



One-Two Punch

Katie Allen

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Beth is willing to do almost anything to meet her dream man-including taking boxing lessons. She passes Harry's gym for weeks before mustering up the nerve to walk in and talk to the gorgeous owner. Once she does, sparks fly as well as punches. Their budding relationship is tested with the arrival of Ky, Harry's old Army buddy.

After years of frustrated longing for his fellow soldier, Ky is hoping that he can win Harry's heart. He hadn't planned on Beth, however - or the scorching desire she inspires. As the trio struggle to accept their feelings for each other, a menacing figure stalks Beth, watching, waiting-and preparing to snatch her away from the two men she's grown to love.

"Reader Advisory: This book contains smoking-hot scenes of ménage and M/M sex."

One-Two Punch Details

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From Reader Review One-Two Punch for online ebook

Jen says

AWESOME! HOT! WOW!

Ok so it wasn't so much as "Sports" it was more just hanging out at the gym with a few self defense pointers :) but it was still great!

Starts off with Beth walking to the bus stop to go to work. She peeks into the door of the gym that's on her way, that's where she sees him. Her dream man *sigh* Henry -

Henry is the owner of the Gym. He looks up at Beth as she looks in the window and their eyes met for an instant. And that's when Beth knew she wanted this man.

Every day on her way to the bus stop, and on her way home, she can't help but look into the gym and find her dream guy.

When she goes out for a drink with her two best friends, she see's him walk in with the most beautiful woman she's ever seen. Figures.

As her and her friends drink a little more, oogling over her dream man, Sheri notices the woman he's with is mad - she's arguing with him.. Beth looks over and watches with intent as the two of them share a few heated words. Just as the woman stood up and threw her drink in his face, Beth realized he's now single.

A few days and a whole lot of courage she didn't have, later - she walked into the gym Totally out of her element, but insistent on talking to this man before she couldn't do it anymore.

Harry was talking with his good friend Domonic when they notices the little girl walking into the gym. Wondering if she was lost, Harry started walking over to her.. after a better look, he realized this wasn't a little girl. This was the most beautiful woman with curves in all the right places.. and he was excited to meet her.

As he introduced himself as the owner and asked if he could help her. She couldn't breathe. Her mind went blank and she couldn't talk.

Just as Dominic walked up to her

Move over, Harry-important business here. Are you selling Girl Scout cookies? If you are, I want some of those coconut ones."

"Samoas?" Beth asked startled.

He grinned. "YES! Do you have them with you or do I have to wait?"

"What? No." She shook her head feeling like she had been dropped down a rabbit hole. "Sorry, I don't have any cookies."

:Oh." The bald man's face fell. "Can you bring them by tomorrow?:

"Dominic!" Harry shouldered the shorter man over. "She's not a Girl Scout. Come on, she's at least-what?"

He looked at Beth inquiringly. "Twenty?"

"Twenty-four," she answered.....

Dominic was looking deeply disappointed. "So no cookies?"

"Enough with the cookies!" Harry bellowed, giving him a shove.

"Why do I feel guilty that I don't have any cookies?"

Lol Love Dominic :) He's so funny - it was a great ice breaker. Dominic had seen the "hearts" in both their eyes from the start. It was all he could do to push these two together fast enough.

When Beth signed up to join the gym, Harry took on the job as her personal trainer. She wanted to learn how to box.

It was torture for Harry though. Seeing her in those tight yoga pants and short top that lifted every time she lifted the weights. It wasn't easy for Beth either. Just the simple task of wrapping her hands in the Velcro tape was torture when Harry's hands touched hers.

The next day, Beth was sore beyond anything. Walking hurt - but she was actually looking forward to the work out she was going to receive. Ok she was looking forward to seeing Harry - but the working out part wasn't too bad. She was actually starting to like it.

The following Monday, when Beth came in for her training session, she didn't see Harry. Disappointed, she walked over to Dominic to say hi.

Hey there, jail bait!" he called out "Here to torture Harry some more?"

Blushing and smiling she protested, "Jailbait? I'm twenty-four-that's totally legal."

"Yeah, but I'm sure Harry can think of some illegal things he wants to do to you." Dominic smirked at her.

"Here, some Girl Scouts were selling these outside the Super-Mart."

"The coconut ones?" Dominic asked, his voice hushed, as if the cookies were sacred. As she nodded, Beth found herself crushed in a huge bear hug, her feet dangling off the floor "You're an angel! A cookie angel!"

:Hand off, Dominic," rumbled a voice behind Beth.

"But Harry, she brought me cookies!"

So they get back into training. Harry casually - or tries to be casual about asking her if she can beat up her boyfriend yet.

"No boyfriend" she said, "Not unless you count my secret admirer."

"What?" he asked confused.

She shrugged, "Just some guy-at least I assume it's a guy-who leaves little love notes under my door. I was just joking about him being my boyfriend-I don't even know who it is."

Harry felt an uneasy prickling between his shoulder blades. "Some strange guy toes to your house? Has he done anything besides leave the notes?"

"No of course not. It's just a silly crush, I'm sure. Forget I said anything."

"uh-huh." He looked at her, his eyes narrowed. He knew it was none of his business but the idea of someone hanging around where she lived bothered him-a lot.

Fifteen minutes into their next training session, Harry snapped at her to stop. He told her he needed to see her in his office, then walked away.

She desperately tried to think of what she had done to irritate him so much. "What's wrong?" She asked, her voice small.

He didn't answer. Her heart pounding in her ears, Beth watched him lean in. His hard-cut mouth coming closer and closer, his blue eyes bright with heat. Gathering her under the arms, Harry lifted her and sat her on the desk as if she was just a little girl. The piles of papers tilted and slid beneath her. Forcing Beth to grab at his arms for balance. His biceps flexed beneath her hands and she was shocked... While she was distracted by the feel of his thick arms, Harry bent his head and captured her mouth....

And what a KISS that was! lol - and it didn't just stop at a kiss - these two had a lot of pent up energy between the two of them. one kiss lead to a whole lot more..

After awhile, Harry asked her to come upstairs to his loft that was over the gym. He couldn't help himself. And she didn't want him to.

The next morning as Beth was getting ready to go home to change for work, Harry insisted on walking her home, even though she only lived half a block from the gym.

As they got to her apartment, Harry wasn't impressed by what he saw. The door to the building was propped open for anyone to walk in. The light bulbs were burnt out in the hallways, and even her door was hard to open.

When they got in, she had stepped over the envelope that was laying on the floor by the door. Harry picked it up and tried to hand it to her. She told him that was just a letter from her admiror. He left one for her every day. She just shrugged if off, but Harry couldn't let it go. He asked if he could see it.

She told him not to expect anything exciting. They were always the same cheesy cards.

When Harry opened it, he knew something was wrong.

So someone was stalking his girl... was it just his jealousy that was making him want to strangle every stranger that looked at her?

After some time, things were really starting to heat up between the two. They just couldn't get enough of each other. She was spending more and more time at the gym, or in his loft.

When one day she was at the gym, Harry was talking with a new client, she saw a man walk into the gym. He was beyond beautiful.

She bounced up to him and asked him if he was looking for someone.

Yeah," he grunted. His eyes dismissed her, wandering away to scan the room.

"Anyone in particular?"

"Yeah." The silence stretched and the man glanced at her again. "I can find him on my own. Off you go, Barbie."

He turned completely away from her, leaving her gaping.

"Barbie?" she repeated, startled and a little flattered-

She found hARRY and ran over to him just as he was wrapping things up with the client.

"There's a super-hot and really cranky guy looking for someone and he wont tell me who and I'm dying of curiosity!" Twisting around, Beth spotted the stranger and pointed. "There! Do you know him? He called me Barbie."

Harry snorted a laugh. "Barbie? I bet that-" He broke off suddenly when his gaze locked on the man maneuvering his large duffel around the equipment. "Well shit-balls," he breathed. "POKEY!" Harry called out. a grin lighting up his face.

Yes that's right, Pokey. lol This big strong beautiful stranger was no stranger to Harry.

This was really a great book. I loved the relationship they all had. Beth is so comfortable around these guys, it's like she's known them forever. Ky is cute. I love his stubbornness. He tries so hard to hide his feelings, but Beth can see them clear as day.

And after a week or so, when things get to be too much for Beth, and she goes on her little " walk " - I love how Ky seems to jump into Commando mode to help find her, and help Harry out, when Harry is falling apart.

M/F/M - M/M - M/F - lots of hot action in this book, and a really great story to go with it :)

Aerin says

I really loved this book!!! I honestly have no idea whom I drooled over more...Harry or brooding, panty-drenching Malachi(Ky) aka Pokey. Very emotional read and I guess I'm a sucker for dark brooding military men. A lot of times I laughed so hard at the loving way Ky and Barbie went at each other, teasing and lovingly insulting constantly.
GREAT BOOK!!

SassySami says

I really enjoyed the relationship between Harry and Beth, but Ky and Beth seemed more like siblings than lovers. Ky's character was either surly or sad, but rarely had any further dimension. I wanted more.

Brandy says

I really liked this book, but didn't realize until close to the end that Ky was black...had been picturing him wrong through the whole book!

SamJ ★Needs a HEA★ says

Reviewed after re read.

There is something about Katie Allen and how she writes that I just love!

Her heroes are an endearing mix of bossy, alpha and vulnerability!

Loved Harry, loved Ky and loved Beth.

Beth has had a crush on Harry for weeks and eventually builds up the nerve to go into his Gym to "join".

Soon her and Harry are a couple, and fall hard and heavy. Then Ky, an ex military friend of Harry's turns up,

and how they get from a couple to a threesome is a sweet story of undenied lust and love.

Add in a little drama, humorous banter and it is hugely enjoyable read.

It is a great light hot endearing read.

Phire says

It's official, I'm a greater pervert than I thought I was. Can't say I'm embarrassed.

Pauline Allan says

I sooo enjoyed this read! Two hot ex-military men with serious punching skills. The heroine was sweet, clumsy and curvy. The threesome was a wonderful pairing. Harry was the older dominate while "Barbie" and Malichai were fighting brats. The romance and love of the story really shown through. I always love a story with two hot men and one plump yummy little lady. The humor in this read was priceless. I found myself laughing out loud. The dialogue was smart and witty. The sex scenes were hot and plentiful. The M/M portion of the story was there, but didn't overshadow the female's involvement. This book packed a punch!

Barbara? says

Sweet menage. I hated that it took so long before they all 3 got together though. There wasn't a lot of time with the 3 of them. It was still hot. I liked Beth. She was just what Ky and Harry needed to bring them together. Though, she did have a TSTL moment. If you are getting strange letters and flowers....tell the police please!

Fatimama says

(MMF) A hot and sweet committed menage where they all have fun with each other! I loved the progression of Harry (H1) and Ky's (H2) relationship. I also liked how accepting Beth (h) was of the 2 men's feelings.

I'd like to believe they had an HEA with babies!

Renee says

Loved this story!

The characters are ALL like able or loveable. The h is a little ditzy and tsll but so incredibly honest and sweet that it's more endearing than annoying.

The sex is hot even though the guys don't get together until nearly the end, it's worth the wait.

The drama was just tension building enough to keep you reading straight through

Algae says

I couldn't even get past page 27. Beth is a naive, wide-eyed, clumsy and supposedly shy girl who "wouldn't know a penis if it hit her in the head" yet is somehow happy to jump on Harry's dick without him even saying a word about any interest in her when he suddenly grabs her and starts making out with her.

But what made me stop reading was her instant orgasm the second he enters her. What the fuck? Who gets turned on by that? Just completely absurd.

jenjn79 says

I really liked this book. I didn't love, love LOVE it, but I enjoyed it quite a bit. It was almost perfect. One adjustment to a story aspect and it would have be excellent.

Series Note:

No series connections that I know of.

Summary:

Beth is a somewhat shy, clumsy girl who walks by a certain boxing gym everyday on her way to the bus stop. She lusts after a hot guy she sees in the gym whenever she walks past. Beth never plans to do anything about her attraction, but one day she gets up the nerve to go into the gym and ask him for boxing lessons. Harry reluctantly agrees and the two hit it off instantly. It isn't long before they're engaged in a blistering affair and falling in love.

Over the course of their relationship, Harry tells Beth about some unresolved feelings he had for a fellow soldier while he was off at war. Beth is curious about it, but not worried. Things get complicated when a man stalking Beth escalates. And then Ky shows up at Harry's gym...Ky is the solider Harry was attracted to.

Ky is a solemn, sarcastic man dealing with the after affects of war. He had hoped to find Harry and start a relationship with him. But Harry is already involved and apparently in love. He stays with the two, though, unable to tear himself away. Then things get worse when Beth is kidnapped by her stalker. After she's rescued, Beth, Harry and Ky must face the feelings between the three of them and figure out what they want to do.

Review:

I was in a mood for a bi-menage HEA story and this one fit the bill perfect. It had just about everything I was looking for in this type of book: solid romantic development between all three characters, a good story, hot sex, and a happy ending. I was satisfied on all those levels.

I liked the way the story developed. Harry and Beth get involved, both are sexually adventurous so Harry tells about how he once felt some lustful feelings toward another guy, the two develop a solid relationship and then bam - Ky shows up and Harry and Beth must face the unresolved feelings between Harry and Ky. It made for a good romantic base to the relationship. And it flowed really well. Nothing felt forced - like a third was tossed into the mix just for the sake of some kink. It came across as a perfectly logical, realistic romantic conflict. I liked that.

There was also a bit of a suspense plot to the book to add some tension with Beth having a stalked then being kidnapped. I don't think it was a necessary part of the story, but I liked it. For me, a little suspense in a book is always welcome. I thought the aftermath could have been beefed up a little but it wasn't a big thing.

The only part of the book I thought could have used serious improvement was with the character of Beth. There was something rather off about her. It wasn't that I disliked her in any way, that she was a bitch or neurotic or anything like that. There was just something off in the way the author characterized her. The characterization of Beth came off as rather disjointed and contradictory. Sometimes she seemed to be one thing, then later something different. In the beginning you couldn't go a paragraph without Beth being referred to as a total klutz, then that whole thing gets forgotten about and suddenly Beth is a workout queen sex goddess. It was like the author was never really sure who exactly Beth was as she wrote. So I would have liked to have seen her be a bit stronger developed and more consistent (and not do utterly stupid things like getting into the car of someone she hardly knows ;)

But it was still a good bi-menage HEA erotic romance. I enjoyed it for what it was.

WARNING, this book contains: explicit sex and language, oral sex (m/f, m/m, m/f/m), anal sex (m/f, m/m, m/f/m), toys (the heroine using a butt plug on the hero), and some other stuff I'm just not remembering right now. Just keep in mind this is a bisexual-menage HEA story.

J says

Loved it!

I think I am becoming addicted to M/M/F relationships.....

ElaineY says

I liked the 2 guys, Harry and Ky, but Beth...she is so inconsistently drawn that it's difficult for me to decide what the author intended.

When Ky first sees her, he nicknames her Barbie. Like Beth, I, too, am wondering why Ky would call a short, dumpy, round blonde (Beth's own description) Barbie. Beth is also not too bright and exhibits TSTL traits like not telling anyone she receives stalker-type notes. She doesn't even tell her best friends until one of them accidentally reads one. Then, when the notes get menacing and crazy, she tells the best friend she's not going to tell Harry even tho she's practically living with him. Beth, the Bimbo Barbie's best friend says okay, don't tell him.

The story hops along on this vein until Ky shows up unexpectedly. The sexual tension between the two men is there but in small doses since Harry has just met Beth the Bimbo Barbie and his divining rod is still angling towards BBB's watering hole. It is only when the Barbie doll decides Harry wants Ky as well that Harry's rod starts vibrating in another direction.

Suspense comes in the confrontation with the stalker, of course. Sweet HEA but I hope Katie Allen doesn't have a fondness for bimbo Barbie heroines. What I note, again, after reading several MMF romances is that the woman DOES become superfluous. As a result, I tend to stick to the MM ones and only try out an MMF to see if I get lucky.

Actually, One-two Punch comes close to being 'right' as far as such menages go because Harry is still more heterosexual than other male heroes in MMF romances plus his romance with Beth is still new so his feelings for the other man are not so strong as to compete with his attraction for the heroine as in most of the other MMF romances.

Hollie says

In my mind, everything this author produces is pure gold. This book was no exception. I loved how two of the main characters were involved before the third entered the mix. And wow. This was one steamy ménage read. Immensely enjoyed it and will probably read this again in the future.
