

THE BODECIA BOOK CLUB REVIEW - extra read

50 Shades of Grey by E L James

A time comes along when you just have to go with the flow and read a book to see what all the hype is about! For a few months now I have been hearing on social sites about a book called 50 Shades of Grey. Over the last year the book has sold 20 million copies! Women are going mad over this book! All wanting a piece of Christian Grey and it seems however kinky this man is – they want a piece of him!! Of course I also picked up that the book had more sex in than the books of the Queen of the bonkbuster Jilly Cooper! “No!” I thought nothing could be as risqué as Jilly! (Although her last book Jump! did let her down! *See our review!*). Anyway I wanted to see what the fuss was about so downloaded the first book to my kindle.

From the first couple of pages I knew it was going to be an easy read. Anastasia is studying English Literature at Washing State University and goes to do an interview for the college paper in place of her friend, Kate who is has the flu. The interview is with Christian Grey, a young enigmatic CEO of Grey Enterprises Holdings Inc. From the first time they meet something clicks and there is an instant attraction between them. Ana says "No man has ever affected me the way Christian Grey has and I cannot fathom why. Is it his looks? His Civility? Wealth? Power?" There is not one woman on this planet who would not like a rich good looking young man run after them! And after the phenomenon of this book every woman wants a Christian Grey! If you look past the sex scenes and references of bondage, discipline, dominance and submission (BDSM) and there is plenty of it in the book, there is a love story of two young people and the lengths and passion one would go through to support their partner. Christian is a disturbed young man and as the book ends you finally have an idea of why he is the way he is. I was not surprised to hear that E L James (real name Erika Leonard, a 48 year mother from Essex) had based her two main characters on Twilight's Edward and Bella.

After I had read the final pages I was heartbroken, deeply submersed in the world of Christian and Ana I had to find out what happens to them! I then downloaded the next two books, 50 Shades Darker and 50 Shades Freed. The next two did not let me down, the love story continues and it is very hypnotic how Christina dotes so much on Ana, so much so that he has stalker tendencies. I have heard critics say that these books degrade women by the amount of BDSM, but I do not see that, I see a very strong young intelligent woman, looking for independence with her own career and has a very strong mind and does not do things she does not want to do. Ana starts off a shy young woman and you see her bloom and as she puts it 'her inner goddess' is released. It should be a shining example of what young women should be aspiring to, Ana also has a hand in making Christian Grey a better person. Wow, what women would love to say they have a part in making their man a better person; it is an achievement to get most of them to wash up! The only annoying habit Ana had throughout the books been to constantly say "holy cow". How many times can one woman say it!! I am surprised Christian didn't pick up on that and take her to his red room! Rolling her eyes can not compare to it!

The story delves deeper into Christian Grey's past and his past has a way of coming to the surface and the books pick up the pace and there is mystery, intrigue and action. Oh yes and it's not short on sex and BDSM as Christian and Ana's relationship gets deeper.

I would definitely recommend 50 Shades. But if you are going to get them make sure you get all three so you are not disappointed.

Erika Leonard has just been paid £3.2 million for the film rights. I am not too sure that any actor could live up to each of our expectations in the film! In my eyes, Michael Fassbender would make a breathtaking Christian! Who would you cast to play the lead?