



Blowing Off Steam

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Two guys, a train, and lots of steam.

Sam Chancellor has been in love with the steam engine Old Bess since he was six years old. Well, maybe not literally, but even when he's lost everything else in his life, he's always had her. But now her place in his heart has been unexpectedly challenged. Her new driver, Ryan Saunders, is the embodiment of all Sam's fantasies.

Ryan has written off Sam as just another geeky trainspotter—until the moment Ryan sees him without his usual shapeless hoodie, and realizes that for a nerd, Sam's pretty built.

When Ryan overlooks Sam's awkwardness long enough to suggest a hook-up, Sam seizes the opportunity—and Ryan—with both very eager hands. Finding common ground in their shared love of Bess, their time together is better than Sam ever dared dream.

But there's a reason Ryan never talks about his past. And when Ryan's job is threatened, Sam's well-meaning intervention puts both Ryan and Bess in deadly danger.

Product Warnings:

Contains train geekery, bed-hogging, a hero with no experience and another with plenty to spare, and a spider called Mabel.

Blowing Off Steam Details

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From Reader Review Blowing Off Steam for online ebook

Ami says

DNF at 50%

Apparently a combination of 1) Boring storyline with train talks that just didn't engage me at all, 2) Rather arrogant love interest (yes, I didn't like Ryan, not even a smidgen), and 3) A theme of 'deflowering gay virgin' that I never cared about ... is a *three strikes you're out for me*.

I did think Sam to be sweet and kind of adorable. But he alone couldn't force me to continue reading...

As always, DNF books are unrated.

Tess says

4.5 stars Steamy but super sweet. A kinda dorky virginal trainspotter (Sam) meets the new driver of his favourite steam engine who happens to be a sexy, jaded ex-playboy type (Ryan). Sparks fly, steam rises, etc., etc., but the overall feel to this one was definitely sweetness. Recommended if you (like me) enjoy a combination of sweet + sexy + low angst!

Riina Y.T. says

This was a little too nerdy, or rather, nerdier than I'd expected it to be.

LOVED the boys; both are super loveable!

Sam: too cute for words.

Ryan: fucking swoonworthy!

Sadly the whole story was rather, um, boring if I am allowed to say so :(

There was little happening but sex; which isn't a bad thing, but yeah, I just wasn't feeling it :(

I wanted to love it more, really did, but sadly there was not much that held my attention.

Amy Durreson says

I adored this. A romance set at a heritage railway, between a train driver with a disreputable past and the train spotter who crushes on him from afar. Lovely.

Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

A cute, light read with geeks and a virgin. What could be bad about that?!

I enjoyed this little story, though I'm going to be honest, those train facts bored me to tears. I have a soft spot for a geeky MC, but train obsessed guys... yeah, not for me. In fact, I wasn't really into the plot in general, which is funny considering that I enjoyed the story a good deal.

Because, *virgin*.

The best part about this story was the enthusiastic, hot sex. I'm REALLY into a dorky guy who is hot but doesn't know he is hot. It is very "She's All That" of me. Sam was such a adorable little number, and I was rooting for his "walk down the stairs and show off his goods" moment.

I also liked Ryan, though I've read the story about the reformed rich brat with daddy issues many times before.

If you like train and virgins, then you should get this book. It is a fast, easy read that put a smile on my face, even if it didn't wow me. Even if trains don't do it for you, the light escapism of this story still might work.

****Copy provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review****

NancyM says

It seems I'm in the minority here. I'm just not feeling this story as the others are. Maybe I'm just in a mood.

Ryan has a prejudice towards satchels and Sam seems to worship Ryan. Ryan treats Sam as a distraction from the boredom of the countryside. Insufferable is mentioned a few times in regards to Ryan; "[Ryan's smirk]should make him seem insufferable, but somehow didn't". I disagree he was insufferable. At least in the beginning.

The book and Ryan got a bit better in the middle of the story but did not make up for the beginning or ending.

My favourite character was actually Mabel/Shelob.

aksana - 4 - 8 - 15 - 16 - 23 - 42 - says

3.5 Stars

***J* Too Many Books Too Little Time says**

3.5 Stars!

There really wasn't anything wrong with this one. Other than it was a little boring at times with all of the train talk.

I loved Sam, the geeky virgin!

Ryan was a bit of a dick at times!

This was a very easy read! Very little angst! Plenty of hot sex!

All of that just got a bit lost in the train bits from time to time!

Joyfully Jay says

A Joyfully Jay review.

5 stars

Joy Lynn Fielding is a new author for me and her latest novel, *Blowing Off Steam*, was not only sweetly romantic, but chocked full of interesting facts about steam locomotives. Now before you think that you need to be some sort of train enthusiast to really get this story, never fear. There is a rich plot line and two wonderfully drawn characters who inhabit this trainspotting world this author has so carefully created.

Sam has led a life that is best described as lurking in the shadows. Orphaned at age eleven by a fatal car crash killing his parents, he is sent to live with his Great Uncle Ken who does everything he can to love and raise this very hurt and lonely boy. But Sam was different and often the ridicule of his peers, bullied unmercifully as a teen, Sam withdrew into himself and never really acted upon the desires he had growing up, the ones that involved other boys. Now he lives a life where most, if not all, of his friends are retirees and he lives quietly in his small town where watching the trains, particularly Old Bess, is the highlight of his week. What little social interaction he has comes for trainspotting chat rooms and his sexual life is relegated to using his hand while watching porn late at night. That is it until Bess gets a new driver and Sam begins to see more than just trains to keep him fascinated.

Read Sammy's review in its entirety [here](#).

Ann says

I loved this completely charming story and it was refreshing to read a story that really focused on the growing relationship between the MC's without a ton of angst or misunderstandings. I geeked out over the geekery and enjoyed every word.

Oh this story. I loved it so. Every last word. The fan boy, the bad boy, the small town life and its characters, and of course, Old Bess, the steam train, I loved ALL the things. If you embrace any bit of vintage geekery in your life, you will enjoy this story immensely.

Sam is incredibly charming even though he's living a stagnant life. He's inherited his elderly uncle's home, his friends and basically his whole life. Problem is, he's a very young man and his prospects for a life and love of his own are pretty slim. He spends his time train-spotting, hanging out in online train forums, logging all things train-y in his notebooks and spreadsheets, tending to his uncle's garden, and working his dead end retail job. He's happy, because that's just who he is, but there's no denying he's lonely.

Then he sees Ryan, the engineer of Old Bess, Sam's greatest love. Ryan is highly skilled at his job, but he's got the air of a bad boy about him (with good reason) that totally intimidates Sam so he admires from a distance both Ryan and Old Bess alike. They finally have their meet-cute and damn if it isn't cute. And steamy. I loved these two together and I think that was my favorite thing about the whole story. The evolution of their relationship was such a refreshing read. It wasn't overly angst, there weren't a bunch of outside forces affecting them, they were just total opposites getting to know, and more importantly, getting to appreciate one another. They started out just 'having fun' but they didn't fight the progression of the relationship just to be stubborn dicks like so many characters do and I loved that.

The story did have its twists that affected their lives though, and the bit of mystery gave the story an edge. Sam's misguided and somewhat naïve attempts to help Ryan gave a needed blast of reality that sucked to read because I was busy being in love with their relationship and I didn't want anything to go sideways, but the bit of pain worked to give them perspective and kept them from being *too good*. I really liked how the author worked it all out in the end. It wasn't too easy, there was a chance for Sam to be the hero he was meant to be and all the loose ends were tied up.

I highlighted so many quotes while I was reading because I just really enjoyed the author's writing style and the way she could sum up emotions in one sentence. The story was really well told and the conversations between characters were so easy to read. It was funny, the characters were charming and I am looking forward to reading more of the author's words.

namericanwordcat says

3.5 Stars.

I should admit right up front, I like the nerdy hero Sam in this book, love trains. I am not a trainspotter like Sam but I like them enough to go to every train museum I see and take long and short train trips whenever I can.

So, this book had me at trains. lol

The old steam train and Sam are wonderful in this book. I love me a nerdy shy hero. Ryan is a lot more selfish and unkind than I think Sam deserves but it he grows.

There is a plot afoot which adds drama to the story but I would have been content with Ryan growing much more in his character and Sam valuing himself more but all in all a fun love story.

Kade Boehme says

SUCH a charming book. Sweet and light with a nerdy virgin and a reformed bad boy. I SO enjoyed this. Ryan could be a dick, "should be insufferable, but not" as Sam put it. But SAM. OMG Sam was the true shining star here. I just wanted to smish him and love him (and grope him). Such an endearing character, prob one of my fave innocent-nerdy-twenty-five-year-old virgins ever. Look forward to more by this author.

Vanessa theJeepDiva says

I honestly didn't know there was a hobby of trainspotting. I leave a book happy when I have learned something new. Sam loves to spend his time doing just that. He spends the remainder of his time talking to his online friends about what he has seen and sharing his train stories with people that share the same love of trains that he has. All of Sam's friends are online. He is a loner. The people he has in his life are his co workers, the leftover friends of his deceased uncle's. All that changes when Ryan notices that the geeky trainspotter isn't sporting the body of the geeky boy he believed him to be.

The new life that Ryan is trying to settle into isn't the one he has always been used to. His clubbing and sexxing days are over. No more partying all night and having numerous regular hook ups. For the most part Ryan is okay with all of that. He finally has a job he loves. He's getting settled into his new home in a new town. Finding Sam as someone interesting to pass his time with is certainly an added bonus.

Sam is one of those characters that is impossible not to just love. His exuberance alone makes *Blowing Off Steam* worth reading. The opposites attract thing that Ryan and Sam have going keeps the sexy going. The more Ryan discovers about Sam has the effect of Ryan discovering more about himself. Everything fell into place in a way that made this book really work. Even the conflict that threatens Ryan's job, thus him sticking around with Sam made went with all of the train geekery that filled this read. I'm definitely going to have to read more books from Joy Lynn Fielding.

Veronica of V's Reads says

Sam is a small-town man, living alone in his late great-uncle's home in Cardyle. He has always been awkward and not had many friends--growing up a scrawny gay orphan who loves trains did not engender many personal friendships, though he is very well-known in the local and online trainspotting community. Not long ago, Sam spotted something else of interest: Ryan Saunders, the new driver of Old Bess, the prized steam locomotive of Cardyle.

Ryan Saunders has been a flamboyant playboy most of his life. He's run his wealthy father ragged, and is now under strict orders to not seek any contact or else his monthly allowance will be cut off. This isn't ideal when he new boss insists Ryan speak to his father for a large endowment to Old Bess's Trust--or else Ryan can just move on to another job.

Ryan is frustrated over his situation, and takes solace in picking up the geeky but earnest Sam one night after work. Sam is an exuberant, if completely inexperienced lover, and this has a peculiar effect on jaded Ryan. They begin to discuss Ryan's trouble at work, and Sam is outraged. His attempt to fix the situation pulls up some really disastrous information, the kind that puts more than Ryan's job security on the line. I really enjoyed the tension here--I didn't know how or what form the attacks would come, but I was sure that Ryan, and perhaps Sam, was in life-threatening danger which really added a whole different dimension to the story.

What I expected would be a wrongful termination suit, or perhaps a botched blackmail scheme, turned out some much more harrowing! I loved it.

I also loved the tenderness that developed between Ryan and Sam. It was entirely sweet, and funny, too. Poor Sam and his pet garden spider! Ryan certainly had no love for Mabel/Shelob. He did, however, have love for Sam, so I guess all was as it should be. As a Yankee, I swoon for British men, and the manner in which they treat themselves. From disparaging each others' tea strength to the side-eyes they gave over train configuration, I adored every moment of Sam and Ryan together.

This book has a crazy-good amount of sexytimes, though not all of it is described in gritty detail. The scenes were often emotionally present, and that was charming, and sexy, too. As a mother of boys, I get the train fascination and I really enjoyed the trainy details. It was heartwarming to see such a stodgy experience, trainspotting and steam locomotives, brought into contemporary life. And, really, I can't help loving when a geeky guy lands a sexy keeper. Both Ryan and Sam are essentially alone in the world, and they find such companionship with each other I was rooting for them all the way. I received a review copy of this book via NetGalley.

Jennifer?Pher? says

I know way more about trainspotting than I ever, ever thought possible but I do not care. I just really enjoyed this story. There was just something about it that had me turning the pages just to see what would be next for both of these boys. It was just so sweet and happy with just enough drama to keep me completely invested. I really enjoyed it and am so glad that I took the chance even though there were *trains*.
