



Manny Makes Three

Sean Ashcroft

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Rule #1 of being a successful male nanny: do not fall in love with the straight, single father you were hired by.

Single father Mark doesn't have enough hours in the day to both take care of his son, Dylan, and work his stressful marketing job by himself. Facing the prospect of having to leave Dylan with his aunt over the summer break, he realises that what he needs is a nanny.

Thankfully, Mannies Inc. have just the right guy for the job. Josh is qualified, good with kids, and more or less a human ray of sunshine. His resumé speaks for itself, and when he and Dylan hit it off, Mark knows he's the perfect person to hire.

Mark's never thought of himself as attracted to other men, but Josh is so warm and kind and good to him, not to mention amazing with Dylan. He finds himself drawn to the other man in a way he's never experienced before, but he's been alone for so long that he can't bring himself to care. So what if he's suddenly attracted to a man?

Josh is also struggling with his attraction to Mark, a man who represents everything he wants in life--stability, companionship, and a family of his own. He knows better than to believe that Mark would want him like that, but it's so easy to dream...

Both men have already been hurt by love, but can they open their hearts again before their doubts tear them apart? Or will their worlds prove to be too different for them to be together?

Manny Makes Three is a standalone gay romance, with a HEA and no cliffhanger. It does, however, have plastic dinosaurs, a perceptive six-year-old, explicit sex scenes, and a date at the zoo.

Manny Makes Three Details

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From Reader Review Manny Makes Three for online ebook

Bitchie says

This was ok. Can't really say much more than that. It didn't make my heart skip, or my loins quiver. The only real conflict was fear that the kid would suffer when the neighbors found out daddy was banging the manny. There wasn't even any conflict over the whole wanting a man thing.

It was all just very okay.

Tanu Gill says

This was a really sweet short story. I liked both Josh and Mark. I adored Dylan. I liked their slow-burn romance. I just didn't have the patience for the lengthy intimacy scenes. I wanted more story than erotica. Hence the 4 stars... The bonus story was cute, though. :)

Juxian says

2,5 stars.

Low-angst and conflict-free. Just as my friends' reviews said. I wanted to read something no-stress and relaxing, and I usually like nanny romance (manny romance, too). Of course, it turned out that reading a book where all the main characters are wonderful people, and treat each other wonderfully at all times, and the only problem arises from the fact that they are too selfless and caring... was quite boring. It's not that I haven't been warned. But I can't say I enjoyed the story very much. It was nicely written, though, nothing snagged, no weird sentences jumping out. I wonder if a darker, more intense book by this author would work better for me and I'm not sure the author has a darker, more intense book.

~◊~Doxni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~◊~ says

The word of the day is CUTE. This story is cute. And also a little boring. The chemistry between the MCs just wasn't there.

I needed more spark and UST for the romance to feel believable. The relationship progressed too quickly. Mark didn't have one thought about finding Josh attractive, and then BAM! they're kissing.

The dialogue was awkward, and some of the plot devices felt really contrived. I can't believe how quickly Josh and Mark were willing to give up because one woman whispered something to Josh in a parking lot (speaking of which, people can be cruel, no doubt, but that entire scenario rang false).

I did like 6-year-old Dylan (although he was kind of a stock kid character) and the very sweet & very happy epilogue.

Elsa Bravante says

Una película de sobremesa que te deja satisfecho sin exigirte mucho a cambio. Un viudo con un hijo que se enamora del niñero. No busquéis más, no ocurren grandes cosas, no es una introspección constante y no tiene una redacción que te va a embauclar. Es lo que es, resulta agradable, pero es todo tan increíble que es lo mismo que si fuera un libro de Ciencia Ficción.

Nerea says

The story is cute and no angsty BUT I didn't feel any chemistry between the Mcs :(

Jenny Wood says

I just love hot guys with kids... throw in a good manny and it's even better.

Mark was overwhelmed; having lost his wife several years ago and working so far from home, he was also trying to juggle being a single parent to his six year old son, Dylan. Deciding that asking for help wasn't a bad thing, he called Mannies Inc. for a male nanny. He didn't want his son to feel like he was replacing his mother, I liked that aspect.

When he met Josh, he thought he was pretty close to perfect. He was reassuring and great with Dylan. Dylan took to him right away as well.

Josh was great with kids, loving being a nanny. He was great with Dylan and cared about him almost immediately. He was patient and kind and he enjoyed taking care of both Dylan and his daddy. Soon, he started developing feelings for the widowed man and that would've been terrible, but Mark seemed to realize that he couldn't get by without Josh. He had feelings for him too, especially because he cared so much about his son.

There were a few ups and downs and doubts on whether they should continue a relationship....especially bigoted high-society types that thought it was a bad idea and threatened Josh, but I thought, even that was handled good enough... I mean, I would've spit in the chick's face and been as nasty to her as she was to Josh, but.... I'm also a vengeful person lol I should probably keep an eye on that.

Anyway, other than that one chick, I thought the story was sweet and hopeful and I adored the three of them as a family. Great read!

Denise H. says

***Marvelous, heartwarming and delightful ! ***

Mark, 28, and son, Dylan, 6, were doing okay, but not good enough. Since his wife died 3 years ago, Mark can't keep up with work and home.

His son deserves more than an always exhausted Dad.
Josh, 25, a Manny who has just returned from Germany

is sent to interview. He takes online classes to get his teaching degree, and loves kids. He and Dylan hit it off immediately.

Their lives settle into a blissful home life, and Mark gets quality father/son time. Dylan is in caring hands and thriving. Life was good, and then got better. Mark and Josh develop feelings for each other, deep and emotional.

Mark is completely on board with his new craving for a man, Josh.

Their sexy times are passionate, overwhelming and intense, for each man. Josh has never felt that before, and Mark knows it's love. Mark is unwavering and doesn't falter in his desire. They love each other and both love Dylan.

A mean bitch of a mother at school causes issues, but there has to be a way to squelch this vile woman's mouth.

(Be ready with tissues a few times in this marvelous story.)

Their solution had been presented, and Dylan confirmed it.

We get amazing , loving, bold characters, including Dylan. We also get an interesting tale that takes our hearts for a sweet ride.

Lovely ! Passionate ! Heartwarming !

ENJOY !

Michelle says

I was having a moment of needing a nanny story and a gay for you romance. BAM. Manny Makes Three.

Mark is struggling as a single parent after losing his wife unexpectedly. Working long hours and becoming an absent father is everything he didn't want when he was dreaming of the family he'd have with his wife. But now that it's just him and his son Dylan that is the road he is on.

Seeking out a nanny service is his only hope and when he meets Josh, he knows he'd be a perfect fit for his family. Josh can't help but see a broken man when he looks at Mark. He can see how much he's hurting after losing his wife, how he's struggling to be a good dad and not seeing that loving his son is really all that counts. Turning down the job and walking away over a little attraction isn't going to happen, not when one meeting has Mark pulling on Josh's heart strings.

This was a very cute read. Not much angst for a man who goes from being straight to developing feelings for his manny, Josh. And although I loved how sweet these two were together and how adorable they were with Dylan, the only thing that bothered me was that I felt like there was far more political messaging. I get it, there is a serious need to stifle those who do not believe in everyone's right to love who they love. But I'm reading a gay romance for fucks sake. There were so many parts of this story that pushed a very PC line on other topics. And I've read political themed romances where I've gotten less of a political feel than I did from this book.

Beyond the narrative outside of the story, I did enjoy it. I just wished that the other stuff wasn't in there that overshadowed the story and totally took my focus off what I was supposed to be reading.

Leaundra says

4.5 stars rounded up to 5...I thought this was a really sweet story. Loved Josh, Mark and Dylan was too adorable.

Manfred says

If you are looking for a story without any drama, just a nice and sweet short read, you might consider this book. It is very predictable without any surprises and honestly I feel like I read this several times before. Josh is a male nanny or a manny and when he returns from a job in Germany he meets Marc a widower who is looking for help with his 6 year old son Dylan.

There is immediately a connection and soon Josh finds himself falling in love with both of them. Of course a relationship with his employer is absolutely off limits and after Marc is straight anyhow, or is he...?

This book was In KU here in Germany, so it was a nice and free read, honestly I am not sure if I would have been willing to pay for it, but as it is, I enjoyed reading it while it lasted.

Nothing memorable but still fun and 3 stars for me .

Tais says

DNF at 25%

????????????.

Elizabeth says

This was cute and better than I expected it to be but sort of just whatever. It's cute, low angst, but there isn't really that spark or that thing that makes you really connect with the characters and the story. Drama free read with a happy ending if you're interested.

Catherine says

[the lamest, least romantic proposal and wedding ever. I mean, who wants to read a *romance novel* where the MC is too uncomfortable with public displays of affection to give his man a proper kiss at their WEDDING in front of, like, 3 people?! (hide spoiler)]

? Todd says

Okay, confession time. One of my guilty pleasures has always been the **au pair / manny trope**.

Yes, I know the story will be **incredibly sappy-sweet, with MC's that are just too perfect and loving to be true**, but I still can't resist.

This is another such read, with 30 y.o. **Mark**, who'd suddenly lost his wife three years ago, leaving him to raise his young son, **Dylan**, then becoming overwhelmed and in need of major help.

After calling Mannies Inc., 27 y.o. **Josh** steps seamlessly into their lives and becomes the missing piece to the puzzle that is Mark and Dylan's happiness.

There's the usual **slow build up to feelings**, bonding with the kid and the reclaiming of lives taken over by long hours on the job and commuting, plus a jealous busy body looking to throw a wrench into their happiness, but not much conflict outside of that.

No, the book isn't going to cure cancer, but it is **a light, fun and sticky-sweet story**, if that's what you're looking for.

And speaking of sticky, it's **moderately steamy**, plus if you read the "**Ten Years On**" companion follow-up short, you'll also see just how far newly-bisexual Mark has come in the bedroom.

Overall, I'd rate this story at **around 3.75 stars** and recommend it, if you're looking for a few feel-good moments.

*This story is available for *FREE* with a Kindle Unlimited membership.*
