



Because of Jade

Lou Sylvre

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Luki Vasquez receives the news he's still cancer free after five years, and he wants to celebrate with his whole family. He and his husband, Sonny James, take a road trip south, intending to gather at the home of his nephew Josh, Josh's wife Ruthie, and Jade—a little girl who was still in the womb when she and her mother helped Luki beat lung cancer.

Halfway to their destination, Luki learns Josh and Ruthie have met a tragic death. The horrible news lays Luki low, but he pulls himself together in time to be the family's rock and see to the dreaded business of tying up loose ends. The most important business is Jade, and when Luki and Sonny head home, they take Jade with them.

Luki and Sonny must combat self-doubt and fear and help each other learn to parent an unexpected child—and they must also nourish the love that has kept them whole for the past ten years. A relative's spurious claim to Jade threatens the new family, and even if they prevail in court, they could lose their little girl unless they can rescue Jade from evil hands and true peril.

Because of Jade Details

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From Reader Review Because of Jade for online ebook

Tamika♥RBF MOOD♥ says

Oh my goodness, I love this series more and more. I loved how towards them we seen a more domestic Luki & Sonny. This book was good from beginning to end. I cried the last 3 books that's for sure. In this book we see what good parents they become under sad arrangements, but as usual they come through. Both for different reasons. I really adored this book, hopefully we'll see more.

Mtsnow13 says

I had begun Sonny and Luki's story a few years ago, and even read the second in the series. Loved them both, but got sidetracked by an ever-growing TBR pile. Well, needless to say, I somehow missed that there were at least 3 more books that were written to continue my beloved character's growth in their life experiences and love for each other. When I saw we were being provided a copy of the latest in this series, bundled with 'Yes' (the love story that talks about Luki's battle with cancer) I figured I was ready to give it another try. In the meantime, I am also rereading and following up on the previous books in this series.

Cover Art: Reese Dante

Because of Jade

by *Lou Sylvre*

Cover Art: **Reese Dante**

M/M Erotic Contemporary Romance

Publisher: **Dreamspinner Press**

Release Date: **May 23rd 2014 (ebook)**

Length: **Novel**

A Vasquez & James Novel

Luki Vasquez receives the news he's still cancer free after five years, and he wants to celebrate with his whole family. He and his husband, Sonny James, take a road trip south, intending to gather at the home of his nephew Josh, Josh's wife Ruthie, and Jade—a little girl who was still in the womb when she and her mother helped Luki beat lung cancer. Halfway to their destination, Luki learns Josh and Ruthie have met a

tragic death. The horrible news lays Luki low, but he pulls himself together in time to be the family's rock and see to the dreaded business of tying up loose ends. The most important business is Jade, and when Luki and Sonny head home, they take Jade with them. Luki and Sonny must combat self-doubt and fear and help each other learn to parent an unexpected child—and they must also nourish the love that has kept them whole for the past ten years. A relative's spurious claim to Jade threatens the new family, and even if they prevail in court, they could lose their little girl unless they can rescue Jade from evil hands and true peril.

The cover: I always have enjoyed covers created by Reese Dante. There is an intangible element of emotion and mood that transfers well in print, and the beauty of the design is best recognized when an artist is able to complete the whole series as Reese has done for the Vasquez and James books. This would be a series I'd be proud to have in print on my bookshelves. Gorgeous!

The story: As with all the others in this series, Lou has nailed the emotional bits in me once again. She continues to get me to laugh through my tears. I actually kept asking myself why it had taken me so long to read the other books!

Man. Talk about a blow! What a way to break my heart...I love how each book in this series is not just a continuation of a story that could've been wrapped up in the first novel. This series has something new to share with the reader in **EVERY** book.

Sonny and Luki's relationship has some serious challenges with the addition of Jade. Who knows how to take care of a young girl when neither of them had that great of a home life? Yet, who better to give a little girl a great deal of love than two men who know what THEY wished for as children.

I truly enjoyed the story, even if there were quite a few points of pain. AND, as always, there is an underlying mystery that always seems to pop up in Sonny and Luki's lives. Even though this story includes the little girl, Jade, she did not take over the story, which is a good thing for those of you that are uncomfortable with children in your M/M stories. Sonny and Luki still find time to be alone with each other.(yay!)

If you like to laugh AND cry at the same time, here you go! Highly recommended series!!!

Jodi Pushkin says

*This is a partial review. Please read my full review on the Smoocher's Voice blog:
<http://www.smoochersvoice.com/2014/05...>*

Sonny James and Luki Vasquez are back. These two men have been through hell and high water in this beautifully written, engaging series by Lou Sylvre. Now it is time for some happiness and peace in the final book of the series. In typical Sylvre fashion though, the road to happiness has a few potholes along the way.

Because of Jade reunites readers with this couple who has now been married for 10 years. At the beginning of the book, Sylvre lulls the reader into a sense of peace. Luki and Sonny are a loving couple who seem as affectionate with each other now as they did at the beginning of their relationship. The heat is still present with some sweetness and romance thrown in for good measure.

Just as the married men are ready to slide into their comfortable lifestyle, tragedy strikes, again. In a bittersweet irony, the sadness brings something wonderful into their lives in the form of a little girl: Luki's niece Jade.

Of course, just as in real life, hate causes tears, anxiety and chaos. Hate, intolerance and violence, once again, cause havoc to the James-Vasquez household, but Sonny and Luki are fighters and refuse to allow others to take what they love.

Because of Jade is a beautifully written story, and Sylvre's writing talents shine on every page of this novel. From the descriptive prose and engaging dialogue to the words of endearment and hot sex scenes, this is a wonderful ending for an engaging series.

Shirley Frances says

After Jade's parents died in a tragic accident, Sonny and Luki are left taking care of the little girl. Clueless as to how to go about it but determined to make their best effort, Sonny and Luki fight their way through self-doubt only to have danger thrown in their path--again.

Kudos to Lou Sylvre for this amazing story. Once again, she managed to bring about a heartfelt story where Sonny and Luki fight for what they love. This time around they are fighting to keep Jade.

I was such a treat to these men happy and thriving as a couple after Luki's fight with cancer in *Yes*. They have gone through so much in their ten years together and now they come across another challenge. They know nothing about raising a little girl, but they do know what to avoid so that she has a better childhood than either of them had. It is this sentiment that drives them as they struggle to figure out their new status as parents.

I appreciated the fact that the author didn't pull any punches in bringing all the complexities that this situation would bring. I loved watching the dynamic between Sonny, Luki and Jade. Each one making their way and trying to adjust to a life together. It was interesting to see how that dynamic shifted between them since Luki and Sonny had to find the way to relate to Jade not only as a couple but as individuals.

I also liked that Lou Sylvre maintained the character's trademark humor and sarcasm. Mostly, I loved that Sonny and Luki's relationship continued to grow. Their sex scenes were still as hot and passionate as they were in the beginning. And their love for each other even more intense.

Josy says

~ 4.5 stars ~

Spoiler-free review for the whole series:
<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

multitaskingmomma says

Original Blog Post: <http://www.multitaskingmommas.com/201...>

I had been following the Vasquez & James Series for some time now, I consider it one of my favorite series. It is action packed, it is romantic, it is dramatic, and sometimes it can be hilarious. With Because of Jade added into the mix, it is heartbreaking.

In this fifth installment, Luki and Sonny have been married ten years and Luki is on remission. A scare a few weeks past placed their happiness on hold but when the all clear was given, they went off to celebrate. Life does not give any warnings however, it does not even give second chances that much either. Before they knew it, Josh and Ruthie, two people we all love, tragically die, leaving behind their beautiful daughter Jade into the guardianship and care of Sonny and Luki.

He may be a great lover and husband, he is even better as gun-totting bad-ass, but Luki is far from prepared. Sonny is not that confident either. Both men are too conscious of doing the right thing, of making all the right decisions, all the scares of new parents really. It does not help that Jade has both men practically twirling to her every whim in the best way possible. She is a good girl, her mother made sure of that, but grief and unexpected surprises are not good combinations. Especially when her two daddy-uncles are subjected to the whims of bigotry.

This is such a beautiful installment to the series, I must even say I no longer have a specific favorite in the five choices placed in front of me. This is really what makes me love Lou Sylvre's works, her words flow with absolutely no sense of hesitation, her stories unfold, peaking and ebbing at the best points. There are never worse points either, something that surprises me.

I read this in one sitting, tears silently flowing down, never realizing I was at the end until I hit the last page.

Gloriously loving, heartbreaking and full of hope, the lives of Luki, Sonny, and now Jade, will never be the same again. I see a beautiful future, maybe not a happy ever after for life isn't really like that, but almost.

Christy says

It seems so difficult to believe that I'm already at book five in Lou Sylvre's 'Vasquez and James' series. It's been five years since Luki went into remission and he's still holding cancer free. I can't believe that Luki is fifty-one years old already. No matter. He and Sonny are still two of my most favorite characters and they continue to be insanely electric together. Of course, 'Because of Jade' is going to bring a whole new dimension into their world, something they never really contemplated. Fatherhood and the fears, worries, and all encompassing love that it entails.

Death is never pretty and it's never easy. The death of two incredibly loving parents and truly good people like Josh and Ruthie is more than sad. It's heartbreaking. They've left this incredible little five-year-old girl,

Jade, to grow up and never really know her parents. It wasn't their fault. They certainly didn't choose it. It's still hard to watch even knowing that Jade is going home to live with Sonny and Luki. Out of all the wonderful things Josh and Ruthie did for Jade, the most important, the most vital thing that they did, was to ensure there was paperwork designating who they wanted to care for Jade in the event of their deaths. A priceless gift that eliminated a legal battle. Or so they thought.

Sonny and Luki knew that parenthood wasn't going to be easy. A minivan, really? But it was the things they didn't think of that sometimes brought them the most joy, love, and sorrow. First day of kindergarten. First school field trip. Being accused by another parent of inappropriate touching of a child. Laughter and giggles over hot chocolate at Grammy Margie's. Getting started on adoption proceedings only to have Ruthie's long lost sister climb out of the woodwork to file for adoption. That's not even the worst part because Luki, with the help of his amazing admin, Jude, found enough dirt on the judge to get custody granted to Sonny and Luki. Unfortunately, by then, the Jacobs had disappeared and taken Jade with them during their court appointed visit. Oh, hell.

'Because of Jade' is my favorite of the series, so far. I have no idea whether the author plans any more, but I think it would be a shame if I never got any new Sonny and Luki stories. This was such a great addition to the series and I loved watching the change Jade brought to Sonny and Luki's lives. Thank you, Lou, for this truly beautiful book.

NOTE: This book was provided by Dreamspinner Press for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Karen says

A good, solid addition to the series. Love Jade as part of Sonny and Luki's family.

, • * ° *•¤Gwendolyn¤°***★°***★ says

Because Life Happen's

Gosh, I'm glad Luki and Sonny decided on building a windmill♥

Luki and Sonny had to deal with yet again another life changing challenge's in their lives. *Because of Jade*~ AWESOME SWEETNESS!

I love the way Lou Sylvre gives such a beautiful story~with so many nuggets of gold~

P.S.

I love the terms of endearment in these books, and this one gets even better "little girl! that I love"

Brian and Jackie...I want more♥?

Sandi ♥'s way too many M/M books says

O.M.G. I had no idea this was coming out.

LiveYourLife BuyTheBook says

°•?★5 Stars ~ KAPOW!★?•°

A *"Live Your Life, Buy The Book"* Review

First of all, a big thank you to the author for writing a story for Luki and Sonny that comes post “Yes”. It was wonderful to see Luki healthy, happy and as in love as ever with his husband, whom Luki lovingly calls “the most beautiful thing that ever happened to the world.” :-) With that being said, as someone who has read (and re-read) this entire series, and taken the characters into my heart, I found the blurb upsetting! I had to steel myself for the read, but of course, through Lou Sylvre’s signature artistry, she navigated the pain of Josh’s death, and subsequent events with utmost nurturing love and compassion. :-)

The story begins with happy anticipation. Luki and Sonny have been together for ten years. Luki’s cancer is in remission. The two men are more in love than ever, and are feeling, well they are feeling very alive. Luki’s nephew Josh and his wife Ruthie are expecting a baby to add to their family, which already consists of 5 year old Jade. Jade is known as “little girl that I love” in the hearts of her uncles Luki and of Sonny. Tragedy strikes and the men find themselves named as custodians of Jade. The two men are devastated, but rise to the occasion and take care of business – Josh’s brother Jackie had come from London to visit, but he is still too emotionally fragile to handle the arrangements surrounding his brother’s death, not even with his lover Brian by his side.

Make no mistake – this is not a book about death and tragedy. It is a story of love. Love that is absolute, strong and pure. Luki and Sonny have such a love, and it is due to this that they are able to fold Jade into their arms and their home so seamlessly. The story consists largely of adjusting to day to day life with the five year old. How it changes the men – for the better. They both have more room in their hearts for Jade than they would have thought, and they all make a marvelous transition, albeit with a learning curve. Jade is a stoic, intelligent and lovable little girl. She loves her uncles and at times they find themselves learning as much from her as she from them.

I am so grateful the author avoided such potentially obvious scenarios such as Jade refusing the guys home and love, or of one of them being envious or not on board with raising Jade. The three of them fit believably well. One particular aspect that I loved was how the men utilized the fact that their beloved dog, Bear, (whom Jade had met) had passed on when speaking to Jade about her deceased parents. These scenes where they spoke of Bear and visited his burial site were written with undeniable beauty and emotion, and Jade demonstrated great comfort from them. I wept. There are plenty of lighter moments, such as the little family shopping for a mini-van and Sonny organizing a car pool with other kindergartner families. The men have their close friend Margie as well as other friends and family – including Luki’s uncle Kaholo – who adore Jade. Together, they all become her extended family.

Of course, in typical Luki and Sonny fashion – nothing can stay peaceful in their lives for long. Trouble

brews, starting with the bigoted father of one of Jade's fellow classmates and culminating with someone crawling out of the woodwork with evil intent. The author ties all of this back to some seemingly benign facts that were brought up earlier in the story. Luki of course spends some time kicking himself for not being more on top of things, but he calls on his crack team of investigators to come to the rescue. Ultimately, the disturbing events end up ensuring a secure future for Jake, Luki and Sonny.

So you might ask, do Sonny and Luki lose any of their intimacy? That would be a resounding -no! One of the most romantic and sultry scenes I have read in a long while takes place in this book on the night of Luki and Sonny's tenth anniversary. The scene is particularly moving because it is Luki who planned it all, without Sonny knowing ahead of time. Gah, swoon, and melt. These two have one of the most intense, moving, loving relationships of any pairing I have read in fiction. I love them, their fierce love for each other and those people close to them – especially Jade. Luki remains ever the bad- ass, however his softer side definitely shifts close to the surface in this story. It has been brought to light by Sonny's love, his maturity in general, his cancer survival, and now by because of Jade – and his love for her. ♥

Lou Sylvre, please do not ever stop gifting us with tales of Luki and Sonny, and their family. :-)

Anne Barwell says

One of the things that draws me to read a Lou Sylvre story is her writing style. I love the lyrical feel of it and the way in which the words flow so naturally. It makes it very easy to get caught up in the story, and with her characters.

Because of Jade was no different. I got sucked into this story very quickly, and I blame it for several late nights, just wanting to read a little more, because I had to find out what happened next. I'm already a fan of Luki and Sonny, and their family and friends. One of the reasons for this is how real they are, these are three dimensional characters—sorry, guys, pretend I didn't use that word—who make mistakes, don't always know what to do, and aren't afraid to show their emotions. That's part of the appeal, and IMO shows strength of character.

I loved seeing them with Jade, all three trying to adjust to the changes in their lives after the tragic deaths of her parents. There's nothing like parenting to bring out self-doubt, and Lou Sylvre's story shows this so well, and ensures their path is not always an easy one. Throw in some very real dangerous, not nice people, and I couldn't put it down. I was on the edge of my seat, especially during those last few chapters, needing to know that the people I'd come to care about would be all right.

I must admit to not reading this series in order, but I find the books do stand on their own, although of course it's a richer experience if they are read in the order they're meant to be. Reading a series, to me, is like revisiting old friends, and these guys are friends I always enjoy spending time with.

Highly recommended.

Karen says

'Because of Jade' is a heartbreak example of how it only takes an instant for someone's world to change. Just one instant for a little girl to become an orphan, for two men to become parents, for bitterness and hate to lash out and try to destroy what love is building, for strength and courage to fight back...because of Jade.

"Little girl that I love" is probably my new favourite term of endearment, every time Luki said this to Jade, my heart melted to picture this big, tough, scary kick-ass man looking at a little 5 year old girl and simply saying "...little girl that I love." and knowing how much he meant it...yeah, I melted a million times over.

I love this series because of the underlying message of love and hope that always seems to lie at the heart of every story. Luki and Sonny are so adorable and sexy and just head over heals in love. They're perfect, not in that they never do anything wrong, sickly sweet no one could ever hope to live up to them way. No to me they're perfect in that they balance each other, they love each other and give each other strength, they work well together and they understand how to forgive each other when one of them screws up because let's face it we're all human and we all make mistakes eventually.

I know I was having concerns part way through the book that I just wasn't going to be as happy with this one as previous books but I should have known better, Ms Sylvre did not disappoint and I was left feeling very happy to have visited the world of Vasquez & James once again.

Jules Lovestoread says

4 1/2 stars. I can't help but be repetitive when talking Luki and Sonny...but, I. Love. These. Guys. And, there is just something so special about the way Lou writes them. They are different than any other characters I have read - in the best possible way. See my full review at thenovelapproachreviews.com:

<http://thenovelapproachreviews.com/20...>

Helle says

We meet Luki Vasquez and Sonny Bly James after their marriage of 10 years, it have been 10 hard years because Luki have to fight cancer, need a operation and still the fear that he was not healed and could die.

Luki and Sonny got scared because the doctor found enhancing abnormality on MRI scan and then found out that it was scar tissues after the operation, the old pictures for two years ago show that.

The doctor visit in Seattle and then the visit to a gay dinner club, the Metro because Luki fear it would mean bad luck and his dead if they did not visit the dinner club and a tradition for them now over years of doctor meetings.

Now Luki are cancer free for 5 years and that they want to celebrate with family Josh, older brother to Jackie are married to Ruthie and they are uncles to Jade 5 years old. It was Ruthie that get Luki want to fight when she was pregnant with Jade.

Josh have finally got a job in a refinery permanent and with the offshore crew as maintenance on THUMS Islands, Ruthie are pregnant, but have difficult later in her pregnancy than normal.

Jade lost both her parents to car accident and hemorrhage that Ruthie lost her child.

Jackie work with British Intelligence as forensics and psychologist, he have studied hard and have a PhD from UCLA. He have a lover Brian that work for the British Intelligence too and live in UK and have for many years.

Kohola Luki's uncle are always to love and support his nephew, they talk a lot in the telephone and it's him that give Luki and Sonny the bad news.

Luki, Sonny, Jackie, Brian and Kohola support, love and help each other and Jade to mourning the lost of Josh and Ruthie. Luki and Sonny are the one to make sure they are buried, house sold and that Jade is not alone.

Sonny fear he is not good to educate and take care of Jade, he miss Delsyn that lost his life and never got the chance to be a teenager and adult. He fear he will do the same mistanke and Luki have to tell his husband it was not his fault and they did not know that someone illegal used Sonny's ground as drug ring.

The workplace Ruthie work at was a legal firm, where also Mr. Markowitz was attorney for Sonny. Crane, Crane and Markowitz are both women and homoseksual. But one of their worker Mavis are a homophobe/bigot/narrow-minded/fanatic religious holy/ cruel/evil/blackmailing her cousin of past incest etc. She think are doing the right think for herself and Jade, because homoseksual can't take care and educate a child *grrr* She contact Ruthie's long lost sister Sarah Jacobs.

The auntie and her husband Stephan threatening Luki and Sonny the first time they meet, if Jade are not going with them. They have a ultraconservative views of what Jesus wanted of them. They felt strongly that luck of "discipline" was hurting Jade in the long run. They went so far as to quote the "spare the rod, spoil the child" proverb. they want to "train up" Jade and "get the child into the habit of obedience and discipline" they are the same as Mavis. I hate that kind of people that misuse the bibel and cover under the represent they are doing Jesus order *grrr*

Their friends Joanne the social worker and Mr. Worthy think that the Jacobs would never be awarded Jade. They can't understand why the judge Shipley can't see that and all the evidence that Joanne have evaluted are in favorit of the Vasquez-James adoption and realize that's where Jade would be best served. The adoption could then be finalized forthright.

Only with the help from Luki's friends and past colleagues, they found out about Mavis dark past and how she blackmail Shipley to accept aunt Sarah and her husband Stephan to be the parents to Jade. Mavis do not care that aunt Sarah and Stephan abuse Jade mental and later physically. She would have destroyed Jades childhood and still mean she have done the right thing, I hate that kind of fanatic religious holy people, that think if they only pray than every of their sins are clear *grrr* those three Sarah, Stephan and Mavis are the worst cruel/evil kind of people. Demons in human skin, may they burn in hell for eternal and stay in jail for their rest of their life.

I love this book, to meet Luki and Sonny again, their family. They are fighting for the right things and not some kind of fanatic religious holy lies, that would destroy both Luki, Sonny and Jades life.

Recommend to those who love agents and protection their family and innocent children, to make sure the criminals got in jail and never abuse and hurt a child in Jesus name. To know there ones that want to protect and love you as a family and never will let something cruel and evil happen to you. That they will fight hate crime and show what the word "family" really meant. It's out of comfort zone and will make you sad and cry, but there are also hope, love, support and family.
