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Jumping Jude: Made Marian Series Book 3



Synopsis

Jude: Reaching the top of the country music charts brings out the crazy, and there's no one crazier than my ex. Unfortunately, his threats to out me are escalating. Enter the bodyguard of my dreams. I'd probably chafe under his constant presence if his attention to my body wasn't so thorough. Now I have to worry about outing myself to millions of fans if I can't keep my hands off him in public. Derek: Now I'm an ex-Marine turned babysitter. If I have to hear Jude sing his mega-hit Bluebells one more time, I might murder him myself, and after 6 years in special ops, I know my way around a weapon. Unfortunately, so does he. Except his arsenal includes washboard abs and a killer set of pipes. I've faced guns, knives, explosives and yet it's Jude Marian who may end up bringing me to my knees. Fair warning: Jude and Derek's story contains frequent detailed scenes of man parts touching, little old ladies being inappropriate, and two lonely hearts coming together in perfect harmony. While it can also be read on its own, Jumping Jude is the third in the Made Marian series. Each book tells the story of one of the Marian brothers' search for true love. The first in the series, Borrowing Blue, is available now on .

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I occasionally do this and I apologize if you don't like me wrapping a whole series in one review. However, this one caught me by complete surprise to the point where I abandoned all the other books I was reading (and they are all by some of my favorite authors) and read straight through these three like a hot knife through butter. First of all, the characters surrounding the MCs in each book are the crazy Marian family of Northern California, a free-wheeling, loving gang of six natural siblings, five boys (three gay, but one in the closet), and one girl, Simone. Then there's Aunt Tilly, one of the great hoots of all time, and attendant members of other clans and friends of each of the MCs--this gang can definitely shoot straight, but sometimes they all miss the mark. The main theme in each book is that every single one of the MCs is terrified of commitment for good reason. In "Borrowing Blue," Blue (nee Bartholomew) Marian has just been dumped by his long-time lover Jeremy on the eve of Simone's wedding, and he is not interested in ever having another relationship. Then he meets casual a supposedly straight man named Tristan in the bar of the vineyard estate where Simone's wedding is to take place. Tristan is just coming off a bitter divorce propagated by him finding his wife entwined with...well, that would be giving away a spoiler. Needless to say, when Jeremy walks into the bar with a boy toy (he was invited to the wedding) and Tristan offers to kiss Blue to prank Jeremy, we have the beginning of a wonderful assignation during which Tristan comes to terms with the fact that he has probably always been at least bi, and Blue comes to the conclusion that this cannot and should not last. But it does, and along the way during the week-long lead up to the wedding, Blue's brother Jamie comes to town from Alaska where he, a dedicated environmental super star, had just been recently literally left at the altar by a guy named Brian, who turned out to be married. Jamie is off commitments and is also trying to escape the e-mail and voice-mail entreaties of a world-renowned wildlife photographer named Theodore Kodiak, which leads us into "Taming Teddy." Teddy will bed anyone at anytime, male or female, on the condition that both realize it's likely to be a one-off, and when he finally corrals Jamie in the second book, the slightly older man becomes besotted. To say nothing of how Jamie feels. This book has far more angst than the previous one, but the resolutions are quite remarkable. During a wild New Year's weekend in Hawaii where the whole family has escaped for another wedding, Jamie notices his country-music superstar brother Jude in a hallway being ravaged by his tall, hot, ex-Marine bodyguard Derek--which shocks him because Jude is supposed

to be straight (we know he's not because Blue tells us this secret in the first book). That brings us to "Jumping Jude," which presents us with the Jude-Derek situation, in which both are deeply closeted but in the end it's Derek who cannot force himself to come out. This leads to a major rift that lasts longer than it should because Derek--like Teddy and Blue before him--simply has his head up his ass about relationships. Each of the books has basically the same plot, but each of the MCs stand out as brilliantly constructed individuals. The covers are absolutely spot-on--you can see the family resemblance in Blue, Jamie and Jude. The sex is explosive and there are a great many sex scenes, each of which stands alone as a lead-up to the next encounter. In the end, what is implied in the author's note is that she is not done. See, the Marians became very involved in the LGBTQ community when Blue and Jamie came out, and they adopted three young gay men who are now in college--and I think Ms. Lennox has some more Marians to be made. That would be wonderful, because this is one clan I can say lives up to family values.

Squeeee!! **happy sigh** **huge grin** I love Jude Marion. I love Derek Wolfe. I love the book Jumping Jude and I am now head over heels in love with Lucy Lennox. What an awesome Christmas present this book was. What an awesome present to give yourself anytime of the year this book is. My eyes were so tired but my brain was so wired after having finished Jumping Jude last night I couldn't sleep. I was feeling all the feels and just relishing in that adrenaline rush from being excited and in love. Now this morning I realize I have a major book hangover. I can't start reading a new book yet because I can't walk away from these guys. I may need to immediately re-read. I think I'm going to re-read Borrowing Blue first though. One, because I love Blue and Tristan, but two, because I'm so excited to re-visit the parts that Jude and Derek were in now that I know what was going on with them during those scenes. If you're undecided about whether you want to spend the money on a new to you author or not all I can tell you is I've loved every book. Borrowing Blue was like meeting a new friend that you've felt like you've known forever. Taming Teddy was getting to know that person better and realizing that your feelings about that friend are real and not just the shiny of something new. Jumping Jude is falling madly in love with that friend and wanting to spend the rest of your life with them. Both MC's were so likable/lovable. Secondary characters are also a joy. There's humor, wit, tenderness, honesty, depth, consistency in writing ability. To me it's a total package. Life has been like a flock of pigeons to my new shiny clean black car lately, but when I read these stories I put all of that behind me for a bit and find myself grinning like an idiot. What else can I say?

My Review:Overall: 4.5Performance: 4.5Story: 4.5Ooh, this entire series has been great so far, but I think this has been my favorite book of the series so far.Both the guys in this story are in the closet. For Jude, he's a country music star...a career with a fan base that isn't exactly known for it's lgbtqa acceptance. On the other hand, Derek is his bodyguard and comes from a very alpha military family...also not known for its acceptance. And at the beginning of the book, neither guy is aware that the other is gay. I liked that...a lot.This story covers several months in time as these two develop in their relationship. There is a lot of stress, both from Jude's high pressure job, the crazy fans, and keeping their growing feelings secret from one another.These two guys are very different. I like that Jude is artistic and a small guy. He's an introvert who simply puts on a different persona to interact with fans. But he loves sitting around and cuddling with Derek. I loved those evenings at home when the two of them were together and just snuggling on the couch. Derek is a big ex-army guy, but he also really loves snuggling in with Jude. Seriously, these were my favorites scenes in this book.I enjoyed this audiobook. In fact, I'm enjoying the entire series. I want to just sit around and listen to the next two books that are available right now. I love the Marian clan...and this author's writing.

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