



Sub for Hire

Claire Thompson

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Writer by day, sub for hire by night. Blond, built and hot as they come, Josh knows his dream of D/s romance has no place in the dark dungeons where he bares his body for any Master's whim.

Michael, with his piercing blue eyes, movie star smile and compelling Dom persona, can have any man he wants with the snap of his fingers. On the rebound from a broken heart, he checks out Dungeon Dreams, known for its stable of hot slave boys.

Though the scene is controlled, slave j reacts with fierce passion to the kiss of Michael's whip and his sensual touch.

Slave j's intense response steals Michael's heart, though he knows by definition it can never be more than a game. Michael determines to forget the green-eyed submissive.

Josh, his heart captured by the sexy Dom, finds his carefully compartmentalized world crumbling. Somehow he must face and conquer his fierce desire for a man he might never see again, a man who regards him only as a sub for hire.

Sub for Hire Details

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From Reader Review Sub for Hire for online ebook

Chris says

So-so kinky m/m romance about an author who works as a sub-for-hire at a professional dungeon until he can support himself with his writing. He can handle the job, as long as he's able to keep his emotions detached, because he actually longs for a loving D/s relationship. Again, I just can't engage with Claire Thompson's older books the way I can with her newer books. This was particularly challenging, because I wasn't overly fond of the dominant characters.

Shannon says

Had I read this book back when I first started reading m/m BDSM I probably would have rated it higher but now that I've read some fantastic books it was just meh. We had some insta-love, non-con/dub-con and very nice scenes but I didn't get Michael. For a guy who's been burned so badly, he sure did connect with Josh awfully fast. No real hesitation at all. Josh, I got. He'd been looking and waiting so when Michael came along...yay! No big fights or misunderstandings. Nothing to pull at the heartstrings. Just a ho-hum romance with kink.

JustJen "Miss Conduct" says

I really enjoyed this story. I think the previous bdsm book I read was so totally unbelievable and unrealistic that I was ready for something seemingly more serious, and this one just felt right. I liked that it showed two different sides to the bdsm coin - one side, the sub for hire, where doms pay a bunch of money for an hour session with a "professional" sub where very little emotion comes into play; and one side where the d/s relationship is deeper and more meaningful and involves more caring and trust.

Josh has taken the sub for hire job to supplement his income until his professional writing career can support him. Even though he believes a d/s relationship is more spiritual and emotional than just submitting (without the trust, connecton, etc.) to a stranger for an hour, he is able to push those feelings aside and disassociate himself during his sessions, thinking of it as a job. After he meets Michael (a client), he realizes they have a deeper connection, and he is no longer able to think of it this way when subbing for Michael.

Josh and Michael seem to be perfect for each other and are looking for the same things - a fulfilling d/s relationship/partnership, so they decide to take things further. They face a few hurdles (Josh continuing to sub for hire being one), but they work through them.

There are definitely a few things that didn't sit quite right with me, but overall, I really enjoyed this book. When finished, I felt I knew exactly where these two were headed and was happy with the way things ended.

Gab says

Here are two men, one looking for the elusive perfect Dom, the other for his perfect sub. Josh, an aspiring author waiting for his breakthrough, takes on a job as sub for hire at a BDSM dungeon to

make next months rent.

Michael a disillusioned, cuckolded Dom is talked into trying out the renting scheme just once. For one hour he can select a sub to do with and to what he likes.

Not the place to find a life partner you will say. No, it isn't. But you know what they say about the best laid plans...!

They meet for an hour of no-strings D/s play. Attachments strictly discouraged by house rules!

And of course the impossible happens.

From the first moment the sparks fly between them.

How those two navigate their way between hopes, dreams and misunderstandings to a meaningful relationship, is a delight to read.

Without getting sappy Ms Thompson narrates all the feelings, the doubts and the love between two strong men on the way to their dream.

J says

M/M. DNF.

SheReadsALot says

That cover!

Drip.

Beck says

Possible spoilers ahead...

This was a nice (if predictable) premise for a book that was poorly actualised. You have a reasonably experienced sub who gets himself into a bit of a pickle because he ... wait for it ... forgets to use his safe word ... not once but THREE times. I could forgive the instance where he was 'abused' by Mario due to the fact Joseph was drunk, but the 2 instances that occurred in the 'professional' dungeon were just perplexing. Yes Sam over-stepped the employer/employee boundary but there was so much emphasis on him creating a 'safe' dungeon where the subs were protected and respected that I'm not surprised he thought Joseph was into him and his scenes. A Dom of that calibre would expect a professional sub to safe word if he wasn't into the scene not bleat "let me down" or "I don't want this" ... I kinda felt sorry for Sam and felt that Joseph needed a slap up the side of the head ... safe, sane and consensual means you are adult enough to keep yourself safe with the rules of the game ... had Sam ignored the safe word, there would have been more credibility to the angst. Disappointing.

Originally posted on Amazon.com

Badh says

There's just something about the way that Claire Thompson handles books that have to do with BDSM and D/s. It's hot and sexy and enticing, but it's also very intimate and special and somehow sacred between the two people, even if it's done in public. It's almost like the reader is a peeping Tom and is peeking through windows.

Josh is an aspiring writer. He's had some shorter pieces published, and his first book has been sent and is on contract to a publisher, while he's working on his second book. While all of that makes him sound very successful, the fact is that his writing isn't paying for itself or for anything else right now. He has to come up with a to supplement his teaching job, so when he finds an ad for a pro dungeon that needs subs, he knows that this is something that he might be interested in.

Michael is a Dom who has had a bad experience. He wants to play but he doesn't want a romance right now. So when his friend tells him about this pro dungeon where he can spend an hour with a sub and do just about anything, outside of sex, Michael gives it a try. And he finds slave j.

While the dungeon and sex scenes are really hot, what really got me was the romance between Josh and Michael. That story is just beautiful. It really is very intimate and handled in such a great way. I just love how Claire Thompson handles her work.

Diane Dannenfeldt says

Okay I liked the story to a certain extent. I liked Michael and Josh. What I totally disliked with the sub for higher was, there was no aftercare what so ever. You go in a room for an hour and the Dom basically beats the shit out of you and then walks away. If there would have been someone to tend to the sub after a scene the I could have probably lived with that. Also, after an hour of intense flogging, whipping, etc. you are all marked up and exhausted and you're supposed to turn around and do it again with another Dom, really? I could see a light scene of humiliation and light bondage being able to do a deep scene with a little downtime, but not norm than one heavy scene in my opinion. And what Sam did was inexcusable! He is taking advantage of his employees and needs to be put taken care of, and not in a good way. Even with Michael and Josh together, there was no real holding while coming out of subspace, ointments on the marks, etc. I haven't read the other books in this series but I will be.

Adara says

I really enjoyed this one. Michael and Josh feel like a very good fit together, and the author does a good job of showing how Josh just doesn't fit with Sam or the other Masters and Lords who use the dungeon. I thought there was a section at the end that got a bit preachy and was unnecessary to the story, but otherwise I enjoyed it.

Trix says

Well.. this was an interesting, though strange reading. After having finished another book by this author, I was sure all her works were going to be a pleasure. With a slight penchant for BDSM, this seemed like a good choice.

However, I had trouble immersing in the story and relating to the characters from the beginning. Maybe my knowledge of the BDSM world is very limited and as such, I cannot say for sure how real their reactions were. But even with that aside, there were still things that kept buzzing and distracting my attention from the story. [spoiler ahead]For one, I could not envision the characters deep in a scene and still have such an expand of feelings, emotions and thoughts. Secondly, Josh turned from gullible, to down right naive and oblivious as he kept falling for Sam's tricks (almost proving he was indeed a pain slut). Thirdly, the confession moment and its aftermath seemed so bland. After Josh's shocking admissions, everything was settled nicely and they lived happily ever after. It didn't seem believable. Fourthly, the scene where Michael commands Josh to take him came totally out of nowhere. Perhaps indeed, I am under the impression that most Doms hardly bottom but even so, the idea sprang out of thin air.[end spoiler]

I guess I was too focused on the BDSM aspects of the story (which clashed with what I envisioned) to truly enjoy this. 2 stars out 5.

Vivian says

Enjoyable story with sincere emotions. i found the time jumps backwards and forwards to be distracting, plus I really have a pet peeve about MC as writers which undoubtedly pulls me out of the illusion of the story.

Bryl Tyne says

This was the first book I read with BDSM elements...talk about an eye opener. I kept hearing myself saying, OMG...OMG...and, because it shocked me, I initially gave it only 4 stars.

But, I thought about Claire Thompson's style as I was adding this book to my shelf. It dawned on me, that Sub for Hire is one of the more intimate stories I've ever read.

See, I associate violence with anger. YET, Thompson succeeded in pulling me into the story by illustrating every feeling, both physical and emotional, the characters went through. She made me understand a different viewpoint.

It didn't take me long until I realized that I couldn't put the book down. I just had to know what would happen next. Claire Thompson is an amazing writer. I'm giving her 5 stars!

Lexi Ander says

I think that this book was supposed to push some buttons. BDSM can either be erotic or dangerous and this has elements of both. I did not agree that being a sub for hire equaled a sort of prostitution. I know this point of view was used to cause stress between the characters, but it still irked me. To me, Michael had moments of callousness...lack of empathy...purposely cruel words in the beginning as he passed judgment because he didn't understand.

Don't get me wrong, I loved characters who are flawed. It makes them more real. (But I sometimes don't tolerate in characters that which I wouldn't tolerate in myself.) In the end I think it would have all been fine with me and I would have given it 4 stars. But then there is the whole Sam issue. Twice Sam takes advantage

and manipulates Josh. The first time was not so bad and I could feel and understand Josh's confusion and distress. The second time was so much worse. Josh said "no" and no matter what is going on, everything should stop. Sex may not have been involved but it was still rape of a sort.

But this is the deal, Sam despite being Josh's employer and the one who is supposed to protect Josh from exactly what Sam turns around and does to Josh. Sam sets up Josh, hid his identity so that by the time that Josh figured out who it was, it was too late for Josh to leave because he was already trussed up. Josh told him no, to stop and Sam ignored him and then proceeded with the scene, leaving Josh to try to suck it up and get through it.

Josh blamed himself for what happened. Michael felt betrayed instead of reassuring Josh. The only thing that said afterwards is that Sam was a jerk. It also leaves the reader believing that in such a situation, the victim has no recourse but to accept it. Maybe it is the advocate in me, but I find all that reprehensible. None of that is okay. Even if this is how the author wanted to book to go, there should be information on where and how to get help if something like that happens in real life.

Maybe life experience has made me too sensitive and I am taking a harsher stance because of it. It just didn't sit well with me. Others have read it and have been fine with it.

Debra Guyette says

Josh work by day as a writer and, while he has sold his book, he still needs more money to pay the bills. He, therefore, works by night as a Sub For Hire. He yearns to have a true D/s relationship but knows he cannot find that where he is right now. He keeps his life carefully compartmentalized. Then he meets Michael and feels an instant connection, but knows nothing can come of it. Suddenly, his compartments are breaking down.

Michael is entranced too by the beautiful slave J that he has rented. On the rebound, Michael is not looking for someone new but might change his mind for this beautiful young man. First, though, he has much to learn about the Slave J and much for both to clear up.

The relationship between Josh and Michael grew and blossomed into something beautiful. It was a journey that makes this an amazing story to read. There is nothing better than a Claire Thompson book. As with Josh and Michael, the heroes are realistic and likeable. You can't wait to see how things work out. I look forward to many more wonderful stories by this talented author.
