



# Hold 1

*Jayne Blue*

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**It was love at first fight...**

Broke, hungry, and desperate, Cassidy Parker just needs a job. She finds one at the local gym that seems like the answer to her problems. But when she locks eyes with fighter Craddock Flynn, his brutal strength awakens something deep in her that can't be denied. One touch from Craddock can make her forget school, work, and everything else that matters.

Craddock Flynn is used to ripping through his opponents to clear his path to becoming one of the nation's elite professional MMA fighters. But when he meets Cassidy, all bets are off. Their attraction is volatile and instant and Craddock struggles to keep his jealousy under control. Especially when his enemy in the ring becomes his rival for Cassidy too.

**This first love is passionate, hot, and raw, but it might be too much for either of them to hold.**

Hold Trilogy Book One is a steamy new adult romance with a possessive alpha male and a young heroine trying to make her way on her own. This romantic suspense MMA romance contains a cliff hanger.

## **Romance Categories**

Romantic Suspense

MMA Romance

New Adult

Possessive Alpha Male

## **Hold 1 Details**

Date : Published June 8th 2015

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Author : Jayne Blue

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## **From Reader Review Hold 1 for online ebook**

### **Gail Newbold says**

I was wondering the whole time when Cassidy was going to realize she was in an abusive relationship, with a guy who was really self centered. We could blame it on the focus he needed to have, in order to reach his MMA Fighting Championship goals, but in all reality he was just a possessive/abusive jerk-off. Everything he did for her, he did to make things easier on himself, because he didn't want to be distracted. Cassidy had goals, which were nice, but only if they didn't conflict with what he "needed". None of this was explicitly stated in this novel. The author portrayed Craddock as just this really intense guy, with a temper, with laser sharp focus on his goal. One of those goals being Cassidy. Craddock even loves Cassidy. Him being an abusive jerk is a total incident. He also profusely apologized every time he lost his shit, but how many times can a guy do that before you realize it's better to walk away? I was really proud of Cassidy when she said to herself "when a person shows you who they are, believe them", and she recognized, that even though she loved Craddock, he was just too much with his ridiculous behavior and distrust of her. I also like that when she caught him being an ass, she ran out on him and had no intentions of going back. I apologize about all the spoilers in this review, but I really wanted to express my views on the characters and the over all situation.

I will also admit that having been in an abusive relationship, this book is hitting a lot of triggers for me. But I refuse to allow those triggers to run my life, so I'm going to continue reading this series - I'm totally invested now.

Onward to part 2.

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### **100sweet says**

The H was insanely jealous, possessive, and protective of the h. I loved the intensity with which he pursued the h and his deep devotion to her. He does all the chasing which I love. The sex was HOT which is always a positive. I'm so glad I read this book and can't wait to continue the series.

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### **Cheryl says**

Hot, Sweaty and filled with alpha male testosterone

I was given this advanced copy in exchange for my honest review.

Hold promises to be an amazing start to a great trilogy. Muscled bound men in a cage sweating and fighting is a great mixture. I can almost smell the heat. In walks meek and mild Cassidy and trouble starts. While everyone should have their focus in the ring all eyes are on Cassidy. The ins and out of a MMA fight club, the chasing after the beautiful new office girl and the jealous bickering between the guys makes for one sexually charged book. At the end everything comes to a head! Who comes out the victor? Just read and see. I just hope the next book is coming soon!! Jayne Blue writes with such descriptions that you can nearly touch the pages and feel the emotion from the characters.

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## **Julie says**

### ***4 HOLY ALPHA STARS!***

**\*\*SQUEAL\*\***

Craddock Flynn is:

1. Cocky
2. Jealous
3. Possessive
4. Mental
5. Has a mother and brother as support
5. and an MMA FIGHTER...with a freakin' man bun
6. I.LOVE.HIM

**"Be careful Cassidy, he may wear a gold cross, but he's no more trustworthy than any of the guys in here."~~  
CRADDOCK**

**"He's the snake in the garden. Trust me on that."~~  
CRADDOCK**

Zeke Powell is:

1. A preachers son
2. A gentleman
3. Smooth operator
4. Comes from money and has a lot of church/family support
5. and an MMA Fighter...
6. I like him ;D

**"Why don't you back off, Flynn, she's not like the sluts who you usually hang with."~~ZEKE**

**"Well it's my talent, fighting, and Jesus doesn't want us to hide our talents, so actually, not fighting is the sin."~~ZEKE**

Cassidy Parker is:

1. An orphan
2. Aged out of foster care
3. Desperately seeking a job
4. Wanting to earn a degree as a social worker
5. Wanted by 2 sexy MMA fighters.

It begins as she enters the Great Wolves Gym seeking employment and is spotted by Craddock instantly, she's not his typical type, she has hair the color of cinnamon spice, she's natural and is a very tiny girl and he's ready to pounce, he wasn't the only one to notice. Zeke as well. This took off very quick, normally I hate it,

depending on the circumstances, I was ok here.

Along with others, Craddock and Zeke not only wanted her but they were both after a contract with the 21C League. What every fighter wants to earn serious cash, make a name for himself, and win the belt. The difference here is although Craddock is all I mentioned above, he has the biggest heart. His mom struggles with work, she takes care of his older brother who is thirty years old with the mind of an eight year old. Craddock wants this so bad to be able to take care of them. Zeke, just wants the title is the way Craddock feels because he NEEDS it.

[image error]

Craddock is so jealous it causes a lot of chaos and violence and it costs him dearly in many ways. I mean this guy could be disturbing to some readers, I'm crazy about this type (in books) so I'm as happy as can be... wish I came across more Craddocks. The cliff, errrrrr!

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ø???? [Punya Reviews...] says

**My review contains spoilers and they're mostly my thoughts as I went with the book... for more, visit [Punya Reviews...](#)**

Hold 1 of Hold Trilogy is my first try at Jayne Blue's writing. Have to say, apart from a few typos here and there, I didn't have a lot to complain. The storyline was pretty fleshed out, with characters you'd like to know more about. And it's only the beginning of Craddock and Cassidy's journey.

Cassidy is an orphan and has been raised in different foster homes until she met Bev, a kind, generous woman who over the years has become her big sister of sort. With her help Cassidy has grown up to be a brilliant student, with excellent grades. But grades come at a price, as do living all on your own. One day, when she finds herself looking at the 'hiring' sign at the Great Wolves Gym or GWG, Cassidy was desperate for a job. She was almost penniless and on the verge of being thrown out of her shabby little apartment. What she didn't know that her life would be changed once she stepped into that place and met Craddock Flynn.

Whitey, the elderly boss and the trainer of the gym, meets Cassidy. She's instantly hired when it seemed Whitey also needed help desperately as he had no idea about how to go 'digital'. The computers send by the company is still sitting there as it came in as were all the paperwork that needed to go into the 'system'. Cassidy jumps right in to help, even though she's probably the only woman in that gym where future MMA fighters train. Her efforts are also appreciated and rewarded soon enough.

Eventually, Cassidy learns to not only enjoy her job, but she also comes to know some fighters. The first and foremost, would be the best of the bunch, Craddock. Then there was his 'mortal enemy', Zeke Powell; as light as Craddock looked dark. Both can't seem to stand each-other because they're so close in rank (Craddock #1 and Zeke #2) that rivalry is an everyday thing for them. Whereas Craddock is intense, broody with a bad temper, your veritable 'bad boy', Zeke is called The Preacher's Son for a reason. He's warm and funny, jokes around; all clean cut, good boy image. It helps that his father is also a preacher. He becomes Cassidy's friend in a short time, garnering more of Craddock's wrath.

Though she likes bantering with Zeke, Cassidy was more drawn to Craddock intensity. It doesn't take them long to fall into bed because when Craddock wants something, he finds a way to get it. There's no escaping Craddock's intense perusal. He becomes more adamant when he saw Zeke's interest in her. But Craddock felt genuine attraction for Cassidy, who returned it, if reluctantly.

Craddock is, as far as I could understand, of Irish descent. His father left his mother a long time ago and has no connection with them whatsoever. His mom has been mom and dad both for him and Craddock loves and respects her. He also has a mentally challenged elder brother, Dylan and loves taking care of him too. Craddock has always known that a career in education was not for him. He loved sports, which finally led him to where he is today. Craddock found a passion he enjoyed, pursued with the same intensity he'd been pursuing Cassidy with. He's very focus and wants to win the upcoming U21 which will pave the way for his career... and the much needed financial back that his family needs desperately. But there's only one human being he hates and that's Zeke. Craddock thinks Zeke's entire 'good boy' aura is fake, a show and they clash with the slightest hint of trouble, of which Cassidy becomes a focal point as the story goes on.

When Cassidy becomes entangled with Craddock she had no idea what she's getting into. She knew about his hatred of Zeke, but not to what extent. The problems with hot blooded, adrenaline junkie males pursuing the same woman seems to rattle the gym too. Everybody noticed that Craddock has staked his claim on Cassidy, they already knew of his bitter rivalry with Zeke. Whitey begins warning them all not to get into trouble but that doesn't keep these two away. Cassidy feels torn apart. She has fallen in love with Craddock, yet Zeke is a very good friend of hers. She can't seem to make Craddock understand that no one is going to take her away from him.

But the problem with Craddock was, not only he was hot tempered, he was also the suspicious type. The all caveman-ish attitude. He can't stand Zeke anywhere near Cassidy and would just react out of that instinct. Completely territorial. For a while I found it extremely hot, not to mention the HOT sex scenes helped. However, as the story progressed, Craddock's behavior begins to become problematic. As the pressure of Mo Town Smack Down comes down on them all, which is where the fighters for U21 would be chosen, everybody is on edge. Craddock seemed to be handling it worse because he becomes snappish, extremely short tempered. He'd already f\*cked up with Cassidy a few times and though he'd apologize, hurt stems from these misunderstandings and things begins going downhill.

When they finally reach their destination to compete in MTSD, Cassidy is torn between what to do. She has come to like these players and would be supporting every one of them from the gallery. However, her relationship with Craddock is wearing her down; the edge, the tension of the competition and Craddock's never-ending snippy attitude whenever Zeke was near her for any reason at all. She didn't know what she's gonna do when they finally fight face-to-face. Seeing their ranking and form, it was a big possibility. One will win, another will lose. Cassidy doesn't wanna lose her friendship with Zeke over this, yet she doesn't know if she can handle Craddock if he loses. She knows it's his lifelong dream; sole focus and goal. So far, Craddock hasn't known one single defeat, how will he take it? How will she handle his reaction for that matter? Cassidy's not sure if she wants to find out.

Things turn rather ugly on that day when Zeke and Craddock finally come face-to-face on the ring. It was Zeke who actually taunts Craddock over Cassidy, which I thought was very dirty of him. In turn, Craddock acts on instinct and does something that sees him disqualified from the match. Not only that, it seemed this maybe the end of his career! I was scared of this happening, and wouldn't even wanna go where his and Cassidy's relationship is concerned. Loads of drama later, they leave each-other on a silly but big misunderstanding. Craddock thinking Cassidy has already become Zeke's, with Cassidy thinking Craddock doesn't want her anymore.

Well, I initially didn't know if I'd ever like Craddock. He did get on my nerves a few times with his temper tantrums. I don't like men with bad temper for a reason; they're very difficult to deal with when they're into one of their rages. But no matter what, I never doubted his feelings for Cassidy, his one weak spot if you don't count his family in. He never shied away from acknowledging it, thought he went about it all wrong. Cassidy, well, I don't know. Though can't blame her for reading Craddock wrong after that messy end to the tournament, she should've made a little more effort to find out what was happening. How come Craddock never checked his cell phone and find Cassidy's concerned texts for that matter? That should've told him she was trying to reach out to him... And frankly, I'd be super annoyed if she finally goes and gets involved with Zeke as I don't like him any longer. I hate love triangles too!

In the end, Craddock is given entry to a reality TV show that stars MMA fighters, with a wild card of sort which just may see him into the U21. I have to find out where this goes... 4 stars.

PS: This ends in a cliffy, not a favorite thing of mine. If that's how you feel too, may wanna wait until all 3 installments are out.

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## **A says**

Overall I enjoyed this book. The plot was interesting, I loved the characters, things progressed nicely. However, while Craddock may have been adorable at times overall I just thought he was a giant asshole. There may have been one or two times where his positive traits were enough where I could see why Cassidy fell for him. More often than not, he was a jealous & controlling dick. He's an MMA fighter I get it. He does like to be in charge of things, but there is being in charge and caring and then there is being in charge and being a manipulative & controlling asshole. I get it to a point, I really do. But there are several times when he pushes it, like at the party and the fight (which I am not going to give details about), I mean he just assumes everything he doesn't even check with his girl. He knows preachers son like to push his buttons, but he still always gives in. There are just so many things, that while the sex would have been good and when he has good moments they are good, when there are bad moments, they are BAD moments. The cons on Craddock outweigh the bad.

I did enjoy the book though but at the end of the day, Craddock would have been told to gtfo.

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## **Sue Zawisa says**

Review for HOLD TRILOGY BOOK 1 by Jayne Blue

I received this as an ARC for an honest review

A down and out Cassidy Parker is desperate for a job. She needs it for rent, food and tuition if she is ever going to achieve her dream of being a social worker. She walks into a local gym thinking they may have an opening. There she is introduced to a whole world she never knew existed....MMA fighting. There she meets Craddock Flynn...a man on a mission to win the coveted contract with the organization that can take him to the top. Cassidy meets Whitey, the manager, who takes an instant liking to her and gives her a job. Little do they know what they are setting in motion. The chemistry between Craddock and Cassidy is off the charts and soon they find themselves enmeshed in a torrid relationship. But trust does not come easily for Craddock...even though Cassidy has made assurances over and over. Her friendship with Zeke, his main opponent for the title, is driving him crazy with jealousy. When Zeke finally pushes Craddock over the edge

during the fight, disaster strikes. What happens next shows just how much Craddock distrusts Cassidy. Craddock's actions rip Cassidy's heart to pieces. Is there a way for these two to be together and be what they should be together ?? time will tell.

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### ♥? Paulette says

I was given an ARC by the author for an honest review

Jayne Blue I've enjoyed plenty of her other books. So I was so happy to be given opportunity to give my opinion on her new Series Hold

I really enjoyed this one – it's a great MMA Romantic Suspense

It's about "a strong-minded young female & arrogant alpha male

Craddock Flynn is a pushy and arrogant alpha male. but if you factor in all his problems at home & at the gym , you can be slightly more understanding .. Mind you I said slightly more understanding .. Craddock at times was overbearing when it came to his jealousy

Cassidy Parker was a great heroine. Her past is heart breaking. Cassidy who had a hard life in the system. Broke, hungry, and desperate, just needs a job to pay her rent & student loan. With no family or friends to help her, but her soft hearted caseworker. She finds job at the local gym that seems like the answer to her prayers . Cassidy Parker knew there was something special about Craddock Flynn .... SCORCHING HOT! I loved that this was a heroine with flaws in her character

I am looking forward to the next addition to this Trilogy..... I am so glad that I will not have to wait long for the next installment

Hold Trilogy Book 1- - Release Date June 8, 2015

Hold Trilogy Book 2- Release Date July 15,2015

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### Jelena Bosh says

Review coming up soon!

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### Paige says

I'm still in a bit of shock over that cliffhanger of an ending even as I am typing this. I am darn near chomping at the bit to get my greedy hands on book 2 of this trilogy. I was a bit bemused with Craddock's caveman behavior and jealous tendencies. I also thoroughly hated Zeke but I think that is exactly what the writer intended, so well done on that score. Definitely worth reading.

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