

Torture To Her Soul Monster In His Eyes 2 By Jm Darhower

*Book 2 in the New York Times and USA Today Bestselling Dark Romance Trilogy Abducted at eighteen. Held captive for 15 months. It reads like one of those headlines. And yes, I did it. I stole her. Nora, with her long dark hair and silky skin. She's my weakness, my obsession. I'm not a good man. I never pretended to be one. She can love me, but she can't change me. I can, however, change her. My name is Julian Esguerra, and Nora is mine to keep. ***Keep Me is the sequel to Twist Me, told from Nora & Julian's POV.****

*Book 3 in the New York Times and USA Today Bestselling Dark Romance Trilogy Captor and captive. Lovers. Soulmates. We're all that and more. We thought we were past the worst of it. We thought we finally had a chance. We thought wrong. We're Nora and Julian, and this is our story. ***Hold Me is the conclusion of the Twist Me series, told from Nora & Julian's point of view.****

Aeneas appears in The Illiad in vague snatches and starts as a traveling warrior of great piety who was loosely connected to the foundation of Rome. Virgil weaves these fragments into a powerful myth about the founding of Rome in The Aeneid. Aeneas travels from his native Troy to Italy then wages victorious war upon the Latins.

The third book in the Piper Lancaster series by D.G. Swank. A demon army is descending on Asheville, prepared to drag Piper and her friends to hell for defying Okeus, the god of war and hell, a threat her band of battered and weary defenders is nowhere near strong enough to hold off. To add to her worries, a crescent moon is destined to appear on her left palm that will compel her to kill Kieran Abel, the demi-god son of Okeus. Now that Okeus has discovered his long coveted human son, he will torture Piper for eons if she follows through. But she can't ignore her new inexplicable craving for demon souls. With every monster she kills, her power grows and she feels herself turning darker. Time is running out and Piper will do anything to protect those she loves, even if it means risking her own soul.

Tears of Tess

Menace

The Woman Who Lost Her Soul

The Frightened Ones

Knight and Play

An unearthly adversary descends on an idyllic fantasy world, corrupting magic against good and slaughtering innocents, and only a single man can stop him.

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 f*cking 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 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.

BOOK TWO IN THE FIVE SYNDICATES SERIES Niccolai Andretti Asshole. Douchebag. Jerk. Those are all valid descriptions of me, especially since fleeing from Andretti territory. Angry with the turn my life has taken, I prefer the silence and loneliness of my house. Not only is it the safest place for me after my brother placed a hit on me, it is also my sanctuary—my place to get away from the bullshit that is people. Until she comes along—angry, demanding and so damn hot. I hate her immediately. Minka Reynolds Bitch. Tramp. Slut. I've heard it all before. It doesn't bother me. I have more important things to deal with—like graduating from Wilton; taking care of my little sister; and yes, finding the next guy to pay for it all. If I have to sleep around for it? So be it. If I have to lose the dwindling tethers of my sanity every day? So be it. Nothing fazes me. Until he comes along—angry, demanding and so damn hot. I hate him immediately. Minka Reynolds has never been liked, but she doesn't care. Struggling to earn custody of her little sister, she is on mission to gain the only things that will get her there—money, a home, and a stable career. Unfortunately, she has none of those three, but she's close. It's just within reach... until she meets Niccolai Andretti, the former heir to the Andretti mafia family, and everything she thinks is right becomes wrong.

Teil 2 der Dark Romance / Mafia Romance Monster-Trilogie der USA Today Bestseller Autorin J. M. Darhower Sag es nicht, wenn du es nicht auch so meinst. Eine simple Regel, die sich Ignazio Vitale immer wieder sagt, die aber die Menschen scheinbar nicht verstehen. Man sollte sich vorsichtig ausdrücken, denn man weiß nie, wer einen beim Wort nimmt. Er selbst zum Beispiel. Er ist kein guter Mensch, das ist ihm bewusst. Es ist genug Dunkelheit in ihm, um der Welt das Licht zu nehmen. Doch es gibt eine Seele, der er niemals wehtun könnte. Karissa. Er weiß, dass sie ihn für ein Monster hält und vermutet, dass sie wahrscheinlich recht hat. Er reizt sie mit seinen Berührungen und genießt es, ihre Seele zu martern. Aber er ist nicht das einzige Monster, die Welt ist voll davon und er ist der Überzeugung, nicht das gefährlichste da draußen zu sein. Nicht mal annähernd. Gott helfe ihm, er liebt sie. Wirklich.

Ghosted

The 48 Laws Of Power

Hold Me (Twist Me #3)

Torture to Her Soul

The Veil Series Prequel

Loving her is torture. I love her, but I can't have her. I'm so close to winning the game. So close to winning her and her father's empire. But winning the game doesn't mean I'll win her heart. Every day I'm pushing her further and further away from me. It's the only way to protect her. At some point she'll marry another man. I'm not sure I can survive that. This is book 5 in the Retribution Games series.

Book one of the ultra sexy Knight series from USA Today Best selling Author Kitty French . God, this book is freakin' filthy! Awesome' - Goodreads reviewer. . Book 1 of 2 Sequel, Knight & Stay, out NOW! . There's only one thing in life Lucien Knight really hates, and that's husbands who cheat on their wives. There's only one problem in Sophie Black's life. Her cheating husband... From the moment Lucien & Sophie meet, the seal is set. Romantic, emotional & intensely erotic, Knight and Play is the perfect read for lovers of international bestsellers Fifty Shades & Bared To You. Let yourself be swept away by Part One of the Knight series from Kitty French, a romance so hot it'll burn your fingers... CEO of Knight Inc. Lucien Knight is catch-your-breath gorgeous and damaged by his troubled past in Norway. All grown up and relocated to London, he's built his empire of adult clubs from the ground up to become the gorgeous patron saint of the sex industry. No one knows the dark childhood secrets that have given Lucien a backbone of steel and a heart encased in ice. No one until Sophie Black, that is... From the moment girl-next-door Sophie accepts the job as Lucien Knight's PA, she understands how Alice must have felt when she tumbled down the rabbit hole. Lucien takes her safe, vanilla life away and plunges her head first into a huge dish of fantasy flavours. Rich, spicy chocolate covered with dark, oozingly lickable sauce? Check. Tutti-frutti with indecently red, glistening cherries on the top? Yes please. Lucien strips away all of Sophie's inhibitions, and when he instructs her to select three new toys, she soon realises he has more than a game of Monopoly on his mind... He's opened the door to a whole new pleasure packed world without limits, and Sophie is utterly intoxicated. But how far is she willing to go? And what happens when she has to step back into reality again? Lucien & Sophie's is a story of star crossed love and forbidden passion, a sexual odyssey that spans the globe and changes both of their lives forever. Let it change yours, too.

#1 New York Times bestselling author Christine Feehan returns to the mysterious coastal town of Sea Haven where a woman is stalked by her inescapable past in the fourth novel in the Sisters of the Heart series. On the shores of Sea Haven, six women touched by great loss have come together in a sisterhood strengthened by the elements—a bond each will need as new love and danger enter their lives... After escaping from a cult, Lexi found refuge with her sisters on the farm that more than sustained her body—it nurtured her soul as well. But she never forgot the terror she left behind or the always present fear that the cult would find her again, and claim her. Then her nightmare came true. Lexi was discovered and threatened—only to be suddenly saved by a stranger. He is Gavriil Prakenskii, and he ' s awestruck by the woman he ' s rescued. She is destined for him. He can feel it in his soul. But how can Lexi find happiness with a man steeped in secrets and shadows, one intimately acquainted with violence, and whose very love could be the death of them?

Will is 12 years old, and he's just killed a man. Now he's on his own, on the run, determined to discover the truth about his father's disappearance.

Nero

The Aeneid

Justine

Quintessentially Q

The Glass Castle

"Half-demon Luo Binghe rose from humble beginnings and a tortured past to become unrivaled in strength and beauty. With his dominion over both the

Human and Demon Realms and his hundreds-strong harem, he is truly the most powerful protagonist...in a trashy webnovel series! At least, that's what Shen Yuan believes as he finishes reading the final chapter in Proud Immortal Demon Way. But when a bout of rage leads to his sudden death, Shen Yuan is reborn into the world of the novel in the body of Shen Qingqiu--the beautiful but cruel teacher of a young Luo Binghe. While Shen Qingqiu may have the incredible power of a cultivator, he is destined to be horrifically punished for crimes against the protagonist. The new Shen Qingqiu now has only one course of action: get into Luo Binghe's good graces before the young man's rise to power or suffer the awful fate of a true scum villain!"--Back cover of Volume 1.

You never know when somebody will hold you to your word ... Naz has enough darkness inside of him to rid the world of every stitch of light. But there's one he could never harm: Karissa. He taunts her with his touch, gets a thrill out of torturing her soul. But he's not the most dangerous one out there ...

My husband killed me. Then he screwed his way through the city, the only problem? I didn't stay dead. It seems killing me woke something deep inside, something so dark and buried so deep I never knew it was there. I don't know what I am, I don't really care. All I can think about is revenge, even as the monsters in the dark start to surround me. Their horns and black eyes, mouths filled with fangs claiming I am theirs. My monsters will have to wait, he will regret the day he crossed me. Are you scared of the dark? You should be.*18+ Reverse Harem Romance. Warning this book contains scenes and references of abuse/assault that some readers may find triggering. Along with graphic sex scenes and violence. This is a dark book*

Once upon a time, there was a girl who stopped believing in fairy tales after her innocence was stolen. Morgan Myers is tired. So damn tired. Most people either push her around or brush her off, and she's not putting up with it anymore. Determined to reclaim the life that had been stolen from her, she puts her trust in the last person she ever expected to: the notorious Scar. Morgan sees a side of him that few people seem to know--the man, not the myth. Lorenzo. And what she sees, she likes, a lot more than she thought she would. But fairy tales aren't real, as life likes to remind her. Some dragons, you just can't slay, no matter how hard you fight them. And when hers comes back around, breathing fire, she's forced to face some unimaginable horrors. But lucky for Morgan, there's a white knight in combat boots out there that isn't afraid of monsters. You see, it's impossible to be afraid of something you face every day in the mirror.

I Have No Mouth & I Must Scream

A Serial Killer's Daughter

12 Rules for Life

The Subtle Knife

THE MILLION COPY INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER Drawn from 3,000 years of the history of power, this is the definitive guide to help readers achieve for themselves what Queen Elizabeth I, Henry Kissinger, Louis XIV and Machiavelli learnt the hard way. Law 1: Never outshine the master Law 2: Never put too much trust in friends; learn how to use enemies Law 3: Conceal your intentions Law 4: Always say less than necessary. The text is bold and elegant, laid out in black and red throughout and replete with fables and unique word sculptures. The 48 laws are illustrated through the tactics, triumphs and failures of great figures from the past who have wielded - or been victimised by - power.

(From the Playboy interview with Jay-Z, April 2003) **PLAYBOY:** Rap careers are usually over fast: one or two hits, then styles change and a new guy comes along. Why have you endured while other rappers haven't? **JAY-Z:** I would say that it's from still being able to relate to people. It's natural to lose yourself when you have success, to start surrounding yourself with fake people. In *The 48 Laws of Power*, it says the worst thing you can do is build a fortress around yourself. I still got the people who grew up with me, my cousin and my childhood friends. This guy right here (gestures to the studio manager), he's my friend, and he told me that one of my records, *Volume Three*, was wack. People set higher standards for me, and I love it.

In Julia Ember's dark and lush LGBTQ+ romantic fantasy *Ruinsong*, two young women from rival factions must work together to reunite their country, as they wrestle with their feelings for each other. Her voice was her prison... Now it's her weapon. In a world where magic is sung, a powerful mage named Cadence has been forced to torture her country's disgraced nobility at her ruthless queen's bidding. But when she is reunited with her childhood friend, a noblewoman with ties to the underground rebellion, she must finally make a choice: Take a stand to free their country from oppression, or follow in the queen's footsteps and become a monster herself.

A sexy novel about two seventeen-year-olds—one a victim of human trafficking; the other the son of the man who enslaved her—who fall in love and question everything they ever believed... **THIS IS A STORY ABOUT SACRIFICE . . . DEATH . . . LOVE . . . FREEDOM. THIS IS A STORY ABOUT FOREVER.** Seventeen-year-old Haven Antonelli has never known freedom. From the time she was a little girl, she and her mother have been slaves—victims of human trafficking orchestrated by a vast Mafia network. But when Haven attempts to escape and is caught, one man gives her a choice: go with him or die. Agreeing to leave with Dr. Vincent DeMarco, Haven arrives at his home and meets the doctor's defiant—yet intriguing—son Carmine. Though Carmine's privileged upbringing is a world away

from hers, Haven senses the things they share. And soon her tenuous friendship with Carmine blossoms into an unexpected love. Carmine has breezed through life breaking every rule, scorning attachments— until he meets this strange, timid girl his father has brought home. Her innocence draws him in a way he cannot understand, and makes him feel in ways he never thought he'd experience. And when he learns the Mafia isn't through with her, he becomes bent on protecting her . . . no matter the cost.

Lucifer didn't fall from Grace alone. He's not the only angel with a grudge, nor is he the only one fascinated by a certain mortal.

Of Blood and Monsters

Frankenstein (Modern English Translation)

Ordinary Monsters

Tortured Hero

À nos démons intimes

Genevieve "Genna" Galante knows a thing or two about causing trouble. After all, it's engrained in her DNA. As the only daughter of Primo Galante, notorious boss of the Galante crime family, her life is dictated by a certain set of rules... rules Genna was never very good at following. Matteo "Matty" Barsanti never wanted anything to do with the family business, but as the first-born Barsanti son, certain things are expected of him.

****Finalist for the 2018 International Prize for Arabic Fiction** A timely and haunting novel from an exciting new voice in international literature, set in present-day Syria In her therapist's waiting room in Damascus, Suleima meets a strange and reticent man named Naseem, and they soon begin a tense affair. But when Naseem, a writer, flees Syria for Germany, he sends Suleima the unfinished manuscript of his novel. To Suleima's surprise, she and the novel's protagonist are uncannily similar. As she reads, Suleima's past overwhelms her and she has no idea what to trust--Naseem's pages, her own memory, or nothing at all? Narrated in alternating chapters by Suleima and the mysterious woman portrayed in Naseem's novel, *The Frightened Ones* is a boundary-blurring, radical examination of the effects of oppression on one's sense of identity, the effects of collective trauma, and a moving window into life inside Assad's Syria.**

Elle is determined to keep her mouth shut when the mob boss tells Nero to make her talk.

Justine Marquis De Sade - Justine (or The Misfortunes of Virtue) is set just before the French Revolution in France and tells the story of a young woman who goes under the name of Therese. Her story is recounted to Madame de Lorsagne while defending herself for her crimes, en route to punishment and death. She explains the series of misfortunes which have led her to be in her present situation.

**Sempre
Monsters & Muses Book One
Niccolao Andretti
A Novel**

Promises and Pomegranates

Seven stunning stories of speculative fiction by the author of A Boy and His Dog. In a post-apocalyptic world, four men and one woman are all that remain of the human race, brought to near extinction by an artificial intelligence. Programmed to wage war on behalf of its creators, the AI became self-aware and turned against humanity. The five survivors are prisoners, kept alive and subjected to brutal torture by the hateful and sadistic machine in an endless cycle of violence. This story and six more groundbreaking and inventive tales that probe the depths of mortal experience prove why Grand Master of Science Fiction Harlan Ellison has earned the many accolades to his credit and remains one of the most original voices in American literature. I Have No Mouth and I Must Scream also includes "Big Sam Was My Friend," "Eyes of Dust," "World of the Myth," "Lonelyache," Hugo Award finalist "Delusion for a Dragon Slayer," and Hugo and Nebula Award finalist "Pretty Maggie Moneyeyes."

"What does everyone in the modern world need to know? [The author's] answer to this most difficult of questions uniquely combines the hard-won truths of ancient tradition with the stunning revelations of cutting-edge scientific research. [The author discusses] discussing discipline, freedom, adventure and responsibility, distilling the world's wisdom into 12 practical and profound rules for life"--

Ignazio Vitale n'est pas un homme bon. Je le soupçonne dès notre première rencontre, je sens le danger qui entoure cet homme. Il a une façon d'exiger l'attention, de prendre le contrôle, de savoir ce que je pense avant même que je le sache. C'est à la fois inquiétant et attirant. C'est sombre et redoutable. C'est tout ce que j'ai toujours voulu, et pourtant la dernière chose dont j'ai besoin. Une obsession. Il ne lui faut pas longtemps pour m'attirer dans sa toile, me charmer jusque dans son lit et me prendre au piège de sa vie, une vie dont j'ignore tout avant qu'il soit trop tard. Il a des secrets, des secrets que je ne peux percer et qui m'empêchent de partir, même si je le supplie de me laisser m'en aller. Je l'aperçois parfois dans ses yeux, cette

noirceur terrifiante et fascinante à la fois. C'est un monstre dans un emballage somptueux, et ce que je découvre en le démasquant change absolument tout. J'ai envie de le haïr. Parfois même, j'y parviens. Et pourtant, ça ne m'empêche pas de l'aimer.

"I am his muse. But not for long..." When Mammon, the Prince of Greed, 'acquires' a half-blood slave known as 'Muse' for three nights, and bespells her with tales of a world where people live like kings and queens among towers of steel and glass, the seed of hope takes root in Muse's soul. But hope, for a half-human half-demon creature like her, is a dangerous thing. Especially when that tentative hope springs from the honeyed words of a Prince of Hell. What is Mammon's price for freedom? Meanwhile Da'mean, her ruthless owner, would rather see her dead, than free. She belongs to him. She is his muse. And no beast will take her from him. The netherworld is harsh and violent. Muse's demon kin are merciless, blood-hungry beasts, but little do they know, Muse has something far more dangerous coiled inside her, desperate for a taste of freedom. Her humanity. Reader Note: This prequel is a short story (approx 90 mins read time). It can be read as a stand alone piece, or at any time during, prior to, or after reading any of the novel-length books in The Veil Series without spoilers. WARNING: Wings Of Hope contains some graphic scenes that some readers may find distressing. Genre: Dark Fantasy Recommended for 18+ Grievous

Wizard's First Rule

Rage

A Memoir

Earth Bound

Torture to Her SoulCreatespace Independent Pub

Pulitzer Prize finalist: "A soaring literary epic about the forces that have driven us to the 9/11 age . . . relentlessly captivating" (Ron Charles, The Washington Post). When humanitarian lawyer Tom Harrington travels to Haiti to investigate the murder of a beautiful photojournalist, he is confronted with a dangerous landscape riddled with poverty, corruption, and voodoo. It's the late 1990s, a time of brutal guerrilla warfare and civilian kidnappings. The journalist, whom he knew years before as Jackie Scott, had a bigger investment in Haiti than it seemed. To make sense of her death, Tom must plunge back into his complicated ties to Jackie—and her mysterious past. Shacochis traces Jackie's shadowy family history from the outlaw terrain of World War II Dubrovnik to 1980s

Istanbul. Caught between her first love and her domineering father—an elite Cold War spy pressuring her to follow in his footsteps—seventeen-year-old Jackie hatches a desperate escape plan. But getting out also puts her on the path that turns her into the soulless woman Tom fears as much as desires. Set over fifty years and in four war-torn countries, The Woman Who Lost Her Soul is National Book Award winner Bob Shacochis's masterpiece and a magnum opus. It brings to life an intricate portrait of catastrophic events that led up to the war on terror and the America we are today.

A stunning new work of historical fantasy, J. M. Miro's Ordinary Monsters introduces readers to the dark, labyrinthine world of the Talents. England, 1882. In Victorian London, two children with mysterious powers are hunted by a figure of darkness—a man made of smoke. Sixteen-year-old Charlie Ovid, despite a brutal childhood in Mississippi, doesn't have a scar on him. His body heals itself, whether he wants it to or not. Marlowe, a foundling from a railway freight car, shines with a strange bluish light. He can melt or mend flesh. When a jaded female detective is recruited to escort them to safety, all three begin a journey into the nature of difference, and belonging, and the shadowy edges of the monstrous. What follows is a story of wonder and betrayal, from the gaslit streets of London, and the wooden theatres of Meiji-era Tokyo, to an eerie estate outside Edinburgh where other children with gifts—the Talents—have been gathered. There, the world of the dead and the world of the living threaten to collide. And as secrets within the Institute unfurl, Marlowe, Charlie and the rest of the Talents will discover the truth about their abilities, and the nature of what is stalking them: that the worst monsters sometimes come bearing the sweetest gifts. Riveting in its scope and exquisitely written, Ordinary Monsters presents a catastrophic vision of the Victorian world—and of the gifted, broken children who must save it.

Carefully edited for modern readers to allow for easier reading Obsessed with the secret of creation, Swiss scientist Dr. Victor Frankenstein cobbles together a body he's determined to bring to life. And one fateful night, he does. When the creature opens his eyes, the doctor is repulsed: his vision of perfection is, in fact, a hideous monster. Dr. Frankenstein abandons his creation, but the monster won't be ignored, setting in motion a chain of violence and terror that shadows Victor to his death. Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, a gripping story about the ethics of creation and the consequences of trauma, is one of the most influential Gothic novels in British literature. It is as relevant today as it is haunting.

Piper Lancaster Series

By Any Other Name

A novel

Reignite

The Scum Villain's Self-Saving System: Ren Zha Fanpai Ziju Xitong (Novel) Vol. 1

What is it like to learn that your ordinary, loving father is a serial killer? In 2005, Kerri Rawson opened the door of her apartment to greet an FBI agent who shared the shocking news that her father had been arrested for murdering ten people, including two children. That's also when she first learned that her father was the notorious serial killer known as BTK, a name he'd given himself that described the horrific way he committed his crimes: bind, torture, kill. As news of his capture spread, the city of Wichita celebrated the end of a thirty-one-year nightmare. For Kerri Rawson, another was just beginning. In the weeks and years that followed, Kerri was plunged into a black hole of horror and disbelief. The same man who had been a loving father, a devoted husband, church president, Boy Scout leader, and a public servant had been using their family as a cover for his heinous crimes since before she was born. Everything she had believed about her life had been a lie. Written with candor and extraordinary courage, *A Serial Killer's Daughter* is an unflinching exploration of life with one of America's most infamous killers and an astonishing tale of personal and spiritual transformation. For all who suffer from: unhealed wounds, the crippling effects of violence, betrayal, or anger, Kerri Rawson's story offers the hope of reclaiming sanity in the midst of madness, rebuilding a life in the shadow of death, and learning to forgive the unforgivable.

"My life was complete. Happy, content, everything neat and perfect. Then it all changed. I was sold." Tess Snow has everything she ever wanted: one more semester before a career in property development, a loving boyfriend, and a future dazzling bright with possibility. For their two year anniversary, Brax surprises Tess with a romantic trip to Mexico. Sandy beaches, delicious cocktails, and soul-connecting sex set the mood for a wonderful holiday. With a full heart, and looking forward to a passion filled week, Tess is on top of the world. But lusty paradise is shattered. Kidnapped. Drugged. Stolen. Tess is forced into a world full of darkness and terror. Captive and alone with no savior, no lover, no faith, no future, Tess evolves from terrified girl to fierce fighter. But no matter her strength, it can't save her from the horror of being sold. Can Brax find Tess before she's broken and ruined, or will Tess's new owner change her life forever? A New Adult Dark Contemporary Romance, not suitable for people sensitive to grief, slavery, and hard to read subjects. A story about finding love in the strangest of places, a will of iron that grows from necessity, and forgiveness that may not be enough. A dark, contemporary romance based loosely on the myth of Hades and Persephone.

The highly anticipated sequel to the Monsters in the Dark series. 6 SPELLBINDING ~ TITILLATING ~ SENSUAL STARS!!!--Lady Vigilante, Goodreads Reviewer 6 STARS- Best book/Best Series of 2013--Hook Me Up Book Blog "All my life, I battled with the knowledge I was twisted... screwed up to want something so deliciously dark—wrong on so many

levels. But then slave fifty-eight entered my world. Hissing, fighting, with a core of iron, she showed me an existence where two wrongs do make a right." Tess is Q's completely. Q is Tess's irrevocably. But now, they must learn the boundaries of their unconventional relationship, while Tess seeks vengeance on the men who sold her. Q made a blood-oath to deliver their corpses at Tess's feet, and that's just what he'll do. He may be a monster, but he's Tess's monster.

Stories

Odyssey

Ruinsong

Torture Garden

Wings of Hope

Journalist Walls grew up with parents whose ideals and stubborn nonconformity were their curse and their salvation. Rex and Rose Mary and their four children lived like nomads, moving among Southwest desert towns, camping in the mountains. Rex was a charismatic, brilliant man who, when sober, captured his children's imagination, teaching them how to embrace life fearlessly. Rose Mary painted and wrote and couldn't stand the responsibility of providing for her family. When the money ran out, the Walls retreated to the dismal West Virginia mining town Rex had tried to escape. As the dysfunction escalated, the children had to fend for themselves, supporting one another as they found the resources and will to leave home. Yet Walls describes her parents with deep affection in this tale of unconditional love in a family that, despite its profound flaws, gave her the fiery determination to carve out a successful life. -- From publisher description.

One evening some friends were gathered at the home of one of our most celebrated writers. Having dined sumptuously, they were discussing murder—apropos of what, I no longer remember probably apropos of nothing. Only men were present: moralists, poets, philosophers and doctors—thus everyone could speak freely, according to his whim, his hobby or his idiosyncrasies, without fear of suddenly seeing that expression of horror and fear which the least startling idea traces upon the horrified face of a notary. I—say notary, much as I might have said lawyer or porter, not disdainfully, of course, but in order to define the average French mind. With a calmness of spirit as perfect as though he were expressing an opinion upon the merits of the cigar he was smoking, a member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences said: “Really—I honestly believe that murder is the greatest human preoccupation, and that all our acts stem from it... “ We awaited the pronouncement of an involved theory, but he remained silent. “Absolutely!” said a Darwinian scientist, “and, my friend, you are voicing one of those eternal truths such as the legendary Monsieur de La Palisse discovered every day: since murder is the very bedrock of our social institutions, and consequently the most imperious necessity of civilized life. If it no longer existed, there would be no governments of any kind, by virtue of the admirable fact that crime in general and murder in particular are not only their excuse, but their only reason for being. We should then live in

complete anarchy, which is inconceivable. So, instead of seeking to eliminate murder, it is imperative that it be cultivated with intelligence and perseverance. I know no better culture medium than law.” Someone protested. “Here, here!” asked the savant, “aren't we alone, and speaking frankly?” “Please!” said the host, “let us profit thoroughly by the only occasion when we are free to express our personal ideas, for both I, in my books, and you in your turn, may present only lies to the public.” The scientist settled himself once more among the cushions of his armchair, stretched his legs, which were numb from being crossed too long and, his head thrown back, his arms hanging and his stomach soothed by good digestion, puffed smoke – rings at the ceiling: “Besides,” he continued, “murder is largely self – propagating. Actually, it is not the result of this or that passion, nor is it a pathological form of degeneracy. It is a vital instinct which is in us all—which is in all organized beings and dominates them, just as the genetic instinct. And most of the time it is especially true that these two instincts fuse so well, and are so totally interchangeable, that in some way or other they form a single and identical instinct, so that we no longer may tell which of the two urges us to give life, and which to take it—which is murder, and which love. I have been the confidant of an honorable assassin who killed women, not to rob them, but to ravish them. His trick was to manage things so that his sexual climax coincided exactly with the death – spasm of the woman: 'At those moments,' he told me, 'I imagined I was a God, creating a world!'”

Torture to her soul - In ihrer Seele

Keep Me (Twist Me #2)

Target on Our Backs

An Antidote to Chaos

My Story of Faith, Love, and Overcoming