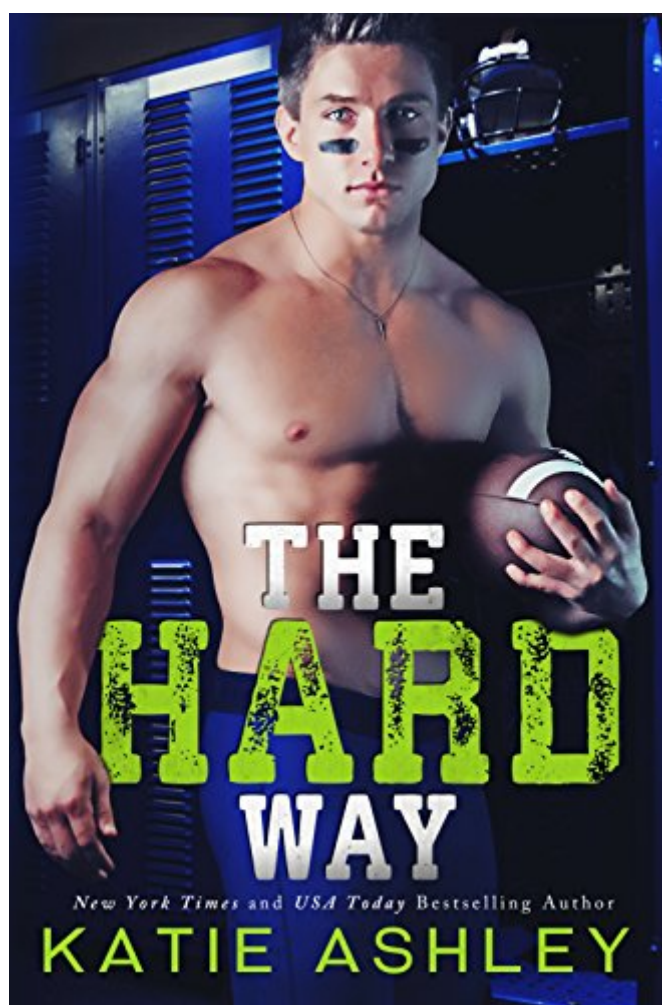


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The Hard Way: A Sports Romance



Synopsis

***Release Week Special: Two books for the price of one! Buy *The Hard Way* and receive *Don't Hate the Player* as Bonus Content! Cade Hall has always been the golden boy of the gridiron. Because of his talent at football, coupled with his father's wealth, he's always gotten his way. But when a night of drunken debauchery lands him in hot water with the college athletic board, neither his influential father nor his charming grin can save him. Cade finds it a total buzz kill when he is sentenced to community service with troubled youth at an inner-city shelter. But his nightmare is only beginning when his greatest high school regret is the very one in charge of the program, and she has him by the balls in more ways than one. For Avery Prescott, senior year was a nightmare of epic proportions, and Cade Hall played the lead villain. After she fled her small town for college in the bright lights of Atlanta, she thought she had escaped the painful memories of her past. She never could have imagined Cade would waltz through the door of the outreach program she presided over. But Avery has news for Cade "she isn't the same shy, doormat of a girl she was in high school. Since she holds Cade's football future in her hands, she's more than ready to make payback a real bitch. Will they stay in the defensive zone or discover that sometimes life's greatest lessons are learned the hard way?

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Customer Reviews

An alcohol induced act of stupidity leads Cade Hall to community service in order to save his spot on his college football team. But he has no idea his past is about to take a bite out of his already chewed up a**. The program day manager is Avery Prescott, the girl who he nearly destroyed in the past. We learn about their lives now and in the past and how it all went to hell. She is no longer the sweet innocent, awkward, tender-hearted girl who thought he had a heart under his outer facade. She is angry and still has internal scars. Once upon a time she made him want to be a better man, but he failed. And years later, he appears not to have learned much from his mistakes and is still the same selfish, cocky guy always getting bailed out of trouble. And Avery is strong, determined, bitter, and she is now in charge of his daily dose of humble pie. This is the story of two people who seemed like opposites--the rich boy who never really felt loved and the farm girl raised loved and overprotected. The popular A-list playboy and the introverted, serious, innocent nerd. But they were both intelligent, funny, and had big goals for their future. And they found a connection. But there were also a lot of outside influences and challenges stacked against them. And Cade was spoiled, self-centered, immature and too aware of social status. They were young and living in a diverse social situation and Avery ultimately paid the price for it. But now his past mistakes are all bearing down on him in the present, and he has no choice but to finally deal with them. But does he have what it takes to finally realize what is important and change for the better? This digs into the importance of true family love and support versus being spoiled and bailed out when needed.

Some people learn through the school of hard knocks while others learn by examples. For some people life is a breeze, everything comes easily without much thought. Everything came easy for Cade Hall. He's a star football player at Georgia Tech. He isn't the typical jock, he's special because he is a triple threat. He has looks, personality, and brains. He's also a filthy rich, spoiled brat. He has a knack for getting in trouble and a dependency on daddy bailing him out when push came to shove. He has no qualms using his athletic status or flashing his social status to get what he wants. He utilizes every asset and gift he has been blessed with to skate through life. He has never considered how his actions affected other people. He has never had to own up to his digressions. It's not that he was a bad person, he just isn't a really good person. When a college prank lands him in the hot seat, he thinks daddy can bail him out with false threats or a hefty donation. The Dean of Athletics has a different opinion. He has given Cade an ultimatum, he has to do community service,

or lose his position in football program for the remainder of his college career. He has to serve forty hours a week throughout the entire summer. He has to work the service around his football schedule. If he screws up, he's out of the football program. Cade loves football as much as he loves himself. His sentence is to work at an inner city center for at risk teenagers. It should be an easy gig. What he didn't count on was Avery Prescott being in charge of his duties at the center. Cade and Avery have a history that didn't end well. She was one of Cade's victims in high school. She is the one regret Cade has carried in his soul.

I am such a sucker for stories about the popular jock who falls for the quiet bookworm. And in this case, it's the rich, popular jock who falls for the scholarship bookworm girl that most everyone at the school looks down on. But when Cade Hall and Avery Prescott get paired up to work on an English paper together, they see sides of each other that no one else ever sees. Maybe Cade isn't just the rich, spoiled son of a Georgia state representative who gets out of every mess he makes by making a call to his daddy. Maybe there's more to him than just being a football jock. And maybe Avery isn't just the quiet, nerdy girl who lives on a farm with her mom and grandma and is only able to afford to go to their affluent prep school because she has a scholarship. Real feelings begin to develop between the two and Avery thinks everything is perfect, until everyone finds out about her and Cade and he pushes her aside like a piece of trash. Fast forward four years and Cade has gotten himself into some trouble that not even his influential daddy can get him out of. He ends up reporting for duty at The Ark, a community center for at risk youth. And guess who he runs into? The very girl he tossed aside all those years ago, who will now be his boss. Ahhh...sweet justice for Avery!!! I loved watching these two people together. How they interacted with each other, how they fed off each other, responded to the other. Both of them feeling way too many things. Avery still reeling from what happened, never having gotten closure on why Cade treated her how he did. And Cade, feeling like a complete ass for what he did but let's not forget he's still an arrogant rich kid whose father bails him out at every turn.

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