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S.A. Reid , Rosemary O'Malley

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The Cop

Brendan Daly prides himself on being a man's man – in both senses of the word. A Boston cop with a hard body and a Southie's hot temper, Brendan is taken aback when his boyfriend Kent accuses him of letting their love life go stale. So at Kent's office Christmas party, Brendan decides to surprise him with some roleplaying – cop vs. suspect.

The Doc

Fresh out of medical school, handsome Stephen Gallagan is every woman's idea of a catch. Trouble is, he's not sure he wants a woman. Surrounded by predators in cocktail dresses, Stephen flees the Christmas party through the service corridor, running smack into Brendan. In the dark, in a tux, Stephen is a dead ringer for Kent.

The Broom Closet

The room is pitch black. Brendan is taller, stronger, and too intent on kissing Stephen to permit any protest. Metal cuffs snap around Stephen's wrists. Ready or not, it's time to obey...

Manhandled Details

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From Reader Review Manhandled for online ebook

Deeze says

Sadly not my kind of story. Stephen and Brendan were interesting characters and the Date scene was great. A little more of that and a little less of the sex and I'd of been happy lol.

Mandapanda says

[the closing scene is Brendan pushing Stephen back into the closet and he has a third guy there for them to get down and dirty with - just th

April says

(Originally posted @ CSI:Librarian.)

I think *Manhandled* serves as an intriguing introduction to both of its authors. A lot was packed into a short number of pages and it felt like a complete story, but also like a very, very short novella. Don't get me wrong. *Manhandled* was hot, and I liked both characters being such stark contrasts to one another. *Manhandled* certainly delivers on its main premise...

But the fact that it was on the short side sort of prevented the sort of development of feelings that I tend to prefer, and haven't found in many of the Gay Romances I've picked up lately. It all boils down to preference, of course, but when it comes to love, I'm all about the hearts and rainbows and feelings in addition to everything else. So I would have preferred more romance being involved in their encounters as well as their relationship. Brendan was a very tough Alpha male, and Stephen was more of a nice guy trying to figure things out, but in the case of Brendan less would have been more because he came across as an overbearing and cliché example of manly manliness in both his point of view sections as well as his dialogue.

It's also worth noting that the excerpts afterwards were great. Both books look very promising and are definitely going on my TBR list. The first was from Rosemary O'Malley's forthcoming novel entitled *The Red King*. It's about a ruthless sort of pirate and a young almost-priest and is really tantalizing. The second was from S.A. Reid's forthcoming novel called *Soulless*. It seems to be about a vampire and a man who is slightly Dr. Frankenstein and somewhat Lord Byron. The first page was a little slow, but I love the ideas behind it and the cliffhanger left me really wanting more.

In conclusion, an enjoyable piece of short fiction with a steamy concept, but I'm definitely more excited about the full-length novels that both authors plan on releasing later in 2012.

Eve says

Hey, Being Raped Is Turning Me On!!

If that theme doesn't bother you, then you'll find this story pretty enjoyable. It's not really D/s or bdsm, so much as an exchange of power in a few very descriptive dub-con encounters.

I wouldn't want to encounter a cop like Brendan or a doctor like Stephen in real life - would find them creepy as hell and ethically bankrupt, but in the context of the story, they're perfect for each other.

Really, it gets 4 stars mainly for the well-written sex scenes.

Emma Sea says

Kindle freebie today: thanks for the heads up Eve :D

Chris says

3.5 stars. Steamy short m/m romance about a cop who meets a young doctor in a most unusual way, giving a whole new meaning to "closeted". Be aware that there's dubious consent in this one.

Natalie says

This was a fairly entertaining erotic novella. The plot is a bit disjointed and requires some suspension of disbelief (a couple of the encounters read as more porny than realistic), but overall it's very hot.

[Note: The story ended around the 50% mark on my Kindle, and the rest is excerpts from the authors' other books. Just a heads up for those who don't like when books seem longer than they are.]

Nile Princess says

For me, this was one of those 'there's a 5* story in here somewhere' type of books. I loved the characters, both individually and as a couple and the writing, for the most part was witty and enjoyable, but the plot holes and visible plot devices took away from a 5* rating for me.

Stephen and Brendan meet in a broom closet when Brendan tries to prove to his ex that he's not boring in the sack. He mistakes Stephen for his boyfriend because apparently, a)they're built the same, b) the closet was dark and c)Brendan thinks that the fact that Stephen doesn't sound anything like his bf is part of the act. Ok, so you need to suspend disbelief there slightly, but I was willing to roll with it. The closet scene was actually hot. Yes, Stephen sucks off a perfect stranger but hey, he is a sexually frustrated, 26 yr old virgin.

The problems come later:

Issue 1 (view spoiler) I just have to take this time out to say that, only in books, can the smell of coffee and

cigarettes on someone's breath be described as a 'perfume'. LOL

Issue 2 (view spoiler)

Ok, so I got over those two things and I'm still loving my boys, but then we get to issue 3 (view spoiler)

And 4 (view spoiler)

And 5 (view spoiler)

So those were my issues. But, believe it or not, I still really liked the book. And yes, I agree with those who said that it was very misleading to have the story end at 50% and then have previews for other books. Given the ending, I thought the other half of the book would be a story including Alex. Also, why exactly did Alex look scared? That didn't sit right with me (Issue 6? LOL).

I don't know. It felt like this book tried to straddle the fence between a romance and a dub con/non con and missed the mark. Some of the scenes felt too forced (porn-ish), like the traffic stop.

Like I said, with some revamping, this could easily have been a 5 star read. I think both authors are extremely talented and I did enjoy this story, but too many things detracted from it, overall.

Jo * Smut-Dickted * says

Loved the concept - liked some of the scenes but overall the inconsistencies in this one made it an o.k. only read for me. So much suspension of belief and things that seem out of character and implausible. The core of the two guys is quite good - and that I really enjoyed but the story felt solely like a couple of sex scenes with some words around them - it wasn't as harsh as I was expecting and the romance felt somewhat flat. Never did figure out how the two merge together other than sex really. Really like the author's other books and will definitely read more by her/them.

Andrea says

Manhandled is a great title due to the edginess of the sexual encounters. One in particular rode the line of being questionable but managed to stay firmly on the side of consensual and ethical. The chemistry between Brenden and Stephen is apparent and makes scenes like that work.

Manhandled is a good, hot story. It pulled me in quickly and I felt like I got to know both men (which is not an easy thing to do in such a short story). S.A. Reid was a new author for me but one I'll look for again.

Ery says

Ok..... Ummm... This book defies reviewing...

Totally objectionable (see noncon- the kinda offensive kind)
100% cheesy porn-ish situations...except.. well-written.
No true character development.
Ends at 54%

But.., ummm....I still kinda liked it? Ssshhhhhhhh. Definitely going on a guilty pleasures shelf....the writing was excellent(!), but the situations (semi) plot were strange..I'd say pwp, but there is a minimal plot....

Amber says

If you know what I like to read, you know that I am not squeamish and I love a good rape role-play. I've even read and enjoyed age play, non-consent, you name it. So here I am reading, there's great writing, great setup, I'm SO excited.

We're heavy into sexytimes and hero 1 says that hero 2's cock feels like "**a baby's arm**" as it rubs up against his own cock. Yeah. I pretty much had to wash my brain out with soap to get that image out of my head, but I'm a trooper so I head back in and get to this:

"Just open your mouth, baby. I'll tell you what to do," Brendan cooed, a little surprised by the tone he assumed. It was sweetly villainous, the archetype of every stranger that ever offered candy to pink-cheeked little boys. Opening his fly he reached in, withdrawing the granddaddy of all illicit treats.

I'm sorry, what? Did the HERO just compare himself to a pedophile rapist? I don't even....

"Suck it, now. Suck this big fat lollipop from Uncle Brendan."

Oh. Yes, he did.

So yeah, this didn't work for me AT ALL. If you weren't squicked the hell out, I'm not gonna judge. I'm sure it's good aside from that. I just highly recommend reading the sample before buying! Because this all happened by the first 10%.

Audrey says

Ooooh...I liked this one. The ending was a little questionable for me, but overall I liked the characters and story quite a bit. This story is a contemporary m/m erotic romance short story/novella.

Who, what, and where?

A blue collar police officer and a posh (virrrrrgin!) doctor in Boston. They meet through completely unplanned circumstances. It's pretty hot. They have to work through their perceived class differences to realize their incendiary attraction to each other just will not be denied.

My thoughts.

Really liked it. I thought the characterization was really well done. I liked Brendan (the officer) and Stephen (the doc). Although Stephen still had his V card, it was really exciting to see him come into his

sexuality...with Brendan there to lend a helping hand (...and mouth...and cock...). ;) As they resolved their differences and their feelings for each other, it became clear that they had a rather adventurous and aggressive sexual compatibility.

What gave me pause.

That adventurous sexual side led to a HEA that was kind of...squeamish for me. It's clear they had an HEA between the two of them, but the final scene didn't really fit my comfort zone of HEA. (view spoiler) While I guess this fit into the adventurous aspect of their relationship, I just...didn't like that part (sorry!).

Overall.

Quite a hot little piece of fiction here. I enjoyed it. 3.5-4 stars.

N.B.: The Kindle version ends at ~54%. The rest of the file contains two excerpts from the authors' other works.

Note: Thank you to the author for providing a copy of this story in exchange for an honest opinion.

Mandi says

3.5 rounded up to 4 stars. Very hot and sexy short story. The smexxin was HOT and *almost* crosses the border of consent.

Enjoyable for a quick, dirty read. ;)

Lara says

Holy hot medical fetish, Batman! With a little cuff-me-officer fetish on the side.

This was quick and fun. S.A. Reid has a knack for writing these dastardly characters that I love to love. They are so rough around the edges that I shouldn't even like them, but I end up loving them. I wish this had been longer and more developed, because I think I really could have fallen for these two boys and their messed up beginning. But for a short, I thought they were a lot of fun.
