



Fire on the Ice

Tamsen Parker

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Welcome to the Snow and Ice Games where competition is not the only thing that is heating up! The fourth book in bestselling Tamsen Parker's romance series continues with two female skaters from opposite sides of the rink.

Blaze Bellamy is the bad girl of the short track speed skating world. Looking like a roller derby bruiser when she's not in her Team USA uniform, she's an unlikely American heroine. She's got a punk attitude to match her provocative dress and her dyed hair, and she's determined to get onto the front pages of the papers regardless of how she has to do it.

Maisy Harper is the workhorse of the Canadian women's figure skating team. Serious, modest, and above all, polite, Maisy would prefer to win her victory on the ice rather than in the press, and is exasperated by Blaze's antics. When she's not lusting after her anyway. After they both failed to make the medal podium at the last Snow and Ice Games, they drowned themselves in gin—and each other.

Despite their hookup being drunken, they both harbor fond memories of their night together and are keen for a repeat. But they've got different ways of going about getting what they want, and Blaze's willingness to go to any lengths for the spotlight could ruin any chance she has with Maisy.

Fire on the Ice Details

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From Reader Review Fire on the Ice for online ebook

Briar's Reviews says

Maisy and Blaze are the newest feature in the SIG, and these two ladies will leave you breathless!

Maisy is a figure skater and Blaze is a speed skater. The two get hot and heavy early on in this book and already have a relationship of sorts going on. It's a nice change from strangers or friends to lovers, to be honest. But if you were thinking these would be soft, vanilla sex scenes - you'd be wrong! Tamsen is shockingly amazing at writing these scenes that they will make you blush (so maybe don't read them in public...?). I think this has to be the "hottest" book of the series so far, so be warned!

The "parents don't like that I'm gay" was something new from Tamsen, but I think it worked well. There needed to be some conflict in this book, and it fit perfectly! I didn't totally enjoy the opposites attract portion of this book, but it fits well enough within this story.

These characters do grow within this story, and I have give me praise to Tamsen for doing such. Having characters that try to change and grow was a lovely addition to tie this book in together. It really shows how much Tamsen is growing as an author - she keeps implementing new and better plot points in her books. Personally, I didn't like the personalities of the main characters (it's a personal problem, to be honest. They remind me of people I know, and you know how that is...). I think in relation to the story, they have the best personality for the scenario, but it just didn't bode with me. It's nothing against this story (because it's a great story, honestly, READ IT).

If anything, I would have liked a little more plot in this story. I found this to be a really heavy romance compared to a plot focused one. This can be great for some readers, but for others it might not work. Keep that in mind if you're going to read it - don't expect a crazy, complicated plot.

This might be my least favourite SIG novel (but they are all fighting for top spot, so it's a tight race for first place) if I had to place them in a list. It's still a fantastic book, I just liked the others more (I related more to the characters from the other books on a personal level).

Overall, I would definitely recommend this story to anyone looking for romance, F/F, or sports romance books. It's still top tier! Comparing them to Tamsen's other books (based on my own personal opinion) it's one of the best, just not MY favourite. It's definitely one of her best.

Four out of five stars.

Side Note: Who would have thought Olympics erotica would be a category of books? It's probably one of the few I never considered until Tamsen actually wrote these books.

I received a copy of this book courtesy of Tamsen Parker and Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Sabrina says

When I saw there was a traditionally published F/F book coming out I instantly jumped on it. This is a genre

that does not have enough books out there so I was excited to read it. Sadly, for me, the book didn't keep me at that excitement level.

There was just way too much sex in this book, which is not something I would normally complain about but in this book it seemed like there was nothing but sex. And for me those scenes were very robotic and I didn't enjoy them very much.

There really wasn't enough of a story to keep my attention. I wanted to get to know the characters more than I did, especially Maisy since we got little hints of her life outside of the bedroom yet never any more than that. I just never felt like I actually knew these characters and it made seeing them as a couple hard.

Overall, I think I'll still give this author another try since I did like the premise of this story and it had some good parts. Even though this wasn't a winner for me I would still recommend it for anyone that's looking for a fast F/F story.

ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.

rin says

this is a mess

so this book is a two povs alternating about blaze (bisexual, polyam) and maisy (lesbian) who are two athletes competing in snow & ice games which are basically olympics. so they met once and had a spark and now they meet again and have sex. and have sex. and have sex. literally 11 chapters of this book is porn. like porn with a little plot. i dont mind sex in general but honestly, it was too much for me.

but this is not the biggest problem of this book.

maisy specifically asked blaze not to pull her into her games. what does blaze do? she outs maisy before the whole world because she [blaze] needs a scandal and "maisya doesn't know what's good for her career". this is a bad conflict, imo. outing people without their consent is an absolute no-no and a shitty thing to do and it wasn't even explored here properly.

also i absolutely didn't like the writing, it was very dry and both heroines sounded absolutely the same, no distinction whatsoever.

1.5 stars.

I've received the arc from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own.

Samantha Luce says

Rather than a romance this one is better classified as erotica. If you go into it looking for hot and steamy sex with some ice skating thrown in the mix then you'll be a happy camper. The sex starts pretty much right away, There's no build up and not a lot of romance, but there is plenty of scintillating sex. Whether or not you like this book depends on what you're looking for. Erotica for the win. Romance-meh, not so much. As an erotica book I'd go as high as a 3.5 star rating. as pure f/f romance it's more like a 2.5. Not a bad read though, especially if you enjoy a lot of lesbian sex scenes.

Net Galley ARC received for an unbiased review.

Rosi says

Reading the summary of this book is the best way you will get to know better the two protagonists. The fast-track American skater, Blaze, with her careless way of seeing her life including her sexuality and the Canadian figure skater, Maisy, repressed by her family and her education, but uninhibited in her sexual relations.

Once you start reading, the story becomes a succession of sexual encounters, some more imaginative than others, but generally quite interesting.

Until the middle of the book, the dialogues are scarce and little relevant, predominating the sensations that are explained to us by the two protagonists in an alternative way, since the story is explained in the first person, by the two main characters.

But from half of the book towards the end, the story stops being a basically erotic one to become a more traditional romance, with the intervention of other characters, although not many more. Then also appear moments of the sport competition, a little forgotten in the first part of the book.

In summary, this book has been more interesting than at first I thought it would be.

Tara says

Maisy and Blaze's chemistry crackles from their first meeting in the bar, and it only gets better and better. Although Blaze's larger than life personality would make her an obvious choice as the dominant in the bedroom, it's actually Maisy who controls many of their encounters, garnering compliance from Blaze that it's hard to imagine her giving to anyone other than Maisy. And while Maisy has dated or slept with far fewer people than Blaze, she also never judges Blaze for her sexual history or for being polyamorous. Between Blaze's polyamory and bisexuality, and Maisy's ice queen persona—which can be, and is by some in the story, interpreted as prudishness—there were plenty of opportunities for sex negativity or shaming. Thankfully they never happened, and it was clear that Tamsen Parker set out to deliver a romance between women that celebrates sex—and does it ever! Also, because Blaze and Maisy are always true to themselves while still honoring each other, their happily ever after is just perfect for them, even if it may not be what regular romance readers are used to seeing.

Full review: <http://www.curvemag.com/Reviews/Revie...>

Lex Kent says

2.5 Stars. I always appreciate a new author trying to write lesfic, but this just didn't work for me. I had such trouble reading this book. Read the book, put it down. Read more of the book, put it right back down. It took me 3 days to get through a book that should have taken only a few hours.

When I saw the premise of this book I was so excited to read it. A figure skater and a short track speed skater sounded great to me. With the Olympics (I love the Olympics) starting next month, what a perfect time to

read a winter sports romance. Actually the sports part of this book I enjoyed, it's the rest of it that didn't work for me.

The first half of this book is just about sex. It was actually bordering on being porn instead of erotica to me. I draw the difference as erotica being really hot sex scenes with two people that are in love, have feelings for each other, or at least there is some storyline involved. The first half of this book was just sex scenes with two people that I could not even tell if they even liked each other. Not only that, but the internal thoughts of the characters were so crude, I felt like I was reading about two 16 year-old boys. I'm no prude and I can have a mouth on me, but it was so over the top "locker room" type of talk (I can't believe I just used the phrase) it didn't sound like two women, just like a caricature of a horny bisexual and lesbian.

Now I will admit the second half of the book was better. First half 2 stars, second half 3 stars. It was actually when the characters spent some time apart, I started liking the book. It focused on the sports and I found them enjoyable. Then a sort of tiny romance started; I could actually sense some possible feeling being involved. Did it save the whole book for me? No. But it went from being a possible DNF to at least being palatable.

Unfortunately, I can't recommend this one. There are so many fantastic lesfic book out there that this doesn't really hold up against them. As I said above, I appreciate Parker taking a chance on write lesfic, it just didn't work for my personal tastes.

An ARC was given to me by Netgalley, for a honest review.

Trio says

As a reader almost exclusively of MM romance I've been keeping my eyes open for an FF story to try. I know the author and thought the premise of the story was a great one, so I thought this might be the book for me.

Well, safe to say FF is never going to be my genre of choice and the erotic scenes (many and creative) didn't add anything to the story for me. I did end up skimming them and thinking, 'wow, two world class athletes, preparing for medal events, they sure have a lot of energy to burn off'. Heh, heh. So if you're a fan of FF sex then this is the book for you!

The descriptions of the sport were pretty good. They're alternating pov's and they comment on both their own sports and the other MC's as well and I enjoyed that.

The author also puts a very interesting spin into the story with Blaze's sexuality. She's polyamorous and is upfront in explaining her needs and desires; likewise, Maizy also is truthful about how she feels so these two mature, confident women work it out - and I liked that.

There's a whole other element going on about each athlete and issues in their sport and performance, so that adds depth to the story as well.

Honestly, it was well written and there were parts I definitely liked about it - if you're a fan of explicit female/female sex with a decent little story thrown in, then this is the book for you.

this book was provided by NetGalley for the purpose of my review

Shan(Littleirishbookcat) says

Full review also on my Blog

Fire On The Ice was a hot mess!

Fire On The Ice is told from the POV of Maisy, a figure skater competing at the SIGS and Blaze, a speed skater. One night together leaves them agreeing to spend the rest of the SIGs with each other.

That's exactly what they do. For 11 chapters. They do nothing but have sex. Over and over. Friends I don't mind smutty scenes but this took the cake. On top of that, the plot was non-existent, the world building was terrible and the characters sucked! I can't say I liked much about this book.

Normally if a book is dragging or the plot is lacking I can get by with the characters. The characters make a novel for me. However these two didn't. Maisy was irritating. She thought she knew what was best for Blaze without even communicating. She constantly judges her while denying she isn't.

"It's funny because the women isn't likely to medal, but gets treated like royalty anyhow. Anything, anything to get attention, and all attention is equal- because all attention is good."-Fire On The Ice by Tamsen Parker.

I don't even know we're to begin with Blaze. I liked her at first. However what happens in the second half ruined her character for me. She's selfish and thinks only of herself. Throughout the whole book she. Does. Not. Change, like at all. This girl needed some change. She doesn't confined in Maisy. She does what she has to do for attention without thinking of Maisy's feelings or even communicating with her.

"Can I promise? I want to. But Maisy....Well, Maisy doesn't know what's good for her career."- Fire on The Ice by Tamsen Parker.

Overall this book was ridiculous. Too much sex and not enough... everything else. I had such high hopes for Fire On The Ice and I can't say I'm not disappointed. I don't think the representation was well done. I can't speak personally for the polyamory rep but it made me uncomfortable every time Maisy made an untold for judgement. I didn't like the lesbian rep and it was very clear that this book wasn't ownvoices. I appreciate the fact that this popular author added a f/f romance to her series but it was choppy and I for one didn't like the ending.

I can tell you honestly : The only thing I enjoyed about this book was the three chapters near the end on figure skating and speed skating. It was clear the author did her research and it's the only reason this isn't one star.

***Thank you to Netgalley and the publisher for giving me a copy in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own**

Laura says

I received a copy of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

I was really enjoying this novel for at least halfway through. Despite the fact that Maisy and Blaze didn't actually talk for like 30% of the novel as they only had sex, I felt that the characters were both unique individuals, with distinct voices and perspectives.

I really liked Maisy - I liked how reserved she was in every situation outside of the bedroom. There, she wasn't anxious or trying to be the person her parents wanted her to be. She could be herself.

I had a love/hate relationship with Blaze. I liked how confident she was in her sexuality, but I also didn't like how she refused to put herself into other people's shoes and understand their perspective. She was also incredibly selfish. (view spoiler) After this scene, my appreciation for this novel decreased and I actively hated Blaze.

Another issue: (view spoiler) So I guess you can say I really, really didn't like Blaze, and when you don't like one of the main characters in a novel, you're probably not going to like the rest of the novel, which is what happened here.

The plot was basically Blaze and Maisy hooking up over the course of the Games, and then realising they want a relationship together. But Blaze is poly, which is something Maisy struggles with, and they have to come to a compromise. I'm really appreciative of the fact that we are getting more and more sexual identities being discussed in romance novels.

All in all, I felt that *Fire on the Ice* was a disappointing novel. I didn't like one of the MCs, and the sex scenes - while great at the start - started to feel robotic and over the top as the first 10 chapters of the novel were dedicated solely to sex scenes and the characters barely talked. I feel that the book had great potential, but I just couldn't overlook these issues.

Annie ~ Queer Books Unbound says

Review also on the blog: <https://fromtoptobottomreviews.com/20...>

**A copy of this was provided via NetGalley*

DNF at 68% - no rating.

Fire on the Ice is the fourth book in Tamsen Parker's Snow & Ice Games series and can easily be read as a standalone. Though I recommend you to read the first two books in the series because I really enjoyed them. Haven't read the third one yet, but will do that as soon as it releases.

This isn't the first time Maisy and Blaze have a bit of fun together. They first met during the last Snow and Ice Games and had a secret affair back then too. While Blaze is open about her sexuality, Maisy is not. Other than Blaze, only her parents know -- and they made her stay in the closet. Maisy looked forward to the SIG's not only because of the competition but also because this was another possibility to see Blaze again.

They're familiar with each other both sexually and non-sexually, so getting to know each other happens off-

page. I'm a sucker for reading the first time meeting of two characters -- I love that attraction and the first spark, the getting to know each other and slow (or sometimes fast) progress of the main characters relationship). All that was missing here. I feel like in some instances it would have helped to have a bit more insight to that. Particularly because they have a very intense sexual relationship that requires a lot of trust. Though this is only a personal preference and I know some people who would really enjoy this story.

I had high expectations for this when I requested it on NetGalley. Partly because I really enjoyed the first books in the series, and partly because it was an f/f sports romance. The sports aspect wasn't as prominent as I had hoped it would be, but I liked Blaze and Maisy, and liked them more the more I read. Although I would have liked a bit more of the sport, I didn't really miss it. *Fire on the Ice* was easily on track to be a 4 star read. I really enjoyed how their perceived roles changed when they were alone with each other. You'd think that Blaze is the more dominant one because she's very loud and has a strong personality. Maisy is more quiet and keeps herself hidden. Once they're alone, though, that completely changes.

What I loved about *Fire on the Ice* was how sex-positive it was. Blaze is bisexual and poly -- she loves sex and she wants a lot of it. There is a small misunderstanding in the story that relates to that -- but I feel like it was handled well by Parker and it showed some of Maisy's insecurities. Also Blaze called her out on the spot and they resolved it fast.

As I said this was fast on track to become a four star read... and then Blaze decided she needed more media coverage and attention, so she set up a photographer to be there when Maisy and Blaze were watching a sporting event -- to take photo's of the two of them kissing. Of Maisy, who is *not* out to the public. That was the moment that I really did not want the two of them to end up with together. And there is nothing Blaze could possibly do that would ever justify or excuse her decision, so I put the book away. This might not be a no-go for everyone, but for me this was like a roundhouse kick to the stomach and I just couldn't read any more of it.

Maria Rose says

Fire on the Ice is part of Tamsen Parker's Snow and Ice Games series and showcases the world of female skating from the viewpoints of two quite different characters - Blaze, an extroverted speed skater, and Maisy, an introverted figure skater. Where Blaze is all about getting attention, Maisy shies away from the crowds. In the bedroom it's a bit different though, with Maisy delighting in taking control and Blaze happy to follow suit. They both have goals of winning medals at the games, but can they also take their friends with benefits relationship to another level?

The first half of this story reads more like erotica than like a romance. There's a lot of sex, some of it quite inventive but not really any hint of romance between the two characters. On the plus side it's a very sex positive book obviously, and these two aren't shy in private. On the downside, there's little conflict to keep the reader invested in the characters.

The second half of the story is where the real plot begins for me. There are some good scenes with the sports the ladies are involved in that delve into more technical details. As a fan of watching winter Olympics, and skating in particular, these were well done. Also here is where the characters start to show their real selves, with Maisy concerned about public appearances - not because she has a problem being a lesbian but just because that's part of her character, and Blaze quite the opposite. Blaze makes decisions that cause them some problems, and in the end it's she that has to realize that if she wants to be with Maisy for more than a sexual fling, she'll have to really listen to her concerns. Blaze also prefers poly relationships, something Maisy is prepared to accept even if she isn't poly herself. I have some doubts as to whether the couple would

really be happy in the long term because of their differences on that front. Still, we get a happy for now ending for the couple. I think in general, if you're looking for a steamy, easy lesbian read, that's what you'll find here.

A copy of this story was provided by the publisher via NetGalley for review.

Margrethe Martin says

[public outing of queer character, (hide spoiler)]

Natasha says

Review also on my blog • Twitter • Bookstagram

4.5/5

Rep: f/f romance, lesbian mc, polyamorous bi mc

Content warnings: explicit sexual content

Trigger warnings: homophobic parent

I received an arc from the publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Fire On the Ice is set at a Winter Olympics-ish sort of setting. People around the world are there to compete in the Snow and Ice Games. This brings in Maisy and Blaze. Blaze is a speed skater and has a reputation for being promiscuous, and is known for sleeping with men, women, and non-binary people. Maisy is a figure skater who is a lesbian but isn't the most open about it to the public due to her parents, mostly her father, not being that supportive of her. They had slept together at the previous Snow and Ice games four years prior and end up sleeping together again after agreeing to strictly only sleeping together. Before sleeping together again they both had their minds on it and each other, Blaze mentioning she'd almost send emails to her.

I absolutely *loved* this book. The book starts off with a lot of sex scenes and if we're being honest, I wanted to jump off a cliff because of them. They were so well done. They have an interesting dynamic as Blaze is polyamorous but Maisy isn't, but that doesn't prevent her from committing to her monogamously. I like how there was no shaming on either end and how they communicated a lot. They had a lot of communication in general, whether it be when it came to sex or when it came to forming an actual relationship.

Some issues to arise. Maisy hasn't dated in a while due to her parents disapproval of her being a lesbian and Blaze is known for her cover story scandals, which is hard to deliver when she is having sex with someone who wants to keep things between them private. I liked the opposites attract dynamic a lot. Maisy is more quiet while Blaze is known for her more out there personality. This brought out different aspects in both of them.

I also really like how Maisy acknowledged she held a lot of internalised misogyny that she had learnt

growing up but made an effort to grow from there. While she did have a few slip ups, she always tried to do better from there.

I loved seeing their relationship progress and how they both adjusted in some ways and made compromises with each other, as being together would need that as they are such different people. I overall just adored this book.
