



## Stranger in Town

*Brenda Novak*

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## Stranger in Town Brenda Novak

The car accident was Hannah Price's fault? a few seconds of inattention that changed Gabe Holbrook's life forever, destroying everything he'd been or ever wanted to be.

He was a man who'd had it all. Intelligent, handsome, talented, rich, he'd been one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL. Now he's come home to Dundee, the small town where he was raised, but he's a stranger to the people who once knew him. Folks think he's bitter and withdrawn; he knows he's just focused on recovering. But thanks to Hannah Price, there are some things that can't be fixed.

Hannah has been struggling to recover from that fateful night, too. Unlike Gabe, she sustained only minor injuries. But she's not sure she'll ever be able to forgive herself for making a mistake with such far-reaching consequences. Especially when Gabe becomes her older son's football coach, and she begins to fall in love with the man she nearly destroyed...

**Look for all eight books in Brenda Novak's Dundee, Idaho series, available now. And don't miss her new romantic Whiskey Creek trilogy, available from Harlequin MIRA!**

## Stranger in Town Details

Date : Published January 15th 2013 by Harlequin MIRA (first published 2005)

ISBN :

Author : Brenda Novak

Format : Kindle Edition 304 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Sports and Games, Sports

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## From Reader Review Stranger in Town for online ebook

### Lea says

The characters are realistic and the book is a quick and easy read. Love Brenda Novak books! It is sad that Gabe was hurt so badly, but the story of how he overcame was fantastic.

I got my copy of this book from the library app Hoopla. The opinions expressed are my own. This is my honest review.

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### Patti Adams says

#### Keeps getting better.

As I've stated in previous reviews, these books started slow for me. I actually had a hard time finishing the first one. The deeper I get into each new book, the better and more invested I become! Loved this story of redemption and forgiveness to find real love.

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### Jane Stewart says

4 ½ stars.

During the book I was thinking "I'm really enjoying this and I'm eager to find out what will happen in the football game." It's not a great book but it fit what I wanted. It was not full of cliches and typical overused predictable things like so many other romance novels. It was more of a real story. Good relationship development.

There was nice tension leading up to the two sex scenes. The scenes were not done in detail. They were described after the fact.

This is book 5 in the 8 book Dundee, Idaho series. Each book can be read as a stand alone but I prefer reading them in order. Various characters have small parts in subsequent stories.

DATA:

Narrative mode: 3rd person. Story length: 304 pages. Swearing language: strong but rarely used. Sexual content: two scenes vaguely referred to no details. Setting: current day Dundee, Idaho. Copyright: 2005. Genre: contemporary romance, football, post-divorce.

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### Barbara Frayer says

I just don't know how her books can keep getting better and better!

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## **Pam says**

Stranger in Town is by Brenda Novak. Brenda has done it again with this book. She has created a world for the reader to dive into and immerse himself in. The characters are very realistic as are the events that they find themselves entrenched in. This book is one you don't want to put down as you are determined to find out what happens next.

Hannah Price had divorced her husband Russ and dreaded the weekends he had with their sons. She worried for their safety as Russ was not the most dependable of fathers, although he did love his sons. This particular night, she was even more worried as her neighbor said he had loaded his jeep with beer and his survivalist buddies were with him. Not to mention that he had taken the boys without her permission and on her time. She took out after them to get the boys back before they got into the woods where she couldn't find them. It was snowy and the roads were worsening. She got behind a slow-moving truck and got impatient. Finding what she thought was a safe place, she pulled out to pass the truck and a car came out of nowhere in front of her. She knew nothing more as her car plunged off the road.

Three years later, Hannah headed for Gabe Holbrook's house. Her son, Kevin, had told her that Gabe was going to be head coach for the school's football team. She needed to warn him about Russ and Coach Blaine as well as to reassure herself that Gabe was not going to hold Kevin accountable for her having caused Gabe to be in a wheel chair three years ago. Hannah had ended Gabe's NFL career the night she hit him on the road. Although she had apologized to him several times, she had to make sure he wouldn't take it out on Kevin. Also, his promotion on the high school team years ago had knocked Russ out of his position and, according to Russ, had ruined his life. Since Russ was reliving his football career through Kevin, she wasn't sure what he would do. In addition, she had learned that Coach Blaine was extremely upset with Gabe being placed as head coach and she didn't trust Blaine. As she approached Gabe's house, she wondered what his reaction would be to her coming to see him. Was she just stirring up trouble?

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## **Kathleen Booker says**

Hannah should be the last woman Gabe wants to be with but, he just can't stop thinking about her. Gabe's life changed in every way possible after the accident involving Hannah from his ending up in wheelchair and losing his football career to finding out his Father had cheated on his Mom and he had a half sister.

He ends up coaching his high school football team and falling in love with Hannah and her two boys. I love this series makes me want to move to Dundee!!

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## **Gail says**

What an amazing story and I loved every minute of it! Hannah who is divorced with two boys ends up causing the accident that ruins Gabe's career as a superstar football player. Being resentful he locks himself away from everyone. Hannah feels bad about causing the accident and wants to make it up to him but starts to have feelings for him in the process. Can Gabe truly get over the past and move on with his life? Can Hannah win his heart? Read the story and fall in love with the book like I did.

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### **Sandra says**

i really liked the read. sometimes it was hard to keep on reading because the tension was so real in this book, that i couldn't stand to keep on reading. but i was really worth it. :)

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### **Loverlypurple says**

I enjoyed this story of forgiveness and love. The story really drew me in. I really liked Hannah, her two boys, Gabe and of course Lazarus. I haven't read any of the other books of this series but would be interested in reading more about the folks of Dundee. This however is definitely a good stand alone book.

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### **Eleanore June says**

I think that this just wasn't a good fit for me. It was too "Womens Lit" and not enough fun romance. Terrible ex husbands are not something I enjoy reading nor am I a fan of the authors writing style. Also I don't like football.

So- this wasn't a good choice of books for me.

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### **Marcy says**

The car accident was Hannah Price's fault--a few seconds of inattention that changed Gabe Holbrook's life forever, destroying everything he'd been or ever wanted to be. He was a man who'd had it all. Intelligent, handsome, talented, rich, he'd been one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL. Now he's come home to Dundee, the small town where he was raised, but he's a stranger to the people who once knew him. Folks think he's bitter and withdrawn; he knows he's just focused on recovering. But thanks to Hannah Price, there are some things that can't be fixed.

Hannah has been struggling to recover from that fateful night, too. Unlike Gabe, she sustained only minor injuries. But she's not sure she'll ever be able to forgive herself for making a mistake with such far-reaching consequences. Especially when Gabe becomes her older son's football coach, and she begins to fall in love with the man she nearly destroyed

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### **Dianne says**

A Stranger in Town by Brenda Novak

This is a perfect read for the football widows out there this Super Bowl weekend!

Have you ever done something incredibly stupid while you were driving and not gotten caught doing it?

Some action that if you did it, might cause you to injure or cripple someone in an accident? Well that is

exactly what happened to Hannah. Her ex-husband has taken her children and he is only a few minutes ahead of her. Perhaps she could catch up to him – if only she wasn't behind this person driving on this treacherous road so slowly. As she starts passing this person on a blind curve in a blinding snowstorm, quarterback Gabe Hollbrook is driving in the other direction, about to round that blind curve.

How Ms Novak managed to pull wonderful love story out of this plot line is beyond me, but she did. I think it was her best book I have read yet. The characters are rich in depth. The story is interesting and the fact that our hero is in a wheelchair made this book such a challenge to read without continual sobbing on my part.

The idea of Gabe becoming her son's football coach was ironic at times but to me was a wonderful plot device. Wondering if they would ever learn forgiveness, of themselves and of each other...although I have to admit I thought that Gabe forgave a little more easily than I may have.

I so fell in love with this couple that I want to know more about them...and I don't say that about too many of these romance novels. These novels tend to be a quick read and not books that I usually spend time pondering, but this one I did.

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### **Tia says**

This book is a keeper! The heroine and hero got into a car accident that was so bad the hero temporarily lost all the use of his legs, although he still remains mostly paralyzed. Eventually they fell in love but the heroine's ex husband was a total butthole! He caused trouble and emotionally abused the heroine even after the divorce but with the hero's help with raising the heroine's two sons and a whole lot of love, it seems they will all be just fine!

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### **Terri says**

This is a good Brenda Novak book. The concept is interesting--the main female character caused an accident that put the hero in a wheelchair and ended his professional football career. The development of the romance between the pair wasn't a walk in the park, nor should it have been. The heat was appropriate and tasteful. Just a great story.

I listened to the audio version narrated by Molly Elson. She did a great job with the story.

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### **Elli Hunt says**

Stranger in Town Brenda Novak

Stranger in Town is a good read, Hannah fights to draw Gabe out of the seclusion that he has imposed upon himself, by setting him up with a date of one of her friends. Gabe turns the table and invites one of his friends to be Hannah's blind date. The truth is that they are attracted to each other but they both have their own issues to resolve. Worse, Hannah is responsible for putting Gabe in the position he's in. Gabe walks into a firestorm when he accepts the head coaching position at his former high school. One of his old coaches is beyond mad and tries to unseat Gabe. The whole town is caught up in the struggle of either the coaching troubles or who gets to date Gabe.

I enjoyed reading it, I think if you like romantic stories, you would enjoy this one.

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