



## How to Deal

*T.M. Smith*

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An All Cocks Story book 3

Jon Brennan comes from a long line of men in uniform; all born and bred to both bleed and wear blue. His family and the majority of his co-workers support him every step of the way, so he doesn't need to hide the fact that he prefers men over women. Between the job and his larger than life, loud and rowdy half Irish, half Italian family, there isn't much time for dating, much less finding a guy that can deal with the stress and demands placed on the shoulders of an NYPD Detective.

Kory White is cocky and abrasive with most people, but it is all a mirage, a façade he hides behind to keep his heart safe. As a child, Kory lost his mother to an act of violence. Soon after, he and his baby sister Cassandra were separated by the system. Cassandra was immediately adopted, but Kory spent the next ten years cycling through foster homes before moving to the Big Apple. In an effort to keep everyone at a distance, Kory has meticulously built himself an alter ego: Hayden Cox, All Cocks' cockiest model.

These two strong willed men definitely prove opposites do attract. Both are stubborn and hard headed to a fault, Kory more so than Jon. But Jon is used to being in control, the one calling the shots, and Kory fights him at every turn. Just when it seems they have found a way to navigate the uncharted territory that is love, tragedy knocks on Kory's door yet again. Volatile and strong, even in the face of adversity, both men refuse to give up on each other - or their love.

## How to Deal Details

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# From Reader Review How to Deal for online ebook

## Adam says

Fair warning: if you prefer your MCs to be completely monogamous throughout their entire relationship, this might not be the book for you. Kory continues his work in pornography until near the end of the book, though Jon is completely aware of it and doesn't object.

The audiobook narration by Joel Leslie was good. He had the pacing and timing down. The character voices weren't shabby either, though Jon's voice was a bit slow.

I really liked that the MCs in this book started on honest footing. Jon is aware from the get-go that Kory is a porn actor, and Kory doesn't make any false promises. Granted, I wasn't entirely realistic, and I would have expected some more discussion or introspection on the matter.

But it was refreshing to read an MM with a porn star MC where the romance didn't devolve to constant lying and jealousy. Jon and Kory didn't get worked up over it, and that's good enough for me.

Jon is in many ways the perfect boyfriend - patient, understanding, and persistent. Plus he's got a great family (his very non-PC but completely loving Gran was a hoot!). Kory is stand-offish at first, picking fights often, but it becomes clear that it's a defence mechanism. Once he lets his guard down, he's much more likeable.

The romance is insta-love. It doesn't take Kory and Jon long to fall hard for each other. Though the two fell fast, I thought they were sweet. I also liked that it wasn't just about the sex between them, and they actually got to know each other.

But I just didn't connect to them. While this book works perfectly fine as a standalone, I think this is a case where you would have to read the series from the beginning to be really invested in the characters. Jon and Kory's romance was sweet and sexy enough, but they didn't really grab my attention.

That could be in part because of the time jumps, which I often didn't immediately pick up on through the audiobook. The relationship development seemed to sometimes get lost in these jumps. Also, the drama at the end did little for me. It seemed to come out of left field, and was just too soap-opera-ish for me.

There is nothing wrong with 'How to Deal'. It's a sweet romance and the audiobook was good. But sometimes a book, and the characters, just doesn't capture your attention. Perhaps if I'd read the series from book 1 and was already invested in Kory, I would have enjoyed this book more.

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## Cathy Brockman says

This series keeps getting better and better. With so many sexy characters it's hard to pick a favorite but I

think Jon and Kory are on the top for now. At least until the next book. I did not think I would like this since I didn't like Kory in the previous books. In how to deal we learn about Kory's past. There is drama a bit of mystery and some angst.

Then we have Jon and his family. Wow! What a family. I adored all of them even hateful Grams.

This story has it all. Angst, comedy relief to soften the darkness, A bit of mystery on Kory's side, some tragedy and drama, twists and of course really hot man-sex.

I was on pins and needles for a while there and fanning myself at other times. I highly recommend this book. It is a book three in a series though it stands alone pretty well. If you read the others you do know the other characters a bit more.

If you like hot cops, sexy porn stars, funny families, drama, angst and, of course hot man-sex you gotta read this!

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### **Chris Kottner-Kirschner says**

Kory White gehört zu den Veteranen von All Cocks und arbeitet unter dem Namen Hadyen als Internet-Pornostar. Zwar gehört er zur großen Familie der All Cocks, doch irgendwie ist er auch ein Aussenseiter, den keiner so wirklich versteht. Und Kory schafft es auch immer wieder sich in unglückliche Situationen zu bringen. Beziehung hat er keine und seine Gefühle behält er für sich. Einzig sein Kollege Dusty und Mitbewohner steht ihm nahe. Aber auch nicht so nahe, dass er ihm jemals seine Geschichte erzählt hätte.

Da trifft Kory auf Jon Brennan. Ein smarter und attraktiver Polizist, der keine Scheu davor hat sein Interesse an Kory zu zeigen. Und auch Kory kann seine eigene Faszination nicht leugnen. Doch eine Beziehung kommt nicht in Frage. Allerdings hat er nicht mit dem irisch-italienischen Starrsinn des Cops gerechnet und Kory lässt sich auf ein Date ein. Immer wieder. Zwar macht er Jon von Anfang an klar, dass er für so etwas nicht gemacht ist, doch entziehen kann er sich Jons Charme und Freundlichkeit auch nicht.

Und Jon ist auch ein extrem geduldiger Mensch, der Kory viel Zeit gibt. Der Polizist spürt, dass Kory eine Tragödie und viel Trauer mit sich herumschleppt. Dass er sich mit Nähe und Gefühlen schwer tut und seine Ängste durch sein arrogantes Verhalten zu kaschieren versucht.

Teil drei der All Cock Reihe konnte mich restlos überzeugen. Jon ist wahnsinnig sympathisch, freundlich und einfach ein Traummann. Das erkennt auch Kory, der in den anderen Büchern weniger positiv aufgefallen ist. Doch die Tragödie seines Lebens ist all gegenwärtig und man versteht nun auch seine Verhalten und seine Aussetzer. Auch ihn habe ich schnell in mein Leserherz geschlossen und von der ersten Seite an mit diesem ungewöhnlichen Paar mitgefiebert.

Dieses Buch enthält wieder viel Romantik und Sex, doch es kommt auch hier zu einem großen Drama und auch zu einem großen Verlust. Die Autorin hat mich jedoch mit Stil, Witz und Einfühlsamkeit überzeugt. Vielleicht ist Jons Familie ein wenig zu nett, aufgeschlossen und auch verrückt geraten, doch vermutlich ist es genau das was Kory braucht. Ich liebe Jons Familie, auch wenn ich kein Teil davon sein wollte. Einfach herrlich! Besonders gefallen hat mir Jons älterer Bruder Tristan, das schwarze Schaf. Es wäre toll wenn der auch noch sein Buch kriegen würde.

Thanks for this book. It's so heartwarming and awesome. :)

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## Mandie Foxylutely says

*\*ARC kindly provided by the author in exchange for an honest review*

**How To Deal** is the third book in the **All Cocks Stories** series. Kory White is the obnoxious one of the porn star troupe so I was wondering how **TM Smith** was going to turn this guy around and become a character we would fall in love with. I needn't have wondered or worried. I just knew this guy was throwing that prickly façade for a good reason.

Kory has been in the series since the start and even though he was caught up in the drama he has always been on the periphery of the stories until now. He is one tough cookie and he almost has a three way persona – that of his porn star alto ego, Hayden, the blunt and hard faced Kory and the shy, vulnerable, sweet Kory underneath. After all that he had been through in his childhood it was understandable. Now he pushes away from feelings as feelings cause him hurt, anguish and loss. There was a lot to unravel of this man and Jon was the man to do it.

Jon Brennan is a tough NYPD cop. He comes from a large Italian/Irish family with the tradition of all the men being in the NYPD. He first sees his porn star crush Hayden in a bar where a suspected drugging has taken place with Mattie, one of the owners of the company Kory works for. Although it is the porn star Jon at first sees, he then looks closer at the man and finds himself wanting to know more about the real man, so he makes his interest known.

It takes a while for Kory to let Jon in but from their first date these two were never going to be along for a smooth ride. Not when you have two headstrong hulking men both fighting for dominance, no way. It was a journey filled with a lot of passion, a touch of angst but a lot of soul searching. I loved how Jon was able to dig deep and get Kory to open up and talk out his fears and feelings. This was also helped with the wonderful brood of the Brennan family, who welcomed Kory with open chaotic arms. If he was the one for Jon then he got the same bantering, the same teasing and the same love. Well it almost was but it took Jon's brother, Sal and his grandmother a little longer to let him in.

It took me longer to dive into this book in comparison to the first two books but I think that is because I had this preconception about Kory. Once that was pushed aside I found it easy to be sucked into this eventful romance. There were some areas I felt were a little rushed and an enormous curve ball of a coincidence, but no biggie, it was still an enjoyable and engaging m/m romance that I would happily recommend. Four stars.

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## Carra says

After the overly brash and cocky attitude I had come to expect from Kory based on the first two books, I was curious as to how his story would play out here in *How to Deal*. But while I was expecting a nonstop smartass, I got to see the rest of Kory's personality instead. It was actually pretty entertaining since all that self-assuredness flew out the window when it came to interacting with Jon and Jon's family.

Jon is a fantastic character--laid back, easygoing, but then very alpha and assertive when it's called for...which makes for some pretty interesting scenes between him and Kory (who you'd expect to be the

dominant top based on the first two books). Jon knows exactly how to handle Kory, no matter how Kory tries to short circuit their relationship.

There's drama and strong emotion--something I've now come to expect from this series (I'd be disappointed if it was missing)--which really drags the other side of Kory's personality to the forefront and lets us see him in a whole new light. Seeing his reaction to events that happen with Jon and how that really opens Kory up to emotion was moving and showed even greater depth to his character. He and Jon work extremely well together, giving us another strong match to celebrate in the All Cocks family. Because yes, they are all definitely a family.

The only thing that bugged me about this story-and the only reason this is 4 stars for me instead of more-is how things played out at the end with the sub-plot of Kory and his sister. In my opinion, how this is resolved is based way too much on coincidence which for me diminishes the believability of the situation's resolution.

How to Deal is another success in the All Cocks series, and just keeps me wanting to hear more and more about the characters in this unique family. 4 stars, recommended for fans of M/M romance 18+ due to adult language and explicit M/M sexual content.

The narration:

How to Deal is another in a long line of exemplary narrations by Joel Leslie. He brings so much to these characters, and the accents and individual voices are magnificent. The character voices are consistent, and also match the voices for the same characters in the previous book in this series he narrated. Joel expertly infuses the narration of each character with emotion, which made it very easy for me to slip right into the All Cocks world while listening. 5 stars for Joel Leslie's audio interpretation for How to Deal!

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## **K says**

4.5 Stars/5.0

I've been waiting for Kory's story because I felt sure there was something causing his bad behavior and bad attitude. Something that he has been hiding from everyone in the house and maybe even himself.

Most of the time he pretty much acts like a brat. He's rude, cocky, and short tempered but when he lets his walls down, just a little bit, you can see he's insecure and shy.

Jon has been a fan of porn star, Hayden Cox, for a long time, but when he meets him in person, as Kory, he can't deny the attraction and the pull he feels towards him. However, convincing Kory of that will require patience and understanding.

Everyone that Kory has loved has somehow, somehow been pulled from him leaving him to fend on his own. Losing his mother at an early age, and then his baby sister to the foster care system has left longstanding feelings of hurt, betrayal, and confusion.

Jon is the only person that Kory has spilled his secrets to and confided in about his upbringing. He's really trying to be strong and believe Jon when he says he's falling for him, but he can't let go of that little voice in his head telling him to run.

Thank goodness Jon is secure with himself and with his feelings towards Kory and he is willing to take their

relationship as slow as Kory needs. He doesn't want to rush their intimacy either, but when Kory practically throws himself at Jon enough is enough.

**How to Deal**, the 3rd book in the All Cocks Story, by TM Smith focuses more on the main characters, Jon and Kory, and not so much on the house and the other porn stars. There are new characters introduced such as Tristan, Jon's brother, and I am hoping his story gets told very soon.

The author manages to throw quite a few surprises in that will have you clinging to your tablet. There will be times that you may have silent tears running down your face. There will be times that you will be smiling ear to ear, and there will also be times you may be completely floored by what happens.

If you haven't read the other two books in the series, I think you could still read How To Deal with no problem. Does it help to have read the first two? Absolutely, because there are characters that overlap and have face-time here, as well. There's also a pretty big revelation that will be much sweeter if you know the back story. Not mandatory, but definitely recommended.

TM Smith and her All Cocks Series has become an investment. The characters are amazing, loving, and down to earth guys that I have become attached to and I want to see them grow and mature and get their happy ever afters.

The author, also, covers a lot of real life issues and I think readers who may have thought porn stars could not have a life outside of the industry will be able to see through this series that yes, they can find their love/soul-mate regardless of their profession.

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## Nic says

I've enjoyed the series so far and how the All Cocks' world was developed. It was like getting a behind the scenes look into the porn industry - the mechanics, the people, the life. I have no idea how accurate it actually was, but it had a true sense of realism that reflected certain real life studios. I understand T.M. Smith spoke with some gay porn stars to gain insight before writing this series.

There is an ensemble cast of characters who appear throughout the books, including the three men who own All Cocks, their actors, and other friends. The characters are well fleshed out, and the dialogue realistic. Of course, there's sex in the stories. What made this interesting was the varying scenes by main characters, in both their 'everyday' persona, and while wearing their porn star mantle. This included each character having their real name and a porn star name. When you add all these names, including the supporting characters, there were a lot of people to keep track of but it wasn't too hard to do. By the time you get to How to Deal (book 3), the Cast of Characters in the beginning of the book is really helpful. :)

Interestingly, each book doesn't just focus on the main couple (or throuple as the case may be), but gives background to the other characters, including scenes from the point of view of the non-featured characters. I think this is part of getting the reader invested in the characters who will appear in subsequent books.

The stories themselves are interesting, perhaps a touch predictable in some instances, but it kept me turning the pages. All in all, I recommend this series. I think How to Deal was actually my favourite so far and I'm looking forward to reading the rest. Tristan please. :)

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## **Abbey's Fully Booked says**

Another good read by TM Smith. Was fun to go back into the world of the All Cocks..

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## **JustJen "Miss Conduct" says**

A review by The Blogger Girls.

I have really enjoyed this series. Each installment shows us this world from different perspectives through the various players involved.

In How to Deal, we have the ever cocky Kory, one of the porn stars who always seems to have a chip on his shoulder. Jon is the police detective who helped out with a previous issue involving some of the other guys. He also happens to be a fan of Kory's work.

Jon doesn't want to know Kory though. He wants to get to know the man he is when he isn't Kory. It takes a little time to earn that trust as we find out more and more about Kory's past and learn more about why he is the way he is today. Jon is there for the long haul though. He was just what Kory needed. Add to that Jon's crazy family, and Kory seemed to hit the jackpot.

When these two are together, it is so easy to see how different things are from when Kory is working. They are hot stuff. A sexy confident cop and the experienced porn star make quite the steamy couple.

As with the previous stories, this one was a fast read as well. They have this comforting feel about them that make you want to be a part of the story. Whether the guys are hot and heavy in the middle of a shoot or just commiserating in the kitchen, it's a family built on friends and coworkers and I can't wait to see what's next.

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## **Caroline Brand says**

REVIEWED FOR PRISM BOOK ALLIANCE

How to Deal is book three in the All Cocks Stories series and focuses on Jon and Kory.

Kory White, or Hayden Cox as he is known on screen, is probably the character most readers won't have connected with yet. Aloof and distant he is also not a favourite with his co-stars but as so often is true the persona he presents is not really the person he is. His childhood wasn't great and when it was cruelly ripped from him he ended up in the system until he was a young teen. The walls he has built up around himself are for self-preservation out of fear that everyone will leave or be taken away.

Jon Brennan is the big burly and often outspoken cop we met in book two when Mattie ended up in hospital.



Brought up in a loud and brash Irish/Italian family he followed in his father's footsteps when he put on the uniform. He loves his family, he loves his job and he has a soft spot for Hayden Cox when it comes to his porn but what he really wants to do is get to know Kory, the man who he senses is very different to his alter ego.

This pair together are feisty and there are a lot of heated arguments with a strenuous make up when they are done. Jon's family were fantastically written and a real hoot. It was refreshing to find a family of cops who not only accepted their son but didn't blink an eye when they found out what Kory did for a living and when Kory got his Christmas gift from Jon's gran I was crying with laughter.

Jon really gets under Kory's skin in a way nobody has managed to. He is a stubborn man and it's clear he's in for the long haul even when Kory is doing his best to push him away. The danger of Jon's job is an issue for Kory and it becomes an issue on page for a while and leaves the entire group with a deep sense of sadness. There are a couple of other surprises along the way but I will leave you all to discover them yourselves.

My last wish would be to see more of Tristan further on in the series and I'm left wondering and rather excited about whether we will see another throuple.

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### **Anthony says**

Just when I thought It could not get any better, TM Smith, does it again. This time, we follow Kory and Jons bumpy relationship. We find out why Korey can be off the cuff with his fellow all cocks boys. And John sometimes could strangle Korey but the one thing that stops him is the fact he can not see him surviving without Korey by his side.

I am not going to say anymore, as I'd probably end up spoiling the surprise in the book (now you know you have to read it to see what the surprise is lol)

If you have liked the other books in the series. You will love this one.

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### **BWT (Belen) says**

T. M. Smith offers up another entertaining story in the All Cocks Stories Series.

The story begins when Detective Jon Brennan is called in to help with the investigation of the club incident that happens at the end of *Fame and Fortune* and follows from Jon's meeting of his favorite star of the All Cocks site, Hayden Cox, or Kory White when he isn't performing, through their entire relationship from the first few moments until their HEA.

Told from both Kory and Jon's POV the story follows the same construct of the rest of the series with the focus on the relationship ins and outs, a huge dose of insta-love, and all kinds of hot, sexy times, then some drama towards the end to keep readers/listeners on the edge of their seats. There's also a sprinkling of

hurt/comfort as well.

I loved Jon and Kory together. They were loving, volatile, and *real*. I know couples that behave the way they do. *I recognized them*. I loved getting to see the other All Cocks guys again and getting a glimpse of the next story in the series.

My only small complaint is I didn't particularly love that there are, once again, time jumps where a lot of time gets packed into the story. However, this time around I didn't feel like we lost relationship *development* with the time passages. The timing worked well and Joel Leslie was able to transition from period to period easily.

I love Joel Leslie's narration. **Leslie does another great job with his character voices, pacing and timing all being on point.** Leslie doesn't disappoint with his performance.

**Sweet relationship story with some deep emotion, some hurt/comfort and great narration, *How To Deal* ticked off all my boxes for a good listen. I'm looking forward to continuing the series with Joel Leslie at the helm.**

*Audio copy of How to Deal (All Cocks Stories #3) provided by Author in exchange of an honest review.*

*This review has been cross-posted at Gay Book Reviews.*

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## **Morgan Skye says**

From the earlier books in this series we know Kory is kind of a big drama queen. He's hard to work with and struggles to make friends. When there's trouble and the police get involved we meet Jon – Tristan's brother from book 4.

Jon is a cop and doesn't put up with a lot of drama. He puts Kory in his place but with a gentle hand. There's a lot of drama in this story – it's about Kory after all!- but there's also a lot of sentimentality and sweetness.

I had a hard time with how Jon and Kory relate to one another - sometimes with violence. That's just a trigger of mine and it made me uncomfortable.

I thought the Cass part of the story was a little too good to be true, but lovely nonetheless.

We get to see how the throuple is doing as well as catch up with the guys from book one.

This wasn't my favorite in the series, but it's still an excellent addition to the other books and I really liked it.

3.5 of 5 stars

Audio

Joel Leslie had a tough job here. He had to switch back and forth from a NYC accent to a Southern Drawl – over and over and over! He did a great job! I loved Jon's accent (his whole family's really!) and can't wait for Tristan's story in audio as a result! Kory's accent was fab too and I know it had to be hard to use such distinct voices then add in Irish too! Gah! It was really well done. Joel is great with the emotion and the non-dialog parts as well. Highly Recommended!

5 of 5 stars

Overall 4.25 of 5 stars (rounded to 4.5)

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## **Susan65 says**

### The Blogger Girls

I loved the storyline, not so much the narration. However, the story was so good that I was able to push through my issues with the narrator because I really wanted to see how the Kory, Jon, and Gabe, Gio plot played out...and it was so good, and so very heartbreaking, and now I am desperately wanting to read the next book.

#### Review – Audio:

As much as I love audiobooks, I have a hard time listening to Joel Leslie. His southern accents and different character voices sound nothing like any man I've ever heard and honestly, it threw me out of the story more than once. And his pronunciation of certain words had me questioning my own education and brought to the forefront of my mind one of the rules of pronunciation...and that is, spelling does not determine pronunciation. I feel awful giving a bad review on the performance, because you can tell the narrator really put forth the effort and you could hear the emotion, but the pronunciation and accents were a bit too much for me.

Fortunately, the story was strong and my 4 stars will stand for the writing, but I choose to not rate the narrator. As much as I want to listen to an audio to finish out the series, I think I will switch formats and actually read the books. I am so looking forward to Gabe's story and I don't think Joel Leslie, if he is the narrator for that book, can do it justice.

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## **Kara says**

This book was a good addition to this series!

This can be read as a stand alone because it features a different couple than the previous books.

Kory is a porn star who works for All Cocks porn site. Jon is a huge fan of his work and a police detective. They meet during an incident at a bar and there is an instant attraction.

So let me start off this review by saying although I did really like this book there were a few things I had a hard time wrapping my head around to be honest at first. Now I know being a porn star is just a job but that does not stop me from thinking how can a relationship work when one partner does this for a job. Now for me personally I do not think I could ever be comfortable with the person I care about being a porn star but that is just me. Now usually I really do not have a problem with it in a book because the way everything works out.

But with this book it went into too much detail for me when Kory was working because then I am left sitting there thinking I wonder what Jon feels about this. I also know that this all comes down to trust and it would take a lot of trust to be okay with this I do understand that. But that still for me personally is still hard to understand and fully wrap my head around.

So through a majority of this book I did have a hard time thinking about them as a couple. But farther along in the book the author had them discussing it and the way it was handled made it easier for me to see how

Jon was okay with it so I felt like that was handled perfectly.

That was the only part I had a hard time with other than that I really did like this book and these characters. You also see a lot of characters from the pervious book too. It did take me a little longer to feel like Jon and Kory made a good match but by the end of this book I did really get them as a couple and could feel their love for one another.

So all together I really liked this book!

I would recommend this book!

I received this book free in exchange for an honest review from Inked Rainbow Reads.

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