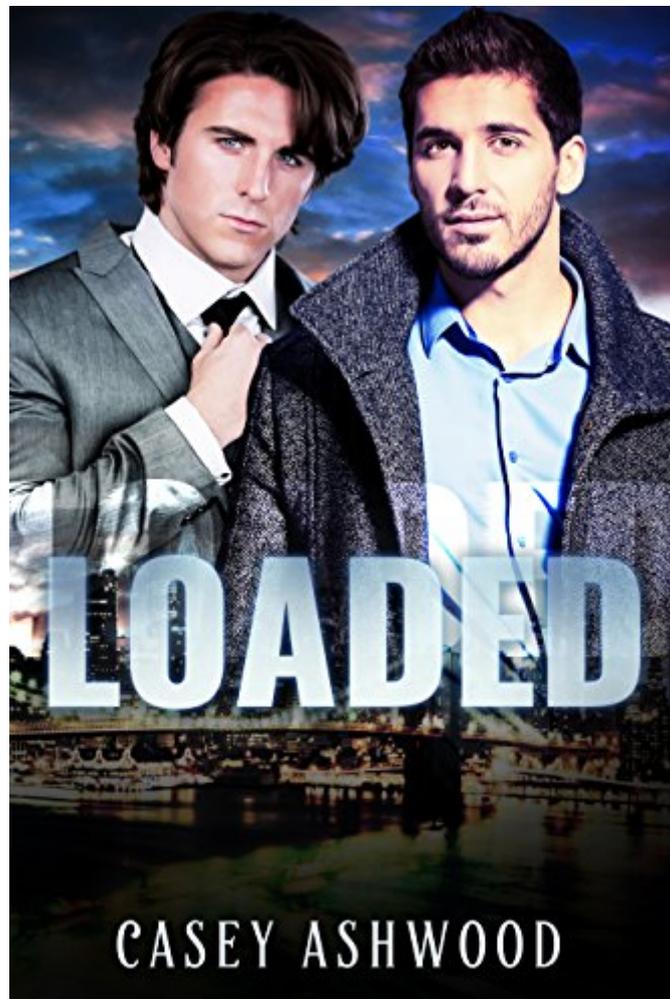


The book was found

Loaded



Synopsis

“You can't just use me like that.” Detective Eugene Mendes is a tough cop who likes gallows humor but loves his expressive, outgoing family “and he counts his cop partner, Denver, as family, too. He's been best friends with Denver for so long that he's never considered pursuing something more... besides which, he's straight. Still, there's something different about their relationship. If only he could figure out what it is. There was murder in his eyes. When Eugene's cousin comes to them bruised and desperate for help, the detectives spring into action. The tension of their job leads to a sudden passion between them that they never saw coming. Can they get past the confusion and lust to become something more? Or will the harsh reality of this case and Internal Affairs destroy their future together as partners in every sense? Loaded is a gay romance novel. It's the first novel in the “Loaded” series but can stand alone. It has a happily ever after ending with no cliffhanger.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When will I ever listen? The sample was intriguing, but I read some of the reviews about the boring writing quality, and--I didn't listen. I couldn't even finish it. The sex scenes were dull; really dull, it's like there were absolutely no emotions tied up in any of this at all. Once burned twice shy. Never again.

This is only the second Casey Ashwood book I've read, and I enjoyed this one even more than the last one. I'm such a huge sucker for friends to lovers stories. The fact that they are cops/partners is even better! This is a GFY (gay for you) style romance that is going to be part of a new series, but can be read as a stand alone and has a HEA ending. Eugenio is a straight man that recently has been looking at his partner in a new way. He's heard from multiple people that he talks about his partner nonstop, so when a woman ends their date by saying that she can see that his heart lies elsewhere he decides he wants to give things a try with Denver. He doesn't always say or do the right things, but you can tell how much he cares about those closest to him. Denver has been harboring feelings for Eugenio for quite a while, but never makes a move because he "knows" Eugenio is straight, and he doesn't want to lose his best friend. Denver has been with people that have wanted him to go back in the closet and doesn't want to be in that situation again. He has gotten to the point in his life where he wants a serious relationship, someone that will love him and his daughter. He is really understanding and patient with Eugenio as they get used to their new feelings for each other. While trying to navigate their new relationship they end up with a case that is very personal for Eugenio. His cousin has been keeping a few secrets and has gotten himself into a tough position and into a dangerous, violent relationship. I'm really looking forward to the next book in this series! I can't wait to see what Casey Ashwood comes up with next. ** I received a free ARC of this title in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own. **

I love me a good cop story! Eugenio and Denver are partners as well as best friends. Of course they are; they spend the majority of their time together. Denver is a bisexual man who's still on great terms with his ex wife and they have a daughter together that they raise together. I loved seeing the way that they co-parent. Nobody was judgemental or catty; his ex wife had moved on and was re-married and they all got along great. Even if Denver did feel a little envious of their relationship.

Not because he missed her or felt any jealousy towards her personally; but just because he wanted that for himself. Eugenio is straight. He's secure in his sexuality so he and Denver are always playing around and pushing each others buttons but one time when Eugenio is faced with the possibility of losing Denver; he starts seeing him in a different light. Eugenio's cousin Jaco is involved in a case that Eugenio and Denver are working. Both of them detectives and trying to solve a robbery from a jewelry store. The boyfriend of Jaco is putting him in a bad situation and he finally goes to the guys for help. I have to say, that I totally saw it coming. I knew right away that they were some how connected and I got a little bummed about it. It's low angst which I love, I'm not big on heart attack books that make me want to die from page to page lol but I really enjoyed how this one went down. I especially loved how they all became one big family after they realized they wanted to be "partners" as well as work partners. It was a gripping read and I'm glad I didn't pass it up! :)

This is a nice enough story in principle, but with due respect to the author, it could have done with a bit of editing and streamlining, as there was a lot going on in the tale, too many characters (few of whom were really relevant) and the sex scenes were just plain wrong. I'm not going to rehash the tale, as it's a nice enough friends/professional partners to lovers, but it was as if the author didn't know how to write a gay sex scene. I won't go into details, but even I as a female romance reader know that you need prep and that spit and wet fingers (yes, wet, not lubed) don't do it. I don't think this author's for me, but I hope the review is constructive.

****I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review.**** Eugenio and Denver are proud to be NYPD detectives. They have been best friends and partners for years. They both depend on each other and neither trusts anyone more than they trust each other. Denver has always known he was bisexual and has harbored feelings for his friend for a while, but in respect to his friend whom he knows is straight he has kept his attraction to him quiet. Little did Eugenio realize that his feelings for his best friend might actually run much deeper than he thought himself. When he starts to realize his feelings, a slight panic sets in and tries to date again. When on a date, Eugenio can't help but talk what he always talks about, Denver. When the woman suggest perhaps his feelings run deeper than he realizes, he decides maybe he needs to talk things through and give them a chance. When their next case hits too close to home and while navigating their newfound mutual attraction, Denver and Eugenio rush help Eugenio's cousin Jaco from the dangerous and violent situation he has fallen into...I really loved seeing the connection between Denver and Eugenio bloom into something more. I am so happy I got to read this and am excited for the next book!

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