



# Pony

*S.J.D. Peterson*

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## **Pony** S.J.D. Peterson

Grant Maxwell, aka Max, wakes to find his coffeepot has died in the night. Not one who can start his day without his favorite brew, he heads to the local coffee shop. Max finds something even more appealing than caffeine in the form of a twenty-six-year-old hottie Aiden James. For the first time in his life, well-established, confident and respected Dom Max finds himself sputtering and unsure in the face of Aiden's charms.

Aiden lives with three roommates, works a dead-end job, and isn't sure where his life is heading, that is, until he meets Max. Max introduces him to a foreign yet intriguing lifestyle, and they soon discover they have something more than mutual attraction in common.

A shared kink is one thing, but Aiden's past vanilla sexual experiences as well as his fear of losing himself in Max may keep Aiden from experiencing his fantasy. Max has an obstacle of his own to overcome. He must somehow figure out how to help Aiden explore his submissive side when, for the first time in his life, he's head over heels in love.

## **Pony Details**

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# From Reader Review Pony for online ebook

~☆~Dœni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~☆~ says

## 3.5 Giddyup Baby Stars

3 for the story; 4 for the riding crops, hoods, and tails.

This was an easy, smutastic read. It was delectably dirrrrrty and raunchy, not for public consumption lest you self-combust or beg to hump the coffee boy.

Yes, COFFEE. That's where it all starts. Max (aka Grant Maxwell the psychiatrist) falls in lust with the cute boy working at his local coffee shop and asks him out to dinner. Aiden is all that AND wants to be a pony. They begin dating and generally getting it on (D/s contracts, visits to the tailor for some voyeurism, butt plugs and all).

My main issue is that there wasn't much to the plot; the sexual chemistry was there, yes, but the rest of it was just so easy: meet, throw down the kinks, fall in love. We don't get any external life details, nothing about Max's job (it must be stressful working with the mentally ill, but it's barely mentioned) and not much about Aiden's roommates (except they don't like him spending so much time with Max). There was also something slightly schizo about the very swift shift from Chinese food and vanilla sex to Sir/boy, kneel while I work, and let-me-spank-you pretty.

There were a couple minor angst buttons with Aiden not being sure he wants to cede all control to Max, and Max trying to be both a Dom AND a partner to Aiden, but both issues were resolved painlessly. That's not necessarily bad, just not on-the-edge-of-your-seat reading.

I did like seeing the other characters from past books, especially Tuckett and Micah, and the final chapter was steamy. Recommended for those craving hard-core kink swirled with all-around feel-goodness but not for angst seekers or lovers of meaty, gritty plot lines.

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## Jackie Mckenzie says

In this third book in the Guards of Folsom series we get to see Grant “Max” Maxwell pursue his very won sub. Max's story was hinted at in Tag Team, the second book of the series. I know I was looking very forward to seeing what Max and Aiden were up to and I can honestly tell you that I was not disappointed.

Max's road to a HEA starts very innocently. His coffee maker craps out one morning and while he is out getting coffee he runs into what may possibly be the most perfect man he has ever laid eyes on. By day Max is a highly respected psychologist and by night he is a much sought after Dom. This man Max meets, Aiden, turns Max into a bumbling teenager every time he tries to talk to him. When Max works up the nerve to ask Aiden out he is very happy when he accepts.

Max and Aiden spend time getting to know one another both in the bedroom and out. It is obvious from the beginning that this is a true love match, at least to the readers. It seems to take a while for the MCs to figure that out.

Aiden is an innocent in the BDSM lifestyle where Max is a very experienced Dom. They spend time not only exploring their romantic relationship, but their shared interests in the BDSM lifestyle. After signing a contract together Aiden's training starts getting serious. I loved watching how Aiden came to grips with the feelings he was experiencing. There was no rush to understanding. He liked what they were doing together, but he still had his doubts about the bond they were forming. He didn't want to lose his own identity to Max, but he didn't want to lose Max either.

Ms. Peterson did a fabulous job of explaining the progression from beginner to novice and finally to inseparable couple. She just has a way of making the whole progression believable. There were such real details and the internal thoughts of both MCs were used perfectly to put the reader right in the scene with them. I have loved each and every book in this series, but I feel this book touched me the most. I liked the reality of not just jumping in with both feet. I also liked that these two men communicated with one another instead of letting things get out of hand and putting distance between them.

This was a very well written story that will draw you in and leave you begging for more. There are some brief visits from former characters and even a small appearance from one of my all-time favorite characters. Oh, did I forget to mention that Aiden is Lorcan's brother? (tee hee) This is a book and series that you will NOT want to miss. No, really, you don't want to miss this one, go on now, buy the book!

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## **Gina says**

This was so not a winner for me, which was a shock because I have loved the other two books in this series. But, to be blunt about it, I found myself giggling when I wasn't supposed to be, rolling my eyes at other times and honestly waiting some type of story.

When I first started this book I quickly realized it was mostly about sex, and light on substance. I am not complaining about this, hot sex is well....hot! In my opinion a book which is light on substance and heavy on sex should titillate, your face get hot, your hands sweat, you are so absorbed and engrossed in the sexapades you can't put the book down. And while this book definitely had hot moments (the changing room comes to mind), most were ruined for me by the pony play. Now while I enjoy reading BDSM books, and I don't mind some kink, apparently pony play does not interest me. I found nothing arousing about a guy with a mane and tail. And "giddy up" should never be said during sex in a serious way. (just my opinion, LOL). And by the rave reviews I have seen for this book it appears I am in the minority here. Which is cool, to each their own, thank god we all don't have to like the same things.

What would have "balanced" this for me was some story, some angst maybe, suspense possibly. There simply was nothing other than Grant and Aiden dating and their insta-love. Grant introducing Aiden to the BDSM lifestyle and Aiden fighting his embarrassment and/or fear of his friends finding out. I was honestly looking forward to Max's story, from the last book I got a glimpse of the character and I wanted more.

I will say it was wonderful to see the characters from the other two books. I am still a big fan of this author and will continue to read her stories. We can't like them all I guess.

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## Jodi Pushkin says

First I need to say that I am a huge fan of SJD Peterson's writing. From the first page, I could not put this book down. *Pony* is a great addition to this series. I realize you could read this book as a stand alone, but it had more impact for me knowing the background of the other characters. Of course, any time TY and Blake show up in a book, it makes me smile. That being said, this book does stand on its own.

Max and Aiden are great characters. I fell in love with them both within the first few chapters. Peterson does a great job of character and plot development. My only criticism is that I would like to have seen a little more development of their characters. It was great to learn about Max's introduction to the club and his relationship to the other club members.

Although I am ignorant about this lifestyle and some aspects make me uncomfortable, the Guards of Folsom series is one of my favorite m/m series thanks to Peterson's writing style.

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## Monique says

**There is an exclusive short story from the Guards of Folsom over on our blog... If you want to see what the boys got upto on New Years Eve... go have a nosy**

**<http://sinfullysexybooks.blogspot.co....>**

**Love this book, love the series, love the author... that's just a whole heap of love pouring out of me for this latest instalment in the Guards of Folsom series.**

I have fallen head over heels for Max and Aiden, they are EXPLOSIVE! ...which is pretty much what happened to my ovaries reading this book, their chemistry was palpable, the emotion intense and their love intimate and passionate to the point where I am sure there was steam rising from the pages... it was a slow seduction for me as a reader and SERIOUSLY FUCKING HOT! and believe me I had enough tummy tingling going on, it was making me giddy... quite possible the hottest sex I've had this year! ... on the pages of a book of course!?!

Grant Maxwell... all 6ft of him is a Dom, controlled, a man of intelligence, who exudes confidence, not easily flustered, and at the age of 35 his life experiences able him to rationalise... yet the man behind the counter at his local coffee shop, so beautiful and mesmerising with his pale green eyes has turned this once calm and restrained professional psychiatrist into a gibbering wreck, all of a flutter and as nervous as a virgin bride on her wedding night... or as Max puts it, *“as nervous as a virgin at a prison rodeo”*

After ten years of controlling other men, their movements, their pleasure, at times their very

breath, he couldn't even pick out a goddamn shirt to wear. "Oh, Aiden, what have you done to me?"

Aiden, is not a flirt, in fact he is not very good at the whole dating and sex thing, he's shy, and a little timid, not socially withdrawn but definitely not an extrovert... But with Max his inner flirt seems to have jumped up waving "*hello*", joined the party and found a life of it's own, because he was teasing Max into a frustrated frenzy on the point of melt down and loving every minute of it!

"I am usually very much in control, but you are shredding my grip on it very quickly." He opened the passenger car door. "Now get in before I lose it and rip your clothes off right here and now."

Instead of doing as Max instructed, Aiden moved up close and ran a single finger down Max's torso along his breastbone to the top of his waistband as he stared at Max from under long curling lashes. "Not really much of a deterrent, Max," he murmured seductively.

Finding out Max was a Dom most definitely piqued his interest, he had no experience with the lifestyle it wasn't even something he had consciously thought of in the past but that bit of knowledge set his body on fire, the thought of being controlled, especially by Max was sending his curiosity straight to his groin and straight onto the internet... where he discovers his fantasy... Pony Play ...and when Max discovers that little gem of information, after picking his tongue up off the floor, because you guessed it, Max loves to ride a Pony... and he is determined to fulfil *that* fantasy!

Max was completely and utterly smitten with Aiden, and his own amazement of the fact was such an overwhelming realisation for him, to be so much in awe of another man, his whole being consumed... and it wasn't just Max, because cupid had surely been out with those arrows, as Aiden was just as enthralled as Max. He wanted the control and dominance, his body and mind craving and needing Max to take charge... not really knowing where those feelings had emerged from but Max had opened his eyes to a new world and he was inquisitive, almost greedy wanting to experience it all, the lifestyle, the kink, he was fascinated and like a sponge he wanted to soak it all up and I loved watching Aiden's enthusiasm and delight at the new sensations he was experiencing, and the sincerity of it, made all the more powerful because of what he was feeling for Max, and Max's love and pride was so full in his heart at Aiden's natural submission, his need to please and his intrinsic and ultimate trust so freely given, for him it was humbling.

Everything about the man was pure unadulterated sexuality. From the way he sounded, to the way he tasted and smelled, Aiden was a heady aphrodisiac. He was a delight Max planned on sampling very, very thoroughly, a feast designed for gluttony.

With Max being a responsible Dom it's not a lifestyle he wants to just throw Aiden into without him really understanding what it's about and the expectations of the D/s relationship and the power plays involved, even though Max wanted to jump up and down with the excitement of finding Mr Perfect, and have endless days and nights of mad passionate sex, he reigned in the horny teenager in love and became the Dom that Aiden needed him to be, wanting Aiden to completely become immersed in what his soul was crying out for.

This book is an emotional and sexual exploration not just for Aiden but also Max, as everything that had come before, their sexual experiences and what they thought they wanted and needed from life was blown

out of the water... nothing had prepared either of them for the intensity of their feelings. Max is so incredibly patient, wanting to introduce Aiden slowly to the lifestyle he knows and loves, but with his love for Aiden spiralling out of control... trying to reign it in and do what's right, the lines between Dom/sub and lover become blurred and their emotions too strong to separate them into boxes and Aiden fears losing himself and who he is to Max and his dependency on him.

Max was taking his responsibilities seriously, to meet the needs of his sub, and Aiden wanted that, he wanted Max to take care of him, not have to make decisions, trusting Max... but they both lost something of themselves along the way. They lost that warmth and spontaneity because of the discipline of the contract, it really made me feel quite sad and I think it's because we got the intimate side of the relationship first without any kink.

Max and Aiden's personalities are such that being open and honest with each other is part of who they are, there is little angst in this story and any conflict is really just internal struggle's with their own emotion and the intensity of it something unfamiliar to both of them that they don't really understand and in Aiden's case finds it hard to verbalise with both of them trying to find their place in a relationship.

Now, this is a BDSM novel and the title is Pony, and yes, we do get the fantasy played out in all it's glorious hotness... but not until the end... AMAZING epilogue!!! ...and to be honest, initially this book is really them getting to know each other, an erotically charged, deliciously slow torment with a smorgasbord of sex and emotion that I was intent on savouring every minute of... leaving me a wrung out puddle of lust on the floor by the end of it!

I love this author... seriously, I could become stalkerish, and the whole fan girl thing now seems tame in comparison. I have author crush... big time!!! SJD Peterson has totally wrapped the characters from this series around my heart, *PUP*, *TAGTEAM* and now *PONY* have all been excellent... and all 5 HUGE stars of wonderful and I love that we get a little glimpse of where they are up to in each book, because I am so emotionally invested in these characters, I will hang on to any snippet of information, every time I finish one of her books I feel bereft, like I have lost a part of me, like saying goodbye to friends that you want to keep by your side and can't bare to be parted from, I think I have the whole pleasure pain going on with this series! She is an incredibly talented writer and I thank the day I picked up Plan B and fell in love with Danny and Lance (because I loved the cover... just goes to show, book cover and all that!) from there on in, Jo has just totally wowed me with her style of writing, she manages to get just the right mix of hilarity, love and drama, filling it with emotion... and the sex, not forgetting the sex, cause that's sizzling and off the charts on the hotness factor! ... did I mention I love SJD Peterson???

What a fabulous book for me to finish 2013 on... if you haven't read this series, seriously, I can't recommend it enough.

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### **Barb ~rede-2-read~ says**

I'm really enjoying this series and this book is no exception. I loved the chemistry between Aiden and his Dom, Max. I also enjoyed watching Aiden grow and change and find himself as his love for Max grew and his total immersion in being his sub evolved.

I always enjoy the way this author takes the time to explain the step-by-step process of whichever aspect of BDSM she is focusing on in each book. It's always a learning experience and I appreciate her research.

I had one minor issue with this story. Even though Max explained that he was going down south to help friends (Bobby and Rig when they met Mason in Tag Team), I clearly recall a scene in Tag Team where Bobby was video chatting with Max and Max was distracted by someone in the room. In fact, I seem to recall that Bobby was shocked that Max was shirtless for that call and that he could partially see a male torso behind Max at one point. I kept waiting to see that scene from this couple's perspective but it never happened, and there was no reference to it when Max told Aiden he was leaving to go to Florida.

Now, on the other hand, I really liked the way the author tied in Aiden to Lorcan and Quinn and then, of course, Ty and Blake. Did I say I really liked that? Well, actually, I loved that. So thank you, Jo Peterson. It was very nice to hear how Lorcan and Quinn are doing.

Overall, I highly recommend this series to anyone who likes this author's work, and if you are not familiar with it but like to read BDSM-themed stories, by all means, start here or with Pup, the first book in the series. You won't be disappointed.

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### **Debra says**

I've been waiting for Max's story in this series after hearing about him for the past two books, and then finding out who exactly Aiden is in the last installment, and I was not disappointed with his story.

Max is blindsided by the attraction he feels after seeing Aiden behind the counter of his local coffee shop. In fact, it takes him days to work up the courage to ask him out. The two men easily hit it off and it quickly becomes clear that Aiden has more than a little interest in exploring his kinks and submissive fantasies with the dominant Max.

There is not much drama in this story other than Aiden trying to come to terms with his feelings for Max and his concerns over losing himself in his submissive role. This is really the story of the two men navigating a new relationship and new world for Aiden as Max introduces him to submission, working his way to fulfilling Aiden's pony play fantasy, and Max finding something that had been missing in his previous d/s relationships. Max and Aiden quickly became my favorite couple in the series and the couple with the hottest chemistry so far.

The story follows the same timeline as Pup and Tag Team, but if you haven't read those you can dive right into this one. There is also a nice little update on the men of Whispering Pines Ranch. If you are concerned about the pony play, I don't think you should let that put you off the book. The book is definitely BDSM but is more about Max and Aiden building their relationship than the actual pony play (view spoiler).

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### **Vivian says**

First time shame on you, second time--Shame on me.

I like the story. I like the writing. I like Max and Aiden. What I did NOT like is the title's unfilled promise. I



swore after Pup and the non-existent puppy play that I wouldn't fall for another. Well...hit me with a stupid stick and leave me out in the rain 'cause I did it again. Here, there was the tease and that's it!

I'd say more, but after being strung along the whole book with the unmet expectation I don't have anything else to say. Therefore, the rating reflects my disappoint not necessarily just the writing or story.

ETA: The tacked on epilogue and all the off page references did not satisfy me.

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## Macky says

3.5\*

**This is one of those times when I *really* wish Goodreads allowed half star ratings...Annoying!**

The Guards Of Folsom series has been both hit and miss for me up to now. Pup didn't do it for me because of an issue with Micah's ADHD but Tag Team was a different kettle of fish. I really loved that story! Tag, Bobby and Masons book really burrowed its way under my skin so I was pulled back into the series and left really looking forward to Max's story. A character who I really liked in Tag Team., and I still liked him in this. He's a strong, sexy experienced, caring Dom so what's not to like there? But.....

And this a bit disappointing for me to write ... unlike the majority of readers who have really adored this instalment in the series, I'm back on the fence again. First of all I didn't not like it, it started well and I loved how big bad Dom Max's reaction to to Aiden had him all tongue tied and dumbstruck and completely out of character but once they got together, which happened very quickly, I began to lose the usual connection I have with a book that normally makes me *absolutely* love it.

There's no doubt that Max and Aiden are hot together and the sex sizzles but for some reason I never fully connected to them as a couple, I felt a bit 'outside' of it all and at times my mind wandered a tad. I think I wanted to see more of a background story going on because it all seemed to be centred around a series of sizzling sexual encounters between the guys with not much else really happening. Granted some of those love scenes were hot as hell and I can see why a lot of readers were fanning themselves , I did some fanning myself ( I'm not that dead below the waist!! Lol) but personally I got a bit bored with the sex and felt a bit more conflict wouldn't have gone amiss. Apart from Aiden having one strop latish on in the story and a few moments of questioning himself about his role as a submissive, said ' moments' were solved and sorted very quickly and pretty easily. In fact I was surprised at the lowish level of angst.

The Pony kink I have no problem with at all but at the same time I don't actually find it an arousing fetish either. I love a good kink as much as anybody and I'm much more at ease with reading D/s and BDSM books now than I ever was, in fact I'm finding myself seeking them out more now because I find a lot of the aspects of the lifestyle fascinating, even if I wouldn't ever want to practice it myself, so its nothing against the subject matter.

Having said all that there were moments that I really enjoyed, one of my favourites was the scene in the changing cubicle when Max was measuring Aiden whilst the guy who normally did it was watching and writing down the measurements. I certainly found my temperature rising with that one!!! I also loved the scene in the club when they watched Micah and Tackett and I thought the way SJ balanced both their needs in the D/s relationship at the end was really satisfying so even though it wasn't full on adoration for the book

I still liked it and will wait now to see if the next in the series will see saw me back to feelings of love again like Tag Team did. I know this will be a big hit for most fans, so I say go forth and enjoy.

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## Chris Kottner-Kirschner says

Der Barista Aiden James bringt den sonst so gelassenen und selbstbewussten Psychiater Grant Maxwell völlig aus dem Takt. Der jüngere Mann geht ihm einfach nicht mehr aus dem Kopf und Grant, der von jedem nur Max genannt wird, bittet ihn schliesslich um ein Date. Aiden ist mehr als willig auf die Avancen des attraktiven Mannes einzugehen und kann diese unbestimmte Attraktion und Anziehung nicht leugnen. Max fühlt sich schnell bestätigt und erkennt in Aiden einen devoten Mann, der noch völlig unbedarft und unwissend ist.

Jedoch ist Aiden sehr neugierig und lässt sich mutig auf dieses Spiel von Unterwerfung und Dominanz ein. Ein Glück, dass er dabei an den erfahrenen Max gerät, der schon lange Zeit in der Szene spielt. Doch mit Aiden scheint es anders zu sein. Nicht nur sein devotes Verhalten ist für Max anziehend. Genauso seine Persönlichkeit, sein Auftreten, sein Humor .... alles. Dabei scheint sie Welten zu trennen und es braucht Zeit und Geduld Aiden in Max' Welt einzuführen. Dabei bekommen sie aber auch ein wenig Gegenwind und Aiden hat Angst sich in dieser Beziehung – die sich sehr schnell aufbaut – zu verlieren.

Teil drei der Guards of Folsom Reihe ist eine echte Überraschung. Ich wusste ja schon, dass mich hier eine Geschichte mit einem besonderen Kink erwarten wird. Pony-Play ist etwas sehr Spezielles. Und wer sich an dieses Buch herantraut, der sollte eine gewisse Gelassenheit mitbringen. Allerdings hat Peterson die Geschichte wirklich wahnsinnig romantisch, witzig und herzerwärmend geschrieben. Natürlich kommt der Kink immer wieder vor und beide Protagonisten sind davon fasziniert. Deswegen kommt es auch zu keinen un schönen oder peinlichen Szenen.

Mir gefiel auch, dass selbst ein erfahrener Dom wie Max mal Fehler machen kann. Allerdings sind diese nicht gravierend und sein Verhalten ist auch zutiefst menschlich. Er, wie auch Aiden sind sehr, sehr sympathisch. Dieses Buch schafft es auf jeden Fall ins Keeper Regal.

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## Vanessa says

### 4.5 Saddle Me Up Stars!

***\*\*WARNING ~ It is STRONGLY recommended that you have a B.O.B. or a ready and willing partner on hand before you attempt to ride this particular Pony!!\*\****

Um, DAMN!!!! So, what makes a great steamy read? Passion? Check. Sexual chemistry? Check. Some of the hottest, kinkiest, sex scenes known to man? Check, check, **CHECK!!!!**

**Pony** delivered all of this and much more! However, while being seriously HOT, no detail was spared in the plot development department. The story was engaging and the characters were lovable.

Grant “Max” Maxwell, who we met in *Pup* and then saw again in *Tag Team*, is a well-established, confident, therapist who has the utmost control over his life. That is until it all gets turned upside down, when he meets Aiden James at his neighborhood coffee shop. Aiden is a twenty-six year old hottie, who has recently moved to New York, and is trying to find his place in the world. From their first encounter, these two have delicious, Fourth of July fireworks type, explosive chemistry!!

What ensues between these two gorgeous men is a give and pull where Max is eager to introduce Aiden to his world, while sensitive to not push too hard and scare him away. Little does Aiden know that exactly what is on the menu in Max’s world includes BDSM, domination, and yes, fetishes and lots of kink. Aiden is curious and receptive and what follows is their dive into this world together. Both men have had plenty of previous sexual encounters in their lives, but neither have ever had love.

There isn’t a ton of angst in this one which was a good thing for me. They do have some issues to work through but it was nothing that kept them separated for a good part of the book, caused knock down drag out fights or anything like that. The story is really more about Aiden’s journey through Max’s world and these two altering themselves in order to find love together.

I was a little worried that some of Max and Aiden’s....preferences, would be a bit much for me. I had never even heard of “pony play,” and had to have a much more enlightened friend of mine explain to me what it was. ;) The pony play is not until later in the story and is actually **SO. VERY. HOT!** You won’t be sorry you indulged in this kinky fantasy!! It wasn’t too much for me nor was it anything even remotely trashy. The writing leads the reader into Max and Aiden’s world in a beautiful way.

Wanna know what my favorite part was??? (For anyone who has already read this, I probably don’t even need to ask.) Sweet Mary mother of God, that **FITTING ROOM SCENE!!!!** It’s not because the sex is crazy or anything like that. It was just...I don’t know...you just have to read it. But it was **VERY** good for me! I needed a cigarette after reading that!

Infact, by the end of this book...this was me:

The *Guards of Folsom* series has just gotten better and better for me. There is a reason why SJD Peterson is one of my go to girls for M/M erotica. **Pony** was definitely my fave from her yet!

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## Catherine says

More sugary sweet than I expect BDSM books to be, but I quite enjoyed it. What I *didn't* enjoy was that the promise made by the title ended up being more a tease than anything. Boo hiss the lack of pony play.

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## Gigi says

[We only got one pony play scene! Come on, the bo

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## Marc | Rainbow Gold Reviews says

4.5

For me this was by far the best of the first three books in this series. Max almost stole the show in book two and in the audiobook his accent is sexy as hell and to die for. Getting to read his story made me really excited. Pony play is nothing I knew of and I tried to be open-minded when I started to read.

The book begins with attraction and two guys hitting it off. Max and his love interest are cute, sexy, charming, have great chemistry and I know from the very beginning this would be good. Aiden is sweet, poen-minded and unexpectedly kinky. I loved how he embraced new ideas. He is new to the D/S lifestyle, but curious and Max intrigues him.

I found it a bit odd that he not only stumbles upon animal porn while searching BDSM online, which the author uses to distance himself from bestiality, but also on horse play. He does find horse play hot (but is embarrassed), but still blurts the truth out when his new lover asks, whithout knowing that Max just so happens to have a lot of experience in riding ponies.

I know it is a very small thing, compared to the rest, but it took me out of the story a bit. It would have made sense if Max told Aiden he was not just a dom, but also did some pony play, with Aiden doing some research afterward. During that research the accidental animal sex vid would make more sense (and I did think it was a good and quick way to show Aiden might be into horseplay, but not real horses) and he could find the horse play vid that makes him hot and imagine Max in place of the rider. With horse play being an extreme and very specific fetish, it just was hard for me to swallow that Aiden's research would take him where it did, without knowing Max's Pony Play history and I felt like that confusion was unnecessary and had to distract .25 stars for that.

However, I loved that the foundation of their relationship is romantic and the willingness to explore each other'S kinks and see how well they fit came from that. That is different from the other books in this series and from most of the BDSM books I have read. I loved the respect both MCs had for each other and the chemistry and love that could be felt in every scene. There is a big focus on the relationship and both MCs wanting to please the other. They were cute together, but their sex scenes where very hot. I actually liked their kinky play, like the spanking and sex in front of someone else,because it was playful and I never doubted that Max loved and respected Aiden.

I did find it sad that while Aden feared loosing his identity, because he neglected his friends and family in his

pursuit to make his dom happy, he never openly discussed the aspect of neglecting his old live. I really thing Max would have been very open to making sure that didn't happen again. I thought it was a very interesting and valid point of his friend and for me it was kind of a loose thread and another .25 points I subtracted from the otherwise perfect score. The book very much deserves the 4.5 stars and to be rounded up to 5 stars on Goodreads, but If an author takles a complex and interestig question like whether the total devotion a sub gives to his dominant makes him neglect family and friends (or if it would have been Max'S job to see that and make sure Aiden has a more social interactions), I don't want it dropped. ANd I wonder why it is never brought up again.

Would have loved to see Max and Aiden with some family interaction, but the most important thing is the fcus on their relationship and love and I can't complaint there. The story explores some interesting places, explains things like the differences between discipline and punishment very well to newbies like me and shows very effectively that people can find their own rules as long as they fit for them. The ending was unexpected and beautiful to me and I think it will please a lot of romance fans.

Overall an amazing book that was very well-written. I can highly recommend it.

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## **Tina says**

Oh my God... I have no idea where to begin. I was looking forward to the third book of the Guards of Folsom series and it was even better as expected. In Tag Team Max was such a great character that I couldn't wait to read his story. Finally!

Since Pony happens along the same timeline as Tag Team you get a little different view at things that happened in the previous book.

This book was freaking brilliant... the best of the series so far. The sizzling tension between the guys was palpable from the beginning and I had to watch out for my poor kindle. Didn't want it to go up in flames... :)

Speaking of flames... there is Max and Aiden's shared kink, the pony play. Don't pass on the book if this kink isn't yours. The main part of the book is all about Max introducing Aiden to the lifestyle. How Max takes the lead and guides Aiden in a way that helps him become comfortable in his own skin. Max melted me in ways no other Dom I've read before had ever done. And I fell in love with him a little more with every passage I read. I just couldn't wait for what they would do next. And, oh boy, was it hot. Ultimately, I really enjoyed the explosive chemistry between the guys.

If you know the Whispering Pine Ranch series you already met Aiden at the wedding of Lorcan and Quinn. It took my tired brain a while to connect the dots. :)

Anyway, at the point Aiden's brother Lorcan calls Aiden and tells him about Conner and John I melted like

snow in the sun... holy hell... Conner, my hero! It was simply beautiful to hear from the guys again. But don't worry, you don't miss important things if you haven't read the WPR series.

As always, the writing was superb, the story excellent and the characters the best. Jo took each and every emotion and put it on the page in a way that I truly could connect to the guys, feel their love, understand their insecurities. I didn't want this book to end. It ended in a hot hot hot and happy place, though. The epilogue is the hottest piece of kink I've ever read. It was leaving me a drooling mess by the end of it!

Hopefully we'll see more from Max and Aiden in the future. I'm looking forward to everything else yet to come. Highly recommended. What else? :)

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