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Badlands Bad Boy by Maggie Shayne released on Jul 25, 1997 is available now for purchase.

Badlands Bad Boy Details

Date : Published July 25th 1997 by Silhouette Intimate Moments (first published 1997)

ISBN : 9780373078097

Author : Maggie Shayne

Format : Paperback 256 pages

Genre : Romance, Westerns, Contemporary Romance

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From Reader Review Badlands Bad Boy for online ebook

Megan says

Book 3 in the Brand series. I'm not a western romance fan, but since Ms. Shayne is one of my favorite authors, I knew I had to read her Brand series. Overall, they are all quite good! Some are a little bit better than others, in my opinion. If you are a fan of the western romances, you can't miss this series!

This is the story of Wes Brand (half Comanche, and half brother to the Texas Brand clan) and his HEA Taylor.

Esmeralda Izaguirre says

Great book

I loved the whole story of Shadow Wolf. It's vision and finding of true spirit and true love. Very powerful.

Maggie'may Reinders says

Story lost momentum a few times. They could of cut about 100 pages out.

Foxfire says

DNF. I love Native American themed romance, but this just didn't do it for me. Maybe I'm getting jaded, but it does annoy me when by page 20 it becomes totally obvious how the plot is going to work out.

The opening scenes were great, but after the first mention of the legend, it was as if there was a huge signpost for the roles of H and h in it. And, after the first mention that the h hates people lying to her, there was another signpost. Then it was just a question of traveling the well trodden road to the end, which was simply too boring.

There is a billion dollar industry about people trying to find love. I can be irritating to read a story where a couple falls in love at first sight, go on to discover they are highly compatible, but they fight tooth and nail against their feelings because they are so scared of falling in love -- only to discover that love is exactly what they need to banish the sense of loneliness from which they have suffered all their lives.

I might have enjoyed this more if the H and h were not so obviously in love from day one, and so obviously not perfect for each other. Some other conflict over and above "I've never felt like this about anyone and it scares the heck out of me" would have helped to keep me interested.

Every action was predictable. For example, Wes decides to dress up in his warrior disguise and go and confront the heroine while she is swimming nude. We already know the heroine has the hots for the warrior (and Wes knows it too, but he seems to quite conveniently overlook the fact). Cue in sex scene.

Shame, because the characters were interesting. It was the overall predictability of the story that killed it for me.

Luvmyfamily says

Only two mess ups in this story. One: you can't carbon date metal. It has to have carbon in it to carbon date it and that's : "a chemical element that forms diamonds and coal and that is found in petroleum and in all living plants and animals" according to Webster. The only other mistake was when she turned on the water faucet and it didn't work and Wes said the electricity wasn't turned on. It's probably well water and therefore there's nothing to turn on. Other than that it was a fabulous story mixed with a little mystical and a lot of heritage. I enjoyed the over all book!

Jennifer Prescott says

Wes and Taylor work very well together. The story of the love between their ancestors is beautiful, and Wes and Taylor had some major hurdles to get over, but their love was preordained!

Alison Davies says

Wes has had a hard time, coming to terms with his heritage... And the fact he was wrongfully imprisoned for a crime he didn't commit.. Eventually the truth certainly out and he was released, but the damage has been done... Then he meets Taylor and its love at first sight, but Wes told her a lie and he can't tell her the truth for the fear of losing her!! Such a sweet story of a Comanche legend and true love!!

Stacy says

Love The Brands

Thoroughly enjoyed Wes Brands story. He finally found himself and the love of his life in thsi wonderful story. Cant wait to read Bens story, for I understand the loss of a spouse way too soon.

Abby G. Amos says

Excellent Read!

I enjoyed reading this book! It really showed the softer side of Wes! I found myself laughing a time of two at the things he and Turtle would do! I think everyone who reads this book/series will enjoy it! I definitely recommend this book to others!

Kathy says

Setting: Emerald Flat, Texas; Quinn, Texas

Theme: love, heritage, history, destiny, embracing ones culture

Characters:

Turtle, Comanche shaman – 105 years old... entrusted with the sacred land of Wolf Shadow, to protect it and to aid in the descendents of Wolf Shadow and Little Sparrow to find each other – to love each other, and free the spirits of the two to finally find one another and then for their people to prosper. He manipulates Wes, cajoles Taylor.

Taylor McCoy – her Cherokee mother dying, she had her daughter adopted by white couple, in spite of her Cherokee heritage, and hurt when he parent's lied to her about being adopted; compounded by a sexual relationship with her married therapist (she didn't know he was married) –she hates lies, and has kept herself distant from people. She is a archeologist, specializing in Native American digs... and she has avoided anything Cherokee.

Scourge and Kelly – her two grad student assistants.

Wes Brand – An indiscretion of his father, but accepted by his wife when he came to live with them... though never treated differently, he always felt a bit on the outside. In his youth fell in with a bad crowd... harassed a bartender, he left on his horse, the others returned and beat the guy up... the guy said they were all there, and his 'friends' didn't alibi him... he spent 2 years in jail before one friend told the truth, and he was exonerated. He was also instrumental in protecting Garrett's future wife, killing the man threatening him. The last year he has spent time with Turtle, learned about Cherokee, found a sense of peace. He is planning on buying a piece of land (near his brother's) and raising appaloosas.

Wolf Shadow & Little Sparrow - a shaman 4 generations ago, who fell in love with Little Sparrow, courted her with gifts (including a necklace) – and she was killed by a white raiding group... Wolf Shadow buried the gifts he gave her, sanctified the land and entrusted it to another shaman, and he left to track those who had killed her – until he was killed himself... the legend is that their souls will only find one another when a pair of their decedents find one another.

Jessi, Lash, Garrett, Ben – Brand siblings – wrapping themselves around Wes and by extension Taylor. Two are happily married . Jessi organizes a barn raising after Wes gets the property, showing him how much the town does accept him.

Summary:

Turtle was there for Taylor's birth, and is instrumental in getting her back to the site – when a developer wants to buy the site from the Cherokee – and Taylor is hired to disprove that the sight is sacred... but Turtle is trying to get Taylor and Wes together – knowing they are the descendents... He talks Wes into dressing up like Wolf Shadow, and making an appearance at dark to frighten Taylor away... and then Wes ends up at her site to protect her...

For a bit Taylor is confused as she is attracted to both Wolf Shadow and Wes... until she figures out he's one and the same. She is hurt by his lies... but they work it out. She loves her appaloosa, and is quite excited to share in Wes' plans for his ranch – falling easily in to feeling a part of it... And Turtle tells Wes that he is the next shaman – and they do the sweat lodge & cold water thing... and he has a vision of Wolf Shadow & Sparrow and him gifting her the necklace, and then their faces fade to his and Taylor's. and Taylor is learning to accept her Cherokee side... and when the end it near, Wes is counseled by Ben to trust her with everything... so he takes her to the sacred spot, and places the necklace on her... and tells her he trusts her to do what she will, and he'll stand by her regardless... and she of course protects the treasure, returning it...

and feeling oil... and follow it to it's origin... and Turtle tells them that the Cherokees are blessed through their union... and at the wedding, two cloud shapes looking like Wolf and Sparrow melt together.... ahhhh

Memorable scenes:

Shirley says

3.5-4 stars...

Yes, some of this one was kinda corny and yes, some of the things that Wes did seemed totally out of character. Even though some of this one was a little far-fetched... at least in the beginning, I still loved Badlands Bad Boy. It's those darn Brand guys, gals and kids. They pull me in every time. *sigh*

Wes may be the black sheep of the Brand family for obvious reasons, but that's just the people from the outside looking in. To every one of his brothers and sisters, he's their brother. He's spent most of his life avoiding his Comanche roots and now it's his turn to open the mind of another person trying to do the same thing. His love and respect for Turtle makes him do things that he would never consider.

If not for the magic in this one, I might not have enjoyed it as much. That aspect made this more than a simple love story. As crazy as it sounds, it made it more real. It also took me a while to really like Taylor, but once again, I have the Brands to thank for that. By the end of the story I was kind of hoping that readers would see more of Wes and Taylor because I have a feeling that their story is far from over.

Next up for the Texas Brand is Long Gone Lonesome Blues and I have no doubt that this one is going to be a heart breaker.

J.d. Egan says

I can hear myself singing *Colors of the Wind* as I read Ms. Shayne's third book in the Texas Brand series (I can carry a decent tune, mind you). This is no *Pocahontas* however. Perhaps there is a faint influence, though I cannot accuse her of creating a rip-off. To accuse her of such means I do not comprehend the story grammars of both works.

May we pretend for a moment that the rest of the books in the series are not out in print yet? Ms. Shayne outdoes herself in this novel. *Badlands Bad Boy* has the most picturesque and richest narrative since the start of the series. I can practically see and smell the arid, barren lands of vast wilderness before the climbing boulders of the silently sloping hills. The grittiness of soil sliding through the hands of the diggers from their daily excavations under the scorching bite of the Texas sun. The ancient Indian teepees quite beautifully cascading into a perfect backdrop in an otherwise lonely plains. And the Native American central fire towering like a fortress with its blazing fire, seemingly trying to reach the sky, and the crackling sound of its floating embers. Such are just a few of what the book paints in my imagination.

As in the previous two books, the Brand siblings remain to be a treat. Wes isn't exactly my favorite among the Brands—seeing a change in his bearings here though, brings him closer to my heart. Wes is a true darling—looking after Turtle like that as well as his loved ones. And that big hug with big Ben is one scene I

shall never forget (I am a sucker for bromance, I admit). Taylor McCoy—Sky Dancer to her Comanche origin—is a woman some can relate to. She puts herself in self-imposed social isolation for fear of betrayal when she gets close to someone. She is now torn, however, between preserving the protective barrier she built around herself and letting a man sweep her off her feet. Another newly-introduced character is called Turtle—a scheming coot of a shaman. I can't quite picture how he acts if played out in a film reel, though I can see Gaius—that court healer in the *BBC* show *Merlin*—in him. He is such a comic relief, I expect one everytime he's in the picture. As usual, Jessi is a scene-stealer. You'll never get tired adoring her honest quips and meddlesome ways. It just disappoints me seeing Elliott appear less than I allow in all sequels so far. I adore his puerile disposition. I've been in love with his character from the moment he wore that pyjama pants in horse print. Why can't Ms. Shayne just give me more of him while waiting for his own turn in the series?

This installment gives us the missing essence—one which Chelsea had pointed out to Garrett in book 1—Wes is in search of. Not only do we see glimpses of his Comanche past but also how he and Taylor become instruments in the fulfillment of Wolf Shadow's legend and in the restoration, and preservation, of their Comanche heritage and traditions.

It may be more engaging if *The People*, the Comache community, are physically present in the book—their voices we hear and their way of life we observe. I also wonder how a future shaman is determined. This particular train of thought makes my brows draw together:

Wes grated his teeth. Why was it she seemed so afraid of Wolf Shadow when he wasn't around, but when he was, she stood up to him like a bulldog guarding a T-bone?

This proves that Wes's infamous temper makes him less smart. Though it makes me wonder, again, how a future shaman he can be. Does it mean shamans may have been foolish once and only gets wiser as time goes by? Maybe so. We also hear Wes use the word *fabulous*. I will assume Taylor is rubbing off on him, though I cannot imagine a cowboy using the word. I notice these days the word is spoken only by refined men and gay men.

Badlands Bad Boy is arguably well-plotted, with the main characters sharing the same interests, same lost heritage, and their connection to Wolf Shadow and Little Sparrow legend. The author may or may have not deliberately placed symbolisms and foreshadowing all throughout the book. Albeit I will be taking too much of your precious time if I attempt to discuss them one-by-one. One may deduce its predictability, though I can overlook that detail. At least, it is an aversion from the damsel in distress theme from book 1—or the tad in distress from book 2, if you may—with guns and goons and whatnot. I can even forgive the idea of true love formed in just a matter of week. The story simply doesn't feel contrived at all to me. I can easily imagine the characters telling Ms. Shayne their stories, and the events unfolding themselves to create this magical tale of love and acceptance.

Dina says

From the book blurb:
THE BADDEST BRAND

Whipcord lean and as wild as the Badlands he called home, Wes Brand knew what it meant to be an outsider. All his life he hadn't truly belonged. Not to the Comanche, whose proud blood flowed through his veins. Not to the Texas Brands, though they'd embraced him as one of their own...

Now, for the first time, Wes found himself NEEDING someone. And though he'd sampled the passion beneath her no-nonsense veneer, headstrong Taylor McCoy resisted him at every turn. She wasn't a woman who trusted easily - especially a man with a past, a man who embodied the heritage... and husband... she secretly desired.

Dawn ♥ romance says

I finished this story and the plot had potential but they left reality a little too much ruminating about the spirit sense and it just wasn't believable. I did like how when they dealt with trust, an important component of a relationship. Archaeologist Taylor is on a dig when she sees an Indian warrior telling her to stop and the local sheriff's brother Wes offers to stay with her for protection.

Rachael says

loved the duel purpose of this book
