



Hooked by Love

Toni Aleo

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Things are out of control for the Sinclair boys! With two already in the NHL, Jace Sinclair is ready to follow in his brothers' HUGE skates in the last Bellevue Bullies novel...

Jace Sinclair here, and I'm amazing. There is no other way to describe me. I am the leading scorer for the Bellevue Bullies, I'm the captain, and people love me: my family, my teammates, my coach, and the NHL. I already have one foot in the draft and I'm ready. This is my last year in college—it's basically a conditioning year to get me ready for the NHL, to further my game, and I have to be focused. But then, it's also my last year to have fun and not give a damn before my life really starts. Which means I'm gonna run through every girl I meet. That's my plan. Because my one and only love is hockey. It keeps me warm even when it's freezing. It's always there when nothing else is. And it pushes me to be the best I can be. It's my love.

That is, until I see her against a tree with a guitar.

Avery.

The last thing I wanted was to meet anyone. My heart is on the bench because I've watched my mom get broken by the person I call my father, and I don't want that for myself. I don't want to be hurt by anyone. I can't give them that power.

But my heart is begging for ice time, and I can't control it around her.

* * *

I've always been in the background. No one has ever had time for me and that's fine; I've learned to cope. Coming from a family where hockey is life, the last thing I want is some big, burly hockey player charging at me. I don't have time for it, but Jace Sinclair isn't one to be deked around. The thing is, I came to the University of Bellevue for one reason and one reason only. To make my dreams of being a singer/songwriter come true. To work in the industry and pay my dues. Become who I really want to be.

I didn't want to meet anyone. I didn't want to end up freezing the puck with him. It's not what I want.

I have demons.

I have issues.

Living in the shadows, no one even knew until it was too late. But Jace wants to know.

He wants me.

And that scares me the living hell out of me.

We were so worried about what would happen if we fell, but we never thought what could happen in the process of falling. We never saw it coming. But it's here, and the repercussions are not pretty. We should have known that there is no way out of the zone when you are being Hooked by Love.

Hooked by Love Details

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From Reader Review Hooked by Love for online ebook

~Anna's ~~~~~g\$~ says

4 HOOKED stars!

Whoa! This was freaking delicious.

A college romance? *Check.*

A cocky, sexy jock? *Check.*

A smart heroine? *Check.*

Witty banter? *Check.*

Panty-dropping hot? *Check. Check. Check. Check. Check.*

So a typical, boring college romance?

WRONG.

This was so much more. An emotional story, which was both funny and really hard to read at times. **A story based off true events.**

If someone asked me what I loved the most about this book I'd tell them JACE. I love him. No, I adore him. He's my definition of an ideal boyfriend and one of my favorite heroes in the romance genre.

I also like how the author managed to deliver some of the most overused moments in the college romance genre in a rather unpredictable and unexpected way.

Another thing I loved in this book was the constant and hilarious teasing and banter between the Sinclair brothers.

Then there are sex scenes. One thing is sure, Toni Aleo is the queen of creating one of the most emotional, passionate and steamy lovemaking scenes. I've read tons of romance books and there are only a few authors who can make me feel that way.

And though some readers may feel that there's insta-love in this book, I'd rather call it insta-attraction because Avery and Jace's relationship progresses slowly in the book.

I was torn how to rate this book. I really wanted to rate it 5 stars but I gave it 4 stars in the end because I sometimes felt like some things were a little repetitive or too slow. But certain parts of this book certainly deserve 5 stars.

Overall rating: 4 stars

Writing style: 4 stars

Story: 4 stars

Flow of the story: 3 stars

Character development: 5 stars

Hero: 5 stars

Heroine: 4 stars

Secondary characters: 5 stars

Tone/mood of the book: 5 stars

Emotion evoking: 5 stars

Originality: 3 stars

Enjoyment: 4 stars

Effect on me: 4 stars

Rose says

Wow... this book surprised me at how much emotions it could pack in!

I was expecting a light college read but got SO MUCH MORE.

I will say though, in the beginning first 30% or so (it's long so it's quite a bit) I was close to DNF cause I couldn't get into it. It was the time when Jace and Avery were getting to know each other etc and I just wasn't that enraptured.

And then suddenly, it changed into an emotional, riveting, raw and beautiful love story.

Avery..... I teared up so many times reading what she went through, how she feels. I could feel the pain she was going through and I had to put the book down a few times.

Jace. My God, he is such a perfect book boyfriend and not in a superficial 'he's so hot, an alpha " way. But in a way which always put Avery first and was there for her. He truly saved her and I truly believed that these 2 were soul mates.

Jace and Avery meet in college. Both weren't looking for a relationship but their pull to one another was too strong. But this book is more. Avery has never received love the way she should, and that brings issues when it comes to Jace.

I loved how patient he was with her and at the same time I was never annoyed at Avery's hesitancy cause I understood her.

I think the reason it's not a 5 stars is I was shocked/ so angry at how stuff was dealt with in regards to her family.

In terms of the romance with Jace, it's a 5 star read. In terms of how things were solved with her family?! It's a 1 star. Basically, they're immensely neglectful and verbally abusive to a point they came across as true narcissists.

If the author had painted them as pure neglectful I would've understood the quick forgiveness. But her parents literally watched her brother push her on a counter which made her bleed and bruise and

1. No one stops him or screams at him
2. The mom says it's basically her fault
3. They never confront the brother Matty
4. Her parents do not check on her at all in the following 2 days she remains.

Her brother Matty, he physically and verbally abuses her, and GENUINELY wants her dead to the point that he pushes her and convinced her to commit suicide and wishes she had died.

The author tries to pass this off and Matty just being petty and jealous whereas in reality these are characteristics of a psychopath.

There was a point in the end where I believed the father's remorse ... but it was as if what we've learnt from Avery's upbringing throughout the whole book was erased and it was as if he was merely neglectful whereas in reality they verbally abused her, neglected her and called her stupid, they never spoke to her after she left college, let her brother bruise and make her bleed while still glorifying him.

While the mom didn't show any remorse at all.

Then when another brother finds her when she tried to kill herself, he didn't care. In fact her brothers warn Jace away from her, blaming her that she tried to kill herself so he should stay away from her cause she'll ruin his career. Her brothers constantly pushed the fact she tried to kill herself to her face and demeaned her. They never cared for her.

So I don't get how in the end it's all forgiven and they all care suddenly? I get why Matty was evil, he's a psycho and was jealous. And her mom never appeared remorseful only the dad. It's never explained why the other 2 brothers were so horrible? Why suddenly they supported her after genuinely hating her for 18 years.

It was so wrapped up nicely I think the author forgot to portray a realistic approach to the situation with the family.

I'm all for forgiveness (even though here it was hard to swallow. These are people that watched their son hit their daughter make her bruise and bleed whilst defending him afterwards). But the conversation that happened after wasn't a conversation you'd have after someone was that horrible to you. It wasn't true to the situation. It was overlooked and summarised as them being neglectful.

If I was her, I'd say I don't want to speak to you because if they treated my kid like they treated her I wouldn't want my kid around them. What if one of the uncles continues to verbally or physically abuse the kid while the parents watched?

In fact i don't think what they did was forgivable. U need to understand, her brothers GENUINELY didn't care for her. And her mom even never put her first or even second. The boys came first. She'd say she loved Avery and I think the author was trying to convince us to an extent she truly did but I never saw and ounce of love from her. She should've cut them from her life or made them work months for forgiveness. It made me so angry. She was emotionally and verbally and physically abused. Her family never supported her or spoke to her with respect. Her family and their neglect drove her to cut herself and try to kill herself and what's worse is that her brothers laughed about it afterwards. We never hear why the brothers were so callous or an apology. Merely the dad saying "they're your brothers it shouldn't be this way" and her saying "I agree". And no, a stupid dinner with Jace doesn't make up for 18 years of torment.

I think what the author doesn't realise is how important secondary storylines are. She spend so much time and beautifully depicted the pain felt by Avery for SO long, that to dismiss it in the end and overlook it, wasn't fair to the readers invested in Avery's story. Her brother should be in a mental institution. He

genuinely wants her dead. Her parents don't deserve a second chance for not even giving her attention after the suicide attempt. Her mom for defending her abusive brother. Her father for not condemning the brother for hitting his sister. Her parents who did not check on their daughter after their son made her bleed and bruise. Parents who failed to be there for their daughter ONCE in 18 years. Those who belittled it, called her an attention seeker every time she tried to tell them to come to something important to her. And that's a few things they did out of the many that destroyed her. Does that sound even forgivable let alone forgivable without even an apology from anyone besides a stupid one from the dad which goes no where. It's like I'm sorry then HEA they're happy. Ugh I hated that part so so so so so much!

Again, I was so furious with how things were dealt with the family as her family played a huge role in the book. It's a 1 star for that so I don't know if I should lower my rating from a 4 star to a 3?

Christy says

4 stars!!!

Toni Aleo writes some of the best sports romances out there. The Bellevue Bullies is her second hockey series and it focuses on the Sinclair brothers. The first book was Jude Sinclair, then middle brother, Jayden Sinclair. Now it's book 3 and time for the baby, Jace Sinclair.

Avery and Jace are two very driven characters. Both are in college and have big dreams and big goals and don't need any distractions along the way. Avery Rose has a dream to be a singer/songwriter. Coming from a family of hockey players with brothers whose dreams were always more important than hers, she's determined to make it on her own. Jace Sinclair has huge footsteps to follow. His older brothers both made it in the NHL first draft. He's all about hockey. This is his year and nothing will get in his way.

Then they meet each other... and everything changes. Avery never expected to fall for this oh so charming hockey player with all the right lines. She decides it is okay to kind of date him (Javery... ;) but her heart can't get involved. Jace is smitten right away with Avery. It's love at first sight for him. He never in a million years thought a girl could steal his heart at first glance, but it happened.

Jace and Avery fell quick and they fell hard. As much as she tried to fight it, it couldn't be stopped. Yes. There is a good bit of 'insta love' in this one. But for the most part, it worked. I loved that these two found that they could have each other without sacrificing their dreams, wants and desires. That is what true love is. They had many obstacles to overcome, Avery's past, her family, Jace's dad, and some other things that surprisingly pop up along the way. It really puts their love and devotion to the test.

Jace Sinclair is a stand up guy. He's funny, sweet, protective and completely loyal. Avery has issues from her past, but Jace is always by her side helping her cope and always being there for her. It was wonderful to catch up with all the Sinclair's (minus dad... grrrr) I love this family!

The Assassin's and *Bellevue Bullies* will always hold a special place to me. They were the first sports books I've really gotten into and opened up whole new little sub genre for me. I adore these Sinclair boys and I

wish there were MORE brothers to write about! Maybe we will get another Bellevue book? Perhaps Marcus will get his own story...

Hooked by Love made me laugh, smile, and cry. It was sweet, steamy, funny and heartwarming, but had it's moments that were a bit angry and some that were downright hard to read. Overall, I enjoyed this one lots and give it a solid 4 stars!

“I thought I could never love anything more than hockey, but then you came along...”

Sabrina says

3.5 Puck Lovin' Stars

Jace Sinclair is in his last year of college and preparing to get drafted into the NHL. He thinks his last year of freedom should be spent sleeping around, partying, and having no responsibilities. But when he see's Avery Rose leaning against a tree, playing her guitar all those party plans are forgotten.

Avery is used to being ignored and forgotten. Her family was always so focused on her brothers' hockey career's that they didn't pay attention to her or have time to care about what she wanted. She hates the game for robbing her of a real family so when Jace shows interest in her she doesn't want to like him. But, as life has taught her often, we don't always get what we want.

I really liked this book and the emotions involved in the story. Both Jace and Avery had big plans for their future and they weren't looking to change them at all. I think the best thing about Toni Aleo's NA writing is how realistic it is. I'm not always a fan of NA because there are a lot of times when it isn't realistic to me and the characters just go about college and life as if it's super easy. With this series though, we get to witness the struggles of being young and trying to get your life together, and how hard and emotional it can all be.

I like Jace and Avery together, he was such a cute boyfriend, trying to be perfect for her. He was sweet, and caring with Avery and honestly I'm not sure if she even deserved how awesome he was. I liked Avery but I was getting a little annoyed with her since she was so stubborn and wouldn't open up for Jace. By the end I was back to liking her, though, and back to loving the couple.

The issues with Avery's family were crazy and they were all a bunch of assholes. I actually was a little mad at how that ended because (view spoiler).

Overall, I really liked this story and it was a good ending to the Sinclair boys. I hope Avery's roommate will get a story of her own, so I'll be stalking this author to find out. I recommend *Hooked on Love* for anyone

that loves a swoon worthy hockey player and a musician finding her way.

Jill M says

It's hard to put into words what a truly awe inspiring book this was. Jace and Avery's journey was one filled with smiles, laughter, sadness, pain, heartbreak and above all else love. You really need to read their story to know their journey.

Everyone has some sort of demons but it's what you overcome that makes you who you are. Not letting those past mistakes define you is what makes you better. This story is about all that. It's about making lemonade when all you are given is lemons. When life isn't all sunshine and unicorns it's what you do to change that and to come out on top.

There's plenty of hockey and love and of course those sexy Sinclair brothers. You'll be taken on a rollercoaster of emotions. This was a story that will stay with you past the last page. It was sad knowing this was the third and last book but I'm holding out hope that Lucy will get her HEA in Rushing the Goal.

Toni is truly one of my favorite authors. The fact that she does not only sports romance great but also the deep emotional stuff even better is what makes me come back for more of her books. This is one story you will not want to miss.

Also reviewing for Embrace the Romance.

Three Chicks says

Review by Natasha Gentile

Things are out of control for the Sinclair boys! With two already in the NHL, Jace Sinclair is ready to follow in his brothers' HUGE skates.

Jace Sinclair is amazing; well at least according to him. He is the 'it' guy on campus. He's the captain of the Bellevue Bullies and everyone who is everyone loves him.

I already have one foot in the draft and I'm ready.

This is his last year to be a kid and have fun. To him having fun means nailing girls. He is the biggest player out of all his brothers; again according to him. He actually is the least player type of guy you will ever meet. His only love for him is hockey.

That is, until I see her against a tree with a guitar.

Avery.

Sitting across campus playing her guitar, the last thing Avery wanted was to catch the eye of Jace Sinclair. In fact she doesn't need anyone to be interested in her.

He wants to hook up with her and isn't shy to let her know exactly what the score is.

She is the last thing that he wanted. He has seen his brothers fall hook line and sinker with their women. The last thing he wanted was to meet anyone. For all the love he's seen from his brothers, he feels he can't forget about the heartache that his father has given as well.

This man, oh this man was so hard to take in this book. Their father is the picture of a selfish man with only one thing on his mind. HIM.

The last thing Avery wanted was a hockey player. She comes from a hockey family herself; her two brothers have always been on skates. The last thing she wants is to find someone else that puts hockey before her.

Her family- I can't even begin to tell you how much I loathed her family. They give Joan Crawford's award for mother of the year a good run.

She left her family behind by escaping to the University of Bellevue for one reason and one reason only- to become a singer/songwriter. That is her main goal, but when a Sinclair brother sets his mind on something there is nothing that will deter his game plan.

After spending one night together their future is set in stone. Well to Jace it is, he just needs to convince Avery to take a chance on him, take a chance of love.

I have demons.

I have issues.

Living in the shadows, no one even knew until it was too late. But Jace wants to know.

He wants me.

And that scares me the living hell out of me.

Avery comes with huge baggage. She comes with problems that no one really knows, except her family. Trusting Jace with her secrets and demons scares her like nothing else. Having someone else put her first is something she hasn't ever had, making her wonder if that is only her dream.

They were so worried about making things work that they didn't know that their biggest decision would be yet to come. It's here, it's real and it's not going away.

But it's here, and the repercussions are not pretty. We should have known that there is no way out of the zone when you are being hooked by Love.

This book had everything that you in a great story. It made me laugh, it frustrated me, it made me catch my breath, it made me cringe and it made me fall in love with yet another couple of Ms. Aleo's.

***kawehi.reviews says**

#Yay!! New cover reveal from Toni Aleo!!

Becca - ★Wicked Quests of a BookNinja★ says

5 Javery-Stars!

<http://hellolittleredreadinghood.blog...>

Well, I'll start with a complain. When I read an Aleo book I'm always put in a situation where I can't decide if I love the book or I'm bored as hell.

I got my homework with this book. Again. Because at the begining, I was annoyed and... well, bored. But then it changed. Because suddenly, I got interested. The story did a complete one-eighty and I was hooked. (not only by love) And I was extremely pleasantly surprised.

The characters were cool. Firstly, I didn't really like either of them but as they went through a lot, our Javery became a better person.

I have to say I will miss this family. I'm sad this series is over.

♥Rachel Anne's Romance Must Reads♥ says

I knew it! Going on my favorites list, for sure. Jace is perfect. P.E.R.F.E.C.T!

This book was all kinds of angsty and all the things college romances are, but stood out from the others for so many reasons that would be spoilers here.

Easily one of my favorite new adults.

Darcy says

I really liked this one from the start, even as Jace sometimes annoyed me. A little of him goes a long way. What I did really like was that from the time Jace spotted Avery he was smitten, in fact it seemed like he was all in from the start, which was just what Avery needed. The more that we learned her history goofy Jace was just what she needed. She needed the goofiness, the always being there for her and his family. I know she eventually forgave her family, not sure that I could.

I was annoyed with Jace when the big conflict reared up. He knew what things were like for Avery, so I hated it when he couldn't trust and believe her. I also hated that he brought this up when Avery was going back to a place he knew wouldn't welcome her. I was surprised by how horrible that visit back home was. The only thing that save it was the nugget she learned at the end. It allowed Avery to see the past in a different light, to know she had a true enemy, one who knew just what buttons to push.

I loved how this one ended, that despite bumps and unexpected things Avery and Jace got their dreams, even the new dreams that they found.

Silvy_1309 says

Honestly between this one and the other 2 this can't really take my attention ...

More than 20 chapters had bothered me ...really Jace in like two chapters has fallen in love like no one and talked corny all the time ...

"I've never been graced by such beauty and I really don't know how I'm supposed to walk away from her with my heart still in my chest" _____ now....REALLY ??? Thanks but no thanks

Aside from this from the half on I liked the development and all the drama family/sentiments etc

Anna Banana says

I can't believe this series is over! Toni Aleo will always be the queen of sports romances no matter what, and she did such a great job with this addition to the series. I didn't like the insta-love and how fast their relationship progressed in the book but in the end, she had me believing in their love and fangirling super hard.

I love that the book talks on such serious matters like depression and anxiety, two things I feel don't get mentioned nearly enough and I think she did such a fantastic job giving it the attention and detail it needed.

Lisa Jayne says

THREE SINCLAIR STARS.

"We should have known that there is no way out of the zone when you are being Hooked by love."

Toni Aleo will always remain in my top ten authors, the excitement alone that I get from starting an Aleo novel makes it clear that there won't be a release by this author that I'm not absolutely begging for. My love for Toni Aleo started out with the assassins series but I have grown to equally adore this spin off series and the Bellevue Bullies have now got their own special place in my reading heart. Book three in the series will be providing the lovers of the Sinclair siblings a healthy dose of the youngest brother and his unexpected love story. Did I love this book as much as the others? Not quite as much. Am I glad that I dived in with high expectations? Of course, no questions asked. I wanted to love this book just as equally and even though it didn't quite hit the spot this time around I still found plenty enough to like about it. After all it's a Toni Aleo novel and I adore this author and her mad, crazy - talented writing skills.

What's it all about?

The last Sinclair brother is determined that he won't take the same romantic path as his brothers before him. Determined to live the college life to its fullest he has zero interest in finding more than a one night stand to keep him warm at night. That's until he meets Avery a talented and sassy musician. The unexpected

attraction he has for her blows him away. Gone is the man whore and in place of that is a man who knows what and who he wants. But in order to find the ending he craves this couple must overcome the obstacles standing in their way.

What did I love?

Toni Aleo has a way of dropping those one liners in her writing that make you want to hug your kindle and forget about the world around her. I can't help but want to highlight her books like crazy and sit and smile with a huge grin on my face at the perfect romance ideas that she threads throughout her stories. Jace and Avery certainly had everything including the kitchen sink thrown at them as a couple and I have to admit that my interest was kept throughout the book. I was also excited to see characters from the beginning of the series included in the story telling and even though this was not my favourite of the series I was still intrigued enough to eagerly flip through the chapters to see what would become of this duo. Ultimately the author always delivers on the flirty, dirty and the heart warming romance story telling not to mention her ability to make her readers more than a little hot under the collar. I'll always be impressed with her creations just sadly this time around it didn't quite fully win me over.

Why not five?

This is the point where I want to make it clear that I liked this book, lots. A three star is a likeable place to be and I know for some reviewers a three star is far from a good read, but for my tasters a three star is a respectable rating. This three star in no way takes away from Toni aleo's ability to craft a romantic novel in fact i'm always a little blown away by Aleo's talent. This really was a bad case of its not you, this time it's all on me and my terrible adverse feelings about a book that is founded on the dreaded Insta love. There is rarely a time when an author can write a story where the couple have an instant love connection and it will win me over. Sadly, this book featured a couple that were fantastically thought out but their love story just didn't have the ability to sweep me away. By the time the author was weaving away her magic with angst and the couples forever future I had somewhat lost interest. However, I can't deny that this book featured a melt your heart, sweeter than sweet hero and a heroine that was thoroughly loveable. It also had some moments that made me melt into my kindle but over all I felt a little underwhelmed. Will dedicated fans of Toni Aleo disagree with me? More than likely. Will I still fall in helpless longing when Aleo announces her next release? You can bet your life time savings on it. All in all a likeable book with some full out award winning romantic moments but not enough love for the story line to make it a favourite of mine.

Final thoughts ...

Toni Aleo is a sports romance writing goddess. Her expertise in this trope would be hard to beat. Authentic and swoon worthy her sports heroes are to die for and if you haven't yet 'met' one of her books then I can't recommend enough that you stop what you are doing and find yourself some time to fall in love with this authors work. And as for this series, Toni has once again provided books worthy of giving your time to. Enjoy readers ... Kisses.

BETA version provided by the author.

Shannie's ??Lookin' 4 My Next BBF?? says

I know a lot of readers didn't like the "instalove" in this book but these were their feelings; they didn't flat out say they loved one another right away. The H/h just knew they really liked spending time with one another

and what they were feeling was different from anything they'd ever felt.

I had parents who met, three months later were engaged, and three months after that were married; my oldest sibling didn't come to be until they'd been married three yrs. Even though my Dad died almost 17yrs ago at the young age of 56yrs old, my mom and dad were in love til he no longer had a heart beating. I knew after 2wks of dating my husband things with him were different and after a month that I was in love with him. What I'm trying to say is that it does happen even in real life.

Rachel K says

[Sorry, but there is no fucking way parents are that clueless! They knew what was happeni
