



Hold Me Close

E.M. Gayle

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Sometimes you need to cut and run and sometimes the ties run too deep to abandon.

Bonnie's job at Purgatory keeps her on edge in more ways than one. Every day the pain of her grief over losing her Dom threatens to consume her. Her only escape comes at the hands of the resident tattooed bad boy who likes to keep things light and loose with a variety of women. He may not be the Dom of her dreams, but he chases away the darkness if only for one night...

Dex is used to unattached submissives coming to him for a chance to feel the kiss of his flogger or the sting of his whip until they find their own Doms. With his busy life of ink and kink he likes keeping his women at arm's length. Except one night a month when Bonnie shreds him every time she asks him to hold her close.

When an unexpected invitation to an island resort arrives, is it the answer to their problems? Or their worst nightmare?

*Author's Note: While HOLD ME CLOSE can easily be read as a stand alone story, you'll likely enjoy reading the earlier Purgatory Club books, too.

Hold Me Close Details

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Author : E.M. Gayle

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Genre : Erotica, BdsM, Adult Fiction, Romance, Erotic Romance

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From Reader Review Hold Me Close for online ebook

MsRomanticReads says

*Purchased and read as part of THE BAD BOYS OF EDEN: Billionaires, Alphas, Bikers, and Doms Boxed Set.

Hold Me Close by Eliza Gayle
Invitation to Eden # N/A
Part of a Series: Purgatory Club #6
Length: 15 Chapters

Bonnie (24) was a "baby girl" to her Dom, Jim. He'd been older, wiser and his life was chaos free. Then he died of cancer leaving Bonnie feeling adrift. Some time before Jim's death, he'd introduced her to Dex, Club Purgatory's favorite Dom and notorious for remaining detached. She felt guilty that she'd felt a spark with Dex, a man not her Dom. But he was willing to give her what she needed while she mourned, and she only had two rules: no sex, just flogging, and they'd only scene for one night a month. Somewhere during those months she'd fallen in love with Dex, and apparently he wasn't unaffected by her either.

During a scene, he gave her the ultimate release, both emotional and physical. She ran out on him when she realized they'd never have more. Gabe sent her on a mini vacation to Eden and tricked Dex into going as well.

I really liked this couple, and Bonnie was stronger than she gave herself credit for. That she burdened herself with so much emotional baggage told me that she was a good person, kind, loving, loyal to a fault, and just plain sweet. Dex may have been the club's favorite for many reasons, but I got a kick out of seeing his feathers ruffled because of her, her actions, and Gabe's sneaky interference. I also liked the "meat" of the story, and that it wasn't just all about sex. Dex had his own demons, a result from an alcoholic and abusive father. Obviously his past interfered with his present and any progress he'd made with Bonnie. In the end, I liked that she stepped up to be there for him.

The sex was scorching hot, but I also enjoyed the other aspects of their journey. There were only a couple of errors, but nothing major to dampen the reading experience. I was confused by one scene though (Ch.8).

In his cabin, he first bent her over his desk. A few thrusts later he told her to get on her hands and knees, so both of them were facing the window.

"She twisted with his arm and settled on her hands and knees on the desk."

More thrusting until: *"Dex lifted her hips until her feet left the floor..."*

Up to that point, nothing indicated she'd put her feet back on the floor.

Regardless, thanks to this story, I'll be adding the other books in the Purgatory Club and Purgatory Masters series to my reading list.

Nicole Levy says

4+ Immediately Draws You In Stars

I downloaded this book as a freebie and it's been on my Kindle for a few days. I was not intending to read it now, but I accidentally opened the book when adding it to a collection, read the first page, and was immediately drawn in by Bonnie.

I have a long list of ARC reviews due soon, but I got sucked in so quickly that I abandoned the ARC I'm currently reading and devoured Bonnie and Dex's story. That's how good E.M. Gayle is at drawing you in. I was rooting for Bonnie in two pages. I finished the book I'm one sitting and don't regret it one bit. Hold Me Close is my first E.M. Gayle read, but it most definitely will not be my last.

This novella is steamy as hell, but Gayle manages to pack so much heart into the short story, too. For a BDSM read heavy on the *conflicted pasts* it manages to be light enough to be a quick read but substantial enough to get you invested in the world (assuming you're jumping into book 6 of a series of interconnected standalones like me and you aren't already invested, that is).

This is a 4 star read for me rather than 5 because it is a tad more rushed than necessary. It keeps things lighter and totally works for the story, but it keeps it from being quite *next level*. The writing is solid and easy to connect with, but also just a touch below awesome. However, I still highly recommend.

Sheri says

Wow, I've been following both the Purgatory series by Eliza Gayle, and this really cool Invitation to Eden series, and this book fit both of those great series. It was sexy, emotional and very entertaining.

Bonnie, is a great heroine, she's both strong and willing to submit to the very alpha Dex. These are two characters that aren't sure they are what the other wants, but are definitely what they both need.

Dex is a fantastic Dom, he's very much in charge, sexy, and I would gladly take him home, through in a visit to Eden and I was so very much in love with this man. Even if at one point I wanted to yell at him, but I also wanted to yell Bonnie, because they were both so stubborn.

Very sexy and highly recommended, pick this up even if you haven't read either series, this story won't disappoint!

I received a copy in exchange for my honest review. I was not compensated for my review.

Viki Braswell says

Hold Me Close is book 6 in the Purgatory series. I cannot seem to get enough; where can I get a VIP membership! The chemistry between the main characters (Dex and Bonnie) is undeniable. I had to stop a few times just to calm myself down from the hot and steamy scenes. I love a story that can pull me in and make me wish I was more a part of it.

I would have liked to see more play out with the Eden scene, it kinda just popped in and out too quickly. It would have been an interesting twist to have the two find each other in the dungeon rather than on the beach. I still highly recommend this book and the entire Purgatory series.

Eliza Gayle does it again and doesn't disappoint!

Carmen Baldwin says

Great!

This is a great story of two people that belong together but pasts stand in the way. Dex is a dominant at a club and Bonnie has lost her master and feels guilty about her wanting Dex, she is a sweet plus size woman and Dex is a harden tattoo artist and thinks he is too rough for her when they have a scene at the Club because of his father was bully on women. Dex so learns that love fits in all sizes and scenes, when Bonnie and Dex is together it is so hot, I am fanning my self on how hot it is, LOVED the ending and will be recommend this book to all romance readers!?

Jodie Bivins says

Bonnie is a sub and her Dom, Jim, has died more than a year ago. Bonnie still couldn't bring herself to find a regular Dom. She allows herself one night a month to open herself up and feel. Tonight was that night and she went to the Purgatory Club. Dex is a club Dom he was also a friend to Jim and also the one Dom Bonnie will let touch her. Dex didn't have a regular sub nor did he want one

and was in demand by all the subs to play. But tonight he decided something was going to give and he was gonna take Bonnie further than he had taken her before. He takes Bonnie to a private room and pushes her limits and things get out of hand because he can't get Bonnie out of his head. They end up having sex which is something they haven't ever done. As he is in the bathroom getting what he needs for aftercare Bonnie runs. She runs straight into Gabe the owner of the club her boss. He tells her there is a car waiting for her outside. When she gets in she finds an invitation to Eden and a message telling her to go and work it out once and for all.

Dex is furious when he comes and finds Bonnie gone and is trucked by Gabe to go to the island. He is in his room

designing tattoos when he sees a submissive down by the water and is shocked when he realizes it is Bonnie. He goes and gets Bonnie and passions ignite between them and they have sex again after he punishes her for running from aftercare and before she is dismissed. As she sleeps he goes to the dungeon and ends up covering for Master Drake and gives some lessons and such in whips and flogging when Bonnie finds he there.

She returns home after just 2 days in Eden and begins to try to put her life back together. She finally returns back to the club and Dex shows up and tells Bonnie he is her dom and there will be no more running from him.

Although first they need to talk and he tells her why he is the way he is and why he hadn't taken a sub of his own.

Will their truths be enough to keep them together or will it destroy what they have built together.

I found this book to be very well written and the bdsm elements of the book to be scorching hot. This book is not intended for those under 18 or for those who cannot handle graphic sexual scenes or the bdsm elements

Mary says

This story is part of the Purgatory club series. Admittedly this is both the first book I've read in this series and from this author. I enjoyed this novella and while it can be read as a stand alone, I would have preferred reading this one after one of the full length books. I felt a little bit lost when it came to the club itself and the workers there too.

Bonnie and Dex were interesting characters but I wished they had more of a story. I enjoyed getting to know them but wanted more.

Anne Richardson says

A Dom and a Submissive both letting the Past hold them from being together.
As a Dom Dex was well liked by the unattached submissives and Bonnie is no exception.
A great BDSM story from the Purgatory series.
Really enjoyed

Tabatha says

I've been an avid fan of Eliza Gayle's Purgatory series for a while now, and her latest release, Hold Me Close, is without a doubt a fantastic addition. Just like the others in the Invitation to Eden series, our characters are invited to an exotic resort that caters to whatever your heart desires. Now who wouldn't love that?

You'll find that even though Hold Me Close is a short read, it is also a very emotional journey. Bonnie is still struggling to move past the loss of her Daddy Dom, and Dex believes he isn't the right Dom for her needs. These two have such a powerful connection, that I really found it hard to put this book down and I was completely absorbed from start to finish. Although they both think that their expectations are clear as far as wants and needs go, they find that those clear cut lines have blurred so much during their monthly sessions that there is no turning back now.

Hold Me Close is a beautiful story with so intensity that, just like me, I know you won't be able to put it down. I really cannot seem to get enough of this series, but these characters definitely hold a special place in my heart. I want so much more with this couple, so I really hope we see more of them in the next Purgatory book. Thanks Eliza for yet another wonderful read in this delightfully naughty series!

You can read this and more of my reviews on
[Blending Perspectives Book Reviews](#)

Wendy says

Hold Me Close by E.M. Gayle is a beautiful bdsm love story for those that are afraid to move on after the

death of your loved one. In this case, her Dom.

What I enjoyed the most about this novel was how both main characters found themselves. E.M. Gayle does a beautiful job at voicing what the characters never knew they needed.

Although this is part of a series, this novel can be read as a stand alone novel and has a happy ending for those readers that enjoy this.

Enjoy!

Linda Rea says

Bonnie craves the BDSM lifestyle and all that it contains but with her Dom Jim gone it's impossible now but her friend Gabe and also owner of the club suggested Dex at least give her the freedom she is missing.

Bonnie agrees to once a month and every month she wants to be Dex's real submissive but he doesn't do long term so she begins to be lost again till a surprise trip helps her along.

Catherine Iriarte says

This book is the best I have read in this series. It had a great story line, wasn't too short, and had plenty of hot and sexy.

Mary Lou Hoffman says

HOLD ME CLOSE is the sixth book in the Purgatory Club series. Though it stands completely on its own, I wish I had more of this amazing series. I can tell I would love to know more about the people of this club.

I loved this story about a Daddy Dom who cared enough to look for what his girl needed before cancer took him from the world. #cancersucks

I loved this story about Dex and Bonnie. Neither realized what her previous Dom had tried to set up between them. He saw what could be between them long before they were ready.

I love this story that reinforces the need to communicate instead of assuming you know – especially if you think you know all that a label means. Babygirl doesn't have to mean only the gentlest of touches all of the time. Masochist doesn't mean only the hurt. Dom doesn't mean Knows-All-Infallibly. Dare I say, all people are shades of grey? It's true.

Note: While I received this book as a gifted ARC, my opinions are my own and are given freely.

Title: HOLD ME CLOSE

Series: Purgatory Club #6

Category /Genre: Erotic Romance, BDSM

Recommended for: 18+ due to sexual content

Grammar/editing: book received as an unedited ARC / errors excused

Received from: E.M. Gayle (as an ARC gifted copy)

FantasyLiving says

Sweet and sad Bonnie is still mourning the death of her Daddy Dom, but allows herself one night a month to indulge in some pain play with Dex.

Dex is a soft hearted Dom who's skill with a whip brings all the subs to his post. But it's Bonnie that he wants to spend his time with, even if he thinks she should find another gentle Daddy.

I have been waiting for Dex's story since Walker took Cass off his whipping list. This story is intense and beautiful. I love the way he connected with Bonnie. The scenes they shared completely grabbed me. I felt their internal turmoil, and thought the stormy beach was the perfect backdrop to their wild encounter. I don't think I'll ever see a tropical storm the same way (and since I live in a tropical climate, I'll get a lot of reminders of this story). I wish this story was longer. I would have enjoyed more of this couple. Especially as Dex starts to release himself from his past, and becomes more comfortable with Bonnie's need for pain play.

I also want to see that tattoo he plans for her..... I can imagine she'd be pretty hot by the end of that needle session.

Club Purgatory series always sucks me in and leaves me wanting just that little bit more. I would love to read a full length novel on all of these characters. Especially these two.

Drmgrl99 says

Hold Me Close may be book 6 in the Purgatory Club series but it is easily read as a stand alone and features parts of both the Purgatory and Invitation to Eden worlds.

I could do nothing but submit to the sensuous words and devour the book in one sitting. I loved this story, Dex and Bonnie are amazing characters. The struggle they go through will bring you to your knees and leave you wanting more from this amazing author, Eliza Gayle. I am patiently waiting for the next trip to Purgatory and Eden.
