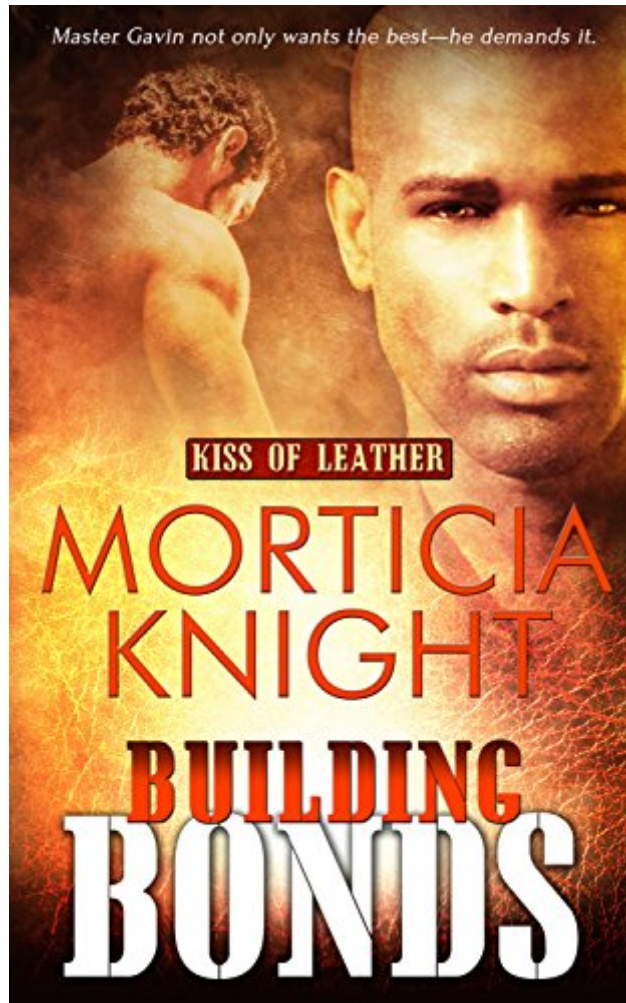


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Building Bonds: Kiss Of Leather Book 1



Synopsis

Book one in the Kiss of Leather series Kyle is a natural sub who builds dungeon furniture, yet has no interest in BDSM. It takes a hunky Dom to show him just what he's been missing. After Kyle's partner of five years leaves him for another man on the night of their housewarming party, the shy, early-thirties carpenter needs to do a major reassessment of his life in addition to raising some serious cash. With no one to help him pay the lease on his Los Angeles condo, he worries how he'll survive. His best friend sets up a meeting with one of the Doms and partners at Kiss of Leather, a gay BDSM club being built as a premier destination for those who want the best of the best. Master Gavin not only wants the best he demands it. When he meets Kyle, he assumes that part of the builder's reticence to share anything personal with him must be due to his experiences with an abusive former Master. Not one to back down from a challenge, Gavin determines to break through the walls surrounding the beautiful man he can't get out of his mind. He's hopeful that once he convinces Kyle to sign an initial contract, Kyle might be the first sub to open up his heart. Misunderstandings and accusations almost destroy everything between them before they have a real chance to begin. However, the true obstacle becomes not only whether Kyle will embrace BDSM as a lifestyle, but also whether he can handle a full-time D/s relationship with a big, bad, scary Dom who's as sexy as hell. **Fantastic Industry Reviews** This book is one I will want to revisit again and again. ~ **Sinfully Addicted Reviews** Morticia Knight has done it again. ~ **Sexy for Review** I honestly did not want to stop reading their story! ~ **Inked Rainbow Reviews** About Morticia Knight Morticia Knight spends most of her nights writing about men loving men forever after. If there happens to be some friendly bondage or floggings involved, she doesn't begrudge her characters whatever their filthy little hearts desire. Even though she's been crafting her naughty tales for more years than she'd like to share her adventures as a published author began in 2011. Once upon a time she was the lead singer in an indie rock band that toured the West Coast and charted on U.S. college radio. She currently resides on the northern Oregon coast and when she's not fantasizing about hot men she takes walks along the ocean and annoys the local Karaoke bar patrons.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

DNF @ 56%. Could not stand both MCs. Returning this Kindle book. Gavin did not walk his talk. His internal self talk was that he was going to patiently pursue Kyle as a sub. So what did he do? He proceeded to continue his non-committed sexual sub relationship with Toby while thinking of Kyle. He publically offered a sub contract to Kyle, with no prior discussion, and then immediately pushed him to behave like a sub, initiated sex and then pressured Kyle to move in with him, all in one afternoon. And, the contract was for a 24/7 D/s lifestyle. He also announced this contract to Kyle in front of Toby with no prior discussion with Toby. So what happened to Gavin being patient? Second point. Gavin was a bully. Toby got his feelings hurt with Gavin's announcement. Gavin told Toby he should have spoken up sooner about his feelings. Well Gavin should have spoken up sooner too. Hell, Gavin should have stopped training Toby at that point. Gavin also told Kyle he should have spoken up sooner that he was not in the lifestyle. Well Gavin was at fault for not bringing up the sub contract privately with Kyle. And Kyle was just plain milk toast. He indirectly led Gavin on by not correcting Gavin's assumptions that he was in the lifestyle because he made BDSM equipment and that Roger had been his Dom. Kyle's whole personae was extremely wimpy and he was afraid of BDSM. But he did have enough gumption to selfishly accept dates with Gavin knowing fullwell Gavin was a Dom and to sign a profitable furniture contract knowing that he would have to provide maintenance service the club. And a big no no - Kyle said yes to Gavin's sub contract without knowing anything about BDSM and the specifics of the contract.

Kyle is just shy, not a natural sub like his best friend Marshall says. At least he doesn't think he is. And he'd appreciate it if Marshall stopped trying to talk him into trying BDSM. But he is thankful when his friend sends him to the Kiss of Leather owners, who need custom equipment made for their new club. There Kyle meets Master Gavin. Master Gavin sees the natural sub in Kyle, just as Marshall does. And since he's friends with Marshall, Gavin believes he's in the lifestyle but has had a bad experience with another master. For him, it's a challenge to bring out that in Kyle. I loved Kyle, sweet, shy, always blushing, but with a backbone of steel, he was so easy to fall in love with as a character. Master Gavin needed every bit of his patience with Kyle. His caring of and for Kyle was what made me love him too. The secondary characters add to this story. You meet Gavin's partners in Kiss of Leather Josh and Derek. Of course there's Marshall, who is a hoot in this story. All of them enhance the story, with is about the relationship building between Kyle and Gavin. The characters were so well written, you could feel the chemistry and emotions flowing between Kyle and Gavin. For me, Morticia write some of the best BDSM in the m/m genre. The scenes are hot and intense, yet the love shows between the guys. She also keeps to the 'safe, sane and consensual' tenet that the majority in the lifestyle live by. This was a wonderful start to a new series that I'll be glad to read.

I'm not a big fan of books from Pride Publishing as they tend to skip the depth of relationships and just deal with the sex or kink. And while this book follows suit, I liked it. In fact, it's my favorite Morticia Knight book. One has to remove disbelief from reality here. The fact is - I liked Gavin, even if - as one reviewer noted, he rushed Kyle into a relationship he wasn't ready for. The fact is? Gavin, except for that, is for me the quintessential dom in that he's caring and yet dominant. However, there is no growth in either of the characters - which is another mark of Pride Publishing books. They don't seem to care about character development so much as 'how much sex and kink can we fit into a book'. And their fans enjoy that. Nothing wrong with that - just not my style of book. There were a lot of loss leaders - like there was a tremendous amount of emphasis on Kyle's contract with Kiss of Leather and yet we never saw him working - it felt like a vast amount of the book was missing because of that. With Kyle's first punishment - we 'hear' he's about to wear a cage, but we never see it on screen and don't hear how Kyle felt about wearing it. Ordinarily a book with these kind of problems wouldn't get more than a 3 star review, but I honestly liked Gavin and Kyle and am pretty sure I'll be rereading this book. As such, 4 stars.

I'm having a hard time rating this book. It would be a solid 4 except there's a few things that I bugged me a little. However, it's better than a 3 star book so I went with the higher rating. I really enjoyed this story. I liked how Gavin really took care of Kyle and his needs and helped him flourish. It was nice to see the caretaker side of Doms that you don't really see a lot. It reminded me a lot of KC Wells Collars and Cuffs series in that regard. The sexy scenes are hot and well done. The sticking points for me are as follows. MINOR SPOILERS I don't think it was realistic (even in fictional land) that Kyle went from being so anti BDSM that he couldn't even say it to meeting and moving in to a (albeit mild at first) full time D/s relationship within a week of meeting Gavin. Also, the ending was rather abrupt. Abrupt enough that I was surprised when I turned the page and found a teaser for another book instead of another chapter/epilogue. It by no means ended in a cliffhanger but definitely falls under HFN. Yes, we get to their happy ending but not one second after that and I want more, lol. It looks like their story will most likely continue as secondary characters in up coming books. Overall I enjoyed this book enough to have purchased the next in the series to see where it goes.

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