



## Revived

*Kora Knight*

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### Revived Kora Knight

Love unearthed his heart from the cold, hard ground.  
Now comes the fight to revive it.

Love. Just when Max Kelley thought he'd eradicated it from his life for good it snuck back in, in the form of his beautiful new sub, Sean. Something that Max is far from happy about. In fact, he fights it tooth and nail. Having his world decimated was hell on earth, an experience he'd go to any lengths to avoid repeating. Problem is, while his head is determined to protect his heart, his heart can't stop thinking about Sean. Sean, his perfect sub, his perfect match, his perfect everything. Which makes him that much more of a threat. Were Max to claim him and then lose him, the devastation would be far greater than even Kevin's death. So, in order to ensure his heart and soul stay intact, he must once again eradicate love from his life. Eradicate Sean from his world. But Sean is a scrapper, just like Max, and refuses to give up without a fight. In their final showdown of fiery passion and wills, whose heart will come out in one piece?

Warning: This erotic, gay, BDSM romance contains intensely explicit sexual scenes both inside and out of the dungeon.

\*\* Note from the author: In keeping with the promise I made to my Upending Tad devotees, I've included a small side story with Tad and Scott in book 2 where we delve a bit further into the developments of their relationship, and all the wonderful ways they've been keeping each other's hearts pounding. So, be prepared for a few more character point of views! Tad and Scott aren't going anywhere. XXO

### Revived Details

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## From Reader Review Revived for online ebook

### Annery says

Hmmm ... where to start? Well first things first you definitely need to read part 1 of **The Dungeon Black Duology** before reading this book because in reality this is really just one long (necessarily so) book split in two parts. Though **Scott & Tad** figure somewhat prominently here you could be a stranger to the **Upending Tad** series, but seriously why would you deny yourself such pleasure?

Okay that's enough of my stalling. I want to give a concise and helpful review for other readers but may just find myself doing \*Happy dance & fist bumps\* but I'll give it a go.

**Revived** starts exactly where **Unearthed** ended. Max is still trying to convince himself that his life will continue as it was, that Sean will just be his perfectly matched sub and nothing more. What Max hasn't counted on is who Sean is: strong, brave, resilient, curious, open minded and more importantly honest with himself, what his feelings are and willing to act on them. Man do these attributes come in handy when dealing with Max who can be, in his own words, a douche rocket. But is also worth fighting for and who and what Sean wants.

Due to his past (view spoiler) Max has erected not just a wall but more like a whole fortress to shield himself from any future pain, because his problem isn't that he can't love but rather that when he loves he loves BIG as in ALL IN and loss is just something he can't deal with and so he lives but isn't alive.

Be prepared for Max being all sorts of a\*\*hole in his efforts to keep Sean out and many times I wanted to grab a ball peen hammer and bash his brains in because Sean is just so perfect for him and wanting to be with him and even when he knows this is true he fights and resists with all he's got which sometime can be cruel as hell. He is the guy who will bring a gun to a knife fight.

Like Sean you must have patience and persistence with Max because he is one stubborn S.O.B. and it takes every ounce of Sean's efforts with invaluable assists from Scott and even Tad and, the surprise player, Kai to get through to him.

I won't lie, the book is long but not gratuitously so. Max's journey to finally letting himself be open and vulnerable i.e. to love and be loved in return is a long and hard one because he was so bound tight in his armor. There are some quite extended sex scenes mostly of the BDSM variety because duh! the story is about Max. He is a Dom. Period. In many books the sex scenes are just super sexy times or sometimes filler you can skim over if you want to. However Kora's guys and in this Duology particularly the sex is where the communication, be it verbal or otherwise, happens. Where true intimacy comes into play and not just because people are naked physically but because these are the moments when they are vulnerable and their souls are naked too. Open to be touched in their intimate core. Exposed. Good things come of this.

Ultimately Sean is the hero of this story. The person who without any guarantees keeps putting his heart on a platter as an offering of love and if that isn't a hero I don't know what is. But I will say that Scott (my twin \*wink\*) is the one to give Max the final push and that is so fitting because they are brothers in the purest sense, bound by love and shared experiences, even finding their happy roughly at the same time.

It was good to see Max finally forgive and set free his past because holding on to that misplaced anger had kept him isolated in a prison of his own making.

This book, and I mean Parts 1 & 2, will take you on a emotional but ultimately satisfying roller coaster of a

ride. Because the hard won things are the ones we cherish the most and in their own way Max and Sean clawed their way to a HEA.

Thanks to Kora for delivering flawlessly on the promise of these two characters and keeping true to an original vision of this group of friends.

**Extra points** I did a happy dance every time I got a glimpse of Scott & Tad and how happy they are. The appearances of Jay, Marcie and Ned are icing on the cake and then we have the tasty bait of what will play out between Breck & Kai! Can't wait for that. Even Chad, his bat and his buddy we're a welcome sight and so I have one complaint: (view spoiler) Maybe Kora can do us a solid and remedy that in the Breck & Kai story and also will Jonah & Ledger's story be a solo thing, a short or woven into the Breck & Kai story????

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## Elle the ClosetRomanceReader aka Leftie aka Shoebelle says

*\*ARC received as part of blog tour\**

**I just frigging loved this!!!**

I'll tell you why:

- 1) Sean!!!
- 2) Sean + Max = HOT, emotional, touching, sweet, funny, and HOT!!!
- 3) Scott and Max' friendship
- 4) More Scott
- 5) More Tad!!!
- 6) Which meant more Tad & Scott together!!!
- 7) More Tad & friends
- 8) Jonah
- 9) Additional glimpse into Kai and Breck
- 10) Sean!!!!

That seems a lot going on, but oh I loved it alright!

This picks up right where *Unearthed* ended. This is really about Sean forging ahead with his convictions about him and Max. This is really about Max grappling with his emotions and being able to understand and accept what's happening with him and Sean.

If it's still not clear, while Max is no chopped liver, Sean totally sealed the deal for me. I loved everything about him. I loved his confidence, his doubts, his perseverance, his humor, his everything! GAH! Sean's da man!!! ♥?

Max' actions and thoughts challenged me but he also stole my heart and by his flawed actions and thoughts, he also made Sean shine. Not that he's not worthy of Sean because he totally is. For all his challenges, Max is a man who loves and cares deeply, even when he wasn't ready to acknowledge it. That in itself made him

endearing, albeit in a frustrating manner.

Nevertheless, I don't think I could've asked for anything more with this emotional conclusion to their story. All the characters I've come to enjoy and love made their appearance. Kora didn't shy away from societal problems. She handled it deftly without weighing the story down. The story tugged the heartstrings. Their union sizzled!

Kora, thank you for giving me another couple to love. That's it, it's decided, you write it, I'll read it!

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### **Viv says**

This book was so good. I really enjoyed it even though I thought Max's angst lasted a little too long. I also do not think that this series is a stand alone and you should definitely read the Upending Tad series (start with Loser Takes All) first. I am giving this book 5 stars because of Tad and Scott. I love them and I was thrilled at getting their POVs. I loved seeing the events from the Upending Tad series play out in this book. AND if you want to see Sean & Max's hot BDSM scene with Tad and Scott playing voyeur, run and don't walk to Sideline Submission. I now cannot wait for Kai and Breck's story.

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### **Stefanie says**

Het verhaal is mooi. Ik denk (met het begin van boek I erbij) qua inhoud een beter verhaal dan die van Scott en Tad. Het verhaal van Max en Sean heeft net wat meer inhoud en dat kon ik merken aan de emoties ook die het bij me losmaakte.

Toch kan ik er niet omheen dat Kora Knight doen van het verhaal langdradig schrijft. Steeds opnieuw herhalingen, eerst een moment beleven vanuit Sean en dan vanuit Max. Het was daardoor soms wat saai. En dat is jammer, want hun verhaal is interessant genoeg.

Om die reden heb ik ook afgezien om de rest van de boeken over Scott en Tad te lezen. De 'grote lijnen' van hoe het hen vergaat wordt in dit boek verteld en ik zie het nut daarom niet de losse boeken van hun verhaal verder te lezen. De laatste boeken vond ik meer dan langdradig en ik heb zelfs hele stukken overgeslagen; dat doe ik normaal nooit.

Ik ben wel benieuwd naar het verhaal van Breck en Kai.

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### **Jaime says**

Kora Knight brings you the final chapter of Max & Sean's story with *Revived*. This story is a continuation of *Unearthed*, book one in the Duology and you need to read them in order.

We met our MC in book one, so I am not going to discuss them a lot as nothing has changed with the two. Max is still the same broken man he was when we met him, not believing in happiness or love. Sean, is still trying to get his Dom to see him as more than a boy toy and admit there is something between them. This is pretty much what occurs for 80% of the story - and while we occasionally see Max slip up and give in to Sean, he snaps out of it rather quickly. Leaving Sean and the reader with emotional whiplash! I love good ol'

angst but this almost crossed the line of being redundant and torture, the back and forth was almost too much. I mean realistically, would Sean keep torturing himself like that? I guess that's up to each individual reader.

In addition to the whiplash aspect of the story, this book has additional characters thrown into the storyline - from out of nowhere we are in the life of Tad. While this may not bother readers who have read the other series, it was confusing to me - I felt it took away from Max and Sean's story as one moment you are reading about the MC and next page it's Tad's romance. So this over 400 pages in length book is not all for Max and Sean, be ready for that.

With that being said, it's not a bad book. I was let down, yes. But I still enjoyed the story of Max and Sean. I appreciated that the story was told in dual POV and I can safely say after reading this story I will never see a feather duster again and NOT think of this book. If I was to measure this story on kink alone it would be 5 blazing stars! I would have loved to see more of Max and Sean AFTER their back and forth was over, we barely touched the surface on how good they are going to be together - after all the work to get there.

*"You unearthed my heart, and then you revived my soul."* is what Max says to Sean, and while this is true - we are left with a bereft HFN feeling at the end, when it could have been so much more -

3.5 Stars-

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### Catherine says

I get it! I'm long-winded too! But this was a good story that would have benefited greatly from a cutthroat edit that made the book significantly shorter (like 100-150 pages shorter), but tightened up the storytelling so that the scenes had a little more "oompf!".

And this is totally a personal thing, but by about the half-way point in this book (and *certainly* by 75% on my Kindle), I was so over the fact that a lot of the difficulties between the MCs *still* stemmed from Max's inability to come clean with Sean about Kevin's death. Like, at some point you have to put your big boy pants on and use your words, and I felt like it took Max an unrealistically long time to reach this point.

Don't throw things at me \*ducks in anticipation\* but I didn't really enjoy breaking away from Max and Sean in their own novel to follow up with extra scenes that belonged in the Up-ending Tad series. Like, they had their shining moments, let's leave it at that. I love them as a couple, but I had to attention or emotion to give them in this series. :(

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### Elena says

No rating because I mostly skimmed both books.

After reading the first few chapters I realized Max and Sean's story had too much angst for my taste, but I loved reading about the scenes from the Upending Tad series from Max's perspective and seeing more of what was going on on Scott's side at the time, since almost all of the original series is in Tad's POV. I'm not usually a fan of random scenes about other couples and I think it might be annoying if you haven't

read the first series or simply don't want MCs of other series to have their own POV now and then, but Tad and Scott are one of my favorite couples and the only reason I even skimmed the second book and read about Max and Sean's finding their happy ending was because I was actively looking for new developments in Tad and Scott's story. And I wasn't disappointed, the scenes in their POVs in this series felt like an extended epilogue for them. :)

Still looking forward to Kai and Breck's story.

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## **Lisa says**

So, so much love for this book, and I can see why. With a big edit I would have enjoyed it a whole heap more, too. Sadly, all the issues I had with the first book in this duology were not only still present, but in greater quantities. To the point that this time, I really started skimming from about 60% onwards.

What's that old adage? The definition of madness is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. Well, it applied two fold to my experience reading this book.

The first is the book itself. Characters and plot both. A quarter of the words could have been cut from this story without losing any nuances in the plot. So much of the overwhelming naval gazing was just repetitive. Each time Sean or Max went into extended internal soliloquy, it was to rehash everything we'd learned not just from the first book, but from the previous internal soliloquy, as well. This is not character development, nor is it plot progression. As with their thoughts, the characters didn't change much either. They both dived headlong into the same mistakes over and over. There's only so many times 'he's so fricken hot I can't resist' can be a reason for ignoring your own decision to *not* screw again. The amount of times Max and Sean just went at it, knowing it was wrong... gah! As with everything else, endless sex scenes get repetitive.

The second was me. The amount of times I got frustrated with chunk after chunk of the same angst over and over again and put the book down, only to pick it up again minutes later, thinking maybe something new would crop up in the next couple of pages got ridiculous. Because I rarely found what I was after. And when I did get some character development, it felt far too late and, for all the proceeding belabouring of the same issue, far too instant.

I think I do still prefer Tad and Scott to Max and Sean, but after this, I'm not totally certain. Knight said she'd listened to the readers' desire for more Tad and Scott so she added chapters from their POVs and more of their continuing story. For this reader, it didn't work. It just dragged Max and Sean's story out even more needlessly. If we were to get more Tad and Scott, they should have had their own story. What was presented here, by necessity of this being Max and Sean's story, felt shallow and pointless. There was no substance to their little side arc. And sadly, Tad didn't feel as Tad-ish as he was in his own stories. I miss that Tad.

After this, I'm pretty sure I'm not going to join in for Kai and Breck or Ledger and Jonah. From the brief glimpses given here, their stories seem like they may be as angsty and overbearing as this one.

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## **JustJen "Miss Conduct" says**

Review by The Blogger Girls.

This is book 2 of the Scott and Tad Spinoff. You really have to read book 1, Unearthed, before this, and I

highly recommend you read Scott and Tad as well, as they were the ones who started it all and that series is amazing. The first installment of Max's story was really good, but it had some pretty big shoes to fill after Scott and Tad. Max has some major issues, so much that it has taken a lot of pages to work through.

Sean is fabulous and amazing, with such a wonderful attitude that it was hard not to be affected by it. He tries so hard for Max, takes everything Max throws at him and comes back for more, even when he should have walked away and never looked back (on more than one occasion). But, he knew what he wanted, saw what he and Max could have, and almost never gave up trying to get it. Max, on the other hand, not so much. He spends most of his story beating himself up, denying himself and Sean, hurting Sean time and again, all in the name of being broken beyond repair. When he finally decides his only option is to give Sean to another dom, I wondered why he didn't think of his own mentor, but instead chose Kai, whom he stated he barely knew. Then again, I questioned a lot of things Max did.

Ms. Knight is a master of the hot scenes though, and she did not disappoint in this area. They were creative and held a nice balance of dirty talk and dialog to go along with the rest. Unfortunately, there were some issues with the rest of the story that had me scratching my head in disappointment.

As I said, Max spends much of his time in self-denial, self-inflicted angst and turmoil, so much so that it got very tiresome and repetitive. When a particular scene ended, the story didn't move on, but the scene was then basically retold through Sean's POV so we had to experience it all over again. Much of it felt unnecessary. There were also certain phrases that were used over and over, enough that they stood out like beacons. For example, "truth be told" was used frequently.

This story is also told somewhat throughout the same time frame as Scott and Tad. So, there were times when we got to see things that happened in Scott and Tad's story, but from a different angle, which was kind of fun, but also felt like their amount of page time was a bit unnecessary to the overall story.

Those niggles aside, I enjoyed this quite a bit even though I admit I had to skim a little here and there. I loved everything about Sean, except for how easy he let Max off the hook at times. I loved the humor and dialog and definitely the hot smexy scenes. Seeing Scott and Tad again was nice as well, and I am definitely looking forward to seeing more of Kai in action, especially with the seemingly confused Brent. So, while this one didn't wow me as much as I had hoped, Ms. Knight remains on my auto-read list, and I can't wait to see what she cooks up next!

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## River says

I waited for this story since my love Red was first introduced in Upending Tad Bundle (Volumes 1, 2, 3) I felt like he had a story I wanted to know it. This is more than story than I was waiting for than book 1, don't get me wrong I really enjoyed that book but this one was more in the timeline that I knew.

Things with Max and Sean are exactly were we left them. Max is a closed off man, he thinks that by shutting down his feelings he is protecting himself.

Sean is such a great guy, I like him for Max because he is not a pushover, he might submit to Max in his dungeon but he is not going to let Max get away with treating bad.

The relationship took some time, this book is really long. I love them and everything about them but gosh was this book long.

The upside of this is the we get more Tad and Scott, This personally didn't bother me because I love them and I was so happy know how their relationship is going.

I loved seeing Max heal, it was slow, honestly I wanted to beat some sense into him because he was a

stubborn man but he came around and realized that Sean is someone he needs in his life.

The epilogue is a HFN with the promise of a HEA.

I would have love to see more of Max and Sean as a couple, I mean it's very long BUT I'm not complaining, it was a very satisfying ot read their journey.

All in all, if you like slow build romance and good bdsm I totally recommend to read this series, Kora knows how to write sex but she knows how to create good characters with good backstories too.

We get a little teaser for the next couple and man I can't wait for it, Kai pushes all my buttons.

\*\*ARC provided by author in exchange of an honest review\*\*

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### **Camille says**

In my opinion: There is not a better series. There is not a better book. I cannot write a review because I can't stop ugly crying, although no series I have read deserves a more thorough and gushing review but I will get back to that. Kora Knight you are a damn gorgeous genius and I am grateful!

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### **Rachel Emily says**

UGH WHAT A ROLLERCOASTER OF EMOTIONS IN THIS BOOK!

This picks right up from where the first book ends, so these must be read in order. Sean knows what he wants - Max, and he's determined to wear him down and make him fess up to wanting him too. Only, Max has walls thicker than the most unimpenetrable place imaginable and puts up a fight for like 90% of the whole book.

The emotions between these two are raw, deep, with crazy chemistry and desire. I'm so glad Sean wore him down in the end and got his man!

Also! LOVED seeing more of Tad and Scott settling into domestic bliss post-Upending Tad. They are ridiculously romantic together and still hella sexy, too! It's gonna be a full house when we read about these guys next!

And Breck and Kai?!? SO ready for their story!

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### **Natalie says**

**4.5 stars, rounded up. Because Sean!**

This is the sequel to Unearthed, Max and Sean's story, which runs concurrently with Upending Tad, right into through much of this story. It is a very long book but it had a lot of story to tell and I liked not having it split up into too many smaller installments. Max is one incredibly broken man and worse, he knows it but clings to it. It's not mentioned in the book but I think it would be a form of PTSD.

I really liked Sean, so determined and focused on trying to get Max to see him as more than a part-time sub. Max is determined to keep it confined to his dungeon but their dynamic is remarkable. The scenes they do together are scorching hot! I'd still call it fairly moderate BDSM. Nothing was too extreme, just occasionally prolonged but in a good way. Extra points for inventive and inappropriate use of a hand-held power tool! Kora Knight seems to really know her kink and there was nothing that set off my ick alert. There was also no "take the sub to the club" action or any sugar-kink either.

It's not just Max and Sean's story as Tad and Scott's continuing relationship is integrated. It becomes crucial to the story, since Scott is Max's best friend. Sean's roommate Jonah, and Tad and Scott's friends are also blended in, to expand the parameters of this continuing story arc. It will be very interesting to find out what's going on with Kai and Breck.

My half-star deduction was for two specific reasons. One was my personal preference that there had been some mention of counseling for their emotional issues. However I never felt that the BDSM was shown or used as a cure for anything. It was just shown as a way they built the necessary trust that was needed. I did feel that Max's moment of epiphany was not given quite enough page time after all the self-inflicted struggles he put himself through to get there.

You will get far more out of Max's story if you read Tad and Scott's story first. If you enjoy hurt/comfort Max's story really hit that trope out of the ballpark. I really, really enjoyed this and I'll be one-clicking Kora Knight for future books.

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## **Maddie M1RiH says**

When I started Tads journey I loved the mystery of Max/Red in the books and when his book came I was so excited I just almost wet myself with such excitement as book one took my breath away, then book 2 arrived I was even more taken, an emotional journey, max is a great guy with a past that holds him dearly and as Sean is the little sub to keep his mind occupied and crack the wall a little it's a hard journey from each emotion coming into action.

Sean and max are perfect in a Dom and sub relationship now the real Side of the relationship that Sean wants so much was at first one thing I rooted on and max has this way that makes you believe he shouldn't/wouldn't have it by is actions alone but deep with his own walls he knows he could have it again.

The sexual ability of the pair during their scenes was off the charts and wow just wow my fan was stuck on full speed.

I'm over the moon we got more Scott & Tad throughout as their what brought max to me. And your love going between these pages.

I'm not giving anything away just you have to read book 1 to fully understand max & your be wowed in points.

This book was amazing in every flipping way and was the best book to finish 2016 with, kora is a talented author and I'm looking forward to much more coming this 2017

Their a bit at the end I'm excited about and these guys will rock just as hard as max may be more.

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## Bev says

Well, I have to admit that for my first completed read of 2017, this was a bit of a let down after being hotly anticipated. Yet another whopper of a tale from Kora, which was in dire need of an editor's cutting edge...literally. Waay too long [about 200 pages too long, and I freely admit to skimming], Max's wallowing in his own quagmire of angst, self-denial and cowardice got pretty tiresome after a while [i.e. for 3/4 of the story]...he **definitely** needed a good smack upside the head or worse, and after falling in love with Unearthed a few months ago, I felt somewhat cheated.

There was too much Tad and Scott...they've had their series, and as much as I loved both of them, **this** was supposedly the second part of the Max and Sean show. It was time for Max to get his head out of his a\*\*e and rise like a Phoenix from the ashes of his first relationship, Kevin's suicide and all. How Sean kept putting up with his so-called Dom's black moods, changes of mind and refusal to give anything of himself [and still keep his good humour and his sanity] was pretty amazing...I loved Sean to bits, and IMHO he deserved a much better person than Max but the heart wants what it wants of course ?. Oh, and another minor niggle...we still only have a HFN and not a HEA, so that wasn't a hit with me either.

There were numerous typos and silly word endings, which we didn't have in book 1...and it says it was edited. Let's hope the 'editor' can do a better job with Kai and Breck's story...should he choose to accept the mission. 3.5 stars rounded up.

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