

The background features a network diagram with white nodes and lines on a purple-to-pink gradient. The nodes are connected by thin white lines, forming a complex web of triangles and polygons. Some nodes are larger than others, and the overall structure is dense and interconnected. The background color transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom.

# The End Zone

Written by L.J. Shen

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Published by aberdeenrw

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The End Zone

# The End Zone

By L.J. Shen

The End Zone Lj Shen

Part of Team Player: A Sports Romance Anthology.

## The End Zone Bar Rescue

Jolie Louis is a smart girl. She knows that her best friend, Sage Poirier, is a bad idea. He's a walking, talking cliché. The Adonis quarterback with the bulging biceps and harem of fangirls trailing behind him on campus like a stench you can't get rid of. Sadly, that's also the reason she can't stay away from him. Well, that and the fact that they're roommates. Jolie is already straddling the line between friendship and more when Sage comes to her with an offer she cannot refuse: be his fake girlfriend and live for free for the rest of the semester. She tells herself that she can handle it. He's just the boy she saved ten years ago, right? Wrong. So very wrong. He is a man now, and she is his captive Heart, body, and soul!

"All the girls he brings home (roughly twenty percent of the US female population) do moan and scream for an average of forty minutes."

DNF at 25%

I am so fresh out of fucks at this point.

This book annoyed me faster than Speedy Gonzales can do his thing.

This book, (if I had the power and the effort) would have a running mp3 track of Amy Winehouse singing "no, no, n.o" in the background.

This book, to me was all the yikes in the world coming together for a hot cocoa.

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\*lawyer voice "All the girls he brings home (roughly twenty percent of the US female population) do moan and scream for an average of forty minutes."

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\*lawyer voice\* alex, please stfu and sit down

I couldn't... I'm really sorry but I couldn't get past the quarter mark. Sage (one of our mc's) made me want a medical coma. I don't think I have ever tried harder to like a book than I did with this one. He had the manwhore factor going and maybe it's me, but that play very rarely works in my liking the character.

Because (and let me explain myself), I find it really hard to follow and root for dialogue and monologue like this:

“Do you really want to throw away ten years of friendship for a quick lay?”  
He smirks. “First of all, it’s not going to be quick. I know what I’m doing in the sack. We’re talking a minimum of twenty-five minutes, lady, and I’m being humble here, because I might be a little on the excited side when I finally get you in my bed.” He cups his groin and winks, and I would roll my eyes if it weren’t for the fact that his room is down the hall, and the thin walls confirm his statement.”

Maybe that didn't justify my explanation enough. Here, have another little bite.

“Your hot roommate. Did you ask her if she’s into me?” Again, I find myself wanting to punch my own balls for downplaying my relationship with Jolie. This is all my doing, and the reason I don’t tell people how close we are is because I don’t want any cock-blocking scenarios to get in my way of a good pussy.”

Those were just the starters, and you bet your sweet ass I left before the main course arrived because I did NOT want to be there for that. This review isn't going to be a long ass review of what I think went wrong because there were a lot of people that loved this. I read *Midnight Blue* by this author earlier this year and I enjoyed that so much more - I seem to find a pattern with Shen and the manwhore + s/o trope.

That's perfectly fine, just it reeallyy wasn't for me. I usually try my best not to DNF a book, because everything and everyone deserves to be complete. I just couldn't.

\*alex voice\* thank you, i needed that  
...more

## The End Zone Oakland

4.5

I first read The End Zone by L.J. Shen when it was previously released in the sports romance anthology, Team Player. I wrote a review for it at that time. Before I say anything else, I'm going to include it here. It was my first impression after all.Â

Full disclosure, L. J. Shen is like a unicorn to me. I love her work, and I'm convinced she has magical powers that allow her to write the most perfect asshole heroes in romance. Therefore, I began reading this novella thinking I was going to find a grade A asshole inside, but that's not what I got at all. I was rather surprised to find out that Sage may be somewhat of an douche to other people sometimes, but he is nothing but sweet to Jolie.Â

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Did I love her sweet hero as much I've loved her heroes from other books? Yes! Yes, I did! Sage is swoonworthy! Definite book boyfriend material! I adored the way he was with Jolie, and I believed in their love 100 percent. With this being a novella, that gets bonus points from me! It can be hard for me to become invested in a couple over so few pages, but that wasn't a problem here at all. I do wish I had more time with these characters, but that's just because I enjoyed them so much! The End Zone is beautifully written and captivating! In my opinion, it's worth the price of the whole anthology!

Okay, now you know what I thought of it initially, but what do I think about this new version? More importantly, why should you buy it if you've already read it before?

One, it has a brand new extended epilogue that gives us a glimpse into Jolie and Sage's future. The one thing past me wanted was more of these characters. This newly released version gave me that. It was absolutely adorable and on top of that, pretty damn hot, too.

## The End Zone

Two, the cover is gorgeous! I mean look at those eyes! Those abs! If you're a cover whore like myself, that by itself is reason enough. Lol

Three, L. J. is the most incredible woman in the entire world, and she has given us an extended epilogue to Vicious. If you know me at all, you know that Vicious is one of my favorite books of all time. Baron Spencer is my favorite asshole hero of all time, too. No one compares to him. No. One.Â

When I found out I was getting more Vicious, I started breathing erratically. I had heart palpitations, people! I haven't been that excited about reading anything in a very long time.Â

I don't really know what my expectations were when it came to this new little addition to one of the best romance novels ever written, but they were exceeded! The epilogue is everything I wanted and more. I think I smiled like a lunatic the whole time I read. When I reached the final words, I almost had a heart attack! I mean, I straight up freaked the fuck out, y'all. Happy does not begin to describe the feelings I had when I closed this book!

Do I recommend The End Zone? Hell yes! Fans of the author shouldn't hesitate for a second, and Vicious lovers like myself should buy it for the epilogue alone. Even if you've never read this author before, if you love short, sweet, sexy romances with the friends to lovers trope, this one's for you!

ARC generously provided by the author for an honest review. ...more

3 stars!

This was a short and sexy friends to lovers story that I enjoyed, but was just missing a little something for me. I'm not sure if it was because it was so short I felt like I didn't get enough back story (or story in general with the characters) or what. Either way, I liked it- it just wasn't love for me x

## The End Zone Bar

Best friends from the age of 10. Now seniors in college, Sage needs to prove to his best friend Jolie that they can be more than just each other's best friend. So how?? be his fake girlfriend for their last semester of college before he gets drafted to the NFL. He wants to experience relationships at their finest with no one else besides the closest girl he's ever had to him, the only girl he's ever loved. So it's best friends to fake lovers.....

Both Sage and Jolie are secretly fighting strong Best friends from the age of 10. Now seniors in college, Sage needs to prove to his best friend Jolie that they can be more than just each other's best friend. So how?? be his fake girlfriend for their last semester of college before he gets drafted to the NFL. He wants to experience relationships at their finest with no one else besides the closest girl he's ever had to him, the only girl he's ever loved. So it's best friends to fake lovers.....

Both Sage and Jolie are secretly fighting stronger feelings for each other, so what could possibly go wrong if they both ultimately want the same thing, they both want each other. Well for one, their hearts. When one of them is already completely 100% in love with the other but of course, hasn't expressed those feelings to the other. They're slowly treading on a tight rope between their familiarity and grown up games that is bound to crush one, if not, both of them. What if one can't live without the other?

Sage has been friends with Jolie for 10 years so he clearly knows what to say to please her and he definitely knows how to say it. So will he use this to get to her or will he use it to play her and get what he wants, the ultimate lay. The one he's always dreamed of...

Jolie knows this is temporary so she's trying with everything in her to not fall head over hills more in love with her best friend. Her heart just can't take it so she says safe words after the second day. She knows Sage could never love her more than she wants, so why put her heart through all this. How can this ever work???? Have some faith, believe in love, know that your past may just be your future... Its easy to think, but to know is just so hard without hearing the words.

If you love a fast pace, a sweet easy to fall in love story, you have to read The End Zone. I definitely fell in love â••



The End Zone

...more

My best friend is a manwh\*re.  
But he is also the boy I gave my heart to.

Previously published as part of Team Player: an Anthology. Includes an extended epilogue, and a SPECIAL chapter from Vicious, kickstarting a brand new series.

Audiobook &gt; <https://goo.gl/Le1Hw1>

## The End Zone Stillwater Ok

[licks screen!] LOVE BALLS!

Stand-alone novella.

Release: April 3, 2018

Pre-order: Coming soon!

Blurb:

Jolie Louis is a smart girl. She knows that her best friend, Sage Poirier, is a bad idea. He's a walking, talking cliché. The Adonis quarterback with the bulging biceps and harem of fangirls trailing behind him on campus like a stench you can't get rid of. Sadly, that's also the reason she can't stay away from him. Well, that and the fact that they're roommates. Jolie is already straddling the line

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â~...4.5â~... "You're fucking everywhere."

The End Zone is a Sports Romance with sizzling passion and endearing characters. Previously released in the sports romance anthology *The Team Player*, Ms. Shen offers a fantastic contemporary romance with the addition of a surprise extended epilogue.

"You're in my heart and in my fingertips and on my fucking lips like a prayer." *The End Zone* by L.J. Shen features a smoking hot football player who is secretly in love with his best friend. Gabe Poirier is the quar â~...4.5â~... "You're fucking everywhere."

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## The End Zone

"You're in my heart and in my fingertips and on my fucking lips like a prayer." The End Zone by L.J. Shen features a smoking hot football player who is secretly in love with his best friend. Gabe Poirier is the quarterback of his college team and a playboy with the ladies. And yet, he has always wanted his best friend Jolie Louise. They have been friends from childhood and been through so much together. Jolie is secretly in love with Gabe but knows he will only break her heart. When Jolie gets some attention from some male admirers, Gabe decides to take matters into his own hands. Declaring that Jolie is his "fake" girlfriend, he decides to use that time to convince Jolie that their relationship is nothing but the real deal! With some good old-fashioned college drama and authentic friends to lovers romance, L.J. Shen offers a perfect blend of passion, friendship, and tender love. I have long been a fan of Ms. Shen's writing. Her characters are complex and the connections they create are explosive and truly unforgettable.

Overall, I highly recommend The End Zone to anyone who enjoys a smoking hot sports romance that will leave you breathless and aching for more.

\*ARC graciously provided in exchange for an honest review!

For more reviews/reveals/giveaways visit:

...more

## The End Zone Sports Bar And Grill

2 stars

I did not enjoy this one. Not at all. I love LJ Shen, but this is a story that I think would have been a million times better as a full length novel and not a novella. The plot was choppy with unresolved issues and no character development. I was actually going to give this 3 stars but then read the bonus epilogue and it got worse from there.

If you are looking for something hot with minimal to zero plot, this is the book for you.

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Favorite Author + Favorite Trope multiplied by novella sized sexiness = WIN WIN WIN!!!

The End Zone is a sexy friends to lovers romance (with a dash of fake relationship yumminess) that's sure to score with fans of Sports Romance and quick steamy reads. L.J. Shen brings her signature broody asshole hero game in this one. Add to that that Sage is sort of a douchebag and I never stood a chance! What the hell is wrong with me, right? Hi my name is Tijuana and I love alpha-hole douchebags! Admitting

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Anywhoo. Sage and Jolie are super cute. I love that their story spans years and runs the gamut of milestones and emotions. It's a real feat to pack so much history in so few pages, but L.J. Shen has done just that.

Here's what I absolutely loved: The history between these two. But even more than that, the sexual tension. Off the Charts cut it with a spoon sort of tension.

The secondary characters were a hoot! I loved Jolie's besties and coworker. Boy that chase scene almost made me pee my pants. You need to read the book just for that alone. It was hilarious!

## The End Zone

But hereâ€™s the main clincher. The beginning and end. You guys, I adored the prologue and epilogue SO MUCH. The structure is different and elicits so many emotions. The reader immediately feels drawn into the situation during the prologue and by the end of the epilogue youâ€™re completely invested. Iâ€™m a bit of an epilogue whore anyway and this one was soooooo cute. Gah! The symmetry and poignancy were brilliant. Well done, LJ. Well done indeed.

Recommended for lovers of Sports Romance, Novellas, Douchebag Alpha-holes, and sweet hardworking heroines. ...more

## The End Zone Houston Tx

The End Zone by LJ Shen 5 Stars! A novella that doesn't feel like a novella is my kind of novella. Plus it was sexy, sweet and swoony. A best-friends to lovers story with the perfect combination of angst and sweet. Plus the newest version had an amazing extended epilogue that will light your Kindle on Fire. Plus it's got an extended epilogue for another LJ Shen series and one of my all time favorite stories.

Originally in the Team Player Anthology. Re-released with bonus epilogue and content.

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Provided for honest review. ...more

This is a wonderful 'friends to lovers story'. Very entertaining and without really much angst.

The main characters are very young, in their early twenties.

They will feel insecurities, they will make mistakes, they will be easy to be manipulated and this will result to misunderstandings. But true love always wins in the end.

The book has two points of view by the two main characters: Sage Poirier i.e. Louisiana's finest college quarterback and a manwhore and Jolie Louis i.e. his Jo Jo and his best This is a wonderful 'friends to lovers story'. Very entertaining and without really much angst.

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The book has two points of view by the two main characters: Sage Poirier i.e. Louisiana's finest college quarterback and a manwhore and Jolie Louis i.e. his Jo Jo and his best childhood friend.

Favourite quotes:

It's not a phase.

It's here to stay.

I'm in love with my best friend.

With the girl who ran in the rain for me.

With the girl who did my homework all the way through elementary and high school so I could

The End Zone

concentrate on my football, and gave me pointers and summaries when we walked to school together every day.

With the girl who believed in me before even I believed in myself.

and

"I'd rather die than see you with someone else who holds the potential to give you the things that you need. It occurred to me that I would never be able to be happy for you if you married someone else. It occurred to me that I can't even think of being with anyone but you, and when I do have a child, I want it to be with you. I love you, Jojo. But you already know that. I'm also in love with you. Crazy about you. Can't live without you." ...more

## The End Zone Mobile Home

An electric toothbrush?? Really, wtf? That bit spoiled the book for me, I'm sorry!

In all honesty, I preferred this story when it was part of the Team Player Anthology - but if you are looking for a short and sexy sports romance in the addictive style that we have all come to expect from LJ Shen, then you definitely need to pick this up. It was a lot of fun, but don't expect anything deep.

3.5 Stars

Weâ€™re one entity. Whole and broken. Happy and sad. Lost and so unbelievably found.

Jolie and Sage are best friends to lovers goals. Yes, Sage is a manwhore, but Jolie knows the good man under all the jerk. Their novella is quick and hot, with just enough angst to keep it interesting.

The Vicious bonus content and the sneak peek at whatâ€™s to come from Shen was so so so good. I didnâ€™t think Iâ€™d ever be this excited to go back to high school.



## The End Zone Hope Ks

The End Zone is a short story about Jolie Louis and Sage Poirer. They are best friends since Jolie found Sage crying one rainy night and comforted him when they were kids. Now, both are senior college students and roommates. Jolie is in love with him for the longest time but his quarterback best friend is a manwhore. Then he asked her to be his fake girlfriend for the remaining semester. She's afraid this arrangement will ruin their friendship and him breaking her heart but she'll take the risk. The End Zone is a short story about Jolie Louis and Sage Poirer. They are best friends since Jolie found Sage crying one rainy night and comforted him when they were kids. Now, both are senior college students and roommates. Jolie is in love with him for the longest time but his quarterback best friend is a manwhore. Then he asked her to be his fake girlfriend for the remaining semester. She's afraid this arrangement will ruin their friendship and him breaking her heart but she'll take the risk.

The novella was okay and I think it's better if it will be a full length novel. Sad to say the characters fell flat to me and both of them lacked character developments. The extended epilogue saved it because it's hilarious. By the way, the Vicious extended epilogue is good and it's a sneak peek for the spin-off series. I'm looking forward to that. ...more

• 4 stars •

I really enjoyed The End Zone, it was a lighthearted, sweet, steamy and quick read! Both characters were lovable and I liked the story a lot! This story was the perfect best friends to lovers! I loved the push and pull between Sage and Jolie, their connection was something else and you could feel the intensity between them! The prologue was one of my favorite parts in this story!! wish we could have more! Overall, it was a great read, you can't go wrong with L.J. Shen, I love her writing and • 4 stars •

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