



All Play and No Work

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When a three man partnership becomes too much for their small Texas town, Ryan Blackfeather knows it's time to head for greener pastures. With a new job awaiting him in Cattle Valley, Wyoming, he convinces his men, Nate and Rio to make the move.

A community built on tolerance, Cattle Valley's one of the few places in the country where the residents won't bat an eyelash at the threesomes relationship. Nate, Rio and Ryan fit right in. However, with Ryan busy in his new job as town Sheriff, Rio and Nate are left to wonder how they're supposed to make a living. What use are a highly trained mercenary and a private detective in a peaceful community the size of Cattle Valley?

Reader Advisory: This book is best read in sequence as part of a series

All Play and No Work Details

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From Reader Review All Play and No Work for online ebook

Chappy says

More like 3.5 Stars

Like many fellow GR reviewers, I felt a little overwhelmed at first. It seems that these guys met in a previous book...which one??? I seem to be missing some puzzle pieces here.

The premise is good although the execution is lacking a little. Rio and Ryan are an established couple and they decide to add Nate to the mix. The triad chemistry is pretty hot but I like more foreplay and sensuality to my porn. The sex scenes could have been more intense and detailed.

I didn't really go for the whole private investigator thing with Nate. It just seemed forced and the dialogue was sometimes stilted. I did however like the idea of the guys opening up a gym.

I liked some of the supporting characters we met like Gil and Ezra. Good setup for future stories. I will probably read a few more books before giving my final verdict.

Ramona says

Nicht schlecht, aber auch nicht wirklich gut. Ich wollte eigentlich schon nach den ersten zwei Kapiteln abbrechen, weil ich nicht warm damit wurde.

Keine Geschichte, die im Kopf bleibt.

Emanuela ~plastic duck~ says

I felt lost at the beginning, it all seemed so rushed. I did some research and understood that the three protagonists come from a book of a different series. I wish there were a little bit more background story, especially because this is the first book of a new series. I felt abandoned and I couldn't connect with the characters because I think I was missing the most important part of the story: WHY they got together and WHY Ryan and Rio didn't agree on bringing Nate into their relationship at the beginning.

I liked the concept of the book - a gay-friendly town - and the characters are nice. I especially liked Kyle, the bakery shop owner, who is on a wheelchair. His shyness conquered me immediately. I'll be reading more of the series.

Bubbles Hunty Honest & Direct Opinions says

Still not sure what to think of the m/m/m but i did like the story and the characters just not sure one the 3-way relationship. it felt kind of like it was Nate and Rio with an occasional side of Ryan

Candice says

When I started this story, I felt like I wasn't starting a new series, but was dropped in the middle of a book. Thanks to a couple of friends who explained that I really needed to read the series before this, more specifically Rawley's Redemption, I put this aside, read the Good Boys Series and then continued with this one. It made this story much more enjoyable when you know how this threesome came together. While I like the concept of this series, and this is not bad start, there was not too much of a plot or emotional impact. I found it a light, easy read and plan on continuing this series, at least for a couple of books to see how it goes.

Nichole (DirrtyH) says

2.5 stars

I had a hard time rating this because on one hand, it was horrible. And on the other hand, I kind of enjoyed it. ??? Guilty pleasure indeed.

I would liken this to a really raunchy episode of Barney & Friends. Overly simple, extremely unrealistic, everyone loves everyone and ah, happily ever after. I'm surprised there wasn't any handholding and singing at the end. But I guess a dirty three-way on the kitchen table is pretty much the same thing?

Manfred says

When I started reading gay romance, this was one of the first series I came across. I loved the story about the fictional city of Cattle Valley with its huge gay population and the 3 guys Nate, Rio and Ryan moving there. I read all 30+ parts of the series and it was especially nice, that many of the main characters were regulars and would appear again in other parts of the series- probably something like your daily soap were the setting and the people get familiar.

Somehow I came across the series again and did a reread of the first book.

I am not sure if the first one is not as good as the following ones, but I must admit that I liked this far less, than when I first read it.

Especially the beginning, where the 3 guys meet and fall in love immediately, knowing they will spend the rest of their lives together, after like one night of hot sex was absolutely ridiculous and unbelievable.

It was still an okay read, but honestly I would hesitate to recommend this to my goodreads friends.

Probably it is the same like with your daily soap, after seeing it all the time you really love it, but if you would show just one episode to a friend you would rather be embarrassed, because you realize the quality is so poor and the story is rather stupid.

So, if you are in the mood for a daily dose of not too much gay drama, with themes like opposites attract, enemies to lovers, guys with disabilities or insecurities you will find it all in this series. But don't expect it to go in deep, all the themes are quickly told and immediately solved, there is not even the daily cliffhanger you might be used to from your soap and certainly no big surprises. Still it can be a nice read and you can have a good time reading it.

For me the whole series would probably rate at 3.5 stars, with the pilot story a little below that.

Jenny Wood says

I LOVE re-reading these! I'm not usually a liker of menage's but these three made it work. They were all three perfect together, I have a feeling I'm going to re-read this entire series again now!

I love, love, love Nate, Rio and Ryan...They moved to Cattle Valley when Ryan got offered a job as a Sheriff there. Its the most accepting place, and I wish it really existed.

In this one, once there, Nate and Rio have a hard time figuring out what they should be doing all the while missing their busier than normal new Sheriff.

I love their banter and the way they all love each other. I loved reading how they got together and how they found Nate. sigh.... they're all three just perfect. This is exactly what I needed today.

A short and sweet read.

Barbara? says

****3.5 Stars****

Cute, if not a little cheesy, start to the series. Though, it was like I was dumped into the middle of their story. I'm going to have to go back and find the one where they actually meet and formed a bond. I missed that. Nate was a riot and I'm sure he'll play a big part in the other stories. Lord knows, there's a bunch of them.

78sunny says

Von der Reihe hatte mich Band 5 ("Physical Therapy") schon sehr lange angesprochen und im Februar hatte ich es mir dann endlich als Ebook gekauft und gelesen. Es war mir egal, dass es mitten in einer recht langen Reihe spielte. Man kann die Bücher auch sehr gut ohne das Wissen der anderen Bände lesen, weil es immer um ein Pärchen bzw. ein Trio geht und alles sich nur am selben Schauplatz abspielt. Allerdings kriegen die vielen anderen Charaktere auch immer wieder Auftritte und so macht das Lesen mehr Spaß wenn man die anderen Bände auch kennt. Ich habe mich dann sehr schnell entschieden auch andere Bände der Reihe auszuprobieren. Daher griff ich nun zu Band 1 der Reihe.

Hier geht es um Rio, Ryan und Nate. Ryan ist der neue Sheriff in Grace Valley. Das ist der Ort an dem sich die ganze Reihe abspielt. Ein absolutes Schwulenörtchen mit nur wenigen Heteros. Das wirkt alles extrem überzogen, aber mich störte dies nicht. Neben vielen schwulen Pärchen gibt es hier auch sehr viele Dreierbeziehungen. So auch bei dem Trio aus diesem Band. Sie sind neu in der Stadt und nur Ryan hat einen Job bisher. Die anderen beiden suchen noch nach einer Aufgabe und im Laufe der Geschichte finden sie die auch.

Der Schreibstil ist extrem einfach und wirkt manchmal ungenau. Ich habe früher viele Fanfiction gelesen und daran erinnerte mich der Schreibstil sehr. Es fiel schon sehr deutlich auf, aber mich störte das nicht allzu sehr. Wer allerdings nur wirklich wortgewaltige und raffinierte Schreibstile gewöhnt ist, wird hier wohl nicht viel Freude haben.

Was die Reihe so unglaublich anziehend für mich macht, sind die Charaktere. Sie sind nicht wirklich realistisch, sondern alle viel zu nett, zuvorkommend und besorgt. Außerdem sind alle mega sexy, aber wie ich schon so oft hier erwähnt habe, mich störte das nicht. Ich kann da meinen Realitätssinn gut mal

abschalten und einfach nur die heile Welt genießen. Hier passiert zwar auch etwas ziemlich schreckliches, (jemand wird arg bedroht und körperlich misshandelt) aber der Haupttenor der ganzen Geschichte ist immer positiv. Es geht darum wie sich die Leute gegenseitig unterstützen und helfen. Jeder so wie er kann. Dieser Spannungsanteil in der Geschichte ist daher relativ gering. Man kann sich die ganze Zeit sicher sein, dass demjenigen geholfen wird, die Frage war nur wie und wann. Das reichte für mich als Spannung. Der Höhepunkt war aus meiner Sicht dann doch viel zu übertrieben und machte keinen richtigen Sinn, wenn man den Charakter betrachtete. Hier merkt man einfach, dass dies keine Geschichte ist über die ein Lektor mehrfach drüber gegangen ist.

Aber zurück zu den Charakteren, die mir diese Reihe so schmackhaft machen. Ryan ist wie gesagt der Sheriff (allein das Wort ist für mich schon ein Kaufgrund) - sexy, dominant und beschützerisch. So ist er auch in der Beziehung zu Rio und Nate. Rio ist allerdings ebenfalls ein recht dominanter, starker Charaktere. Auch er ist kräftig und sexy. Nate ist dann der etwas schwächer wirkende Part in der Beziehung, obwohl auch er nicht hilflos ist, sonder äußerst selbstbewusst und sportlich. Aber von seinem Wesen und seiner Statur her, ist er der schwächere, zartere Part. Er ist aber auch das Herzstück der Geschichte. Im Gegensatz zu seinen eher männlichen Partnern wird er metrosexuell beschrieben. Er steht auf teure Klamotten, aber ist sich nicht zu schade für einen Freund auch mal dreckig zu werden. In der Stadt freundet er sich super schnell mit vielen Leuten an und ist sehr hilfsbereit. Also überperfekt und trotzdem hab ich ihn geliebt. Auch viele Nebencharaktere machen einen so neugierig auf die anderen Teile der Reihe. Ich werde definitiv weiter lesen.

Der Erotikanteil ist sehr hoch. Es gibt viele heiße, abwechslungsreiche Szenen. Man muss natürlich Ménage-à-trois Geschichten mögen. Hier wird es sehr glaubwürdig herüber gebracht, dass es für Rio, Ryan und Nate absolut passt und die richtige Form ihrer Lebensführung ist.

Fazit:

4 von 5 Sternen

Alles in allem muss ich sagen, dass mir das Buch bzw. die Reihe sehr gut gefällt. Allerdings glaube ich, dass wirklich nur eine spezielle Lesergruppe die Reihe genießen wird. Daher empfehle ich, erst einmal ein wenig in den Schreibstil einzulesen bevor man sich entscheidet eines der Bücher zu kaufen. Günstig sind sie nämlich größtenteils nicht.

Lillie says

Not a bad start to the series. The threesomes characters were interesting and HOT! Not much emotional angst or plot, but a good, easy fun read.

Ralph Gallagher says

Cattle Valley is a community that is largely gay. The town is one of the most accepting on the planet and that appeals to Ryan, Nate, and Rio. The three men have been in a relationship together and are hoping Cattle Valley's residents will be more open to it than their hometown. Only when they get there, Nate discovers that even Cattle Valley has its problems.

Starting with the basics - the story was definitely interesting and I did enjoy reading it. I didn't spot any major grammar mistakes that would turn a reader off. The only big problem I found with this is that Lynne's plots are starting to all blend together. They all seem to follow the same general formula - People are happy,

someone starts trouble, there's a fight, the trouble maker goes to jail and everyone lives happily ever after. I probably wouldn't have noticed it if I had spaced her books out, but I've read over a dozen of her books in the past two weeks.

Lynne's novel seem to focus more on external conflicts rather than internal conflict. To me, a good plot has a blend of the two so that you're not overwhelmed and bored with one of them. A romance story that focuses on a bigot and has a sickenly happy couple is only entertaining for so long same with a story that is nothing but angst. That's why I enjoyed Twin Temptations - it had a pretty good blend of internal conflict and external.

The characters in this novel were pretty well developed. I like Nate in particular who acts like a stereotypical gay man, but is a lot deeper than that. The one thing that I didn't like was how Nate brags numerous times about having his fourth degree blackbelt in various styles. It made him seem arrogant when he normally isn't. Also, I've done martial arts for many years and met many high ranking blackbelts and that generally don't brag about their ranks. A true fourth degree blackbelt knows that he still has a lot to learn and he's not invincible.

This one was really hard to rate for me. I kept bouncing between three and four stars. On one hand, I did enjoy the story. On the other hand, the plot is almost the same as her other novels but with different characters. I recommend reading this, but don't read too many of her books at once or you'll tire of them.

** Warning ** This novel contains sex scenes and may not be appropriate for readers under than age of 18.

Gabis Laberladen says

Darum geht's:

Ryan hat im kleinen Ort Cattle Valley den Job als Sheriff angenommen. Dass er eine Beziehung mit zwei Männern führt, wird dank der besonderen Geschichte dieses Ortes problemlos akzeptiert. Doch werden auch Nate und Rio sich hier wohlfühlen? Schließlich gibt es für die beiden Männer keine passenden Jobs. Nate ist der Kontaktfreudigste unter den drei Männern und die Bekanntschaft mit dem Ladenbesitzer Wyn bringt ihm gleich jede Menge Aufregung.

Meine Meinung dazu gibt's hier

Macky says

I'm not a massive fan of series' that go on and on ... I prefer about 3 or 4 books at the most because after a while I think it gets a bit too samey but I must admit even though this is what I class as a lightweight more sex than substance story I really do like the 3 main guys, Nate in particular. So to be honest thats why it gets 4. Just for the enjoyment factor and also because the three of them together are pretty hot! * Sniggers* This is the second time round so there you go!

Floripiquita says

¡Menudo despropósito! Me ha parecido una historia sin pies ni cabeza.
