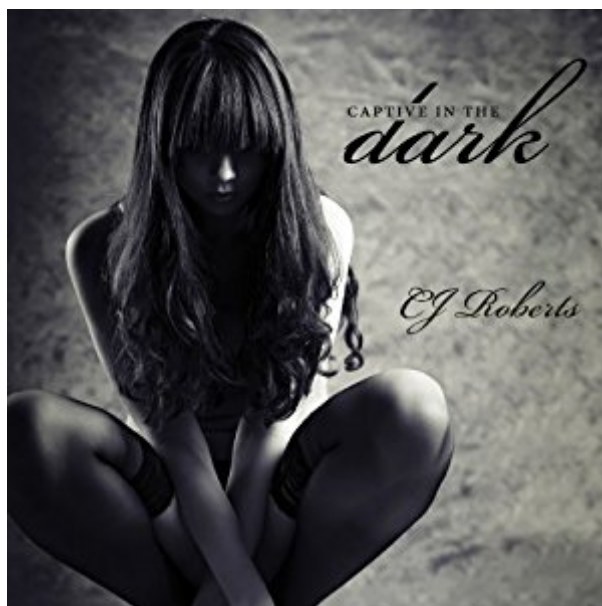


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Captive In The Dark: Dark Duet, Book 1



Synopsis

Caleb is a man with a singular interest in revenge. Kidnapped as a young boy and sold into slavery by a power-hungry mobster, he has thought of nothing but vengeance. For 12 years he has immersed himself in the world of pleasure slaves searching for the one man he holds ultimately responsible. Finally, the architect of his suffering has emerged with a new identity, but not a new nature. If Caleb is to get close enough to strike, he must become the very thing he abhors and kidnap a beautiful girl to train her to be all that he once was. Eighteen-year-old Olivia Ruiz has just woken up in a strange place. Blindfolded and bound, there is only a calm male voice to welcome her. His name is Caleb, though he demands to be called Master. Olivia is young, beautiful, naïve and willful to a fault. She has a dark sensuality that cannot be hidden or denied, though she tries to accomplish both. Although she is frightened by the strong, sadistic, and arrogant man who holds her prisoner, what keeps Olivia awake in the dark is her unwelcome attraction to him. **WARNING:** This book contains very disturbing situations, dubious consent, strong language, and graphic violence.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Captive in the Dark is so twisted and mind blowing that I had to walk away from this book a few times. C.J. Roberts wrote the horrid torturous scenes so intense that the picture was easily painted in my mind. I found myself not crying for the prisoner, I became angry, frightened and confused. In a book this dark I am supposed to hate the kidnapper, torturer and slave trainer Caleb. The story line makes it confusing to understand your own feelings for him, there's no wonder Olivia (kitten) feels

as if she has stockholm syndrome. Caleb's plan is simple, he has been planning for 12 yrs to get revenge for his past and help the man that saved him when he was young and held captive also get his revenge. Caleb needs a american girl to train and sale as a sex slave to this man that he holds responsible for what he went through as a child. He stalks this 18 year old Olivia for weeks and realizes she is the one that he needs. Livvie is strong, feisty and has a questionable sexual urge. After she is kidnapped, beaten and held prisoner he tries to break her down every time she rebels, he never realized that his feeling for her could destroy all that he has planned. The horrible thing is that Caleb is not the only one that insist that this plan is seen through to the end. I never once saw this as a love story, it is about two tortured souls. One that is fueled with vengeance and a appetite to inflict pain which was brought on by his past (doesn't make it right) and has never known what it is to love. The other has a need to feel loved, touched and for someone to know that she exist. The relationship of Caleb the torturer (Master) and the prisoner Olivia is so dark and twisted with a sinister sexual draw that is unfathomable. Captive in the Dark had me from the first page and I will be reading Seduced in the Dark (Dark Duet #2).

The Dark Duet Series by C.J. Roberts (Captive in the Dark, Seduced in the Dark, and Epilogue)
 5 STARS. Caleb is a man with a singular interest in revenge. Kidnapped as a young boy and sold into slavery by a power-hungry mobster, he has thought of nothing but vengeance. For twelve years he has immersed himself in the world of pleasure slaves searching for the one man he holds ultimately responsible. Finally, the architect of his suffering has emerged with a new identity, but not a new nature. If Caleb is to get close enough to strike, he must become the very thing he abhors and kidnap a beautiful girl to train her to be all that he once was. Eighteen-year-old Olivia Ruiz has just woken up in a strange place. Blindfolded and bound, there is only a calm male voice to welcome her. His name is Caleb, though he demands to be called Master. Olivia is young, beautiful, naïve and willful to a fault. She has a dark sensuality that cannot be hidden or denied, though she tries to accomplish both. Although she is frightened by the strong, sadistic, and arrogant man who holds her prisoner, what keeps Olivia awake in the dark is her unwelcome attraction to him. Rescued from sexual slavery by a mysterious Pakistani officer, Caleb carries the weight of a debt that must be paid in blood. The road has been long and fraught with uncertainty, but for Caleb and Livvie, it's all coming to an end. Can he surrender the woman he loves for the sake of vengeance? Or will he make the ultimate sacrifice? HOLY S***! I loved this series. I also read this series a while back and I am going to review them together as they make one continuous story. They are not stand alone. This is by far one of the

most disturbing and dark stories I have ever read, but I was captivated. I normally like happy romance novels but the fact that this story grabbed me testifies to how talented C.J. Roberts is. This series revolves around the world of sex slavery. I was absolutely disgusted with this world. It made me so angry that people can abuse children, women, and men like that. It makes sex such a dirty and vile thing. My heart bled for Caleb and Livvie both. This book literally had me rethinking my career choice to become a FBI agent to fight sex crimes. Then there was the whole Stockholm syndrome that Livvie suffered from. How do you fall in love with your captor??? From this book, I totally get it. I kind of fell in love with Caleb too despite the terrible things he did to Livvie (and he did some TERRIBLE things to her). The glimpses of affection were enough to bring hope that Caleb would learn to love. Totally messed up right??? Well, that is good writing for you. At a certain point I felt like I was suffering from Stockholm syndrome. This book had me tied in knots, but the ending was worth the entire journey. My heart felt at peace with the Epilogue. I was happy to see Livvie becoming a strong person and living her life. I was glad Caleb tried to make peace with his past. I was so happy they found each other. No matter how terrible their journey was, I truly felt that Livvie and Caleb were meant to be soul mates. I don't think this book is for everyone because the content is so intense and I'm not sure everyone could handle this subject matter. However, for those of you who can, this is one of the best series I have read. This story stays with me and I literally needed almost a week to get over the book. TOP FAVORITE SERIES RIGHT HERE!!

In my continuing 2013 quest to read things that have been on my Kindle for a really long time, I finally got to this one. Ok. Where to begin? Is it well written? Definitely. Did it hold my interest? Yes. Did I find it thought-provoking? Yes. Did I enjoy it? No. Do I have to have enjoyed it to find it worth reading? No. Am I conflicted about Caleb? Not one bit. Caleb's a sick SOB & no amount of recounting how he came to be such, did a thing to sway me to rooting for, liking or absolving him. I knew I wasn't going to be giving this guy any passes when it was disclosed that he'd watched Livvie through the fence at her highschool for weeks before she's taken. Really. I was interested in him in the same way one is interested in the criminally insane & sadistic. In that way that you would sit on a jury & not flinch as he's sentenced to spend the rest of his days in a locked down psychiatric facility with a team of MDs & PhDs trying to unwind his psyche. Call me a provincial chica, I don't want the heroine to "help" this guy. He can't be "loved" better. There is no special snowflake that can "fix" him. He needs clinicians to get to work on that. For years. And even then, not a guy I'd spend a second whinging on about his damage, scars & feelings. That is what I felt as I read this

book. I didn't feel sympathy or solace or anything close to redemption relating to Caleb. And to my mind, that's perfectly fine. He wasn't acting out fantasies, he was perpetrating a criminal endeavor on Livvie. He felt absolved at times because he deemed actions "her choice" but there's no freedom in the matter when the underlying act is against one's will. What I did get & find utterly fascinating with regard to Caleb, is the question: When is it that you become the thing you hate on your quest for revenge? And how just is your cause when you've destroyed & damaged innocents in the the way others did to you when you were so? That old proverb about digging two graves when you begin your quest has always fascinated me. So that, was my only draw to read on about Caleb. And yes, I wanted him to die at the end of this whole thing. I hold hope that he still meets his end in the second book. No matter how things played out, I couldn't get past the notion that Livvie was not Caleb's first captive. He'd done this before to other girls & women all in aid of his quest to get to Vladek. And the fact that the "Flower Auction" is about obtaining virgins, leads me to believe that the ages of the captives is not a strict 18 out of some moral obligation to keep it on the legal age side. Girls. NOT women. Livvie being marked as "special" & having "got to him" for this story didn't take that ugly angle away & even if no one else cared about the others, their fates & Caleb's hand in it, I did. We have not so nice government funded facilities for people who kidnap, violate & sell people because those are actual crimes & Caleb is a perfect candidate to wend away his days in one. Very early on in the story, I was hoping this was Livvie's recounting of what happened to her to the authorities. Her point of view read that way to me. I'm still hoping to find that it was so. She had my sympathies & that she further became a victim of Stockholm Syndrome was even more sad though completely understandable. I'd allow it for any person in that situation, but definitely for an 18 year-old highschool girl. She was not, to me, a reliable narrator because of the situation she was in. She vacillated between states. At one point, she mused that he had always been in control of himself with her & had always explained why he was doing one thing or another. Per the other POV supplying Caleb's story, this simply is not true. It's clear that Livvie does not have anything near the whole of her story, by her own words, but she allows herself sometimes to think that she does. She compartmentalized, rationalized & sometimes, idealized what had been done to her. That she wondered at why he was like this when he was so handsome & could surely get women easily, as if being good looking gave some sort of bye on being a sick soul, was sad & disturbing. Not in a "How can she think that given what he's done to her" but in a broader "No one should have that expectation & allowance to begin with" way. I couldn't get over the beating & the rape & the original stalking & kidnapping to consider anything that happened consensual on any level but allowed that she needed have her veil to view through. Coercion & want of survival negates any physical

response, positive (or temporarily powerful) feelings toward Caleb that Livvie felt. He wasn't a choice. He was a self-imposed lack of options & one of last resort. If nothing else, it was an interesting character study of an abused & detached character. Actually two. Caleb's part being told in third-person was a good device because I really didn't want to get any closer to this guy than I already was. It was a welcome & for me, necessary, distance. For all his supposed conflict & feelings for her, in the end his issues & personal vendetta against Vladdek outweighed the damage he'd wrought on Livvie. She was just going to have to deal, because he had some unresolved stuff & this was the only way that HE was going to be free & better in the end. She was still another link in the chain of women he'd used to attain his goal. That he admits it doesn't make him sympathetic & neither does that little introspective attempt at the 94% mark. That she accepted the inevitability of it doesn't make her free. But I do applaud the author throwing in that Livvie was going to attempt to go all out wanton seductress to counter the coveted virginal thing. I didn't buy her capable or inclined to a sex romp a day after she endured a gang beating complete with boot bruises all over, cracked ribs & a dislocated shoulder but... okay. I've seen a lot of reviews by women who've raved & loved this but I haven't seen the masses saying they were handing this over to their husbands & boyfriends to take notes to be more like Caleb (a la Christian Grey). I find that interesting. I wonder if, all other things being equal, there'd be so much swooning if Caleb had been described as physically unattractive, fat, sweaty & hairy in all the wrong places (kind of like Tiny, because really, where it counts, Caleb, Jair, Tiny (& Tiny's friends) aren't so different). One thing that did bother me was that the author gives somewhat random toss-in of Livvie having a boyfriend & siblings that she loves so much & feels responsible for but we never get anything from Livvie even hinting that she misses them at all. Livvie never even mentions her boyfriend's name in her narration. Though we do get a lot of her missing & conflicted feelings about her mother. There are also a few typos & misused words sprinkled around ("us" instead of "we

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