

Outing the Quarterback

Tara Lain

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Will Ashford lives in two closets. He meets his wealthy father's goals as both the quarterback for the famous SCU football team and a business major, but secretly he attends art school and longs to live as a painter. And he's gay. But if he can win the coveted Milton Scholarship for art, he'll be able to break from his father at the end of his senior year.

In a painting master class, Will meets his divergent opposite, Noah Zajack. A scarred orphan who's slept on park benches and eaten from trash cans, Noah carefully plans his life and multiple jobs so he has money and time to go to art school. Will's problems seem like nothing compared to Noah's. Noah wants the scholarship too and may have a way to get it since the teacher of his class has designs on him, a plan Will isn't happy about.

When a gossipmonger with a popular YouTube channel finds evidence that Will is gay, the quarterback's closet doors begin to crumble. Hounded by the press and harassed by other players, Will has to choose. Stay in the closet and keep his family's wealth, or let the doors fall off and walk out with nothing. Nothing but Noah.

Outing the Quarterback Details


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From Reader Review Outing the Quarterback for online ebook

Heidi says

I'm afraid "Mr Cockamus" wasn't for me. Ahhh that would be a No! *Smh*

Cory says

[when Will told his coach he was quitting, I didn't think that conversation was believable. I mean, he was their starting quarterback and the coach was pretty ho hum about him quitting. I just thought it would do down differently in my head. (hide spoiler)]

Baba says

2 stars. DNF @44 %. Review posted September 25, 2014

Duh, not my kind of book. **Uh**, I need to think about it. Not. **Uh-uh**, I'm not sure if I should bother reviewing this story extensively. **Huh**, I hope you know what I was referring to. **Uh**, I promise to make it short and rather painless.

My first thought when I read the first page was...

It doesn't bode well. Another disaster lies in waiting.

Anyway, I'll give you 394 good reasons why I quit at 44 %:

57 x uh, uh-uh, huh, and duh

+

128 cock, cocks, Mr. Cockamus, cockhead, and dick, dicks.
To be very blunt, Will's cock problems left me cold.

+

The term shit in all its glorious splendor has been used **ca. 200** times (mainly it was only shit, though).
No, shit, Will.

+

The ~~very convenient~~ lame plot twist with (view spoiler) made me roll my eyes.

+

The teacher. Shut your trap, ***baby!*** *gags*

+

The writing in general didn't appeal to me.

+

The constant idiotic inner monologue was beyond irritating.

Pull over before you wreck the car. And then...

Will's fist clenched but so did his asshole. He wanted someone pushing into him. Noah.

He wanted Noah. Like maybe he'd never wanted a guy in his life. A moan slipped out between his lips.

+

I could smell OTT drama from afar (Will's parents, Dwight, and that little wannabe moderator)

+

Juvenile.

+

Annoying characters who got on my nerves.

+

A waste of my time.

+

I had to pay 5.82 euro for Outing the Quarterback. I want my money back.

= 394

See? I can do short reviews. Straight to the point.

That is all, ***baby.***

P.S. The sex? Gif is self-explanatory.

Make that 395 good reasons, then.

Debra says

3.5 stars

This was a quick, easy read. I really liked Noah's character. Will was a bit immature but did grow on me by

the end (but the "Mr. Cockamus" name made me cringe every time he uttered it).

There was quite a bit of drama from some nasty characters, although some of it was less difficult than I expected it to be, but it all wrapped up fairly neatly and quickly. Will's friend and teammate Jamal and his family were great secondary characters and I'm looking forward to reading his story.

Simona Bartolotta says

3.5

I know this one's got a rather unconvincing avg rating, but once again I'm going to be the black sheep and say Tara Lain has become one of my favourite contemporary/romance authors out there. This story is delicious, the romance sweet, the writing on-point. If I weren't such a tough judge (and please believe I'm saying this with no small amount of self-deprecation), I even could have rated this book four full nice and shining stars, but by now you must know that three and a half stars is as good as it gets for me with this kind of quick reads that don't really stick with you a couple of months after you've read them. But **as far as (not so) light-hearted, heart-warming love stories go, *Outing the Quarterback* is excellent**, and it really stole my heart. I'm looking forward to read the rest of this trilogy.

?? Michaelle ♡?? says

4.1 Stars

(I didn't care for the voice narration in the audiobook, though.)

Yeochingyu says

3.5 *

The beginning was great this had a lot of potential to be mind blowing but It wasn't... (I expected more)
Rich closeted jock meets starving out and proud artist yes it can be a little bit dramatic but I liked it.

So **Will** is rich, plays football and is secretly an awesome painter. with an alcoholic mother and a manipulating father life is not easy for him he just wants to lose himself in painting. one year one more year and he can ... be free.

and

...

Noah is out and proud painting is his dream. growing up homeless and his beautiful face scarred just made him work harder to achieve his goals.

and

...

Their first meeting is in Masterson's class. That teacher is just plain evil until the end, no remorse (a heartless painter).

I liked how Will saw the beauty of Noah. (Yeah Those words did something to my heart)

“You're beautiful.”

but Masterson was just a slimy and sleazy sob.

“Yes, beauty ruined.”

Will frowned. “Ruined?” He shook his head. “Perfected.”

“No light without dark. He makes his own contrast. The scar reminds you of just how perfect the rest is.”

A teacher pressuring his student for sex that bit really left a really bad taste that I hoped will go away I mean... no it persisted until the VERY END.

Jamal was a great highlight to this story everyone should have a friend like Jamal Jones in his life. and Ev was awesome.

Now for the jealous and obsessed Youtuber here that was pure evilness too but it faded. I mean he faded from the story I don't really know what happened to him.

I feel like characters in this book were either really super good people, or plain pure evil people. it felt a little bit unrealistic.

I expected more smutty hot scene since Will was a bottom, being topped by Noah I expected the steaminess to be deadly.

(there's really something wrong with me and my expectations these days)

“There’s just one thing, jockoid.”

“What?”

“I like to top.”

“Oh. My. God.”

“Baby, you’re a born bottom.”

Elsbeth says

BR, December 12th with Julie.

It was okay...

About Will, who was wayyyyyy in the closet. Will, a quarterback living the dream of this father. He has always loved painting..

So, secretly he went to art-class hoping to win this scholarship and begin living his own dream. It's there where he meets Noah...

Noah has had a rough upbringing. He has lived on the streets and is used to taking care of himself and competes for this same scholarship.

We get a lot of dramalama and the nasty outing....

I felt their relationship was a bit rushed and didn't feel the attraction much between these guys other than their mutual love for art....

So now I'm complaining that the book was too short.... :)

Tomorrow, I promised myself reading a story of more mature man loving.
These kids are cute but also stupid sometimes!!!

Eli Easton says

I have loved reading Tara Lain since her Balls to the Wall series. I read "Canning the Center" before "Outing the Quarterback", but it didn't matter. Both were great.

I enjoyed everything about this book except how much it made me procrastinate with my weekend chores. It was so hard to put it down! There is more angst in this book than other Tara Lain's I've read, but I knew it would come out all right in the end, so I didn't mind. (P.S. it does)

One thing I admire about Tara is that her sex scenes are very explicit, playful, and fresh. It's hard to write explicit sex that isn't the same-old Tab A into Slot B, but her crazy choice of language and playfulness make them worth reading rather than skimming.

This is definitely a hot and fun read. Recommended!

◆*Arianna◆* says

3.5 - 3.75 STARS

Will is the rich, famous quarterback of the SCU football team. His life is a prison, a big lie, because Will pretends everyday – he pretends to be straight. Everybody wants something from him, everybody has expectation. His father wants for him a football career, his team wants his focus, his girlfriend wants his attention. Nobody cares what he really wants. He only wants to paint and to be out of the closet, he wants to be happy. His only chance to follow his dream, to be a painter and to be free is to win a scholarship at the art school he secretly attends.

Noah had a hard life. He lived in foster homes, he lived on the streets, he knows how it is to be alone without nothing and nobody. He's poor, living in one-room apartment. In order to survive and pay for his school, he has three jobs. Noah is a talented artist. His dream is to win the scholarship at his art school.

Will and Noah meet in an art class. They are attracted to each other, they start to know each other and soon they become more than friends. Their art teacher, a famous artist wants Noah too and tries to complicate their relationship a little. Everything changes for them when some rumors about Will sexual orientation come out.

I liked this one, but I didn't love it! It was sweet, fun and easy to read. I enjoyed the storyline from the beginning, even if I tried not to roll my eyes a few times. Will and Noah's relationship was sweet, but for me was a little rushed.

I think this book relies too much on plot device. Both Will and Noah are sweet, but as characters they are only OK. For me they weren't enough developed. I didn't like all their decisions, but in the end I liked them both.

The side characters are great. Will was lucky to have such good friends in Jamal and Evangeline.

One thing that I really liked is there's no I love yous. I found this aspect of the story truly refreshing.

Overall, this book was just a nice read for me, but I will read the other books in the series, because the story wasn't bad and it had potential.

Manfred says

I thought I would learn a little bit about Football when reading this book, but actually, that did definitely not happen. So, if you are not into sports don't worry, it will not be an issue. Will is a Quarterback but he dreams of becoming an artist and goes to art school. Noah also wants to be a painter and he is openly gay.

Both apply for the same scholarship and both are really good painters.

When they meet, Will has to admit to himself that he definitely is not straight and not even bi as he hoped, he likes Noah and he is certainly gay. Of course, as a Quarterback, this cannot happen and his parents cannot know either, so he needs to stay as far in the closet as possible.

This was definitely a fun read and I had a great time reading about those 2 guys. But I must also warn everyone that this book serves so many clichés, it is almost ridiculous.

Your regular daytime soap is probably realistic compared to this story,

with the rich kid, driving a custom-made Ferrari, the poor kid working several jobs after spending years in foster care, both painting like mini van Gogh's, while the cheerleader, of course, is the most beautiful girl in

school and at the same time the biggest bitch you could imagine. Add to that a famous artist and teacher who wants to seduce Noah and of course, he refuses to endorse Noah for the scholarship, because Noah does not sleep with him.

All this drama is sometimes really too much and it did not make me completely happy. But the story of the 2 guys is still sweet and romantic and even if it did get overwhelming sometimes, I still had a good time reading it.

So if you like it really sweet and extra romantic and don't mind some (well a lot actually) soap opera in your m/m books, this might work well for you.

For me, it was just above average, 3.5 stars!

Adam says

Meh.

This review contains spoilers.

Outing the Quarterback is like a combination of most teen movies and daytime soap operas. And of course that comes with its host of stereotypical characters:

- the rich misunderstood jock.
- the blonde bombshell girlfriend who also happens to be a total bitch.
- the jock's dysfunctional parents (an overbearing and controlling father, and an emotionally unstable and alcoholic mother).
- the love interest (in this case a man), who is poor, weird and just not proper upper-class material.
- the jock's token black best friend (which I can't even blame the author for, considering Hollywood's pretty set on the idea that 1 noticeable minority character per show/movie is somehow just right.) But I loved Jamal, so I'll be forgiving.
- the coach who ends up being more of a father than the jock's actual father.

I think you get my point. Sometimes the whole soap opera routine works, but not so much in this case.

Now there were some things I liked. I really liked the Jones family, especially Jamal and Evangeline. The romance, even though it was predictable and a tad insta-lovey, was funny and sweet. I would have liked some more from Noah's POV, but it was still fine getting to see most of the relationship from Will's side. Noah's background story was interesting, though I think the author could have explored it a bit more. The sex was good, but I was expecting something more. Maybe because of the cover? Or maybe my mind's just in the gutter too much.

By the end, there were 2 things that really bothered me:
(view spoiler)

I think the main issue I had with this book was that there was just too much going on. Too many story lines, too many characters gunning for the MCs, and just too much drama. Sometimes that works, but it just didn't in this case. I'll be keeping an eye out for the sequel, because I really liked Jamal, but I think I'll wait for a good number of reviews before I decide to pick it up. Overall, this book fell flat for me in many ways.

MaDoReader says

Vaya culebrón...

***J* Too Many Books Too Little Time says**

4--~~Closeted~~--Stars!!

This is a new author for me, and I must say I really enjoyed this one. I was a bit worried about the angst level, especially with Will buried so deep in the closet. But surprisingly I'd say this one was pretty low drama.

I also liked that it wasn't insta-love between the main characters. Insta-attraction maybe but it was a slow build to them actually becoming a couple I thought.

Will's life is one big lie. Still supported by his parents, Will pretends to be the straight star quarterback of the SCU football team. But he's really gay and wants to be an artist. He's virtually been living a double life the last three years.

Will's hoping to get an art scholarship which will be his ticket to freedom. He can say goodbye to the life his father wants for him and hello to the life that will make him happy.

Having the endorsement of his art teacher will only help seal the deal. Too bad his art teacher has a thing for another student. Another student that just happens to catch Will's eye.....Noah!

Noah has always been on his own and needs that scholarship just as much as Will. As Will and Noah grow closer, both of their chances of getting the scholarship are threatened. On top of that, the campus gossip is trying to out Will.

For the first time in his life, Will has a reason for wanting to say goodbye to the lies and embrace what's in front of him.

But what will happen when his secrets are revealed? How will his dad take the news? Will Noah stand by Will?

Again, the drama in this one could have been really high. But I thought everything played out rather realistically. I would have liked a bit more with Noah and Will as a couple, at times Will's double life out shadowed the romance.

I thought the supportive characters were great as well. And I look forward to reading the next book in the series. The steam level on this one was medium I'd say. There were a few good sex scenes, but I definitely wouldn't have complained about a few more.

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

Melodrama central!

Will is the hot, closeted college quarterback. He is rich and spoiled and determined to get through one more year of business school pretending to be straight and care about football.

Noah is the starving artist. He had a rough upbringing, was scarred by a beer bottle when he was a homeless teenager, and is now prickly and dependent on no one.

The two meet in an art class led by a prestigious artist who is wanting more from Noah than just his talent.

There were some steamy bits in this book, although it wasn't nearly as hot as I had imagined based on the blurb and cover. (view spoiler)

While the backstory for both MCs was there, a lot of it was infodumped. Noah went from prickly to sweet with nary a blink.

Will, on the other hand, came across as a coward. The lengths to which he went to stay in the closet (getting a "fake" girlfriend, lying at a press conference) were eye-rolling.

And, oh dear god, the melodrama: Crazy gossip hound stalker; lesbian as girlfriend (Evangeline had NO reason to be in the closet as far as I could see); professor/artist blackmailing/wanting to fuck/manipulating students.

The secondary characters were walking stereotypes: crazy, jealous cheerleader girlfriend; petty, vindictive professor; best friend with a heart of gold; close-knit Jones family who will do anything for Will (in stark contrast to Will's own dysfunctional family); Will's alcoholic, bigoted mother, who disappears into the background. There was nothing complex or nuanced about these characters.

Likewise, the relationship between Noah and Will felt rushed. Besides painting and attraction, I wasn't sure what held them together. Their conversations seemed juvenile, and the romance aspect was a little lacking. There were some cute, sweet moments, but I wanted more. (view spoiler)

And finally, as a long-term, dedicated academic, I was snorting at the way scholarships, college acceptance, etc., were portrayed. The way the professor announced whom he was endorsing and changed the rules of the art scholarship at a whim; the way both guys got into UCLA at the drop of a hat; the way the school called Will about the tuition check ("Sorry, we received too much money from you," said no college registrar ever): NO, just NO. It just doesn't work like that! Research, please.

This book was fun and a very easy read, if overly seeped in melodrama and lacking real depth. I noticed a few minor typos, but they didn't detract from the story.
