



Just Physical

Jae

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After being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, twenty-five-year-old Jill Corrigan takes herself off the romantic market. Not wanting to become a burden to a potential partner, she focuses on her career as an actress instead. On the set of a disaster movie, she meets stunt woman Kristine “Crash” Patterson, whose easy smile instantly makes Jill wish things were different.

Meanwhile, Crash is trained to fall, but she didn’t count on falling in love. Despite their growing feelings for each other, Jill resolves to let Crash into her bed, but not her heart. As they start to play with fire on and off camera, will they really be able to keep things just physical?

Just Physical Details

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From Reader Review Just Physical for online ebook

Tara says

I loved this one. Like, it gave me big strong fighty fangirl love feelings. I liked Jill in Damage Control, but she's so good in this one. I loved, LOVED Crash. She's wonderful, and I hope we see more of these ladies in the future.

I've seen some people on here talking about how there's way more sex than a usual Jae novel and whether it's too much. For me, it worked out just right. There are only two or three explicit scenes, and the rest is hinted at. All of it, however, propels the relationship, so none of it feels unnecessary.

I know I'll be reading this one again more than once.

Full review here: <http://www.thelesbianreview.com/just-...>

Tara says

I loved Jill when I first read about her in Damage Control and was thrilled to hear she was getting her own book. I wasn't sure it could top that one though, and boy was I wrong.

I loved Just Physical. Like, big time loved it, one of my favourites this year. Jill and Crash are fantastic, fully fleshed out characters who each go on a journey of figuring out what living with MS means, both as the person living with it and the person who loves the person living with it. I was glad to see Lauren and Grace show up again, and some of the side characters like Sally and George particularly stand out.

Other people have noted that this book has more sex in it than Jae's other books, and that's true. However, it was entirely appropriate for the love story of a couple that starts off with an agreement to stay "just physical." I particularly appreciated that the sex drove both the story and the relationship.

I can't be objective about this book. I think I'm a sucker for books about people who opt out of love and then find out it's not up to them. If you like Jae, get it. I'll be reading this one again, and more than once.

Bobbi says

Was an enjoyable book when Jill wasn't being annoyingly stubborn and rude to Crash. I can understand an independent person wanting to do as much as they still can, but it doesn't give them the right to be down right rude to others who just want to help. It was nice to see Lauren and Grace make a few appearances; I hope their story isn't done. The chemistry between Grace and Jill was well written (again when Jill wasn't being rude), and Crash's sense of humor made their interactions fun. Crash's courting of Jill was sweet and I got a little teared up towards the end.

Lex Kent says

I really enjoyed this! Jae just keeps putting out great books. I did read book 1 in this series which I enjoyed, but missed book 2. I really should have read it first considering Jill was in it, but when I saw this book at the library, I couldn't pass up on reading it. And enough of Jill's back story was explained so I didn't feel out of the loop.

In this book the main character Jill, has MS. I don't think I have ever read a LesFic book with a character who had MS before. I've heard about people having MS, but it's not like Cancer where there is so much out there about it. I felt like Jae educated me quite a bit about what people with MS have to deal with on a daily basis. It's heartbreaking but I'm glad Jae shined a light on it.

While Jill was extremely stubborn she was still likeable and I admired her strength. Crash was great. A perfect love interest to balance Jill out. Jae knows how to write great characters and great romances.

I also liked that the movie Jill was in was Shaken to the Core is now one of Jae's books. It made me want to read that new book even more.

It seems like you can't really go wrong with Jae, and I'm looking forward to reading more.

Bethany says

Another great example of why Jae is a master author!

Agirlcandream says

You know a book will be well written, well researched and edited to perfection when Jae is listed as the author. She breathes life into her characters. Her scenes and settings are easy to visualize.

Just Physical is all this plus an educational read on the challenges faced by those with MS. The physical side effects and current treatment processes are a given. What I had not considered before was the stigma that comes with an MS diagnosis. Careers are affected as are relationships. Jae brings this home with Jill's treatment on the set of a film she almost didn't get a role in because the director felt she would be unable to keep up with the rest of the cast. Jill prickles at what she perceives as coddling by Crash after she becomes aware of Jill's MS.

As heroic as Jill is made out to be I found Crash the easier character to admire. She had her own demons to contend with and an attraction to Jill she wanted to explore. She also pursued Jill with a gentle kindness which many times I didn't feel Jill deserved. Jill had her reasons to not want to form a romantic relationship, to not have to see a lover become her caregiver. Her arguments and repeated rejection of Crash made the book feel much longer than its 288 pages. Her fears and her pride made her seem obstinate rather than noble. It's rare that I pick a favourite in a romance novel but in Just Physical I was cheering for Crash and frustrated with Jill.

Lexxi Kitty says

My third reread of this week of a Jae book (well, 3rd reread of this week, just so happens to be by same author and in same series).

I read this book the first time in 2015, again some distance away from prior book in series, though just a few months between books as opposed to the year between books one and two. That's the first time I read the series. This time I read the books back to back this week over the course of three days.

Prior two books in this series kept knocking on my six star shelf, especially since books can't get there unless they are rereads. And they are quite good books. Both were just slightly less than top level, best of the best, reads though. Both rereads were slightly more satisfying experiences than first reads, though.

This time? This book I mean? I originally gave this book a rating of 5 stars. And this time give it a rating of 4.75. It's been 2 years so it isn't that I reread the book too close to original read. No, it was just certain aspects that detracted from my enjoyment.

Book 2 in the series had the main characters thrust together and 'in trouble', or helping to get out of trouble, because of Jill. Because Grace had been willing to help her friend who had/has multiple sclerosis - and had been caught in photographic form looking like she was having an affair, a lesbian affair at that. So Jill isn't some side character who is barely seen, heck, she once was the girlfriend of Amanda, the star of the first book in the series but was too far in the closet for the relationship to last and so it collapsed. So . . . okay, 1) the reader doesn't know about the Amanda connection until it came up in book 2 and 2) Jill doesn't appear in book one. So my mild attempt to raise the importance of Jill collapsed before I could make the claim. Right, no matter. Though will include a specific sentence I was going to mention - 'Jill isn't some barely there, seen a few times, side character in book 2; unlike Grace (star of book 2) in this book here, or Laleh in this book'. Laleh, who the heck is that, you might be thinking. Well, Laleh was briefly in this book and more talked about than seen . . . briefly talked about. She is a waitress at a Persian restaurant that Crash and Jill went to in this book here, and is of importance because she later starred in a book of her own (in which most, maybe all for the main starring characters in this 'Hollywood series' make an appearance – 2016's Heart Trouble).

I had a point I was attempting to make, probably lost the point somewhere along the line – namely that Jill has a biggish role in the series – bigger, in some ways, than other main characters who make something like cameos but are more 'barely there'. Like I already mentioned Grace appears in this book here – she actually has more 'scenes' than I recalled, though she's mostly there not talking much, as opposed to playing an important role. A stand in, if you will, for someone Jill is willing to turn to for help instead of turning to Crash. Lauren plays a bigger role than Grace in this book, but really felt like something of a 'see, here's another character from the past! It's like a reunion of sorts!'. Though that's kind unfair – I mean, the movie Jill is co-starring in, and that Crash is stuntwoman on was written by Lauren.

Right, enough of that.

Jill has MS – the book opens at some point prior to book 2 of the series, I believe a year before, where Jill learns about her illness. Then pops forward 2 years (or possibly 18 months) for the remainder of the book (or 1 year after the end of book 2). Jill is still having trouble getting work as an actress, but that's more mentioned here and there since she's actively working on a film for the most of the book. A film titled Shaken to the Core (if not known yet, a lot of Jae's works are connected in one way or another, like the Hollywood series is connected to both 'Shaken to the Core', and 'Heart Trouble'; while 'Shaken to the Core'

is connected to yet another series, ‘Backwards to Oregon’ through a side character, the same one Jill plays in the movie, who is a descendent of the people in that Oregon series.)

Jill plays Dr. Lucy Sharpe in a film about the 1906 earthquake in San Francisco. A film written by Lauren. Since she has MS, the directors (main director, and the 2nd unit director who does the action and stunt stuff) want(ed) someone else to do most of the action/physical scenes. Things as ‘little’ as stumbling over a bedpan – which is the first stunt that the stuntwoman had to perform in the book and in the film.

Crash plays the other main character in this book, and the stuntwoman who is confused by doing such a ‘simple stunt’ and assumes that Jill is a ‘Hollywood Diva’ or sleeping with someone of importance (oddly, she never thought that Jill was sleeping with, say, Lauren who does have some (limited) power – no, once Crash gazed upon Jill, she knew Jill was a lesbian and therefore . . . *shrugs*). Unfortunately for Crash, she makes her view public. Unfortunate because that ‘Hollywood Diva’ was standing right behind her. So Crash and Jill meet badly.

Somewhere along the way, though, Crash and Jill start some kind of relationship. The kind wherein they aren’t really dating, but are, and there’s lots and lots of sex (and I mean a lot. I’d forgotten that this book seemed to be so full of sex). But not really dating . . . because Jill doesn’t do that.

I had one real problem with the book – that push pull dynamic between Jill and Crash got old fast. Crash would try to have a relationship with Jill. Crash would get as close as she could – Jill would – seemingly at the same time, push and pull Crash; then push harder – pushing Crash away. Because . . . Now there’s a reason for Jill’s actions – (view spoiler) Push push push, push some more, then bounce back to square one. This is a weird mix of ‘long road to love’ and ‘insta-love’ – for the simple reason that you need a certain amount of love, on Crash’s part, to keep pushing against the stubborn mule-like Jill.

Bah. I keep struggling to write this. Probably because I’m starving. So I’ll just leave it as is.

I liked the book, even with its flaws.

Rating: 4.75

March 29 2017

Heinerway says

Another great book by Jae. So far I haven’t found a story by Jae that I didn’t like. And this time I’ve learned a lot about MS. And about stubbornness.

Heidi says

My spouse has relapsing remitting MS, so this was an interesting read. We were already in a committed relationship when she was diagnosed, so we worked through the I don’t want to be a burden issues very quickly. Thankfully her symptoms have been very slow to progress. She was diagnosed 11 years ago and has

had no major exacerbations. Small flair ups but nothing major. Fatigue brought on by heat, and some falls and balance issues, but we feel very blessed that her MS has been mild. Migraines are also something she gets much more regularly than I'd like, but we can't really complain.

With all that said, I enjoyed and related to much in the story. Thank you for an accurate portrayal. Although this portrayal will be different than someone else's. There is a saying amongst those with MS. My MS is not your MS and your MS is weird! Basically no two people will get the same symptoms or issues.

Linda J says

A really sweet love story.

Ratings: 4.25 ??

Jan says

Slight departure from Jae's "become friends--slow burn--then lover's" formula. (And yes, I love that formula.)

More of a "casual sex first---relationship complications---resolution" formula.

Margaret says

This is a solid, skillfully-written addition to Jae's Hollywood Series.

First and foremost, I really must give kudos to Jae for the significant amount of research she must have done to provide such deeply-understood, nuanced, realistic portrayal of the experience - mental, physical, emotional, practical - of someone living with a chronic (incurable) illness [in this case, Jill with MS].

Everything was captured - not just from Jill's internal experience and perspective but also the perspective of her main lustful/romantic interest [a new character to the series, stuntwoman 'Crash'], and the wider world around that (ie how MS treatments work, support services available) etc. The book really was masterfully rich in detail in this regard. If I was rating the book on this alone it'd be getting a hands down 5 out of 5 stars and more if I could give it.

[To give a little personal context to my comments - I have more than one person in my social circle living with MS so I like to think I'm more informed about this particular disease than the average bear. As such, any inaccuracy would have particularly grated... so the fact I, in fact, felt strongly the opposite speaks volumes I think].

If you're sensing a 'but' though, you'd be right.

Because I read books like this expecting romance and to connect with the characters and their journey. And I didn't quiiiite believe the journey - particularly the romantic journey Jill went on throughout the book. It was there, don't get me wrong, but it was a bit... light on. Like there wasn't enough room for the romantic journey alongside the personal 'accepting MS'. I appreciate that, for this character, romance can't be uncoupled from the disease. And that, for someone living with an illness like this, it's (almost) always in the back of their

mind. But I guess, at times, I just felt like the MS 'stuff' was rammed down my throat when it didn't need to be. I wanted a few more moments where Jill was emotionally vulnerable with Crash -- a few more 'mini swoon' moments to keep my romantic soul happy.

I also wonder if the author has copped some slack somewhere along the line about a lack of sex scenes in her books because there was a noticeable amount in this one! Almost too many. Again, I appreciate Jill's motivation for trying to keep emotions out of her interactions with Crash but I could have done with one (or two) fewer sex scenes and a little more detail about Jill's emotional journey (it's hard to say more here without spoiling the read).

Ultimately I left this book appreciating the author's efforts to write an accurate book rather than being left heart-happy and reflecting on the characters and the journey I'd just witnessed. My head loved this book. My, erm, pwoar side (?!?) is grinning lustfully. My heart though... my heart feels a bit short changed.

This would be my least favourite of the 3 Hollywood books, but there is absolutely no way I would have missed reading it and I still highly recommend it to lesrom fans (particularly those familiar with the series). Jae remains one of my favourite lesrom author's and I will definitely be reading future offerings of hers on the day they're released!!

T says

This is not just a romance where one of the mc's has MS. This is a book about what it's like to have ms and the effect it has on your life, career, and any romantic aspirations. As well as the effect it has on those that love you.

Being someone with ms, i have to say that i am astounded with how accurate and educational this book is. From the symptoms to the psychological mindset, this book was spot on. Especially the desire to shield others from being stuck as a caretaker. But it also reminds us that we are always caretakers to those we love, whether it's ms, diabetes, lactose intolerance, or moodiness. ;) Self sacrifice is give and take when you're in love. This book does a great job of teaching that lesson.

Great job Jae.

Fia says

Finally!

It took me long enough to finally finish this. I don't even know why, since it's a decent book. I must say, I liked Damage Control much better though.

I liked Jill in previous book probably more than I liked her in her own. And that's not a good thing. It was maybe because in Just Physical she was too frustrating and annoying with the - pushing Crash away, because I'm sick and I don't deserve to be happy and I can't ruin Crash's life because she shouldn't be with someone who has MS - thing. I don't know if I've ever read about such a stubborn person before. It just really became very annoying after a while.

I liked Crash, though. She was a good, loving, loyal, strong person and I could find many other positives.

And she was so damn patient with Jill and all that stupid 'pushing her away' thing. Honestly, she had my respect.

The sex scenes were good. Hot. There were a few of them, since it was 'just physical' at the beginning.

So, it was a good book. Not great, not amazing, but a solid 3 stars book.

Tiff says

4.5 stars

Just Physical by Jae stole my heart. This is the third novel in The Hollywood Series. While the book is a stand alone, if you have read the previous books, especially Damage Control, you meet up with some familiar characters. Just Physical is a star studded romance that you do not want to miss.

Jill Corrigan is a tough, hard headed, stubborn actress. She is fiercely independent, which is a double edge sword when you have been recently diagnosed with MS. Jill is a hard character not to fall in love with. Her strength in the face of adversity is admirable. She is a character that will undeniably pull at your heart strings.

Kristine "Crash" Patterson is a Hollywood stuntwoman. She has come onto the set of Jill's newest film, to do all the action scenes Jill has been deemed unfit physically to do. She is a hotshot, daredevil, who is eager to do what it takes to make it in the male dominated world of stunt doubles. One thing about Crash, she has a heart of solid gold, and it doesn't take much for that heart to be stolen by Jill.

Up until reading this book, I knew very little about MS as a disease. Jae did an outstanding job of informing me, the reader, about the struggles of living with MS. She did it in a way that only a skilled writer could. Jae applied it to her characters, and their lives, weaving this information into the story, without breaking character I guess you could say. I never felt like the author was getting on soap box, or the story becoming like a medical journal.

Oh the character development, how fine it was. This is what sets this author aside from so many. She brings characters to life in her stories. They are so well thought out, and well developed. Not only can you see them through the story, but you are able to really understand emotions, reactions and why they are the way they are.

Overall this a great book. The romance is there, the characters are fantastic, and the story evolves in way that holds your attention to the very last page. Jae hit a home run with Just Physical. She is an author that you buy the book automatically, guaranteed time an time again to produce great work.

Once again Ylva Publishing produces another great book , worth every penny!!!
