



Of Being Yours

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It's been three years since Jesse Ross had to choose between his Master and his girlfriend—three years he's spent living in a loving relationship with Will, his Dom, and finally being open about his sexuality. To the outside eye, Jesse and Will's relationship is settled, solid, and romantic: people expect them to settle down, get married, have a family. It takes a car crash to expose the papered-over cracks in their life together.

Traumatized by the crash, Will finds his confidence shattered. After unintentionally causing Jesse pain during the accident, Will finds it impossible to hurt him in the bedroom, and suddenly he has to reassess his ability to be Jesse's Dom. The emotional and physical deadlock leaves Jesse struggling to hold the pieces of their tattered relationship together. The physical scars may heal with time, but the emotional trauma has left more damage than either man could have anticipated....

Of Being Yours Details

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From Reader Review Of *Being Yours* for online ebook

Lou Sylvre says

Five stars, I think, or at least close enough as makes no matter. *Of Being Yours* is a sequel to Anna Martin's fabulous *Another Way*, which I read and reviewed and essentially raved about some months ago. In fact, that stood in my way as I contemplated this review, because that first book excels in so many ways--and it's a tough act to follow. So, mired in comparisons, I finally asked myself, what if I don't compare? What if I review *Of Being Yours* just as if it was a brand new story, standing on its own?

Mind you, it might be a bit unbalanced to read *Of Being Yours*, without first reading *Another Way*. Although the opening of *Of Being Yours* goes a long way toward catching the reader up on what's happened in the three intervening years, it doesn't paint a clear picture of where Will and Jesse--the parties to the romance--stood when the first book ended. A reader can still make sense of things, it's just not as solid. That said, in *Of Being Yours* Martin did not reprise or revamp the first book to tell the same story in a different way, so in that sense it truly stands on its own.

As in 'real' life, a person, a Dom, a sub, a lover is never the same three years after. (Dom) Will and (sub) Jesse have grown separately and as a couple over time, but they haven't been paying attention. They look up to find adjustment is necessary, and during this time of shaken confidence, they're bombarded with all sorts of things they must respond to--families and friends and related weirdnesses, developing sexual needs, experiments, and accidents. To paraphrase Mission Impossible, their mission--*should they choose to accept it*--is to figure out what they truly want, what direction their road will go, and whether they will travel it together.

All of the above is beginning to be apparent within the first quarter of the book, so they aren't spoilers, and I won't start spouting spoilers now. I will tell you a couple of things that add up to big reasons for the five star rating: (1) Anna Martin's ability to create clear, honestly human characters, and keep them real as they move through her well-drawn world; (2) great timing in dialogue, in scenes, and in plot development. One caveat: I personally (not as a reader but as a person) disliked a few scenes because they made me like the characters less. In the end, I forgave them!

So I stand by my five star rating of Anna Martin's *Of Being Yours*, and I make this recommendation for anyone who enjoys reading about, or is curious about, a Dom/sub romance, or enjoys M/M romance, or likes to read stories set in the Pacific Northwest, or just plain likes a good book. First, read *Another Way*. Let that sit a while--you'll know when it's long enough. Then, yes, read *Of Being Yours*. Quite worthwhile.

Caroline Brand says

REVIEWED FOR PRISM BOOK ALLIANCE

Of Being Yours picks up three years after Another Way and the focus is still on Will and Jesse.

For all intents and purposes Jesse and Will are living a near perfect life and have assimilated their D/s

relationship alongside their newer status of partners. At the start of the book they have a nice status quo going on but the cracks appear rapidly when they are involved in a car crash. Physically they are both fine and it won't take them too long to recover from their scrapes and bruises, emotionally they are sucker punched. Will blames himself for the accident and suddenly finds he can no longer inflict any sort of pain on Jesse, just the thought of picking up a flogger makes him ill. For a relationship that started out as strictly D/s before moving onto an intimate relationship that ran alongside it they are suddenly adrift.

It's sad watching as the intensity and the closeness of their relationship fails. At times it seems as though they are strangers living in the same house and they become adept in avoidance tactics. Will is pulling further and further away and Jesse has no idea how to put the brakes on. I think it took Will walking away, even for a short time, to take them to a place where they could start healing. For the first time in years Jesse was on his own and although he hated it I think he also benefited. Throughout their healing process it becomes clear that they are never going to get back to exactly where they were before the accident and as they open up in their therapy sessions it's clear that this may not be a bad thing. The accident has changed them irrevocably and their new relationship will reflect that.

Thankfully the author doesn't suddenly make everything better in the end as that would have done them a disservice. They aren't perfect but their imperfections are what makes the story feel real. They may get their happy ending but it's sometimes clumsy, not always what they want but it is realistic and pulls them back together.

Narration Review:

As with book 1 it took me a little time to get used to Brad Langer's voice but once I settled into the story I found him an easy and clear narrator.

Jacq says

The title was perfect! The cover also perfect...I really like Anna Martin's writing style. Why one star less-Wills, was to insecure behavior slightly annoying.

Arch Bala says

I really loved the progress of Will and Jesse's relationship. I loved the sweetness of it all and how the author showed their vulnerability especially with Will. I also loved the timeline of the story – pacing wise. I loved that we get to see them as they navigate deeper into their relationship.

Although the “accident” was somehow an important plot point, I find it a wee bit stretched out which apparently became the game changer in their relationship. I also almost wished that they accepted Maddie's offer but in hindsight – it's very transparent that they are not yet ready for it. I really loved that the focus of this second installment was still inside Will and Jesse's little bubble. There are some characters that I thought will stir shit up but I guess that would happen in the third book.

Again, this is an exceptional read. Rarely I enjoyed reading a BDSM themed story and this one's definitely up there!

Ameena says

This is a 2 star read for me but I added the third one because it is Will and Jesse book.

This book was a nice read but I liked Another Way much more, I just felt that sometimes both Will and Jesse actions were out of character from what I learned and loved about them in the first book, it was still beautiful at some points and a little bit frustrating at others, I just hope that the next one is better.

F. says

I haven't read the first book and read this in snatches while on holiday so maybe that resulted in my ho-hum feeling about this. It seemed more of a telling type of story and I didn't connect with either of the MC's. The book started OK but then seemed to stutter along and get stuck occasionally as we got caught in the drudge of normal life. This author is normally one of my favourites and this was an earlier book so will stick with her.

Christy says

'Of Being Yours' is the sequel to 'Another Way' and the continuing story of Jesse and Will. It picks up three years after Jesse left his girlfriend and moved in permanently with Will, his boyfriend and his Dom. It was really nice that the story picked up so far into the future because so many things had changed, but many had stayed the same. Jesse had become comfortable with his sexuality and his gay relationship, while Will had grown as a Dom and Jesse's Master. It was tragic that it took a horrific accident for them to examine themselves, each other, and to truly give their love a test for all time.

Jesse and Will have settled into a really nice life together. Jesse has finished his MA in History and got a good job in his field. Will left his father's company and started his own. Together they weathered some of the rough times that come with working too many hours and not spending enough time with each other. Will's parents love Jesse, and they travel to Jesse's family to visit routinely. All around their life is good, they love one another, and nothing can impact that. Right?

While heading home from a ski weekend up north, they skid on black ice and head into the guardrail. Jesse suffers several cracked ribs, one of which causes internal bleeding, and Will breaks his leg and gets pretty bashed up. Now, normally, people would need to recover from these types of injuries and perhaps there would be some lingering fear of driving or not wanting to be a passenger, etc. What happens with Will and Jesse begins as something different. Because Will's mobility is seriously hampered, work is brought to the house for him and he throws himself into it, and somehow he and Jesse end up living in the same house, but not together.

Will pulls farther and farther away from Jesse and poor Jesse doesn't know how to fix this. When Jesse finally reaches his breaking point, Will admits he can't be Jesse's Dom right now. He can't hurt him because he's been hurt too much, regardless that Will knows it's two totally different types of pain. So, instead, Jesse is forced to return to Laura, the Domme he had before Will, and a good friend. But, it isn't submission Jesse

needs, it's submission with Will, and it takes Laura showing him that and referring both Jesse and Will to a psychiatrist in the lifestyle before they begin to work on their issues. Of course, they are both still men, and, let's face it, guys stink at trying to work things out, no matter how well-meaning they are. So, Will and Jesse struggle, a lot, and discover things about themselves and their relationship that come as a bit of a surprise.

This was a good story, but I'll admit that I didn't care for it as much as Will and Jesse's first tale. I had some difficulty with some of the drama, mainly because it didn't ring true for me. The story was still very well written, fast-paced, with strong characters, but for some reason I couldn't connect with this one as I did the prior. I still liked it and will probably re-read it down the way so I can reevaluate my feelings. Oftentimes my reactions are influenced by somewhere my brain has been stuck and not really a true reflection of the story. I guess I'm not perfect after all. *sigh*

NOTE: This book was provided by Dreamspinner Press for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Lisa Henry says

3.5 stars Rounded up for hotness of scenes.

Everything I write in this review is influenced by one major thing: I really, **really** loved the first book. And I think if my expectations hadn't been as high, this would have easily been a full four star read (Dammit Goodreads, why can't we do half stars?) and I wouldn't have been so conflicted. The problem is, I loved Jesse and Will in the first book, and here...not so much.

I loved the conflict in the first book with Jesse having to decide between his girlfriend and Will. Here the conflict - the fallout from a car accident - didn't feel right. Or enough, or something. I just didn't see the cracks in the relationship. So you're working different jobs, and you hardly see each other, and you have to schedule time together on a board on the fridge. That's not a sign of relationship apocalypse, guys, that's just a relationship.

The scenes between the guys were mostly hot, but the lingerie one did confuse me a bit. I just don't know why dressing up in women's underwear was suddenly humiliating, when a few chapters ago they were both in drag. I might need to go and reread that bit again...

It was nice to see some family interaction with Jesse and Will, and the side plot with Domme Laura's domestic situation was interesting and a little bit heartbreakingly.

I liked this book. It was a good, solid read. I was just hoping for more.

annob says

3.5 stars!

Compared with the wonderfully intense first book of this series, this sequel provide a really nice reunion with the main characters but had a disappointingly weak plot.

Chemistry:
Still off the charts!

Steamy scenes:
Aplenty!

Romantic arc:
Meandering, and lacked a sense of aim.

Storyline:
I could not see Will and Jesse as anything else but deeply in love with each other no matter how much the author attempted to create a divide between them in this sequel. It was nice to reunite with them, to see where they ended up in life and how they were doing as a couple. On the disappointing side; the characters comes to life beautifully in the intimate scenes but as soon as they end, the narration changed into a disconnected 'tell rather than show' style.

I don't regret reading this sequel, but think it would have worked better tightened down to half as long.

Shannon says

Didn't like this one as much as the first but still a solid read. I was shocked at how fast their relationship unraveled after the accident and fairly confused about the "why" of the whole thing. It seemed a drastic reaction to a car wreck. It was hard to watch them struggle to find their way back and frankly, Will could have done a bit more groveling IMO. We finally got a bit more of the BDSM towards the end but still wanted more!

Emma Sea says

Sometimes the more you anticipate a book the harder it is for the story to win you over. I adored book one: this volume, not so much.

I had some issues with Will's motivation, which Lisa addresses in her review and comments. It all felt forced, and also contradicts the established realities of Will and Jesse's relationship.

I also had issues with Jesse being dressed in women's clothing, and being referred to as a girl, with a pussy, in order to humiliate him. I read m/m for escapism, and it is unpleasant and unwelcome being reminded that my very embodiment can be considered totally icky. These scenes upset me so much I had to hold off on reviewing the book for more than a week, or it would have coloured my rating unduly.

The BDSM takes a back seat in this book, and this was one of my biggest disappointments. I liked the first book precisely because it showed two healthy, whole individuals who engage in BDSM activities in a mature and intelligent way as part of a broader loving relationship. For me, then, it was a backward step to have the same characters in a book where the Dom can no longer bear to engage in more than restraint with the sub, and where they are unable to discuss the situation clearly with each other.

The emotional focus in the book seems to be on Laura's family. This situation was a woah-hold-up! moment for me. I don't like how it was resolved, although the whole thing is probably as realistic a solution as I could come up with.

All these factors together made it an unengaging book. I did not enjoy reading it, and I almost wish I could unread it, because now it has coloured my enjoyment of the guys in book one.

Awilk -never sleeps- says

<3.5Stars

I did enjoy the chance to catch up with two beloved characters with this book, but have to admit that I didn't enjoy this sequel quite as much as I did the original.

The story was well written, and I still devoured this book, but it has taken me a long time to put my thoughts in order enough to write a review.

I only had one problem with this, and it was how Will became an entirely different person in this story in my opinion. I am sure that have a serious accident could worry you, but I didn't feel it was realistic to have that change elementary parts of your character. I didn't feel it was enough to make him question his dominance the way it did.

The Laura sub story also fell rather flat for me. I don't think it was the best choice of plot device the author could have chosen.

Of being yours was still a thoroughly entertaining read, and I would like more of these men to read about, but this book didn't live up to its predecessor.

El Ma says

Wenn der Funke nicht überspringen will ...

<https://elmaliest.wordpress.com/2017/...>

Annery says

THREE ½ STARS (GR we need that ½ star option!)

This is the sequel to Another Way and perhaps right there lies the first problem. For me that book was almost perfect in the way that it told the story of a young man on his journey to embracing his BDSM desires and furthermore as a heretofore heterosexual falling in love with his Dom, Will, who is possibly one of the best guys I've read in any genre. It really didn't need a continuation. The "careful what you wish for" adage is very fitting in this case (though I had not wished it).

The book starts off fine; an easing us into what life is like for Jesse & Will and how they are settling into the different aspects of their relationship: the couple part & the D/s part. This part is well done though the style of writing does seem to lack the passion & urgency of the first book. It makes sense. There is no urgency. Just a succession of "this happened and this happened and then Will kissed me etc." Everything seems to be exactly right yet I barely got warm and then THE BIG THING HAPPENS. (view spoiler).

Though traumatic what happens is not something insurmountable and while Will's original response is fine he does IMHO go a little overboard but is later willing to fix it whereas Jesse comes off as a bit of a selfish brat in that he seems incapable of being empathetic to Will's plight for even a week! Yes we know he is a sub and that is why he needs and has Will but in the first book when he was going through much more emotional upheaval and turmoil he seems stronger. It would seem that his time with Will has just made him dependent and not in a good way.

I added the extra ½ star because of my great love for the first book and because I live in hope that the third installment will reestablish these two guys whom I love.

Reflection says

4.5 stars

This audio book had me chuckling right from the start as narrator Brad Langer took the role of Jesse Ross. He has a great voice but his characterization of Jesse's Dom Will was simply too sexy to be believable.

Apart from a huge grin that manifested for me whenever Will was voiced (sounding like a 1970s ad for aftershave), the story was entirely engaging as Jesse related his life with Will with both humour and poignancy.

Life is depicted in all its messy exchanges, sometimes funny, sometimes mundane and at other times breathtakingly painful or unexpectedly heart warming. Nothing is straightforward.

'Of Being Yours' was a joy to listen too, it brought laughter (and not just at Will's uber sexy and masterful voice) and tears. I thought it was a beautiful exploration of passion and lust and the complexity of human nature.

My full guest review is available at Boy Meets Boy Reviews

Audio file was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.
