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Hard Edge



Synopsis

A captivating new standalone romance from New York Times and USA Today bestselling author Tess Oliver that's being called a 'must read'. It was strange how when things happened, they almost inevitably happened in giant cloud bursts. Grady's death had started the cloud burst, and it had been pouring rain ever since. KENNAI'd spent half my teenage years dreaming about being that girl, the girl who would finally steal the most elusive heart in town but I'd left that life behind "or so I thought. My life had been feeling pretty damn solid, but somewhere along the way, the ground beneath my feet had softened. And now--now he was there. Like a lightning bolt I never saw coming. After years of dreaming, I finally knew what real love felt like, but our relationship was fragile and I feared it would shatter easily. CADEN It seemed she'd never considered the possibility that she was a heartbreaker, that she was the type of girl who could wrap herself around your soul with just her laugh. Tragedy had reunited us. She had always been in my heart. I'd finally found my way back to the girl I loved, and I didn't want anything to get in the way of that. But my life rarely went the way I wanted. Hard Edge is a full-length, standalone novel. Contains mature content. Intended for readers 18+

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Customer Reviews

Hard Edge is about Kenna Ridley, a law student, and Caden Stratton, an army vet. Kenna is in New York in a loveless engagement when her mom calls to give her the terrible news that her best friend, Grady (Caden's half-brother), was killed in a car accident. She rushes back to her hometown of Mayfair, California. Caden gets the news from his father (Grady's father, too) while he was on vacation, and also rushes home. The moment Kenna sees Caden, all the feelings she tried to forget when Caden took off for the army came rushing back. She had been in love with Caden since they were kids but she never told him (or anyone else). What she didn't know was that both Grady and Caden loved her all those years ago. Caden hid it from his brother, figuring he wasn't good enough for Kenna, and just wanted the best for them both. Kenna and Caden spend time together, grieving their shared loss. Kenna admits to having loved Caden all this time and they explore their feelings for each other. What happens with Kenna and her fiance? What happens with Kenna and Caden? You'll have to read to find out, but I will tell you this must have been a tough one for Tess to write. The grief everyone was feeling was so palpable, my heart was breaking right along with the characters. Tess gives us another great story filled with love, sadness, funny moments, really hawt moments, and all the "feels" that I've come to look forward to in all her books.

Nothing about this book did it for me. The way they got together was awkward. Their relationship was awkward. There was a third main character throughout the entire book that we never met Bc he was dead. I didn't like this book at all. The idea of this book is great but it totally missed the mark. There was no angst, no quirky, no funny, and it wasn't steamy. It was totally bland.

I will start with saying that I did not finish this book and returned it for my money back. I have read other Tess Oliver books and enjoyed them but this one, it took me a couple of weeks to get a quarter of the way through before I gave up. The story line sounded good, two childhood friends who secretly loved each but never admitted it to each other or anyone else are other reunited years later in the wake of a tragedy. The execution was weak, they see each other and speak to each other for the first time and instantly all those old feelings of deep love are back. These are two grown adults who have had their own lives, been with other people. For Kenna she was engaged. They don't really know each other anymore, the only connection they had was through other people, and the snippets they heard about each other through that. I would have liked those feelings to

come back slowly as they got to re-know each other again. Instead the other had them jumping into bed together and talking about a relationship about the third chapter in. I don't like insta-love and even those these two have a history with each other it just seemed rushed and unbelievable. The dialogue was cheesy too, it was unrealistic and just immature for the age these characters are supposed to be. As I said I didn't finish so maybe it got better further in, but from what I did read, I would not recommend this book.

Kenna has known Caden almost all of her life; he's the brother of her best friend, Grady. Even though life has taken Kenna and Grady to different parts of the country, they remain close and always in contact. Currently Kenna is studying law in New York, living a not quite so satisfactory life with Jeremy, her fiancé. Grady is working in Wisconsin. As fate would have it, tragedy brings Kenna home to say a final goodbye to her best friend and reunites her with Caden. Secretly, Kenna has always had a crush on Caden, never thinking she could attract the biggest heart throb in town. She last saw him stepping onto a plane headed for boot camp. Caden likewise has always had a thing for Kenna, but put those feelings aside knowing Grady has always loved Kenna. He maybe many things, but he couldn't do that to his brother. Kenna and Caden share memories of growing up. Tears of a lost friend & brother and the undeniable attraction they've had for each other. Caden never thought he's good enough for Kenna, that she deserves someone better than him. He's never considered himself not good enough, not wanted and always a disappointment to his family. Kenna, smart, and unknowingly beautiful, still believes she would never be able to attract the attention of this handsome bad boy. What ensues is a sweet story of two friends who console each other at a time when they need each other the most. Our fabulous author has written the family dynamics in such away, I believe everyone can relate to; sometimes what isn't being said is just as important as what is being said. You will love the characters involved and ladies will fall in love with Caden about chapter 4!

4.5 Stars At the age of five, Kenna moved across the street from step-brothers Grady and Caden. Throughout the years, she became best friends with Grady who was the same age, and developed a major crush on Caden who was just a couple of years older. Kenna never realized that both boys had fallen in love with her, and she never admitted to anyone how strong her feelings were for Caden. After high school, Caden left for the military. A couple of years later, Kenna left for college in New York to become a lawyer and Grady left for a different college. A tragedy reunites Caden and Kenna and the two of them finally act on the feelings they've had for all those years. But nothing's

easy. They both live in other cities and have other responsibilities. Will they be able to make a relationship work? Caden was a sweetheart. He's loved Kenna all those years and never told her or Grady because he knew his stepbrother felt the same way. It about broke him to leave for the military without telling Kenna how he really felt, but he didn't believe he was good enough. Kenna was also a great character and I was glad she dumped the boyfriend in New York regardless. The chemistry between Caden and Kenna was intense, but you felt how strong it was and could tell it had been there for years. Hard Edge is a standalone story told in dual POVs with a happy ending.

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