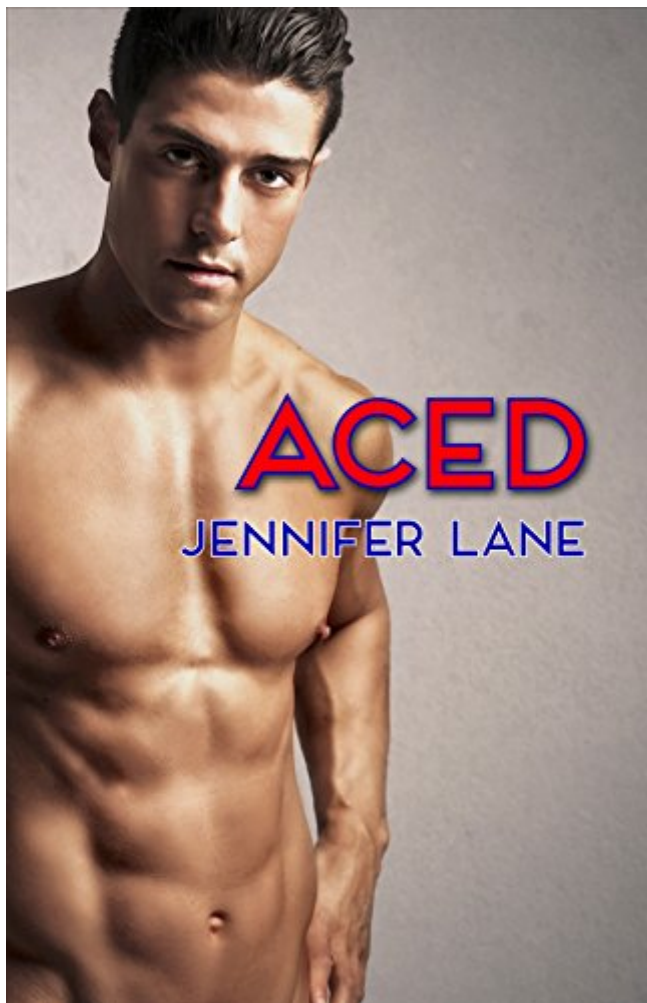


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Aced (Blocked Book 2)



Synopsis

Volleyball wonder Lucia Ramirez found her love match in *Blocked* despite the glaring political spotlight aimed on her family. In *Aced*, the second book in Jennifer Lane's *Blocked* series, it could be her brother Alejandro's turn to get lucky in love. Medical student Alejandro's hot Latin looks get him plenty of attention, but his deep faith and admiration for his father keep him on a righteous path, with no time for something as frivolous as love. He strives to do the right thing—study diligently, take care of his siblings, represent the family well—so why does he feel so unfulfilled? Enter Lucia's friend and teammate Maddie Brooks, who shines at blocking the ball and acing the serve. Too bad this graduating senior isn't so confident about her life off the court. Her longtime boyfriend has just bailed on her, and med school applications loom large. Oh, and a nerve-wracking tryout for Team USA also approaches. Maddie meets Alejandro when he visits Lucia at school, and she's soon drawn to his sharp mind. Alejandro is similarly intrigued by Maddie's talent and strength. But will personal biases and family politics smother the slow burn of their attraction? Unless Maddie can learn to believe in herself, and Alejandro can become his own man, their kindling romance hardly stands a chance. Will either of them be bold enough to try something new? Find out in this emotion-rich story that refuses to shy away from life's hardest questions. Because love is worth the risk.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I think I like Aced even better than Blocked! Jennifer Lane's done it again, and I zoomed through this one in one sitting, much to my family's chagrin. I loved Alejandro, and loved, loved, loved Maddie. I loved that they both had issues, but the plot's pace was lightning quick and kept me guessing. I am so happy to read a book with a strong female lead who knows what she wants. And I really enjoyed Alejandro. He's sexy, he's smart, he's ambitious, but he's warm and focused on taking care of his family and worried about being true to himself and his faith. He is a HUGELY refreshing change of pace from the dark, damaged anti-heroes in a lot of romance right now. He's proof that you can be strong and alpha and not destroy a woman, but lift her up. I love that the relationship that develops between Maddie and Alejandro is good for them both. I love that their romance never falters because of cliched, tired reasons. Their relationship seems to move along at a real and satisfying pace. I'd highly recommend this, and though it's fun to have read Blocked first, I don't think you would necessarily have to. Well done and keep it up -- and here's my one failed attempt at a volleyball metaphor for the night -- this one's a kill right in the corner of the court -- definitely scores the winning point for me (see you can tell I don't really know volleyball).

Blocked pulled me in. Aced has me hooked. Well written, character driven romances are my weakness and this story scores on all fronts. Maddie and Alejandro are polar opposites but belong together. They overcome their differences and are perfect for each other. There was one scene I didn't see coming and it had me staying up way to late to see the outcome. Don't miss this wonderful series. I can't wait for the next book!

I like stories that make me think but that also entertain and this story does that. Its funny and caring so hence the many stars. Jennifer Lane books are always a good time I can't wait for the next one!!! I have loved all her books and I love the CONduct series! If you Haven't read those you should!

This book, was really great just like the first one. I really loved the diversity of the characters. I loved

the views of each person. I think I would really recommend this book to anyone. However I do feel, that there could be more.

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Full disclosure: I seldom read books considered 'New Adult', I've never had interest in college volleyball (or the sport in general), and I rarely read political books because they tend to be heavy-handed toward one party or issue. ACED, and its predecessor BLOCKED, is a political, sports, NA novel. And I absolutely loved this book. You might wonder why I'd even pick up this book to begin with, considering it's all the things I claim to not read. That answer is simple: The author. Jennifer Lane has a gift that goes beyond storytelling. She's able to capture fully-developed, unique, complex characters, and hand them over for us to get to know as if they were real people. I discovered this with her romantic suspense CONduct Series, which led me here to her Blocked Series. And this series is magic. I don't think I've ever known an author to handle divisive topics in such an inspiring way. In ACED, we're immersed in issues including politics, religion, and premarital sex. Yet, the content never feels judgmental, and it's certainly not one-sided. Ms. Lane shows us opposing opinions in a way that we can, if not agree with, at least understand. Her characters show us that, if we'd stop being so defensive and listen to one another, we might just find common ground. These characters also teach us that it's okay to disagree, to hold different beliefs, and to still be friends. Our current divisive, intolerant political and social climates desperately need an injection of Jennifer Lane's respectful treatment of these personal issues. These books are a perfect place for us all to start. *BLOCKED is the first book in this series, and ACED is the second. While each works well as a stand-alone, I recommend starting with the first in order to understand all the nuances that might otherwise be missed.*

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