



# Stand by Your Manny

*Amy Lane*

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## **Stand by Your Manny** Amy Lane

Learning to trust and falling in love.

Sammy Lowell has his hands full juggling his music, college, some pesky health problems, and making the uncles who raised him proud. He needs help fulfilling his after-school duties with his siblings. Nobody can be in two places at once—not even Sammy!

An injury puts Cooper Hoskins in a tough spot—if he can't work, the foster sister he's raising can't eat. But years in the foster system have left Cooper short on trust, and opening up to accept help isn't easy.

Luckily, family intervenes—Cooper needs a job so he can care for Felicity, and Sammy needs someone who can see past his illness to the wonderful things he has planned for his life. Each heals the damaged places in the other's heart. But falling in love is a big responsibility for young men deep in family already. Can the two of them get past their fear of the immediate future to see forever with each other?

## **Stand by Your Manny Details**

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Author : Amy Lane

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# From Reader Review Stand by Your Manny for online ebook

## Karen says

3.5 stars rounded down to 3 because still no 1/2 stars here on GR and this one was cute just not outstandingly so...full review to follow soonish.

*Stand by your manny, Give him two arms to cling to...*

Sorry about that but this title just begs for a bit of Loretta Lynn...

'Stand by your Manny' is the third book in Amy Lanes 'Mannies' series and while I listened to the first book on audio, I unfortunately took a pass on the second book and I honestly wish I hadn't. I was ok with this one because having listened to the first book on audio I was familiar with Sammy, one of the MCs, Sammy's Uncle Channing and Channing's partner, Tino. Since Channing and Tino are the MCs from 'The Virgin Manny' the first book in this series and Sammy is or was the seven year old in that story.

Now, where things fall short for me is that some of the other secondary characters are from 'Manny Get Your Guy', the second book in this series. So needless to say I was a little bit 'who? what? where?' when it came to this part of the story and while it didn't make it hard for me to follow the story it was a bit distracting and I actually found myself going back and reading the blurb for the second book to try and give myself a better perspective of how these characters connected to the others and it did help a little bit. But while I wouldn't say that reading the first 2 books is necessary, I would definitely say that it would have made the reading experience better. So all things considered while 3.5 stars isn't quite my usual rating for an Amy Lane book it's still pretty good and first chance I get I'm going after book 2 on audio and redoing the whole experience...because re-dos on Amy Lane books are such a hardship...NOT!

So, as I mentioned before we first met Sammy 14 fictional years ago on the pages of 'The Virgin Manny' when he was a sweet little 7 year old and now he's 21 and basically the light of everyone's life. His family adores him and he's an incredibly gifted young man with so many hopes, dreams and plans...full of ambition and an illness that could keep those dreams from coming true.

Cooper's had a very different life from Sammy and his dreams have consisted of having the basics in life...a place to live, food to eat, health insurance all the things that so many people take for granted and eventually to being able to provide those things to a sweet, young girl who like Cooper has fallen through the cracks of the foster care system and has come to be the beginnings of the family that Cooper's going to make for himself.

Together Sammy and Cooper begin to make each other whole again...filling in the holes and missing pieces. Creating new hopes and dreams for themselves and for each other.

It's not very often that I get to read a book where one of the MCs was a child from a previous story so this was actually a bit of a reading treat for me and it was nice to get a peek at the MCs from the first book so many years later. Plus there were some delightfully humorous moments in this one.

Peter B. Brooke was the narrator for 'Stand By Your Manny' and in spite of the fact that he has 54 audio books to his credit this was in fact my first time listening to a book narrated by him and for me the jury's still out on this one. At times when I was listening to the book I found that things just weren't working for me but

there were other times that the narration was going really well so, in all fairness to this narrator I went and checked out the audio samples on a few of those books. What I found was that for the most part his voices in the samples I listened to showed a varied range and there may have been more than a couple of them that are now on my audio TBL list (To Be Listened-to) so at the end of it all for me on this one the narration was ok but I definitely think there's strong potential and I'll be checking out a few books by this narrator...you know purely for research purposes, right?

My recommendation on this one...best when read/listened to in order, after enjoying 'The Manny Virgin' and 'Manny Get You Guy'...not required but strongly encouraged.

\*\*\*\*\*

An audio book of 'Stand By Your Manny' was graciously provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Sarah says**

I was given a copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads.

This happy, fluffy feel-good romance left me on a massive sugar high. Fifteen years after Tino and Channing's book, Sammy is all grown up - and falling hard for the new Manny. This story sees two more additions to Tiino and Channing's almost nauseatingly happy family as they take in Chase and his foster sister Felicity.

Chase comes to Tino and Channing exhausted and injured but he slowly finds a place for himself in the family. And he quickly finds himself fighting his attraction to Sammy. Sammy has his own problems but he thrives under Chase's care.

At times this story feels more YA than NA because Sammy and Chase feel very young. Sammy still lives at home and his health needs make him more dependent than the average college senior. And the fact that we read his father figures' romance first makes Sammy seem even younger. But these two are wonderful together. Their innocence is very sweet - if not terribly believable, and their connection makes both boys better versions of themselves. There is a little bit of heat in the story but this is definitely a family romance.

Sammy's illness, Chase's music and Chase and Felicity's pasts add some substance to this story but the power of love prevails and things never get too angsty in this story.

The fairytale themes in these books are alternately comforting and irritating but I am more than happy to spend a few hours believing in wealthy happy alternative families that are happy to extend privilege while sharing love and sprinkling pixie dust.

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### **Heather Martin says**

\*\*Copy provided to Bayou Book Junkie by DreamSpinner Press for my reading pleasure in hopes of an

unbiased opinion, a review was not a requirement.\*\*

Stand by Your Manny is the third book in Amy Lane's The Mannies series. Personally, I think you should read the series in the appropriate order to get the most enjoyment from it. Sammy was introduced in the first book when he needed a nanny.

Sammy is in college and still lives with his uncles and siblings. Because of health issues, Sammy isn't able to spread his wings as much as he'd like, but he's not going to let that stop him. Sammy is finding himself, and learning how to adult and take care of his own medical issues. He's taken care of his siblings on summer breaks but this year he has two other jobs lined up. Though the death of his mother was difficult, Sammy has had a good life. Cooper, on the other hand, has not. Cooper aged out of foster care, and when he went, one of his young foster siblings followed him. Cooper's been struggling to care for both of them and when he's involved in a workplace accident, he expects the worse but he ends up in a family he could never have expected. Cooper's learning to trust, and though he's attracted to Sammy, he has a lot to worry about.

This was a story of two young, virgin, barely adult men figuring out life, love, family and naked times. Though I was excited to read Sammy's story, my preference would have been to read it when he was a little older since I'm not a fan of teen/college age stories. This story was sweet with very little angst. It was two young men discovering and learning about each other. This is a sweet story of exploration and first love. If you enjoy stories with young MC's just starting out in life and trying to figure out how to care for themselves, you'll love this one.

Rating: 4 stars

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### **Lelyana says**

We met Sammy when he was a seven year old boy, with his uncle Channing and Tino. Charming, cute little boy that his uncles love. Now he's now grown up, thirteen years later, with his 'a not too old uncle Channing' and Tino. Now this time, it's his story. Time does fly.

But Sammy is still as sick as when he's a little boy, and nothing everyone's can do about it, except, stand by him, and taking care of him. The problem is, when everybody care about him, he forgot to take care of himself.

That's the main theme of the story, and of course family, and the whole , love of the family.

But we met Cooper, someone, that finally Sammy can really trust with his 'secret' and his love.

I was aww-ing and ooh-ing for Cooper and Sammy's sake, how can I not? They're adorable. Both virgins, pure, shy. I blushed, smile, and cry with them.

Amy Lane made Sammy and Cooper '*real*', their problem is real. And I loved how easily Channing and Tino accepted Cooper and Felicity in the family.

This is a heartwarming family story, and you need to read this!

I loved and enjoyed the story, and cannot wait for the next book in the series!

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## **Ivy says**

Full review at :

<https://optimumm.blog/2018/05/02/review-stand-by-your-manny-by-amy-lane/>

### **3.5 Stars**

Sammy is a young artist who attends musical classes in College, works as a teacher in a middle school and helps with his two siblings. He can't run around town for his classes, work, and siblings, so he needs help, and besides, he also has a health condition that can be life-threatening if it's not treated well.

Cooper was a foster kid, he's on his own since he was seventeen, and he takes care of Felicity, his foster sister. He's lonely and has to assume all the responsibilities for Felicity.

When Cooper's injured while working on a construction site with his boss Brandon, Brandon decides to help him and introduces Cooper and Felicity to Sam's family.

Cooper and Sam are at crossroads in their lives, at 21 years-old, they have to decide for their future, but there's a difference between what they want and what they can have.

Stand by your Manny is book 3 of The Mannies' series. I liked this book; it was a very sweet story to read. Cooper has trust issues, which is understandable after the childhood he had. He's very shy and careful, but he's also very smart and strong. He wants to be loved; he wants to belong to a family, and he just wants to be accepted for himself. I really liked him; I found him so adorable and beautiful, I wanted to hug and hold him a lot.

Sammy is a brilliant young man. He's smart and kind with a big heart. He tries his best to help his uncles who raised him with his younger brother and sister. When he meets Cooper, he wants more than a friendship with him; he wants everything. Sammy has a health condition—something minor but can be really dangerous without being properly treated, and Sammy forgets a lot his treatments because he just wants to be normal, be accepted without being seen as weak. That's exactly what Cooper gives to him.

I had a sweet moment with them, it was my first book in this series, I didn't read (yet) the two previous books, but this one can be read as a standalone.

You'll have a sweet time with Sammy and Cooper.

3.5 OptimuMMs because Sammy & Cooper's world things!

\*\*\*The ARC was provided by Dreamspinner Press. My review is an honest opinion of the book \*\*\*

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## **SoCalBookReviews says**

Third book in the Mannies Series and we get to see Sammy grown up. I do think you would have a better concept of this book if you read the others first, only because some of the side characters here are previous leads.

Sammy is in college now, studying music and doing some nanny duties on the side, while still making sure his health issues don't get out of control. The other main character, Cooper, grew up in the foster care system and knows what it's like to not have a steady family or the support that one needs. I was happy to see Cooper open up and let Sammy help him when it was needed, and I really liked how these two came together as a couple and a team and worked together to give each other the exact support and care they each needed at the right times.

This book was super sweet, fluffy and cute to the point where it had a "younger" feel to it almost like a young adult book would, with no real drama or angst, it is just a feelgood romance type story with some adorable younger men and some cute kids added in.

Audio – Peter Brooke does an alright job with the narration. I was not super impressed, but it was decently good. There were a few times his voice and tone seemed off to me and it felt like he was more reading us the story instead of narrating the storyline for these characters to us. But overall he did put in a good effort and I liked this book so it all worked out.

\*\*\* Audiobook copy provided to Bayou Book Junkie by Dreamspinner Press for my reading pleasure, a review wasn't a requirement. \*\*\*

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## **Sara says**

### **4 Hearts**

I am so in love with The Mannies series and knew reading about Sammy finding love would be amazing and I was right. Cooper is the perfect fit for him and he and his sister Felicity are a match for the Lowell-Grayson clan.

This book was really emotional for me, yeah I know that's nothing new, but with Sammy and his aplastic anemia and how much Cooper took care of him, made me think of my son and his newly diagnosed Type 1 Diabetes. It's not a bother to care for those you love, regardless of the type of love, and seeing Sammy struggle with trying to be all adult and take care of himself made my heart ache as a mom. But thankfully Sammy has his uncles who would move the world for him and the love of Cooper to make sure he is healthy and doing everything he can to stay that way.

So...

I adored this book but that should be a given because I love the Lowell-Grayson-Robbins clan with their mass amount of children and the needed flow chart for them all but I get a kick out of reading every story in this series.

I am going to keep this review short so I don't ramble on and on.

Cooper is a boy who has always felt unwanted from his mother abandoning him to the numerous foster families that just didn't care. When his last foster sister runs away twice to be with him, he takes her in even

though it's not quite legal and Felicity becomes everything to Cooper. But when Cooper takes a fall off the roof and needs taking care of himself, his boss Brandon and Brandon's hot boyfriend Taylor introduce him to the one family that always has room for one more to love.

Sammy, we met in the first book as Channing's nephew who opened the door on a Wednesday night hoping everything would start over when the Dinner Box girl came and instead, he opened the door to Tino who would become his new Uncle and the love of Channing's life. Sammy has known struggle and privilege through his uncles but never let himself be ungrateful for it. When Brandon suggests Cooper be the new nanny for Sammy's younger siblings as a way for him to recoup from his injuries and give Felicity a stable home, the pieces all fall into place and young love finds its way.

This was so stinking sweet and I liked getting to know Cooper and Sammy as they fell in love. Both young men are inexperienced in everything beyond kissing and really take their time with one another and each intimate moment is so special. I got a kick out of Tino being himself with all his wisdom and how he had to calm Channing down. It was such a pleasure to see more of them as well as Brandon and Taylor who get a special bit at the end.

This series is all about family and how it chooses you, you aren't born into it. Cooper learns to love those who care about him and trust they won't disappear and Sammy learns he can love and depend on someone who doesn't consider him a bother.

These two were just adorable as heck and I can't wait for the next book...Dustin and Quin??? Really? Bring it on, Amy Lane. Bring it on.

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## ? Todd says

In book 1 of this series, **Sammy** was the recently-orphaned nephew in need of a nanny, but kids grow up and, in this story, **things have now come full circle**.

Sammy was **now 21**, in college studying music, and also acting as nanny for Channing and Tino's other two adopted children.

Also 21, **Cooper** had aged out of the foster care system and was **barely scraping by** working at Brandon's construction company to support himself and the young foster sister that followed him home a few years back.

Then a **workplace injury threatened Cooper's already-precarious existence**, forcing him to accept help from Chandler and Tino. And, of course, Sammy.

I loved seeing the same take charge, take no prisoners attitude in Sammy that I originally saw in Chandler. Cooper shows up fresh from the hospital and Sammy is all, "**Step back, I've got this,**" helping to



immediately integrate both Cooper and Felicity into Chandler and Tino's little clan.

But **Sammy's anemia** didn't always allow his body to cash the checks that his mind had no qualms writing, often leaving him completely run down and on the verge of needing medical attention.

And that was where the beauty of this story laid. Because **Sammy and Cooper were an amazing team**, supporting one another when either of them came up short.

Once Sammy had helped Cooper recover from his injuries, Cooper was right there helping to support Sammy, without question, whenever Sammy health began to falter. And not like it was his job, but like it was his mission in life.

**This third book wasn't the most dramatic, sexiest, or most angst-ridden in the series, but it was slow burn in the romance department and nothing short of beautiful.**

One of my favorite parts of this story was when Chandler and Tino, out of nothing more than loving, parental concern, were **treating Sammy as if he were still their little boy**.

But Cooper wasn't having any of that and, not so politely, reminder them that Sammy was a grown-ass man and he had the right to make his own decisions, Cooper's new manny job be damned, if they didn't like that tidbit of reality.

It felt like a turning point in the power dynamic between Sammy's parents and how they saw not only Sammy, but also Cooper's all-in commitment to their son. Pretty awesome stuff, that.

Once Cooper's "*oops, I tumbled off a roof*" boo-boos had healed, **the main plot driver in this story was definitely Sammy's health**. There were no evil ex's, no crazy relatives, or other such nonsense.

The lack of external drama allowed for the book to mostly center around how these two young men **supported and felt toward one another**. I enjoyed the simplicity in that.

So if you're looking for "*Germany*" levels of angst, like from Lane's "*Keeping Promise Rock*," you won't find that here.

But if you're in the mood for a story with **plenty of cute, sweet, slightly-fluffy feels**, then this might be the book for you. : )

I'd rate this book at around **4.25 heart-felt stars**.

**\*\* NOTE: For maximum enjoyment and comprehension, I feel that these books should be read in order.**

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*My ARC copy of the book was provided by the publisher in exchange for a fair, unbiased review.*

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## Joyfully Jay says

*A Joyfully Jay review.*

### 4.5 stars

I'll begin by telling you Amy Lane is an auto buy for me. I love her stories, world building, and especially her characters. This is the third book in The Mannies series and it's one of my favorite series I've read. It's lighthearted, low angst, family driven, and the large cast of characters are multi layered, engaging, and charming as hell. Stand By Your Manny is no different, and I enjoyed it very much.

Sammy and Cooper are adorable. There aren't really any other words that describe them as perfectly. They love their families fiercely. Even though he and Felicity aren't related by blood, Cooper wants to take care of her so she doesn't have to go back into foster care (technically, she's never left it. She just ran away and followed Cooper when he aged out. He just...kept her.). Sammy loves his family just as much. His uncles raised him, and his brother and sister mean the world to him. He has room in his heart for everyone and more. He takes to Felicity right away, and when he sets eyes on Cooper, his world gets bigger and he loves it.

**Read Kenna's review in its entirety [here](#).**

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## Annika says

Audiobook review

You probably know by now that the books in the Dreamspun Desires line is mostly fluff and have that harlequin feel to them. *Stand by Your Manny* was no exception, but hey, I love my fluff so I don't mind that at all. You know what to expect when you pick these books up.

Cooper Hoskins works in construction. He's dirt poor and turns every penny to make ends meet so that he can take care of his foster sister Felicity. An accident at work puts him out of commission and in a tight spot to care for his small family.

Sammy Lowell wants to stand on his own two feet. Wants to work with music, tour with it, at the same time he's also taking care of his siblings. It's a stressful life for sure and his health is getting worse, and he knows in his heart he's not taking care of himself as much as he should have and he can't keep going in the pace he's set for himself. He needs to accept some help.

Their love story is a sweet one. It's not a hot and heavy one. But one of exploring, of discovery, first kisses, first touches and first times. Cooper and Sammy have so much in common, the deep caring for others, nurturing. They feel things deeply. The need for family. This book is all about family, the blood kind, but mostly the one you choose. Helping and loving each other through the ups and downs. It's a pure sweet and

feel good romance.

Peter B. Brooke was an okay narrator. Not a great one, but okay. His narration felt a bit stilted a lot of the time and didn't quite have that natural flow of words. Adding pauses where there shouldn't have been. Which meant I spent a lot of the time focusing on his narration instead of the story he tried to convey. It wasn't an effortless listen, I really had to focus on it and that's not something I particularly enjoy with my audiobooks. I want to be immersed into the story, be a part of it, but Brooke didn't manage that. Another issue of mine, and that is a preference of mine, was that he added no real feeling to his narration. He was just reading the words in front of him, he felt detached and it made me feel detached from the story so I was never invested one way or another.

*Stand by Your Manny* was at the core a cute and fluffy read/listen. I would say that you should go for the printed version rather than the audio this time around, I think you'd enjoy that more.

*A copy of this audiobook was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review*

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## **UltraMeital says**

It's been a while since I've read the first book in the series of Tino and Channing and I truly missed them. To get them as the PARENTS was actually great. It was obvious they are an established couple and though they might have their differences, I enjoyed seeing these as well. But this story isn't about them, it's about Sammy - Channing's nephew, the one he found himself taking care of when Sammy's mother died 15 years ago.

Sammy Lowell grew up to be a sweet and endearing guy. He LOVES his big family, even if most of them aren't related by blood (or at all) to him.. But never mind, for him it's the opportunity of spending time with so many people he cares about. Channing and Tino truly raised a kid with a heart of gold. Though he isn't a kid anymore.. he is 21 years old and a VERY talented musician looking to explore his abilities as a teacher but also as a performer.

Cooper Hoskins had a very difficult upbringing. His mother left him when he was little, leaving him to be raised in the system. It wasn't horrible yet it wasn't a good experience either.. and so when Felicity, a sweet little girl he grew up with, abandons her foster home to live with him he agrees even if he knows that taking care of her is more than just illegal it's also going to be VERY difficult when he doesn't have an occupation and certainly no education. Yet he and Felicity find a way to work. She loves him dearly and he would do anything for her.

Things get complicated when Cooper have an accident on a construction site where he works. His boss - Brandon (the same Brandon from the 2nd installment in the series) offers to help though he doesn't know just HOW MUCH help Cooper needs.. But when he realizes they're a need for a manny - he knows where to go..

Channing and Tino actually need their own manny at the moment.. Not for Sammy.. but because Sammy will start working in two weeks which means he won't be able to help with their two adopted kids. Giving Cooper and Felicity a place to stay sounds like the best thing, for the first two weeks of Cooper's recovery he can stay and be taken care of by Sammy (who will take care of the kids as well), and then a reverse change of roles - Sammy will go to work as a piano teacher and Cooper will take care of the kids. Perfect plan! Which

actually STAYS perfect.

One thing no one expected and that for Cooper and Sammy to fall in love.. It was sweet and naive, both never actually had a real relationship before. Cooper was afraid of admitting/showing he is gay when his place was so unstable in the foster homes he lived and with Sammy it's different.. He is suffering from a very severe anemia which isn't managed very well by him. He needs his constant reminders from both his parents and even that doesn't help. I guess being 21 years old is being an adult while not REALLY being one. I was annoyed by him at times for his reckless behavior but at the same time I could GET why he wasn't taking full responsibility for his situation. Cooper was beside himself with worry which was sweet. It was also a kind of reminder of how Tino and Channing grew together in the first installment which I found so endearing as well.

Sammy and Cooper's story was sweet. At times TOO sweet. It's more an New Adult novel I gueses. Both MCs needing to find who they are and what are their plans for the future or even a more basic questions of who they can and should trust and what do they need - each other - that's for sure. But also how important it is to have a loving family who cares for you, when you are sick but even when you are at your best.

We got a bit of Sammy preforming, where he should and were he shouldn't and even though it was what he wished for the most in the world he had to learn the hard way how much he needs to take care of himself for that to work, and actually even at his best it might not truly be recommended.. But he DID find a friend, someone I already know is going to be one of the MCs in the next installment which will be out in a little bit :)

More Reviews [HERE](#)

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## Lissel says

\*3,5 STARS

This was a very cute and fluffy story! I've always liked Sammy, he was the definition of sunshine. He and Cooper made a really sweet couple. I especially enjoyed the parts of the story showing us the interaction between them and the rest of the considerably big family.

Will we get more mannies stories?

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~☆~Danni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~☆~ says

~3.5~

*Stand by Your Manny* is pure adorable, fluffy goodness. **If you're looking for a book about family that's all sweet feels and little angst, you'll love this story** (which I suggest reading as part of *The Mannies* series).

Sammy is a college student majoring in music and the best big brother ever. But in some ways Sammy behaves like a child. He has emotional issues related to eating and often forgets to eat all day. I'm guilty of that too, but I don't have aplastic anemia. Sammy does though, and his body can't handle his crazy schedule.

Cooper, a foster kid who aged out of the system and is taking care of his younger foster sister, carries the weight of the world on his shoulders. Cooper is so used to going at it alone, he hates asking for help and depending on anyone. But when he's seriously injured on the job, he has to accept help from Sammy's family, who takes in every stray (seriously, just knock on their door).

The story is rather low on the steam, which was slightly disappointing considering both Cooper and Sammy are virgins. **The first-time kisses and touches were ever so tender though.**

Cooper and Sammy jumped into friendship first. Cooper was so good at taking care of Sammy and standing up for Sammy's right to adult on his own.

Even though Sammy is 20 and Cooper 21, this read like a YA story. Their relationship was built on comfort, homemade juice, and hugs. It didn't feel all grown-up. And that's not a bad thing necessarily; I just prefer more mature MCs.

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## Lila Hunter says

Review to follow at Scattered Thoughts and Rogue Words.

*ARC provided by Dreamspinner Press in exchange for an honest review.*

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## namericanwordcat says

I really like this series because it has a joy and lightness while sneaking in more complex topics.

This is a lovely first love romance. Sammy comes from a great family. Cooper is providing a great family for his foster sister.

Sammy is a musical genius who is full grown but the truth is he has health issues that limit what he can reasonably do. One of the pleasures of this book is watching is Uncle and his Uncle's husband learn to parent an adult as well as Sammy learning to be an adult.

The family and kids are a great addition to the story even if the sub plot with Cooper's foster sister feels a bit too unrealistic.

Cooper learns to trust and share. And the super tender love story between Sammy and Cooper will make you happy.

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