



# Hard Time

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**Jasmine**

He's hunting me. And when he catches me, he's going to break me.

I've been running from the law my whole life.

But Rico is the one man I can't escape.

And I don't know if I want to.

**Rico**

Jasmine Francoise lives to taunt the law. The FBI. Me.

I'll bring her to justice.

She'll scream her confession over my knee and in my bed.

She deserves hard time.

I'll make sure she gets it.

## Hard Time Details

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# From Reader Review Hard Time for online ebook

## Kathy Heare Watts says

RESILIENT—FIERCE—LOVED

I love when I pick up a book and am held hostage by it and can't put it down. The writing duo of Jane Henry and Loki Renard delivered another winner. The story has it all, a great cast of characters, plenty of action and adventure, mystery, suspense, secrets, deceit, life, and death, good versus evil, and then you have a dominant man who knows just how to control and out of control woman. While this story will read as a stand-alone, if you read Criminal, it picks up from the epilogue on the last 3 or 4 pages. The story will bring the good and the bad together! The story will involve Agent Rico and a crime family, especially Jasmine Francoise.

The plot will have Rico determined to help bust the Francoise family and what is known as The French Connection. He is hoping that by leaning heavily on the daughter of Jaques Francoise, he will be able to solve this case. What begins as multiple confrontations between Jasmine and Rico will change from pursuit to wanting to protect her. That doesn't mean Rico thinks she is innocent, but he does believe she is a pawn used by her own father.

The chemistry between Rico and Jasmine switches back and forth from hot to cold, defiant to brat, seductress to little girl. Rico knows she is hiding things, and the more he tries to help her, the harder he will have to push to try and find answers.

"She had two modes: defiant brat and vixen. I guess we're done with the brat, and the vixen is coming out to play."

Rico wants to protect Jasmine from her father and brother, and she won't give up anything to help him do so. Even with the physical and mental abuse, she has suffered at the hands of her family; she isn't an innocent when it comes to criminal activity. It will all come down to trust. Rico doesn't lie to her, and he wants her to be truthful with him.

The plot includes a relationship with daddy dom talk, spankings, punishments, and sex between Rico and Jasmine. It is two people, on the opposite side of the law, and a May-December romance. Even when Jasmine is being defiant and refusing to answer his questions, he still has respect for her as a person. While he calls himself Daddy to her, he shows her a difference between a man who cares, disciplines out of love, and has her best interest at heart, compared to her flesh and blood father that hurt her mother, and has hurt her and her brother all their lives. What will happen when the law enters the equation? How far will Rico go to keep Jasmine safe and take down a criminal organization?

"You've been a brat, but you haven't been a bad girl."

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## Donna Louise says

This is more than just another good verses bad cop story. This is a love story despite all obstacles that were put in the way. First off, I had an good

idea of what to expect from Ms Henry and Ms Renard.I have read their past collaborations and was soon in my happy place with "Hard Time".

Agent Rico has been after Jasmine Francoise for a long time but she keeps slipping through his hands like water drops.Jasmine,her father and brother have a long list of crimes to put them away for many years.Jasmine lives a life of luxury but all is not what it appears to be.Desperate to be free of her controlling father and brother,Jasmine finds herself under Rico's protection.Jasmine wants to be Rico's good girl,she needs to earn his trust so she can be just that,and more .Despite the horrors she has witnessed,Jasmine is still operating under the code of honor and protects her family.Rico can and will take care of Jasmine,a hard hand helps. Retreating into her headspace,is at times, the only way she can survive but is she strong enough to fly and be free.Rico is an unapologetic Alpha man who had a soft side for Jasmine,he will do anything to protect Jasmine and damn the consequences. The emotions they shared were powerful and poignant,their sexual chemistry sizzled.

This was a book that stirred up emotions at times that are thought provoking.How disgracefully women are treated just because they are women.The plot moved at a steady pace and the character development was masterful.There are many surprises to stop you putting this book down.A dangerous storyline,mystery,danger,mild age play, a strong heroine,darkness evil and one great love story with a happy ending.

Another well written drama by two fabulous authors.  
DONNA L

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## **Rhonda Hicks says**

Jasmine Francoise was the only daughter of the French Connection crime family, raised to be a princess who could have spent her life lying back and taking the proceeds of crime, but she decided to get involved, Not only that, but become more successful than most men bred for their positions.

Rico has brought down a lot of criminals in his career. Big ones, small ones, mean ones, nice ones. But never one like Jasmine Francoise. She's irrepressible, incorrigible, and she's at the top of his personal list of people who need to be behind bars. She's give him the slip more times than he can count, but she's connected with a string of crimes which stretch across the country.

These two have developed a relationship of antagonists. He's old enough to be her father at forty-eight to her twenty two. She thinks she knows it all. She's cocky and cool as ice. She's been brought up to believe that nobody can touch her. She's wrong.

Loki Renard and Jane Henry have once again shown why they are such a dynamic team of authors. This storyline is cohesive and flows around an intense plot with continually growing characters that have personality plus.

As I'm writing this review, it comes to mind of other reviews I've read so just a reminder, this is FICTION. An FBI agent and a crime lords daughter having a D/s type relationship in the middle of an investigation is not under normal circumstances common place. But, in the realm of Romance Fiction, it works wonderfully and is enticing. One that kept my attention, kept me on the edge of my seat at times and kept my lady parts happy. Quite an enticing story.

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## **Rhonda says**

Wow, this story had me hooked from the first page! Mafia stories are always kind of "iffy" for me as to whether I will like it or not but this is one I loved. Jasmine and Rico are combustible as a couple. She's a mafia princess and he's an FBI agent trying to get her to turn on her family!! I can't really say much without giving away the plot but this is a book I HIGHLY recommend reading. It will take you down dark alleys that twist and turn and you won't know where you will end up at. Just get it!!!!

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## **Jessica says**

Hard Time is a stand alone, intense romance, but if you're familiar with the collaboration between Ms. Renard and Ms. Henry, it follows Criminal. Rico is an FBI agent who is dying to catch Jasmine and her family in the act for a long time. Deciding to stick to Jasmine like glue, waiting for her to slip up, he decides to take matters into his own hands, keeping her for his own, trying for protective custody. She may be a criminal princess, but Rico is quickly realizing how much more she may mean to him - if only they can put their differences aside!

Holy smokes! This book was amazing, full of passion, finding one's true self, acceptance, forgiveness, some crazy drama, and above all, love! Rico and Jasmine are an incredible couple that have a lot to overcome, not just with the obvious he being a good guy and she's been living a criminal life, but emotionally as well. Rico was determined, protective, and I loved everything he was willing to do for Jasmine. Jasmine's character was so much more than she first comes across and I loved uncovering all of her layers! My heart just about broke with everything she's gone through, but what a survivor! Together, they face many obstacles and I loved that this book was so much more than just putting her family behind bars. I highly suggest reading this book, but definitely expect some emotional punishment scenes, some intense drama, and a book that will have you flipping pages and love the ending!!

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## **Sam says**

HARD TIME was fast paced, action packed, and jammed with HOT spankiness that had me swooning! I loved Officer Rico with his punishments and rewards, but I also loved him for his protectiveness and dominating presence over her. Rico and Jasmine's chemistry was so palpable and explosive from the very first page!! This story left me panting for more spankiness from Officer Rico!!

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## **Space Cowgirl says**

Jasmine?? Gets Hard Time

Mob princess, Jasmine??, seems to have it all, beauty, a beautiful face and body, beautiful and expensive clothes and cars. Rico????, FBI Agent, has been watching her for sometime, and lusting after her. His main goal, though, is to capture her brother and father for all the crimes they have committed.

Jasmine?? belongs in jail too, but Rico???? wants to try to turn her to testify against her family.

Rico??? ?is an older guy, and he has his proclivities. Mostly He has a thing for Spanking???and BDSM. He has ideas that Jasmine??. being the really bad girl she is, could benefit from his kind of stern love! HA!

ARC Received from the Authors.

The opinions expressed here are my own.

This is a short book, but packed with lots of action. There are some shootings ? and some ?fist fights, as well as Bdsm?? interactions. I couldn't put it down!

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## **SBee Reviews says**

~The hunt is on~

FBI Agent Rico's obsession with taking down the international crime family, the French Connection, was turning into a veritable cat and mouse game, now that the daughter, Jasmine is in his crosshairs. For him, he was the key to taking the organization down, and Rico was going make her and her family pay for their crimes.

But when he actually has Jasmine in his custody after she leads him on a merry chase, Rico realizes that she may just be as much of a victim as the rest of this family's targets, and he has to switch gears to accomplish his difficult task. Because this controlling and dominant man now has her personal safety and care at the top of his list of priorities and has made her all his to protect, something the other two men in her life have miserably failed to do.

Another deliciously engaging story from this well-matched writing duo to add to their lineup of hot men of the law!

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## **Viper Spaulding says**

Exciting power play romance!

Rico is determined to bring Jasmine and her family to justice, and she's equally determined to continue to manipulate him as her father directs her to. Until the day her father crosses a line, and suddenly Rico's priorities change completely.

The chemistry between Rico and Jasmine is intense and overpowering. There are twists I didn't see coming, and more than a few OMG-did-he-really-just-do-that moments. Every bit of this story was deliciously sensuous and compelling. It's hard to see how they're going to reconcile their opposing goals in order to get their HEA, but these authors brilliantly orchestrated a believable path without compromising either character's integrity. It's a terrific story and I highly recommend it. I voluntarily reviewed an ARC of this book.

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## Dee says

## Organized Crime with A Twist!

The latest collaboration between erotic romance authors Jane Henry and Loki Renard is set within the same realm as their previous release “Criminal” and diverges from the archetypal organized crime story, casting the heroine as the criminal offender. Offering plenty of excitement as well as suspense, “Hard Time” conveys the tale of a seasoned FBI agent (also a dominant) and his not so submissive (much younger) female criminal target. From their antagonistic beginning, the story-line follows the pair through a journey of heart pounding situations as Agent Rico struggles to ensure Jasmine’s safety while ending her family’s criminal organization. Professionally written and extremely fast paced, the story-line is filled with action, suspense and mystery, along with an abundance of erotic heat. For fans of “Criminal” the main characters from the novel make brief appearances in “Hard Time”. However, “Hard Time” is a complete standalone novel with no prior reading required for total enjoyment.

Disclaimer: Children 18+ due to explicit sexual content including domestic discipline. No Kindles were seriously harmed while reading this novel.

Disclaimer for the Disclaimer... The term “seriously harmed” is not intended to include: overheating, scorch marks, minor melting or inconsequential fire that can be put out with an extinguisher. Fire retardant gloves highly recommended while reading. Reviewer is not responsible for run-on sentences, appalling grammar or questionable punctuation.

### RATING DETAILS (Based on 1 to 5 Gold Stars):

### Steam Factor: 5 Explicit Stars

### Writing Style: 5 Professional Stars

### Plot: 5 Exciting Stars

### Engaging Characters: 5 Dominant Stars

### Satisfying Conclusion: 5 Satisfactory Stars

**EpicRomanceReviews** says

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(<sub>3</sub>•) (<sub>3</sub>•)

♥~?~♥ 5 UNLAWFULLY SEXY STARS! ♥~?~♥

*"This is a bad girl who wants to be treated like one."*

If you have a weakness for **STERNLY COMMANDING** lawmen who deliver their own brand of justice to the bad girls who get caught in their crosshairs, then you will **SALIVATE** over **HARD TIME** by Loki Renard and Jane Henry!

I have been anxiously anticipating Rico and Jasmine's story since they were first introduced in **CRIMINAL...** and **HOLY HOTNESS** did this fast-paced, hyper sexy tale strike a chord!!! And while some of the characters overlap from that first book, rest assured that **HARD TIME** is designed to be read as a total

standalone! I was truly hooked from page one and loved the action-packed suspense, the heart-tugging emotion, the flirty sparks and witty banter, the panty melting hot punishments--and scintillating rewards--and..well,,sheesh I just **LOVED IT ALL!!**

But if I had to pick my favorite part of the story, it was hands down the **SPARKLING CHEMISTRY** between these charismatic, larger than life characters! These MCs were polar opposites in every way, which made their interaction so **WILDLY ENTERTAINING!** Ricco and Jasmine positively smoldered together and leapt off the page and straight into my heart!

There was palpable tension and sparks and passion galore from start to finish, and I loved the evolution of this unlikely love story. which of course began with "Ricky" wanting to put the crime heiress and her entire family behind bars. After all they are a menace to society, and he has a job to do. But then he winds up in quite a quandary as he finds himself falling for the seductive charms of this sultry little minx and wanting to save her in more ways than one! And although his methods of keeping her in line and getting her to bare her soul were...unorthodox....they paved the way for some filthy hot erotic interludes that **SET MY GIRLY BITS AFLAME!**

Sighhhh...Agent Ricco just did it for me! This uber bossy, by-the-book lawman **OOZED STRENGTH, MASCULINITY AND ROUGHHEWN SEX APPEAL**...and he also had a hefty dose of sweet, doting, overprotective Daddy Dom in him! I also really enjoyed the age gap between these two--Rico is forty-eight years to Jasmine's twenty-two--and **SWOON** when the naughty temptress was placed under house arrest with this strict, no-nonsense lawman, I **"might"** have dreamt of trading places with her! Gah...who am I kidding? There's no **MIGHT** about it! Because to be frisked, cuffed and spanked when I was bad, then cuddled and cosseted when I was being Ricco's good little princess, would be my **ULTIMATE WICKEDLY WANTON FANTASY** come true !

As for Jasmine...what a **FIRECRACKER!** While the coy, cunningly beautiful and cultured only daughter of the French Connection crime family acts like the world is her oyster, in truth she has not had an easy life. And as it turns out there is much more to this **"spoiled, snotty little brat"** than meets the eye. I dug her feistiness tempered with her hidden vulnerability and how this girl who'd been raised to never show any weakness found herself wanting to do just that with Agent Ricco. And if anyone could bring out this femme fatale's softer, more submissive side, teach her some manners, and heal her deeply embedded wounds, it's this unapologetically alpha lawman!

Scintillating sexy romps aside, the soul-deep poignancy and rich emotions that were infused into the story took me a bit by surprise—in the **BEST POSSIBLE WAY!** Forging trust between these two MCs, who were on opposite sides of the law, was a pivotal theme that was explored throughout. And while it was definitely an uphill battle at times, I truly relished how it all ultimately played out, culminating in an adrenaline pumping climax and achingly sweet HEA which filled me with glee!

#### **BOTTOM LINE:**

The verdict is in: **HARD TIME** was a pure delight and proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that co-authors Jane Henry and Loki Renard are a force to be reckoned with!

Highly recommend!

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## ♥?Fantasy Land Blog Book Reviewer♥? says

I have to be honest as always :) It took me a minute to get into this story. I had to scratch my head and wonder what I had missed. But it took maybe the third chapter and I was in it. I couldn't put this book down. Loki and Jane bring a hot shot detective who has done everything he can to bring down the local mob. He knows the only way in is through the daughter.

Jasmine Francoise is the daughter of the big mob boss in their town. When Agent Rico decides to pull her over she knows she can't say a word or her family will be in big trouble. So when Rico takes her and makes her stay in his house things heat up pretty damn fast!

I loved the dynamic between Rico and Jasmine. There is so much heat between the two but with their lives they knew they had to be careful. But isn't that what makes a great book?

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### **Badh says**

Loki Renard and Jane Henry have gotten back together to give us a hard nosed, and hard palmed, FBI agent who is working on bringing down a crime family, while being madly in love with the daughter of that family.

Rico knows that the Francoise family is trouble, with the youngest member of the family, Jasmine, being the biggest problem. She's beautiful, feisty, smart, sexy, and sinful. She has a need for speed and will flirt with anything male. She's sweet and bratty all mixed up in one, and Rico knows that she's young enough to be his daughter, but that doesn't stop him from wanting her.

Jasmine knows that Rico is much older than she is and that he's on the opposite side of her family. That doesn't mean that Jasmine doesn't feel a draw towards the authoritative agent.

From the outside, it would seem that these two have nothing in common and that they wouldn't work in a relationship at all, but they really do work well. They each meet a need in the other, in the best possible way. They make each other whole, and it's beautiful to see.

I'm really interested to see what may be happening next, because it seems to be that there is a certain relationship being set up, and that would be AWESOME!

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### **B. Koe says**

COMPELLING, sensuous, and STEAMY! THE last MUST-BUY of 2018!

What an amazing story, with a twisty, turning plot and the most intriguing characters ever, "HARD TIME" captured my imagination and emotions in a magical way. Not only was I rooting for His and Her happy ending, but I felt as though the authors led me down a path quite unlike anything I expected when I started reading, "HARD TIME!" If readers are looking for a compelling story that is both totally realistic and over the top sensuous, then "HARD TIME" should be the next erotic romance read! Jasmine and Rico have a relationship based on years of interactions, that finally comes into its own when Jasmine needs the safety that

only Rico can provide! The tension level is palpable, I could not put my Kindle down! “HARD TIME” will be the last entry into the FAVORITES collection on that Kindle for 2018! I voluntarily read a copy of “HARD TIME” and this is my 4 ½ STAR review (4/4 STARS for a longer novella, and another ½ STAR because “HARD TIME” is JUST THAT GOOD and a STRONG – MUST-BUY recommendation. Let go of reality just one more time this holiday season and let the dynamic writing team of Renard and Henry take you away from reality and into a thoroughly entertaining and captivating contemporary romance. Get your copy of “HARD TIME” today! Happy pages! ?

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### **Janice Somers says**

I was so involved with the characters and wanting to see what happened between them that I just couldn't put it down until I finished. Rico, Federal Agent, and Jasmine, Mafia princess, are like the most attracted to but are as different as night and day. Rico is by the book and Jasmine does everything to break all the rules. Each time she is caught speeding, Rico is there to take her in and attempt to get her to give him information on her father and brother. But Jasmine isn't one to say anything about either one of them knowing what would happen to her.

Rico is determined to bring down both her father and brother he will go to any lengths to do it.

But in the end, he's all about Jasmine.

Jasmine's lived in a life of abuse, mental, physical, and sexually. Her father and brother would beat her for any little thing even if it wasn't her fault. Her father pimped her out to his friend and then threatened to give her to another.

The only thing that gave her the feeling of freedom was driving fast. She even liked getting pulled over by Agent Rico/Ricky.

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