



Trauma Alert

Radclyffe

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Dr. Ali Torveau knows just how fragile life can be—she sees death and tragedy every day in the trauma unit. Battling the dark forces of fate is her life's work and she doesn't want or need anything else, certainly nothing as transient as love. Plenty of women try to change her mind, but she never has any trouble saying no. Not until the day firefighter Beau Cross shows up in her ER and sets Ali's carefully ordered world aflame.

Trauma Alert Details

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J'aime says

I was familiar with Radclyffe by name, but had never read any of her work before now. I was under the impression that she wrote historical fiction, but “Trauma Alert” is without doubt a contemporary romantic drama. And it is very well done - I can see why Radclyffe is so popular and prolific. The author quickly built a realistic setting; she obviously did her research and I felt like I was observing real medical professionals. The main characters are believable, and fully developed. I felt real suspense when they were involved in emergency rescues, or surgeries, and kept me turning the virtual pages to see what would happen next.

I also appreciated that the characters didn't immediately fall into lust-filled gazes, and heightened sexual urges the moment their eyes met. The two women assessed each other, and continued with their professional responsibility like real people do. Not every romance has to start with earth shattering sexual attraction. The two women are polar opposites with their own baggage, and masks protecting who they really are inside. That is not to say that the story has no steam – this is a healthy book, not a novella parading as a novel, so readers have time to see a relationship build.

One of the best things about the writing is the way characters are matter-of-fact about their sexuality. A gay couple is treated as almost ordinary in the story, which is a refreshing break from the angst gay romances usually have. I am not sure if this is typical of F/F, or this author in particular but it was nice. Recommended.

Heather says

I didn't have expectations going into this book — I needed something to follow up to Firestorm (book 2 in this series, because sequence isn't always relevant) and the blurb interested me. Plus, Radclyffe knows her shit when it comes to intimacy and sex scenes.

I'm not sure why I liked this so much. It was so good I continued to listen to it even after I finished the drive (lesfic books are amazing for long drives) and into the night.

It could be Beau and her faux bravado to cover up her vulnerability or Ali's strength and grace under pressure and how she hides from emotion to save herself from heartache. I loved the characters, their unique histories and how those histories shaped their lives, and while I'm ALWAYS wary of a too early ILY.. it somehow wasn't. Beau is that unobtainable fantasy and I'm so happy with the way this ended.

C.plan23 says

I would advise everyone who starts reading this series of books situated in hospital to start in this order:

1. Passion's bright fury
2. Fated love
3. Turn back time
4. Trauma alert

Simply because you will find characters from one book also in the other. Expl. Saxon Sinclair and Wynter.

Elske says

As usually with books from Radclyffe it was well written. It was not one of her best, but still good. Enjoyed it.

Tina says

Let's start with the basics: Radclyffe's stories are well-written. Her language is exemplary, her story-building good.

And I don't normally read romance. So there's bias here - 'cause I'm having a damned hard time with her characters. They are, in a word, perfect. Not in the sense that they never do anything wrong, but in the sense that they are strong, ambitious, focused, driven, well-educated, and utterly, utterly inhuman.

There are, in this book, not a single first- or second-tier character who are not bigger than life. It grates.

And then there's the sex. Way too much for my taste, but it's something I can - and will - flip past. It's still well-written, yet also too much.

Marilyn says

Classic Radclyffe. I think this might be one of my favorites of hers.

Chimnese Davids says

Trauma Alert is one of my first books I have read of the famous author Radclyffe. The intriguing love-romantic story takes mostly place in the Emergency Room.

The lead characters are Ali and Beau, to amazingly attractive woman with two different outcomes of relationships. One keeps her heart to herself in part of not getting hurt or feeling like she might lose the other. The other one sitting with a secret where she has made use of never falling for someone and not be able to put any emotion into a relation she has with woman.

Readers are going to love this series if it's anything like Trauma Alert. This book is hard to put down and it will sizzle in the reader's hands. I admit it happened to me over and over couldn't put this book down. The characters are hot, the sex scenes explicit and explosive and the book is moved along by an interesting plot with well drawn secondary characters, both of whom resist and fall head over heels.

Katia M. Davis says

This was certainly a page turner but I ran a little hot and cold with it. I felt I was being spoon fed character

flaws that would be overcome by the end of the novel during the first few chapters with an industrial sized ladle. Personally I like to puzzle it out a bit, but it was screamingly clear what the internal conflicts were going to be right from the start and what would probably happen externally because of them. That's not to say the story was bad, I enjoy medical/first responder novels, I just felt this was a little too easy on the reader and lost some of the potential tension because of it.

While the chemistry was certainly there between the main characters, a few of the minor characters felt like window dressing. Poor Ralph only seemed good for providing left overs and to be an opportune ear for Ali's struggles so the reader could get a glimpse at her inner workings.

Relationship-wise this was a slow burn but powerful. Radclyffe writes intimacy well and with passion. There is only the odd cringe-worthy line or comparisons to incendiary devices, but I think that is down to personal taste. Sometimes I think descriptions of sexual acts can get a little OTT, but lots of people like them that way. Unfortunately my imagination is kind of literal, so when a character 'explodes', I tend to giggle.

Overall this was an exciting read with plenty of action and tension on a variety of levels. Well worth a few hours if you like lesfic. I will read more in the First Responder Series.

Patricia Foort says

Wauw!! This wasn't my first Radclyffe book, and all of her books are steamy, but this one was hot! The chemistry between Ali and Beau was so well written. And the sex.....?. This book was so good, that I even didn't care that one of my other favorite couples, Wynter and Pearce, were also mentioned in this story.

Linda J says

Wow! I simply loved the book and storyline! Strong MCs in both Ali & Beau. Excellent plot with many actions, drama and angst.... And the sex scenes are really hot & sexy.

Margaret says

Radclyffe books are generally like your reliable, family, station wagon. They may not be the most exciting car on the block, but they're reliable and can be counted on to get you from A to B safely.

This was exactly what I was in the mood for when I picked up Trauma Alert and so was more than pleasantly surprised to find that it packed a few hidden bonus features that made the journey even more cruisey than usual.

Beau, as a character cracked off the page. 'Tough exterior protecting a sensitive core' may be very familiar in lesrom but hey, I like it and Beau was a particularly well drawn example. I found her character very believable, and all the more attractive - both in terms of emotional and physical 'punch' - for that.

I particularly enjoyed the fact that it was the tough firefighter that 'cracked' and showed her vulnerability and shared her feelings first. So often in lesrom it's the other way around.

I also found Ali's pain, and consequent hesitation, believable and it made for some nice, pre-happily-ever-after angst.

I also liked that Radclyffe doesn't hold off on the characters coming together (physically) as long as she does in some of her other books. While I still felt the end was a little rushed, I was left less frustrated by this as I felt that I'd had a decent fill of the characters actually being together in some way throughout the book, rather than just characters longing for / fantasizing about same.

A pet peeve of mine in Radclyffe books in particular, is that the characters tend not just fall in love [which, in itself, can be hard to believe when they often have only known each other a few weeks] but fall in 'oh my goodness you're the one for me forever and I'm certain of it and don't have any residual fears or uncertainties whatsoever' love. I get that this is a romance novel and - don't get me wrong - I want the 'three words' and idea the characters will now be happy forever but... it feels a bit forced, a bit too strong, in Radclyffe novels for my taste.

Overall a 3.75 round up to 4 from me. It's still a station wagon, not a Ferrari but it was a very, very enjoyable ride.

Alena says

New Radclyffe. I swear I've read about characters like these a gazillion times and I'm pretty sure I've read entire passages just like these in her previous books.

But apparently I won't learn and this is my punishment.

Procrastireader says

Could not imagine how anyone can be horny while sick or injured, but okaaay. A great story again by Radclyffe nonetheless. Really enjoyed this one.

Celia says

A firefighter and a doctor, what else could one want? I love the First Responders series. Although the dialogue is trite at times and Beau and Ali's relationship requires a suspension of disbelief, that's to be expected in a book of this type. It's great for what it is!

Justina Johnson says

First responders are special. Early at the scene of a crisis or catastrophe, they often put their lives on the line. The trauma center, a second line of defense, with its surgeons, doctors, and support personnel is hopefully helping the injured avoid life long disabilities or death. I more than tip my hat to these people and I love to read about their deeds. This opening book for the 'First Responders' series follows a technical rescue unit often referred to as TER-OPS associated with the Philadelphia Fire Department and the trauma center at a

university hospital. Plus, there is one first responder and one trauma surgeon who have a truly curious early history of butting heads that eventually leads to something quite interesting. I definitely recommend this opening book in the series. Passionate and inspirational!

Dr. Ali Torveau runs a tight ship during her shifts at the trauma center. Yet she seems to maintain an amazingly even keel. She keeps a number of issues and memories under wraps, but they eventually come to the surface and the complete picture of Dr. Torveau begins to become clear. Dr. Torveau turns down the super hot Ter-Ops trainee after she makes several attempts to take Ali out on any kind of date. However, following a strange and somewhat terrifying sequence of events occurring within the trauma unit, Ali and Beau are never entirely the same. I was flabbergasted and charmed by the unique turn of events. Unbelievable!

Beau Cross has a really good buddy within the fire department's field medic unit first in the northeast and then the southwest division. Now they are both training hard to get certified for the new TER-OPS unit together. He knows how she swings so their partnership stays truly professional. In fact, Bobby Sizemore bets Beau won't get Dr. Torveau to agree to a real life date within two weeks after Beau nearly made an ass of herself at the Ter-Ops seminar the good doctor taught. One hundred bucks are on the line. What a deliciously fun side bar. It was a blast to watch Bobby and Beau, Beau and Ali, Bobby and Jilly, who is Beau's sister, do all sorts of fandango dancing while all manner of crises circle around everybody. Simply fantastic!

Nothing unraveled completely the way I expected which simply tickled me pink. Ali and Beau are the women the book primarily focuses on and their story was one unexpected twist after another. Bobby had his share of astounding scenarios, Jilly was not left out, and a few more folks added their surprises to the mix too. Just a jim-dandy winner. Some lovely sexual heat and tension, too. Thumbs-up and then some!

NOTE: This book was provided by Bold Strokes Books for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.
