



Craft Brew

Layla Reyne

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Assistant US attorney Dominic Price is staring down the barrel of his father's debts. The bull's-eye on his back makes him a threat to everyone he cares about, so when his lover wants to go public with their relationship, he bolts. Not because he isn't in love—he can't stomach the thought of putting Cam in danger.

Kidnap and rescue expert Cameron Byrne is determined to figure out what trouble Nic is running from, but devastating news from home brings him back to Boston and to the cold case that has haunted his family for two decades. Shoving aside his pride, he calls Nic for help.

Together they search for answers, navigating the minefield of Cam's past. But when they get too close to the truth, Cam must use every skill in his arsenal to save the man he loves...before it's too late.

Craft Brew Details

Date : Published October 8th 2018 by Carina Press

ISBN :

Author : Layla Reyne

Format : Kindle Edition 304 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Mystery, Contemporary, Suspense

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From Reader Review Craft Brew for online ebook

Chris says

Cam & Nick really move into the fast lane in this book. Solving a 20 year mystery around the abduction of Cams sister unraveled guilt, pain and family angst. Nick was in fine form and played the perfect back up for Cam. This was fast paced with lots going on. Enjoyed this much more than book1 - will be keen to see how these two resolve the Vaughn issue.

haletostilinski says

4.5 stars!

Cameron and Dominic's story continues, and trouble is definitely brewing.

Vaughn is still a threat four months later, although it's been quiet so far. But it's only getting worse, and Vaughn isn't backing down. Nic's father had to take out a mortgage on the house to keep paying Vaughn, but he's still behind on his payments. Things are starting to come to a head there.

But first, the main plot and mystery in this book, is Cam's sister's disappearance. When Cam gets a call from his family all the way in Boston that his mother had a heart attack, he races to get there.

Nic, having run away to San Diego for 5 weeks to cover for a lawyer who had been on paternity leave, came back, but that same day Cam gets the call and they barely get a chance to be together before Cam's leaving - and saying he doesn't Nic to come. Why?

We get an answer soon enough - Cam isn't out to his family yet, and with his mother in the hospital, he feels it isn't the right time to tell them he's bisexual and seeing a man.

Nic stays back in San Fran for 4 days working on the Vaughn case, but when Cam calls him for help, Nic goes to Boston.

The next few days or so, maybe close to a week even, is filled with both being pulled in all directions. A new girl is missing who might be tied to Erin's - Cam's sister - case, which Cam reopened personally at mom's request, and Cam and Nic are concentrating on that at the same time Cam has to worry about his mother, whose condition is worsening, and she might not make it. Also, Nic learns pretty damn quickly that Cam isn't out to his family.

Plus, there's everything happening with Vaughn that Nic still has to catch Cam up on when things aren't crazy.

Let's just say that it made for very little alone time between these two.

It frustrated me, which is why I took .5 stars off, how stretched thing they were that barely any time was dedicated to them and their relationship - except for at the beginning and the end, really. Plus, only two sex scenes? :(Disappointing lack of sexy times. What we had was good, but still.

I love Cam and Nic together, and the plot was interesting and their relationship did evolve and strengthen, but there is obviously going to be at least one last book to finish this series up. Truths still haven't been told.

But I did love seeing more of Cam's family and learning more about them and Nic being introduced to them and everything.

This was a solid second installment in the series for me - great plot, great chemistry between these two as always, and great character development. I just wish there had been a little more time dedicated to these two and their relationship - or just maybe even some private time between them.

Overall, I loved this and I can't wait for the third installment. I so badly want these two to get their HEA!

ARC generously provided by Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

Rach says

I loved this book more than the first and I loved the first.

Nic and Cameron are very much a couple at the start of the book. Nic won't commit to move in with Cam yet with his dad and Vaughan looming round the corner. Cam is ready though.

Cam gets a devastating call from Boston that his mom is in hospital and is serious ill. Nic wants to go with Cam to Boston but there is reason Cam doesn't want him to.

I like in this book we get to see both of there families and how different they. Nic's dad is horrible person and doesn't deserve a person like Nic as his son. I loved Mary and how she cared for Nic and glad Nic go her out of that house.

Cam has a big loving family. I felt for all of them when his mum asked to find out happened to his sister. It was hard on each one of them. They got all closure on what happened to her, a sad closure but closure.

Nic found out when he arrived in Boston to help and comfort Cam why he didn't want him there. Cam hadn't told them he was bi. I loved that Nic gave him time and support to tell them and as Nic said there is any right way or right time, it is when you are ready.

All in gang featured in this book (apart from Danny).

There is still questions to be answered which we found out in the next book. Who is bad guy in the FBI or the DA's office, what will happened with Vaughan and will the two people Nic cared about cone back and of course will Nic and Cam get there happy ending.

Shile says

4.5 stars

"Why do you want me?"

"You rescue lost people for a living. Is it any wonder you found me?"

I loved it! Such a great improvement from book 1. This one had all the right feels.

We get to know the main reason why Cam went into Kidnap and Rescue, the guilt he has been carrying all along. So heartbreaking. We meet Cam's family, i loved them all,even grumpy Keith!

Nic and Cam's relationship develop at a steady pace, I enjoyed their tender moments as well as the tense moments. The chemistry between these two is off the charts.

Now the best part for me was the case! i love me some cold cases, clues, trying to figure out who the unsub was....that kind of thing makes my blood hot! The author did an amazing job here, It was so heartbreaking to read and i was kept in the dark until the last moments.

My sweet Cam! Gah!!

Book 3 should be out already.

~Volha~ says

5+1 stars!!!

It's settled. I love Cam and Nic more than Irish and Whiskey! Sorry guys, you have to move! This couple is just so intense in a good kind of way that I can feel the love pouring off of them in waves! This book is a little different than others, I think, because here they don't just have a regular case investigation sprinkled with a dose of personal relationship, it's centered on family ties, opens doors to Cam's past and future.

When the call comes in the deep of the night, Cam drops everything to be with his family in their dark times. It's tense and filled with anguish but Cam has to stay strong because only he can bring his family resolution and peace that eluded them all since that fateful day that she disappeared. It's the hardest and the most painful case he has ever been involved in, and he will need all the help and support he can get.

Nic is set to be there for the man he loves but all is not simple. While his hand was forced many years ago to be in the open, Cam is not ready and that makes it even harder for Nic because he has to watch Cam tear himself apart over the tragedy that struck his family. There seems to be no change in the evidence but they get a lucky break - another girl is stolen, the trace is still fresh and they can find her and maybe put all the demons to rest.

It's thrilling, action-packed and engrossing investigation, all the stops are pulled out, no stone left unturned, and what they discover is horrible and atrocious but it finally lifts the cover of guilt and pain and brings relief and the ability to grieve and let go. This book is very emotional, very personal journey for Cam, and Nic is there to catch him when he drifts too far from the shore. I loved, loved, loved this book, Cam and Nic, Cam's family and all their friends! It was great! I highly recommend this book and whole spin-off!

** ARC kindly provided by Leslie Copeland for my honest review **

I~♥?~Books says

★4.5 Stars★ ?

Dia says

I absolutely loved this one!! My first 5 stars read of 2019.

Action packed, angst and a lot of feelings! I may have fallen in love with Nic and Cam.

I dived right into this second book after finishing the first one in the series. The Agents Irish and Whiskey series was great but I've read it somewhere in the summer and I kind of forgot to check this spin off until now. I was surprised there are already 2 books out and the third will be out soon. I asked for an ARC on NetGalley for book #3 but I was kind of sad I had 2 previous ones to read before. I still rarely choose series that feature the same couple as main characters. I was surprised I enjoyed reading the first book, but it was pretty difficult at first to connect with Nic and Cam. Maybe because I couldn't remember much about them from the other series.

Well I can't imagine how difficult it might be for other readers who haven't got a clue about Jamie and Aiden. About Mel. It might be too much. I think the beginning is too full of details and characters and action. But somehow it worked for me, and their back stories came to me as I read. It was good to revisit them.

This second book was much better! We get A LOT of action and suspense! It's way different than the first one when it comes to the building relationship and all the feelings.

There were many scenes that broke my heart, especially those concerning Nic's father who was still treating him horrific, Cam's fear of coming out to his family, and what happened to Cam's sister who went missing 20 years ago... So much guilt. So many people were heartbroken. This story kept me on the edge of my seat and it's really soul wrenching at time. But I love ANGST! So it's right on my alley.

“But I think what Cam wants most is for you to stay alive.”

Nic glanced out at the field again, hoping things went differently this time. Praying for the happy ending he wanted. That Cam deserved. “I’m going to try my damnedest.”

But if it came down to it, he’d always save the man he loved. Even if it meant a fist to his jaw. Or a bullet to his heart”.

And now I'm starting the next one ? really hope it will measure my expectations. When this second book was THAT good, I really hope the third will be magnificent!

Jennifer?Pher? says

Another win for this spin-off of the Agents Irish and Whiskey Series (which friends, yes, you must read that first).

There is definitely a formula in this universe and believe me, it totally works, really. As a girl who hates separation setups in my romance I kind of love how in these books it just sets up the longing and the hunger and well, the reunion. Add in all the danger and the family love and all my emotions come out to play.

This story packed quite the punch. We got a small taste of Cam's childhood in Boston in the first book but this was so much more. Such pain, regret and guilt. The growth between these guys with each installment is perfection. The love, oh my God.

The storyline with Nic's Dad is still happening in the background and I have a feeling that is what we are getting next. I pray that Nic won't do what he's talking about and I hope that what they've grown into in this book makes that a definite no.

So, yes, another winner; I can't wait for the next one, I am sure it is going to be insane.

ARC provided by the author via A Novel Take Promotions in exchange for an honest review.

Diana says

Full review now posted

Craft Brew is book 2 in the Trouble Brewing series by Layla Reyne, and also a spinoff of Irish & Whiskey series. Although I did struggle a bit with book 1 in this series, I absolutely loved this one.

It has been four months since Cam and Nic became a couple, even though their relationship is still unknown to their friends. Nic is still looking over his shoulder because of his father's activities are still a problem, with no solution in sight. Nic is determined to keep himself and his friends safe and out of harm's way. He is almost relieved when Cam has to return to Boston for his family. But when open wounds get the best of Cam, he asks Nic for help. Together, along with Jamie, they try to put an end to a nightmare that has been plaguing Cam and his family for years.

While I struggled in book 1 with Nic and Cam being in a relationship, this story solidifies their feelings. Nic is protective and caring for Cam when Cam, himself, is struggling on many different levels. In fact, I moved Nic to the perfect boyfriend list.

I am thrilled that is going to be a third book. I hope that we finally get to see more of Nic's past and hopefully overcome his demons.

I received a copy of this book from the publisher/NetGalley, in exchange for an honest review

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

4.5 Stars!

Great continuation of the series. I really love Cam and Nic.

This was the perfect mix of romance and suspense.

And so many feels. I love those little moments between them.

While this one ended more of a HFN, Cam and Nic are solid.

And I'm looking forward to the next book which I hope will delve a bit more in to Nic and his family and past.

Mirjana **DTR - Down to Read says**

*****4.75 Stars*****

OMG I FREAKING LOVED THIS!!!

Me, while reading.

It was an avalanche of feels...and I loved every single minute of it.

Cam fell into him. Into the kiss he'd missed. Into the arms that held on tight and kept him from shattering. Into love, more and more each day with this man.

This book continues building the solid foundation of Cam and Nic's relationship, while also dealing with the unsolved disappearance of Cam's little sister 20 years ago...and the fact that Cam's not out to his family. They hid their relationship from their friends....and now they'll have to hide from everyone.

This book was the perfect balance of romance and suspense. It's stuffed with feels from every direction. Especially Nic and Cam's growing love and affection amongst the turmoil in Cam's life, and the growing danger in Nic's.

Nic and Cam need each other. Ground each other. Support each other. And fall deeper and deeper in love every day. They are a true team. Partners.

I was on the edge of my seat reading so much of this book, wondering what twists and turns Layla Reyne was going to throw at me. At the same time, I was a puddle of goo simply melting at the unbreakable bond forging between these two men.

Usually, in a trilogy the middle book can be a bit of a miss. A filler to get you to the third book. NOT HERE.

If the first book hooked me, this one swallowed me whole.

I can't tell you how many scenes I highlighted. The vulnerability these men showed each other gutted me. The honesty, a breath of fresh air. The need, the desire, the trust, the respect, the love.....done. I'm done. Romance reader down.

"Do you love me?"

Nic's lips trailed across his cheek, nuzzling, as the hand on his thigh inched higher. "More than I should."

"Then I'm ready to present our case."

Nic pulled back, meeting his gaze. His pupils were blown so wide hardly any of the blue showed, but the dark brows across the top of them were knitted. "What are you saying, Boston?"

Cam smoothed over them with his fingertips, then down Nic's face. "No more hiding, from anyone. Family, friends, the fucking Federal Building. I don't want to regret not telling anyone how much I love you."

Nic gripped his wrists. "You're putting yourself in the line of fire. I need you to understand that."

"I'm already there, baby."

I can't wait to see how this wraps up in the final book, but I also don't want Cam and Nic's story to end. I've fallen in love with the chosen family in this universe that Layla Reyne created...and I don't know how I'm going to say goodbye.

ARC courtesy of publisher, via Netgalley, in exchange for a review

Jewel says

4.5 Stars

NOTE: *Craft Brew* does not stand alone and should be read after *Imperial Stout*

I'm loving the *Trouble Brewing* series as much as I did Leyla Reyne's *Agents Irish & Whiskey* series, of which this is a spin-off. Interesting suspense plot that doesn't overshadow the romance, wonderful chemistry, and MC's that I love. Color me a happy camper!

Craft Brew starts off with a separation that takes Nic to San Diego for a few weeks. After the threats on his life, Nic feels the need to distance himself from those he cares about, to protect them. But things heat up again as Nic and Cam are briefly reunited, before a family emergency takes Cam back to Boston.

Craft Brew is all about family, in fact - both blood and chosen - and what that really means. Family watches your back, family chooses you, and family is always there.

We get to know Cam's family in *Craft Brew*. They're pretty tight, overall, but there is tension because of an old family tragedy. There is also a touch of delicious relationship angst that made me very happy. I just love the tension that gets created as our guys figure out where they really want to go.

I loved the pacing, the characters, the suspense, and definitely Cam and Nic. While *Craft Brew* does end with an HFN, our guys are definitely committed to each other. I can't wait for book 3!

Recommended.

ARC of Craft Brew was generously provided by the publisher, via NetGalley, in exchange for an honest review.

Cadiva says

More serious turn of events in this book but still superb plotting

This one had a totally different feel to it than book one as it intimately involved Cameron's past and his biggest regret and guilty mistake - a case he'd never been able to solve.

Without going too much into the connection and the plot, there's more emphasis on the suspense and investigation elements in this narrative but there's still just as much attraction between the two men

Nic's still trying to avoid painting more targets on those he's beginning to realise are family and Cam's dealing with issues involving his own family back in Boston.

It's an interesting move to bring both men together but with huge fears still causing them anxieties but I think Layla pulls it off.

Tensions ramp up to a fitting end, it would have been difficult to narrate any other outcome I think but I would have liked perhaps a bit more of the aftermath from the legislative conclusions as well with the bad guy.

The tone of these is quite different to the Irish and Whiskey series but it's no less enthralling.

Skirmish says

Book Reaction: <https://neverhollowed.wordpress.com/t...>

Rating: 4 Stars – minor quibbles but I loved it to bits

Simone says

4.5 - 5 Stars

Guilt isn't always a rational thing...

Guilt is a weight that will crush you whether you deserve it or not.

And guilt is something Assistant FBI Special Agent in Charge Cameron Byrne lived with for two decades now...

When a call delivering bad news sends him hurrying back to Boston and into the fold, Cam finds himself confronted with a part of his past that still haunts him to a point he never really could overcome, but he is also reeling from the entirely possible threat of losing someone else he deeply cares about.

It's a good thing that at least his relationship with Assistant US attorney Dominic Price is solid enough to take the next step by moving in together. Or is it? Saying that Nic is reluctant to move in with Cam puts it mildly. He has his reasons, though, and it's not the lack of feelings for Cam that makes him hesitate, rather the contrary.

He has his own share of ghosts from the past and losing someone else he loves could break him forever. But the imminent danger is looming ahead and with the threats of the loan shark his father is indebted to becoming more and more tangible, how could he possibly endanger Cam's life by coming him so close?

Slowly but surely it becomes apparent that their relationship is still a bit wobbly on its feet, with both men holding something back. So something's got to give or their secrets could signify the end of their love. When Cam complies with his mother's wish to bring closure to his family, it soon becomes apparent that he will need Nic at his side, but when his whole world is shattering around him, he has to gather his wits together or he could loose Nic for good...

deep breath I have to fess up...

I'm well on my way to loving Nic and Cam together more than I loved Irish & Whiskey.

There I've said it. Bordering on sacrilege, I know, and I can practically hear your gasps. But there's something about these guys that speaks to me on a whole different level and I can't help myself, I'm a goner. Everytime Nic calls Cam 'Boston' I'm that virtual puddle of goo on the floor.

This story in particular had my allergies kick in. *Hard*. Oh, what the hell? I admit it, I cried. No dust bunnies. No eyelashes in my eyes. Just tears, pure and simple. I can't even begin to imagine what the disappearance of Cam's little sister would have meant for him and the whole family and how it would affect them again after all this time... And the sick SOB who is responsible made my blood boil and my rage spike into heady heights. During the whole story I pretty much alternated between lovesickness, sadness, rage and heart attack due to the thrill.

At least Nic and Cam - *and I* - had the whole gang at their side to make it better and I can't wait to get my hands on the next book in this series. I was so sure I know who the mole is, dammit, and now? Gahh...

One word (or two, or three) to the audiobook: I'm probably repeating myself by saying that Tristan James will never be at the top of the list of my favorite narrators, but by now I'm liking him and his pleasant voice well enough - despite his lack of distinctive voices for the characters and his sometimes weird and flat intonation - to listen to the next one as well. :)

****My very first buddy listen with my lovely partner in crime Karen, and Josy and Christelle as our sweet stalkers supporters. Ladies, I will at any time sit with you on that bench overlooking each and every cliff. ;-)
Thank you! ❤️ ****
