



Menace

J.M. Darhower

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Once upon a time, there was a guy who got so fed up with life that he resorted to murder and mayhem just to feel alive.

Lorenzo Gambini is bored. So fucking bored. Most people either annoy him or avoid him, afraid to face him. Figuratively. Literally. With his face partially disfigured, scarred, he looks every bit the monster the stories make him out to be: the notorious menace they call Scar. They say he's a sociopath. Maybe he's a psychopath. Whatever path he's on, people tend to stay far away from it.

Until one day, a young woman bumps right into him--a woman just as fed up with life, but for much different reasons. With a Scarlet Letter inked on her wrist and secrets buried deep in her soul, Morgan Myers is running from something... or maybe somebody. Lorenzo isn't quite sure.

You can bet your ass he's going to figure it out, though.

Menace Details

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Author : J.M. Darhower

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From Reader Review Menace for online ebook

Hulya Kara Yuksel says

20th May,2018

So far I read this book 3 times and still it's so freaking good. I'll never get tired of this crazy man! <3

“I would destroy that pussy.”

“You think so?” I ask.

“Without a doubt,” he says, not letting up.

“I’d wreck you for any man that came along after me, put them all to shame.”

Well, I don't know Scarlet BUT Lorenzo definitely destroyed me... :D

When I first met Lorenzo Gambini, he was Ignazio Vitale's enemy (or his friend? And if you want to find out, you have to read Target On Our Backs / Monster In His Eyes series - 3rd book). Anyway Lorenzo was as charming as Ignazio Vitale. He was also scary as devil but also he was so funny as a clown. I fucking loved his sense of humor. And since our first meeting, I wanna know more about him. I even send an email to JMD and I asked her nicely! to write a full book about Lorenzo (arghh actually I begged her, literally I begged that woman for this book...) So you can imagine how excited I'm for this book! And thank God, JMD never dissapoints me. Because I'm absolutely obsessed with this motherfucker! :D

Oh I also loved Scarlet too. She has a big and bad mouth! :D She doesn't give a fuck what other people says about him and she doesn't even scare from Lorenzo at all. So when Lorenzo and her get together, they are fucking explosive! Yeah, their chemistry was amazing! :D

So I highly recommend this book. You have to meet this guy asap... :) Oh trust me, I'm sure he will destroy you too! :D

“You want me to let you go?” I ask, leaning down, pausing just shy of her lips.

“Yes.”

“Ask nicely,” I tell her. “Say ‘Lorenzo Gambini, I beg of you, please, let me go and I’ll suck your dick.’”
She laughs again, harder. “You wish.”

“I do,” I say. “No doubt about it.”

“Lorenzo Gambini,” she whispers between kisses, “I beg of you, please... fuck me.”

I kiss her once more before pulling back, shifting position, smirking. “Well, since you asked so nicely...”
I thrust hard, sliding right in first goddamn try.

BAM.”

“What turns you on more?” he asks, his hands grasping my thighs as he pulls me up. “The fighting or the fucking?”

"He ignites something inside of me, stirring up these little sparks in my gut that send jolts through my body, like a defibrillator to the heart."

"It's torture, what he's doing. I can't see. I don't know. But his mouth is fully on me now, tongue doing whatever it does, flicking and licking, sucking and fucking, completely devouring me, like he's starving."

"I close my eyes as he finger-fucks me. I whimper, groaning his name. "Lorenzo."

Pulling his hand away, he reaches for me, and I open my eyes in just enough time to see it as his fingers brush against my mouth. My lips part, and he pushes his fingers in, the taste of both of us on my tongue."

TheCrazyWorldOfABookLover says

4.5 Stars

I, Steph, am in love with a gun wielding murdering sociopath named Lorenzo and I regret nothing. I want to have his psychotic babies even though he claims to not want children. I'll make him change his mind. I will.

Not sure who Lorenzo is? I'll remind you. For those who read the Monster In His Eyes trilogy (and if you haven't don't even talk to me you until you do - you need to get your life right), Lorenzo is a character from Target On Our Backs. He's a little testy. A little crazy.

"Tell your boss he can suck my cock," I say, shoving my chair back to stand up. "If he does a good enough job, maybe I won't blow his fucking brains out for calling me a thief."

And a whole lot of fun to read about.

Swinging the spatula, he smacks Leo in the head, the loud thwack echoing though the kitchen. "Shit!" Leo winces, "What the hell was that for?" "The table isn't set," Lorenzo says. "What are we, *animals*?"

...this coming from a man who shot someone in the face with zero hesitation for not listening to an order. Am I sick to love him? Maybe. But I don't care.

When Menace starts, Lorenzo is basically running the crime scene in New York and bored of the every day crap he deals with. Enter Morgan / Scarlet. She's fiery and feisty and brings some color into Lorenzo's life. But she has one hell of a shitty past.

*"I yearn to mean something.
Do you know what that's like?
To know you're poison but still be desperate for someone to sip from you anyway?"*

Andddd that's all you'll get on the plot from me. Don't won't to spoil a single thing about this story.

Scarlet is a character who actually took me by surprise. I actually wasn't expecting to like her all that much. But boy was I wrong. She was an incredible, resilient, tough girl and I LOVED her even more than I thought possible at the end.

And Lorenzo, well I think I've made it pretty clear how much I love him. He's so much more than you think he will be. Him and Scarlet together were everything.

"His lips are the softest thing about him, warm and gentle, like a slice of heaven wrapped in hell, so worth battling the flames to feel his fire."

You know what I love about JM's stories? As soon as you think you know what's happening or which way the story is going to go, she flips the switch and turns everything on its head and you're left a little speechless.

And she also creates delicious murderous men who make me want to be a mob wife (but that's besides the point).

The point is this story is another of hers that has topped my favorites list and book 2 **cannot come soon enough**. I need MORE LORENZO IN MY LIFE!

Menace is out today! | <http://amzn.to/2iAOOpIn>

Find Me On:

Instagram ♥ FB Page ♥ FB Blog ♥ Blog ♥ Twitter

Jennifer Kyle says

4 STARS

J.M. Darhower delivers yet another imperfect antihero to root for with Lorenzo Gambini. The delivery was well paced, the humor, heat, and danger, all well-proportioned and adding up to one solid read.

"People call me Scar for a reason, and it doesn't entirely have to do with the fact that my face got fucked up. I'm the villain. Everything the light touches in this city belongs to me."

The heroine is sassy and snarky and very relatable. While the hero has that unexplained quality that only J.M. Darhower can write. Lorenzo is the type of hero that would as quickly kill you than help you. Yet that is exactly what unfolds when he's pick-pocketed by Morgan. The banter in this story is dark, yet clever. Their connection isn't instant and very much believable.

"Tell me a story..."

I think my favorite aspect of the story is Lorenzo's comments and reactions to his little brother's girlfriend. I got such a kick out of these scenes!

The cliffhanger ending is doable and I will survive until the conclusion is released on February 6, 2017. I hope all ends well for this unconventional group of characters.

"I pretty much declared war for you, Scarlet. At least if you're sleeping in my bed, I know I'm winning."

NMmomof4 says

4 Stars

Overall Opinion: I completely missed the fact that this ends on a cliffy! **So be warned -- this is NOT a standalone!** I'm frustrated with myself, but it wasn't that bad of a cliffy to where I am mad. I do usually like to wait until the whole series/duet is complete so I don't have to wait for books to come out, so I am kicking myself a little here. I really enjoyed these characters! The H was awesome! I felt weird giving him 5 stars because he still is pretty psycho, but I loved him! His humor was so unexpected. and it helped lighten up a lot of suspense and darker themes in the book. I'm definitely going to read the next book, Grievous, when it gets released!

Brief Summary of the Storyline: This is Morgan and Lorenzo's story. They literally bump into one another one night that ends with Lorenzo hunting Morgan down when he realizes that she robbed him. Morgan is in a bad place and is on the run from a powerful, bad man. Lorenzo is a bad man himself, but he is intrigued by Morgan and keeps on inserting himself into her troubles. There are a lot of suspenseful and mysterious things going on, and in the meantime they start to develop feelings for one another.

POV: This alternated between Morgan and Lorenzo's POV (as well as 3rd person about a little girl that was taken by her father).

Overall Pace of Story: Good, I never skimmed and I thought it flowed well.

Instalove: No, they don't even get to the point to share "ILYs".

H rating: 5 stars. Lorenzo. I really do feel weird in how much I loved him! He was crazy, but also so hilarious at times!

h rating: 4 stars. Morgan. I liked her. My only complaint was that I wanted her to confide in Lorenzo earlier.

Sadness level: Low. No tissues needed.

Push/Pull: Not really. They kind of dance around each other, but I wouldn't call it a push/pull type situation.

Heat level: Moderate. They have some hot chemistry and scenes (on the rougher side).

Descriptive sex: Yes

Safe sex: Yes and no (view spoiler)

OW/OM drama: No

Sex scene with OW or OM: Yes (view spoiler)

Cheating: No

Separation: No

Possible Triggers: Yes (view spoiler)

Closure: No closure, as this leaves us on a cliffhanger. It's not the worst cliffy I've read, but I'd still consider it a cliffhanger.

How I got it: It was part of my kindle unlimited subscription.

Safety: This will probably be Not Safe for most.
(view spoiler)

KAT ? Kitty Kats Crazy About Books ? says

Oh me likey likey!! **WARNING: "Scarlet Scars contains themes that are dark in nature. Some scenes may be difficult to read. Readers who are triggered by violent or sexual content should proceed with caution."**

MENACE: The first chapter sent chills up and down my spine, setting the scene for a terrifying, gritty read. Spoken in **'Dual Perspective'** Morgan aka Scarlet & Lorenzo..

Mence is a spin off from the Monster in his eyes trilogy where Lorenzo first became known to us, but to understand this book you don't need to read this as I've not read that series (the shame of it) and I kept up with the storyline just fine.

"menace

/?men?s/

noun

noun: **menace**; plural noun: **menaces**

1. a person or thing that is likely to cause harm; a threat or danger.

synonyms: danger, risk, threat; jeopardy

"a **menace** to society"

The story starts off with a mother urging her daughter to wake up and play a game of hide and seek they have practiced many a times, the little girl is scared, she can hear screams and banging from downstairs, clutching her teddy close to her heart she does what her mother tells her and runs and hides.

"Hide really good, and just like woody and buzz do, remember? Don't make a sound, don't move at all, no matter what, if someone comes near you, okay?"

She gave the man who struck fear in her a name '**The Tin Man**' a mantra she whispers over and over to herself "Face your fears, and wipe your tears."

"Come out, come out, wherever you are," he called out, searching the house. ***I know you are up here kitten. You can't hide forever.***

What she finds downstairs will stay in her mind for a long time to come, taken in the dead of night by the tin man.

Then we fast forward to where this unlikely duo meet, she chose the wrong guy to pickpocket

Morgan has a dark gritty past, she's been on the run for as long as she can remember, searching for answers,

always in hiding and keeping a low profile.

You'll not meet any man more dangerous than Lorenzo, a hardened mafia take no prisoners kind of guy, shoot first then ask questions later.

He's just a man...A man with flaws...A man with his own problems.

Morgan is as tough as they come though she does hers in more of a sneaky way, hidden in the shadows a pickpocket and a stripper by night.

Heads of the notorious New York crime families were executed in a room over in Long Island, paving the way for me to take over the city.

At the age of sixteen his stepfather took to him with a shovel, part of one side of his face is severely scarred, slicing through his eye and leaving him partially blind in that eye, discoloured a shade lighter than his good eye.

What a crazy ride this duo set me on, I giggled, swooned, sighed, questioned, but most of all I loved..I wasn't sure if these two would be a good match but wow together they are an explosive duo!! Lorenzo maybe damaged on the outside with a scar which runs down his face but Morgan matches him with how broken she is within.

This wasn't my favourite from this author and I blame it all on Sempre, I fell hard and fast for that series, nothing and I mean nothing compares to that series, and no author can rival that series!! BUT this was an awesome riveting start to this series.

* 3 Teasers used in my review are off the authors facebook page *

Bibi says

Don't cry for me

The truth is I never liked it
All through her wild beginning

Morgan led a sad existence
Lorenzo couldn't keep his distance

It wasn't easy to read (about Morgan fu@#ing another man)
I thought it was strange
How can I explain how that made me feel
She stayed all her life down at heel
But nothing about her impressed me
And nothing about him was real
They were illusions

Have I said too much?

Don't cry for me
The truth is I never liked it
All from the first page, till Morgan fucked Gabe

DW says

DIBS... Nope, I called dibs and Lorenzo(Scar)Gambini is all mine. Is he crazy and psychotic?? Well yeah but hot damn. I mean, he will seriously put a bullet in your head for walking into his library but just being near him and all the feels would be so worth it.

I think that what I liked about him is that even though he is the boss in New York, he takes care of business himself. He has his loyal guys but he gets bored so he takes it upon himself to take care of business some of the time.

Then comes along Morgan aka Scarlet. She is about as crazy as they come but man she is tough. She has a ton of secrets and does not trust people. Her first encounter with Lorenzo had me laughing.

"She knocked into me, catching me off guard, distracting me for the moment... She fucking pick-pocketed me. Me. I'm so damn stunned I almost don't react. My brain, it just can't seem to make sense of it. It's doesn't compute. How the hell did she pickpocket me? Me. It's impossible. Unbelievable. Nobody's balls are that big. But yet, there she goes, looking back again, hurrying her steps even more the moment I start to move. My brain is still far from catching up, but gut instinct kicks in, forcing my muscles breaking into a sprint, slipping and sliding all over the goddamn place but managing to stay on my feet. She keeps glancing back as she starts to run, nearing the end of the block, that wild hair all over the place, whipping into her face. She's fast; I'll give her that. Even in heels, she manages to navigate the ice with ease. That might impress me if I weren't so goddamn angry. "

No one ever back talks or questions Lorenzo yet Scarlet does it and he hasn't killed her yet.

They both have serious issues but they are so good together. They drive each other crazy but can't get enough. Even though they would never admit it.

Even with the sexiness and steam between these two there is a story. There are a few twist that took me by surprise.

I will stop here because I can't give anything away.

Anyway, you need to meet Lorenzo soon!!

~Anna's ?a?????g\$~ says

3.5 STARS

It sure felt that way. I was reading it *forever*, one word forward, two words back.

Not that this book is bad. It's very *good* actually.

But as the story progressed my heart just wasn't in it anymore. (Although, it did find its way back towards the end, thank God.)

So I'm not going to lie, I struggled.

I had a huge crisis somewhere around the middle and I almost DNF'd it a couple of times.

The hero was *not* the issue. He's exactly the type of hero I love.

A mobster.

Dark, damaged, scarred, deadly, cold, unapologetic, unpredictable, observant, sarcastic, paradoxically humane.

Very passionate about his oranges (I know, WTF?).

Oh, and *assholish*, how could I have forgotten THAT?

Redeemable? Not sure yet and don't care, I still love him.

I read in one of the reviews here he didn't leave the impression of being a mature thirty-six old man. I totally agree. Although dark, deadly and dangerous, he was missing that thirty-something vibe. He seemed a lot younger.

The heroine? She's a tough cookie, a bit naïve but definitely strong and likable.

Their chemistry was okay-ish (although Lorenzo WAS hot and passionate, no question about it) but nothing earth-shattering.

Their connection, on the other hand, was palpable and believable. I loved their interactions. I liked how silently they understood each other. They're a perfect match.

Overall, a very promising series.

Although, you should probably take my rating and review with caution. I'm nursing the mother of all book hangovers so I'm not the most reliable person to listen to at the moment...

chandler ainsley ? says

a mafia romance with a wise crackin disabled hero & a bad ass sex positive prostitute? in the year of our lord 2018? you bet your ass

okay so this story follows morgan and lorenzo. lorenzo is a fun loving, mafia- boss- killing sociopath with a narrative unlike any i've ever read. i genuinely laughed out loud more than once, which i was not expecting for something marketed as a mafia romance. morgan is a 21 year old prostitute who has a run in with lorenzo when she pickpockets him at a bar. from there we are taken on a character driven journey with some nice plot twists as the icing on the cake.

what genuinely surprised me about this was the **complete lack of slut shaming, problematic misogyny, or 'alpha' maleness. dare i say this book was even sort of feminist?** morgan is not ashamed of her profession and doesn't want any sympathy for it. there's an especially awesome scene that she has with lorenzo where she talks about rape culture and the lack of respect for sex workers that i found fucking bad ass and so so rare in romance, especially a mafia romance.

other things i liked:

- the narrative style (alternates between lorenzo, morgan, and an unnamed character)
- the attention to characterization and inner dialogue that made the romance convincing!!! (seriously why do all mafia romances try to come up with an elaborate shoot-em-up plot, no one cares)
- lorenzo's humor (whoops i already said that didn't i)

the only thing i didn't love were the sex scenes. a tad too plentiful since the banter was off the charts entertaining to me. it says a lot about an author's chemistry building when i'm like "skip the good stuff let me listen to them talk."

if you kind of roll your eyes at mafia romances or usually avoid darker stuff i'd recommend trying this out. a genuine stand out in this genre, and a whole lot of fun.

Elizabeth says

"People call me Scar for a reason, and it doesn't entirely have to do with the fact that my face got fucked up. I'm the villain. Everything the light touches in this city belongs to me."

Menace is the first book in the Scarlet Scars Series, and this debut novel has absolutely secured its rightful place on my **BEST BOOK EVER SHELF!** J.M. Darhower does it again with another action packed Mafia Romance that will leave you begging for more!

"Death doesn't always come with a scream and a bang..."

Lorenzo Gambini commands his men, rules the town, can have any woman he wants, protects his family, and yet, he is bored. Scarred both physically and emotionally, there is a void in his soul. In one surprising encounter, Lorenzo meets his match. A mysterious girl with an S tattoo, he will do anything to catch this girl and discover what it is about her that keeps drawing him in. Morgan is like forbidden fruit, and Lorenzo is dying for a taste.

"I would destroy that pussy."

Morgan is a spunky young woman who is fighting to survive. She is running from something (or someone) and will do anything to get what she wants. Morgan has a secret. When she inadvertently catches the attention of SCAR, her burden is instantly lighter. Although he challenges her with every ounce of his being, the two make a perfect match. With a sexual chemistry shared between the two like a powerful tsunami, it takes everything they can to keep the boundaries of their heart securely in place. Friendship and attraction explode between them and a unique relationship is formed. When the evils of Morgan's past threaten to swallow her whole, Lorenzo is there to assemble his troops and seek vengeance.

"I'd wreck you for any man that came along after me, put them all to shame, because I'd

give you exactly what you wanted."

Told in dual POV, **Menace** is a perfect blend of romance, passion, action, and intrigue. With flashes from the past intertwined with the action of the present, we get a clear view of these characters and the circumstances of their lives. JM has always enticed me with her strong heroes, but I must say she truly exceeded all expectation with Lorenzo. Additionally, Morgan is a stand-out heroine with determination, strength, and paired with Lorenzo they are unstoppable. The pacing in this read is upbeat and every single moment is complex and thoroughly developed. Lorenzo and Morgan are both smart characters and their witty and sarcastic banter enhanced the dialogue by offering a reprieve from the intense action. The supporting characters are critical to the plot and further amplifies the dimension of the story arc. While reading **Menace**, I was completely transported to a dark and dangerous world in which I never want to leave!

Overall, I highly recommend **Menace** to any and all J.M. Darhower readers or to any dark romance readers or any readers period. IT IS JUST THAT GOOD!!!! The ending was a definite nail biter and yet, I have complete confidence in this author to carry me through to the other side. Bravo, J.M.! Bravo!

*****Scarlet Scars*****

***ARC graciously provided in exchange for an honest review.**

For more reviews/reveals/giveaways visit:

Ana O says

Brain: You know he's no good!

Hormones: Shut up brain.

Where do I even start? This is what I've been waiting for. Was it worth the wait? Hellz yeah. Well done Miss Darhower. Ladies and gents, I proudly pronounce Menace as her best work yet (after Monster in His Eyes).

Menace is a dark romance that tells the story of Lorenzo Gambini, whom we first met in the previous novel. I must say I wasn't all that enamored with him right off the bat. I was like, 'what's he doing here?'

A few scenes later, I was hoping to get a glimpse of the Scarred Hottie.

And then, I was hoping for more than a glimpse.

Soon, my enthusiasm waned. He didn't even take off his clothes. Imagine my disappointment.

I know, I know. I have issues. What else is new.

But something told me we hadn't seen the last of him. I told y'all he needed his own book. And... it happened.

He's back and he's badder than ever. What does every anti-hero need? A strong, badass heroine. Morgan/Scarlet is just what he needed, together they were an explosive combination. A match made in mafia heaven.

Do I want to read the sequel?

Original post:

Lorenzo you've been a very, very bad boy. A bad boy indeed.

P.S. I'm calling dibs on Lorenzo. He is mine. My own. My precious.

Sonya ?Chatterbooks book blog? says

???? 4 MESSED UP STARS????

“Someone once told me that evil can sense itself inside of others, our hearts beating in a different rhythm than most, playing a morbid song that only other evil knows.

Well it's official. I fell for a sociopath and it regret NOTHING. Now before you go and get your thongs in a twist, this wasn't your normal crazy MOFO that we were dealing with here. There are some that no matter what they do or say, leaves you with a disgusting feeling and makes you cringe every single time they open

their mouth and you think to yourself: What the ever loving sh*t is wrong with them? Then there are some that are just straight up 7:30 which is a nice way of saying you're batshit crazy. But Lorenzo Gambini? That man was in a class all by his damn self. He was student, teacher and headmaster which in my book, was a beautiful and scary thing. Never had I read such a mysterious complex character that had me wanting to sprinkle holy water on him while laughing out loud at his jokes at the same time.

What is it about danger that we have to just push ourselves toward it? Is it the lure of the adrenaline rush you know you're going to get? The indescribable sex appeal of knowing that by pushing the limit, you can very well indeed go somewhere you've never been before? Or is it just plain stupidity?

Lorenzo is DANGEROUS. I'm not talking about he's a bad boy, he'll break your heart, stay away from him kind of dangerous. I'm talking about if you ever get on his bad side and you're in a deserted place with him, it's going to take YEARS to find all your body parts when he's through with you. So it's pretty safe to say that you don't ever want to cross this man scarred up face and all. It takes a lot to pique to his interest, so when he meets the beautiful brunette sitting next to him on a bar stool that wasn't afraid to look him in the eyes, color him amused. That is until the mysterious brunette does the unthinkable.

Morgan has been on the run for quite some time now. Getting to wake up another day is an accomplishment for her seeing that there's a target on her back. Running into Lorenzo wasn't something she was planning on but what was supposed to be a disastrous encounter, turned out to be the beginning of an unlikely friendship. Who is after her and how is this going to affect Lorenzo?

I wasn't sure if I was going to like Morgan to be honest. Her past was elusive, and I thought I was going to just hate this girl. But that wasn't the case at all! She was such a strong heroine that never gave up on ANYTHING and her connection to Lorenzo was one of the highlights for me. They were very different in a way but at the same time oh so similar. She saw more in him than others did and she brought out the snarky dark humor in Lorenzo even more.

I'm starting to understand what everyone says about you."
"And what, pray tell, do they say? Don't leave me in suspense here".
That there's something seriously wrong with you".
"Oh, well, I could've told you that. There's a lot wrong with me."

This wasn't your ordinary couple and I loved that the most about them because it showed their individual personalities and how one common goal cemented their friendship. Now let's talk about those fire burning scenes for a minute. I think my tablet needs an ice bath because LAWD HAVE MERCEY!! When Lorenzo says something in the bedroom, you're bound to get pregnant multiple times. This man knew what he was doing and he took no prisoners when it came to giving pleasure. This story was hot, sexy, dark, with just the right amount of danger hanging to it that leaves you on the edge of your seat.

♦*Arianna♦* says

Enter to win a signed paperback of this awesome duet!!! Go to www.steamyreads.net - right on the front page - can't miss it!!!

5 Stars!!

"I just think about how fucked up it is to realize that heroes are make-believe but monsters are real. That's the world we live in. There's no knight in shining out there. It's just me, trapped in a world filled with fire-breathing dragons."

If you are following my reviews, you know by now that I'm a big fan of this author. J.M. Darhower never ceases to amaze me with her well developed, dark and gritty tales, fascinating story lines and most of all multi layered anti-heroes. '*Menace*' was well written, utterly addictive and held me at the edge of my seat for so many reasons, because like J.M. Darhower's other books, '*Menace*' was full of turns and twists, with just a little bit of everything that makes a dark story a captivating read – dark elements, suspense, action and steam.

"The man's like Beetlejuice... or hell, maybe he's Voldemort. He's fucking Bloody Mary. Don't dare say his name or he might show up."

Lorenzo Gambini is a dangerous man you don't want to cross paths with during the night...or day. He commands respect and oozes confidence, he's ruthless and intimidating and he never gives anyone a second chance. With his face partially disfigured, scarred, Lorenzo looks every bit the monster the stories make him out to be: the notorious menace they call Scar. He's not afraid of anything or anyone, he's not afraid of dying and he's not afraid to punish anyone who disrespects him in any way.

Morgan Myers has been running for a while. She hides, trying to survive and find...information. Forced by circumstances, she grew up fast, faster than a kid should grow up. Now, in her twenties, Morgan is ready to do anything to get what she desperately wants – strip, lie, steal or even use her body. Everything changes for her when she meets Lorenzo. They become very fast some kind of frenemies, their relationship, as time passes, starting to change into something more.

“I would destroy that pussy.”

“I’d wreck you for any man that came along after me, put them all to shame, because I’d give you exactly what you wanted.”

“How could you possibly know what I want?”

“Because,” he says, grabbing a fistful of my hair and twisting my head, forcing me to turn away from him. “Looking at you is like looking in a mirror, Scarlet.”

Like any other book I've read by this author, '*Menace*' was captivating, fantastically written and sucked me in from the very beginning. The addictive story line and our “perfect” anti-hero held me enthralled and glued to each page from the beginning until the end. This story will be the perfect story for you if you enjoy dark, gritty and violent reads filled with some interesting action and suspense, because let me tell you every single one of these aspects was captivating and so well done.

Lorenzo was the “perfect” anti-hero to me, his portrayal keeping me intrigued the entire time. Dangerous, f@cked-up in a very intriguing way, intense, a sick psycho if you want, his character was amazingly developed. His unapologetic behavior was fascinating to read about and his smart-ass comments made me grin and even laugh as the story unfolded.

I'm starting to understand what everyone says about you.”

“And what, pray tell, do they say? Don't leave me in suspense here.”

“That there's something seriously wrong with you.”

“Oh, well, I could've told you that. There's a lot wrong with me.”

I absolutely loved his internal monologue, which it was so very entertaining and of course his dark humor and I adored his softer side towards his brother. Lorenzo was mesmerizing, somewhat mysterious, even hot in a strange f@cked-up way, his protective side towards Morgan showing up plenty of times as the story unfolded. The way he cared for his brother and his generosity made me really enjoy his character.

Morgan was a broken, yet strong and courageous heroine I loved from the start. I loved how fearless she was and how determined she was to get what she wants. The way she pushed Lorenzo at times was pure entertainment. This woman for sure had a lot of guts when it came to this dangerous, yet fascinating man. Snarky and sarcastic, Morgan was my favorite heroine this author has written so far and trust me when I say that you will love the sh*t out of her if you love ballsy and confident heroines.

“He ignites something inside of me, stirring up these little sparks in my gut that send jolts through my body, like a defibrillator to the heart.

It’s terrifying, but fuck, to feel alive again...It’s nice.”

I loved everything about these two characters’ relationship. How it progressed, their encounters, their entertaining as f@ck banter, the dark humorous interactions between them. Everything! Everything was fantastically done IMO. Their chemistry was off the charts hot, so palpable at times and the sex scenes between them...holy sh*t! Simply amazing! These two were perfect for each other in every single way and I felt that with every single one of their interaction, sexy or not.

As for the secondary characters...my oh my! All of them were so engaging and f@cked up in a very thrilling way. Needless to say, I would love to read more about them.

'Manage' is written in dual POV, which I loved and I really had a blast being in these two characters’ heads. If you are looking for you next dark/mafia story, don’t hesitate, come to the dark side and meet Lorenzo and Morgan. You will not regret it!

“You and I, we can be the best of friends, but don’t expect to find your fairy tale under my roof. You got me?”

Find me on:

Lana ✨Dirty Girl Romance✨ says

4.5 STARS

***He's excitement. He's adrenaline.
He makes my heart do stupid shit.
Shit my heart shouldn't be doing.
Because everything that turns me on about him could also snuff me out.***

Want to know a recipe for a whole lot of awesome?

Take one part heroine that's snarky, sarcastic, as strong as she is broken, can stand her own with anyone, has enough sass and backbone to make her awesome from start to finish.

Take one part anti-hero that's as hot as he is totally f*cked up. Make him have an internal monologue that will have your cringing one minute and cracking up the next. As a matter of fact take one part Deadpool sort of snarky humor...

"I'm starting to understand what everyone says about you."
"And what, pray tell, do they say? Don't leave me in suspense here."
"That there's something seriously wrong with you."
"Oh, well, I could've told you that. There's a lot wrong with me."

and mix that with some mafia bad*ss!

Mix in a part of mystery.

Add a splash of plot twist.

Sprinkle in some super f*cked up secondary characters.

Get the beyond amazing JM Darhower to blend it all together with her signature mix of grit and sex.

And now, my friend, you got yourself one addicting little cocktail. Uhem.

If you've read Target on Our Backs, you're already familiar with Lorenzo and his particular brand of crazy. And make no mistake, the man is definitely NUTS.

I seem to forever exist in a gray area of life, caught in a web somewhere between homicidal and suicidal

He's violent, screwed up, borderline sociopath. His past demons don't haunt his present because they're probably scared shitless of a man that doesn't fear death. Does he have a backstory? Absolutely. And it's as devastating as it is f*cked up. Will you be panting for him throughout the entire book even knowing all that? Abso-freaking-lutely!

He stares at me, not a flicker of emotion showing on his face. There's almost something inhuman about it.

Morgan aka "Scarlet" was easily my favorite heroine that this author has written to date. This is a woman that's running but with a purpose and using any means possible to get what she wants. She'll pick pockets, lie, and use her body if she has to. She's full of nails and vinegar. She's sassy, sarcastic, snarky and everything I love. She's broken but not defeated. If anything her weakness just make her that much stronger. She was a fascinating combination vulnerable and deadly.

This is not a story of insta lust or insta anything. These two have a rocky start and an explosive continuation. And by explosive, I mean that in all sense of the word.

Holy fuck. This man and those hands... he doesn't play fair. At all. He presses buttons he's got no business pressing.

I loved her internal monologue almost as much as I loved Lorenzo's

He curves his fingers, hitting that sweet spot deep inside. The unicorn found the fucking Holy Grail.

Didn't even need a map.

He navigated right there.

Yeah. See what I mean?

This was told in dual POV and I gobbled it up! It was violent and gritty, taking you right into the underbelly of the worst sort of criminal organizations. It's sexy with just the right amount of humor mixed in. I loved it is what I'm trying to tell you here. I'm already itching for the conclusion. ITCHING I tells ya!!!

I just think about how fucked up it is to realize that heroes are make-believe but monsters are real. That's the world we live in. There's no knight in shining out there. It's just me, trapped in a world filled with fire-breathing dragons.

ARC courtesy of author in exchange for an honest review

Find me on:

Paige says

5 "S" Stars

J.M. Darhower: Never stop writing. Please.

If you're a fan of unapologetic alphahole heroes, strong and take no shizz heroines and a fast paced and sexy storyline, you need to read Menace. A bit of a spin off of the Monster in His Eyes series (Lorenzo is introduced there but this can be read without having read the series), this new duet takes us back to the underbelly of society and the dark figures that lurk there. And when Lorenzo, bored and scarred, runs into Morgan, broken and scared, he finds that he's not so bored anymore. He's determined to get Morgan to tell him her secrets but Morgan is shut tight.

Morgan has been running. She's been searching. She's been hiding. And it hasn't seemed to get her anywhere. Until, that is, she runs into Lorenzo. And what should have ended very differently, begins a "friendship" that

she doesn't quite understand but desperately needs whether she'll admit it or not. And as Lorenzo and Morgan are pulled closer together because of their circumstances, they find maybe they're more alike than they thought. As long as the crazy doesn't get too close.

I loved this story. I loved the characters. I loved everything about it. I was kept guessing and I was kept tingling (if you get my drift). Lorenzo could go at the top of the list as favorite heroes I'll read this year. I adored his unapologetic behavior but I also loved that he had a soft underbelly (not that he'd ever admit it though). I also was enamored by Morgan from the very beginning. I was fascinated by her strength and courage but also so curious about what lead her to this place in her life. And when I realized what those circumstances were, I was shocked by the twist and loved her even more. I am absolutely in need of the next book and I can't wait to see what transpires next for these two characters.

ARC provided to A is for Alpha B is for Books for honest review.
