



Heat Exchange

Shannon Stacey

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Lydia Kincaid's shipping back to Boston, but she's not happy about it. She left to get away from the firefighting community—her father was a firefighter, her brother's a firefighter and, more important, her ex is a firefighter. But family is number one, and her father needs her help running the pub he bought when he retired. Soon, Lydia finds it hard to resist the familiar comfort and routine, and even harder to resist her brother's handsome friend Aidan.

Aidan Hunt is a firefighter because of the Kincaid family. He's had the hots for Lydia for years, but if ever a woman was off-limits to him, it's her. Aside from being his mentor's daughter, she's his best friend's sister. The ex-wife of a fellow firefighter. But his plan to play it cool until she leaves town again fails, and soon he and Lydia have crossed a line they can't uncross.

As Aidan and Lydia's flirtation turns into something more serious, Lydia knows she should be planning her escape. Being a firefighter's wife was the hardest thing she's ever done, and she doesn't know if she has the strength to do it again. Aidan can't imagine walking away from Boston Fire—even for Lydia. The job and the brotherhood are his life; but if he wants Lydia in it, he'll have to decide who's first in his heart.

Heat Exchange Details

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Author : Shannon Stacey

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From Reader Review Heat Exchange for online ebook

WhiskeyintheJar/Kyraryker says

3.5 stars

Jennifer says

Heat Exchange is the first installment in Shannon Stacey's adult contemporary/fireman romance series titled: Boston Fire. I love, love, love Shannon Stacey!!! Heat Exchange was my first "fireman" book, but seeing one of my favorite authors jumping on the bandwagon of fireman-themed romances had me super excited to read it.

My thoughts: Heat Exchange felt like the football-themed romances I have read in the past when the football player has a forbidden romance with the coach's daughter. I've read this theme over and over to the point that I now pass on football themes altogether. This storyline felt the same except minus the football player/coach's daughter dynamic and add in fireman/fireman partner's sister - You see, there's a brotherhood code among these firefighters which includes no dating each others' sisters. **However**, there *were* some original elements I'd like to note. The heroine is older than the hero which was a nice change. There were some fun texting moments which were necessary due to their secret romance (loved the texting!). And there's a family history of firefighting that adds some complexity to the characters and their choices. With that complexity though we get a heroine who is burnt out from the stress of loving men in this profession and this causes some control issues on her end and pretty extreme bitterness in my opinion. I personally did not find the heroine likable but Ms. Stacey wrote her in a way that at least allowed me to recognize the source of her issues.

Overall, I liked Heat Exchange. I'm undecided about continuing the series but I would absolutely recommend Shannon Stacey to every adult reader who enjoys the romance genre. Check her out!!

My favorite quote:

"It won't just work out. You have to work at working it out."

Note: The Boston Fire series includes the following installments as of May 2016:

- #1-Heat Exchange
- #2-Controlled Burn
- #3-Fully Ignited

3/6/16:

Love Shannon Stacey!!!!

2/11/16:

On sale for \$.99 on Amazon (USA)

Claire Robinson says

3 - "I sound like a self-centred bitch." Stars!

Heat Exchange is the first book I have read by Shannon Stacey, although not totally in love with it, I would still recommend it. My reasons for disliking the story were more due to the author's characterization of Lydia Kincaid, than my actual dislike of the writing and storyline, in those areas everything was really enjoyable. I just really struggled with Lydia's judgemental and somewhat selfish attitude.

I think my main issue was the fact that she has returned to Boston after a few years absence to cover in her families bar while her sister sorts her life out, and rather than settle in, take stock and see how the land lies with everyone, she just barrels in pushing her ideals and opinions on anyone and everyone who would listen.

"You don't fish in the stations pond."

However, when her relationship with Aidan becomes common knowledge, she then tells everyone to mind their own business when it comes to them giving their opinions of her life and perceived failings.

"Brotherhood first. Everybody else gets what's left."

As I said, my rating on the book is purely because of Lydia and her personality, everything else was pretty stellar, and I will definitely be looking to read the second book in the *Boston Fire* series; *Controlled Burn*, which is due for release this November.

ARC generously provided via Netgalley, in exchange for the above honest review.

Jennifer says

ARC received for review

Great start to a series. There was a little angst plus lots of hot fireman. Loved Aidan and the rest of Engine 59. I can't wait to see who falls next. Plus there's a the bonus romance line of Lydia's sister, Ashley, and her reconciliation with her fireman husband.

Alp says

This was exactly my kind of book!

Shannon Stacey delivers another winner with *Heat Exchange*. It had everything I want in my contemporary romance read.

Sweet romance. Check.

Forbidden love/relationship. Check.

Hot and irresistible firefighter hero. Check.

Adorable heroine. Check.

Older woman/Younger man romance. Oh yeah, check!

See? I couldn't ask for more! I loved everything about this book, from an engaging storyline to true-to-life characters, and to the wonderful ending. I was so engrossed in the story and enjoyed every page of it.

Lydia Kincaid left her hometown, family, and friends, to start her new life in Concord, New Hampshire. She got tired of the firefighting community. Her father is a retired firefighter. Her younger brother is a firefighter. Her brother-in-law is a firefighter. Moreover, her cheating ex-husband is a firefighter, too.

Aidan Hunt is the best friend of Lydia's younger brother. He became the firefighter because of the Kincaid family. Lydia's father, considered him as his own son, so that made Lydia off-limits to him. He knew he should stop fancying his best friend's sister but when she came back to Boston to help running the family's pub temporarily, he couldn't think about anything but her.

Both Aidan and Lydia didn't expect the strong attraction between them. They knew it was wrong, yet they still desperately wanted each other, so much so that they couldn't resist their desires anymore. They agreed to keep their relationship a secret. Scotty is more like brother than friend to Aidan so he felt so bad lying to his best friend.

As they spent more time together, Aidan found himself wanted to have a serious future with her. But Lydia, on the other hand, tried to keep distance between them. She had sworn to herself that she would never again be a firefighter's wife. But it was too late—she already fell in love with him.

He stood when she did and held her hand while they walked to his truck. It was sweet, and she loved that he opened her door for her. And she knew this wasn't a show for their so-called first date, either. Aiden was always polite and over the years, she'd seen him hold the door or pull out chairs for women all the time at the bar, whether they were with him or not. She liked that about him.

Hell, she liked a lot of things about him.

Finally, when their secret wasn't a secret anymore, Aidan felt like he lost everything. Lydia knew that his job and the brotherhood were his life but she couldn't go down the same old path. So, she had to walk away from him though it broke her heart into pieces. And if Aidan didn't want to lose her, he would have to decide between the job he loved and the woman he couldn't live without.

"You are the most important thing in the whole world to me. I choose you, Lydia. It will never matter what the choice is. It won't matter who or what or why, I will always choose you."

By the way, I'm so happy I picked up this book. I loved it! It's really worth a try. This was a great read, indeed!

Sunny says

ARC Review

I'm a sucker for stories about first responders. I love their heroic nature, their courage and self-sacrifice. But also know that all that comes at a cost to both the first responder and the people they love. Shannon Stacey does a great job highlighting this struggle in this first book of her Boston Fire series.

I really enjoyed this contemporary romance. In a cohesive manner, *Heat Exchange* features a poignant theme faced by many families – taking a secondary priority to the needs of the job. Being a first responder can be all-consuming. This is especially so with firefighters who spend periods of time living with one another. They rely on each other for their lives and forge a strong family bond that sometimes supersedes their relationships with their actual family members. One can understand how a family member can feel like he or she comes in second place to the firefighting family. This painful reality is the central theme in the narrative.

Lydia Kincaid has been surrounded by the fire service all her life. Between her father, brother and her ex-husband, she is used to coming in second place in their lives. That is why she swore off firefighters and left Boston. But she reluctantly returns when her sister, Ashley, begs her to come back to help her in Ashley's time of need. Being a dutiful sister, Lydia returns and lands straight in the middle of Aiden Hunt's affections.

Aiden grew up around Lydia's family. Aiden's best friend is Lydia's brother. They currently work together at the same fire station. Despite the turmoil their relationship is sure to create, they start a torrid affair that burns right through the pages of the book. However, based on Lydia's history, she knows the cost of being in a relationship with a firefighter and she is unwilling to be second fiddle to the job, and so she holds herself back in the relationship. It is only when Aiden proves that he loves her more than the job does the couple get their HEA.

The conflict is made even more complicated by the colorful characters in their lives: Lydia's dad and Aiden's mentor, Lydia's brother and Aiden's best friend, Lydia's sister and the memories of Lydia's ex-husband. It's all a family affair. There is also a secondary story featuring Lydia's sister, Ashley and her husband Danny that I found endearing as well. Ashley and Danny have a difficult relationship fraught with miscommunication and complacency. This brought a nice additional element to the family conflict.

IN A NUTSHELL:

This is just the kind of romance you want featuring a firefighting family.

Originally posted at Love Affair with an e-Reader

Thank you to the author, publisher, and Netgalley for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

Ally says

I'm not the right target market for this particular series. Too many lies, too much terrible communication and

to many expectations. The characters in this book were flat out arseholes. Maybe I'm having one of those need to suspend reality moments and remember this is fiction, but my answer to that is "suck it!" If I'm wrong, I'm happily wrong in saying this book sucked like vacuum. Ugh.

Lydia, our fair heroine had unrealistic ideas and a big mouth which needs some serious washing with a nice floral based soap. Flat out biotch. Oh and she lies like a rug.

We'll hang on, or hero is a big old liar too. Hey I know, let's base our relationship on a healthy foundation of lies. Ohhhh and toss in some misogyny from our friends and we've got a great, not, story here.

And lest we forget, the secondary character's and their love story takes center stage away from the primary couple. In fact, I care way more about them than the h/ h.

So there you have it. I'm fairly certain this is a case of its me and not the author. This is not the kinda story I'm down for pretty much every.

Jess says

2.5/5, kind of meh and ended up skimming toward the end.

Denisa says

Well, this was a cute one.

It was cute and fast-paced, it didn't get boring and the characters were nice. The chemistry wasn't too present but it was good enough for me. It's everything you'd expect from a romance novel, from beginning to end. So yeah, it's cute and worth trying, especially if you have a few hours to spare and not in the mood for anything too complicated.

Chris C - A Midlife Wife says

I picked this book up from a referral off of another another book I was looking at. I have read another series regarding hot firemen but has been a while, so it was kind of like a perfect book for me this week. I was in the mood for some hot guys!

I've not had the pleasure of reading anything by this author before so I was excited to have a new author to read. I enjoyed the story premise and the heat was off the charts. I was a little annoyed with the female lead, Lydia, but her steamy fireman, Aiden, had me all worked up. He is so sweet, caring, loving, and would do pretty much anything for her.

As this book is part of the series, it is definitely one series I'm going to check out the rest of the books. There are plenty of firemen to go around and I really enjoyed the steamy read!

Lover of Romance says

This review was originally posted on Addicted To Romance

Summary

When Lydia's sister Ashley, is having marriage problems and asks that Lydia comes home for a little while to help out, Lydia reluctantly comes. Lydia isn't quite ready to return home yet, but she will do anything for her sister no matter how uncomfortable it makes her. When she comes home, she sees that Ashley is really struggling, and takes over her job at their fathers pub and she runs into Aiden Hunt. Lydia has known Aiden for a long while, but never really was interested in him until now. The exchanges between Lydia and Aiden are fiery hot, but their relationship is a bit forbidden. Its unwritten code not to trespass over ones best friends sister or the daughter of a man that is like a second father to him. But Aiden knows what he has with Lydia is worth the risk even if he hates himself to lying to his closest friend. But before they can find something truly good together, Aiden has to figure out a way to prove to Lydia they are worth the risk.

The Hero

Aiden Hunt, is a firefighter for the Boston Fire Dept. He loves his work and it is what makes him who he is. Aiden when he was a kid, was involved in an accident, where he was able to take command of a situation, and the firefighters there (Lydia's father) led him to be able to fulfill his destiny....to be in command of a situation and to save lives and do a dang good job of it. Aiden is the type of firefighters....you know every firefighter should be. He found his calling for it when he was pretty young, but he was driven and found a job that makes him who he is. Aiden has issues with his family especially his father who tends to be very emotionally abusive. But Aiden found a second family, in the Kincaids. What I adored about Aiden is how truly good he is....such a remarkable human being. **He is honest and true to the core.** We see how keeping his relationship to Lydia a secret is killing him inside and boy I loved that about him. And the willingness he goes to for the woman he loves. He is super delectable!!

The Heroine

Lydia Kincaid, left Boston to get away from the fire fighter community. She had to take over a fire fighter's household after her mother passed away from cancer. She had to live with the mental and emotional toll it took on her every time her father or her brother were on a rescue op and never knew anything for hours. But the worst of it for her, was her past marriage to a firefighter. She tried it, her ex ended up being horrible. Lydia left to get away from it all because it caused her too much pain for her to deal with. We see the way that Lydia struggled entering another relationship with a firefighter. Because she knows the risks more than anyone and is unsure if she can live the life again. But soon Lydia discovers a hidden strength she didn't know she had. Lydia is one of those heroines who is toughest on the inside. She has issues with her father and brother though. She isn't afraid to say what she thinks especially if they disagree (which they do and often). But we see why she takes a certain stand against them, because in her mind she and her sister could never compete with the "brotherhood of firefighters". To her, her father and brother always put their family second. So we see that she has some issues to face but thankfully Aiden is up for the challenge.

Plot and Story Line

In Heat Exchange, we see a **sexy and emotionally powerfully love story** come into play here. Now I have a weakness for sexy firefighters....I mean what woman doesn't??!! And man when I saw this cover at the library, I grabbed it up. I don't even remember glancing at the blurb. hehe All I know was one sexy male on cover and it dealt with a firefighter---no resistance on my part hehe. But also I have never read this author, and I really wanted to give her a chance. And I did and I fell in love with her. I was worried, not sure if I would like her style of writing, but boy I really liked it. I love how involved I got in the story. This couple is simply awesome and from the beginning I was eager to see how it would play out. But we also get a small side romance with the sister Ashley and her husband Danny. These two are having marital problems, because

Danny is a quiet man and doesn't exactly say "I Love You" often or hardly ever....he is more of a show and tell guy but super quiet and reserved. But don't worry....they eventually find their HEA. I liked seeing their story, because it was nice seeing how a married couple works through serious issues.

The story between Aiden and Lydia is quite HOT!! Oh boy....do these two create some fireworks here. But honestly....on a emotional level they hit the spot perfectly for me. I love a forbidden romance, and the whole man trespassing on his best friends sister trope always works for me. I guess because, he has close ties to the family originally. Aiden and Lydia were quite a remarkable couple and I loved them together. There were moments this story just about broke me though, especially with Lydia and her issues with the "brotherhood". You definitely could see why she has issues with firefighters, especially with how her father and brother are. Especially her brother....boy he needs to have some sense knocked into him. I know he has a book....so maybe I will get to see him humbled a bit. hehe

Quite frankly....this story rocks and anyone that love a firefighter romance **must read it!!** YOU GO SHANNON STACEY!!

The Cover

HOT!!!!SEXY!!! DROOLWORTHY!!! THAT IS ALL FOLKS!

Overall View

Heat Exchange is a **stimulating and fiery hot romance** that I couldn't get enough of. Shannon Stacey writes remarkable contemporary romance and I was defintiely hooked on Heat Exchange. It had a vibrancy feel, a truly emotional read with great sensuality and in depth characters!! **A DANG SWEET ROMANCE!!**

[foogallery id="19766"]

Jonetta says

Originally posted on The Book Nympho

Lydia Kincaid returns to Boston when her sister's marriage starts to fall apart. It's a tough decision since she left to establish her independence from her family of firefighters following her divorce from a man in the same line of business. So it came as a huge surprise to her when her younger brother, Scotty, enters the family bar with his best friend and fellow fire fighter, Aidan Hunt, and she feels the urge to take a second look.

I loved all of the conflicts in this story. First, Aidan is younger than Lydia and her image of him was as her kid brother's friend. He had the hurdle of getting her to see him differently. Then there's the issue of him being not only Scotty's best friend but his firefighting partner. That whole "brotherhood code" includes a ban on "touching" sisters. Lastly, Lydia's struggles with her father lay beneath all of her issues. Lydia and Aidan had to have very strong feelings for each other to risk all of their other relationships in being together.

While Lydia's strong personality could be a bit much at times, I admired her passion and commitment to

family in spite of their very real issues. Aidan was hard not to like with his easy manner and sweet nature. I also liked how their romance developed in the midst of subterfuge and secrecy. The conflicts were realistic, thorny and not easily resolved, making this a more substantive read, especially with an interesting cast of secondary characters. What a great start to the series!

(I received an ARC from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review)

Lydia

Aidan

Michelle [Helen Geek] says

12/05/2015 --

Pretty simple read, but really perfect for my mood. I think I have a few other Shannon Stacey books on my Nook or Kindle, but never read one before. I'd heard she was a pretty decent read, and I'd have to agree. I enjoyed this one. I got it for a dollar on sale. I purchased the next in the series and even pre-ordered the one after that -- that's how much I enjoyed it. She creates really believable characters in an everyday setting. Little angst [thank the good lord .. so sick of the OVER THE TOP angst writers write that make my head hurt]. I'm excited to read more by this author. 4 Stars.

Happy Reading!

Lindsay says

3.5 stars

Mandi Schreiner says

Lydia escaped Boston and her overbearing firefighting family and finally feels like she has a life of her own. Even though she doesn't love being a waitress, she has an apartment and her own parking space. But when she gets a call from her sister Ashley, who tells her she has separated from her husband, she knows she is needed at home. Ashley works at the family owned bar, but knows if she goes into work the entire town will come in and ask her why she has left her husband, so she begs Lydia to come back and work for a little bit.

Aidan is Lydia's younger brother's best friend. A firefighter (as is Lydia's brother and Ashley's husband – are you keeping up??) Aidan is a good-guy hero. Not only because he saves lives, but he is just a decent dude. He has the hots for Lydia, but Lydia's ex-husband was a firefighter and besides the marriage not working out, Lydia vowed to never love a firefighter again because of the constant worry when they are at work. But with Lydia back home, and Aidan showing up, it's hard for her to keep that promise.

The first in a new series, Shannon Stacy sets up the family and the town well. I liked the firefighter atmosphere. I liked Aidan at work with his good buddies, not only in action but sitting around the firehouse with good banter. Aidan's firefighter co-workers are as close to him as brothers – it was very good camaraderie. But there were also things that didn't work for me.

Aidan and Lydia have nice chemistry, but I felt like all that happens is they work up to having sex. And while the sex scenes were nice and hot, I wanted more actual romance and courtship between them. The actual romance fell a little flat for me. Part of the reason it falls flat and my other frustration with this book, is Lydia's sister. Ashley and Danny (her husband) separate at the beginning of this book, and their separation and drama of trying to get back together completely overshadows Aidan and Lydia. It takes away so much page time that could have been spent with our main couple. I assumed it was all a set-up for Ashley and Danny to get their own book next – and I enjoy books about already established couples who have lost their way. But instead, it kind of gets resolved in this one. There was just too much going on with Ashley and Danny and not enough with Lydia and Aidan.

It was a nice read, but lacking a little too.

Grade: C+
