



Bartender, PI

Ethan Stone

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When hockey star Linc Carpenter is banned from playing his beloved sport, he starts over slinging drinks in Tampa. He's inept as a bartender, so when the opportunity arises to train as a private investigator he takes it. He's not very good at that either, but he still manages to get hired to follow fashion mogul Quentin Faulkner. While Linc's incompetence proves to be a hindrance, Brady Williams, Faulkner's studly bodyguard, may prove to be his undoing.

Despite Linc's incompetence, Brady is drawn to him but that stupidity may be just what's needed to solve the case and save their lives.

Second Edition. A scene of approximately 2,000 words was added.

Bartender, PI Details

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From Reader Review *Bartender, PI* for online ebook

Ije the Devourer of Books says

I needed this. I needed a lighthearted story which would make me laugh and this book did it for me, loud, belly laughs!

Linc the main character is more brawn than brains but still manages to 'solve the mystery' and get the guy. This was a nice read, amusing and fun with a romance that bubbled away at just the right temperature.

Favourite quote:

'I guess we should discuss the elephant in the room' Brady said. 'I didn't understand what he meant, but was afraid to admit it. If there was an elephant on the boat we would have sunk ...'

♥Laddie♥ (Lee Lee) says

It's Funny Haha!

This book was exactly what I wanted. Lately I seem to gravitate toward the stories with little-to-no sex in them. Why? Because there's more STORY in those books. *Bartender, PI* pretty much has no sex in it. It's fluffy, silly, entertaining fun that had me snickering like third grader who just heard someone fart in class. Good times.

Linc Carpenter gets caught boffing the wrong guy and it leads to him being banned from playing professional hockey. Linc collects his severance check and heads down to his mentor and oldest friend's bar. Soon Linc's a bartender and making people bad drinks, like Long Island Iced Teas with tomato juice in them (Oops!). Then something great happens! Linc finds out that his mentor, Tyson, is a PI and Tyson agrees to train Linc to be a PI too.

Linc's doing the boring work until, While Tyson's out of town, he gets a case where a rich woman wants proof that her famous husband is cheating. This is where the fun begins.

Linc is a totally sweet guy who's a little dim but has a big heart and a bigger personality. He likes soap operas, is full of life and being in his head for the duration of the book just made me want to hug the stuffing out of him. Linc uses words that are almost but not quite right and he mixes metaphors as badly as he mixes drinks. The humor in this book is not witty or dry; it's pretty close to slapstick but I giggled throughout the whole thing and was left smiling when the book ended.

When Linc Tries to catch his client's husband, Quentin, cheating he comes up with schemes that you just know are going to go wrong. And, oh, they go hilariously wrong. One of the reasons is that Linc is foiled each time by Quentin's bodyguard, a muscle bound, red haired stud by the name of Brady.

Oh, man, did I like Brady! A big, ginger hottie with a face full of freckles. Brady decides that he likes Linc and he wants the man for more than just sex. I liked that. I liked that a lot and I thought it was sweeter than sweet.

And then there's the climax of the story. It was a little messed up but I have to say that I laughed my ass off. In another story I would have been like "Oh, that's not even right" but in the confines of this quirky little tale that crazy scene somehow worked.

All in all, I liked this story a whole lot and if it were to become a series, well, I'd be a happy camper. If you're looking for silly and are thinking of giving this story a try then I'd say go for it.

namericanwordcat says

2.5 Stars

This is a ridiculous book. It is slap stick funny.

The opening scene is crass and the hero isn't too bring.

And yet... lol ...it was a silly, shallow, quick read that I enjoyed.

Td says

Frackin' hilarious! Keeping up with Linc's train of thought and deciphering "Linc-ese" was too much fun. Quotes, there were lots!

"Are we becoming friends or something" Brady said. "I don't want to talk about Mexico. Sit on the bed."

"Sorry, I just tend to be a bit curious."

"You know what curiosity did to the cat."

"No, I don't. What cat?"

"Are you fucking with me?"

"Ummm," I replied. "I don't think so."

He looked at me for a minute. "It's an old saying - curiosity killed the cat."

"Killed what cat? How did it die?"

"Lord, Rainbow Brite, you are a cute one."

Ha! Even with the nature of the story, the end there got a bit too on the unbelievable side, but who cares? I had a blast!

Bubbles Huntly Honest & Direct Opinions says

Warning: If you have not read my other reviews and don't know what peeves me then you shouldn't read this. If you do read this but don't really know me than don't use it to decide whether not to read the book ... and as always this is just my opinion.

`~~`

I hated the beginning of this. Like completely hated, so if you have similar tastes as me skip the prologue and first two chapters. It's a simple story and you won't miss anything by skipping them. I'll spoiler them for you if you're curious but I know I would have enjoyed the story a lot more if I would have started on chapter three.

(view spoiler)

After all that the story did take off and I did enjoy it. Sadly I was just starting to warm up to the MC and then it was over. I would read more about them though because once I warmed up to the MC he was very funny and even kind of sweet.

Brady was awesome but sadly this was too short to really get to know him. Still liked him right away and he was probably why I kept reading.

And OMG I loved Belvedere, the butler! Best character and just loved! He reminded me of RuPaul. When he is leading Brady and the MC he says:

"Please walk this way."

He turned around and walked as if he had a broken leg, dragging it behind him.

We followed him but he turned around and glared at us.

"I said *walk this way*,"

On **Drag U** at the beginning Rupaul always does that when he is leading the boy-ladies off the stage. If you don't know what Drag U is it's a show where Rupaul takes three genetic couturely-deficient women and has a fabulous drag queen give them a makeover. Then they compete against each other to see who got the biggest/best makeover. (ETA: Tina said this was actually a Young Frankenstein reference. That makes sense, since Ru sashays he doesn't drag a dead leg. I read this wrong but like the way I read it),

Back to the book; this is a very funny story and totally worth reading, just if you're like me, start on Chapter three.

-Bubbles Out

Feliz says

Aside from being the narrative voice, Linc is clearly the main focus here, stealing the show from anybody else. He's just TOO cute!

Too stupid to live, and yet graced with a surprising amount of good instincts, clumsy yet smooth, naive to a

fault yet equally honorable. He'd drive me crazy with those shenanigans that were all born from his poorly thought-through best intentions, but I felt like cuddling him all day long. A true innocent. The humor in this book bordered on slapstick, but managed to remain on the side of laugh-out-loud funny just so. A sweet, thoroughly entertaining treat!

JustJen "Miss Conduct" says

Review by The Blogger Girls.

This was such a fun story. I mean, laugh out loud, light hearted fun.

Poor Linc is forced to leave hockey, the only thing he has ever really done. He isn't the sharpest tool in the shed, and his word mix-ups had me chuckling out loud throughout the entire story. Really, they never got old. He ends up with a job bartending for his friend but jumps on the chance to be a private eye when he learns that same friend does it on the side. He takes on a big client willing to pay for Linc to get proof her husband is cheating. I can't even recall how many plans Linc went through attempting to gain said proof, but bodyguard Brady was there to thwart him every step of the way. It becomes quite the game.

Brady is super sexy, ex-military bodyguard, though not the type Linc usually goes for. But, Linc cannot deny the chemistry between them, even if he doesn't understand Brady's wanting to take things slow. Brady is so patient with Linc, and I just really liked them as a couple from the start.

This was such an enjoyable read, with little to no sex, and even that doesn't happen until the very end. But, honestly? I didn't miss it one bit. There is enough humor and action to keep things interesting. Nothing goes right with Linc's case, and eventually he joins forces with Brady. Things twist and turn right up until the end when the big reveal explains all. I was really glad I had the push to move this one up my list. If you're looking for something fun, light, sexy and sweet, be sure to give this one a try.

Kelly H. (Maybedog) says

This was one of the funniest books I have read in a long time. It was silly and you have to suspend your disbelief, but the MC is mostly dumb as a box of rocks. His inability to get metaphors right is totally hilarious. I love to mix metaphors as humor but this was just obliviousness. Yet he had a large vocabulary and figured out one smart thing. It wasn't really a thriller, or even a mystery, just a funny story with one sort of almost thrilling scene.

Mandy*reads obsessively* says

Ok, how to review this?

It's funny and cute and not to be taken seriously (IMO) if you can just check reality at the first page and go along for the ride, it's a fun one! Almost like a sitcom for books! that left me with a smile on my face and tons of bad metaphors in my brain! LOL

Linc took a bit to grow once but once he did I loved him, Brady is a sweetheart, with the patience of a saint!
Thanks again to Anke! :)

Anke says

This was so frackin' funny! I enjoyed the whole book very much, at times laughing out loud and getting questioning looks from the family. Linc's voice was quite unique and I would love to read more of him:)

Trio says

Oh SO Funny!

What a great story, I laughed the whole way through - and the narrator, John Solo, was absolutely perfect for this one!

Vio says

Adorably funny! Linc is so unassuming a gentle honest guy who tries his best he really does but he can't quite seem to get things right being a PI is a tough job lol. Lots of fun to be had this was a very entertaining romance/caper! I was chuckling out loud at the oddest moments and in sheer disbelief at some of the words that came out of Linc's mouth hilarious stuff. Lighthearted cute story and just the right pick me up.

Love this quote....

"And you think he's going to meet with his paramour?" "Paramour?" she asked. "Yeah, isn't that French for lover or something like that?" "You mean paramour?" "Yeah, that."

Shile says

This was a quick funny read. Just perfect for Easter.

"Sorry, I just tend to be a bit curious."
"You know what curiosity did to the cat."
"No, I don't. What cat?"
"Are you fucking with me?"
"Umm," I replied. "I don't think so."
He looked at me for a minute. "It's an old saying—curiosity killed the cat."
"Killed what cat? How did it die?"
"Lord, Rainbow Brite, you are a cute one."
"Thanks, but I'm not your type."

Linc our Mc had me laughing from page 1.

MsMiz (Tina) says

This was plain and simple fun. You can not help fall in love with Brady and Linc and the pure ridiculousness of this story. Campy mystery with funny funny twists. Have at it peeps, you cannot go wrong.

Ami says

This one is pretty hilarious -- I love how Linc (as described in the blurb) is not 'the sharpest tool in the shed'. It's so funny to read about him planning all those devious plan, from Plan A to Plan E *grin* to try to get an incriminating photos of Quentin and his latest squeeze. Some of the humor feels repetitive after awhile, so I guess it's good to know that it's only a novella length.

The twist is SMART. I totally don't see it coming. However, I'm a bit annoyed with how Linc and Brady execute the plan to turn the table. (view spoiler)

AAAND, okay people, I cannot believe I'm saying this, truly, because I have never been one who focuses on sex. But I miss a good ole love-making between Linc and Brady!! At least, I wish there is one in the end, after everything is solved and we get the promise of HEA :)

Overall verdict: Quite enjoyable romantic comedy.
