



Beach Balls

Tara Lain

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Adam James is so far in the closet he could find Narnia. But coming out would threaten all he's built as the lead attorney for WMA Development, and the million dollars he can get when he finishes pushing a big land remediation project through the City Council. Then on an early morning scuba dive, Adam meets a tall, lean rebreather diver named Sky who makes him want to live a different life. But Adam's dreams are shattered when he walks into the council meeting and finds the fire-breathing environmentalist who's screwing up his chances of winning is none other than that same beautiful man. Sky Sea Mickeljohn doesn't compromise, so how could he find himself lusting after a damned developer? And what happens when somebody open's Adam's closet door? These two better start telling the truth if they're ever going to find world peace.

Beach Balls Details

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From Reader Review Beach Balls for online ebook

Eli Easton says

After reading the recent FAST Balls, I realized I had missing one in the Balls to the Walls series--this one--and hurried to remedy that.

As usual with Tara Lain, I enjoyed this quick, easy-to-read romance. Sky and Adam were both very appealing, and I liked the antagonism sub-plot and how they both affected each other's outlooks on life. It was rewarding to see Adam come out of the closet and find himself.

This was quite a good read. Not my favorite in the series but very good. Recommended!

Macky says

Out of the four books in this series " Beach Balls " felt like it had taken a step away from the series. I was expecting this to be Jerry's story but Tara introduced two new characters who have never been mentioned before so that's possibly why it felt different. Looking back now, to when I first read it, I remember thinking then, that it almost felt as if it could have been a standalone outside of the series. Needless to say I still really enjoyed it. Adam and Sky have great chemistry and the plot involving environmental issues and how it affects their relationship was really good, it added a love/hate feel to their romance that always generates great ST and steamy sex and the book never disappoints on that level. In this story both men are quite manly although Sky is more free spirited and settled with his sexuality than Adam, who is still closeted, so it still works in with the General premise of the other books. If pushed I would say this was my least favourite but only because I missed all the hustle, bustle and quirkiness of Laguna Beach and the original gang . The next book " Snow Balls " gets back to all that and is fab! Still worth its 5 stars though.

Susan65 says

I really, really liked this one. Best of the series so far i think. It was cute, sweet, funny, a touch of angst but not too much, and some serious underwater making out. Such a great read from start to finish.

Mandy*reads obsessively* says

[I was also a bit thrown that they are moving in together, yet tell Adam's parents they don'

Vio says

3.5 stars

Not sure how to review Beach Balls it didn't hit every button for me some of it was enjoyable and funny but there was a missing element in the relationship between Adam and Sky it wasn't as sexy or as dreamy as I would have liked. That sizzling attraction that made Fire Balls so good was not there or I just didn't feel it. Still it was a nice light easy read with a few cute moments.

Shannon says

Better than I was expecting with Sky and Adam on opposing sides of environmental issues. Of course, they didn't realize this when the first met and got all dirty with each other. Adam was just a sad guy. Everything about him was kind of pathetic in a rich guy-in the closet way. Sky was fabulous, of course. Mr. Vegetarian, environmental crusader, hippyish was just kind of perfect. I did find it odd that they both had giant dicks. Like the smaller of the two was 9 inches. What? Holy crap! Cute story though.

Lorraine Lesar says

Oh what a clever little author Tara Lain is. In her latest offering she not only gave us a very different feel to this book compared to the others in the Series but weaved a moral message into the storyline regarding environmental issues and the toxicity it can cause if not addressed, which gave me something to think about.....

Her main protagonists love story also had the potential of being a toxic relationship disaster - for Adam, it's all about the money. For Sky, it's all about being safe in the environment we live in.

But in the very capable hands of the author, the clean-up solution she gave James and Sky was a delight to read. It was fun and so easy to read, some may say slightly predictable to the outcome but I wanted that predictability (hey I'm a romance reader) and she didn't disappoint.

Adam James is a lawyer, a very good one but also very, very deep in the closet. Somewhere he intends to remain. His legal expertise is being used to persuade the residents of Laguna to accept a massive building proposal on toxic ground and in the process, making himself a great deal of money.

An octopus brings Adam and Sky unexpectedly together, neither knowing who the other really is (James didn't even give Sky his real name!) but after one perfect night together, both knew that one night was not going to be enough. Due to heavy work loads, they decide to meet again a week later, what they didn't know was that they were going to meet much sooner than that - not for a love tryst but one on a political battlefield with far reaching consequences.....

How do these two strong men find neutral and safe ground to work out their differences? Does the end justifies the means? Or does money talk everytime? Will Adam step out of that very deep closet and show his true self to everyone?

Read to find out.

Does Tara Lain ever write a mediocre storyline? No. She is The Queen of Love Dreams for a very good reason. Loved it.

****I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Readers Copy of the Book****

Katrina Passick Lumsden says

Definitely better than the first two in this series, but still not impressing me. I think it's safe to say I'm not a huge fan of Tara Lain.

JoAnna says

Two guys meet and fight over an octopus, that isn't the start of a joke but how Sky and Adam meet in this great story by Tara Lain. Adam is an attorney for a development company and the men he works for are anti-gay. So Adam hides his sexuality during his everyday life but treats himself to parties with other gay men where they don't use their real names. Adam meets Sky while diving and fight over an octopus. During a town council meeting over a project Adam is working on an expert witness is called and none other than Sky walks in. They are on opposite sides of this development deal. Will they be able to get over this obstacle? You will have to read it to find out! Thanks Tara for another great story in the "Balls to the Wall" series. Looking forward to many more!

Sandra says

I really enjoy this series. The plot to this had me hesitating because it could have been cheesy and annoying, but just like with Fire Balls, I thoroughly enjoyed every moment. It was paced very well and they didn't rush into the drama so that we got bored. The first third was us meeting Adam, then his and Sky's meeting and realizing they had chemistry and starting a thing. Their altercation/climax/realization-that-they're-nemesis came at just the right time and developed naturally without feeling forced.

I will say Sky pushed my buttons a little when he immediately wrote Adam off just because of who he thought he was, "bah, I hate developers!" but I liked that in the end although there was compromise, Adam didn't just cave and turn into a total tree-hugger.

My one critique is that while I loved the setting of the last chapter (view spoiler) the dialogue was a smidge forced and partly unbelievable (view spoiler). OH and another small critique was that Adam's high school experience with the football quarterback clearly molded who he became as an adult so it would have been nice if he had been given an actual name instead of just "quarterback." Maybe they wanted to distance us from him so we didn't think about Adam's previous love but I think it would have been nice to learn more and maybe find out how he's doing.

Won as part of the 2012 Holiday Party in the Erotic Enchants Group!

Francesca the Fierce (Under the Covers Book Blog) says

This review was posted at Under the Covers

I can't say I loved this more than the second book in this series, but I really liked it. We have two guys that are pretty equally matched, both physically and mentally. But they are pretty far apart in everything in between.

Adam is a developer, lots of money, cares about appearances, drives a nice fancy car, ohh and pretends to be straight. Sky is a nature loving, rebreather diver, vegetarian, and openly gay.

They meet accidentally while Sky is diving and Adam is visiting a friend's house for a regular gay-men sex party, which is the only time Adam gets any. sparks fly right away but they don't tell each other their full (or real, in Adams case) names.

Turns out Sky is the researcher they've pulled to try and shut down the approval for a project Adam is working on, based on environmental issues. This puts a huge dent in their relationship.

Although a bit issue was presented and somehow resolved fairly easy as they overcame the obstacles, I couldn't help but love both of these guys. I especially loved how Adam was the one doing the taking care of Sky part instead of being a big selfish big shot like he was in every other part of his life.

I also loved the small cameo appearances by Rodney, Hunter and Jerry. I do hope that there is more of this series!! We still have to find out if Jerry, sweet lovable Jerry, will get his HEA.

JustJen "Miss Conduct" says

This was my favorite one so far. I still spent some time in the beginning trying to remember who these people were or if we met them in the previous books.

I loved in the closet Adam. He was up front about it and spent most of the book questioning his life and the reasons for doing so. Sky was fabulous. The octopus incident had me laughing out loud. He was funny and sexy, and when they got together, they sizzled.

Another good read that is keeping me hooked on the Balls books.

Candice says

3.5 stars

This book was a light and easy read. I liked both Adam and Sky and thought the story on how they met with the octopus was kinda cute. Unfortunately there just seemed to be something missing with the way the storyline was set up. I felt that as the reader I was given just enough information to move the story along, but never enough to feel connected with what was happening or with the characters completely. Still it was an enjoyable read.

Catherine says

Two words: Underwater blowjob.

This was my favorite book in the series so far (but that's not really saying much).

Gabbi says

Beach Balls is the third book in the Balls to the Walls series and so far, it's my favorite in the series. I loved the chemistry between the two heroes as well as their drive to do what it right. As usual, Ms. Lain did an excellent job at writing a funny, heartfelt, sexy read that lived in my heart and mind long after I finished the book.

Adam James has been going through the motions of life for a long time. As a successful lawyer, he is afraid to tell his peers and others about his homosexuality and because of this, he's had a run of one night stands. Once a month, Adam's friend throws a party at his beach house and invites other gay men who are also in the same dilemma as Adam is in. Thinking he's going to attend the party and hook up with a man or two, Adam finds himself feeling lonely, restless and wanting more in his life than what he has. As he takes a walk on the beach, a handsome man swims to shore. There is something about this man that really calls to Adam, so he finds himself approaching him to get to know him better.

Sky is an environmentalist who lives to study oceanography and to protect animal rights. As soon as he meets Adam offshore, Sky is immediately drawn to him and this confuses him. Sky is not used to feeling so strongly so quickly about other men, but there is something about Adam that intrigues him. When Adam asks Sky to attend a beach party that night, Sky surprises himself by saying yes, and that night as the two men get to know each other, Sky is startled by what he feels for Adam.

But, there is trouble on the horizon for the new lovers. When Sky and Adam find out they are working on opposites sides of a land development plan, this pulls them apart. Neither man is prepared for how much they miss one another and how important they've become to each other. Will they be able to work through their issues and find a way to be together?

Wow! The intense emotional connection between Adam and Sky kept me on edge throughout most of the book. I loved them together because they seemed to really bring out things in each other than no other person has ever done. Also, I couldn't keep from hoping that they would somehow work through their differences and find a way to have a fulfilling and happy life with each other. I also appreciated how at first they seemed to be total opposites, but as the story continued they had a lot more in common than meets the eye. They really seemed to bring out each other's strength and worked well together, once they both got on the same page about things. Each man's determination to do what's right and to be together really spoke to my heart and I truly hated to see the story come to an end.

One of the things I really appreciated about Beach Balls was the way the author really seems to understand and get to the heart of her characters. They really lived and breathed off of the written page and even though there were funny moments in the book, there were also sad and even bittersweet moments in the story as well. I'm looking forward to reading more books in the series and highly recommend this book and series for any person looking for an interesting, romantic and freshly written series.

Although Beach Balls is the third book in the Balls to the Wall series, it definitely could be read as a stand-alone title.

Here are the Balls to the Wall books in series order:

Volley Balls

Fire Balls

