



## Pins and Needles

*A.J. Thomas*

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## **Pins and Needles** A.J. Thomas

The truth is rarely seen on the surface, and getting to it might mean digging deep....

After a devastating accident and a long stay in the hospital, the last thing petroleum engineer Sean Wilkinson wants to deal with is the settlement the oil company tries to force on him. He'll never be able to work in his field again, his education is all but useless, and his surgeons are pessimistic about whether he'll ever walk again. He needs someone in his corner, but most lawyers take one look at his tattoo-covered foster father and turn their backs. It's just Sean's luck that the one attorney willing to give him a chance is also the hottest guy he's ever seen.

As a trial lawyer, Nate Delany has a lot to prove—to his father, the world, and himself. Sean intrigues Nate, and he struggles to reconcile the gifted tattoo artist he can't stop fantasizing about with the quiet, brilliant engineer. His investigation reveals facts left out of the accident report—including an illicit affair, greedy coworkers, and a vicious corporation that will do anything to protect its bottom line. When Sean's life is threatened, winning Sean's case, and his heart, becomes a lot more dangerous.

## **Pins and Needles Details**

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Author : A.J. Thomas

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## From Reader Review Pins and Needles for online ebook

### Bitchie says

Loved loved loved this one. This is the first book I've read by this author, and it won't be the last. Well written, well edited, well plotted, nice, slow burn romance, respectful depiction of disability, and wonderful characters, main and side characters. Sean and Nate came together at a perfect time in each other's lives, both needing a change, and were wonderful together. There was a couple of cases of misunderstanding, but it was due more to their own issues, and lack of proper communicating the issues. than any big stupid thing, which I loved. Sean is thinking Nate can't love a broken man, while Nate is just trying to preserve his professional ethics, but neither are great at communicating this.

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### Simone says

***"I've always found that art and science are really just different reflections of reality. Different ways of appreciating the same thing, of understanding the world and showing it to others."***

Sean Wilkinson always tried to combine both in his life. Emanated from a difficult childhood he found a new home and a surrogate father in Hawk, a gentle from-head-to-toe tattooed giant who taught Sean not only his love for art and how to bring it to life, but also encouraged him to make something of himself, to follow up on his fascination of science, which earned Sean two degrees, one in chemistry and one in petroleum engineering. Working as a tattoo artist *and* as an engineer on a ship belonging to an oil company was everything he could have hoped for in life, until an accident destroys not only his chance for a thriving career -not to say almost his life-, but it also left him damaged and...

***"I think I have more scar tissue than skin, and I'm..." He was broken, although he couldn't bring himself to say it out loud.***

Sean, never someone who trusts easily and who rarely -with a few exceptions- shows his true self to people around him, has to rely on legal help when it becomes apparent that his employer is determined to fob him off with peanuts.

Nate Delany's family background is as different from Sean's as they come, but that does not mean his family life is all sunshine and roses. Cursed with a homophobic brother -and to some extent equally homophobic parents who allow for him to be pressed into the role of the black sheep of the family- he has his own problems to deal with. As a young underrated lawyer working for the law firm of his father, he pulls the brake when everything he earns for his work is empty promises and dismissive comments from his own father. Somebody else getting all the credit for a big case is the final straw for him to leave the firm in order to stand on his own feet.

His first official act is to take over Sean's case. Umm, just to make it clear: Sean's by Nate's father's firm dejected case. Yeah, maybe there was a bit of a desire for revenge involved and a way to prove himself to his

father, but as soon as he meets Sean he is enraptured by his personality and inner strength and the only thing that matters to him is to seek justice for Sean. Well, apart from the fact that he might be about to fall for his client hook, line and sinker, which is not the best idea in regards to lawyer/client ethics.

When it looks like there could be a chance for success to get Sean the compensation he deserves, it turns out that Sean's accident might have been anything but, and the search for the background of the deed ends up on more attempts on Sean's life. Ethical problems could be the least of Nate's concerns to keep him from having a chance for love with Sean.

This was once again a story that made me undergo a whole range of feelings. A few pages in and I was already pissed off. Umm, not that I did not like the story, quite the contrary, but Nate's father and his protégé made me so angry I was almost in need of a lawyer myself for plotting a double murder in my head. And don't even get me started on Nate's brother...

I totally adored Sean, though. How he called Nate's father out on his attitude was simply priceless. But what I admired the most was his strength and the way he bounced back from his injuries to find his own niche in life. How he came to accept himself and find new self esteem. And I loved Nate for helping Sean accomplishing that.

***"I still can't believe a guy like you could actually be interested in someone like me."  
"Someone like you?" Nate asked, swiveling to face him head-on. "Someone who's quite likely a genius, stronger than anybody I've ever met, and loyal to a fault?"***

Despite all the differences, Sean and Nate were absolutely the perfect match for each other and more than cute and loveable together.

I never would have thought that this would be a story that even made me choke up a bit at times. Family plays an important role here and the way this role is conveyed in this book due to some awesome side characters like Hawk and Tonya, Sean's coworker at the tattoo studio, but also due to Nate's gift for Sean at the end made me appreciate once more how precious it is to have someone you can call 'family'.

***"Family is about more than sharing a few bits of DNA with someone. It's about who you want to build and share your life with."***

The mystery part was exceptional and kept me guessing all the time about what was going on. I mentally plucked the petals of a flower saying "He did it"/"He did it not" as to who was the perp. Yes, of course I had my suspicions and in a manner I was right, but it still surprised me how much more there was than meets the eye.

I would have enjoyed this book more, though, when it wouldn't have been so heavy on "lawsuitbabble" in regards to the case and technical terms to describe the procedure on an oil rig, although I know this is totally on me due to the fact that I'm not a native English speaker. Especially at the beginning I had to look up almost every other word and that ripped me out of the reading flow and spoiled the fun a bit.

Overall this was an enjoyable read which I can really recommend!

*This review has been posted on Dirty Books Obsession Dirty Books Obsession*

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## Ami says

### 3.75 stars rounded up

My first A.J. Thomas, thanks to my friend Irene. It was solid in writing, interesting in family dynamic, smart in technical details, and strong in characterization.

I loved both Nate and Sean -- and I think Sean's occupation as petroleum engineer as well as an artist is a unique combination I rarely find in M/M romance.

I still thought it was dragging a bit in the middle, though. It took me a good night sleep to get back into it again around 2/3rd of the book.

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## Anne Boleyn's Ghost says

4 stars for an **original and grippingly suspenseful** story. 2 stars for a **largely one-sided romance**. So 3.5 stars, it is. A.J. Thomas wove a compelling tale that I couldn't put down, even if the romance let me down.

In his 22 years, **Sean Wilkinson** made mistakes, found successes, and endured a series of traumas, culminating in an explosion on an oil rig where he loses his leg. Although he often feels damaged beyond repair, he pulls himself up to pursue a settlement with the aid of a certain *GQ* model, erm, attorney.

Despite outward appearances, **Nate Delany** is no golden boy. Smart and driven, he seeks but fails to earn a fair chance from his father. When he leaves the family firm and takes Sean's case, he is prepared to prove himself - but he isn't quite prepared for Sean. **As their relationship transcends attorney and client, the case also transcends an ordinary corporate liability case into one involving greed, theft, and murder.**

Let me get my crying out of the way. **The romance felt unbalanced.** Nate's feelings for Sean? I never doubted his respect for Sean, his admiration of the engineer's intelligence and the artist's talent, his determination to treat Sean as fully capable and his remorse whenever he fell short. Nate went above and beyond for Sean, risking not only his career but his life for him.

So why am I crying again? Because I was never convinced that Sean's feelings for Nate ran much deeper than lust and gratitude. Sean's point-of-view scenes rarely included the sentiments found in Nate's. Even as other characters claimed that Sean cared deeply for Nate, it didn't come across that way to me. His actions during the book's climax? I felt like he would have done that for *anyone*, including gross creepy Bruce. Heck, I even felt that his feelings for Bruce read as deeper and more genuine! And while familial love was an

important component of Sean's story, those feelings also resonated more strongly. **I don't mind a slow-burn romance, but I want to believe in the happy ending.** Instead, the epilogue made me nervous about their future, nervous that Sean *still* seemed detached and aloof with Nate. Everything in the epilogue came back to Nate's feelings for Sean, what Nate did for Sean. **What did Sean do for Nate? Slept through his brother's wedding!** Sean was the center of Nate's world, but Nate seemed like an afterthought to Sean.

Romance rant aside, I very much enjoyed the overall story arc, which combines **suspense and family drama and corporate intrigue and mystery with a heaping of legalese and petroleum engineering** (and as an attorney married to a chemical engineer, I ate those latter two up). Even as I formed suspicions, the twists and turns ensured that I never quite figured everything out.

Since it doesn't appear that Thomas will revisit these two, I have no choice but to accept defeat on the romance front. But I have enjoyed Thomas' work, especially the Least Likely Partnership series, and I will happily read more in the future.

*Read for SBTB January - March 2018 Quarterly Challenge: a book with a three word title.*

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## **Martin says**

I know I took my time reading this one, which wasn't necessarily due to my reading schedule, but rather because I felt a bit torn over the story.

I absolutely loved the case. And by that I mean the legal dispute between our MC Sean and his employer, a gas/oil company. What happened to him on that ship was terrible and the things that led to his injuries, including an illicit affair, were truly interesting.

I also loved Sean's dramatic background as a boy raised by a single mom who gets thrown out of the house for being gay at age 12. He grew up with one of his mom's ex-boyfriends, Hawk, who runs a tattoo studio. Hawk acts as his dad and gets him through school AND college, which is totally awesome if you think about it...

I also liked Nate's background as the son of a successful lawyer who tries to set foot in his father's company, but who never manages to win his father's respect, until he leaves and takes on Sean's case. Nate's family is another story which totally broke my heart.

All in all, it should be a 5 star read, clearly, but I simply did not connect with Sean and Nate...

Sean - who has to cope with a life-altering handicap, seems to be annoyed at his disability, but it is not the big mental abyss I would have assumed it was for him. He seemed to be more upset about his employer trying to patent his invention than about suddenly missing a limb...

And Nate... Nate simply doesn't have a personal life, because he's a workaholic. He falls for Sean, which is something I can somehow understand considering Sean is hot and covered in beautiful tattoos, plus he's super vulnerable at the time of the story and therefore triggers Nate's protective instincts, but I don't see them as a match that fairy tales are made of.

The story is a great thriller, though. And my personal highlight is the interaction between Sean and his former boss Bruce who may or may not have something to do with what happened to Sean. Their 'acquaintance' was something that really piqued my interest and carried the story for me. Of course, I also

wanted to see Bruce suffer, LOL.

The ending really touched me, too.

Oh yeah, and for those who love it, there are LOTS of tattoos in this story ;-)

**All in all, this is a solid 4 star read that I found pretty awesome as a thriller while the romance wasn't the most exciting one for me.**

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**Tamika♥RBF MOOD♥ says**

*I received this book for free from in exchange for an honest review.  
This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.*

I enjoyed Pins and Needles a lot. I'm kinda shocked because it was a true slow burn with the romance. It was minimum at best, and the plot was really informative. To be honest, what first drew me to the story was the blurb. Felt very real, and something that I haven't read a billion times over now. I deserve a cookie of some sort because whenever I hear the word FRACKING my eyes usually glaze over and I become distracted by something else. I've heard it on countless political shows, movies, court shows and everything else. Never would have imagined it to be in my reads but this was good. It was different and I loved the buildup for the romance.

Nate and Sean together were very good for one another. Each guy is lacking in the personal romance and real life feels. I like that they were so different from one another, but totally compromising and interesting to the other. Nate made me fall for him so much more. Always been the outcast from his uber conservative family decides to take a stand, and be his own man. Not caring what his father thinks, he branches out on his own. His very first case is against a multimillionaire company and their employee. Sean's life hasn't been easy at all. Never having the love he's had from parents he's like a lost boy. Not realizing the entire time he's had all the love from Hawk that he could ever want. We really don't know the real Sean. I think because he's always been second choice to his mother the only way he can survive is by adapting to his surrounding. That's heartbreaking in itself.

The plot for this story was so thoroughly researched and written really well. I learned some new things, and loved how it was intertwined with the romance. Yes the plot was more than the romance, and normally it would be an issue for me, but every single piece was important for the story. It made complete sense in the end. I really enjoyed the side characters. Hawk & Tonya were really good for Sean's soul. I love how tattooing brought Sean & Nate on another level. Loved seeing Nate's ruthlessness come out when he turned his professional face on. Sean was spectacular in himself as well.

All in all, I thought this was a really good solid story. Excellent writing and story telling. A definite slow burn with the romance. I mean really, really, really slow burn. If you can't handle it then skip it. The story actually has substance so be prepared to actually be wow'd. I look forward to more books from Thomas.

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### **Bo says**

3.5 STARS rounded up to 4

I really enjoyed the beginning and middle of this story. I really liked the characters and their interactions. Let me be honest... the science explanations kinda put me to sleep, but I understand the necessity of them. However, I really thought the ending was OTT. I also guessed who the bad guy was way before anyone else, and that kinda bothered me. I definitely would read this author again.

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### **Renée says**

I enjoyed this much more than I expected to, honestly. It was even headed to be a 4.5 star read there for a little while.

I was intrigued by both the MCs and the mystery of Sean's accident. Thomas did a really great job in the first 65% of weaving a great balance between the two. But then the last 35% was totally about the mystery, with some extra-dramatical twists, and it didn't have the same pull on me that it had previously.

A lovely epilogue tried to make up for it, but I lost the momentum of being invested in Sean and Nate.

Overall, still an enjoyable read.

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### **Shile says**

I enjoyed this, more than i thought i would. The story is mystery-legal first and romance second. I would have loved more smexy times. The chemistry between Sean and Nate was believable and kept me turning pages. Sean's insecurities broke my heart, but i am glad he had Nate and Hawk.

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### **R \* A Reader Obsessed \* says**

**4 Hearts**

I'm impressed!

In all actuality though, I'm not that surprised by my like of this because I do love me some romantic suspense.

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This starts off with Sean, who by no means has had it easy in life. He's conquered many obstacles and just when things have finally fallen into place, he suffers an absolutely horrific accident while on an oil rig support ship, leaving his long term goals and his body in ruins. When his case catches the eye of lawyer Nate, Sean's grateful that someone is willing to help him navigate the many complications that have suddenly materialized in what seems like a straightforward situation. It is anything but.

Nate in turn, has been struggling his whole life to win the approval of his father. When said father fails to see that Nate truly is excellent at his job, it forces him to quit the firm and start anew on his own. Sean's case will not only prove his worth, but the intriguing young man stirs many many things, and Nate's determined to be his champion.

Suffice it to say, these two connect on multiple levels despite their disparate backgrounds, and I enjoyed watching them fall in love. There's all sorts of roadblocks - ex's, corporate greed, family bigotry, personal insecurity and doubt - all against a backdrop of multiple attempts on their lives. This kept me on my toes in and amongst the technical aspects of oil drilling, the intricacies of various laws, and showcasing the artistic side of Sean as well his brilliant engineering mind. Nate is no slouch either, and though these two have a few missteps, they actually do communicate well with each other. It doesn't hurt at all that the UST and the sexy smex were very well done. Be forewarned though, there are some major dick head assholes in this story that made me want to cut a bitch multiple times. Grrr.

Please be aware that the narration by Jason Riley is simply a straight forward read through. If you're looking for a theatrical production with varied voices, you're not going to find it here. I admit, there were times I was confused as to who was speaking, but Riley's delivery was pleasant and had inflection which still allowed me to greatly enjoy this story.

Overall, this was a big hit for me despite my small disappointment in not seeing a huge courtroom drama. However, I obviously liked what I got, and this author is now definitely on my radar!

*Thank you to the author/publisher for the audio in exchange for an honest review*

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## Christelle says

Pins and needles got me hooked right away and I really enjoyed this "new-author-to-me". There's a lot of stuff that I like in this one : opposites attract to each other, a good intrigue, a lawyer, a show of strength to raise above shitty dealt cards.

Nate has spent his life trying to please his parents but lost himself a bit in the process. Weary, he decides to quit his father's law firm, taking a case dismissed by one of the partners to start his own business. His new client is Sean.

Sean hasn't had an easy life to say the least but worked hard to thrive as a tattoo artist and as an engineer. He's almost there to have a financially secured job but a horrific accident leaves him in a wheel-chair. The settlement proposed by his company is not going to make it and Nate steps in at the right time for a negotiation.

It's a slow burn between Nate and Sean, each of them facing challenges brought out by Sean's accident, by the case and by their attraction. Granted, it's a little low on the steam and I wouldn't have minded an ending more focused on the HEA than on the mystery. However, I was delighted by the intrigue, the very endearing

MCs, all the side characters, be it Sean's entourage or Nate's family and the development of the Nate and Sean's relationship.

A special thumbs up for the cover : makes perfect sense with this very enjoyable story.

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## **Karen says**

***Ok, I admit it...I almost missed out on this one, but...***

when this one came across my radar in the form of the audio book I was going to turn it down. I said 'Oh, I'll take 'Off the Beaten Path' please and thank you' and a little voice came along and whispered in my ear (and by whispered I mean e-mailed me) 'Pins and Needles' is really good too' they said...so I went back to audible.com and listened to the sample again and said yeah this could be good...what the he!!? Why not and that's how I got to be here writing this review...because you were dying to know, right? I know I'm babbling but hey work with me on this. I've been known to be entertaining.

Ok first off there's a lot of legalese here but for me that was actually a good thing because this story is based on a legal case one that starts when petroleum engineer, Sean Wilkinson is hurt...we're talking lost one leg and nearly lost the other as a result of a work related accident, but because Hawk, the man who's been Sean's father for the past 10 years looks like a tattooed biker most lawyers are just walking away that is until Nate Delany walks into his hospital room and as luck would have it Nate looks more like a GQ model than a lawyer.

Essentially everything that happens in this story from Nate and Sean's relationship is linked to Sean's case even Nate's relationship with his father which is tenuous at best becomes linked to Sean's case and there's a whole string of events in between that ultimately tie back into Sean's case. So truly I loved all the legalese...would I want it in every book no but it worked well with what was going on in this one.

The secondary characters in this story were an interesting collection. Let's start with Nate's family. Nate has two brothers...Steve and Matt or Matthew...one's cool, one's not, in that order. Nate's parents...while I won't necessarily say that they're bad people neither would I say that they're anyone I'd like to know. Did I agree with their choices? No. Was it something that I would have done if faced with the same situation? No, but we all have to make our own choices and live with the consequences of them, so to each their own.

Given the already strained relationship between Nate and his father it really came as no surprise when the quality of Nate's work as well as his work ethic are called into question at his father's law firm leading Nate to make the choice to walk away and set up his own law office and resulting in his first meeting with Hawk and a only somewhat conscious Sean.

Sean's family is a little more complicated. Sean's life hasn't been easy. He's been abandoned, abused, past from foster home to foster home and yet somehow he's managed to rise above things and along the way he's found both a friend and a substitute father in Hawk as well as a valued friend in Tanya the other artist at Hawk's Tattoo Studio. Sean's doesn't let a lot of people into his life and to be honest he's not been given a lot of reasons to trust, so Nate's really got his work cut out for him if he's going to get past Sean's considerable defenses.

Sean's not only incredibly intelligent but he's also very artistically gifted and while he may appear as nothing more than a simple tattooed thug...I think that's basically what Nate's father called him, he's not. Sean is so, so much more and thankfully Nate is really quick to see this.

Both the author A.J. Thomas and the narrator, Jason Riley are new to me and I'm really glad that I listened to that little birdy who whispered in my ear that this one was good because she was right and I'm definitely going to be checking out more by this author but also more by this narrator. His voices brought this story to life and added richness to the characters and an overall depth that impressed me. Definitely a narrator that I'm interested in hearing more from.

With everything that's going on in this story don't expect any flash, bangs in the smexy times department because they're not going to happen the relationship between Sean and Nate is definitely a slow burn and with Sean's past anything different just wouldn't have seemed right to me. But having said that when things do finally burn...they were scorching hot between these two...after all there was that time in the tattoo parlor...and...sorry, you'll just have to read the book to find out or listen to the audio...cause that works too, right?

While the ending for Sean's case seemed a little bit over the top I can't truthfully say that I was bothered by it. What intrigued me the most other than Sean and Nate because I really, really liked this pairing...was what was beginning to happen between Nate and his dad at the end. I could so be persuaded to hang around for more of Nate and Sean and to see what's going to happen with Nate and his dad...another book would be nice but I could be happy with a nice long story...I'm not greedy, really I'm not...much.

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An audiobook of 'Pins and Needles' was graciously provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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## Line says

Major price drop at DSP today: <https://www.dreamspinnerpress.com/boo...>

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## Jewel says

I enjoyed *Pins and Needles*, but not *quite* as much as I've liked the other books I've read by this author. The pacing felt a bit slow for me. Still, I found the story intriguing and I liked both MC's and I didn't mind sticking it to the rich oil company, either.

**Sean Wilkinson** had a lot of disadvantage growing up, but he worked hard and overcame it. People often made assumptions about him, based on class and his tattoos and the fact that his closest-thing-he-has-ever-had-to-a-father, Hawk, looked disreputable. So Sean learned how to blend in, when he went to college and because he was brilliant, he did well and got a good job (for as long as it lasted, anyway). **Sean is a gifted tattoo artist** and, now, **a brilliant engineer**, but he presently feels that all that education, that he still has gobs of loan debt for, is pretty useless if he can't work in the field he was educated for.

**Sean always played his cards close to his chest**, never really letting other people get to know him. Very few people make it past the wall. Hawk, of course, as well as the family friend and fellow tattoo artist, Tonya, and now Nate. **No one on the rig really knew him at all**, and he liked it that way, in spite of the fact that he was having an affair with his boss, and had been since he was an intern. Not the best judgement there, for sure, but he was 19 when that started, and spending weeks or months at sea...well.

**Nate Delaney**, on the surface would seem like the over-privileged guy with everything handed to him, but he has family issues, just like everyone. He discovered that no matter how hard you work, **sometimes the only thing people see is your last name** and that they will make assumptions about how much was handed to you vs. how much you earned -- and sometimes that includes your own family.

Also, his parents bent over backward to accommodate the bigoted attitude of their oldest son so that they could get to know their grandchildren, but in the process of doing that, they essentially erased Nate from the family photo albums and family gatherings. **He spent many years feeling like his family didn't care about him at all.** That made me so angry. And what made me even angrier was that his parents thought that would even be ok! That they didn't see how that would make a person feel less-than or unwelcome.

After Nate quit his fathers's firm, deciding that striking out on his own would be more fulfilling, he took Sean as his first client. The case seemed pretty cut and dry, but they were fighting an oil company that has gobs of money and teams of attorneys. But **there is more here than just an accident claim.** There's also a question of intellectual property and there might just be someone trying to kill Sean, as well. Sean's having a rough year, for sure -- give the guy a break, already!

The romance is slow burn, which I always like in a romance, there is some steam, but not a ton, and I love the theme of family -- **sometimes the best family is the chosen family.** Hawk and Tonya were both great characters -- particularly Hawk.

Hawk may have looked like a thug with all the tattoos and the Harley and the lack of cash, but he didn't have to take in his ex-girlfriend's 12 year old son when he got tossed out for being gay. He didn't have to teach him a trade, so that he could both support himself and his art. He didn't have to stick around when Sean was nearly killed in an accident on the oil rig. But he did. And he never asked for anything in return. That's what real family does. He gave a damn and I admire that. **Hawk was more family than anyone Sean was blood related to.**

I also enjoyed the intrigue bits, though the big reveal was a touch over the top, in my opinion (but thank goodness for monologuing villains, who don't think things through!). **All in all, I'd give *Pins and Needles* 4 stars.**

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*ARC of Pins and Needles* was generously provided by the publisher, in exchange for an honest review.

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## Jaime says

*Pins and Needles* by A.J. Thomas is a complex story about a young man (Sean) who receives life changing injuries while working for a petroleum company. The reader is brought into the story after the fact during the recovery and while Sean's "Dad" is looking for an attorney to represent them. This brings Nate Delaney into the picture, a young lawyer, who has been trying to prove himself to his father over the last two years only to keep getting shut down day after day. Nate has had enough and is leaving his fathers firm when he gets word that Hawk, Sean's Dad, was turned away earlier in the day. It's the perfect set up for multiple reasons.

When Sean and Nate meet the first time, There is attraction despite the situation of Sean being in a hospital bed and on serious pain meds. Once Sean gets out of the hospital these two start developing that lovely unresolved sexual tension that I just love. I enjoyed how the author really had them get to know each other.

In addition, the traumatic injuries that Sean is dealing with were not ignored in the storyline as Sean dealt with insecurities and Nate became a better listener.

However, I have to be honest, I almost stopped reading this book. It seemed to drag until about 40% and then the conflict was so *perfect* it was annoying -- not to mention it could have been so easily prevented it just made me mad. *Miscommunication v misunderstanding v insecurity = perfect storm* this is not what I expect from this author who writes well-rounded, well-thought romances with a touch of crime, mystery, and, of course, passion. So, yes - I was disappointed. Additionally, if you have no idea about fracking and the oil industry or engineering this book has the potential to confuse you quite easily. I was constantly having to look up terms,(which I don't mind) and I was still confused about certain aspects including pumps, pressure, thrusters, yada yada ... it made my head hurt ? - I did however, understand the chemistry and medical jargon so yay for me!

Anyhow, back to Sean & Nate, Once these two learned how to talk the story picked up. Then however, it went back to the case and figuring out what went wrong that led to Sean's Accident. From this point, the plot just sort of bounces around and I found myself forgetting who certain characters were when they would show up again later in the book. There seriously is a lot going on in this book - family drama, homophobia, murders, attempted murders, engineering, medical jargon, legal jargon, and a budding romance -- it's quite a busy book!

Then, it's just *sort of over*. Not really a cliffhanger. But I guess a Happy for Now..not too far into the future and pretty abruptly. It left me feeling like after all the "work" of the story...we didn't get much "happy times." If you are going to make me work that hard while reading a romance, please give me more happiness at the end...-- \*sigh\*

Overall a good book ~ 3 stars

Review Copy of Pins and Needles provided by Dreamspinner Press for an honest Review.

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