



In His Hero's Shadow

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In all the years they've know each other, trauma nurse Chauncey and paramedic Brody have only ever agreed on one thing: their mutual hatred for one another, which only seems to grow with each exchange they have. While they may have to work together, and share many mutual friends, they couldn't be more different. Brody see Chauncey as nothing more than a bossy jerk, whereas Chauncey thinks Brody is a cocky brat who needs a good punch in the nose. What neither one of them is willing to admit is that they share a dirty little secret - a mutual attraction that burns almost as deep as their animosity.

One night they lose control and give in to their passion. When they wake up in each others' arms, they have to face one of the biggest decisions of their lives: do they give love a chance, or are their differences just too big to overcome?

In His Hero's Shadow Details

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From Reader Review In His Hero's Shadow for online ebook

Nic says

The EMS Heat Series by Stephanie Hecht

I'm reviewing this entire series in one go because they all have similar themes. Each book is short and sweet – little bite-sized stories when you want to pick up something quick to read (I read each one in one sitting).

This is one of those series (previously called St Michael's) that centres on a group of men who work in emergency services. It is a glorious combination of EMTs, firemen, nurses, doctors...

Each book is relatively short (<100 pages) and make the perfect quick read when you want something short but enjoyable. Each book has a fairly emotional theme – these guys have been abused, hurt in the past, rejected by their families, and any manor of other things that have left them feeling scared and vulnerable but each man finds his partner, someone to love them for who they are and to teach them about trust.

For such serious topics, there isn't a lot of time to delve into each story in depth but there is just enough heartache and working through issues to reach a happy ending. Okay, so most seem a little unrealistic – love at first sight, overcoming issues quickly and even the over-abundance of gay guys in the town – but I read this series for a light enjoyment so didn't mind a bit!

You can read the blurb to find out more about each story so I have included a little quote from each book to give a sense of the style...

#1 Running Hot "Running to him, Calvin threw his arms around James and pulled him into a rib-crushing hug. They had a huge audience, but he didn't give a damn."

#2 Man Down "I told myself I couldn't get close to you because I didn't want any complications in my life. That I didn't have time for a relationship because of school and stuff. The truth is, I didn't want to grow attached to you because I can't stand to lose someone else who I care about."

#3 Lights and Sirens "Unlike Gary, Matt happened to be good looking on the inside too."

#4 Priority One "This was it. Finally Dylan would be able to know what it felt like to be with another man. After tonight, there'd be no more lingering doubts. No more false hopes that maybe he'd been wrong all along and wasn't gay and could make things right back home. If he did this, actually went through with it, these would be no question of what he was. "

#5 Code Blue "He wondered how this little brat had managed to mean so much to him in just the span of a day."

#6 Red Lights and Silver Bells "Kaleb gaped at him in shock. Even after all these months of having to deal with Dylan's insecurities, it still shocked Kaleb every time he realized just how little his lover thought of himself. If it was anyone who could have their pick of men, it was *Dylan*."

#7 High Flow "Since he'd gotten away with touching him earlier, Patrick allowed himself to reach out and cup Forrest's face. When the younger man briefly closed his eyes and turned into the touch, a thrill of victory went through Patrick. *That's it, babe, open up to me. It's safe, I promise.* Since he knew it was too early to speak those words aloud, Patrick simply went with, "I want you because you're Forrest. I wouldn't change a

thing about you because you're perfect the way you are"

#8 Three-Alarm Fire "Why it's so easy to tell you things that I could never share with anyone else. It's because you know what it's like to be hurt by someone you love. You understand me in ways that nobody else could."

#9 Shades of the Past "As Kiefer's body seemed to mold into his side, Ray became aware of two things. One, that Kiefer made for a perfect fit. Second came the startling realization that Ray would do anything to protect the medic from being hurt again."

#10 In His Hero's Shadow "I don't want to get hurt," Brody finally admitted. "I know I'm not good enough for you and that it will only be a matter of time before you figure that out for yourself and dump me."

#11 Life Over Limb "Nah, he was just being nice. There is no way in hell a guy that good-looking could be interested in me."

#12 FUBAR "The victim finally looked up and Danny sucked in a breath as he found himself instantly attracted to the other man. Damn it though, he knew he shouldn't be having that reaction, after all, this guy barely avoided being viciously attacked. The last thing he needed was his would-be rescuer drooling over him."

#13 Status Dramaticus "Are you even listening to me?" *Ah, no. I was too busy drooling over you and imagining how it would feel to have you fuck me into the mattress.*

#14 Tagged and Bagged "The good think about Houston being asleep, aside from the fact his mouth was shut, was that he wasn't aware of how sappy Rich was being. And Rich was being sappy with a capital S."

#15 Blamestorming "Intrigued because I'm gay and working in such an alpha dominated field, or because you're interested in me for something more than a friend?"

#16 Circling the Drain "Would you think I sound young and dorky if I said that if I wasn't careful I could fall in love with you?"

#17 STAT "For some reason, Wells felt a flash of jealousy over Jaret being so close to another man. Which was crazy. He and Jaret weren't even friends, much less in a relationship."

#18 City of Fire "Awww....you better watch it, people will say we're in love." "I see that you've been watching *Oklahoma* again." "What can I say, I'm just a guy who can't say no."

I publish all my m/m reviews on my blog so if you want to see all my m/m reviews in one place come visit at [Because Two Men Are Better Than One!](#)

Chris says

Sweet m/m romance about two medics who are always at each others' throats when their paths cross... well, almost always. :)

Rachel Emily says

I'm sorry, just not my favorite book by this author or within this series. Too cookie cutter type of plot or something. And I miss the characters from the earlier books when they were based in Flint. I understand moving to a new location opened it up to a whole new group of characters, but I will admit that I liked seeing continuity and continuation of couples from the earlier books more than new characters.

V says

3.5 Stars

I know, I know, I said I wasn't going to buy any more Stephani's books.
But I couldn't help myself, I'm a sucker for her stories even if there are short.
This is not too bad. Don't expect fireworks, although a nice read.

LutaWolf says

This was really between a three and a four for me. It was way too fast with not enough detail but it was fun. The sex scenes not only made me sweat but they were hilarious. I just couldn't wait to see what Brody and Chauncey would say or do to each other next. They bickered and snapped at each other but with no real malice.

For the rest of the review: <http://thetbrpile.weebly.com/1/post/2...>

Louan says

The formatting is beginning to drive me crazy, which took a star away.
Loved the back and forth snark between the guys, you know when two people bicker like that, they are meant to be together.

Alina says

Nice sweet story, you could see these two were designated to end up together from the previous book. Brody's issues might be a little much sometimes, but overall an enjoyable read!

Tam says

3.5 Stars

Chauncey, a trauma nurse, and Brody a medic hate each others guts, or appear to. They can't be in the same room without the insults flying. Younger Brody thinks Chauncey is a rich entitled jerk, and Chauncey thinks Brody is a snotty little brat. After the loss of an elderly patient, someone phones Chauncey to go and get Brody out of the bar. Before long they are getting funky in the car, to be followed up by a hot night of smexin' and secrets. Brody reveals that his father was a fire fighter who died on 9/11. The next morning things get awkward and a few days later when Brody believes Chauncey told others about what happened all hell breaks loose, also Chauncey find out Brody's mom has mental issues. I thought the 9/11 storyline was very well done and Brody's pain about what happened to his dad when he was just 10 was very touching. This book was released around the 9/11 anniversary so was very pertinent at the time.

Deeze says

Another quick easy read in this series, Not quite as good as the others, maybe due to the shortness of this one, it felt more rushed than the others.

The TBR Pile *Book review site* says

<http://thetbrpile.weebly.com/1/post/2...>

This was really between a three and a four for me. It was way too fast with not enough detail but it was fun. The sex scenes not only made me sweat but they were hilarious. I just couldn't wait to see what Brody and Chauncey would say or do to each other next. They bickered and snapped at each other but with no real malice. Brody is this wounded soul that never feels like he is good enough and his attitude is protective armor. The vulnerability given to his character was what really built the plot and held it together. Chauncey can be a bit of a snob, however you get the feeling that he does it more because he enjoys Brody's bratty comebacks. The secondary characters really added to the plot and humor. Even though I kind of felt cheated of some emotional buildup it was an enjoyable, entertaining read.

Dre says

* Re-read 10/31/14 as part of the Re-romancing the Faves Challenge- These two are still my faves of the EMS series. I love Brody's snarky attitude and always trying to get under Chauncey's skin, esp. since it works so well. These two are hot together, and I love the embarrassment after everyone here's them at Forrest and Patrick's place.

* Originally read 10/25/11

Bubbles Huntly Honest & Direct Opinions says

It wasn't like they even hated each other more like they just bicker a lot like middle school kids. Everyone says they hate each other but it never seems like that. Then they sleep together and it is instantly to love. Like the reader doesn't see them hate each other and they don't see them fall in love. Also at end everyone bet how long it would take before they realized they loved each other. So before they all commented on the hate then they change to we knew you loved each other. I didn't like it

Melora says

They bicker, they give in to lust, they have a conversation, and then they're in love. At this point in the series I think most people know what to expect and keep reading because something about it appeals to them. Whenever I want a quick, sweet read with a guaranteed happy ending I know I can count on Stephani. If you've picked this up not knowing it's book ten in a series, then be aware that they all contain the insta-love and there is a believably-suspending number of gay men working in the hospital/fire department/rescue squad. The characters always have some kind of emotional baggage and here it's the anniversary of 9/11.

A Girl Has No Name says

4 stars!

Well, this was a nice surprise! I have to admit that I liked most *EMS Heat stories* even if they tend to be a little **simple on the plot side** and sometimes even **repetitive**. The schemes for the MC's relationships always stay the same: one of them is feeling insecure, has a hurtful past or is hiding a secret, the other one immediately feels the distress, gets possessive and protective and **Boom – we have some insta-love**.

The story about **trauma nurse Chaunchey** and **paramedic Brody** is at least a little different. They can't stand each other and I'm a big fan of a nice **enemies-to-lovers** story. Due to the shortness of Hecht's books, everything is still **happening quite fast**, but I have to admit that this is one of my **favorites of the series**. Very hot pairing!

Bdbaficionada says

This story I enjoyed more than the last one. At least these two guys have a history and a years worth of time that they know each other. The story is well written and I like how the two come together. The back and forth banter between them makes them feel more realistic and the fact that it doesn't stop once they become "official" makes it all the more better. I would recommend this one however it is almost like you need to read the series in order to know who all the other couples are. One book seems to give way to the next main characters book.
