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Von James Lear

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Produktinformation Veröffentlicht am: 2013-05-20Erscheinungsdatum: 2013-05-20File Name: B00ATLAUGY | File size: 62.Mb

Von James Lear : The Hardest Thing: A Dan Stagg Mystery before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hardest Thing: A Dan Stagg Mystery:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Be prepared!Von LenaRibkalt is my first of James Lear and I think I have to try more of his work to decide if I like his

writing or not. Probably I had just a bad timing for *The Hardest Thing: A Dan Stagg Mystery*. There is a tiny disadvantage of reading really good books that wowed you - you suffer through a bad book hangover after and compare everything with these books, and the result is mostly not to beneficial to your current read. I'm still finding myself in hangover state, and it is probably one of the reasons why I didn't enjoy this book as much as I originally hoped. I have an impression that James Lear couldn't chose between the genres: Was it supposed to be a mystery or a porn or a satire or something else? I don't know. It could be a winner for those readers who think that focusing on a genre gets monotonous. But I expected to find a mystery a la Marshall Thornton or Josh Lanyon, and it was not. I ought have had better to prepare myself for James Lear's prose, but I like to dive into a new book knowing nothing about it, and I like to develop a new author without any foreknowledge. Sometimes it goes wrong. You shouldn't pick up James Lear's book if you want in the first place a thrilling MM-mystery. The mystery part here is very illogical and in some situations very unreal, often even very close to absurdity. The way Dan Stagg solves his problems is very...er...unconventional but it works always. You are though on the right place here if your primary goal is a prolific erotica...Because it is rather a sophisticated porn. I liked the first half of the book much more than the second part. Actually it was pretty good. And there are some really nice made things in the book, (view spoiler) But the second part and the ending ruined the story for me. (view spoiler) I didn't feel a lot of chemistry between the MCs in the second part and I wasn't very impressed by the first person's POV - normally it is my favourite way of telling. The quantity and the quality of sex scenes in the book rather confused me than aroused. I don't mind if it helps to understand the story, but I don't like it if it brings you away from any sense of reality. It was why I got bored toward the end with the plot, with Dan Stagg and with his chaos of emotions. Do I recommend it? Of course! It is easy going, it is fun, and it is entertaining read, in a lowbrow way. Just be prepared! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fast, hard and oh so hot... Von Calathea I've known James Lear from his Mitch Mitchell series, a three volume series about a 1920s wannabe sleuth who leads the most promiscuous life ever. *The Hardest Thing* is a contemporary story. The lead, Dan Stagg, is an ex-marine, fresh out of his latest job. When an offer arrives on his door step he can't refuse, he's in over his head with his new charge (Stirling a.k.a. Jody). What follows is lots of action and lots of f***ing (remember? erotica here). Dan has to face the demons of his past and come to terms with his emotions (yes, there are emotions in this story, too^^). This isn't your usual erotica (too much plot) or your usual romance (too little emphasis on the relationship) as it isn't your usual action flick (too much relationship and too much f***ing). Dan does everything (and in every sense possible) to get the job done and you're in for fast paced read that leaves you (or me at least) asking for the next part of the story.

Kurzbeschreibung Killing is easy. Love is... *The Hardest Thing* James Lear does Lee Child Once a major in the U.S. Army, Dan Stagg fell afoul of Dont Ask Dont Tell. In his late 30s, tall, and muscular, Dan is prone to violence, always upholding what he views as justice. He's offered a great deal of money to protect the young male secretary of a powerful real estate broker. The vain, shallow but most of all hot young man's idea of protection includes sex. Dan quickly realizes something strange is going on: he's being used as a shield for a much more sinister operation and must chose between easy money and sex or the ideals that he embodied in the Army. Why should he do the right thing particularly when the army betrayed him? *The Hardest Thing* is a sexy gay mystery as only James Lear can write it: filled with lots of gay sexual encounters, romance, sweat, violence, and conspiracy. Pressestimmen "as an erotic novel with romantic elements this book deserves five stars" - Dear Author "This might make a nice change-of-pace for erotica fans and mystery lovers alike, so if you want a book that packs heat, grab this one." Dallas Voice "James Lear's sexy gay mystery pays homage to classic pulp fiction as a former U.S. Army major must guard a beautiful young man. When Army vet Dan Stagg falls afoul of DADT he becomes entangled in a web of conspiracy." Publishers Weekly "Although packed with a plethora of hardcore sex scenes, James Lear's *The Hardest Thing* contains, at its core, a fine private detective mystery novel in this seventh in a growing list of similar works by the author. Any reader skimming it for the sexy parts will miss out on what is actually quite a good story." Foreword Magazine "The writing is captivating and the suspense plot is thrilling. If you're looking for a book that travels at a breakneck pace, one which contains a flawed but loveable hero, then I would highly recommend *The Hardest Thing* with a grade of 'Excellent'." Well Read "But for all the loose zipper, tough talking, heavy handed bravado, Stagg is a very likeable protagonist, one that reminded this reader on more than one occasion of more mainstream hetero heroes like Lee Child's Jack Reacher, Barry Eisler's John Rain, or David Baldacci's Lee Adams. One thing is sure, this reader is eagerly awaiting the next Dan Stagg mystery." Gay/Lesbian Fiction Book s "It's exciting, compelling and a rip roaring read of a story. I'll definitely be reading more Dan Stagg mysteries." The Romance s "This dazzling, fast-paced, roller coaster of an adventure story does not disappoint. With plenty of scintillating twists and turns, smoldering sexcapades, and the provocative, darkly-humorous narrative of Dan Stagg at its wheel, this is action/adventure that takes you places. Deep into the dark, seedy underbelly of the human mind and then deeper, into the vulnerable, soft places of the human heart. Top all this off with a visceral and tender ending and you've got what I would call a hole-in-one winner, one that I can't

wait to read again and again."Rainbow Books"James manages to convey action without having to go on and on about it a few closely written pages and I was in the scene."Jeannie Zelos"If you're looking for a great mystery, with a lot of action and suspense, together with graphic and unrestrained sex, then I highly recommend you read Lears, *The Hardest Thing!*"Risques "A new erotic spin on an old mystery trope."Books on Silver Wings"For what is essentially a good summer read, *The Hardest Thing* will have you pondering as ex-marine Dan Stagg, whose grittier methods could be considered unacceptable by some, sets out to prove his worth. There's plenty of wit and humour and Lear's prose is concise, descriptive and, in using Dan Stagg as first person narrator, insightful of the man's rather complex relationship with himself."Cathode Ray Tube"One of the best gay erotic fiction stories I've read in a long time."Antony Simpson"A great romp of a thriller with quite a lot of sex!"Lesbians North London"The Hardest Thing about this book is putting the thing down!"Airen Wolf s"Plenty of action and second-guessing to keep us reading."Fresh Fiction"An entertaining and sexy story."Night Owl s"_intriguing gay erotica/mystery hybrid novel and it's love, in case you were wondering."Erotic Trade Only"Red hot, filled with lots of sex, action, and romance."Quixotic Orchid"The Hardest Thing has all the bad-ass swagger of a really good noir but also a soft romantic underbelly that was lovely and very well written. A tremendously fun read--a great escape--with mystery, bad guys and have I mentioned a little (tons of) sex?"Sommer Marsden"A great mystery with some of the hottest erotic fiction I've ever read."Cameron D James"Dan Stagg, the narrator of James Lears seventh novel, *The Hardest Thing*, is a hot-tempered ex-marine with a bad attitude and a limitless libido."EDGE"The superlative quality of James Lears writing never fails to amaze me. From the opening lines of *The Hardest Thing* I was absolutely hooked."Erotica Revealed"The Hardest Thing is a sexy gay mystery as only James Lear can write it: filled with lots of sexual encounters, romance, sweat, violence and conspiracy."Erotica Readers and Writers Association"I haven't read a novel by a male in a long time but this one had me on page one with its narrated type opening. Love the different plot and fresh writing style."Networking Witches"Dynamic, tautly written, *The Hardest Thing* delivers sex, action and romance with an equally deft touch. Dan Stagg is convincing as a soldier betrayed by DADT and as a man of passionate appetites. His story unfolds at a red-hot pace, together with his feelings for his mysterious protg. A terrific, compelling read."Harper Fox, author of *Salisbury Key*"James Lear's *The Hardest Thing* blends an unruly literary sensibility with wild and raunchy excess. An enormously entertaining homage to classic pulp friction."Josh Lanyon, author of *Fatal Shadows*"The Hardest Thing is without a doubt James Lears most powerful novel yetgritty and gripping, steamy and suspenseful killer-thriller with a hero who is at once cold-blooded, hot-headed and sexy as hell. Dan Stagg is gay literatures answer to Jack Reacher; he is a hero as daring and defiant as he is flawed and fallible. The hardest thing about this book is having to wait for the next Dan Stagg mystery!"Geoff Knight, author of *Curse of the Dragon God* and *Riddle of the Sands*Like many victims of the military's Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy, Dan Stagg is an ex-Marine having trouble fitting back into society. In his own words, he's a well-oiled machine with no ideas about right and wrong, good and evil. He's had his heart broken and he's determined not to let that happen again. That is, until he meets a cute, spoiled client who needs to be protected, and then everything turns ugly once again. James Lear's *The Hardest Thing* is violent, fast-paced and very sexy, with a bad-boy hero you can't help but fall for. Dan Stagg is a gay action hero for the twenty-first century." Neil Plakcy, author of the *Mahu Investigations*