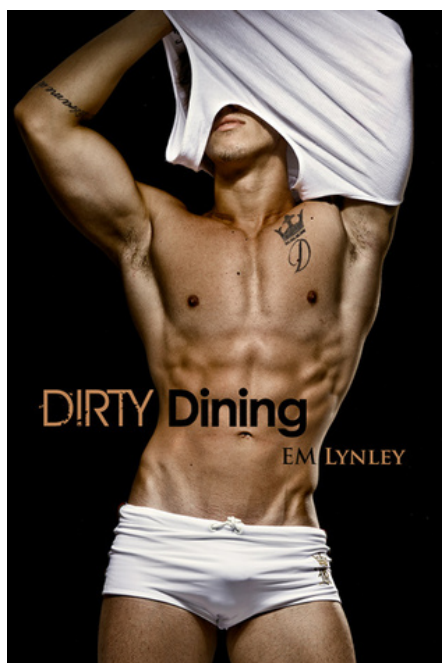




Dirty Dining

E.M. Lynley

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Jeremy Linden's a PhD student researching an HIV vaccine. He's always short of money, and when biotech startup PharmaTek reduces funding for his fellowship, he's tempted to take a job at a men's dining club as a serving boy. The uniforms are skimpy, and he's expected to remove an item of clothing after each course. He can handle that, but he soon discovers there's more on the menu here than fine cuisine. How far will he go to pay his tuition, and will money get in the way when he realizes he's interested in more from one of his gentlemen?

Brice Martin is an attorney for a Silicon Valley venture capital firm. When he's asked to take a client to the infamous Dinner Club, he finds himself unexpectedly turned on by the atmosphere and especially by his server, Remy. He senses there's more to the sexy young man than meets the eye. The paradox fascinates him, and he can't get enough of Remy.

Their relationship quickly extends beyond the club and sex. But the trust and affection they've worked to achieve may crumble when Jeremy discovers Brice's VC firm is the one that pulled the plug on PharmaTek—and Jeremy's research grant.

Dirty Dining Details

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From Reader Review Dirty Dining for online ebook

Bev says

Well, the gorgeous cover tempted me into putting this into my DsP basket back in December, I hold my hands up and freely admit it, hehe. I'd never read an EM Lynley story before, but unfortunately I really can't say I was that bothered with this story OUTSIDE of the dining room scenes, which were damn hot, sizzling hot!! To me, Jeremy and Brice just never seemed to gel until the last 30% of the book when they nearly broke up because of something Brice unknowingly did. For those of you worried about the kink aspect...it's voyeurism and well, toe curling doesn't cut it...AT ALL!!

I especially want Kit to have a story of his own, I hearted him, and I suppose Mr Sky Blue deserves a happy ending of his own too, for treating 'Remy' and the rest of the boys so nicely. 4 stars from me.

Nancy says

Posted at Outlaw Reviews

Living in California is expensive, and the money Jeremy Linden earns while pursuing his PhD and conducting research on an HIV vaccine is barely enough to cover the basics. So he reluctantly accepts a job at a classy men's dinner club that promises \$300 for just two hours of work. All he has to do is take off his clothes.

On Jeremy's first night of work, he is assigned a client with a color-coded name (Mr. Green) and a skimpy costume fitting the dinner's theme. The serving boys, wearing armbands to match their client's lapel ribbons, are paraded around the large dining table and seated with their respective clients. They then deliver each of the six courses and remove an item of clothing at the diner's request (or have the diner remove it for extra money). Some diners, like Mr. Green, are very new at this, and won't want much more than dinner. More experienced diners want to be chatted up, fed, fondled, and even more. All the extras, of course, cost more and mean more money in the server's pocket.

It all sounds rather sleazy, but I liked how the servers could decide how far they were willing to go for a diner. The manager in charge, Thomas, expected everyone to follow the established rules and he hired security staff in case anyone got out of hand. None of this felt cheap or exploitative, but extremely erotic.

I loved the instant chemistry between Remy and Mr. Green, who he later learns is Brice Martin, a lawyer for a venture capitalist firm. Though both men are in situations they are not totally comfortable with, their relationship begins to heat up. Remy becomes more confident in his new role and Mr. Green learns how to relax and enjoy.

Where this story starts to fail for me is when Jeremy and Brice begin a relationship outside the club. There was lots of hand wringing about sex for money, the inequality of the couple's roles, and their insecurity, which got really tedious after a while and slowed the pace of the story. There is job-related conflict and misunderstandings, staid sex, and declarations of love, but I couldn't feel the love or emotion between them.

I wish there had been better physical descriptions of our main characters, particularly Brice, who was compared to Richard Gere.

There was already enough of a Pretty Woman vibe throughout the story, so I tried really hard to picture another older guy with gray temples and the first guy who came to mind was:

The pat conclusion was disappointing and sappy and would have been more satisfying if Jeremy had decided for himself what he wanted for his future. Brice's caveman behavior was totally unappealing and inappropriate and better suited for a Tarzan and Jane movie.

**Book provided by author in exchange for an honest review.*

Alona says

DNF at 40%.
I tried, honestly I did!

Kade Boehme says

And THIS is why I read EM Lynley. Not only was it engaging and the characters so sweet, but she always knows her stuff. The characters felt real, well rounded. And good effing lord... This was HOOOOT. I just loved it. Was drawn in from beginning to end. Thanks to EM Lynley for a great read!

Samantha says

4.5 rounded up.

Review now available @ Scattered Thoughts & Rogue Words

Sonia ~Ruber's fiancé in Crystal Court universe~ says

[getting off in front of other people, switching partners (hide spoiler)]

Sandi ♥'s way too many M/M books says

This one just did it for me. Sexy, flirty and a little different which I loved!

MaDoReader says

Sí, le he dado a este libro una estrella, 1= no me gustó
No, no quiero decir que el libro sea malo, sólo que no me gustó.

Idea de partida buena, mala ejecución.
La portada espectacular, eso sí.

Catherine says

*** 2.5 Stars ***

When this book first crossed my radar, I was VERY excited to get my hot little hands on it. Who wouldn't?! I wanted to do dirty, *dirty* things to this cover model. Seriously, I took one look at this abs... er, I mean, *man* and my brain short circuited into an unrelieved loop of "UNF! UNF! UNF!" The book *had* to be excellent too, right?!

Sadly, it was not. Dirty Dining just did NOT live up to that stellar cover.

The book started out with a lot of promise. I really liked the premise of the nerdy microbiologist so dedicated to continuing his work on an HIV vaccine that he turns to prostitution to fund his research. And, I thought the twist on the world's oldest profession (taking it to the kink-tastic Dinner Club instead of a street corner or a Craigslist ad) was pretty damn creative. I also appreciated Brice and Jeremy's initial unease with each other and the way their personalities shone through what could have been a seedy situation.

Unfortunately, though, what started out molten hot (hello, Mr. Sky Blue!) turn repetitive and boring very quickly. One moment I was all "I'll have what she's having!" this novel, and the next I was bored out of my skull.

There's a point in every romance novel with a character who is a prostitute when the MCs need to transition from client and sex worker to men with real feelings for each other who can't help but break the boundaries of their initial interactions. I like the couples in the romance novels I read, well... couple-y. I want dates and sweet glances and hot sex (exclusively with one another, I should point out). Lynley got there eventually, but I felt like it took too long.

And when it did, I still felt like it lacked the emotional punch that I was looking for. I had to read the Big Misunderstanding scene twice before I realized it was an honest to goodness *fight*. Yes, I could see that the characters were upset, but the whole thing was just so conversational - their tones both so even and in control - that when Jeremy (view spoiler), I was a little shocked. And when Brice (view spoiler), I just didn't buy it. I didn't think that they were at that point yet.

Bottom line, this one just didn't do it for me. *shrug*

It's interesting to note that the early reviews on this one seem to be love it (4.5 to 5 stars) or hate it (DNFs and 2 stars) - there's really not many in between. So, feel free to ignore my review and give it a whirl. If you

are still enjoying the hell out of it between 20-50% progress on your Kindle, you'll probably end up on the high end of the reading experience. If you're bored and not feeling it, I recommend DNFin and moving on to the next smexy book on your TBR pile.

Trisha Harrington says

4 stars!

Dirty Dining was recommended to me several times and I always meant to get around to reading it. It just took some time. I'm so glad I finally did get around to it. This book is sexy, and sweet and I really, really liked it!

I was a little nervous starting this book because the idea of MC's having sex with people who aren't their love interests can be off-putting for me. But it didn't bother me here. Besides, there was no penetration and the MC's weren't together at the time. So it didn't really take from my enjoyment of the story.

I loved both MC's. Brice is a lawyer and Jeremy is a grad student. Apart from one moment, which I will come back to, they were both extremely likable and I found myself rooting for both guys.

Brice and Jeremy have such awesome chemistry. They worked really well together and I loved seeing them grow and spend more time together. They were also extremely hot and I loved how sexy some of their scenes were. But there was an emotional side to the story, too. There were some lovely moments between the guys that just made this story really good for me.

I loved Kit and Law, two of the guys at the Dinner Club. Kit stole every scene he was in and Law was a real sweetheart.

The moment the drama between Jeremy and Brice was added was the moment I got really annoyed with Jeremy. He overreacted in a major way, which annoyed me so much. But things worked out because Jeremy was able to apologize and Brice was able to admit his mistakes. It was great to see because I definitely thought Jeremy especially needed to make things right.

The ending was great. I did get a little annoyed with what was going down, but that was short lived and I was grinning like an idiot in the end. It was just a really sweet ending for a really great couple.

I would definitely recommend this book if you want a nice, sexy read. It left me with a huge smile on my face.

A copy of this book was provided by Dreamspinner Press in exchange for a fair and honest review.

Keveen says

[The Dinner Club itself was not I usually would read. I felt awkward reading about voyeurism or pay-for-sex (kind of to 100%). (hide spoiler)]

Heloise West says

Pre-Release Review:

Two men, who at first glance have absolutely nothing in common, fall in love under odd circumstances...

Jeremy is a grad student on fellowship working toward his PhD in biochemistry and struggling to make ends meet as he works on an HIV vaccine. His research and lab work hold much promise. A man approaches him, compliments his looks, and offers him a job just to take off his clothes at the Dinner Club. He figures it's just a scam, but his car got bashed in a month ago, and he used the insurance money to pay his other bills. Jeremy becomes intrigued about making a lot of money for two hours work, leaving him more time for his research. With trepidation, he enters the world of "Dirty Dining."

I had a little trepidation in the beginning myself. On further reading, this story wasn't much like "Spaghetti Western" or "Out of the Gate," both books I enjoyed very much. This is an erotic romance that starts out as decadent as a Roman orgy—well, almost. Once I got past my initial shock, I was in all the way, though. The author is a masterful storyteller and the story of Remy and his client Mr. Green at the Dinner Cub had me hooked.

Brice is a patent lawyer who is invited to the Dinner Club by a junior partner at the firm where he works. He'd heard things about the club, and he's shy when it came to licentiousness, voyeurism, or paying for sex, so he's pretty awkward and unsure at first. Each diner is assigned a color; thus Mr. Green is born. The color matches a "boy," an adult male server assigned to him, and Mr. Green is assigned Jeremy, or as he calls himself at the club, Remy.

Both men are feeling awkward their first night at the Dinner Club, falling into sexual roles that are at first more business related than personal. Remy wants to do well and Mr. Green finds himself going along with the night more easily than he expected with Remy to lead him.

The ensuing romance between them, with San Francisco as the backdrop, is sweet and tentative as it builds. Jeremy begins to leave Remy behind. Brice allows Jeremy into his life and heart in a way he's never let another man before. The role-playing scenes are hot, adding depth to the characters and their relationship.

The complications begin when business collides with pleasure, and Brice's venture capital company threatens Jeremy's research. The complications are believable, compelling, and add another layer to this very sexy love story.

(I received an ARC for a fair and honest review)

review: velvetpanic2@wordpress.com

J Too Many Books Too Little Time says

Boy did that cover suck me right in....

Sadly this one was a COVER...

This one just didn't work for me....

I am probably in the minority. With a cover like that, I didn't look too closely at the blurb.

I will say this book was DIRTY...and pretty damn HOT. But that was about it.

Jeremy and Brice meet at a men's dining club. Do these places really exist? Unfortunately I found myself uncomfortable reading about the dirty dining.

From the costumes, to the set up, to the sitting on the clients laps and feeding them....just no. Things felt very formal and um, stiff!

I kept hoping Brice and Jeremy would develop a relationship outside of the dirty dining.

Which they eventually do, but even that was weird.

Things still just didn't connect between them. Brice kept treating Jeremy like a whore, I never really saw their relationship and feelings grow. And then all of a sudden they are throwing out the "I love you's"!

And now I'm just rolling my eyes.

The drama at the end....

I had to start skimming at the halfway mark, even the sex.

So yeah, wasn't a fan of this one!

Jewel says

4.5 Delicious Stars

Dirty Dining was a sexy and delicious read. Right out of the gate, this book is **HOT** and it just keeps on with the hotness. I kind of like the concept of the Dinner Club. It's a fun take on rentboys. I had so much fun with this sexy sexy story -- did I mention hot?

Both Jeremy and Brice were the right amount of awkward at first and it was quite endearing. Jeremy isn't at all comfortable with the prospect of sex for money. Hell, even taking off his clothes for money is weird to him at first. Brice (or Mr Green, as he is called) was much the same about paying for such entertainment. Still, his boy "Remy" is sexy and built and the attraction seems mutual.

Things heat up **fast**, in spite of their mutual discomfort, and then we are treated to loads of sexytimes between our guys. It is a small world, though, and unbeknownst to them, they are connected in more ways than just the club. They spend a lot of time getting to know one another, but neither of them talk about their jobs. In Jeremy's case, his job is doing research while he works toward his PhD. He depends on grants to be able to do this research as well as cover the very basic of basics. Brice is a lawyer at a venture capital firm.

I enjoyed Jeremy and Brice and their conflict, and especially their hotness. There are so many ways the story could have been run-of-the-mill, but ordinary, it was not. It's fun and sexy and **THAT COVER!**

Definitely recommended!

~☆~Dαni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~☆~ says

[No penetration, but some petting, a hand job, and a blow job,
