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Play Hard (Make The Play Book 2)



Synopsis

I work hard. I study hard. I play hard. I've always wanted to pitch in the major leagues, and I've spent my entire life pursuing it with singular focus. I'm one season away from graduation, from leaving to play college ball, and one step closer to living my dream. But then one kiss—a single kiss—changes everything. It's a kiss I don't want. A kiss I don't expect. From a girl I barely know. Taylor Kinney is edgy. Tough. But I see her in a moment of weakness, feel her desperation and need when her lips touch mine. It's the kind of kiss that turns the world on its axis, the kind of kiss that overshadows every kiss prior to it. And it's the kind of kiss that has the potential to throw all my plans out the window. Because all I want to do is protect her, keep her safe. Even if it means putting myself in danger. Even though she repeatedly pushes me away. I play hard in school, I play hard in baseball, and I play hard in life. And I plan to play hard for her. No matter the cost.

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Customer Reviews

What a great 2nd book in the series. You see bits of Cal's character in Play Safe, but pulling back

the layers in Play Hard, you find his heart. He a protector of his sister and a friend to Chris... But to Taylor he becomes both. It's a beautiful story. I loved Taylor's fight and how "different" she was, but I also loved that she learned maybe that all the "differences" weren't really her, but maybe she was someone in the middle of those things. Great story. You can never go wrong with Amber Garza. I think she writes relatable characters and makes them come to life. I haven't read a single book by her I didn't love. I want more Emmy and Chris and more Cal and Taylor. I could use 3 books about each! I want to know their journey and where they end up. Classy and beautiful, as always.

I love the book, one reason being that it caught my attention, i couldn't stop reading until i knew her big secret. I love books with twists.

A sweet story for someone who want to read a great love story without all the sex part in it.

Any fan of Amber knows that there are a few things you can expect in her books. One - she's not afraid to deal with difficult or hard subjects, Two - typically her heroine's are the virginal type and Three - a christian undertone. Play hard hits two of the three typical's for Amber. Play Hard addresses some difficult subject and has the christian undertone BUT this time the heroine isn't so virginal (THANK GOD!!). I'm going to jump on my soapbox for a moment and state that the whole Manw*re/Virgin trope is tired and over used. I'm all for a reformed bad guy but why can't the girl play some too? I'm tired of authors making it like the heroine has to be pure or shes less than and I'm tired of every hero having to sleep with the whole female population to be cool. Ultimately I don't want my hero or my heroine to be hooking up with numerous people BUT I do want it to be somewhat realistic and have the leads on level ground. Now, back to the book. I enjoyed this book more than the first in this series. I didn't exactly have that high of an opinion of Cal after reading the first book but this one did earn him some love. He proved that he didn't have to fall in with the "in crowd" and proved his affection for Taylor. While some of his actions weren't exactly believable (no teenage guy would EVER do some of the things he did) I did like how he fell for, treated, and respected Taylor. Taylor was a hurt girl and she was paying for her actions. She faced the consequences the best she could. She had a lot of anger in her and it was portrayed in a realistic fashion. I had a lot of respect for Taylor. I also enjoyed that Taylor's aunt and uncle weren't portrayed as "over the top" Christians. I feel that their beliefs were represented well and as with Taylor in a very believable fashion. Cal and Taylor coming together was a beautiful story and even though the ending left you with some unanswered questions (hopefully we will get them answered in

the next book) I do believe that they are together for the long run. Amber did a great job at showing the love and RESPECT they had for each other. This is a book that I would recommend for teenagers more so than the first one as this one deals with the more realistic subject while showing that there are consequences for those actions.

So Taylor is 16 and moves to a new town to live with her aunt & uncle. While before she had friends and a boyfriend now she doesn't have anyone really. So when the star pitcher of the high school baseball team takes notice in her she has no choice but to let him no matter how hard she pushes him away. Cal is the star pitcher of the Prairie Creek baseball team. He could have any girl he wants but instead goes after the new shy, quiet girl. What he doesn't expect is for her to have a big life changing secret. Great read that makes you feel so many emotions! But you can't help but fall in love with Cal and Taylor. Yeah by the time you get through your wishing things would have turned out a little differently but this is still a great book and a great series!!

This is the second book in the series. I loved the first one so much that I was nervous when I started this one. But honestly, I think I might have liked it more and that shocked me. As I am finding out with Amber's books, there are twists in all of her books and this is no different. This book is about Emmy's brother Cal and the new girl that comes to school, Taylor. Taylor has a big secret. They are from different worlds but have undeniable chemistry. Again, the characters are so well written. Plus you get to see a continuation of Emmy and Chris's relationship from the first book.

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