



# A Player for Christmas

*Taylor Hart*

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## **A Player for Christmas** Taylor Hart

Brooks Stone, wide receiver for the Miami Surf, isn't the type of guy to make dreams come true; he's too busy dealing with a high ankle sprain and the anniversary of his wife's death.

Callie Given, a cancer patient at Primary Children's Hospital, only has one wish for Christmas—dinner with Brooks Stone. He flatly refuses, until Sam Dumont threatens to make sure the coaches bench him if he doesn't comply.

Ana Given thought fighting for her daughter's life was enough of a challenge. She never expected famous football player Brooks Stone to actually show up. If he was a friend of her ex-husband, he's definitely not someone she wants hanging around her daughter. Good thing she sends him away. Too bad her daughter sees him before he can leave.

When Brooks and Ana find themselves on a quest to find Callie's father, neither would have imagined getting on a plane together, going to a cage fight, or...kissing.

Brooks wonders how these two women have become everything to him in less than seventy-two hours.

Now he has to make a decision—get what he wanted for Christmas or become the player he was always meant to be.

## **A Player for Christmas Details**

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Author : Taylor Hart

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Contemporary Romance

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# From Reader Review A Player for Christmas for online ebook

## Lisa (Bookworm Lisa) says

This is a super cute and sweet story. It is short and could be read quickly. I enjoyed the characters and how Brooks heart was softened when he came across a girl plagued with cancer and her mother.

They characters fall in love quickly and it is a faced paced book. The little girl, Ana, amps up the adorableness factor. She truly stole the book from the adults falling in love.

The events happen around Christmas time, but it is not a Christmas book, just a fun romance.

It is clean with some kissing and mild violence.

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## Pam says

A Player for Christmas is by Taylor Hart. It is a story that tugs at your heart as it deals with wishes for terminally ill children. The resilience of terminally ill children is amazing and the fortitude of their parents is admirable. Under such

terrible circumstances, a last wish being granted seems to take away the hope that parents have. These wishes are generally given only when there is no hope left. Is that true for Callie?

Brooks Stone is a major player for Miami. However, due to a sprained ankle, it is questionable whether or not he will play in the Christmas game. He definitely wants to and is very upset because he thinks no one is listening to him that it is OK. He is holed up in his home not seeing anyone. Having been in foster homes his entire life, he is used to being alone. However, today is also the day his wife died which makes it worse. His agent visits but has no effect on him. However, a visit from Sam Dumant, the quarterback for Miami does. Sam has asked Brooks to come to Colorado and the Primary Children's Hospital to fulfill a little girl's wish. Callie is an avid fan and wants to meet Brooks Stone and to go to dinner with him. Brooks doesn't want to go; but when Sam agrees to do his best to get Brooks to play in the Christmas game, he agrees. When he arrives, he has second thoughts. These thoughts disappear when he meets Callie. She says he is God's answer to her prayers. Her Mother is not as excited to see him. To her, he represents giving up. She wants to take Callie to Brazil for treatments but can't take her out of the country without permission from her missing father and not until she gets the money. Can Brooks help her?

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## Sara Cardon says

This is really sweet. Brooks is grieving and going through the motions when he's essentially ordered to visit a little girl named Callie who is who is sick with cancer, a huge fan of his, and who's wish for Christmas is to go to dinner with him. He goes, planning on trying to stay on his best behavior, and check this off his to-do list. But the visit changes him. And feeling close to Callie, and admiring her mother Ana, brings out the best hidden away inside. I love Brooks - from his hard, driven, I don't care exterior, to his the desire to be the hero Callie sees him as, to his big bear hugs. I enjoyed this.

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## **Jessie says**

### **Merry Christmas to Me**

I love the Last Play series, and was excited about this new release. These books make me want to watch football and have a team to root for. Taylor Hart makes it feel so real that I think I would actually feel disappointed when I don't see Roman Young, Sam Dumont, or Brooks Stone playing.

This story was shorter than the other books in the series. I was able to read it in an hour and a half. It could be read independently, but the rest of the series is great, so I would recommend reading the other books too!

This story was particularly touching about nine year old Callie, who has cancer and wishes to have a dinner date with her favorite football player, Brooks Stone. Callie was adorable, and full of faith and hope.

I liked Ana and Brooks together, but the relationship developed a little too quickly for me (hazards of a short book). I wanted to see their relationship developing further.

Overall, a sweet holiday romance, and a great addition to the series.

Content: clean (a handful of minor swear words: d..., some kissing, violence: a cage fight, religious elements: some talk of God sending Brooks to them)

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## **Kathy says**

Similar to the other books in this series. These have a fairy tale feel to them although they are contemporary romance stories. There is always a wealthy football player who saves the day. And of course the girl always falls madly in insta-love with him. Despite the unbelievability of the story-line I quite like them and enjoy reading them.

Content: Clean

Source: Kindle Unlimited

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## **Coral Mitchell says**

Brooks is a great football player but not so great with the media and being a team player. His injury is not making the anniversary of his wife's death any easier. He does not want to meet his super fan, an adorable cancer patient Callie. Meeting her and her mother Ana throws him off his game even more and questioning his path in life. A great read.

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## **Julie Carpenter says**

If you need a quick, sweet, touching and tender story, this one definitely would fit the bill. I picked it up thinking I'd read it a little before bedtime and found that I couldn't put it down. It was a pretty fast read for me and one that I enjoyed lots.

I saw the author's newsletter last week and she mentioned the background for writing this novel and I knew

instantly that I wanted to read it. From all the thoughts and feelings she put into her story of why, the actual reading of the story did not disappoint. I loved it! I loved the characters! I loved the sweet romance! It's just one of those great feel good stories and yet it shows depth of characters, growth, healing, sorrow and love throughout. All that leaves you cheering each character on and wishing and hoping for the best.

Super sweet and definitely one I'd re-read and recommend!

Content: Clean. Some kissing scenes but nothing further. Talk about childhood cancer.

I snagged a freebie from Amazon.

Happy Reading!!!

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### **MJSH says**

I love Taylor Hart's Last Play series. This book is the sixth book I've read so far from the series (yes, I kind of read them out of order....which isn't a big deal since the books are loosely tied together). I had just finished a pretty epic historical saga of a book and needed something with a lot of sweetness but not sap. This book hit the spot. Anyone who enjoys contemporary romance with a less-than-heroic football player becoming the hero would love this book.

The book is well-written and the plot is fast-moving. The characters are wonderful. Brooks is the broken, reticent, foster home boy grown to be a menacing wide receiver looking to drown his past and hurts and sorrows in football. Ana is the protective mama bear with hurts and brokenness of her own, trying to find a curative therapy for her daughter Callie's bone cancer. Brooks and Ana's dialogue is filled with tense moments, spunk, teasing, and tenderness (in the end ) which makes the book a lot of fun. Callie is a fantastic nine year-old who brings no-nonsense honesty to the plot.

There are plenty of swoon-worthy scenes throughout the book, which are totally Taylor Hart's trademark. I mean what woman won't be swept off her feet by a multi-millionaire football player who goes all out to help her daughter? Even to the point of getting in a martial arts cage fight (a very memorable scene, by the way)? I love that each of her book in the series offers something a little different in the football heroes - a martial arts trainee and foodie in this book, a music lover in another....and I also love that Roman Young and Sam Dumont from the previous books made appearances in this story.

This book is definitely a worthwhile read. It made my heart glad.

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### **Bree says**

I decided to celebrate Christmas in July so I read this fun book that happens around Christmastime but isn't too Christmasy. I really enjoyed this book about a star football player that visits a cute but sick little girl in the hospital and changes his life for the better. I don't like the Brooks at the beginning of the book but who he becomes at the end of the book is great. Serving those around you can lead to a happy life. This is a cute, heartwarming, and quick read that will put you in the holiday spirit and you just may shed a tear.

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## **Maree Repa says**

I thoroughly enjoyed this amazing series, The Last Play. I was so excited to read and read the fourth book as it is A Player for Christmas. I just adore anything about Christmas too.

Then meeting Brook Stone, a Footballer who played with the Miami Surf team. Suffering after he was unable to play after his ankle injury and the fear after the death of his loving wife only just a year ago. So many sad memories for anyone to endure. He knew now he just couldn't deal with this anymore.

Brook knew he needed help. Being told by his other team mates, Sam worked with the Children's Hospital. Hoping that a Callie, a young Cancer patient who wished to meet him as her Christmas wish.

This most beautiful and sweet Christmas tale, it was such an adorable romantic tale. It had so much love and was such a perfect way to end this such enjoyable read!!

\* I recommend this book to everyone!!

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## **Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says**

I've been reading this Last Play series from the beginning and I really do love it. Each book revolves around a professional football player who starts out ornery and jaded in some way, for some reason, but that usually doesn't last too long. In this case, all it takes for Brooks to come around is meeting Callie who is a cancer patient with one Christmas wish- to meet him.

There are lots of sparks and tension in this book. The kissing gave me goosebumps! I love how Brooks throws himself into helping Callie and Ana just like he would throw himself into a football game. He's an all in, full on type of guy.

This was the perfect book to feed my romantic hankerings and put me in the Christmas spirit. If you haven't read any of the books in this series, you really should. Especially if you love clean romance. This is easily one of my favorites. Fun, flirty, clean, easy reading that leaves you with a smile.

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## **Cindy Caron says**

What a beautiful story! Even though this book deals with some pretty "heavy duty" issues, it is the perfect Christmas miracle tale. Still reeling from the loss of his wife, for reasons no one else would understand, Brooks doesn't want to take on the "special mission" for one of his teammates, but following his injury, and if he wants to play in the big game, he doesn't have much choice. What he doesn't know is that he's about to experience just what a Christmas miracle is. And her name is Callie, even though she comes with a built in mom. But even Brooks and Ana can't escape the miracle of Callie and the faith she holds within her. Be prepared to have a cry or two, make sure tissues are handy, and that you have enough time to read it from start to finish, because once you start, you won't be able to put it down.

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## **Mary McFarlane says**

Ugh this one was a bit of a tear jerker. A dead wife and dying kid come on how were you not suppose to tear up a little bit. I still can't get over how all these couples fall in love within 2 days of each other but these books just suck me right in!

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## **Nicki says**

### **Tear jerker**

I think I spent most of the book sniffing. Cancer is bad but kids with cancer just really gets to me. Add in all the other drama and the first part of the book had me all weepy. The romance lightened up the story. A book that makes me cry is well written and pulls me in. This story was a good one.

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## **Joyce says**

### **Callie's Illness**

Callie's has an obsession with Brooks Stone and her wish is to meet him and go to dinner. Brooks wants to be back on the team for the next game. He tells his manager he will visit the little girl if he is given the release to play in the Christmas game. When Brooks meets Callie she turns his world upside down. This is a well written story with strong and believable characters. A man who has been abandoned all his life, a mother whose husband left her and her sick child, and Callie who has a smile for everyone even though she is so sick. Couldn't put the book down. Know you will enjoy this book.

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