



Melt

Helen Hardt

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Jonah Steel is intelligent, rich, and hard-working. As the oldest of his siblings, he was charged by his father to protect them.

He failed in the worst way.

Dr. Melanie Carmichael has her own baggage. Although the renowned therapist was able to help Jonah's brother, she is struggling with feelings of inadequacy. When the oldest Steel walks into her office seeking solace, she can't turn her back.

As Melanie and Jonah attempt to work through their issues together, desperately trying to ignore the desire brewing between them, ghosts from both their pasts surface and danger draws near."

Melt Details

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Author : Helen Hardt

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Genre : Romance, Adult Fiction, Erotica, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Suspense

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From Reader Review Melt for online ebook

Elle's Book Blog says

Release Date: December 20, 2016

Series: Steel Brothers #4

Genre: Contemporary Romance + Suspense

For those who are new to the series, I recommend reading these books in order as they follow the same plotline. The first book – which must be read first – is Craving. Then you will move along to Obsession, Possession, and then this one Melt. There are two more books being released after this one and I absolutely cannot wait!!!! The first three books in the series follow Talon and Jade. Talon has suffered from horrific childhood abuse and captivity in the hands of 3 unknown men and has been reluctant to start any type of relationship with anyone. Even getting close to his family has been difficult as he holds inner resentment. Jade is the woman who seemingly set Talon free from the wounds, although they are still stuck in his heart because these men who have damaged him are still free. The fourth book of this series (which is this one) is in Talon's brothers POV – his name is Jonah -- . Some may think that you can read this one without the others but I am telling you this would be a mistake as the suspense and mystery of what happened to Talon 25 years ago, is still being uncovered in this one. So, make sure to read them in order otherwise it would be a waste of time and money.

With that being said, I truly loved this book (along with the whole series which has easily become one of my favorites of 2016). To sum them all up in a few words I would say they are dark, gritty, suspenseful, and captivating. Each and everyone one of them come highly recommended from me, but you should be warned now that they all end in cliffhangers! Luckily, 4 of the books thus far have been released so you won't have to wait to read them. Now, while this book does follow a different couple, you still will get your taste of Talon as he does appear quite a bit in this book. He is after all, Jonah's brother. There is also a bit of a forbidden romance mixed in as Jonah and Dr. Carmichael (Talon's and Jonah's therapist) get together. This of course, is not without it's own set of drama because Jonah still feels guilt for his brothers abduction and Dr. Carmichael has her own demons to face...

Overall, this is the perfect book! It blends suspense, mystery, and romance perfectly! Even more, it depicts real life problems (even if they are horrific) allowing readers a glimpse into how imperfect this world truly is. Helen Hardt does a wonderful job with all of this because readers can empathize and connect with the characters on a very deep and emotional level. This is normally a hard feat, but Helen Hardt has done it with grace. So, should you read this book (pending that you have read all the previous books first)? YES!!!! They are all gripping from start to finish and I expect many readers will devour them as I have. Grab your copy!!!

ARC Provided in exchange for an honest review. Thank you!!!!

Cyndi Marie says

Listened to the Audiobook

I should have know there would be a HUGE CLIFFHANGER! I love this series and can not wait for every book as they are released! I always say I'm going to wait until the next 3 in the set is out but I just can't wait!

This book has you on the edge of your seat the entire time! With a great story line, seriously troubled and strong characters and Hot sex scenes... How can I not love it!

The narration for this book wasn't my favorite. I enjoyed their work for the most part but his female voice is not great and she makes Melanie come across a little flaky with her almost child like voice. I completely agree with a change of narration since these next 3 are different main characters and deserve their own voices, I just didn't agree with the choice of narrators.

Angel Payne says

I'll be super honest. After the completely captivating experience of the first 3 Steel Brothers books, my expectations were through the roof for Book 4. With this newest installment of the series, Ms. Hardt delivered a read SO worth the anticipation.

Get ready to step on the gas and GO pretty much from page 1 of this newest "section" of the story. It's Book 4 of the series, but is the first installment of the world focusing on Jonah ("Joe") Steel and the woman who has captivated him from the first section of the series: psychotherapist Melanie Carmichael. Mel is absolutely the perfect woman to pair with Joe. She's smart but humble, independent yet deeply craving a connection to a man who will love her with unbridled passion. Best of all, she understands the demons of guilt that haunt Jonah--because of her own closet filled with the same kinds of ghosts.

This is the nucleus of where Ms. Hardt shines the brightest: exploring the way love not only connects and heals, but through that process, becomes transformative. It literally changes the person one can be--for the better. Nobody said the process was easy, though--and here's the next arena in which this writer shines, and has earned a solid place at the top of my MUST-READ list. I love my conflicts messy, lusty, and filled with lots of twists, turns, and tears along the way--and I know that a Helen Hardt read will always give me all of this and more. But damn, that ENDING! When, when, wheeeennnn do we get Book 5???

A beautiful blend of established back story, new conflicts, and above everything, the beauty and connection of a new love story, MELT accomplished exactly that--and more--for me. The sexy Steels continue to steal my heart!

Yulanda Bolton says

This series just keep getting better. Each book of the series gives out but the clues to finding out all the the parties involved in solving who did all the crimes is crazy. Loving Jonah and Melanie chemistry and can't wait to find out which there relationship will go.

Louise says

Ok, this series seriously needs to end! Finished book 4 and feel like I have gained no more ground in solving this drama but I can't stop....MUST know how this ends.

Really feel Hardt has dragged this out far too long and for the first time in this series she didn't finish this book on a "I must have the next book now" cliffhanger; it was a bit of a fizzle of an ending. The sinister thing is though I will pick up the next one just so I can see if this finally ends.

האם אנחנו יכולים לדבר על התחושה של "הסוף" בסוף הסדרה?

אני חושבת שיש לנו פה סדרה מעניינת, אבל היא לא ממש טובה כמו שרציתי. אני חושבת שהיא יכולה להיות יותר טובה, אבל היא לא היתה כזו, אני חושבת שהיא יכולה להיות יותר טובה, אבל היא לא היתה כזו, אני חושבת שהיא יכולה להיות יותר טובה.

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Sheena says

I think this is an interesting story line but it's now starting to feel milked now that were in book 4. I'm seeing repetition in multiple character expression to the point that it seems like beating a dead horse. And this particular book did not end in a "good spot" for me. It didn't give that feeling of "No! It can't end there!".

Alison Braun says

Why do I keep reading this series!?! Money ploy. Series could've been done in 2 books, if that. Disappointed that it seems all books need to be Series nowadays.

Lisa says

Wow

OK I read this in one day. I was on the edge of my seat, I just want to know what happened and why!!!
Jonah and Melanie both have so much in common and have similar issues. Maybe they can help each other. That definitely takes a backseat to the crazy mystery and suspense though. Their story is really just taking off!

Kimberly says

I don't even know where to begin with my review. This is the 4th book in the Steel Brothers Saga, and what a saga it is! This book is about Jonah Steel and his struggles with the crushing guilt he feels about what happened to Talon all those years ago. Jonah's love interest is Talon's psychotherapist Melanie Carmichael.

And she also struggles with crushing guilt because of a patient she lost. When Jonah realizes he must do something to help him through the guilt he goes to Melanie but they both quickly realize they want to me more than Dr. and patient. Things heat up quickly from there but they both struggle with whether they want to pursue the relationship or not. And while this is going on more pieces to the puzzle of who kidnapped and tortured Talon start coming to light. This book is fast paced and the new revelations will leave you reeling and wanting desperately to know what the truth is.

I love Melanie and Jonah. I could relate to them on so many levels. Jonah feels a deep responsibility to his siblings, and as the oldest child myself I know exactly where he is coming from. And Melanie, oh my goodness she is a successful and professional doctor, but she struggles with the type of insecurities I think a lot of women have. Both of these characters have a realness about them, even though they are living through some extraordinary circumstances they still have the same thoughts, feelings, and insecurities we all feel. I also enjoyed the humor laced throughout, it gave balance to the serious and angst filled tone of the story.

And let's take a moment to talk about the love scenes. I swear Helen Hardt writes the best love scenes I have ever read. I feel like I have to stand in front of the fan while reading them. Jonah is now my new favorite hero, his words will literally MELT you!

This series has been one of the most enjoyable I have read in a long time. To say I'm desperate for the next book is an understatement. Well done Ms. Hardt, well done!

Lissa says

Damn it, I have been roped into this series against my will and I can't think of a way to get out of reading every single shitty book this author pumps out without hurting a friend's feelings. Sigh.

And so, for the fourth installment in this ridiculous series, we have now switched to Jonah and Melanie, both of whom were introduced in the previous three books. The shift was a bit jarring, but I was glad to get out of Talon's head in particular, as well as Jade's. Surely this book, featuring Jonah (who seemed more level-headed than Talon) and Melanie (who seemed much more mature than Jade) won't be as shitty as the prior three, right?

Wrong. Because even though the author has theoretically switched characters, Jonah is almost EXACTLY like Talon, and Melanie is almost EXACTLY like Jade.

First off, one of my pet peeves is how the author has obviously NEVER been to (Grand) Junction; if she has, she definitely didn't pay any attention. She actually said that there was a skid row in Junction! SKID ROW! Dude, Junction has its problems - there is illegal drug use and the associated problems that come with it. It has some homeless people (a lot of them are temporary, young adults hitching across the country and hitting up "the west"). But I cannot imagine a SKID ROW, or even an area so freaking shady that there is a plethora of "bums" who will either beat up a Steel brother who wants to be hit (Jonah) or a Steel brother who wants to "defend" himself after someone tries to pick his pocket (Talon). I get that this mythical seedy side of Junction is a driving factor in this series, but if you're going to make a town so bad, you should probably just make up a name for a fictional setting (Snow Creek, for example, is not a real place).

Once again, the Steel brother (Jonah this time around) equates being "dominant" with being a grade A asshole. (view spoiler)

**FUCK
YOU
VERY
MUCH**

And that is how a man who is "dominant" is supposed to act, which makes me think that the author (who has already proven that she does not have a grasp on basic human anatomy) has absolutely NO FUCKING CLUE about D/s.

And let's get on to Melanie, who as I mentioned (beneath the previous spoiler cut) is forty years old and yet is as blushing and retiring as a teenaged virgin. (view spoiler)

And speaking of Melanie's body, every time she talks about it, she keeps putting herself down. She isn't stacked. She's too lean and athletic. She's a perfect size six, but she's just average. GIVE IT A FUCKING REST. She has what is considered a "perfect" body by American standards, and every time someone tries to compliment her, she just tears herself a new one. I FUCKING HATE THIS TROPE IN ROMANCE! It's like a woman HAS to look good in a typical romance book, but she's not allowed to think that she does indeed look good. This trope almost literally makes me vomit at times, and this is one of those times.

Melanie sounds more like a whiny thirteen year old than a forty year old woman.

And speaking of tropes that I hate, I got some more up my sleeve! I also hate the "this is the best sex I've ever had so it must be love" trope, which gets heavy play in both Jonah/Melanie and Talon/Jade. Sex does not equal love! You can have great sex with someone you don't love and not-so-great sex with someone you do love! Sometimes the shittiest sex you'll have is with someone you love, and that's okay!

Also, super sick of the "he's got a huuuuuge dick so this is the greatest sex I've ever had" trope. As a lesbian who has never had sex with a man willingly, I don't get the appeal in het (and often gay) romances with the big dick thing. Personally, sleeping with someone who is wielding a baseball bat between his legs sounds unattractive on multiple levels. And if the guy doesn't know how to use said baseball bat, it sounds even MORE "do not want" to me.

And like I already admitted, I skimmed through the sex scenes, because I knew if they were anything like the ones between Talon and Jade (which they totally were), they would be god-awful. Melanie, like Jade, has the rare "ruby red" nipples and labia. WTF. Has the author ever looked at a woman naked before? I have slept with several woman, and never ONCE have I found ruby red nipples or labia, haha.

Finally, allow myself to declare my disgust for the cliffhanger ending, which I KNEW would be coming because the author is incapable of wrapping any storylines up at all, apparently. Cliffhangers like that make me think that the author believes that the story isn't strong enough to draw readers back, so she has to "pull them in" with a cliffhanger - and that is lazy storytelling.

Amy says

Fourth book in the series ends with another cliffhanger. The storyline is compelling, but Jonah Steel, one of

the main characters, is a selfish jerk. I'm seriously debating whether I want to continue this series or not because I dislike his character so much. He goes around blaming himself for not helping his brother Talon when they were kids, but he's guilty of leaving Melanie hanging out to dry for the exact same thing. He's a selfish lover, too--always taking pleasure for himself and rarely giving it.

The Book Fairy Reviews says

You will melt when you read about Jonah's guilt and love for his family. Being the oldest you are responsible for you younger siblings. You have to protect and guide and handle it all. Well, yeah not really, but that is how Joe felt. When things got tough he dealt with it the only way he knew how, and it was unhealthy and dangerous.

Melanie, Talon's Dr. is struggling with her own guilt. A Dr, should be able to handle loss, I mean she is helping Talon with his trauma and her guilt is a sort of trauma, right? There is only one thing that is helping her deal, Joe.

Melanie quiets the guilt inside of Joe and helps him focus on healing the pain of what happened to Talon. Together can they help each other? Will their own insecurities or fears get in their way? This book was intense leaving me wanting and salivating for more.

Helen has given us a series with men that will not only Melt your heart, they will heat up your soul. Talon, broken, having survived the most heinous of crimes against a child. Books filled with suspense and danger, a mystery to solve to bring justice for Talon and his brothers. The men in this family are going to Steal your heart.
