



Jock

C.M. Foss

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CLICHES

She can't stand them.

Hates them.

Refuses to be one.

But...

Tessa Brooks is strong-willed, sassy, and determined, on the brink of dominating in the testosterone-fueled sport of horse racing. She's spent her life avoiding the norm, staying true to herself to achieve her ultimate goals.

Her relationship with Jace Hitchen, her brother's best friend, just might be the biggest cliché of all. Over the years, he's been her protector, her annoyance, her confidante, her crush. But giving in to what she's really wanted for the last ten years could be the very thing that destroys everything she's worked for and wanted. Can Tessa achieve her dreams for the future, but still hold on to the past?

Jock Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : C.M. Foss

Format :

Genre : Romance, Sports and Games, Sports

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From Reader Review Jock for online ebook

Booknut says

As soon as I read that there's a guy named 'Jace' in this book, I knew we were gonna have a heated romance on our hands!

But this book isn't centered on romance. On the contrary! This book focuses on what women can do if they put their minds to it, and the importance of family. It also gives a shout-out to the age-old saying 'If you love something let it go. If it comes back it was always yours. If it doesn't, it never was.' *Jock* and its female protagonist are motivational and thought-provoking.

And if you're not a horse lover, by the end of this book you will be!

This book is eye-opening, honestly. I never knew how much sweat, pain, tears, and spirit went into being a jockey and I can now say that I have a true appreciation for them and the work they do :)

Michelle says

5 Stars!

Loved this one! I didn't want to put it down once I started. Stayed up all night to finish!

Jace has always been in Tessa's life. He's seven years older than her. He's her brother's best friend. Tessa and Jace have a very special bond. I loved that we got to go back in time and witness them growing up and how special their friendship was. Once Tessa gets older their friendship slowly turns to more.

Tessa and Jace were so damn funny. I loved them both so much. The way they joked around with each other cracked me up. Tessa was really funny. Some of the shit that came out of her mouth had tears rolling out of my eyes and my belly hurting from laughing so hard.

Tessa was a jockey. She was a pain in everyone's ass. She was feisty and pretty much said and did what she wanted and she wanted to be a jockey. She wasn't going to let anything or anyone get in the way of her dreams. I thought she was super strong to endure what jockeys have to go through to make weight. It was hard reading about it. She was practically starving herself. This was a big concern for Jace and her family. But Tessa didn't care what they thought she had a dream and this was a big part of it and she was going to do this no matter what. She didn't have time for her feelings about Jace. She woke up at 4am everyday and started her job. She was never late to work until Jace and feelings about him came into the picture.

I loved that Jace wanted to woo Tessa. He wooed me that's for sure! He was always there for her. He was always trying to protect her and look out for her. He was perfect or was he?

Will Tessa be able to juggle being a jockey, barely getting any sleep, barely eating, exercising a lot, Sunday dinners with her family and have a boyfriend (that is a secret for now)?

Will Jace be able to sit back and support Tessa's crazy non healthy lifestyle without trying to get in the way of her dreams?

What's going to happen when Tessa's brother Lawrence (Jace's best friend) finds out they are dating?

What's the family going to think when they find out?

You my friends will have to read this to find out!

If you love a sweet and slightly steamy best friends to lovers read this one is perfect for you! I think this is the third book in the series. I didn't read book 1 but I read book 2 and this one. No problems keeping up:))

“I love you, Midge,” he whispered. I reached up and brushed my lips against his. “I love you more.” “Stop trying to one-up me.” I grinned. “Jockeys are a competitive lot.”

Angie McLain-Fan Girl Book Blog says

5 STARS – Looking for a sexy, sweet, funny and quirky read? Jock checks all the boxes!

“I felt every look like he was branding me, hot and permanent. The wound would heal but the scar would remain, and I was fine with that.”

Jock is a friends to lovers romance that spans the years of childhood right up to present day and adulthood. Tessa has known Jace for as long as she can remember. He's always been part of her family, best friends with her brothers; he's always been a part of her in life in one way or another...

“Where was my breath? I felt like I was chasing it.”

Tessa has always dreamed of being a Jockey, and everyone knows this. She is driven, stubborn beyond reason, she has a tongue that is sharper than a tack. Completely at home on the back of a horse she will do whatever necessary and sacrifice everything to make her dreams come true...

Jace has goals; he's completed his masters and is now the proud owner & operator of his own business. Catering to those who can afford his services, he provides security and peace of mind to his clients. He's really sweet and caring, thoughtful and protective of those he loves.

Lately he's been feeling things for his best friend's sister that are leaving him feeling very confused...a sudden tragedy has left everyone grieving and raw.

“The air between us felt... thicker, the events from just a couple weeks ago bringing us closer than we were before. Maybe closer than we should be.”

This story is a light, funny, sexy and quirky read. Jock is told from both Tessa and Jaces' point of views but let me warn you, Tessa is not your typical heroine. In fact I'm not even sure that word applies to Tessa at all. She's the girl that does what she wants and listens to no one. She has goals and dreams and nothing or no one is going to stand in her way of accomplishing something when she sets her mind to it. The life of a jockey, especially any successful one, tough. A lack of sleep, food, social life and hours after hours of grueling physical labour is demanded, but none of this really bothers Tessa, she wants this and she will accomplish it! She's so incredibly focused on her career, she has very little time for relationships, but when Jace reappears at a family gathering, she feels a very definite shift but then he's gone...

Now torn between her feelings and desires, her exhaustion and her food deprived brain what ensues is entertaining, frustrating and hilarious.

Did I mention SEXY??? Jace and Tessa's sexual chemistry is HOT!!!

The push and pull is addictive and the connection is undeniable.

“I wanted so much of her, all of her. I wanted to touch her and consume her, kiss her, make love to her...love

her.

Was it right?

No. No, it wasn't.

But it definitely didn't feel wrong either."

CM Foss gives us a story that is incredibly easy to read. It's not overwrought with drama, it's incredibly well written and it flows effortlessly. Tessa and Jace will steal your heart, and even though I wanted to throttle Tessa more than a few times, I understood her inner conflict and her sacrifices to a certain extent. Finding a balance between her life and her passion is going to be a challenge. Jace is kind of impossible not to love; he's patient, kind, and thoughtful. He's also dangerously good looking and knows how to get what he wants when he wants it... but Tessa is not going to make it easy for him, not even a little bit.

"His hand came up to grip my arm. There was something about the touch of skin on skin in such an innocent way that set my heart up into my throat and then back down. Really far down. I swear it was beating in my vagina. Yep, nope that was it. Lub dub. Between my legs. Vagina heartbeat."

HAHAHAHAHAHAHA

I enjoyed this newest book by CM Foss; it just felt authentic and natural, never forced. I loved the storyline, the characters with all of the quirks and banter and I fell in love with the romance. If you need a book to pull you out of a book hangover or something that's just fun to read without all the drama, angst, and sadness, Jock is your book!

"Intense. Profound. Drunk on each other. Because weren't the most intense and profound moments in life found we were drunk... on something."

CM Foss has now ruined Birthday Cake gum for me!

Every time I see a package I may gag and snort laugh...

but Hey it's all good!

HAHAHAHAHA

Red Cheeks Reads says

Any book that has the heroine as the incredibly talented sports star, trying to break out in a male dominated sport has my attention right off the bat and the beginning of this charming love story Jock had my whole attention, for the first half of the book anyway, as it takes us through Tessa and Jace's childhood and teenage years, giving us an invaluable glimpse into how Jace's protective nature was often stifling for the younger girl but it's through his role as her protector and bodyguard that their feelings become entwined and take on a more mature nature to them.

"No really. Life is dirty." I stood up to pace. "It's messy and unfair and painful. And the most beautiful things come out of it. If you want to spend your life with another person, they're gonna see it all anyway. Why not throw it out there from the get-go? Maybe the best romances come from the person who already knows your deepest and darkest."

There are some really well written scenes and dialogue in Jock, in fact the whole plot is well imagined, I just felt that some of it hurried along at too quick of a pace whereas other scenes dragged on unnecessarily. Tessa strives to become a jockey, from the time she could walk her life revolved around training and horses but often times I found her character to be a little too focused on her career and I felt we never really got

beneath the surface of her to find out enough to make me really care about her. At times Tessa came across as a little self-centred and focused solely on her own goals without giving much thought to her family or Jace. She's intelligent, feisty and spirited but there was just something missing in her that I found I didn't really connect with her character. Jace too was a little one dimensional. We know he feels a need to watch out for Tessa and play the big brother role even though he is only a friend of the family, but his growing attraction to Tessa lacked that sexual tension and passion I would come to expect in such a story, it was sweet and little low key with very few obstacles thrown in the way to disrupt the equilibrium. It was an okay read but I didn't feel that all important spark between the two main protagonists, it felt lacklustre and rushed. There were certain important and tragic events in the story, during the beginning that were rushed along and glossed over that really needed to either be explored in depth or at least expanded upon. I liked Jock but I didn't love it.

~Nicole

Starla says

Once again CM Foss has written an amazing book. I love getting to know Jace and Tessa, especially starting at the very beginning when Tessa is a baby. I enjoyed them both as individuals but when they were together the back and forth banter was so much fun! The connection between Jace and Tessa was so strong that it dragged me into their relationship from the very beginning. I also had fun seeing glimpses of the Brooks family as a whole. The author has a wonderful way of balancing challenges, love and family in a story. I really enjoyed reading this book and will be recommending it to my bookworm friends. I can't wait to read what the author comes up with next.

Sarah Reads "Reading in Sarah's Corner" says

4.5 of 5 Hearts.

This is the first book I have read by C.M. Foss and it most certainly will not be my last. I love how she captivated me from the very being of this book and never let me down. I mean who doesn't love a good brother's best friend book? The best part was that this book was so much more. This book is about fighting for what you love and never giving up on that dream no matter what other may say or think.

One of my favorite things about this book is that we get to see Jace Hitchen the first part of the book growing up and taking care of Tessa. I loved how it would take us over the years on how Jace saw things playing out. His drive and ambitions and then it switched over to Tessa and we viewed the world through her eyes.

I would have loved more of the book to rotate between the two, but I understand why it didn't.

Another thing I would have loved is a little more struggle over the conflict between loving your best friends little sister and how that went from protecting her to falling in love with her. Jace always teased Tessa and nicknamed her Midge which stuck throughout the story. Maybe that is when I knew their bond was something special. They needed each other even as children.

Tessa Brooks is one of those heroines you just have to love. She is strong, quick witted, and just wants to make her mark on the world in a field that many say is impossible to succeed in. Every time someone told

Tessa she should not do something or she would not succeed she proved them wrong. The only kink in her plan was that her feeling for Jace grew every time she was around him.

I am not gonna lie, I swooned like a crazy girl numerous times over how Jace cared for Tessa. He did not care what anyone else thought; he loved her and wanted to take care of her.(even when Tessa wanted to run.) They were complete opposites that complemented each other perfectly. Jace was laid back, carefree and had a thing for wearing flip-flops which I adored, while Tessa was headstrong and wore her heart on her sleeve.

Amy says

Jock
CM Foss
3.5 stars

So this was different for me. Not bad by any means just different. Im more of a high intense type of style reader so reading something that calms was a change. Again not bad ... just different and that's good to branch out.

Tessa Brooks is the youngest of the Brooks family. She is a spunky, sassy and a no shit taking girl. Anything that Tessa gets a "no" to she wants to do it more and she does. Being the best is what her life is about. This little thing is a go getter.

Tessa's brother's best friend Jace Hitchen has been her defender since birth. He gives her a silly nickname and vows to shelter her from anything that may harm her. Jace believes that Tessa needs protection from outsiders or those that may want to harm her. He doesn't want her brilliance dulled by anyone. Breaking into the life of being a jockey as a female is brutal. Playing honest and Tessa's innocent is something that he wants her to keep in view.

Tessa is determined to stand on her own. Jace is so focused on keeping her safe from harm he doesn't see what she needs is his support. She knows the life of a female jockey is hard but she also knows she will fight to be at the top.

The family ties in this book are very well written. It's a true account of how a family should function along with tears, laughter and love. Tessa and Jace's story is a nice one. If you like romance and easy reads this book is for you.

I was provided an ARC for an honest review. Review to post on Ramblings From Beneath The Sheets. Thank you CM. I enjoyed it!

Steph says

Oh my, the feels....
my heart is about to burst at the seams from all the happy feels!

Jock is super sweet, swoony and sexxxxxy!

It captures a unique bond of friends to lovers, love story that is down right adorable. It also captures Tess's determination to not only "make it" but dominate in the male oriented, time consuming world of horse racing; the good, the bad and the ugly.

Tess aka Midge is sassy, stubborn and ambitious while Jace is fiercely protective, sweet and funny!

Jace and Midge's romance will make your heart melt with their quick witted banter and subtle flirting.

There is little to no drama or angst.

CM easily creates a beautiful world to get lost in. Her well developed characters are so damn lovable and the plot is extraordinary. The writing is engaging. It flows with such ease, I finished the book in one afternoon!

CM Foss once again shows us why she is indeed

" THE G.O.A.T."

1-Click Addict Support Group says

I sure am a sucker for the brother's best friend books and this is one of the best I read. *Sigh* And it had a vagina heartbeat—can't get much better!

I have to be honest and say I was a little hesitant to read about horse racing. It has never interested me and I have never been on a horse, but I am a huge fan of the author, as well as the other angle, and I am so glad that I read it.

Jock is the story of Tessa, aka Midge. She has been fighting her whole life to be something different. She has always dreamed of being a jockey and with her small size it is the perfect job for her. Though, it comes at a high cost.

“He doesn’t want to go. He wants to fight. He wants to matter. He doesn’t want to go. He just will. Because to fight and do things that matter, sometimes you have to go.”

Jace is Tessa's older brother, Lawrence's best friend. He is been around since she was born. He has been her protector, her savior, and her friend. Tessa has crushed on him for a long time and when Jace finally allowed himself to see her as a woman, it really opened his eyes.

“I wanted so much of her, all of her. I wanted to touch her and consume her, kiss her, make love to her...love her. Was it right? No. No, it wasn't. But it definitely didn't feel wrong either.”

I couldn't put this story down, I had to know what was going to happen. I loved the entire cast of characters, especially the Brooks family! It also really enlightened me into the world of horse racing and how competitive a sport it is; how much a jockey goes through just to ride a horse. It was sweet, sad, funny, and steamy. This was another fantastic read from Ms. Foss! ~ Tiffany, 4.5 stars

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There probably aren't too many people sitting around and thinking, 'Do you know what would be sexy? A book about horse racing and jockeys!' The fact C.M. Foss did—or at least, I'm fairly certain that's how this book came about, and not because of a love of the sport or anything so mundane as that—just proves something about this author. She's creative, she's funny, and she knows how to get right into your heart.

Tessa Brooks is on the brink of making in the male-dominated, rough and tumble world of horse racing. It's been no easy task, but the years she's invested in it are finally about to pay off. During those tough years, her brother's best friend, Jace has been one of her strongest protectors. She's crushed on him, desired him, and talked to him about her goals. And now, after all this time, it seems they're finally going to give it a shot.

But what will Tessa do when it turns out that the man she wants might just be the thing stopping her from achieving her lifelong dream?

Circle of truth time? Yes, I think so. I actually finished this book several days ago. Normally, I am not so tardy with my reviews, but I couldn't work out what I wanted to say. And, in actual fact, I still pretty much have no idea. *Jock* was...an experience. A good one—a great one even. One I can't quite explain. But I'm going to try... (Better be ready for run-on sentences, people!)

You know how reviewers say books are a "roller coaster"? (I'm so guilty of this; it's just an easy way to talk about the ups-and-downs). This book was more like the Disney monorail. It takes you to wonderful places, but it never goes to crazy-high heights and stomach-dropping lows. It eases around the track, same pace, same level of feeling and enjoyment, none of the terror. And I liked that about this book—it was easy, but not simple. C.M. Foss had me constantly moving and thinking, on a low simmer. She had me falling for the characters, worrying about them, questioning their decisions, and angering at their choices, their reactions and their mistakes. But she did it at such an easy pace—oh, man, I know I am missing the chance to use some choice horse puns here—that I didn't know until I was done how much this book had truly reached me.

*Jock* wasn't really what I was expecting—but it was funny in a way I've come to recognize as Ms. Foss' signature style, emotional on a level I didn't even truly recognize until I started trying to explain it, and it was sexy with a little swoon. Seriously, a book about a jockey...who'd have thought?! ~ Beth, 4 stars

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Tessa Brooks is tough as nails. I mean, she's the youngest of six which has left her with a thick skin due to years of teasing and joking from her older siblings. But her toughness goes deeper than that. She's single minded and driven, and this girl is going to dominate the horse racing circuit come hell or high water. That is, if she keeps her feelings for her brother's best friend from leading her completely off course.

Jace Hitchen is basically a member of the Brooks family. He's known Tessa since she was born, and he's always felt fiercely protective over her. As she blossomed into adulthood, his feelings blossomed with her—he just wants her to give him a chance. Jace also is single minded and driven—and he's set his sights on Tessa.

This story is so rich and beautifully told. The banter between Jace and Tessa is adorable and authentic, adding a depth and playfulness to their relationship that is sometimes missing due to Tessa's single minded focus on her career. The entire Brooks family wormed their way into my heart—boisterous family dinners, place cards, merciless teasing and all.

I am not terribly familiar with horse racing and so I appreciated the Author's Note included in this book, which provided some insight to why Tessa was the way she was. But even with that information, I struggled

sometimes to understand her decisions and I wanted to wring her neck on more than one occasion. It's a testament to how wrapped up in the story I was that I wanted to bop her in the head and tell her to stop being such an idiot—like she was my own little sister. I mean, it was plain to see that there could never be another man for her than Jace. He is patient and giving and understanding in a way that most people would not be capable of, especially when consistently met with Tessa's steadfast resistance.

God, I loved Jace. I loved his smart mouth. I loved how steady and sure he was even when everything was falling apart around him. I loved the safe haven he gave Tessa, even when it wasn't the kind of haven she was looking for. He just kept trying until he got it right. He's just...wonderful.

I basically devoured this book, pausing only to wipe the grit from my eyes and try to correct my double vision—the side effect of staring at my Kindle too long. It was a tougher story for me in that I struggled to understand and empathize with Tessa, but it gave us a brutal, unflinching look into the life of a jockey and so it all felt so authentic and real, and it paid off so wonderfully.

Beautifully and engagingly written, I literally couldn't put it down. *Jock* is sweet and swoony, humorous and heartbreaking. If you're looking to take your feels on a ride, this is a sure bet! ~ Shelly, 4 stars

Amber Tinsley says

I received a copy of this book in return for leaving an honest review.

I loved this book. The story and the characters are well developed and just freaking amazing. My favorite thing about this book, other than the whole horse race scene, was that Tessa didn't need Jace to complete her. They needed both needed each other, side by side as equals to make a magnificent whole. And that to me is what makes a fantastic love story. The only con to this book for me was I wasn't ready for it to be over. While the story was absolutely complete, I'm just a tad bit greedy with characters that I come to love and what to know all the things.

I really appreciate the fact that C.M. Foss did such a great job capturing the life and struggles of female jockies. The good, the bad and the life threatening ugly. One final thought, I really and I do mean really hope to see a book on Drew and Cooper. I'm to fond of my first born to offer up a sacrifice, but I'm definitely not above begging and pleading.

A Beautiful Book Blog says

This book was very different that anything I have ever read. Yes it had an amazing romance that spanned decades, but it centered around a female jockey. Which was quite interesting to dip into. But lets talk about this incredibly enduring life long family friend --> Become friends--> become loves ---> HEA.

This book takes a look into a girl/woman's.. Tessa's struggle to complete her dream of becoming a jockey. OMG ... I am floored by her story. It was painful to read..It was so heartbreaking to see her think she could not have both things.. a great life and her jockey dream. So sad.

OMG... I loved, loved, loved JACE. He took care and watched over Tessa with everything he had. He never asked her to give up her career, he was so supportive. He was truly amazing.

I loved watching her heal, I loved watching her find balance and the story was incredible.. #MustRead. #OneClick this amazing romance!

Peggy Tran says

I love CM's stories! I love the humor and the sexy times! I didn't want it to end, I wanted more Jace and Tessa! They are so good together and I love how they challenged and supported each other.

Brenna says

As a reader, what I look forward to most about CM Foss's books is her trademark humor, and Jock didn't disappoint. Her type of humor is right up my alley, and I find myself laughing out loud, earning weird looks from those around me. I always walk away from her books with a new term to throw around, and new reasons to anticipate what she'll come up with next.

Tessa and Jace's story literally begins when Tessa is born. As her older brother Lawrence's best friend, Jace takes on the "protector" role, and forms a special bond with her as she grows up. We get to follow their story through little snippets of past events, whilst each builds their own life. When neither of them can deny their attraction to each other, and act on it one night, the reader gets to follow the yo-yo of emotions, indecision, and insecurity of both Tessa and Jace. Tessa is building her career as a jockey, one that is proving to be tough on many levels, emotionally as well as physically. Jace is trying to bust out of the "big brother" role to convince Tessa to give him a chance, and to prove that he is worthy of her affections.

Different in some ways than her previous three novels, Shiver, Swoon, and City Beautiful, Foss still writes a wonderful story full of angst, passion, sass, and strongly-written characters. I would recommend it to readers that enjoy a kick-ass female lead character, and a swoon-tastic love interest.

C.M. Foss says

LIVE!!!! In honor of American Pharoah!!

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<http://amzn.to/1GDvV1X>

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Barnes and Noble:

<http://bit.ly/1ki0z6u>

Three Chicks says

Review by Natasha Gentile

I have to say that before I started this book I knew nothing about jockeys, or horses for that matter. I mean who hasn't heard of the Kentucky Derby but if we are all honest, or at least I am, I just want to attend so I can buy myself one of those cool hats. But then this book fell into my hands, and I see it as so much more. Here was my take on it.

CLICHES

She can't stand them.

Hates them.

Refuses to be one.

But...

Tessa Brooks- this little chick is a fire storm. And When I say little I'm not making fun of her, I'm a munchkin myself. Not only is she a whopping 5'3, she is strong-willed, sassy, and determined to not let anyone stand in the way of her and her dream. You would not believe what her dream is, she wants to enter the sport of horse racing. The highly dominated by men and testosterone sport.

She does what she needs to do in order to be taken seriously. At times in the book I thought she was just a little too hard on herself. But if you want to be the best you have to train with the best. And does she ever train, who knew that so much work goes into riding a horse??

It's not to say that she doesn't do anything extra-curricular. She still gets to tangle the sheets with none other than Jace Hitchen, her brother's best friend.

Jace has been in their household since forever. Even being there on the day she came home from the hospital. Jace made the ultimate promise to her mom, he vowed always take care of her. What starts out as him always protecting her, annoying her, being her confidant and all around best friend, turns into love. She feels it first, he just needed to be told.

I didn't want to. Or I did want to. I don't know, but I turned, one step at a time, until we were face-to-face. Well, kind of. Face to chest. I tilted my head back so I could look into his face. His expression was searching but otherwise unreadable. He lifted his hand, cupping my jaw in his palm. I leaned into his touch, afraid of what was next and yet dying to know.

So now they have made it to the point that there is no going back, there is only going forward. The question is how will Jace handle her extreme devotion to becoming the best woman in a man's sport? How will he take the way she pushes herself? Will he be that protector he promised to be or will it be too much for him to

handle? Either way she is determined to be the Jock!

I fell in love with this couple. I loved their struggle because it was real. It's a love story but it's also a story about acceptance and support. Accepting that she will be the strong willed woman and supporting her through the extreme training that she does.
