



Checkmate

Erica Chilson

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They call me Mrs. Whittenhower...

Readers have experienced the present through the points-of-view of Katya Waters, Dexter Hayes, and Dalton Fontaine. Now it's time to experience the events that took place during those installments through a different pair of eyes— Queen's. Checkmate parallels Restraint, Unleashed, Dexter, and Dalton. Questions will be answered through Regina Regal's perspective, and motives will sharpen into clarity.

Events aren't always as they may seem.

Regina uses self-restraint, when she'd rather go on an enraged rampage across Dominion, New York. She must choose self-preservation, where she surrenders to Maître du Jeu's extortion, rather than get even. Learning her enemy, while doing as they bid, Regina protects all she calls hers, at the cost of her pride and self-respect.

Publishers Notice

The author did an extensive rewrite on this title, and the entire Mistress & Master of Restraint series. Not just editing and formatting, but a rewrite to where it's #NotTheSameBook #NotTheSameSeries The final republished editions began in early 2015 with Restraint, and mid-2017 with Checkmate so far. Reviews written before those dates may include elements that are no longer contained within the book, or the series as a whole.

The author apologizes for any confusion this may cause. To avoid any reader having to repurchase the titles (via Amazon), no matter the significant changes in the contents, they are listed as the same book. Readers who are in possession of the old edition only need to update their copies via Amazon.

Ms. Chilson also requests for those who reread the series to update their reviews and ratings accordingly, either for the positive or the critical, to help readers make informed decisions on whether or not to read based on what is currently in the final editions of the series.

Thank you

Author's Note

*Please read the **author's review** for important information regarding this book & the series as a whole.*

Checkmate Details

Date : Published December 22nd 2012 by Erica Chilson (first published December 1st 2012)

ISBN :

Author : Erica Chilson

Format : ebook 492 pages

Genre : Erotica, Bdsm, Adult Fiction, Dark, Romance

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Kate says

another great mind fck from the fingertips of the lovely erica chilson in this book we get into the twisted mind of regina and how she plays her part of the game....hat is the game you may ask well if u have read the prior books in this series then you should know and if you havent well shame on you for trying to skip ahead these books MUST be read in order or you will be completely lost so if u didnt read the other books in the series first and read this 1 instead and your still scratching your head trying to figure out wth is going on your toast ..shoot even if you did read all the books you will still be lost THAT IS THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE MIND FCK

Candice says

My heart ached for Regina. ACHED! I felt so bad for her. For the longest time I thought of Marcus as an asshole and I hated him. I hated everyone, except for Regina and Whitt (and Dexter for some reason).

Whitt, oh man, Sunshine. How I love you. You will do anything for your family.

It was so nice knowing that what I was thinking actually came to light. Some of the questions/suspicions I had were right and I loved every single second of victory I was cheering.

I can not wait for King. I am ready for some Castle Storming!!!

LOVED the musical chairs, Master of the Universe ;)

Janie says

Every time that I read a new book in this series I get giddy with excitement. Regina Regal is my favorite character by far. I never realized how a single situation or circumstance can appear to be so different through the eyes of different people. This series proves the point that we each interpret life events through our own personal filters, thoughts, beliefs, and feelings. Reading former events through Regina's eyes made me gasp and realize that most of the things that I believed in earlier books were wrong. It made me want to go back and re-read every single book knowing what I know now. This is one of my favorite series of all time and this author is so talented in her ability to weave a story that involves many twisted layers and multiple generations.

Trish says

I was hoping that there would be that aha moment when it all clicks in her mind. Not disappointed in the series at all, how can you be. Talk about a chess game of life. What side is going to take all only time will tell.

Epiphany says

The 7th book in the series and the 3rd in Queen's saga answers many questions and sheds new light on the characters we met in the first 4 books. Queen's story has grabbed me from the beginning, and Checkmate is no exception. Continuing on from Queened, the aftermath of Regina's induction into the Mistress and Master of Restraint. More secrets are unfolded in the first part of this story. Queen's love for the men in her life, her children, her sunshine , causes a lot of tension and as she tries to protect them , she ends up hurting as well. There are a lot of surprises that happen in the last book and this one. The emotional roller coaster ride continues in this book. At times my head was spinning. This book did not disappoint. Like I said in my review of Restraint if you are not into BDSM this book is not for you. But, if you enjoy an erotic read which gives the reader BDSM, love, hate and a well of other emotions this book is for you and you won't be disappointed. I can't wait to read the next book in this series.

G says

Queen's story has gripped me from the beginning, and Checkmate is no different. Continuing on from Queened, the aftermath of Regina's induction into the M&M of Restraint. More secrets are unfolded in the first half of this story.

This book is told in time jumps, it gives you up the back story up to the point of the first book Restraint and in this you see where a lot of M&M play in. From the moment that Regina becomes initiated, she becomes a pawn in the game, she tries to see the game as a whole and this for me answers a few questions from the first book in the series, whilst opening more doors for a whole other set of questions.

Queen's love for the men in her life, her children, her sunshine , causes a lot of tension and as she tries to protect them , she ends up hurting as well. This book gives a new perspective to the woman, and whilst Regina becomes Queen there are moments where she does not fully embrace all that Queen has to offer and she takes a step back and retreats, creating issues for herself instead of being the strong woman that she is.

There were a few scenes in this book that had me shocked, namely between Master Ez and Regina, her interactions with Ezra , and Ez. The meeting of Jackson and the rest of her family. the parallel view of timelines of Restraint, Unleashed , Dexter all show where Queen stands and how much she has sacrificed for everyone else.

I ran through this book faster than I thought I would, because it called to me. I wanted to see the next steps the future of Queen and her lovers, her children and soon the rest of M&M.

This is a review of the updated 2017 version of this book, from all accounts it's been enhanced from the original version and somethings have changed. I am really happy I came in after the rewrites as there is nothing to taint my view of these characters. I voluntarily reviewed an ARC copy of this book.

Erica Chilson says

Checkmate will be updated on Amazon as of 5/5 (I will be updating to the newest edition on Amazon within the hour. Fingers crossed the changes go live quickly and no dreaded blocking occurs)

Q&A about Checkmate & the M&M of Restraint series

Q: Do I have to reread Checkmate?

A: Yes.

Q: Why?

A: Originally Checkmate was 175K. It is now 255K. However, at least 230K words of that are all-new. The story itself is entirely different. If Checkmate is not read anew, reading the new releases in the series will be beyond confusing.

Q: If I read the newest edition of Checkmate, should I update my review/rating?

A: Yes. Simply because those reviews no longer express the content of Checkmate. In both positive and critical reviews, there's a high probability anything specific pointed out no longer exists in the novel. Anyone who read the newest edition (who most likely never read the old) will think it bizarre how these things are being stated. Also, it will mislead readers, by persuading and dissuading them to buy the book due to reviews of a book it no longer is- they will either miss out on Checkmate due to things pointed out, or feel like a bait and switch when they buy it, only to find out it's not the same book as advertised in your review.

Q: Why did you do this, Erica?

A: With every book I rewrite in the M&M of Restraint series, it becomes more apparent why I had to do this. I apologize for the inconvenience, and thank readers for their patience. I wrote 8 books in my first year as a published writer. I've grown in my craft in the years since. It's taken me nearly 3 years to rewrite what took me one. Even on this rewrite journey, from one book to the next, I've noticed an improvement in my writing and self-editing (not proofreading, but what to add/remove to a story, what to show/what not to show to influence the plot).

Q: I haven't reread the series from the beginning... should I?

A: YES. #NotTheSameBook #NotTheSameSeries M&M of Restraint is entirely different, reflecting the maturing in my writing style and the growth in my craft. It will be a new, more fulfilling experience this time around. Reading from Restraint onward will ensure no confusion when we hit Hero and thereafter.

Q: When will you finally release HERO?

A: This summer, I will be working on KING, then diving directly into Faithless. The Hunter & Integrated will only be receiving minor editing/sentence restructuring, with a scene change/added scene thrown in. The core of the premise will remain unchanged. For me, there are only two rewrites left, and I hope to be finished and writing anew by the end of this year. Fingers cross this forward momentum continues. In the past 5 months, I've written 2 books 250K+ in length, and heavily edited 4 others. I have a few novellas planned over the summer, and the momentum should take me through KING & Faithless.

Q: Will Hero be the next new installment in the series?

A: Yes. However, it will no longer only be from Caleb Green's (Gunner) perspective. Katya Waters will also have a voice.

Q: What else is planned for the series?

A: With 100% certainty, Echoing Silence will follow Hero. This novel will feature 3 POVs. In the 11 books prior to Hero, it was always a singular narrator, but I felt these two books needed to show all sides of the story- they are the finale to these characters' plot arcs. I'm also playing around with the idea of a few novellas, from characters such as Levi Wilson and Dalton Fontaine (after 10 books or so, it's time readers hear from the fellow, since he's changed so much in that time frame) I've been mulling over Niel Whittenhower, whether or not a novella or full-length novel is best to express his story... as you can see, M&M is alive and well, with no end in sight. My plan was to update, refresh, and make it relevant.

Q: Do I have to buy another copy if I already purchased one via Amazon before?

A: No. An update (SHOULD) be available. But this is a hit or miss situation. However, there's an easy solution. Go to Amazon, bring up customer service chat, and request that they update your copy. It takes no more than 3 minutes in total and is hassle-free. If there is an update available, go to your Library on the Amazon website, and click the 'update' option on the drop-down. If you have automatically update titles clicked on your account, Checkmate will do so if Amazon creates an update for it. (I always request. Sometimes they do, sometimes they don't)

Q: I own Queen instead of the individual books. Do I need to buy Checkmate?

A: No. A day or two after Checkmate goes Live, the Queen Omnibus will be joining it. It will take me a few extra days to format 3 books into one, especially with it being around 1,500 pages in length.

Q: Will Queen's books be available in paperback?

A: Yes. Within a week or two, every book in publication by Erica Chilson will be available for purchase from Amazon, other retailers, Createspace, with signed copies offered with steep discounts on my website. The website will be updated as soon as Queen's three books are ready.

If you have any other questions, don't hesitate to ask. I thank you for your patience, for rereading the series, and for updating your ratings and reviews to reflect the final editions of the novels. Thank you for being understanding and patient during this journey, as it hasn't been easy for any of us.

? BookAddict ✍️ La Crimson Femme says

This is my favourite of all them because it hurt so much. Regina's story takes three books. It does make a reader wonder what is going on with Regina that it would take three books. Is she the end game? We are so close to now defeating her enemies yet she is constantly undermining herself which is distressing.

Regina has a self image issue which one would not exactly expect. She's an amazon of a woman. I'm a short female and I've always wanted to be taller. I did have a friend who was close to 6 feet tall. It was interesting seeing how men treated the two of us. It was very different. I can't say for sure it is because she was taller since I'm Asian and I find guys tend to treat Asian women a bit differently. This is my long winded way to say I get what Regina has hang ups due to her height. The fact that she thinks men don't desire her just baffles me like nothing else.

There is a lot of sex in this book. Most of it is fucked up. This is starting to feel guiltily like incest all the time. It's hard to keep it all straight. Who is screwing who? I did find the rape sequences a very hawt. For it

to be Regina to need it as a her kink, I can completely understand. Is it really rape if the victim is willing? It's hard to tell in this one.

More of the "game" is now revealed and I'm starting to become more jaded. It's like a soap opera that never ends. All this kind of political moving is too much for me. I just like it straight forward. In this one, I start to question the sanity of the writer. For her to come up with these twists and plots, speaks of a disturbed mine with too much to hide. Recommended for kinky readers who enjoy a dark erotica from a twisted and disturbed perspective.

Daisy Sloan says

OMFG!!!!!!

With every new book in this series, I find something out that changes my entire perspective on the entire series. I feel like I know what's going on, then I read the next book and it all changes. Each new character's perspective changes things. I find my loyalties changing, I find myself forgiving some and blaming others. Then it all changes with the next book.

I'm curious what the end of this series will look like. It's been a wild and bumpy ride. It's emotional, it's crazy, it's a complete and total mindfuck!

Erica Chilson has definitely done it again. I'm eagerly awaiting the next on in the series. I think this one will be the last one, but who knows what she has up her sleeve?

Oh, if you're looking for normal characters with normal problems - go elsewhere. There's not one single normal person in this series! It's AWESOME!

One last thing, up until this book, I hated Marcus. Now, I actually like the bastard!

Veronica says

Queen's relationship with the people in her life and her feelings about them are complex. Things are more complicated than Queen could image as she learns about MdJ and they start to pull her strings too.

Checkmate is an emotional rollercoaster and had me crying so many times. It didn't matter if I was reading on the train, at work during my lunch break or at home, the tears fell. I was so sucked into the Queen's journey I was even dreaming about it.

With all the ups and downs this story provides I think my favourite thing in Checkmate are Queen's feminist internal monologues because she was spot on. All through this book I was rooting for Queen to get what she wants, what she deserves, to be treated fairly and to be put first.

At 240,000 words Checkmate is a little intimidating and the longest book I think I've ever read. But by the end I was thinking 240,000 wasn't enough because I wanted more. Checkmate was brilliant and I can't wait for King.

Judith says

Another great entry in a great series.

FantasyLiving says

This book (and the prior book, *Queened*) tore me to shreds emotionally. I don't think I've been so invested in a couple and so frustrated by their relationship.

Regina (Queen) kills me with her wounds. I felt her devastation every time she was hurt, and wanted to hurt everyone who had a hand in creating her insecurities, pain, and tears.

The plot was crazy, complex, and at times, confusing, but it made this a book I couldn't put down.

Although the years created a sense of hopelessness, I am so glad for the timeline of this book. It made it more real with the relationship building.

The twisted relationships that form from the chaos dug the knife in deeper, and I just wanted a HEA for all of them.

Some of the scenes made me uncomfortable, and just downright sick, but it really built the story up, and kept it raw.

This is not for the squeamish, or those who like flowery romances with safety, and instant gratification. This is jaded, brutal, and raw. Worth every minute of discomfort and silent screaming.

Tia says

Uh...what to say...what to say...

I loved loved loved Queen in the first two books. I loved loved loved the first four books of the series (read them 3 times each)

Checkmate left me feeling disappointed.

I was hoping for answers once they storm the castle (hopefully in *King*). I just feel like it was too big of a time frame for one book. I was so mad at Marc and Queen for the long breaks, that was hard for me to believe. I understand that Regina has self esteem issues but to go two years with out talking to Marc, that was too much. I am grateful for the happy ending and hope that in *King* we finally get the closure I think us readers are waiting for when the whole family is together and with no further threats.

Maybe I need to re-read it and re-review it. Maybe I was just too amped up for it's release. Maybe....

Lenora says

The best addition to the M&M of Restraint so far. The book answers most of the questions that you, undoubtedly have. It goes back to the pursuit of Kayta, sheds light on Ezra and Master Ez. Regina discovers her past and feelings for everyone Whittenhower, while she does her soul searching to find and obtain what will make her finally whole and happy. Being the Queen that she is, this path is nothing short of hot and steamy as well as heart wrenching. A must read and it, as well as the rest of this fantastic, twisted, and down right sexy series deserves all 5 stars.

Dee says

The first 50% had me glued to the pages, the second half had me going 'are we there yet?' This instalment is spanned over a long time frame with many many characters, old and new. I found myself losing track and backtracking in an effort to keep up with all the 'players.'

The sex was kinky as always, but again I lost track of who was playing with who. Most characters have some sort of family tie, so this story also had more of an incestuous feel to it. I also noticed more so in this instalment that none of them were fussed about the gender of who they had sex with. Needless to say the story contains a lot of MM scenes, some FF along with MF and MFM, MMF.

Not sure if I will continue with this series.

One thing that annoyed me on a personal level (view spoiler)
