. It was a great story and a great ending. I would highly recommend it.

Vieira says

This book was soo different. I would fall for the guys she was with so when it came fir goodbyes it was hard. Sometimes the sex right after was hard for me to. But what I love about this story is with each man she helped them, made their life better. I love how it ended didn't see that one coming. Read it!

Ashley says

The Barter System by Shayne M. was absolutely fantastic!! The storyline was unique and interesting and the main character Riya was smart, sexy, and adventurous! I loved that the story gave me enough detail to vividly see each scene and character in my head. Also, this story is hot!!! I mean damn hot!!! I highly recommend this to everyone who enjoys a good strong story with lots of hotness!!

Amber Rose says

This book is everything I wanted and more. An emotional roller coaster had my stomach twisted in joy and pain through out the whole thing.

I fell in love each one of the men. Out of thousands of men that applied she narrowed it down to 8. I don't know how Riya did it. I fell in love with each and everyone of them. It broke my heart in little pieces when she left on after the other. It was fucking with my head thinking who the hell am I going to love even more then the last one. All of them have a special connection to her heart and theirs. Riya was helping each and everyone of them in their own way before she moved on to her next subject.

"That it is possible to fall in love with many people and give them a piece of yourself they earn from you...a piece they can never give back to you. Not that you want it back because it belongs with them now. That I somehow perfectly chose a handful of men out of thirteen thousand I could easily fall in love with and who would love me in return. That part is getting...painful."

Once she went to Max and Micah I adored them to pieces. Gosh both of those men are fucking hot as hell. I wanted her to stay with them. I didn't want her to leave at all. Being with two men would sound like a lot of work but damn they made it sounds so good. My heart melted for them. They are perfect DAMN IT....

Towards the end I was doing a Happy Dance.

Wonder book. I will have to re read this one over again for sure..... I want more :)

Rham (Reads and Wanders) says

Love this book!!

The way it was written is magnificent. I fell in love with the subjects and each time Riya leaves one, I also feel like a piece of my heart goes with them. Such a unique story, lots of character development and recurring themes. There were times where I felt how I should read that part of the story. Like, when she was with Joshua, I had to read it fast, and I was exhausted after that. :)) The same happened when Lucas was chasing Riya in his house. And when Ric and Riya got back from the club that first night. The anguish that Riya felt when she had to leave Lucas was so real, it was like I can touch it straight from the book. Also the sex scenes were all hot and steamy. :)))

At first I thought she will be most attached to Sean, well because he's the first subject. Then I saw the others in the book. It was also great how she didn't intentionally match the guys before she left them. She's right, they probably would never get over her if she didn't do that. There lots of unrequited love, between Sean and his assistant, Victor and his sister's friend, Joshua and his roommate, Ricardo and his ex-wife. I'm glad it worked, they all did.

I felt the saddest in Lucas' chapters, because I felt his depression, bitterness, and sadness. It was the most emotional part of the book. He's in love with Riya but he let her go, because he knows she's meant to do more things. Other guys probably won't do what he did.

The part where I enjoyed the most was the one with Max and Micah. When I first read their names in the list in the first chapter, I thought they were twins so that will be really awkward. Then when I got to their chapter and in that first meeting with the two, I knew for sure that she won't be able to leave them, I knew she would fall for them. I was smiling the whole time I was reading that part. I don't even know what a menage is before, until this book. I love Max and Micah. They really are the best. I don't know why but when Max was described, I kept picturing Robin Thicke in my mind (he's my all time singer crush, and he's super hawt and sexxaay.) I also like the other club members and the wives. Having two alpha males care for you takes a lot of courage and skill, and Riya is perfect for it. Specially if it's someone who's as hot, sexy, caring, and lovable as Max and Micah. They love Riya wholeheartedly.

I also love Riya's best friend- Tawny. She's super awesome and such a great friend. I was glad when she found two alpha males of her own.

Riya grew a lot in this book. She didn't think of her own emotions when she started the dissertation. She didn't know that it would be that hard to leave them, let alone not fall for them. Max and Micah were right, any of those guys would have loved Riya just enough and they were really lucky to have her.

And though Bobby didn't really got to know Riya, he learned a lot from her as well. He's an asshole, but I'm sure he learned his lesson.

I understood Riya's dad's fear for her daughter, she went from being inside the house all the time to someone who's going around the country with different men. He's his father, he may be unreasonable but I say you can't blame him, it's his job to protect his daughter. Glad that he found love again after everything.

The wedding was perf. Almost. :) I'm excited for Riya's future with Max and Micah. She deserve's the love they are giving her. :)

Nina ~ Social Butterfly PR says

5 Stars

I loved everything about this book...the plot was totally intriguing...a girl doing her dissertation, living with 8 different guys for a week exploring human sexuality. This is the second book I have read by Shayne McClendon and let me tell you I am totally impressed with her. She can write a strong heroine....and she can write some erotica. I laughed, I cried, I fell in love with all these guys and in the end I was just so happy!!!

I hope everyone picks this up to read....you will not be disappointed!

Pam Godwin says

What an incredibly fun and passionate story. I began this book with skepticism. How could the plot carry a heroine through a parade of eight sexual encounters and maintain any semblance of emotional depth? But it was executed fervently. I lamented Riya's good-byes as she concluded each one week liaison, at the same time finding myself vigorously enthusiastic about meeting the next guy. The biggest surprise was the complexity in which each man was constructed. Their unequaled identities, their colorful back stories and motivations, and their compelling bonds with Riya, made it impossible not to fall in love with every one of them. Poor Riya. Despite her full throttle in-your-face tenacity, I couldn't fathom how she would choose to end her tour. But her final decision was very satisfying. I highly recommend this unconventional, original, erotic story and will absolutely be reading more from Ms. McClendon.

Off Market578 says

The Barter System just wasn't for me. Let me start off by saying that the quality of the writing (i.e. grammar and flow) is very good. Nothing lacking there.

The story itself was very unique and at first it was very interesting. However, as I went through each man, it felt as if I were reading about the same one over and over again. Girl meets guy, girl screws guy in every way possible, girl finds out guy secretly loves another woman that secretly loves him back, girl hooks up guy and girl then leaves. Also, I got bored with all the sex - I know, I know - it's erotica and it's meant to have a lot of sex but damn! Give me a little variety to the story. In addition, the main character is supposed to be very inexperienced in hot, satisfying sex, yet, she seems to have the knowledge of a porn star immediately and every guy seems to talk a ton during sex - even the shy ones.

If all you are looking for is page after page of sex, this one's for you! Personally, I found it hard to finish.

Trixie says

Holy Twitching Panties Batman! I have never written a review for an erotic book before. So, in saying that, I

am just going to tell you what I think. This book is AWESOME. I have read it twice! Shayne has a way with words that makes you feel what the character feels. I desperately want to be Riya. I laughed... I cried... "my toes curled" (the nicest way to say what I really feel). There is something for everyone in this book. So many erotic scenes are played out and all of it with class. It's like your imagination gone wild. Read the book and experience it yourself. You will not be disappointed! (This was the first recommendation I ever wrote and the first full work I ever read by Shayne McClendon... She is by far my favorite author and my hero! xoxoxox)
