



Shadow

Drew Sera

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They gave me one job—watch Chloe Olsen and remain in the shadows.

I've spent so much time there, lurking along the outskirts of society, being no one, it shouldn't have been hard to return to them.

It's the least I could do for the Van Doorns after they dragged me from the darkness of my old life.

But from the moment I saw her, I knew I wanted her.

I shouldn't have spoken to her.

Messing with her means digging my own grave. Pursuing her puts my family at risk.

Chloe is my light, but family is everything...

Shadow Details

Date : Published August 27th 2018 by Drew Sera Enterprises (first published August 25th 2018)

ISBN :

Author : Drew Sera

Format : ebook

Genre : Dark, Suspense, Romance, Erotic Romance

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Carla says

Carla's Five Star Review

In this first book, we are introduced to the Van Doorn family. Thom, the father, takes pity on Wesley aka "Shadow", and invites him to stay at their house where he eventually formally adopts him. It isn't long until we get to follow Wesley on his first job for the company, and what a job it is! He is to follow the man's daughter as she goes from one meeting to the next. Little does he know that he is about to feel an instant reaction to her. Wes knows it's a mistake, but he just can't stay away from her, so he decides to do whatever it takes to make her his. The question is this-Is there even a remote chance that the two of them will end up together?

Awesome cliffhanger coming your way! I need the next book asap!

Kathy L says

I was provided an ARC for an honest review. Another dark and exciting read from Drew Sera. I have to say when I first started to read this book I was thrown a little. I did not expect to start the story with a 14 year old boy lurking in the shadows but I continued to see how this story would go. I enjoyed the ups & downs and always the dark with Drew. You are left with a "oh no!" moment and wonder how it's going to end. The characters are wonderful and I love that it's set in Amsterdam. Great job Drew! Can't wait for the next book.

Armenia says

Mafia story of the Van Doorn Family...3.5 stars!

Shadow is the first book in the Lust and Lies series. It's written in several POVs of the main characters, and though a bit distracting at first, the flow of dialogue seamlessly tied and kept pace with the plot of the storyline.

Wesley Berlin who is discovered in the back alley of the Van Doorn family bakery unwittingly witnesses a murder by Dean Van Doorn. He doesn't have a clue who the dead man is. But homeless and waiting for the nightly trash of food to be dumped, Wesley is taken in by Thomas Van Doorn. Thomas is a powerful head of a mafia family and realizes it's best for the interest of the family business to raise Wesley along with his other sons, Martin, Mason, and Kyler. Soon Wes, nicknamed "Shadow", is taught the illegal business operating using the bakery as a front. At 14, Shadow grows into his own and gains trust by all the Van Doorns, except Dean who has ulterior motives. He's a master manipulator you just want to hate.

The story ends in a cliffhanger, and the plot is entwined with deceit, lies, and jealousy, intrigue and mystery. Chloe Olsen comes into the picture and Martin becomes unstable. Will Shadow become ingrained as part of the family or will he get out with his life intact? I can't wait to see how this all unfolds. I received and voluntarily reviewed an advance reader copy of this book.

Aimee MacMahon says

This book is different from all of Drew Sera's other books, but boy it's just as amazing!!! It's set in Amsterdam and the story revolves around a family and their trials and tribulations. As with all of her books, it has mystery, intrigue, betrayal, passion and lots of steamy hot sex!!!! It grips the reader on page 1 and doesn't let go until the end. I cannot wait for the 2nd book in the series to see what happens next.

I love all of Drew Sera's books and cannot say enough good things about this book. If you've never read any of her books, I highly recommend it and all of her books. You won't be disappointed!

Kathy says

Book one in the new series Lust & Lies. What a great start to a series that seems like it's going to be explosive. In this book you will meet Wesley Berlin who is a child who lives on the streets in Amsterdam. At the age of 14 he is truly fighting for his life out there until he meets Thom Van Doorn who owns the bakery Wes goes to at night for food. When Thom and Dean who is his younger brother find Wesley outside under the stairs after killing their younger brother, Thom takes him in. From here, he takes Wes home and introduces him to his three boys Mason, Kyler and Martin. All of whom work for the family business.. After a time, Thom decides to adopt Wes and things move on from here. There is so much going on in this book it would be confusing to just give you one minor part. You have family, fighting, abuse, drugs, lies, loyalty, friendship and dishonesty all wrapped up into one package. Enjoy

Clara Atkinson says

Shadow, Lust And Lies Book One was my first book by author Drew Sera. I don't have any other of her books to compare this book with but this book is amazing. The characters are well written their story lines come together to form a smooth dialogue that flows through out the book. The Van Doorn's are in the bakery business with the side business of ecstasy that has been in their family since 1927. Thom the head of the family and Uncle Dean found Wes outside of the bakery after an incident. He was hurt hungry soaking wet and orphaned. He has lived in hell for years being beaten and starved. Uncle Dean called him Shadow when he first saw him that night hiding and that nickname stuck. Thom brought Wes home and introduced him to his sons Mason, Kyler and Martin from that night on he was to become apart of the family. Unfortunately not everyone wanted him there and the plotting began to make Wes feel uncomfortable, unworthy and unwelcome. As the years passed the more determined Wes felt to prove he could help his family. His time finally has come and all he has to do is stay in the shadow and watch a beautiful woman named Chloe unfortunately he crosses that line and engages with the target against Thom's orders. Now he's put his family's business at risk and his life with his family. Family, betrayal, friendship, freedom, loyalty, love, trust so many dynamics are going on here. Wes just wants to be apart of a family, to feel wanted, to be loved. Wes' journey will have you hooked from the beginning all the way to big ass cliffhanger!!! I wanted to scream when I realized that was where this book ended then I thought what a evil (insert evil laugh) genius you are Drew! You got me good you hooked another reader yep I'm sold I love your writing style! Can't wait to see what happens next!

Margaret Lander says

Drew Sera has me hooked again! This book is fantastic! Full of family, betrayal, drugs and feelings! I fell in love with these characters, some more than others. This is a book of family bonds and underground drug deals. Wes is taken off the streets by the head of the Van Doorn family, Thom. Thoms brother Dean is a shady character that is out for himself and nothing else. This is the first to the series, I'd like to give more than 5 stars.

Janet says

Shadow is a great first book in the List and Lies series. I could not put it down!!! We are introduced to the Van Doorn family and their business. Wesley is a street kid with a horrible past but is adopted into the Van Doorn family. You can't help but feel for him and root for him to have the life that he deserves after what happened to him in his childhood (Tones of Anthony from the Drew Sera's Everett Gaming Series). This book really has it all, murder, family drama, romance, hot sex, drugs. Beware, it does end in a cliff hanger, I am already anxiously awaiting the next book.

Katrina Haynes says

Wow.. Is all I have to say. This was such a great read and very different from her other books. I so looking forward to see what next in the series. Must read?

LORRIE says

My goodness!! Excitement, action and intrigue with a dash of hot sexiness

Space Cowgirl says

Sex???, Drugs?, Murder?, and Betrayal

Amsterdam 2007

Ecstasy Drug Lords, Thom, Dean and Bram Van Doorn, have a great business, but Bram is a screw up. He's been taking the product and frequenting prostitutes! He has Thom's two late teens boys with him when he goes to talk to some clients. He pulls out a ?gun there and screws up the deal. Oops!

Brother Dean is so angry he shoots Bram in the alley behind the legitimate bakery they own. A homeless boy, Wesley?, sees it all, but he doesn't realize the dead man is their brother.

Instead of killing him too, Thom takes him home to live with him and his three sons!

Years later, Wesley is adopted by Thom, but Dean is jealous of The Young man. He thinks Thom will turn the business to Wesley when The time comes.

ARC Received from Bad Boy.

I got the book? with KU.

The book is interesting, but has an overwhelming amount of narrative and not a lot of talking between the characters. It is slow moving much of the time.

It's definitely a different sort of adult romance?. About halfway through, the pace picks up, when a rival gang leader's daughter?? comes to town on business.

The book ends in a cliffhanger. Lost a ?for that.

Linda Lee says

First Book in the series and it ends with a cliffhanger. Good news is the second book in the series is due to be released in a few days. I'm on the fence with this book as it seemed to be a bit slow, I'm thinking that is about to change after this lead up.

Wes is a street kid, a throwaway who ran away from the Skagen boys home. The streets have been his home for twelve months and are safer for fourteen year old Wes. Until the night he witnesses a murder and his life takes an unexpected turn. He is given a warm meal, shower and bed to sleep in. If you believe everything comes at a price apparently not he is eventually adopted by this male dominated family. One day he will be introduced to the family business of selling ecstasy. This is a game of confidence and trust...the question is who can be trusted?

Julie Scott says

Right... here we go... new story line away from Drew's other books... something new from this fab author. The very sad story of a young boy abandoned by his parents... he escaped his horrible hard life to join a drug making family. This story will tear at your heart strings and I cant imagine how this is gonna play out. He was sent to follow a potential client but things happens... he wasn't supposed to engage her ... he wasn't supposed to talk to her... oops... Cant wait for the next installment ... what will Mason do... god help shadow I kept trying to turn the last page .. couldn't believe it had ended like that...I started shouting at my kindle... the hubby just stared at me !!! You are evil Drew Sera.... Genius ...x

Modern says

This is my first read by this author. As in other reviews, I've stated my dislike for cliffhangers. So those who feel the same as I, heed this warning: this book ends in a CH.

Having said that, I appreciate the differing POV's even though they're only told from the male perspective. I'd be curious to see what is going through Chloe's mind.

This was well written and in spite of the CH, I am curious to see how this unfolds.

I received this book for a voluntary, completely honest and non incentivized review.

Nikki Renee says

Although it took a bit for me to get into, once I was in there was no way I was going to put it down. The timeline at first messed me up; the beginning of the chapters each have a month and year and I almost felt the need to turn back to the previous chapter to see how much time had passed. I usually don't like when stories have more than two points of view, but I think in this one it is necessary and completely adds another level of understanding. Will I read the next one? Definitely. Would Wesley be my book boyfriend? Probably.
