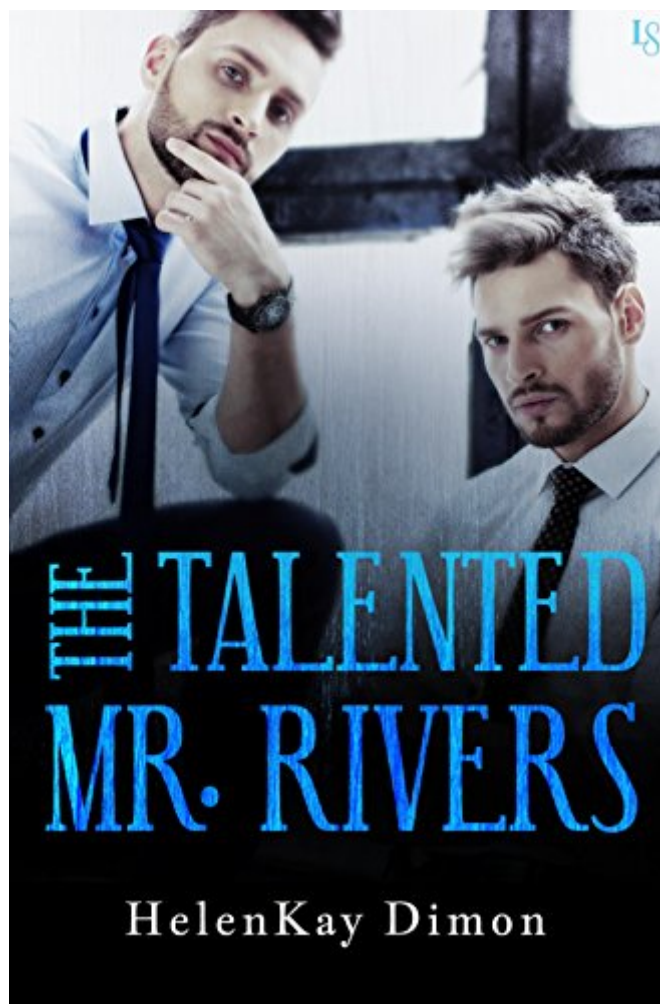


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# The Talented Mr. Rivers (Tough Love)



## Synopsis

HelenKay Dimon's suspenseful, provocative series of double agents and dark desire continues with a novel featuring two men bound by a dangerous job and by the cravings they feel for each other. As the son of an international crime lord, Will Rivers only inherited one thing after his father died: trouble. The Pentasus organization deals in kidnapping and murder, and Will wants no part of the power grab that's tearing leadership apart. But the only way he'll be able to escape is with some help from his former bodyguard, Hunter Cain, whose sculpted body and brooding looks keep Will awake at night. Somehow, Hunter has resisted the tension between them . . . until, suddenly, he gives in. As a German intelligence officer working deep undercover, Hunter has a very good reason to keep Will in the dark about his identity and his intentions. Although the sex is hot, Hunter's true feelings are a growing liability. Now the only way to save Will from his old life is to push him deeper into danger. But when two strong men are each determined to protect the other, the heat isn't just combustible—it's a firestorm. Includes a special message from the editor, as well as an excerpt from another Loveswept title.

## Book Information

File Size: 1219 KB

Print Length: 214 pages

Publisher: Loveswept (September 13, 2016)

Publication Date: September 13, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0190HN0XM

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #15,162 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #247

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender eBooks > Romance >

Gay Romance #252 in Books > Romance > Gay Romance #619 in Books > Romance >

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## Customer Reviews

We met Will and Hunter briefly in M&MS, especially Hunter, who got Fisher's back up repeatedly when Hunter referenced a few fun days he had spent with Zach, prior to Zach and Fisher finding each other. Will, having survived the explosion of his family's compound, is now hiding out in Paris. Hunter is desperate to find Will before the very bad guys who are also looking for him manage to locate him. Agents from the first book show up to help Hunter with his task of saving Will. Seems Hunter has gone off the reservation from the BND, Germany's CIA equivalent, in his mission to find Will. Seth, Zach and Fisher convince Hunter to let them help, while also trying to round up Will's brother Peter and Will's sister's arrangement. There is a lot of plot going on, interspersed with a lot of love story. There is no wasted space in TTMR. Every word counts. Personally, I love that. One of my personal pet peeves is a story that meanders pointlessly, trying to build up the word count. TTMR is the opposite of that. Hunter's history is teased out slowly over the course of the book, adding layer after layer to this complex character. He is sort of baffled by the depth of his feelings for Will, and watching his brain catch up to his heart was entertaining. Hunter is fiercely protective, super sexy and all alpha. Will's childhood is the thing of nightmares, ones in which your parent pits your siblings against each other, familial poisoning is not unheard of, and plots of revenge end in death. Will has stayed at the periphery of his family's felonious dealings, but Hunter urges him to be part of the solution, in a truly inspired scene. Though he is young, Will is smart and capable.

The Talented Mr. Rivers is the 2nd in the Tough Love Series. I enjoyed it, it is fast paced, has some action, a little suspense, and some romance. Will Rivers is the younger brother of Stacia and Peter from the first book in the series, Mr. and Mr. Smith. Hunter Cain is also in the same book, but this time it's his and Will's story. Hunter is still protecting Will, and, unknown to Will, works for BND, German Intelligence, and is deep undercover. What Hunter doesn't realize, though, is that his work for BND will soon intersect with the CIA, with the same department and team we met in Mr. and Mr. Smith. Both BND and the CIA are determined to take down Pentasus, Will's family business that deals in murder, and they are going to use Will to dismantle that business. Hunter may on the surface seem to be all for that, but, in reality, he is starting to develop feelings for Will. It's not just sex, although that is certainly part of it, but Hunter is having a hard time dealing with these new feelings. Will is left wondering just what he means to Hunter and whether or not Hunter trusts him to turn on his family and help BND and the CIA, or if he is truly a Rivers like his siblings. Hunter has been directed by Seth that his mission, take down Pentasus, has to come before everything, most notably, Will, and Hunter isn't sure he can make the mission his priority. His feelings just may

compromise his mission, because he's starting to feel as if keeping Will alive is more important than anything else. I like seeing the team back together. Fisher, Zach and Seth all make appearances. And I enjoyed seeing how they interact with Hunter and his obvious protectiveness and attraction toward Will.

I read Mr. and Mr. Smith (Tough Love), the first book in the Tough Love series and LOVED the MCs and the beginning and ending of the book. The middle is a long boring sequence where nothing happens, other than nefarious plotting and planning and lots of hot man sex. Then HelenKay Dimon brings it with a truly gripping ending. Fast forward to The Talented Mr. Rivers (Tough Love), and the beginning of the book held my interest. The middle is a long boring sequence where nothing much happens, other than nefarious plotting and planning and lots of hot man sex. But, the ending seemed overly convoluted IMHO. We briefly met Will - the youngest brother in the psychotic Rivers family, toward the end of Mr. and Mr. Smith. Will and his bodyguard Hunter are very attracted to one another, although neither man trusts the other. Smart move, since Hunter is deep undercover for the BND and has been working with the CIA to bring down Pentasus, the family criminal enterprise. Will's involvement with the family business seems negligible but after the death of his sister Stacia and his brother Peter's disappearance, there are other players in the game who think Will is getting ready to run Pentasus. But once Hunter brings Will to a CIA safe house ... the plot seemed to falter. There is an extended period of plotting with Zach and Fischer from Mr. and Mr.

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