



Heaven's Fire

Sandra Balzo

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"Heaven's Fire" is how Pasquale Firenze, patriarch of the family-owned Firenze Fireworks and a natural-born showman, describes his painting of the night sky with light, color, and noise.

Wendy "Jake" Jacobus appreciates the man's artistry, but as the television producer covering Firenze's current display at the Lake Days festival, she has more practical considerations. Practical, that is, until Pasquale is killed--live on-camera--by an explosion, and Jake is hurled into a tangled web of emotions triggered by her job, her legacy as a cancer survivor, and her growing attraction to Simon Aamot, the federal agent assigned to the investigation.

Aamot has problems as well, but when the two are forced together by the tragedy, the man unable to let go of his past and the woman afraid to trust her future race to prevent another catastrophic explosion--this one at the county's Fourth of July celebration.

Heaven's Fire Details

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From Reader Review Heaven's Fire for online ebook

Dark Haven says

I'm not a newbie to the writings of Sandra Balzo. I've read her award winning short stories and the first book in her Maggie Thorsen series. In full disclosure, Ms. Balzo was kind enough to send me a copy of her latest e-book when I expressed an interest in reading it. "Heaven's Fire" didn't disappoint me. The story starts off with a bang, literally, and the momentum kept building as I tried to determine the villain responsible for the death of a beloved patriarch at a fireworks demonstration. [If you want to know about making fireworks, the A to Z is in this story. Ms. Balzo really did her research and used it to great advantage.]

I consider myself a mystery and criminal buff. I'm a lover of all the NCIS and CSI series. If I don't get my fix of Hawaii 5-0, I'm a little bummed. I eagerly scan Comcast's On Demand for my favorite 1940s and 50s movies of The Thin Man, Ms. Marple and Sherlock Holmes. I know my mysteries and take notes when I read to keep track of the clues uncovered by the good guys. But in this story, I didn't figure out the culprit until the characters did. That alone gives Ms. Balzo a couple of bright lights on my blog. What gives her writing even more lights, is her well developed but flawed characters. I especially liked Wendy 'Jake' Jacobus, former TV anchor, now a behind the scenes news producer. She's a woman with a secret that once told initially shocked me, but then had me thinking 'Brava' Ms. Balzo.

Then there is Simon Aamot, ATF investigator, and the romantic interest for 'Jake' who is an equally appealing character with a less than perfect record with the ladies. Tragedy brings the two together as investigator and witness but it's the sparks between them that won't allow them to stay away from the other. The two play off each other very well. And though their romantic and sexual entanglement happens early in the story; considering their personal histories it works. On my blog I gave this a 4.5. I gave it a 5 here because I just couldn't give it a 4, it was that good.

For the complete review go to: www.darkhavenbookreviews.com

DHM

Neil Plakcy says

I don't normally like books with multiple narrators-- but I'll make an exception for Heaven's Fire, because I think Sandra Balzo did a terrific job of managing them. I was fascinated by the stuff about how fireworks were made, and I think the characters, pace and plotting here were all terrific. Overall, a great read!

Patricia says

Wendy "Jake" Jacobus, a TV producer for TV8 looked on in horror as she monitored the cameras at Lake Days Fireworks in Liberty, Wisconsin. Firenze Fireworks is in charge of the display and the misfire that Jake just witnessed has taken the life of Pasquale Firenze, head of the company. Not only is Pasquale killed but his son-in-law Ray Guido is washed off the barge by the wash of water created by the explosion. There is no sign of Ray's body.

Simon Aamont is an investigator with ATF and an expert on fireworks. Simon had previously investigated an accident involving the Firenze Fireworks company a few years ago. Simon was also personally acquainted with the family.

Simon and Jake hit it off and Simon takes Jake to meet the Firenze family. The family is a close-knit one and

a group that openly show their love for each other but Simon feels something is amiss. He can't figure out if there is a problem from outside influences such as business rivals or from a problem within the family.

Jake is also disturbed after she finds out that one of the camera men at TV8 is making duplicate copies of tapes to be sold on the internet.

The author has certainly done her homework regarding the manufacture and use of fireworks. The book also shows that the author has some inside knowledge of workings in a TV studio.

Simon is doing his utmost to get to the bottom of what happened to cause the misfiring of the fireworks. Jake does everything to help him but soon the two of them are facing a dangerous situation that threatens their own lives.

If you are a reader that enjoys a fast-paced story with lots of twists and turns this book is for you.

April says

RATING: 4.5)HEAVEN'S FIRE by Sandra Balzo is an exciting mystery/suspense set in present day Lake Michigan. It is written with depth and details. It is a story that will have your heart pumping from the beginning to the end. It has romance,deceptions,murder,firework industry,television industry,extended families,multigenerational family,ATF,mystery and suspense. Simon,an ATF investigator and Wendy "Jake",a television news producer come together not only do their own fireworks happen but sparks of a different kind. As they try to figure out what happened on that fateful night with the fireworks demonstration causing someones death. This is a fast paced,action packed story. You will never look at fireworks quiet the same again,after reading this. This author has done her research and you can tell by this story. Fireworks,death and romance what an exciting combination. A must read. This book was received for the purpose of review from the author and details can be found at Amazon and My Book Addiction and More.

Rebecca says

Far better quality than most freebies I've downloaded. Really enjoyed it and didn't feel compelled to highlight much of anything for errors!

Karen says

I enjoyed this look into tv production and learned a lot about fireworks.

T.H. says

Amazon freebie 4/27

Sandie says

Good mystery suspense read. Enjoyed reading the finer details about fireworks and the family unit, overall a nice read.
