



Playing With Forever

Amy Andrews

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Country boy, Ryder Davis has the world at his feet. A stellar rugby career, a winning way with women and a beach view that keeps him in blue sky and bikini babes. He's living the dream. The last thing he needs is a Great Dane called Tiny destroying his feng shui.

Dog whisperer, Juliet Morgan is about to start living her dream and she's counting down the days. In two months she'll finally be moving to Italy and no man's going to stop her this time. Not even a rugby superstar with a badly behaved pooch.

But when Ryder skids into the animal shelter looking for help Juliet agrees to assist him with his canine issues. Pretty soon they're assisting each other out of their clothes and tumbling headlong into a sex thing with an expiry date.

Neither of them expected it to become more. But when for now starts to feel like forever Juliet hits the panic button. Ryder knows he has to play the long game and let her walk away. After all it's not over until the final hooter sounds and all's fair in love and rugby.

Each book in the Sydney Smoke Rugby series is a standalone story that can be enjoyed out of order.

Series Order:

Book #1 Playing By Her Rules

Book #2 Playing It Cool

Book #3 Playing the Player

Book #4 Playing With Forever

Playing With Forever Details

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From Reader Review Playing With Forever for online ebook

Mindy Lou's Book Review says

It seems rare to find books where the Hero is all in and the heroine is the one resisting. Because of that, I usually enjoy these stories more. I loved that even though Ryder never really saw him self settling down with one woman for long, he recognized that Juliet was different. I loved this quote that Ryder explains to Juliet as to how he knows he loves her. ***"When you've been with a lot of women, you know when one is different, Juliet."*** It's not exactly romantic but it gets the point across. Unfortunately, Juliet has trust issues due to a past boyfriend using her, causing her to set her dreams aside for him. She doesn't want to make the same mistake twice, so Ryder had his work cut out for him to convince her he was different. On a side note, I love when an author has a dog in a story that is just as good as a side character. This has been a great series and I look forward to more. ARC provided by NetGalley.

Nicola says

4.25 Stars.

If you're looking for a light-hearted entertaining romance with a hefty dose of sexy, you'll not go far wrong with the fourth offering in Amy Andrews' *Sydney Smoke Rugby* series.

When it comes to mixing men and animals, Amy hits the spot every time and when Ryder Davis is lumped dog-sitting Tiny, a Great Dane with behavioural issues, he rapidly realises he needs help which comes in the form of Juliet Morgan. And it's not just the dog panting when around her.

"The man ticked all of her boxes. Compassionate, kind, thoughtful. But he was alpha as fuck on a rugby field. And in the bedroom. Or on a balcony. Or in front of a mirror. Or up against a wall."

Okay so it was a tad on the predictable side, but Ryder and Juliet were fantastic together with a chemistry that burns the pages from the moment they meet. I loved how Juliet owned her sexuality and was confident and honest in what she wants from Ryder, and I love a man who falls hard and, bless him, he fell from a spectacular height.

"I'm not going to fall in love with you. And you're not going to fall in love with me."

It's not quite my favourite of the books so far—Linc was always going to be a hard act to follow for me—however Amy is absolutely nailing this series and so begins the wait for the next instalment.

Copy received courtesy of Entangled Publishing via NetGalley for an honest and unbiased opinion.

*Stock Images

Maria Rose says

Playing with Forever by Amy Andrews is the fourth story in her steamy and fun Sydney Smoke Rugby series. This time it's Ryder Davis who finds himself falling in love – except the woman of his dreams has dreams of her own that don't include him.

When Ryder's friend (and his coach's daughter) Valerie comes to him for a favor, he can't say no. Even though it involves house sitting a very large, very naughty dog named Tiny. Desperate for some help in controlling him, he makes his way to an animal shelter with obedience classes and meets Juliet Morgan.

Juliet has a temporary position at the shelter, with plans to leave for Italy in two months. It was something she and her mom were supposed to do together, but when her mom got sick with cancer she made Juliet promise to go someday on her own. It's been five years, and a failed relationship in between that derailed her plans to go right after the funeral, and this time, she won't be swayed. The attraction between her and Ryder is mutual and she's upfront with what she's willing to give of herself until she leaves. A sex only, friends with benefits fling is all that's on the table, to which Ryder happily agrees. But when Ryder finds himself wanting more, will it be so easy for Juliet to leave him behind after all?

As far as I'm concerned, this author writes some of the hottest sex scenes around. Like, steam up your mirror, serious heat. The chemistry between Ryder and Juliet is smoking hot, and it's a no-brainer that Ryder would take Juliet up on her offer of hot sex, even with an end date. They have a lot of fun together (not just in the bedroom) and the more they get to know each other, the more Ryder realizes that Juliet might be 'the one' for him. But Juliet is firm in her decision not to fall for any man, even if he is handsome and kind, and funny and generous. Her trip to Italy is non-negotiable. The conflict is therefore pretty predictable but still entertaining to see how they are going to work things out in what seems like an impossible situation. At some points, Juliet's insistence on keeping things casual is a bit over the top which frustrates Ryder but doesn't stop him from wanting to be with her.

The dog sitting aspect adds some humor, as does the classic teammate interactions with Ryder's rugby mates. Since some of them have already found partners in previous books, they are quick to tease Ryder about Juliet. Plus, we get some great on-field action scenes as Ryder's team goes through some wins and losses. Juliet's determination borders on a stubborn denial of the truth and in the end she's the one who gets to do the big grovel, a fitting turnaround from the way it usually plays out. It's a fun, sexy, laugh out loud romance, and another great story in the series!

This review appears at Straight Shootin' Book Reviews: <https://straightshootinbookreviews.co...>

A copy of this story was provided by the publisher via NetGalley for review.

Roxanne says

This is the third book of Amy Andrews' that I've read, and I've gotta say, I keep coming back to these Sydney Smoke guys because there's just something about them! They're all smokin' hot (pun totally intended!) athletes, they're Australian (got a soft spot set aside for those Aussies!) and while they might not always

know what they want or need in the romance department, once they figure it out, they are gonna go for it without hesitation or games.

Ryder Davis is hands down my favourite Sydney Smoke rugby player after reading this book. He was lovely, to be honest. Absolutely nothing I didn't love about him! He's a bona fide cowboy, and he wears it well, despite living in the city. He's gorgeous, he loves animals, and he knows how to treat a woman. But when he spills the beans to Juliet about the karaoke bar? Gush! I don't want to give anything away, but how could anyone resist a guy like that?

I could empathize with Juliet, getting stuck in a situation that didn't end up the best and going on a bit of a rampage. I actually enjoyed that aspect of her personality, it seemed to really mesh well with Ryder's carefree attitude. I liked how the two of them didn't really mess around and got right to the nitty gritty in the first few chapters. The fast pace made for a quick read that didn't lose my interest at all.

I wouldn't hesitate to recommend this book to anyone looking for a quick, steamy read set in the most beautiful city in the world with possibly the hottest ensemble cast in the world. You could start with any of the four books of the series, but "Playing with Forever" gets my vote as the best of the bunch (although I must go back and read #1 to say that with absolute certainty.)

Thanks so much to the author, publisher, and InkSlinger PR for the free copy of this book for the purposes of my honest review.

Cathy Geha says

WOW! Steamy – HOT – Wonderful – A True Delight!

Ryder Davis is a rugby player – but oh so much more! He is a cowboy, a brother, a son, a friend, a people person, dominant on and off the field and skilled in both arenas, too. He knows what he wants and he wants...

Juliet Morgan – she is into fine arts BUT working temporarily at a dog shelter when he walks in and is blown away by everything about her. He signs up for a puppy training class hoping it will assist him in dealing with the dog sitting he is doing BUT he also hopes it will get him closer to Juliet.

...and BOY did he get closer to Juliet! I loved the way Ryder and Juliet talked, teased, tantalized and tormented one another only to then completely satisfy one another without any inhibitions. Two strong characters that knew what they wanted and were more than able to verbalize their needs...Whew!

Juliet is leaving in eight weeks for Italy. Ryder is busy playing Rugby. With an expiration date on their relationship it can only be physical – right? BUT what if you meet the right person at the wrong time? Do you stick with your dreams or create new ones?

I thoroughly enjoyed this book and will be looking for more books by this author. Her writing resonates with me. Thank you to NetGalley and Entangled Publishing, LLC for the ARC – this is my honest review.

Stacey is Sassy says

Some plans were meant to be...modified.

I think we can all feel like it's the end of the world when plans go awry. Me, I FREAK when my plans change, just ask hubby. I'm getting a little bit better as I get older but it still makes me scowl and look for the closest person to strangle. Now, I might be a wee bit more forgiving of my plans if changing if it was for love...

I know, I'm corny but I really do think you do stupid and crazy stuff for love. I even forgive hubby regularly when he changes his mind or modifies the plans. Proof that I love him.

Playing With Forever is all about making plans and **trying** to stick to them, even when the biggest distraction walks into your life.

Holy smokes!! I think this was the steamiest thing I've read by *Amy Andrews*. Like, watch me read and see me squirm STEAMY. I would suggest reading this one in private because it's HOT! What was refreshing is Juliet, the heroine, is not afraid to show and tell exactly what she wants in and out of the bedroom. I can tell you that Ryder, the hero, found it...refreshing too. ?

I really enjoyed *Playing With Forever* and catching up with the gang from *Sydney Smoke*. The characters were interesting, the storyline engaging and sexy times smoking hot. I will definitely be reading more in the future.

Kimberly says

My review cross-posted from **Wit and Sin**

Amy Andrews delivers the ultimate meet-cute when a hot cowboy/rugby player goes searching for help with the possibly possessed Great Dane he's dog-sitting. ***Playing with Forever*** starts off on a high note as Ryder and Juliet's initial meeting has all the humor and crackling chemistry I've come to expect from Ms. Andrews's work. What follows is a seriously hot story that's enjoyable, though not quite as engaging as the first three Sydney Smoke Rugby books because the characters didn't feel fully developed.

Ryder was a pretty likeable hero who quickly went from a playboy to a man head over heels for Juliet. Ryder is charming, good-natured, and seriously sexy, but I never felt like I got to know his character well enough for him to hold my attention. As for Juliet...I really wanted to like her. She's a woman with a dream who has been through a lot, but again, I didn't ever really get a sense of who she was beyond the basics. Because of this, her rather frustrating habit of getting irritated with Ryder over little things made me irritated with her more often than not as the story progressed. Juliet isn't a bad heroine, but I wanted more. The romance is

mostly based on sex and because there wasn't a lot of depth to Ryder or Juliet it was difficult for me to understand why they fell in love. That doesn't mean ***Playing with Forever*** is a bad story. Ms. Andrews's writing is so much fun that even with the issues I had with the romance, I still liked the story well enough. The supporting cast – both human and canine – added personality to the story. Tiny the Great Dane threatens to steal every scene he's in and I adored any scene that featured Ryder's teammates. So while ***Playing with Forever*** had its ups and downs for me, I absolutely love the Sydney Smoke Rugby series and cannot wait for more hot rugby heroes.

FTC Disclosure: I received this book for free from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.

??Trea says

It has been a while since I'd read any of the Sydney Smoke series, so I went into this with somewhat fresh eyes. I liked Ryder well enough, but couldn't figure out why Valerie was interfering so much by getting him a dog. I loved Juliet's way with the animals, but really didn't like how adamant she was about going to Italy. It's like "hello? Italy is always going to be there...love may not be!", and I kept shaking my head at her attitude. I loved her turn around at the end though, so I could forgive her for the previous attitude. All things considered, it was a great read!

Megan says

I really enjoyed this 4th book in the series. I liked #1, but loved #2 & #3. I didn't love this quite as much as 2, and 3, but it was still great, sexy fun!

Ryder Davis is a cowboy through and through. He grew up on a farm and only moved to the big city to realize his dreams of playing rugby professionally. He can't wait to get back to his family's land, once his playing days are over. He's a pro athlete, so he enjoys all the benefits that entails, including plenty of hot, willing women. He's never been inclined to settle down before, though he isn't against the idea as some of his teammates are. He just hasn't found the right girl. When he gets talked into dog-sitting a huge Great Dane puppy, who only seems to like, and listen to, women, he realizes he needs some major help. Before Tiny destroys his entire house.

Juliet Morgan works temporarily at the local animal shelter, and teaches puppy preschool classes. Her job is only temporary because she's finally realizing her dream, and moving to Italy in 2 months. Her mom raised her alone, and she was obsessed with Italy. She even named her daughter Juliet! But, sadly, her mom never got to Italy before she died, and Juliet is going to go no matter what. She might have let her ex knock her off her course, and use her, and her money, for the better part of 5 years, but no man is going to hold her back again. She meets Ryder at the shelter when he comes in for help with Tiny, and though she's attracted, she doesn't want to get involved.

Ryder and Juliet's chemistry was STRONG, and it was more than either of them could fight. They both agree to a no-strings fling, since Juliet will be halfway across the world in 2 months. But, when Ryder starts realizing he is having a change of heart, it complicates everything, big time. I liked their banter, and their

interactions with the giant dog were hilarious too. Tiny was a total flirt, and was such a funny side character. More character than pet, for sure! As always, I loved getting glimpses of Ryder's teammates, who we've met in prior books. It's nice to see how things are going for them.

I liked Juliet, but she really ticked me off sometimes with how adamant she was about keeping things between them simply about sex. I get that she was protecting her heart, but every time she got irate about something stupid like a toothbrush at his place, I wanted to slap her face. I also got ticked at Ryder for not being honest, and just taking what he could get. I get that he is a dude after all, and even once feelings get involved, he's not going to turn down a sure thing, but I was a bit disappointed in him. They were so perfect together, and I was just constantly waiting for them to realize it too! After 4 books, the Aussie lingo isn't nearly as jarring for me as it was the first time, and the author always includes a glossary in the back, in case you get lost!

I really enjoyed this story, and I've been so happy with this series overall. I really hope there's even more to come!

ARC provided by Publisher in exchange for an honest review.
Reviewed by Megan from Alpha Book Club

Wendy's Thoughts says

4.5 Much More Than You Think Stars

*** * * * 1/2**

Amy Andrews... I bow to you. You have written a very insightful and fun tale with this fourth entry of the Sydney Smoke Rugby series. If you have read the other parts, you may have noticed the progression of crafting and heart Andrews has brought to it.

In this we have everything you could love... Ryder Davis, a man from the Country is living the dream... a Rugby Star, bikini babes, no financial worries, a place with a view to die for and anything he could want...at his fingertips. Ryder is doing alright...

Enter the game changer...

Legs for days..
Soulful eyes...
Huge personality...
And a beating heart you cannot say no to....

A force to be reckoned with...
It's Tiny...The Great Dane!

Ryder gets saddled with this monster of a Great Dane because the Team's Coach's daughter promised to dog sit. Only her roommate laid the hammer down and said no. Ryder now cannot say no to the daughter so he is stuck with Tiny.

Tiny does not like being kept out of Ryder's bed...so he makes sure Ryder knows it when his bedroom door

to the living room is opened in the morning. Let's just say Tiny has gifted Ryder with his affection in many ways...torn throw pillows, chewed furniture and other delights.

This leads Ryder to the animal shelter down the road... for assistance... It is there he sees Juliet Morgan for the first time and is kinda gobsmacked.

There is this woman talking to a pooch she is bathing...water drenching her shirt in just the right way for viewing by Ryder...As Juliet towels off and asks Ryder what the issue is with Tiny, Ryder works hard not to be another dog checking her out...Because she is amazing...

Ryder explains he has the Dog from Hell possessed in every way...and Juliet bends down and Tiny goes in for the "Cute Kill" by nuzzling her chest...Ryder is having a Hard Time not pushing Tiny away and taking his place....

Of course, Tiny acts perfectly with Juliet causing a frustrated Ryder to say how Tiny is playing her...he really is the demon from hell. Juliet laughs and tells Ryder to come to the training class she does late in the afternoons. One is starting tomorrow. They end the conversation with Ryder saying he will be there.

Juliet watches the cute odd couple leave and she knows she will never see Ryder again... after all, why would she. All of her experience with men has been a disappointment. She gave up too much from the last relationship and from what she learned from it, men very rarely do what they promise. She knew how important promises were and her mother never let her down. The roles were reversed when Juliet's mother became ill. She put every dream aside to take care of her.

Now she has made plans to finally go where she always wanted and where her mother wished for her, Italy. She has booked her trip and in two months she is gone from Australia. Juliet hasn't been dating or hooking up...but she does make a little bet with herself. If that hot guy shows to the dog training... then if she read the vibes right...she will indulge in the mental fantasies she had while talking with him...

But the chance of that happening is when pigs fly...

Juliet is setting up all of the owners with their pups when she senses Ryder before she sees him. Shocked beyond belief but happy as a clam to see him, Juliet greets Tiny with a huge hug and big grin for Ryder.

Ryder couldn't take his eyes off Juliet. What caught Ryder off guard and made him incredibly taken with Juliet from the start was that she had NO IDEA who he was. She talked to him like he was like any other guy... not a meal ticket or sports star...and it was refreshing to have a woman look at him that way... Ryder liked it and wanted more of it.

Tiny lunged for Juliet and started flirting with her again... and Juliet let him. But Ryder's and Juliet's eyes were locked on each other while it was going on. After the class, Ryder asked Juliet if she would do private training for Tiny. This idea allowed the both of them to have a way to indulge in more intimate time together....Ryder asks her back to his place for a beer/drink...She says yes but lets him know nothing is happening except maybe some kissing....and makes sure her roommate knows where she is going to be.

Ryder's high rise home was in an Art Deco building. The beauty was dear to Juliet's heart. Architecture was an interest of hers and having Ryder give her a tour was a natural way for the both of them to "get to know each other".

Side Note

It is here where I want to share how incredibly sexy Amy Andrews does this scene. She takes "Just Kissing and Action Above The Waist" to a level which could have been responsible for a level 8 earthquake on the Richter scale. The earth didn't just move... it shook, rattled and rolled...And it was only the beginning of this couple's chemistry. Be Still My Heart.

Thes two realize there is something cookin' between them but Juliet doesn't want to get into anything but fun and games... she only has two months to play with Ryder. Ryder hears what she is saying and they reach an agreement...Fun and Games and then she is gone to Italy.

But Fun and Games becomes more...It becomes friendship, caring and Ryder starts to think about Juliet as someone he doesn't want to lose...

This story was so good with the chemistry, the sneaky development of friendship/relationship and a realization there could be more.

Amy Andrews takes you on a ride that is more than Rugby and fun. It is sensual, smart and heartfelt.

Playing by Her Rules (Sydney Smoke Rugby, #1)

Playing It Cool (Sydney Smoke Rugby, #2)

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

Playing the Player (Sydney Smoke Rugby #3)

A gifted copy was provided by author/publisher for an honest review.

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Irene says

5 stars

I loved Playing With Forever by Amy Andrews!

From the first few pages I knew this was going to my kind of read. The storyline was entertaining, the writing is well done, and the characters were a hoot to get to know.

Ryder and Juliet were great characters, I loved their honesty, their passion and I loved how much they gave of themselves to each other. What starts off as some hot sexy times between two consenting adults quickly moves into an area neither are quite ready for, especially Juliet.

It warmed my heart watching these two beautiful souls falling in love, I laughed, I swooned and I shed a tear for their pain.

Ryder was the perfect man for Juliet, he loved and supported her unconditionally and in my books that's true love.

Playing With Forever is the 4th book from the Sydney Smoke Rugby series, and while I've loved them all this is my fav. Ryder and Juliet's story touched me and I truly didn't want it to end.

Thank you Amy Andrews for writing and sharing your wonderful characters with us.

Get your copy here

Amazon: <http://amzn.to/2xlg8Ck>

Nook: <http://bit.ly/2wJUYPp>

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iBooks: <http://apple.co/2jPob7p>

Google Play: <http://bit.ly/2jP9SzE>

I received an advance copy in exchange for my honest thoughts.

Alison says

DNF at 63%.

I tried twice to read this book but it just didn't work for me, not even a cute dog could keep my interest and I'm not sure why. Amy's Sydney Smoke series has been a bit hit and miss for me - two I loved and two I didn't like at all, sadly this falls into the latter category.

Ryder Davis is an Australian rugby player for the Sydney Smokes. Rich, good-looking and a national hero he has no problems attracting women. When the coach's daughter calls in a favour he is stuck dog-sitting the world's largest, and worst-trained, puppy.

Juliet Morgan is temping at the Dog Centre until she can afford to fulfill her dreams of living in Italy, just like she promised her mother before she died. When a hot guy arrives looking for dog obedience classes she is happy to assist, but she won't let him derail her dreams of travelling, been there and done that before.

And honestly, that's all I've got at nearly two-thirds through the book Juliet and Ryder have progressed to a short-term friends with benefits arrangement and that's about it. My gripe would be too much sex and just not enough plot. Actually, I've just realised that this is published by Entangled Brazen - the cover made me suspicious - that makes soooo much sense because that is my general complaint about the entire imprint. So my bad for complaining about what is more a feature of the publisher.

Anyway, I couldn't see this going anywhere so I gave up. I still love Amy Andrews' writing but I will definitely check the publishing imprint before I request.

I received a free copy of this book from the publisher via NetGalley in return for an honest review.

Michelle says

ARC provided by publisher in exchange for an honest review

Playing With Forever by Amy Andrews is a sexy and sweet sophisticated romance. Dogs, rugby, and undeniable chemistry...what more could you ask for. If you have been following with the Sydney Smokes Rugby Series, then you are all aware Amy Andrews has me totally smitten with this series and her sexy rugby players.

Ryder Davis is a country boy at heart. He is enjoying his single bachelor status that is until Tiny disrupts his life. Tiny, happens to be a puppy Great Dane that his friend dumped on Ryder to watch over. Since he can't say no to the coach's daughter, Ryder has a new roommate. Tiny seems to only obey everyone else except Ryder. And so when Ryder had enough of Tiny antics, he goes to the animal shelter to get some help.

Juliet Morgan is a dog whisperer as all dogs seem to enjoy being around her. She has that magic touch and personality and so when she meets Tiny, she is immediately smitten with the pup. So when Juliet suggest to Ryder to enroll Tiny in obedience classes, she soon find herself being attracted to Ryder.

As Ryder and Juliet begins to spend more time with each other, strong feelings begins to form. But what happens when Juliet's time is coming to an end and her plans to go to Italy approaches, will she be able to walk away from Ryder and Tiny? Or will she discover that forever happiness is with Ryder?

Playing With Forever is a sweet, simple, and utterly charming romance that had a great balance of friendship, humor, and love. Amy Andrews did a fabulous job with this book as her writing really enhanced the draw and chemistry that was brewing between Juliet and Ryder. So if you are ready to fall in love with animals and hot rugby players, then I highly recommend you to read this book and series.

Amy Andrews

Danielle from Short and Sassy says

I LOVED rugby star Ryder Davis !! First off..I know NOTHING about rugby. Not a thing. But it is popular in other parts of the world and it looks crazy to play. So. knowing it is a bunch of huge and smoking men who play it has me hooked. And Ryder Davis made me fall in love with him.

He meets Dog whisperer, Juliet Morgan when he is puppy sitting for a friend of a friend. When he meets Julie... it is something special at first site. She is cautious keeping him a arm's length because she is moving to Italy in a few weeks.

I loved Julie and Ryder's chemistry. I loved this book!

Claire Robinson says

5 - "I'm not going to fall in love with you... And you're not going to fall in love with me." Stars!

Amy Andrews returns to the *Sydney Smoke Rugby* series, with the fourth book; *Playing with Forever*, giving us Ryder Davis' story.

I think as a reader you know you are onto a winner when you are crying with laughter after the first couple of pages, and Amy delivered up the perfect balance of humour between Ryder and the Great Dane puppy; Tiny, that he is dog-sitting versus the heat, chemistry and sexy-times with him and Juliette.

"You rugby guys look like you were born to fuck..."

No Messing with this one, Ryder and Juliette hit the ground running when it comes to getting down and dirty, Juliette is leaving town for Italy in two months so is very much in the 'here & now' when it comes to what her and Ryder are doing with each other, and although he is on the same page as her at the beginning, his feelings start to change with the more time they spend together.

It killed him that she was so set on moving forward she was holding herself back from him...

Although pretty predictable in relation to the story arc, I absolutely loved this book, I will even go as far as to say that it's the best book of the series (so far). Ryder was adorably dirty, Juliette confidently sexy, and the additions from the rest of the Smoke family just made this story completely un-put-downable, in fact if it hadn't been for work commitments I am pretty sure I'd have read it in one sitting.

She could have her man and her dream.

I think this series is one of the best that the *Brazen* imprint has released in recent years, and I hope to see more books from it very soon.

"You're so easy."

ARC generously provided via Netgalley, in exchange for the above honest review.
