



## Deep Edge

*R.J. Scott, V.L. Locey*

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R.J. Scott , V.L. Locey

**Deep Edge** R.J. Scott , V.L. Locey

**One man's passion, another man's lies. Can love fix even the darkest of hearts?**

Trent Hanson is a figure skating phenom adored by millions around the world. His whole life has been dedicated to the sport he loves even when the sport - and his own family - have turned against him. From the playground to the Olympics to his parent's living room, Trent has fought against bullies and homophobes to be the out and proud gay man he is. But the constant fighting has left Trent tired, lonely, and skittish. All those fears will have to be shelved though when he's hired to spend the summer working with the Harrisburg Railers ice hockey team. Who would have guessed that the man fate has decided to pair him off with is Dieter Lehmann, all-around sex god and a man who seems to have everything to prove and doesn't care who he hurts to get what he wants.

Dieter has spent too many years languishing in the minors, and a secret addiction to prescription painkillers means his career is in a downward spiral. His ex is blackmailing him, and he's close to walking away from it all. But when he's called up in the run for the Stanley Cup to cover injuries he has a taste of what it's like playing in the NHL, and he realizes that a place on the Railers' roster is what he wants more than anything. More than listening to his heart, and even more than caring for the infuriating figure skater who gets under his skin. When he crosses the line to get what he wants, he knows he has lost his way. He has to change, but is it too late for both his career and any chance he might have at love?

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## Deep Edge Details

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## From Reader Review Deep Edge for online ebook

### Kaje Harper says

This third book about a Railers player gives us Dieter, who was brought up from the AHL to the NHL before the start of the previous playoffs. He's got a shot at a spot on the team next year, which is his lifelong dream. But a past indiscretion, and an addiction to painkillers, could bring it all crashing down.

In an attempt to keep busy and not think about his problems, he signs on to do a summer reality TV show where some of the team will learn skating skills from a flamboyant figure skater. With Ten and Jared out of the closet, the team effort is also intended to lend support to a skating program for LGBTQ kids. Dieter is bi, and has no problem with that goal, but he doesn't want focused attention. He has too much he needs to hide. Then he meets figure skater Trent, and suddenly he has a new obsession with slim strength and eyeliner, lip gloss and snark. That attraction may make hiding difficult.

Trent was aimed at his third Olympic medal before his stepfather gambled through all his endorsement money. Broke and trying to keep afloat both his rink and junior skating program, and his mother's house and his own rent, Trent is in no headspace to compete. When his agent lines up the reality show deal, he's not thrilled at working with the kind of team-sports gorillas who made his teens so rough. But the good money could save a lot of other people from hardship, so he signs on.

Trent wasn't expecting to actually like the apes in hockey sweaters, but they're turning out to be a good bunch. And he's intrigued by Dieter, with his intent gaze and the hints of darkness in his eyes. A little hot sex with a big muscly guy might be just what Trent needs to chase away the blues. He doesn't plan to let it get beyond that point, but Dieter's open admiration, paired with the glimpses of pain, are a heady mix and Trent finds himself pulled in more than he ever meant to be.

Trent is supported by his *Lola*, whose Pilipino cooking and warm hugs and love for the Flyers (not the Railers) add fun to the story. His mom is a woman caught between her love of the her very fallible husband in prison, and her pain over what he did to her son. Both women support Trent's flamboyant outness, though, and Dieter's family knows that he's bi and has had boyfriends, so, refreshingly, familiar rejection doesn't come into the mix except where the already-loathed stepfather is concerned.

There is plenty else here that could be angst, including addiction, injury, and closeted athletes. But the determined flair of Trent's POV and the matter-of-factness of Dieter's kept it from being deeply emotional. I was sorry to see the coming out issue almost totally diffused into "Ten and Jared are already out" and to not see much of that ongoing in this story. I think, as the Michael Sam story among others showed us, the first out hockey player(s) are going to face more fan reaction and subtle discrimination than we see with this series. But I enjoyed this romance of opposites, and the progression of several realistic issues, which are not just solved by the magic touch of love. Another good entry in this ongoing series, and the hint of the next book to come has me intrigued to see more of Stan, already a crowd favorite.

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### JustJen "Miss Conduct" says

I have really been enjoying this series. While it is definitely centered around hockey, with the MCs all being a part of the Harrisburg Railers, it is not overloaded with hockey. Not that I would mind if it was, but for those who aren't extremely well versed in the sport, this is a great series to whet your whistle. It picks up pretty much where the last book left off, though it could probably be read on its own. I definitely recommend reading the prior books though, to get you up to speed on the various characters and get to know the makeup of the team as well.

After Ten and Jared came out in the last book, the team is just at the start of the off season, with many of them being encouraged to take part in a reality tv series that will double as a summer conditioning camp. The main players all decide to participate and take the chance to learn something, hone their skating skills and hopefully gain an edge that will get them closer to their goal of winning the Stanley Cup. Olympic figure skater, Trent, is the one chosen to lead them on this challenge.

Trent is a bit down on his luck after his stepfather ran off with all of this money. He runs a skating rink that caters to LGBTQ youth giving them a safe haven and a place to be themselves and sparkle as much as they want. After all, who better to show them that it's ok then the fabulous and glittering Trent? He has never let anyone dull his shine, and even though he is pretty low on happy at the moment, he doesn't compromise on that part of himself. He's reluctant to accept his role on the series, big jock hockey players being nothing he wants any part of, but the money is too much to pass on.

Dieter is one of the Railers who was called up to cover injuries. He has just been offered a one-year contract, but he has some issues. Namely, he has his own injury, which initially led to an opiate addiction. He about had it kicked, but it resurfaced again. He hits it off with Trent, but Trent recognizes right away that Dieter has a problem, having faced an addicted boyfriend and the issues with his stepfather. He is reluctant to get involved, but Dieter gets a hold of things pretty quickly and sets things right with Trent.

These guys were really sweet together. Dieter loved everything about Trent and in fact encouraged him to always go full out with his style. And Dieter showed Trent that big hockey players weren't all bullying jocks. Throughout the taping of the show, the team all showed Trent a new side of things, which started from the get go when they all pretty much embraced him and took his abilities seriously. I loved watching them all interact, and it made me love this rag tag team even more.

The big Russian goalie, Stan, has been one of my favorites from the start, always making sure everyone ate properly, taking Ten's side and joining in the Pokemon games, etc. I am a huge goalie fan as well, so I was super excited to see he is the star of the next book, which I cannot wait to get my hands on! If you are a hockey fan of any level, you should definitely check this series out!

*Review written for Love Bytes Reviews.*

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## **BR11 says**

I like hockey series and this one started good and then not that great.

This installment was better than the second, but still quite mehh. Now that the first player is out, the whole team is LGBTQ.

Not even comparable to Avon Gale's Scoring Chances, which for me is the standard against which I compare all the other mm hockey stories out there.

Not sure I'll read book 4... not even for the Russian goalie...

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### **Paul says**

This is book 3 in the Harrisburg Railers series. I would advise to read these books in order, if for no other reason, than it's a terrific series with characters you'll enjoy! I will always have a special place in my heart for Layton from book 2, but Trent is now my favorite character from this series. Trent is an Olympic Silver Medalist figure skater who is dealing with being on the brink of losing his beloved rink and his mother's home after his step-father/manager has embezzled all his money. Trent is a HUGE diva and the snark is flying!! I really enjoy well-written snark and this story has it in spades. Dieter is being called up to the Railers and offered his first major contract. Unfortunately, injuries have left Dieter with a dependence on pain-killers. Trent is offered the chance to revive his struggling finances by doing a reality TV show, the problem is he will have to participate with some of the Railers. Suffice it to say that being an out gay man since he was very young, Trent has had his share of run-ins with jocks that make him less than ecstatic about the situation, but when you're back's against the wall and you're thrown a life-line, you grab on. Trent and Dieter seem to have an instant attraction and the sparks fly. Both men have to deal with their issues and while there are lots of laughs, there are also some tears. Also, there is a new secondary character that had me howling and also wishing for a hug... Lola, Trent's Grandmother! Now there's a reality TV show in the making... LOL! Looking forward to more from these two terrific authors! Recommended!

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### **E Prime says**

If you love sport romances, especially hockey with all those hot, enormous, sexy men – and if you haven't started VL Locey's and RJ Scott's fantastic series Harrisburg Railer Hockey – then you really need to do yourself a favour. And if haven't read the rest of the series, the main romance is can be read as a standalone. However, there is a lot of overarching plot from the previous two books and it would probably be wise to go back. If for nothing else than to read two other fantastic books.

For those familiar with Avon Gale's hockey series, Scoring Chances, then I highly recommend this series too. Seriously, this series is nothing short of awesome.

Ok, that's the formalities out of the way.

Deep Edge is the third installment of the Harrisburg Railers Hockey Series and moves onto Railers player Dieter Lehmann and newcomer, Olympic figure skater who is contracted to show the Railers a thing or two about finesse and movement, Trent Hanson. Dieter's story was teased a little in book 2 – which saw the Railers get a new social media spin doctor, Layton Foxx, who ultimately found love with Railers winger Adler Lockhart. The Railers are involved in a reality TV show and specifically want out and proud Trent Hanson to teach these massive jocks a thing or two when it comes to skating, and hopefully improving the team's speed and cohesiveness.

Dieter has a lot of problems and while he slowly goes closer to the edge, it is Trent who is there to help him. Dieter has a bung knee, an addiction to pain meds which he has now relapsed and a crazy ex-girlfriend out for money threatening to out his sexuality. Because if Dieter will even get a chance to be with the prickly Trent, who hates hockey players and shy to commit to someone with an addiction, he needs to fix a lot in his career. Luckily for Dieter, the Harrisburg Railers are a team that fosters diversity and not punishing their players when they really need help.

Side note, it is impossible not to love fall in love with the players of the Harrisburg Railers. I've been loving the gentle giant, Russian player (with very little English), Stanislav, Stan for short. I was so excited to find out in the preview for book 4 that the next story is his story. No words can say how much I love Stan, which sounds weird for a fictional character. I've become invested in all the guys, but something about Stan really connects with me (must be that whole living away from home thing, I don't know, or the fact he's a sexy Russian).

The other thing I love about this series is the little things dropped into the text for nerds like me who get a thrill out of the odd Doctor Who, Harry Potter or Star Trek reference. I'm in love with the entirety of a fictional NHL team and I'm not ashamed to admit it.

O-M-G, I want to squeal like a kid and jump up and down like a fan girl.

\* I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.\*

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### **Tpagirl says**

Deep Edge was the third book in the Harrison Raiders series by RJ Scott.

Trent Hanson was a former olympic figure skater. He won two silver medals and was contemplating training again for a gold; however, his step father stole his earnings and Trent was now scrounging around trying to make a living. As a result, he agreed to a reality show which had him working with some of the Railers NHL players on improving agility and speed.

Dieter Lehmann was an up and coming NHL player that was called up from the AHL during the Stanley Cup run and was finally getting his shot. He was one of the players on the reality show and the sparks flew immediately between Trent and Dieter. Unfortunately Dieter had his own flurry of problems.

Scott took us through the introductions, the chemistry and the impact of both of their baggage on a potential relationship. It was heart warming and emotional at times. Thankfully the drama was fairly low key. In the end, it was well written, enjoyable and a quick read. Next up is the goalie, Stan, in Poke Check.

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### **Tanja says**

Oh, my word. This is such a fabulous book. I loved it. I was so looking forward to Deep Edge, and it was everything I hoped for. Trent and Dieter are just the most perfect, adorable couple ever.

Figure skater Trent is not a fan of hockey players, but a well-paying reality show with said hockey players is too good to turn down. He needs the money to keep his mother's house and his ice rink from foreclosing. And then he meets Dieter. Trent is not prone to falling, but for Dieter, he is willing to make the exception. And Dieter wouldn't have believed that he would be smitten with a lip-glossed, purple-haired bossy figure skater. From the moment, they meet the ice is melting under their skates. It is not only the physical chemistry that is off the charts their banter and conversations are sparkling as well.

I don't know which man I loved the most, Trent or Dieter. Bratty, sassy, snarky, flamboyant. That is what he shows the world, but inside him there is so much more. He has a loving and caring heart as wide as the ocean. He stands with Dieter all the way. Dieter is an addict, and he acknowledges it. That takes guts. It is obvious he adores Trent, makeup and all, and he makes no excuses for him. Super.

The writing is as smooth and flowing as ever. What awed me the most, however, was that both Trent as Dieter had their distinctive voices. I didn't have to read the name above the chapter to know who was talking or thinking. It shined through in every line. The vibrancy of Trent and the more calmer Dieter. I was going from emotion to emotion. From laughing to crying and then through my tears I was laughing again.

The characters came to life on the pages. And the secondary cast was also to die for. Feisty Lola, who can't be anyone else than Trent's grandmother. A Phillies fan to the bone. Goalie Stan, with his garbled English, who looks out for everyone to eat. He must have his own story soon, please. And all the other hockey players who stand by Dieter as one team.

This story is set up somewhat different than other stories in the genre. Most of the times, the MC's deal with their struggles on their own. Not in this story, though. I loved that Trent and Dieter were side by side each step of the way, and in the process, I was there with them. The issues they have are solved quickly, but that doesn't mean they are glossed over or that this is a sappy story. It is the way Dieter and Trent deal with them that is very satisfying and realistic.

It is delightful, funny, sexy and emotional. Highly recommended.

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## **Karen says**

4.5 shining stars rounded up to 5 because still no 1/2 stars here on GR.

### ***This one was like scoring a hat trick...***

‘Deep Edge’ is the third book in the ‘Harrisburg Railer’s’ series by RJ Scott & V.L. Locey and while I have very much enjoyed the first two books, ‘Deep Edge’ has definitely become my favorite book so far.

Trent Hanson may be a skating phenom adored by millions but that hasn't kept disaster from dogging his heels nor has it kept the two things he loves the most from turning on him. It's when his family has betrayed him and the sport he's dedicated his life to has turned on him that Trent finds himself faced with the dilemma of a life time...do a reality show that will pay him enough to resolve the financial difficulties that he's facing while leaving him in the company of members of the ‘Harrisburg Railers’ while filming a reality television series...Trent doesn't do jocks...not football, baseball or hockey...ever! But when faced with the alternatives that his current financial state will result in. Trent decides it's time to put on his big boy pants and do what needs to be done...after all it's just 6 weeks...he can do this, right?

Dieter has spent years in the minors waiting for his chance to show that he's got what it takes to play in the pros. When he gets called up during the Railers run for the Stanley Cup, Dieter knows this is his chance and he wants it. He's determined not to let anything get in his way...not an injured knee that leads him to become addicted to prescription painkillers, not a personal scandal that threatens to splash his name across the cover of every tabloid in North America and certainly not the infuriating figure skater whose gotten under his skin while adding so much color and life to his world.

I loved Trent...he was unrepentantly Trent. His motto in life was ‘name it and claim it’. Trent was out and proud unashamed to show the world the beauty that was Trent Hanson. But for all his sparkle and flash he had a heart of gold. His passion for skating includes his Rainbow arena where he creates a safe environment for LGBTQ kids to take lessons and skate in a safe and bully free environment. He helps take care of his mom and his very feisty grandmother whom he calls Lola. Sadly Trent's not a stranger to the world of addiction having been in one relationship with someone who was addicted to prescription drugs he

recognizes the warning signs in Dieter.

While Dieter was a little harder character to warm up to in the end he won my heart. Initially he wasn't willing to face the truth's of his circumstances in the end he faced up to things and got the help he needed for both his addiction and the injury that led to it. What really won me over with Dieter was that when it came to Trent, he wanted Trent as he was. There was never any expectation on Dieter's part that Trent would change in any way because Dieter wanted the color and flare that Trent brought into his life.

Just like in the first two books we were given a wonderful cast of secondary characters including the MCs from 'Changing Lines' and 'First Season' and Trent's mother and his Lola, there's Trent's agent who ultimately takes on Dieter as a client as well and Dieter's parents...I really loved Dieter's parents they were wonder, loving and supportive parents...even if his dad is a Vancouver Canucks fan...there's just no accounting for taste...kidding.

I loved Trent and Dieter's story and as a couple they worked really, really well for me and while I know that the next book's a new pairing...it's Stan the big, adorable, teddy bear Russian Goalie for the Railers and I'm totally on board for Stan's story and yes, I do have my fingers crossed for a peek or two at Trent and Dieter...these two worked hard for their HEA and I'd love to see more of these two.

This series just keeps getting better and better for me and I'm definitely looking forward to whatever comes next for the men of the Harrrisburg Railers and their partners...now, if I could just get my hands on a Railer's hockey jersey...Go Railers!!!

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An ARC of 'Deep Edge' was graciously provided by the authors in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Jess A Jaye says**

RJ and VL have knocked it out of the park once again. Wait that's the wrong sporting analogy. Scored a homerun? No... Anyway!

I'm loving this series, it's definitely been one of my favourites of the year.

MC Trent was a blast to read. He's snarky, cheeky, does a great one-liner and has a hilarious inner monologue. I love characters like that especially when they use those things in an act of self preservation to hide their vulnerability. I enjoyed the opposites attract trope between Trent and his love interest Dieter. Dieter is the bigger, quieter hockey player opposite to Trent's slight, loud, glitz figure skater. Despite their opposites they make a great couple - believable, adorable and a great addition to the series. That's not to say Dieter doesn't have his own vulnerabilities. Seeing him struggle with doubting his abilities, his position on the Railers team, injury and the resulting addiction to painkillers was a rollercoaster.

There are some great side characters in this series. Loved seeing more of Stan - he's my favourite. I can't wait to see his story. I'm intrigued by Arvy looking forward to seeing if he gets a book.

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## **Joyfully Jay says**

*A Joyfully Jay review.*

**4.25 stars**

Deep Edge is the third in the Harrisburg Railers series, which focuses on a professional hockey association and the men who call the team home. I look forward to the books in this series because they consistently provide good romance, engaging characters, and hockey references that even a sports moron like myself can enjoy it. Deep Edge has some issues, but let's start with the good stuff. Dieter and Trent are both well-rounded characters with a lot of depth and the authors have done a good job building them up beyond stereotypical caricatures. Each man's past serves as a burden, but these challenges are believable and realistic. Their romance moves a little quickly, but the authors don't try to create an insta-love scenario. Instead, it's very much a case of lust followed by love, which feels more grounded. The situation of Dieter's drug addiction is handled well and while we aren't given a lot of insight into his time in rehab, neither is the problem brushed off or pushed aside.

Trent (who is referred to as Trent Hanson but later called Trent Hanson Lawrence, so take your pick) is something of a jock hater and, as a result, he doesn't come off as particularly likeable at first. He grew on me, but jock hating is something of a trend in this series. And while there are always reasons to explain these feelings, it would be nice to move away from this as the books move forward. Trent very occasionally comes off as whiny and self-centered. This is a rare occurrence, but it did add to my slower acceptance of his character. The premise for Deep Edge is a bit silly and that may just be because I think the concept of reality television is pretty ridiculous as a whole. The show in Deep Edge does feel a lot like a set up to bring our characters together. Which I realize is the point of a plot, but here it reads as a bit it affected.

**Read Sue's review in its entirety [here](#).**

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## **Robin Powers says**

I love this hockey series and then we have a figure skater added into the mix and I'm so right there. Dieter has a lot of issues in this story and at the beginning he's a hot mess. Multiple people try to get him to face his issues but he's just not ready to admit defeat quite yet. Bring in Trent and that man does not hold back the punches. He's had his own tough situations and he doesn't have time for people wasting his care or messing with his emotions. Been there, done that! I loved how fiercely Trent cares for people, especially his students. He's a protector and so brave. I felt like he was a great match for Dieter and able to push him past his comfort zone. And Trent's grandma? So funny...I love that she is a hockey fan...of the Flyers. This was a great continuation of the series.

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## **Amanda says**

3.5 stars

I have grow to love this Harrisburg Railer series. Love catching up with the previous couples, especially my favorite ones, Adler and Layton. In Deep Edge, we are back with Railers and this time we focus on Dieter. Dieter is an unassuming player, not flashy like Ten and not weird like Stan. But he had his demon of his own in terms of battling his opiate addiction. His scheming ex is trying to blackmail him as well, but that drama was resolved quite easily.

We were also introduced to a new character, who is a figure skater, Trent. Trent is flamboyant and a total diva. He is having a major career crisis and worried about losing his own skating rink. He ended up whoring himself for a reality TV show with the Railers. Trent is a definitely a drama queen, but I really like his personality.

Trent and Dieter as heroes are totally likable, and I really appreciate their journey and character growth, especially Dieter. But in terms of sexual chemistry, I find it lacking. In the beginning, there are plenty of eye fucking each other, but they start getting hot and heavy without much conversation. When Trent found out about Dieter issue, which understandably Trent find it hard to cope. I don't see why Trent have to stay because it isn't that they have become soulmates all of a sudden. If they actually developed a solid friendship before all this drama happened, maybe it will be more relatable and believable.

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### **Laurel Looney says**

Wow, Deep Edge is the third book in this amazing hockey series and it is just as awesome as the first 2. Everyone needs to read this series you won't be disappointed. In Deep Edge you get to know Dieter better and you get to meet Trent. Everyone needs a Dieter and Trent in their lives. This book gives you everything you could possibly want or need in a story.

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### **The Smutbrarians says**

Storyline: 5

Angst: 4

Tissue: 1

Value: 5

Panty Scorching: 4

Over All Rating: 4.25 Stars

Kindle eArc provided by Author

Reviewed by Robin

Dieter Lehmann has been struggling with a pill addiction, blackmailing ex and an injury that may hurt his new contract with the Harrisburg Railers. All that seems to be coming his way is stress and pain. When he meets Trent Hanson, a former Olympic ice skater, he doesn't know quite what to think but the attraction is there. But Trent has been burnt in the past and he doesn't quite trust what Dieter is offering. He's been lied to, used and left in ruins. Will Dieter be able to convince Trent that he's worth the fight?

“Brave? Not hardly. My mind pulled up an image of Dieter. Now that was bravery. And courage. And passionate kisses and gruff snorts of laughter. How had I fallen so deeply so fast? And what was I going to do about it?”

I love this hockey series and then we have a figure skater added into the mix and I'm so right there. Dieter has a lot of issues in this story and at the beginning he's a hot mess. Multiple people try to get him to face his issues but he's just not ready to admit defeat quite yet. Bring in Trent and that man does not hold back the punches. He's had his own tough situations and he doesn't have time for people wasting his care or messing with his emotions. Been there, done that! I loved how fiercely Trent cares for people, especially his students. He's a protector and so brave. I felt like he was a great match for Dieter and able to push him past his comfort zone. And Trent's grandma? So funny...I love that she is a hockey fan...of the Flyers. This was a great continuation of the series.

Stan is getting a book!!! Stan is getting a book!!! I'm sing songing this because Stan is one of my favorite characters. He's a caretaker in his awkward language challenged goalie way. I want to find out what his obsession is with everyone eating right and getting proper nutrition.

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### **Natalie says**

Trent has just become my favorite character of the series so far! Trent is a figure-skating diva, flamboyant and fierce, occasionally referring to himself in third person, with a caring streak a mile wide. He's Pilipino-American, adored by his feisty grandmother, his Lola, with a hard-working mother and a worthless stepfather in jail. Filming a reality show, training Railers on new skills, is his only chance to restore his financial stability, keep his Rainbow Skate rink open, and help his young LGBTQ students. Dieter is finally reaching his dream of playing in the NHL and a knee injury and blackmail about his bisexuality, aren't going to hold him back.

Insta-lust strikes both and not even Trent's apprehension about oversized jocks keeps them from naughty locker room antics. Dieter's attitude about his addiction and his volatile reactions felt quite realistic and ditto, Trent's refusal to stick around for it. But much like book one, the assumption they were in a relationship, quickly turning to love, came out of nowhere. Aside from two brief encounters there was no substantial build-up, either told or shown, to make it entirely believable. Trent however, carried the book for me, although I did like Dieter's eventual redemption and their dynamic as a couple once Dieter straightened out (so to speak). He was shortchanged in the narrative in my view, given insufficient page time to click with other team members, with too much internal dialogue.

It had an engaging storyline, particularly Trent's purpose with his skating rink. His Lola, a die-hard Flyers fan, was a hoot and Trent was witty, humorous and rendered quite human when facing his stepfather. I liked Dieter as a decent guy, just misguided and addicted, nothing like the ruthless player implied in the blurb. There's a strong HFN and I can recommend it highly, with more serious subjects featured, a departure from the coming out conflicts of the previous two books. Definitely a series I'll continue.

\*An ARC was provided by the author or publisher and I have chosen to publish a fair and honest review for Jessie G Books Reviews blog\*

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