



Jacked Up

Erin McCarthy

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She's holding tight. He's hanging loose.

Eve Monroe is a stock-car PR pro who puts her career first--until an on-track wardrobe malfunction reveals more than the sexy smile of jackman Nolan Ford. The video's become an internet sensation, and it's Eve's job to calm the sponsors and put a spin on the unexpected exposure.

And they both have the same drive.

It may be a public relations job, but now that Eve's seen what's under Nolan's crew suit, it's gotten personal. After a few dates she has Nolan pretty revved up. If only she'd learn to relax and enjoy it. Nolan's sure that the spontaneous birthday bash he's throwing for Eve in Las Vegas should loosen her up. Somewhere between cocktails and a smoking-hot motel-room derby, it does more than that. Now Eve's wrestling with feelings she never expected, as everything about her personal jackman gets harder than she ever imagined.

Jacked Up Details

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From Reader Review Jacked Up for online ebook

jenjn79 says

Rating: 2.5 / 5

I seem to be one of the few people who didn't particularly care for this book. Oh well.

Series Note:

Sixth book in Erin McCarthy's NASCAR-centered contemporary romance series. I think you could read this one without having read the others first.

Summary:

Eve Monroe is a NASCAR PR whiz, focusing on keeping her two brother's career's in line. So when one of the pit crew members for one of her brother's teams has major wardrobe malfunction on national TV, it's Eve's job to try to get the situation under control. But nothing about her meeting with jackman Nolan Ford goes as she expected.

Including him asking her out on a date. Why she says yes, Eve doesn't know. And why two people so completely opposite get seem to like each other so much is even more of a mystery. But Nolan knows he's just what Eve needs. Sometimes, though, all the chemistry in the world can't help two people get past their differences. They have a lot to work through if they want to make it as a couple.

Review:

I really enjoyed the first couple books in this series but I seem to have lost my zest for this series. I think it's mainly because of the heroine's in the books.

Which is what my biggest problem with this book was: the heroine. Eve Monroe was so utterly annoying to me. That woman't neuroses have neuroses. I wanted to like this book and I really tried to. There were moments I liked it but mostly I was just bored and annoyed most of the time.

Such a shame, too, because there was a lot of potential. I really enjoyed the hero, Nolan. He's a total good guy; the kind us single girls would love to hook up with. And the story premise is amusing. Nolan has a wardrobe malfunction on TV and Eve has to deal with it...only not. Because that initial story premise gets lost and all you're dealing with the whole book is Eve's schizo personality. Personally, I think the book would have been much better served if the author had stuck with the initial story premise of Nolan's wardrobe malfunction.

Because reading about Eve's issues endlessly throughout the book drove me nuts. Eve is practically obsessive/compulsive, overly controlling, can't see the good side in anything, analyzing everything to death, worries over the smallest little detail...it just got to be too much. I felt sorry for Nolan and anyone else who had to put up with her.

By far the worst of Eve's neurotic personality came through during the first sex scene between the two when Eve couldn't stop over-analyzing every damn little detail. It sucked the life and sexiness completely out of the scene.

It's just never good when you get to the end of the book and kinda wish the hero would ditch the annoying

heroine and find someone better. And that's how I felt when I got to the end of this book. Eve still annoyed me; I didn't feel like I got to see enough of her changing, and more so, I don't think I quite understood why she was the way she was.

I don't know if the author is planning to continue this series, but if she does, I'm not sure I plan to keep reading. This series just doesn't seem to be doing it for me anymore.

Toni Aleo says

I think the reason I loved this book was because it is me and my husband. I am a total bitch and never thought I would be so loved by a man, like my husband. It's a great read, but I just read that this is the last one and that does not make me happy!

?Karlyn P? says

DNF @50% I tried, I really, reaaallly tried. This used to be a 'must read' author for me, and I was soooo hoping to get that spark back. But I hated the bitchy, whiny heroine, which made the hero's attraction to someone like her all the more odd for me. The plot was also absurd, and not pulling me in.

Moving on...

alyssa says

DNF

valee says

I've been wanting to read about Eve FOREVER! I'm glad her book finally came. Always the one left behind, a woman in a men's world. Eve is a sassy, compulsive and eccentric workaholic who really deserved a break and it was great to see how she changed her life. Sometimes life takes you to places you never thought you would go and it's not easy to change things. Eve just wanted to race, like her father did and her brothers do, but she ended up being their PR, which she actually HATED. She felt old, boring and left behind.

And then Nolan comes...

He's funny, comprehensive and just what she needed. He makes her remember to be happy every now and then, to relax.

I actually loved the heroine even more than the hero in this book, which is weird. This is even the reason for why I'm not rating this book with 5 stars. The hero was just TOO perfect. I like them with some flaws, something to work with. This guy was just every girl's dream. Not my type of hero. Now, the heroine was a

work of art. I adored her.

This was for me one of the best books in the series.

Shawna says

4 ½ stars – Contemporary Romance

I really enjoyed this, and it's definitely an improvement over the last couple of books in the series. Nolan and Eve were a lot of fun together and their romance was engaging and steamy. I loved the snappy dialogue and funny banter between all the characters. Nolan and Eve's Oktoberfest outing was fantastic...one of the best date scenes that I've read.

Nolan was such a sweet, goofy, playful, easygoing, charming, fun-loving, and all around nice guy and an almost too good to be true hero. He was also extremely patient, insightful, and understanding when it came to Eve and there were countless times I thought it was amazing that he not only put up with and accepted her grumpy, snippy demeanor but actually found it adorable and endearing. Eve was insecure, crabby, sarcastic, surly, and often times outright bitchy, but I found her internal contemplation, constant worrying, and cranky-pants personality genuine and pretty damn funny at times.

Other than being dissatisfied with the abrupt ending and lack of an epilogue, **Jacked Up** was a highly enjoyable read. This is when I wish there were half star ratings on GR because this isn't a 5 star read but it's better than a 4...so solid 4 ½ stars.

This quote pretty much sums up opposites attract Nolan and Eve.

He was a glass half full kind of person and she was...what? The glass is going to break before you can even pour kind of person. Yikes.

Here's my jackman, "strongman" Nolan Ford:

Erin Muses says

They made out on the sidewalk. They made out in the elevator. They made out in the hallway while Eve fumbled for her key.

Then they were in.

So they made out.

Nolan hadn't spent this much time in a frantic lip-lock with a girl since high school. He'd forgotten how exciting it was to just kiss and not skip straight to the good stuff. Kissing his wife had that same feeling as kissing his girlfriend back in the day had. It was worshipful, awed, desperate, wanting more, yet at the same time, wanting the moment to never end. It was

kissing with the intensity of knowing that this was really happening, everything you had wanted and desired.

I am pleasantly surprised. I've read a few harsh reviews, mostly criticizing Eve's extreme crabbiness, which turned me off a bit at the beginning. However, Ms. McCarthy turned it around in the end and gave us a believable relationship and two genuinely likeable characters.

Eve Monroe is a PR rep for her two stock-car racer brothers, and she hates her job. She was almost a caricature of unhappiness at the beginning of the book. Nolan Ford is the jackman on Eve's brother Evan's pit crew, and she takes him to task after an embarrassing incident on the track shows the team in a bad light. He just thinks she is cute and asks her out on a date. When they get together she is surprised that she enjoys herself, because her low self-esteem makes her believe that someone as happy and sunny as he would be interested in a raging bitch like her. They spend some time together, like what they're feeling, and then up and get hitched in Vegas. Of course, someone as anal and controlling as Eve has trouble just going with the flow, so she starts to indulge her doubts while Nolan just floats on Cloud 9 until he lets Eve throw the proverbial wrench into all of their happy.

I went into this book anticipating not liking Eve. She was, as a crew member says, a total battle-ax. However, with Nolan she is able to let loose and give up some of the squeeze that she holds on anything and everything in her life. I found myself sympathizing with her plight - which one of us has never let a bad situation get to our moods? I spied that little spark of humanity in her from the beginning (she recognized that she was extremely unhappy but had no idea how to change her life for the better), and I was happy to see it blossom under Nolan's patient care. I get the sense that Eve would always have that edge, but living in the moment really began her journey to happiness. The story was lacking in that Eve really needed to flesh some things out with her father, who in my opinion seemed to be the source of a lot of her internal struggles.

I didn't get the sense that Nolan grew all that much through the story, but then again he really didn't need it. While his glass-mostly-full viewpoint may have pushed him toward Eve despite her attempts to repel him, it also gave him the drive to find and nourish that part of Eve that she kept so carefully hidden. Nolan would probably have been happy with almost anyone, but it was nice to see that he found someone for whom he was her only soft place to fall.

I am going to get nit-picky because this book seemed to amp up the editing mistakes that had been infrequent in the previous books of the series. Weren't Eve and Evan twins in the first book? Is Kendall's hair blonde or chestnut? Are Nolan's eyes mossy green or brown? That stuff drives me bonkers, and I can't not mention it. Don't get me started on the homophone mistakes. Oy.

Overall this was a satisfying read and better story than book 5 in the series. It would not be the best stand-alone because I probably wouldn't have rooted as hard for Eve's HEA if I wasn't invested in the series.

I'm picturing

Eve:

Nolan:

Sheryl says

First can i say a HUGE THANK YOU to Erin McCarthy for giving me the chance to win this ARC!! I LOVED this story and the hottie on the cover was PERFECT in helping me visualise Nolan... *drool*.

What can i say... Nolan is such a sweetie, he's the only one who seems to understand Evie and doesn't IMMEDIATELY classify her as a ball-busting b***h. Its was nice to see Evie start to learn to let loose, let her hair down and figure out that it was time to stop trying to please everyone else and do something for herself.

This was a really fun, enjoyable and sexy read and a great 6th addition to the Fast Track series!

Your writing TOTALLY ROCKS Ms. McCarthy... hoping that there will be a 7th book in this series!!!

Sunny? says

The story is of Eve the sister to two Nascar driver's. She works in a PR roll for her brothers but hates every minute of it even though she does her job well.

Her brother Evan's jackman Nolan has been watching her for a while and wants her but she is too high up for him to reach..except..he is perfect for her.

Rich girl, poor boy. At first I could not take Eve at all, such a bitch. Nolan sees the unhappy woman under the rough exterior, good for him I couldn't for a while. Nolan is hot sweet and a truly fantastic man. By the end of the story I was liking Eve too. A lot more to her than the exterior. The terrific ending brought my estimation of the book up quickly. I enjoyed this sixth book in Erin McCarthy's Fast Track series.

Auntee says

Wow. I absolutely *loved* it. Probably my second favorite of the whole series (after Flat-Out Sexy) **Everything** worked for me in this one. It was funny, romantic, fast-paced, had wonderful dialogue and witty banter, and even served up a surprise or two. And I even got choked up by a couple of scenes. I know the character of workaholic, sarcastic control freak PR rep Eve Monroe rubbed some reviewers the wrong way, but I really enjoyed her and her thought process. She had a tough outer shell but was a softie inside. And I absolutely loved her steamy relationship with her brother Evan's jackman, sexy Nolan Ford.

Nolan is a laid-back, easy going guy who shows Eve how to loosen up and have fun...

Eve and Nolan compete in a demolition derby...

As a jackman in Evan's pit crew, Nolan is responsible for jacking up the car so the tires can be changed...

What I loved about Nolan was his whole laid back, let's have some fun and live life attitude. He didn't get all worked up over things, wasn't the worrier that Eve was. Their first actual meeting took place after Nolan split his pants during a race and his naked backside was revealed to the viewing public. The whole Eve chewing him out while Nolan was admiring her and getting turned on by her was a great start to the book and set the tone. These two opposites were such fun together--I loved how Nolan got Eve to loosen up, be spontaneous and to do things she never would've considered before. I loved how being with Nolan made Eve realize that she deserved to be happy in her career and her personal life. And their sex life? W-o-w. Eve was one lucky lady to have a beta hero who was an alpha in the bedroom. Nolan could take all that Eve could dish out and he had a surprise or two for her up his sleeve. Nolan Ford was one yummy hero!

...which gave him nicely developed arms...

So readers, if you thought this series was running out of steam--think again! *Jacked Up* was one exciting, sexy read that I did not want to end. Super steamy hot, likable characters, and a sweet, thoughtful, sexy hero who made me tear up a time or two. I hope this series isn't over, because Nolan has a brother (Rhett) who really intrigues me. I hope Erin McCarthy gives him a book because I sure want to know what's going on with him! For *Jacked Up*--5 big stars!

Francesca the Fierce (Under the Covers Book Blog) says

This review was posted at Under the Covers

There is something about fast cars, being around the racetrack and even a little bit of grease that I just find irresistible, and there is no better series to fulfill that need than the Fast Track series. With some light humor, romance, sexual tension and a good storyline, I usually find myself anxiously awaiting the next book. And JACKED UP did not disappoint!

Eve Monroe is the sister of some of our favorite drivers! She is also their manager and the one that keeps everyone in line. So when she is faced with the PR nightmare of having one of Chase's crew members jump the wall, rip his pants, and while changing a tire have his ass and family jewels showing on national television because he didn't wear any underwear... well, there's not much she can do other than do some yelling.

She is tough and everyone sees her as a bit of a bitch, but in the end this is really not what she wanted to do or who she wanted to be.

Enter Nolan Ford. OMG he is adorable, ass hanging in the wind and all!!!! He is just a small town boy, you can tell he comes from a loving family, and truly loves his job. And he has a crush on Eve. Nothing, not their financial differences, or the fact that they technically work together, will keep him from getting to know her better.

I really liked the fact that Eve doesn't end up with a driver. Nolan is perfect for her. Even though she comes from racing royalty and grew up differently than him, he is willing to give her the best that he can and truly wants to make her happy. When he helped her fix her car, or the whole Vegas thing. Just adorable!

One thing I love about this series is that the stories are nothing alike. Each is very unique, the issues they

have to go through and their journey to their HEA, and this couple was certainly not the exception.

I see a lot of potential for new characters in this series developing from the Ford family (or would that be a spin-off?), could that be possible? I can't wait to see who's next! Because there is another one, right? Right?

*ARC provided by publisher

Michelle [Helen Geek] says

4 Stars

This was a quick read by the pool. I loved this series and based on the lack of a teaser about the next in the series, it sounds like the author may not continue with it. We get a bit of a Rhett tease, but we are not given enough to really warm to him, so not sure what she'll do. She has a book blurb in the back for a "ghost" story. Read it and won't buy it. Ugh... What is it with the whole "Ghost an Mrs. Muir" thing everyone tries. Yuck... [coming off of Kristen Ashley's "Lacybourne Manor" = 3 Stars by me and I was generous].

Erin McCarthy, I've read some of her other books, and just didn't like them as much. Her racing characters were captivating. I think the elements she captured of racing very good and had wished for me. I'm not a huge race fan, but if you are going to have a themed book, you should do more than tease. The sport should be a character in the book. I think this author just teases, either because she knows only enough to be dangerous, or she has space constraints.

Not my favorite in the series. Eve came off a being a bit crazy neurotic. I really liked Nolan. He seemed very sure of himself. He was very different from Eve, but seemed really good for her. How he put up with her nutty [not in a good way] personality was a bit amazing. She was definitely a bit high maintenance, but he kept it together and made this story - my opinion only.

Happy Reading!!

+++++

Available Jun 5 - preorder only now.

Mine now!

Saly says

Rating 2.5

You know when a series becomes successful, it becomes kind of never ending and maybe people think it is successful so let us give the readers what they want, the content and quality be damned, that is exactly what happened with this series. I am not questioning how good a writer Erin McCarthy is, because I really like her books but I have not been blind to the flaws in her recent books

a)they have been really short

b)I have hated the heroine's, being loud-mouthed is one thing but *bitchy*, that too all the time is just irritating.

Jacked Up is far better than her last outing in which the only thing the heroine did was drink and have sex, this has a plot in a way but it still left me dissatisfied. Eve is the Monroe sister, their PR person and really bitchy, most of it stems from her being unhappy with everything, her job, her life and I and even Nolan the hero questioned why didn't she just change it then? Quit and take chances and maybe pursue the dream of being a driver she left behind. It takes her the entire book to fix what is wrong in her life and stop being a coward.

Nolan the hero is perfect, he is hot, sexy, sweet and understanding and puts up with all of Eve's moods and quirks when I wanted to dump her after the first date. I mean she couldn't be happy about anything, critical of everything. We were made to see that Nolan got her and wanted to "fix" her. Nolan's mom said that he wanted to fix things since he was a small plus his job too was of fixing as a mechanic on Evan's crew and maybe Eve is his new project. He says no that is not the case and continues to put up with her and loves seeing her cut loose, like when she goes racing with him.

Eve was severely repressed, curbing her dreams and that would make anyone unhappy but the thing is she was the one doing it to herself. Nolan throws her a big birthday bash which ends up in them proclaiming their love for each other and getting hitched. Afterwards Eve is like a pendulum sometimes thinking it is the best thing she ever did or wondering what she got herself into. Plus there is the fact that Nolan is kind of from a different social strata than her, which worries him so it is not all honeymoon stage, it is adjusting to each other, major decisions of where to live etc which actually seems scary to her and given the short time they had known each other these fears seemed well founded.

What I disliked was that Nolan makes a big gesture, gets a tattoo of her name and she gives him a post-nup immediately, way to hit a guy sister. She does feel bad about it and makes up for it by making major changes in her life, but I am not sure how these two will work out and if a romance leaves me feeling like this at the end it hasn't really done its job.

Julie says

Posted at Yummy Men & Kick Ass Chicks

Jacked Up is the sixth book in Erin McCarthy's Fast Track series. I have to say I was a bit nervous about reading this one. I adored the first two books in this series. Really, I just adored them. (Any fan of contemporary romance books need to give them a try). The third book was cute but it missed a certain something that was found in the first two books. Then came the fourth book. I was thoroughly enjoying this book until the very end when (spoiler here) the author threw in an illegitimate baby! I was so so SO P*ssed! There was no need for that and it just killed the book for me. Then the fifth book came out and I did enjoy the couple but then again, pretty much out of nowhere (spoiler here) the heroine turns into an alcoholic. Now that didn't tick me off as much as the baby thing but I still didn't understand why the author needed to include that particular plot twist. I'm all for throwing conflict into a story. After all it's what helps us feel closer to the characters, by making us root for them and by making us feel a part of their triumph. But sometimes I don't feel like you need to throw a brutal conflict in a relationship to make the reader care for the characters. Sometimes, the conflict feels forced and therefore makes the story feel wrong thus making the relationship feel wrong. And even though the author did try to throw in a little conflict in this latest installment, it wasn't made into a huge deal and therefore didn't work against the story. So all in all, I really enjoyed this story and I give it a high rating.

Let me tell you why.

Eve. She's been in every book. Her brother is the hero in the first book and her other brother is the hero in the fourth book. She is their PR rep and is exceptional at what she does. But she hates her job. Like, really really hates it. But she's good at it, it pays the bills and her family depends on her so she sticks to it. I really enjoyed seeing a softer side to Eve in her book and seeing her open up with Nolan about how she feels about her life and where it's taken her so far. I'm not saying that Eve is soft at all so don't go thinking that. She's still anal and controlling, but those are a part of her makeup and they didn't just vanish when she fell in love, which is good. Otherwise it would have made the story seem off. Nolan helps Eve relax and let loose and I thought that was awesome to see. I like Eve. I always have even when I wanted to beg her to take a chill pill in past installments. She knows her responsibilities and gives it her all even though she isn't fond of it. You witness real growth in her character in this book and she is written very well.

Nolan. He is Evan's (Eve's younger brother) jackman. That's right, he's not a driver! I actually thought this was nice because honestly, there are drivers everywhere in this series and it was nice to catch a glimpse at the crew that keeps the cars rolling and winning during a race. I do feel like the author tried to make Nolan's character a little 'deeper' than it actually is. She tried to tell us that he likes being in relationships with women who need fixing and she tried to make us think Eve's family's money was an issue for him, but I never really felt that for him. It just didn't seem right with his character. Nolan is one of 9 kids. He's mellow and fun and doesn't take things too seriously. I just decided to ignore the little 'issues' the author tried to give him and took him at face value – and at face value he is perfect for Eve. He helps her realize that life is what you make it and that it's important to follow your gut and let loose once in a while. Yeah...I liked Nolan.

The family and friend dynamic. That is one of the best parts of this entire series. Erin writes characters that mesh really well one with the other. You just want to hang out with them! It was nice to see all the main characters from the past books make an appearance in this one. You get caught up on all the goings on which is always fun in a longer running series.

The story. Now I am sure that some readers will disagree with me on this but I found it was good . (Now this part isn't a spoiler because it's in the blurb but I know not everyone reads the blurb so be ready.) On a whim, Nolan and Eve get married in Vegas after only 'seeing' each other for a few weeks. I know that some will think this is crazy! And actually, I would have to agree. But I know that even crazy situations like this end up working out. That's pretty much how Jason and I ended up together. Okay, there were no racing cars and no Vegas and no hot muscular abs that I ran my tongue over, but we met at work in September, we started dating end of October, moved in together in November, got engaged in December and were married the following September – less than one year from the day we met. Yes crazy...and SO not like me! But we clicked. I knew all about him the moment we started dating – the good and the bad. We'll be celebrating our 10 year wedding anniversary this year. So as much as some parts of the story may have readers rolling their eyes and saying "yeah, right", for me it's possible so I had no problem with it. It was obvious that these two knew each other extra well from the moment they started dating. There were no hidden agendas and no secrets. They were both totally themselves and felt comfortable being open with one another. All things that are necessary for a mature and strong relationship and all things most couple take a while to get to. Nolan and Eve were there right away so their marriage didn't make me cringe in the least.

Overall Jacked Up was a sweet and sexy read. The chemistry between Nolan and Eve is great and their journey is sweet. This is the final book in the series and it ends it well.

Wminbc says

Ah....I really liked this one. Eve is one tight, wound up woman! She certainly needed to loosen up and get loose she did! I was glad to have some Alec and Evan bits too! The family dynamic was good and the while the love scenes were not as plentiful as perhaps Alec's story or Ryder's...they were sweet and well placed. This series has had some ups and downs, but the first two and the last two have been really good!

Ya...topless cover...finally

Oh...just noticed the date!!! This baby should be out now...gonna hit the Chapters tonight and see!

Yup...it was there...look who is comin to momma tonight!
