



## Hot on Her Heels

*Susan Mallery*

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Dana Birch vowed never to put herself at the mercy of a powerful man. She became a deputy so that she could take care of herself and protect those she loves. Especially her best friends, the Titan sisters. Twenty years ago, Garth Duncan swore revenge on Jed Titan for abandoning Garth and his mother. Now he's back to fulfill that promise, even if Jed's daughters get caught in the crosshairs. All that stands between him and his goal is Dana, her gun and a growing passion that can't be denied....

## Hot on Her Heels Details

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Author : Susan Mallery

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## From Reader Review Hot on Her Heels for online ebook

jenjn79 says

Rating: 3.5 / 5

Like the rest of the books in this series, I didn't mind this one, liked it mostly, but I didn't find anything really great about it. It wasn't a horrible book by any means, but something about it just didn't ring my bell.

Series Note:

This book is the fourth and last book in Mallery's Lone Star Sisters series. The books are very interconnected and should be read in order.

Summary:

Ever since he was fourteen years old and his biological father turned his back on him and his mother when she most needed help, Garth Duncan has vowed revenge on the Titan family. For the last few months, he's been doing whatever he could to make life hell for the Titans, but especially his father, Jed. If his three half sisters got hurt in the process, oh well. But now his sister Izzy has convinced the others that they need to save Garth from himself. Which might be just as well, as Garth is beginning to realize his sisters didn't deserve what he did to them.

When Garth shows his sisters what he knows about their father, they decide to team up and bring him to justice. In the process, Dana Birch, friend of the Titan sisters, is tossed into close proximity with Garth. He's exactly the kind of man she tries to avoid, but she can't stop herself from being attracted to him...and she's shocked that he appears to want her too. But they are just too different...there couldn't ever be a future for them...right?

Review:

All through the previous books where Mallery built up the character of Garth, I thought he was such a jerk. It was hard to imagine that she would be able to turn him into the hero for the last book. His actions just crossed a few too many lines. So I wasn't sure how redeemable he was. And Mallery did an okay job bringing back to being a good guy. I thought she redeemed him enough to make the book readable, but I thought more could have been done. I really wanted Garth to see what his actions did. I wanted someone to ream into him and make him understand that his actions didn't just hurt the Titans, but others as well. And I just never really felt like that happened. It bugged me.

The romance, like the other three books, fell into the predictable range. The rich, powerful guy and the common girl who feels inferior and that they could never be together. There weren't any surprises for me on how things went between Dana and Garth.

The one thing I probably liked about this series the best, though, was how interconnected the books were and that all the characters were part of each book. I like it when series do that.

For the series overall...it was an okay series. I didn't mind that I read it, but nothing really stood out for me. I thought the romances were all too cliched. They weren't unique enough to really appeal to me. But it just made the series a little dull. I think fans of Mallery or those who like basic contemporary romance would probably like the books.

## Colleen says

Okay, I thought Izzie & Nick's story was the best - I was wrong!! Loved Garth & Dana! What a great way to end the series - sorry to see them go. If you have been following the series - you will love this one.

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## SheLove2Read says

Just added this book to the coveted "Best of 2011" shelf! Abso-freakin-lutely one of THE best hero redemption stories I've ever read.

Garth starts out being a vile human being in *Under Her Skin* and continues being a jerk in *Lip Service* but by the end of *Straight from the Hip* you start to see a side of Garth that was unexpected. He's human just like the rest of us. With this book, Garth literally shines. He becomes the man he was meant to be and by the end of the book you have a hard time remembering he started out as the bad guy.

His romance with Dana was so real, that's the only word I can think of to express it. Its not sweet, or expected but its damned passionate and you can't help but root for them to take the plunge and when they finally admit their love for one another, its a tearjerker.

5 HUGE stars!

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## Beatrix says

3, 5 csillag, mert többet vártam. Mert Garth Vader jó útra térésével csökkent izgalom. Mert Danától többet vártam, de elég hamar megadta magát a rosszfiúnak. Így csak egy könnyed limonádé lett, egyszerezolvasós.

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## Tasha says

*It's a tie between Garth and Dana's story and Izzy and Nick's story as my favorites in the Lone Star Series. I was upset with Garth in Straight from the Hip because of what he did to Nick and Izzy, but he redeemed himself in Hot on her Heels. I found myself rooting for him and feeling sympathy for his situation. Izzy was great in her determination to bring Garth into the family, which was very admirable after his behavior in the beginning. Absolutely worth the read.*

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## BJ says

"Hot on Her Heels" is the fourth book in the Lone Star Sisters series by Susan Mallery. This is the one that I anticipated that I would like the least. In this book, the author takes the bad guy from the previous 3 books and begins to show his good side. Slowly but surely, he becomes one of the good guys. Susan Mallery is good at this, I bought it and loved it! Dana, the best friend of the Titan sisters has a problem with strong men. She is a deputy sheriff and not at all "girly." She was knocked around as a child by her father and just does not trust men. All her "relationships" have been with men that she can push around until she tires of them

and then she says "bye-bye." She agrees to shadow, Garth, the Titan sister's half-brother (bad-guy in previous books) and they have an instant chemistry/attraction. Gradually, he wins her over. This book was a satisfying ending to a 4-book series. I gave it 4.25 stars.

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## Leah says

Deputy Dana Birch has always been close with the Titan sisters, so close that she was considered part of the family. So, when someone started attacking the Titans, Dana did everything she could to bring get damning information on Garth Duncan. Their brother. However, now the sisters have decided to bring Garth into the family. He's their father's illegitimate child who's out to bring Jed Titan down. When Dana is sent by the sisters to keep watch on Garth, they start spending time together and Dana reluctantly starts to like him. Garth, Lexi, Cruz, Skye, Mitch, Izzy, Nick, and Dana decide to work together to bring Jed down when they find out that Jed is the one who set up the explosion that blew up the oil rig, temporarily blinding Izzy. As a result, Jed starts attacking Dana. She moves in with Garth and he and the other men decide to get extra protection for the Titan sisters. While working on their ultimate goal, Dana and Garth start having actual feelings for each other. Finally, Dana realizes she's in love with Garth. Imagine having this epiphany and going to talk to your best friend about how you feel only to hear the man you love say he doesn't love you and will never love anyone. As a result, Dana resolves to treasure every moment she has with Garth, until it's time to leave. Meanwhile, Izzy and Nick elope, and Izzy reveals that she's pregnant, while Skye continues to plan her wedding to Mitch. Shortly thereafter, Jed kidnaps Kathy, Garth's mentally disabled mother. Garth, Dana, and Nick follow them and retrieve Kathy. Jed is finally turned over to the police and gets put in jail. The very same night, Dana confesses her feeling to Garth and proceeds to walk away. He lets her. A few days later, after a conversation with his sisters and a revealing moment with his mother, Garth realizes his true feelings for Dana, and he asks her to come to the house where he professes his love and proposes. In the end, Skye ends up married to Mitch while Garth and Dana have plans to elope to Las Vegas. The Titan sisters, all four of them as Lexi says, live happily ever after with the loves of their life.

This story was very beautifully written. There was humor, solemnity, and love in every page of this book. I could feel the emotions of the characters and they were a tangible presence; they stayed with me the whole time I was reading. The happy endings that each of the couples received was more than I could hope for. I became emotionally involved with all of these people throughout the series, and they feel like family to me. I wish them the best.

I never expected to like Garth. I expected to have negative feels for him the whole series. So, color me shocked to find at the end of Straight from the Hip that I was actually coming to like him. From page one of Hot on Her Heels, Garth wormed his way into my heart and stayed there, will continue to be there. Garth Duncan was a beautiful character. He was a man who was simply looking for a family, people to love him, but he didn't know it until Izzy, Skye, and Lexi pushed their way into his life. With their love and support, along with the love and support of Dana, Garth became the man he should have been. He finally let go of his vengeance and illogical dreams, facing the reality of his life and accepting that he can be loved and love back.

In many ways, Dana Birch reminded me of Xhex of the Black Dagger Brotherhood series as I was reading this book. Dana was always the tough chick who protected herself and her heart from others as a result of her abusive past. When she finally let go and opened her heart, she realized that she can love and be loved, realized that she had the strength to open herself up and survive the heartbreak. In the end, Dana finally accepted that she belonged with Garth and the Titan sisters. She finally came into herself and, like Garth, became the person she always should have been.

One thing I liked very much about this book was how much Cruz, Mitch, and Nick were involved in it. After *Under Her Skin*, it seemed like Cruz disappeared almost completely for the next two books, making only very brief appearances, and the same could be said for Mitch after *Lip Service*. I loved Cruz, Mitch, and Nick, and was, therefore, very appreciative of their constant presence in *Hot on Her Heels*.

Thank God, Jed Titan finally got what he deserved.

With the end of this series, I find myself equal parts sad and happy. I loved this series so much, and I know I will re-read it many, many times. However, I wish there were more characters so the series could continue. Who knows, maybe we can have a next generation Lone Star Sisters series, with Erin, Kendra, and the other kids? Well, a girl can dream.

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### **Hafize says**

bu seriye baylıyorum...  
bitti ya hem üzgün hemde mutluyum...  
seriyi bitirebilmek gerçekten sevindirici iken  
diğer yandan titan kardeşler ile tekrar bir kitapta karşılaşmaya içinde üzgünüm...  
son kitapta seriye yakınlık keyifli bir kitap...  
umarım yazarın yeni kitaplarına devam eder yayınevi...  
hatta bir de koridor yayınlarından çakan fakat yarım kalan bir serisi daha var umarım o seride biter! :)

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### **willaful says**

[**Warning:** This review contains spoilers for previous books.]

In the first three books of this series, all of the Titan sisters realized that their father doesn't give a damn about them, and that they need to stick together instead of falling for his divisive tactics. And Izzy Titan also decided that their unacknowledged half-brother Garth, who has been trying to bring their father down, should be brought into the family and cured with love. Though she didn't anticipate that their friend Dana would do a lot of the curing.

I really enjoyed this as a wrap-up of the series. Garth turns out to have a pretty staggering motive for revenge against his father, and we get to see the strong emotions under his cool and witty facade. (Though we never do find out what his plan to use Nick against Izzy in book three was, which is driving me nuts!) I didn't much like Dana, who like many people with low self-esteem is awfully needy and high-maintenance, but her toughness, loyalty and tragic past make her a good match with Garth. What affected me the most was that the emotions in the book were really spot on, particularly when the evil father gets an unexpected and very sad comeuppance. The characterizations and emotions are very well drawn and effective.

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### **Angie says**

**Synopsis:** *"Sleeping with the enemy just might have its own rewards..."*

*Dana Birch vowed never to put herself at the mercy of a powerful man. She became a deputy so that she could take care of herself, and protect those she loved. Especially her best friends, the Titan sisters.*

*Twenty years ago, Garth Duncan swore revenge on Jed Titan for abandoning Garth and his mother. Now he's back to fulfill that promise, even if Jed's daughters get caught in the crosshairs. All that stands between him and his goal is Dana, her gun, and a growing passion that can't be denied..."*

**My Review:** I know I said this before but this is the best book in the series! I connected with Dana the most out of all the female characters and was happy to see her progression. I also like how we began to see a resolution to the horrible events that have taken place throughout the series, and the bad guy get his due! I would have liked to see more of Kathy but understand why she had such a minor role. I did really enjoy getting to know Garth and watching his character learn about himself. This was a great conclusion to the Lone Star Sisters series even though I have to say I am going to miss being there ;)

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### **Jane Stewart says**

I don't know what this was, but there was no filling out details of the plot.

This was a strange book. It's people having conversations. People talk about people, and things that happened, or might happen, and maybe why things happened. It's telling not showing. I didn't feel any emotion because no one is doing anything that causes feelings. Three sisters talk to Dana and the group decides Dana will follow Garth for a while. Dana shows up in his lobby. When he sees her he invites her to his condo for dinner. She tells him she will be following him. But we don't see him go places with her behind in a car or whatever. They have dinner three nights in a row. They have sex. The surveillance was something to say, but I didn't see any surveillance being done.

I listened to more than half the book and was bored. So I skipped to the last two chapters. Even they did not interest me.

I bought the audiobook because I love the narrator Natalie Ross. She is one of the few female narrators who can do men well. But even Natalie couldn't make this a better story.

DATA:

Narrative mode: 3rd person. Unabridged audiobook length: 9 hrs and 13 mins. Swearing language: none that I heard. There are some sex scenes. Setting: current day mostly Dallas, Texas, plus a little in Mexico. Book copyright: 2009. Genre: contemporary romance.

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### **Ceci says**

This was a great conclusion to the Lone Star Sister Series. For the final installment, we learned the truth about Kathy and Jed and the motives of Garth to destroy Jed. I really understand him and why he did everything that he did to bring Jed down. Jed was a bastard and he deserved everything that he got. I understand why he didn't want to give Garth the money for the operation but still, he's a bastard.

I loved reading about Dana/Garth... I thought it was going to be pretty tough to top Nick and Izzy because I really loved their story but they got me in the first chapter! It was really fun to read!! I loved how they banter! Tons of sparks flying!!

## Laura says

The fourth and final book in the Lone Star Sisters series. My favorite of the series!

Garth Duncan is the illegitimate son of Jed Titan. Since he was 14-years-old, he's been on a path to destroy his father. Jed's daughters and by default, Garth's sisters, have gotten in the way, but now things have changed. The sisters and their closest friend, Dana, decide to dig up what they can on him to find out his real story.

Dana has never let a man into her life before. She has her own "secrets" that keep her from getting close to a man. She hates Garth for what he has done to her friends, but she finds herself oddly attracted to the man.

I wondered if I would like Garth after his escapades in the previous books. I liked him from the start, but loved him when he was wearing a Texas A&M sweatshirt (I'm an Aggie and love a man in maroon). He truly grew as a character in this book. He was real and truly likable. I enjoyed the relationship and chemistry that he had with Dana. Both of them were good characters that I wanted to see happy in the end.

I can't say I have much to complain about with this book...it was the perfect ending for the series. If I would change anything, it would be fewer references to Lexi's pregnancy and how big and uncomfortable she is. I got it...it was drilled into my head in the first 1/3 of the book...by the end, I was irritated by it.

You won't be disappointed by the ending to this one...all ends well.

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## Lady Allison says

In the fourth and final installment of the Titan sisters saga, we finally get to hear Dana and Garth's story.

Dana Birch, Titanville Deputy, is not related to the Titan girls by blood, but in every other way she is their sister. Coming from an abusive home, she has wanted nothing else in life but to belong & to be loved - not that she would ever let that happen. To love is to hurt and she hasn't given anyone else the opportunity to do so since she moved out from under her father's thumb. She is so anti-girl anything, it's comic. She is the opposite of any of the Titan women, but she loves them & protects them fiercely. Which is why when they suggest that she follow Garth, their half-brother, to see if he really is a bad guy or if they can try to turn him, she agrees to keep them safe. Or so she says.

Garth can't seem to keep Dana out of his head either, and only grows more fascinated with her as she shadows him. Through his POV, we can obviously see that the event that changed his mother from the passionate woman she was to the clueless child she is now has affected him deeply. His rage at Jed is even more understandable after we learn all the details.

Watching him slowly grow to care for his sisters was gratifying, his unconscious need to have a family and desire to protect his own really came out as he showed everyone, especially Jed just what he was capable of. I love that he paid Skye back for messing with her foundation, I think that was the cementing action that sealed his fate as brother. The first one was when he hugged Izzy back.

Dana's transformation was just as fulfilling to watch, but really amusing at times - her anti-girly stance really

took a toll on her at times, it was just too funny!

*Events? As in a date? "We're not dating."*

*Lexi's blue eyes brightened with laughter. "You're just having sex?"*

*"Yes. I would never date him." She held up her hand. "I'll admit sleeping with someone you wouldn't date is probably bad, but I'll accept the consequences. We don't actually have a relationship."*

*Lexi studied her. "Or so you think. You might want to ask Garth his thoughts on the subject."*

*"I'd rather be shot."*

*"I'm sure that's true."*

The sisterly love was a lot more intense in this last book too, solidarity being a major theme.

*"Did you get the **we love you** part? Izzy asked. "You're one of us. You know-family"*

*Because that's what they had always believed. Family. Was it possible?*

*Lexi struggled to her feet, then waddled over to hug her. "You're stuck with us. You need to stop resisting. It's exhausting."*

*Skye and Izzy joined in the hug. The women holding her tight should have made her feel trapped. SHe should have been wanting to escape. Instead she felt warm and safe and loved. The emotion filled up a space that had been empty for so long, she'd nearly forgotten it was there.*

*"This is so cool," Izzy said. "Now let's all go out and get matching tattoos."*

*Skye sighed. "Someone hit her."*

I adored this book because not only did Garth and Dana find soul mates in each other and take us along for the ride, but Jed FINALLY got what he deserved! I hated him even MORE in this book, even though I didn't know that was possible. All the shit he did, risking his daughter's life, treating his girls like pawns, illegal dealing & attempt to pin it all on other people - it finally caught up with him. The few POVs that we got of him made that all the more clear. I had a \*twinge\* of pity when I realized that he really did love Garth's mom & didn't think he was serious when he asked him for help...but then I just had to think of everything he put his "family" through & it vanished.

This was a fantastic contemporary romance series & I'm so grateful my dear Leah recommended it to me! I whole heartedly recommend it to YOU as well & look forward to reading more from Susan Mallery. :)

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## **Auntee says**

This was book #4 in a truly awesome contemporary series (**Lone Star Sisters**) by the mega talented Susan Mallery. This book hit all the right notes for me (great plot, treachery, well-developed characters, witty, "real" dialogue, wonderful 'sisterly relationships, and a hot, hot romance that made me cry) and was my favorite one of the whole series. The previous three books were about the three rich Titan sisters, and their battle with their big-wig S.O.B. father (Jed) who they find out (the hard way) doesn't give a rat's a\*\* about them, the battle with their father's equally rich and powerful illegitimate son (Garth Duncan) who's determined to bring the whole Titan family down, and of course, the true love relationship they each find during this time.

In the previous books, Garth's looking to bring Jed down as payback for what Jed did (or failed to do) to him and his mother, and he's not above using his sisters (who he never met) to get to Jed. After working hard all his life with the single-minded goal of one day paying back the father who would never claim him, and wasn't there for him when his mother faced a major health crisis, Garth finally has enough power and money to bring down kingpin Jed, and battle him for the whole Titan empire, and woe to anyone who gets in his way. In book Under Her Skin, Garth takes on sister

Lexi and her spa business, in Lip Service it's sister Skye and her charitable foundation, and in Straight from the Hip it's youngest sister Izzy, who's (temporarily) blinded in an oil rig explosion that nearly kills her. The sisters and their best friend, sheriff's deputy Dana Birch, have had enough of Garth's underhanded ways of trying to destroy their lives, and think they finally have enough evidence to bring him to justice. Until Garth convinces them that he had *nothing* to do with the attack on Izzy. But he knows who did. And he can prove it. When the sisters find out who Garth thinks is responsible for the explosion that nearly killed Izzy, and then tried to make it look like that Garth was responsible...well, they're just heartsick. Their own father would go to such lengths just to stop Garth? The sisters decide to band together with Garth and stop their despicable father once and for all. And although they aren't exactly 'forgiving' to Garth after his attacks on them, they are willing to give him a chance to earn their trust. They are sympathetic to what he went through as a child with a sick mother, and how their own father turned his back on him, and they would like to include them in their family. It's a tough road, because Garth doesn't know much about love and family, but the Titan sisters have a loving way about them, and it's not long before Garth gets used to the idea of having sisters in his life.

Now the romance part? Well, fans of the series just *knew* that somehow law-and-order tough girl tomboy deputy Dana was going to be paired with law breaker Garth--they were on a collision course through the previous three books. In this one, Dana thinks she finally has the goods to prosecute Garth, but that all goes up in smoke when Garth proves that someone else was behind the oil rig explosion. As for his other misdeeds? Dana really has no evidence, but she decides to tail Garth for a while to see if he's on the up-and-up and truly redeemable like Izzy (and to a lesser extent, her sisters) believe. While she's following him around, Garth and Dana find that they have a weird kind of chemistry. He finds her 'prickly' but oh so interesting--she tells him off like no one else can (or will) and he enjoys how she stands up to him. She's sooo different from all his previous 'women'. Of course Dana knows besides being drop dead gorgeous, and so different from the 'safe', boring, uninteresting guys she usually dates--a guy like Garth could seriously threaten her need to be in control. Because of an awful, abusive past with her father, Dana only dates guys that she would never want to let into her heart. Letting someone in would make her vulnerable to being hurt, and Dana can't risk that again. But the more time she spends hanging around Garth, the more she wants to take that risk, until finally...Dana surrenders to the temptation that is Garth...*HOT!* But Dana is under the mistaken impression that she can keep her relationship with Garth as nothing especially meaningful--just some hot sex. When Dana's life is threatened by wacko Jed, Garth insists she move in with him (for her protection). That's when feelings heat up, Dana ends up surrendering her heart...and she's in for a world of hurt when she realizes that Garth doesn't "do" love. Or does he?

I was root, root, rooting so *hard* for Dana and Garth--they had similar views on love and I just wanted them to give in and go for it! There were some real tear-jerker moments for me, especially when Dana got (surprisingly) brave and spilled her guts to Garth about her feelings--I never figured she'd do that! And when he later came to his senses and realized what he'd be missing if he let Dana go...well, \*sniff\*...good declaration of love moment.

Once again, I loved all the sisterly moments in the book. The dialogue amongst the sisters and friend Dana was top-notch and sounded very realistic. I could just imagine each one of them as they sat around and plotted how they would take Jed down and gabbled about Dana's love life and their own lives. There were some very insightful moments, as well as some witty ones. The dialogue in this series is a big part of what makes the books so wonderful.

All through the series the patriarch Jed Titan has been this larger than life, big bad despicable cad, who uses and abuses his family shamelessly. The guy shows absolutely no fatherly love to *any* of his children. I really can't believe how the sisters put up for him so long. I wanted him to get what was coming to him, and get it good. Yet strangely enough, there was a part of the book where I felt sorry for him (when he finally has a conversation with Garth's mom Kathy)--when he realizes just how wrong he was, and was actually regretful. It was something he would have to live with for the rest of his life--it was fitting punishment, yet that scene

explained so much to me about how Jed turned out to be such a bastard. I always wondered why Jed did the things he did, and that bit of background info helped me to understand him.

This was a wonderful series, each book better than the last. If you're a fan of good ol'family melodrama, a fan of witty, bantering dialogue, and want to read a hot romance about two characters who don't believe in the idea of love, then this one (and the whole series) is for you! I loved it, and am sooo sorry to see it end! 5 stars.

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