



The Good Boy

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Introverted college student Lane Moredock is in a bad place. His mother has been arrested for securities fraud, his father is on the run, and everyone, including the SEC, suspects Lane knows where the missing millions are. Lane, with no money and nowhere to live, makes a desperate deal that lands him in trouble and leaves him unwilling to trust a so-called Dom again.

Photographer Derek Fields lost money to the Moredocks, and is as sure as anyone that Lane is guilty despite his claims. A chance meeting with Lane shows him there might be something more to the young man than arrogance and privilege, and Derek wonders if Lane might be just what he's been looking for: a sub with the potential to be a life partner.

As Lane slowly begins to open up to Derek and explore his needs as a submissive, the investigation closes tighter around him. Lane might be everything that Derek wants, but first Derek needs to trust that Lane is innocent—and Lane needs to trust Derek with the truth.

Contains BDSM, some puppy play, and a very obnoxious macaw!

The Good Boy Details

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From Reader Review The Good Boy for online ebook

Heller says

[I don't believe

Bev says

For starters, I must stress that this book is very well written. The fact that I didn't like it as much as 'The Island' is squarely on my shoulders. I loved most of the characters, Lane in particular, and most of the time, I just wanted to hug him and tell him everything would turn out OK. Derek was also a really good character, suspicious of Lane at the beginning in view of the crime that Lane's parents had perpetrated, but finally realising that Lane had had nothing to do with it, and was just as much a **victim** of theirs as everyone else.

I'm not going to go into the 'ins and outs' of the plot in this review, Monique in particular has done that very well, and Emma has explained the 'puppy play' kink in depth, and I was very grateful for that, not having previously understood it....**but** I can see how it would work for some people....it does appear to be therapeutic rather than sexual, and I would guess that for people whose levels of self-esteem are so rock bottom as to be practically non-existent, it would be extremely helpful.

I loved Ferg and Brin, although Brin was a real bitch to Lane at first (and yes I know that sounds stupid....how can a man be a bitch, but you know what I mean!!) and I wanted to give him a real good kick in the 'nads, but after he decided that none of what had happened was Lane's fault, he started to treat Lane like a younger brother. Derek's mum Erin and his sister Christy were also excellent secondary characters, and the dogs at the sanctuary were also good as secondary characters. My **star** of the book of course was Mr Zimmerman, the macaw from hell, and his (it's) outbursts were awesome, crude and so funny. The book's principal bad characters were of course Lane's parents, and a more cold, calculating and thoroughly objectionable and unpleasant pair you couldn't wish to meet. It also has to be said that Acton Wagner, whom Lane thought he could turn to for help, was sadistic in the extreme (and yes, you'll have to read the book to find out why), and if he hadn't shot himself, I would have done it for him!!

To sum up, I did like this book, and as I've already said, the quality of the writing was evident in every page, but for me, it wasn't as enjoyable as 'The Island'.

Kat says

Rumor has it there are puppies in this book.<3

So I'm not going to beat around the bush here: this is my least favorite Lisa Henry to date (not familiar with J.A. Rock's work YET, so I can't comment on it). The slow build up, fits and starts, interspersed with a flashback chunk, a sudden miraculous wrap-up and a sugary epilogue, failed to draw me in. Besides, I normally love Henry's MCs to pieces...until now. Until Lane. My problem with Lane wasn't that he's such a typical victim. I get the 'why's'. But it was too much for me. Way too much. Again and again, his angst was shoveled down my throat ("Please don't judge me, please don't reject me, please don't hurt me"). To a point where I just wanted to lock the weakling up in a bench with the other lap dogs and a baby monitor, down a bottle of wine and run off to dance the night away. And here I thought I was more the nurturing type...

Overall, a miss for me because puppy play is not my kink (YMMV), I didn't feel any chemistry between the MCs, and Lane had more chemistry with a shy dog called Andy than with his love interest.

Buddy read with the awesome Anna (Bananas!).

Emma Sea says

Hey, let's talk about the puppy play in here, k? Because Lilia Ford and Monique both already did big raves over this book. It's sweet and good, it's mild Domestic Discipline with some inventive tools, and I liked it a lot.

But the notion of puppy play might put you off. Plainbrownwrapper makes some really good points by saying that puppy play involves "*humiliation and dehumanization . . . And yes, it is dehumanization, by definition, no matter how "cute" it may be written*".

I do view the puppy play in this a little differently. Although, clearly, Derek calls Lane "pup" a few times, to me Derek and Lane's play is about *non-verbal* play, rather than framing a human as something other than human.

In feminist psychoanalytic theory there's this concept called the *chora*: a pre-linguistic state. When we are born, we cannot talk, and we don't yet realise that we, the bit that is *us*, is separate from everything else. All is *us* and we are all. Our experience is sensations, and emotions, and needs. As we get older we start to use words at exactly the same time that we grapple with the idea that *me* is a thing that is separate from *you* and *that*. It's a sense of profound loss, and it's all tied up in our heads with the acquisition of language. We have to take the all-encompassing *us-ness*, and *code* it into a form for others to understand; these pale things called words. We pretend language frees us, but really, it enslaves us. There will always be a gap between what we can say, and what is inside, and it's one reason for the pain and loneliness that is the human condition. Language lets us be with others at the same time as it isolates us.

The "puppy play" that Derek and Lane engage in isn't Derek treating Lane like a dog; instead it is Lane attempting to find the *chora*. It is Lane's release and comfort; achieving closeness by playing in a space

where words are no longer used. Lane returns to something primordial and loving, where sensation does the communicating; where touch and sight do the talking.

Words have failed Lane; they let him down and make others misapprehend and misinterpret him.¹ The non-verbal play lets Lane bypass the treachery of words and allows his body to speak for him: so he can tell Derek those very needs and sensations and desires that we all have such trouble sharing.

The puppy play isn't dehumanizing Lane, it is empowering him.²

I don't think it's coincidence that the authors note Lane licking Derek's hand, neck, face, body, and Derek licking and biting Lane's nipples. These men are returning to this preverbal space, to an exchange of bodily fluids - of *wetness* - that is the very thing our nice, controlled, clean, sterilized world frowns on. To maintain closed bodily boundaries is the essence of what it is to live in a linguistic world, and why sex is more disturbing than murder to many people.

So, if the words "puppy play" squick you out, it's just not like that.

And also, for more on the *chora* check out Julia Kristeva's *Powers of Horror: An Essay on Abjection*, which is an awesome book.

¹ Henry and Rock are pretty clever about this. Lane's parents' lawyer has told him "*There are only two words you need to know . . . No comment.*"

What ends the wholeness and completeness of the *chora* is The Law of the Father; the turning of the pre-linguistic into the coded, the felt into the spoken. This loss *creates* both desire, and the regulation of desire. At the same time, to become a subject, and not an object, we need the Law.

In *The Good Boy* the Law(yer) of the Father is what cuts Lane off from everyone. In what is nearly the ultimate reduction of thought to word, The Law(yer) of the Father has reduced Lane's verbal expression to two words: no comment. The Law of the Father reduces a universe of fear and loneliness and sorrow and anger and regret to three syllables. This encoding can never function to explain and save Lane. He is the logical extension of the autonomous subject: he lacks all interdependence. Lane has no-one and nothing.

There's no way this is coincidence. In my head is a review of Henry's *Dark Space* that I really need to get down on paper some time, and she does the same thing there; play with philosophical concepts to make a story that is far more satisfying than average m/m fare.

² Derek frames this as puppy play because dealing with scared, unloved dogs is within his realm of experience. Outside of the non-verbal play, the extent of the puppy-ness is (view spoiler)

Debra says

Twenty year old college student Landon Moredock has been used and abused by those he trusted. His mother is in jail and his father has abandoned him and left him to fend off the press and the Feds after they are

accused of stealing money through their financial firm. The press has vilified him as the heir to the empire and accused him of being in on the scheme and the family friends who lost money have turned their backs on him. He is penniless, homeless and confused.

Derek, a 37 year old photographer, is one of the people who lost money in the Moredock scheme. He also believes in Landon's guilt and when he briefly sees him at a party in a compromising position, he is even more convinced that the boy is just what the press has portrayed him as. After a couple of chance meetings however, Derek is wondering if things aren't exactly what he thought. Derek gives Lane a chance to work as his assistant during a charity shoot for an animal shelter and he slowly begins to learn the truth behind the stories.

My heart broke so many times for Lane. He suffered significant abuse by someone he trusted and his parents had little use for him other than when it suited their needs. Lane is hurting both physically and emotionally, and is confused by what he wants from Derek in light of what happened to him with family friend Acton. Of course the BDSM in this book will not be for everyone, but I understood the comfort Lane was seeking from the puppy play and thought it fit well with the story.

While there is a lot of darkness in the story, the secondary characters were brilliant. Friends Ferg and his bratty sub Brin, Derek's family and Mr. Zimmerman, the foul mouthed macaw, all add much needed humor. A highly recommended read.

Vivian says

I don't know if I like the story as much as I like the emotions it elicited.

There is an aching here that is so deep it hums through the book. There are no perfect characters here; they're all humanly flawed. You can dissect them; praise this and rant about that--but humans are beautiful contradictions. That is one of the fundamental aspects of this story that I enjoyed most. That and the blessed humor to diffuse the tension: Mr. Zimmerman and Brin deserve a nod.

Watching Lane reminds of the fish tank I had as a child, we'd catch the fish and bring them home--occasionally a fish would jump out. You'd scoop it up in your hands and put it back in only to come back hours later and see that it did it again. I've buried a lot of fish, but it's the ones I got to before they expired--gasping for breath, twitching on the floor their wide eyes starting to dry that I almost could talk to, to feel their desperation. I tried to make them happy, but I failed.

Derek doesn't fail. Lane is that fish and Derek knows just how to make him happy. It isn't anything external, but Lane's psyche that he connects with that makes everything else unimportant.

In summary, if you can relate to the quote I selected then you'll feel this story.

Favorite quote:

“No matter what you think about what you deserve,” Derek said finally, “you are loved.”

Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

4.5 stars

I once watched a special on fetishes on National Geographic that featured couples living in alternative sexual lifestyles. One that really jumped out for me was the puppy play couples. This was *puppy play*. The girl slept in a cage, had these little padded hand and knee thingies, and had a muzzle on the whole time. It was... extreme. (link for all of those interested <http://channel.nationalgeographic.com...>).

I thought that this book was going to be THAT kind of puppy play. I avoided this book for a long time because of it.

When I finally got around to reading this book I was shocked at how little puppy play factored into their actual relationship. I mean, there are times when the couple get their puppy play on but I would call it, like puppy-play-lite. It was very palpable, even for a person who isn't turned on at all by this particular kink.

What did I think about this book? Honestly, this book was a very dark read for me. It featured abuse and had a very somber tone. The sex, when it did occur, was not particularly erotic (for my tastes) because it is so colored by deep emotional turmoil. What made this book a standout for me was the exceptional writing. These two authors had an outstanding collaboration. The writing was just exactly right. It conveyed the mood and the characters' mental state perfectly. As with all books that I love, I felt completely present in the story.

Another excellent book by these two authors. Thank you for making Lane and Derek's fetishes so accessible that they felt natural and beautiful.

Vio says

3.5 stars

I was initially wary about reading The Good Boy because of the puppy play, a major sticking point and why I kept it on the back burner, for so long. Finally I dived in Emma soothed me and Leanne convinced me, with delicious.:D All my friends know I'm not a big lover of BDSM and some of the kinks that come with it, surprisingly the puppy play wasn't as bad or prolonged as I'd imagined. It was okay and its use was very comforting. In saying that, I am sure it will never be the sort of play I can enjoy. I understand it, did I like it, find it erotic? No. I've realised that I have become terribly picky of late, maybe even a tiny bit jaded.:(:

Lane, poor darling Lane broke my heart, his defence system is silence. What he wants to say and what comes out are two different things. I don't understand why this sweet, bewildered and frightened sweetie was thrown to the wolves, I felt like bashing a few heads together in my frustration. I was in a rage, I don't get it, why him? Lane wouldn't hurt a fly and he's clearly innocent, why did everyone else have trouble getting the picture? The FBI were a bunch of useless pricks and everyone else involved in this sordid mess.

The complete abandonment and isolation from his greedy parents, lawyers and friends was unbelievable, I guess the naive son is the perfect pawn. The icing on this sad cake was Acton the ~~trusted~~ fucked up family

friend, the evil and despicable bastard who's ruination becomes Lane's, paying a horrific price for his parents misdeeds. Also Stephen coming to rescue at the last minute was a stretch, after the ignored calls from his son he suddenly develops a conscience because Derek guilt's him into It.? I didn't believe that for a minute, the storyline was not something I enjoyed reading about and Lane's situation was difficult and tragic.

It wasn't all bad, I loved Derek and Lane's relationship the hurt/comfort, the patience and slow pace. I believed it and if ever I wanted a Dom it would be Derek hands down. The gentleness and love worked for me, I wanted to hug and kiss Derek so much. The secondary characters were a joy, Brin the twinkly brat and Mr Zimmerman stole the show with their outrageous and inappropriately, hilarious comments. Loved, loved, loved them. I think what I really missed was that zing and spark of sexuality, this was more of a therapy love relationship than an erotic, sexual feast. That's how I felt about it and as other friends have already said, the focus is more about healing, trust, respect and liberation. Great writing and characters, my issue was I didn't love the story.

Julio Genao says

I'm in agony, over here.

I decided a while back that I didn't want to be one of those people whose ratings become useless by dint of being uniformly positive. I want my stars to mean something. To be taken as a true measure of my esteem.

Or lack thereof.

Fuck—that sounds awful. This is difficult to explain.

Lemme start again.

I can tell you that this book is very, very smart, and frequently funny, and much darker than you'd think; I can tell you it's sexy as hell, but also savagely poignant, and that it may make you cry; I can tell you that many, many people love it, and that the reasons I don't have nothing to do with the reasons why you might.

I could say those things—because all of those things are true.

But I'll say this, instead:

I have never admired a book I didn't enjoy as much as I admire this one.

Read this book, and then visit with Emma—in Goodreads beast-mode—as she brilliantly dissects the genius of the puppy-play device as deployed therein.

People say Brin stole the show, but I disagree.

That honor goes to Mr. Zimmerman, whose happy habit of exclaiming things like 'Syphilitic whore!' made

me giggle like a delinquent any number of times.

Read the comments for an explanation as to why you saw this review in your feed 80 times, today.

Feel free to avail yourself of the opportunity to razz me for being a ninny.

I'm friends with Ayanna. I'm used to it.

Jenni Lea says

For those of you who have been privy to my reviews, you may have noticed a trend throughout all of them. I don't tell you what a particular book was about. That's not who I am. No, I tell you how that story made me *feel*.

That being said, I'm not sure what I feel about this book. I'm not sure what emotion was evoked from reading this story, mostly because my emotions were all over the place. There were parts where I laughed, parts that infuriated me, parts that made me cry and parts that left me with a stupid grin on my face. I can tell you that I didn't much care for the setting of the book, but I was absolutely enthralled by the relationship between Lane and Derek. It moved at a pace that felt very real to me. Their reactions to each other felt real to me. This wasn't the same old trope you read about in most books. Lane wasn't magically healed and bursting with self confidence by the end of the book. All their problems and worries weren't conveniently solved in the epilogue. It was a long road that Lane is still traveling in order to go from being a victim to becoming a survivor. As scary as the thought is, I could easily envision this happening in real life. Not the rich kid getting framed (kinda) by his parents part, but the abuse and the emotional neglect and the path taken to overcome the consequences of the abusers' actions.

I know that I felt a tremendous amount of grief for what Lane had been through, not just with Acton, but throughout his entire life. To me, Stephen was more of a villain than Acton was. As a parent I know that the people in my life who trust me the most are my children and to betray their trust would be just about the worst thing I could ever do. I also felt a fierce protectiveness towards Lane. He was just so incredibly broken and didn't have the tools to "fix" himself. Luckily, that is where Derek comes in. I felt true admiration for Derek and how he handled the entire situation. He wasn't perfect but that made it so much better. I could relate to him *because* of his imperfections. If he had all the answers I think it would have ruined the story for me. But because he made mistakes and - here's the important part - owned up to them the story was much more believable.

All in all, I enjoyed this book immensely and look forward to reading more from both authors.

Oh, and I adored the secondary characters too. All of them, but especially Mr. Zimmerman. ♥

Baba says

2.5 to 3 stars. Review posted February 9, 2016

Overall just an ok read for me. To be fair, I wasn't in my best mood when I read The Good Boy, though I tried to be a *good girl* and finish the book which I did - by the skin of my teeth no less. Given the fact that I skimmed so much, it says something about my being invested in the story. Not.

I'm definitely not into the silly puppy play *shudder* and I couldn't for the life of me bring myself to like Lane. Empathizing with him wasn't easy either - I guess I just kept it within a limit too. He was terribly naïve, needy and so bloody clueless. I'm sorry but he's just not my kind of hero. I remember that I didn't particularly like him in the sequel either.

What I enjoyed

The good writing and Mr. Zimmerman, the cheeky and funny little fucker. I also liked the flamboyant Brin.

Pre-reading The Good Boy

This ebook as well as The Boy Who Belonged have been gifted to me by Lisa Henry back in March 2015. I only read The Boy Who Belonged, so it's time to give the first one a shot.

Lisa Henry says

** Review by the author **

So, I'm not actually going to review a book I wrote. I will say this: the bits you laugh the hardest at were probably written by J.A. Rock.

If you read it, I hope you like it.

But if you want to ask me anything about The Good Boy, here's the place to do it.

Monique says

***Note added to end of review re- the puppy play element of the story ~ for those that may be put off by that aspect.**

5 Un-bloody-believably-brilliant and emotional stars... the first collaboration between Lisa Henry and J.A. Rock and I want more

I have been looking forward to this book for a few weeks now, loved the synopsis and had a whole load of cover lust going on, and after reading some pretty emotional books recently, this looked perfect. Most of my friends know I love the darker side of the m-m genre with plenty of kink and lots of smut... again this looked perfect! However this book was sooo not what I was expecting, it was gut wrenchingly emotional and tore my heart to shreds, the prose had me so absorbed and invested in not only the two MC's but a whole cast of characters that had me both laughing and crying. I literally couldn't put this book down, the underlying plot was excellent and very well developed to the point where I was ready to dish out some of my own brand of pain to such selfish, materialistic self centred parents... Grrr!!!

Landon Moredock is alone and lost with only \$6.75 to his name, with no friends, his Mother arrested and his father on the run, he is thrown out of his family home by the FBI and is living in a dirty, cheap, ant infested motel and hounded by the press. The media portrays him as a rich playboy, the spoilt and over indulged son of security fraudsters, convinced that Lane knows where the money is, and is in fact hiding it in offshore accounts... but they couldn't be further from the truth, Lane was as much a victim of his parents greed as all the others they had swindled out of their life savings and investments.

Turning to a family friend Acton Wagner for help he is coerced into making a terrible decision, Acton took advantage of his predicament and used Lane's trust and vulnerability against him. Acton himself had been burned by Lane's parents and all that anger and hate was focused on a boy that only wanted to be loved and cared for.

Derek Fields is a photographer yet another victim of the scam and has every reason to hate Landon, and he like everyone else is convinced the boy knows more than he is letting on. Only Derek starts to feel compassion towards Lane... and his innocence, demeanour, all the things that scream sub call to his inner Dom to care and look after him despite his reservations, but it was more than that, he wanted to protect him.

Derek is a lonely, slightly disillusioned with life and a Dom without a sub, not interested in the club scene and at 37 he really just wants someone to share his life with. Lane at 20 is young and badly damaged by not only his parents but also his experience with Acton. Growing up he was thrown into a world he was unable to cope with, the money and status were all his parents dreams and not his own, Lane was an introvert wanting to be inconspicuous, nervous and panicked at any attention. He was lost... never having the love and affection of his parents, he just wants to be loved and his body craves something his mind doesn't fully understand.

The relationship between these two was incredibly beautiful, Lane just broke my heart and Derek was patient and understanding slowly coaxing him out of his shell, showing him what it is like to be loved, all endorsed by Derek's amazing family and friends and slowly dispelling Lane's misconceptions of BDSM. Involving Lane in his work, his sisters menagerie of shelter animals also helped as he could connect with the animals that were unwanted.

"I wish there was a way to tell him I'm not abandoning him" Lane said. "But he won't know. He'll miss me, and he'll wonder why I don't come back. Dogs don't know, do they? I remember reading this story when I was a kid, about a guy who went to war and got killed, and his dog waited for him at the railway station for years." His voice cracked. "Dogs don't understand"

This book is not a sex fest, in fact there is no sex until the last third of the book. There are some pretty brutal acts and although they are off page and a recollection, they still made me want to do some serious damage, also the BDSM is not an inherent part of the book, there is some spanking and mild puppy play but no club scenes or hard core BDSM play... Lane had been abused and Derek's first and only concern was for Lane's welfare and safety. This is more about trust, earning it and deserving it. It was about learning to accept and acknowledge a desire as a positive rather than something perverse and how forgiveness and understanding go a long way to help heal a boy that blamed himself for the deeds of others.

If this is the first collaboration from Lisa Henry and J.A. Rock then I am hoping they get their heads together like NOW and start writing some more. This is an excellent book and their writing skills are showcased to perfection, seamlessly woven together and I couldn't tell you where one began and the other ended. I fell in love with them and the amazing characters they created.

I would just like to add if you are not a person that is happy about the puppy play in this book, which to me was more a therapeutic exercise than a sexual one please see Emma's review she describes it to perfection.

This ARC was provided courtesy of Loose Id for a fair and honest review

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Elizabetta says

4.956 glowing stars

This is amazing and magical and very nearly perfect and I ate it up.

There is a lot of hurt in 20 year-old Lane, his world has fallen apart, he's been abandoned by his criminal parents, universally blamed for something he didn't do, and mentally and physically fucked-over by a family 'friend'. He is also a text-book newly awakened Sub in need of a strong hand. He needs structure, decisions made for him and limitations set; he's always been this way but he never knew what it was he needed to feel 'normal'. What he gets with the older Derek is an experienced, gentle yet assertive Dom who can show him the way, who's willing to give him comfort AND rock his world. Once they work through the initial distrust and anger over other issues, these two move into something truly special. The magic here is in how the authors sculpt two irresistibly likable protagonists and make us care for what happens to them.

It seems that I have to talk about the puppy-play given that it's gotten much attention and may have the potential to put people off. I'm hoping that this won't be the case because this story is so much more than that. The play is handled in an almost delicate way --

It is consensual and acted out with love, not hurt in mind. Lane initiates it and Derek, surprised by it and new to it, works to figure out how to give him ***what he's asking for and needs***. It's something they both ***fall into***. It is not about ugly humiliation, in fact it adds a frisson of excitement for Lane who is still skittish about but drawn to his awakening darker desires.

It is therapeutic, a means for Lane to open up to trusting Derek. And it sets up one of the most hypnotically

erotic scenes that I can remember reading in a long time (view spoiler). Here, we learn Derek's real strength as a perceptive, inventive Dom (view spoiler). He doesn't stalk about throwing his macho weight around, he's a man of quiet certainty. Kudos to the writers!

We're given a great cast of well-drawn secondary characters: Christy and Erin, Derek's supportive sister and mother; Ferg and Brin, another D/s couple and friends (Brin, also Derek's flamboyant ex, was hilarious but a little too over-the-top at times, and by the end we've grown to love him too.). Rounding out the inmates are a menagerie of damaged animals, residents of the animal shelter run by Derek's sister. An abused dog named Andy bonds with Lane and a potty-mouthed macaw named Mr. Z adds a lot of laughs. It's easy to make the correlation between Lane's finding solace in caring for these animals and his own 'rehabilitation' at Derek's hands.

**"Good boy, Derek said. "Still? Lane asked hesitantly. Derek squeezed Lane's hand.
"Always."**

Earlier, I said nearly perfect -- I have a small nit-pick with the writing... Am I being greedy by wanting the 'pay off' between Lane and Derek a little sooner and with a lot less 'chatter/inner musing'? Hey, this comes from someone who **loves** drawn out UST and the taut, friction-y, circling mating dance between two people in lust... Here and there, as the story progresses are more patches of that 'inner dialogue' or 'telling' dragging the flow. Whenever I get to a clog I think that this clever writer could have figured out a better way to package this information...or, just left it out altogether. A little goes a long way, less is more.

In spite of the above-mentioned whine, I thoroughly enjoyed this read, it is seductive, it is crafty and well-crafted. Borrowing from the RL Bernie Madoff ponzy scandal was a clever touch and the character sculpting was simply wonderful. Getting back to another important ingredient, 'The Good Boy' has some of the scorchy-est sex scenes to hit my Kindle (I'm talkin' panties. in. a. twist. Scorch.). Kindle afterglow. Don't let the puppy stuff dissuade from this sweet, smart, sexy romance.

Amy says

5 huge stars from me! I loved it!! Oh Lane, my heart broke for you from the very beginning. Abandoned by everyone, especially your family who should always have your back. Forced to give up your spoiled rich boy lifestyle, living in a fleabag motel with six dollars to your name, wearing clothes you got from the thrift store. Making a last ditch effort to reach out to the one person you thought was still in your corner, only to find out he wasn't. My heart hurt for him. He was so broken, so unloved, and convinced he deserved everything he got.

And then there's Derek, a 38 year old Dom with a struggling photography business. I loved him because he's not the stereotypical Dom we so often read about. He's worried about his age and the fact that he hasn't found someone to spend his life with. He's worried about the \$15k he lost in the scam pulled off by Lane's parents. He has fears and insecurities like everyone else and I adored him.

The supporting cast was amazing! I loved Brin something fierce (and his bag Vera!). And I just discovered he has his own novella, The Naughty Boy. You can bet I'm moving on to that next. Ferg, Christy, Erin and Mr. Zimmerman the inappropriate parrot – I want to hang out with them all. We should all go out for Triple

Tuna Tacos at the Taco Hub!

One of my favorite reads of 2013!
