

# The Ties That Bind

*Vanessa Duries*

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**Vanessa Duries : The Ties That Bind** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ties That Bind:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Incredible!By booklover9Best erotic novel I've ever read!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. 18+ poignant, sad and brutally honestBy GaelThis is an interesting read, I own the book in the original French, but was offered the opportunity to read it in English and jumped at the chance (my French is rusty). Written as a memoir made even more poignant by the author's very early death, there is an underlying tone of sadness that invades the story, even as she is finding her `place' in the world of BDSM.While the world of BDSM is often a guilty pleasure and fascination for readers, and the most popular series `dedicated' to the lifestyle has become the go-to reference for many: this is not a bored housewife looks for spice tale. The situations are far darker, with a dominant older male who is far more immersed in the lifestyle, and her pathway to sexual submissive / slave is one that is depicted with truth, if not always elegant.Not an easy read, or as titillating as the subject matter may suggest: her realization that submission was a coping mechanism that she learned early in life, with a childhood that was peppered with random beatings in an unhappy family life. When she met Pierre, she didn't slowly learn the ins and outs, she dives right in and endures several tests of her submission from her master and several others throughout the French countryside.While the story is gripping, the writing is rougher than one would hope: partly this is due to translation, partly the immaturity of the writer. Unfortunately, she was in the process of crafting the second in this series when she died in an auto accident. Certainly a book that will intrigue readers truly interested in this lifestyle

and why someone would voluntarily submit to the gruelling process, Vanessa Duris has created a book that can sit on the shelf with *Histoire d'O* by Pauline Reage and *L'image* by Jean de Berg. I received an eBook from the author for purpose of honest review for Jeep Diva. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions were my own responsibility. 5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A stunningly erotic and autobiographical story of a female slave by Rudolf Spoerer. After enduring years of corporal punishment by her father, a young and very much beautiful Vanessa realizes that 'Not having the nature of an , not knowing how to oppose violence with cruelty, I learnt to dominate those who used me by making the offering of my submission both mystical and ambiguous' ..... and thus is born a female slave into the somewhat secretive world of SM in France in the 1990's. Right from the first chapter, 'The Revelation', the author introduces us to Pierre, her much 'loved' master whom she meets at the age of twenty. In the book, without delving into any of the details of their introduction we find a young Vanessa, although apprehensive about her secret feelings, completely accept and resign herself to her 'slave' state of mind and body when she visits Pierre at his countryside mansion. Although Pierre is her master, the author maintains an absolute dedication to her feelings, emotions, thrills and fears as she is introduced and educated into the true and dedicated sadomasochistic lifestyle of a slave master relationship. This is, in effect, the mastery of this wonderful young author and the point at which other SM books totally fall apart since it's pretty well impossible for either the master or the slave to completely comprehend and, honestly write about, the erotic mindset of the other. With the precision of a whip Vanessa intricately describes her slave education in the hands of not only her master but also, of course, a small and very much secretive group of other masters and slaves, both male and female. Vanessa unabashedly describes her relationship with an awe that she is living the life of total sexual and physical abandon with her much loved master. In her own words, 'Pierre is an organizer beyond compare. Since sharing his life . we schedule usually quite eventful weekends throughout the year. When we return, on Sunday evenings, I often find myself in a state close to exhaustion. Pierre is no less tired than me. The role of the master is exhausting, because, while the slave only submits, the master must decide, organize, prepare and take action, all the while watching over the physical and psychic state of the slave that he has decided to honor through tests and humiliation.' One very sad note, unfortunately, Vanessa Duris died in a traffic accident in 1993 about seven months after the publishing of this masterwork, truly a loss from a very much talented writer. Finally, the book has an introduction by Marie Isabel Pita one of today's hottest writers of contemporary erotica, and an afterword by Maxim Jakubowski where he briefly describes the discovery of the lost French edition of this book and his investigation into the last years of life of the author.

The incredible confessions of a thrillingly unconventional woman. From the first page, this chronicle of dominance and submission will keep you gasping with its vivid depictions of sensual abandon. At the hand of Masters Georges, Patrick, Pierre and others, this submissive seductress experiences pleasures she never knew existed....

What happens when a beautiful twenty-year-old virgin discovers S/M? In the case of Duris, an autobiography of moving simplicity and tenderness is born. "Before me stood a young woman with dark and curly hair, an intense hard look, and full lips like those of a child," she notes, as she appraises herself in the mirror. But Duris is not the child she thinks she is, as she discovers in herself, under the tutelage of her master, Pierre, an unusual capacity for pain. As Maxim Jakubowski notes in his introduction, Duris was killed in a car accident shortly after this book's publication, and he will certainly not be the only reader to feel saddened and cheated by this unfortunate turn of events. "Sadomasochism is an art, a philosophy, a cultural space prohibited to liars and sworn hypocrites," Duris argues, and one wishes she had been given the time and occasion to unpack that sentence. Part devotional lyric, part bildungsroman, part S/M primer for Generation Xers, *The Ties That Bind* merits our attention. -- Marti Hohmann