



I Wish You Were Mine

Lauren Layne

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Perfect for fans of Alice Clayton and Emma Chase, Lauren Layne's Oxford series heats up in this story of forbidden desire as a brooding jock hoping for a comeback falls for a woman who's strictly off-limits.

A year ago, Jackson Burke was married to the love of his life and playing quarterback for the Texas Redhawks. Now he's retired, courtesy of the car accident that ruined his career—and single, after a nasty scandal torpedoed his marriage. Just as he's starting to get used to his new life as a health and fitness columnist for *Oxford* magazine, his unpredictable ex shows up on his doorstep in Manhattan. Jackson should be thrilled. But he can't stop thinking about the one person who's always been there for him, the one girl he could never have: her younger sister.

Mollie Carrington can't say no to Madison. After all, her older sister practically raised her. So when Madison begs for help in winning her ex-husband back, Mollie's just glad she got over her own crush on Jackson ages ago—or so she thought. Because as Mollie reconnects with Jackson, she quickly forgets all her reasons to stay loyal to her sister. Tempted by Jackson's mellow drawl and cowboy good looks, Mollie is sick and tired of coming in second place. But she can't win if she doesn't play the game.

I Wish You Were Mine Details

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From Reader Review I Wish You Were Mine for online ebook

Lyndy Ann ? says

Jackson Burke is the new member of the Oxford gang he hates his job and New York all he wants to do is go back to Texas and coach football. He was a Quarter Back at the top of his career until an accident destroyed his career and an ex wife destroyed his reputation.

Mollie Carrington is Jackson's ex sister in law (she has secretly been in love with Jackson for years) but they are also good friends and since Jackson has moved to New York she wants to reconnect with him, they haven't spoken much after the accident or divorce so they meet up one night.

Mollie has had a make over since Jackson saw her last and this new Mollie he finds HOT. Mollie is looking for a new apartment and Jackson offers her one of his guest rooms in his penthouse on Park Avenue (seriously who could refuse) so she moves in. It doesn't take long before they start to sizzle in the bedroom or kitchen.

Jackson begins to make an effort at work to fit in with the guys this is Mollie's influence and this is were Jackson started to grow on me.

I loved catching up with the Oxford/Stiletto gang love the banter between these lot they are hilarious. I hated Madison Mollie's big sister and Jackson's ex she is a selfish superficial BITCH.

I Wish You Were Mine has everything you expect from Lauren Layne.

One thing I am confused about with Cassidy (view spoiler)

ARC kindly provided by Random House Publishing / Loveswept via NetGalley for an honest review.

First thought when I saw this

This is not Lincoln's book. Got to wait until DECEMBER 2016 for his story WHY SO LONG???

Alba and Her Secrets..♥ says

3.5 "Move on" Stars!

ARC provided via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Lauren Layne became of my favourites authors when I read her amazing *Stiletto* series and I was so excited to read this one because I also loved *Irresistibly Yours* (the first book in this series). Well, let's just say I was not expecting what happened.

I Wish You Were Mine is the second installment in the *Oxford* series (the spin-off of *Sex, Love & Stiletto*) and it is about Jackson Burke (a divorced former NFL player that is haunted by the car accident and its consequences in his work and personal life) and Mollie Carrington (his ex sister-in-law, a science geek and

the woman who silently suffered for being in love with her sister's groom).

Tonight, at her sister's wedding, Mollie Carrington had gone and fallen head over heels in love. With the groom.

Obviously, I had super high expectations for this book because the first one in this series was amazingly good and well done! I loved Cole and Pen's love story and I was expecting to love this one as well! It started very good, in Lauren's style and I fell in love with the plot and the sweet chemistry between Jackson and Mollie.

He searched her face, looking for any trace of the breathy, turned-on woman he'd seen before Madison's knock had ruined the moment, but he saw only friendly familiarity. Which, once, had been enough. Once, the easiness of their relationship had been his rock. His center.

But now... did he now want more?

However, everything changed for me with the appearance of Mollie's sister, Maddison. She is the most selfish person in the world. I hated her guts instantly and she got on my nerves every freaking time. She is so much involved in Jackson and Mollie's life and not in a good way. She is always there and it pissed me off that our main couple is not able to shake her off. What I loved about these two disappeared because Mollie cares too much about Maddie's opinion and Jackson is so deep in his mind that he cannot stand. move on and fight for what he wants.

He couldn't.

Couldn't risk that he and Mollie would end up like him and Madison. That he would lose her and go through the darkness again. Because if that happened, there'd be no Mollie to pull him out of it, and he needed her... he couldn't risk losing her.

But, still why my 3.5 rating? Well, obviously because I still love Lauren Layne. I love her writing and, as always, I love her characters. In this case, I loved knowing more about the others: Cole, Penelope, Lincoln (I cannot wait for his story!!!), Cassidy, Jake and all the other Stiletto girls and their men. They have such a great friendship and so many funny moments! I love those moments to pieces!

"Who the hell is Kiwi?"

"My dog," Lincoln said, as though this were obvious.

"You drink pink beverages, you're wearing a tie clip, and you have a dog named Kiwi. Please tell me Kiwi is a big-ass German shepherd."

"Nope. Maltese. Five pounds of white fluff that would fit in your hand."

Jackson shook his head and turned toward the door. "How you get laid is beyond me."

Did I mention I cannot wait for Lincoln story? ;) He is so misterious! But let's go back to bussiness, I was expecting more, this looked sooo good, and the start was amazing but I do not know what was all that about Maddison and the big influence that it had in Mollie and Jackson. Still, I want to say that I really enjoyed the beginning and the ending of the story (even though it felt a little bit rushed).

You're my worm, Mollie. The creepy, mate-for-life variety. I'm here to stay, Mollie. Because of you.

Therefore, my rating for *I Wish You Were Mine* is 3.5 STARS. I still love Lauren's style and I hope the next story will work better for me. Obviously, don't let my review stop you from reading this because I know many of my GR friends loved the novel! It just did not rock my world like the other books that I read by this author. So, as I always say, give this one a try and see what you think :)

CHECK OUT MY BLOG HERE:

NiCoLeTa E. says

4 "Mate-for-life worms!" stars

I will start this review by saying that Lauren Layne never disappoints me!!!

So, why it took me so long to read this book???

The thing is that i got affected from various other reviews that was picturing this book like less good than the first book of the "Oxford" thing, but i think that i have to disagree with them...

For me, this book was even better than "*Irresistible yours!*"!

Yes, it was kind of slow in the beginning and i think that was because both of our heroes were new from the usual bunch, so we needed more informations about them, and yes it wasn't so funny and light as the previous, but nobody can't say that it wasn't having its funny moments, especially when this crazy bunch from Oxford and Stiletto magazines was adding in the equation...

But let me focus on Jackson and Mollie...

Jackson Burke's life changed dramatical in the past year...

After an accident, his football career stopped abruptly and at the same time, his cheating wife asked for a divorce...

Now, Jackson has change city, job and lifestyle....

From the easygoing Texas, he is finding himself on New York and from a very famous and very valuable football player, he became the fitness editor of Oxford magazine, the most popular man's magazine in the state... *Not bad, right???*

But Jackson doesn't have the same opinion....

He is hating New York, he is hating wearing suits, he is very lonely and he is refusing to open up to anyone and he is hating this job...

Football was his life and all he wants is to be a coach on his old team, but unfortunately, because of the lies that spread his ex wife, he is losing the opportunity to have what he really wants...

It's so difficult for him to accept this kind of life, he just wants his old life back!!!

And everything are changing when his ex's younger sister is reappearing in his life and he is offering her to become roommates...

But somewhere along the way, Jackson is starting to see her in a new light...

"He felt a strange satisfaction at seeing her caught in turmoil. Mollie had seemed so confident, so sure of herself and everyone around her. He liked that he could put her off balance, just a little bit. Because God

knew she'd been knocking him off balance all night."

Mollie Carrington was always in love with Jackson. She knew that it was a wrong thing to do since the guy was married to her sister, but that fact wasn't changing the opinion of her heart.

She fell in love with him from the first moment that she saw him, but she couldn't do anything about that. She just accepted the little things that he was giving to her...

The thing is that Jackson and Mollie all those years came really close, they were confidants for each other and best buddies and that connection never changed.

Mollie was the awkward nerdy type of girl, but after all those years, she changed a lot and she became a beautiful and sexy woman, even though that deep inside she was remaining the nerdy type.

"It wasn't fair. Mollie had spent her entire life trying to do the right thing—going out of her way to do what she was supposed to, even when she wanted to do the exact opposite. But tonight her heart had betrayed her. Tonight her heart had done the wrong thing. No, the absolute worst thing. Tonight, at her sister's wedding, Mollie Carrington had gone and fallen head over heels in love. With the groom."

So when Mollie and Jackson are starting to live together, something is shifting between them...

They are starting to feeling a little bit awkward when they are around each other and the heat is rising...

"He belonged to Madison. Always had. Always would. Just because he was finally noticing that Mollie had female parts didn't mean he was looking for forever, and Mollie...well, Mollie was looking for forever." {Mollie}

"This thing with Mollie had been building for years. Not romantically, of course, but she'd always been important. And then he'd seen her in that damn little red dress, and she'd gone from important to... Everything. Mollie was everything." {Jackson}

It's so wrong to act on their instincts, but for how long could they resist to this pull between them???

And what will happen when the ex-wife is starting to make appearances back in Jackson's life with the goal to get him back???

What this will mean for Mollie who loves both her sister and Jackson???? And what about her guilts???

Will Jackson stop to lust over his old life and to accept his new one???

Will he open up his self to his new colleagues???

Well, as you can understand, our heroes has lots of things to deal... Many changes to accept!!!

"What we're doing—it's been crazy. Maybe a little reckless. And I sure as hell didn't see it coming. But I can tell you that these past weeks, they've been...they made me feel alive. More alive than I've felt in a long time."

I liked very much Jackson, but he was such a frustrating character!!!

I understand that he lost almost everything, but life gave him a second change with very good terms... but until the very end, he was refusing to let go his old dream and to become a new man and that was such a

pity!!!

In the beginning, he was such a loner and he wasn't letting anyone to get in his life. The poor guys on Oxford were trying so hard to make him one of them, but he was so damn stubborn.

Only with Mollie, he was different and because of her, he let himself a little bit loose... and that was so delightful. But still...

Jackson was a very interesting man and god, he was soooo sexy!!! I loved him!

"Jackson knew Mollie was nothing like her sister. She wouldn't spend years toying with his heart only to rip it out when he was at his lowest. But Jackson was far from being anxious to jump into another serious relationship.

He didn't know what the hell he'd been wanting to get out of this time with Mollie, but he knew he hadn't had nearly enough time to get rid of his demons."

As for Mollie??? She was so cute, so sweet, so kind... and that wasn't always good!!!

Because of her big love of her sister, she couldn't see that she was a manipulating bitch that she didn't care for anyone but herself and i was pissing off because Mollie trusted blindly Madison.

As for her relationship with Jackson??? Jackson was always a big part of her life and her heart. And when she finally had him, it was like a dream that came true... but her guilts for her sister were so big and it was such a shame because Madison didn't deserve any kindness...

"It was so much more than a fling. If she thought she'd been in love with Jackson Burke at twenty, that had been nothing compared to what she felt for him now. He was someone she could talk to. Laugh with. The sex was amazing, true, but she could no longer let herself pretend that Jackson Burke was a glorified booty call.

He was more. He'd always been so much more."

Yep, i know what you will say...

Jackson was her sister's ex husband....

And i will say to you, that in different occassion, maybe i would agree that this wasn't so ethical, but Madison was a manipulating bitch and her actions toward Jackson and Mollie was awful...

So, no! I don't feel any pity for her!!! I hated her guts!!!

For once again, i enjoyed very much the Oxford bunch... They are sneaky and hilarious...

I liked the way that they were trying to include Jackson and i love how instantly they made him one of them... And the same goes for Mollie too...

They are from those kind of people that i would love to have in my life and they are all a big family!!!

And i have to repeat that damn it, i have to read the Stiletto series... I already know so much things about those women and their husbands!!!

I can't wait for the next story of this series, even though that i'm dying to unravel Lincoln's secrets!!! But i will wait patiently!!!

ARC kindly provided via NetGalley for the exchange of an honest review

Jessica ❁ ⇨ Silverbow ⇨ ❁ Rabid Reads-no-more says

3.5 stars

I want to preface this by stating that I usually love Lauren Layne. I read all FOUR books in her **Sex, Love & Stiletto** series over the course of THREE days during one of my most recent palate cleanses, and I loved the first book in this series as well.

I WISH YOU WERE MINE wasn't a bad book . . . It was just MEH.

And by itself that's an accomplishment if you know the premise: cheating football player hooks up with the baby sister of his ex-wife.

Right? *edvard munch face*

But it turns out that he's not a slimeball cheater, and his ex-wife might literally be SATAN.

Still . . . You have to ask yourself . . . Why?

Why bother? Why waste time coming up with a convoluted scenario in which unacceptable behavior is acceptable *just this once*?

B/c that was my biggest struggle. I felt like Layne put so much effort into creating circumstances that would make her situation "okay" that everything else got left by the wayside.

So as deplorable as the premise would usually be, sure, I was convinced that, no, really, it's not as bad as it sounds . . . I just didn't care. *shrugs awkwardly* I wasn't invested in the couple.

BUT. I highly recommend her other contemporary romances, so if you haven't tried Layne yet, you definitely should. Just don't start with this one . . .

Wendy's Thoughts says

4 It's Stilettos & Oxfords Stars

*** Spoiler Free

I happen to be a huge fan of the characters, theme and just feel goods of the Stilettos and now spin off Oxford series. Layne Layne created an environment based in New York City with all the hustle and bustle of what "making it there" means. She gave us characters who were driven in their careers; successful but still had normal relationship insecurities to make them human. The women and men alike each carried their own little "bag of garbage" from the past and it was the way each person and couple worked through it all.... discovering themselves while learning to love another.

PLUS THERE WAS SMOKIN' HOT SEX!

No, I am talking about real sex... the kind that anyone of us could experience...the whispers of dirty, naughty words said at the back of your neck while you stand in an elevator waiting for it to get to the floor of your company...leaving you all tingly and anticipating what will happen when the whisperer gets you in his arms at the end of the day type sex.

Or the looks across the table while having a dinner with a group of friends...and the newness of knowing that the two of you are connecting...and none of your friends know it yet...

Not to mention when real touching happens... and the sparks fly and the need is driven so deep, worrying about whether the neighbors will hear is the last thing anyone cares about...

So with all of this as to why I love these Lauren Layne books, I was a bit concerned with the premise of our Quarterback, his EX and the sister of EX being the main part of this story. While this was not one of my most favorite stories in this series... it held my attention and gave me many moments to enjoy.

The biggest life lesson addressed was the idea of fully committing...whether it be to a job or relationship. Doing things Half-Assed is never the way to go and both of the main characters in this love relationship needed to figure that out.

Our guy was a famous professional quarterback. He had married the beautiful model/actress/whatever wanna be... and she had this wonderfully smart younger sister. It seems that he was more comfortable to be himself around the sister than with the wife....and when he has a career ending injury...Wanna be Wife doesn't want to be his wife anymore... by having an ugly affair with the hubby's supposed best friend...oops!

Fast forward many years...and little sis is all grown up. She is in New York City and so is her ex brother in law. He has managed to pull himself together and landed a health and fitness column for Oxford magazine. He is uncomfortable with the situation but is using all of his college major to figure out the way to make it all work.

What is not working is the plot of the EX to regain the fame she wants...She needs her ex-husband to land a place in some tacky reality show and barges into her sister's and our guy's lives to make it happen. Narcissism at its finest. UGH...

The sister is torn...deep down she loves the bitch... even though

- A. She sided against her in the divorce...
- B. She has thought she is over her first love crush of her brother in law and
- C. She is curious how he is doing here in New York.

These two come together under the umbrella of their past friendship... little sis is not little any more.... she is smokin' hot. Our guy at first tries to fight the attraction but then realizes it isn't just that...it is the foundation of friendship and actual love he has always had for her.... he married the wrong sis.

There is also other things happening in this story and they have to do with the Quarterback and him being at Oxford. The guy seems to be in a holding pattern...he either needs to be part of the team and make some roots or cut bait and leave. Oxford environment does not work when everyone isn't invested....

Neither does love and relationships....

These characters needed to go through their journeys; they needed to commit fully to what they both wanted... career wise and in their personal lives. The journeys weren't always easy... but what made them

worthwhile was the results

and

THE CREW.

We had major doses of the crew and little teases of what is to come with Lincoln, our last Oxford fella.... Ah Lincoln, oh so knowing, so cavalier, so suave, sexy and just damn cool....

But Lincoln...we know there is more... so much more and Lauren Layne promises to deliver. I can't wait.

Irresistibly Yours (Oxford, #1)

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

I Wish You Were Mine (Oxford, #2)

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

Someone like You (Oxford, #3)

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

I Knew You Were Trouble (Oxford, #4)

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

I Think I Love You (Oxford, #5)

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

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*Things to share while waiting for review:*

*Two main characters with a very complicated history...*

*The Oxford and Stiletto gang are in full force :D*

*Many hints about Lincoln as this is the lead up to his book,*

*Someone Like You*

*the final one in the series.*

*Review closer to publication.*

~~~~~ **Before Reading** ~~~~~

Sometimes it pays to get up in the morning...

Not with money...

But with delight!

Lauren Layne is at it again with the crew of the Oxford Magazine....

You know, the one with all of those delicious men...

Now we have a retired Football Star and a sister who has always been in the shadows....

Will she step out and finally get what she wants or fumble...

I can't wait to see how this plays out...

A gifted copy was provided by Random House Publishing Group - Loveswept via NetGalley for an honest review.

Dali says

A smoking hot forbidden romance between an acerbic and disgruntled ex-quarterback and the woman who's always had his back but should be completely out of bonds to him since she's his ex-wife's younger sister.

"Tonight at her sister's wedding, Mollie Carrington had gone and fallen head over heels in love. With the groom."

Jackson Burke had it all. A successful career as a quarterback with a handful of Super Bowl rings and was married to his beautiful high school sweetheart. But car accident not only forced him into retirement, it also triggered a scandalous and bitter divorce. Far from home and unable to move on because he misses his life on the field, he's barely existing and grudgingly passing time in New York as the new health and fitness columnist at Oxford magazine. But his life takes another turn of events when both Carrington sisters show up.

Mollie Carrington has always felt nerdy and awkward, especially compared to her beautiful and always put together sister, except when she around Jackson who's always put her at ease. After all the years that have passed though, she's finally over her crush on him. A good thing since they've reconnected and she's moving in with him. But remaining on her sister's side is increasingly difficult once she starts to view her long time hero for the pretender she's become and the harm she's caused Jackson throughout their marriage. Lured by Jackson's Texan charm and for once wanting to come first, this time she's playing to win.

I wasn't completely sure how the dynamic between the ex-es and younger sister would work, but I know Lauren Layne is an expert at causing big smiles with her smart and sexy reads. Let me put you at ease, it totally worked!

While Mollie was still the sweet, caring younger sister who loved and was grateful towards Madison, she had also grown into her own and was now realizing that Madison had never truly loved Jackson. And although Jackson had loved his ex-wife through better and worse, he's now recognizing how much he genuinely belongs with the younger Carrington sister.

[image error]

Because of the seemingly prohibited circumstance they found themselves in, it took a while for Mollie and Jackson to acknowledge their attraction for one another and get over their past and insecurities. But the slow build was deliciously sweet and sexy. Their flirty, sassy banter along with their long standing friendship made me want to cheer them on together with the amusingly meddlesome Oxford men and their delightful wives and girlfriends.

Yes! The guys and gals from the Stiletto series make a wonderful appearance along with the characters from the precious Oxford novel making this a well-rounded steamy, fun page turner. I loved how all the Oxford guys and girl coaxed Jackson out of his crabby, I'm an island, self-imposed shell. And how their busybody actions translated into bringing Mollie into their fold. Reading about the goings on Stiletto-Oxford family was a total treat, just like all of Lauren's books with her impeccable mix of sweet, sassy and sexy romance.

I Wish You Were Mine is book #2 in the Oxford series by Lauren Layne. This is a sweet and sexy standalone book with charming characters. I can't wait to read more about the other supporting characters, one in particular. This story is told from alternating points of view with a happy ending.

4.5 stars

Amazon -> <http://amzn.to/1Sq2MtZ>

* I was given an ARC of this book courtesy of the author via NetGalley. The excerpts are from that copy. *

More reviews * Stalk us on FaceBook * As well as Twitter * Pinterest Board for Book Teasers

Claire Robinson says

2.5 - "**I don't want any of that nonsense.**" Stars.

I am a big fan of Lauren Layne, and I am also a huge fan of the *Stiletto & Oxford* series'. What I am not a huge fan of is overblown familial drama, especially when the villain of the piece then pretty much walks away without getting their just desserts.

Mollie was likeable but a little unremarkable, I liked her interactions with Jackson and the *Oxford* guys, but I found her constant excuses for her sisters lies and abhorrent behavior really difficult to stomach the more the story progressed.

Jackson, I'm really on the fence with if I'm being honest, all the other guys that we have met through the two series have all had a little something special about them and I just didn't get that feeling with him.

I think the main problem I have is that the one thing that stood out from this story wasn't the relationship building between Jackson and Mollie and the issues they were working through due to their past association as brother and sister in law, because it was overtaken by the words and behavior of Madison, the sister/ex wife.

Take out that whole side of the story though and the rest of it was to the authors usual high standards, I just really struggle with this trope, especially as I feel it didn't really need to be as bigger part of the story as it was, considering how it all pans out at the end. Onwards to Lincoln's book, the guy is carrying around a whole trunk of secrets, and I cannot wait to see what story Lauren gives him.

ARC generously provided via Netgalley, in exchange for the above honest review.

Deanna♥Pink Lady♥? says

4.5 "It's Always Been You" Stars

When I pick up a Lauren Layne book I have come to realize that I'm going to be transported into a very happy place. Witty dialogue, adorable characters, and a friends to lovers story that makes me smile, laugh and most of all creates happiness within.

This book is part of the Oxford series about a group of guys that are seriously hot, funny, cocky and super endearing. They are people you want to hang out with and be friends with. This is my second in the series but I'm hooked and cannot wait for the next installment.

So.....I Wish You Were Mine...Friends to Lover's Story.....I love football and I'm from Texas- that alone made me giddy. Jackson Burke was delicious from the word go. A star QB, from Houston, that had to leave the game way before his time. A younger ex sister in law, Mollie Carrington that had always been there for him and had always loved him from afar. And the ex wife, Madison Burke, she was never far and always thinking about what was best for her. There were also Jackson's colleagues at Oxford magazine who added the perfect combination of snarky and playfulness to this story. Another added bonus to this story is that it took place in NY, my second favorite place beside Texas, and well I was transported into blissful heaven with this fun and witty beautifully written story.

This story is fluffy, ooey gooey sexy romance at its finest. We all have go to authors that we go to when we want to feel good. A story with drama but not over the top drama, a story that will make you laugh, a story that will make you swoon and most of all a story that you know at the end will leave you in a **Happy Place**.....to me Lauren Layne does it perfectly and this book, this story of Jackson and Mollie is absolutely wonderful.

An advance reading copy of I Wish You Were Mine by Lauren Layne was generously provided to me via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Jo ★The Book Sloth★ says

2.5 Too Forbidden For Me Stars

You know how there are things that are just a no-no? Well, fucking your sister's ex-husband(even if said sister is Satan himself) is one of them. Lauren Layne has managed to pull off the whole "falling for your sister's boyfriend" for me but that time the sister had barely dated the guy. Not been married to him for years.

I thought that maybe LL would find a way to make the unacceptable, more...acceptable, but nope. I still think it shouldn't have happened. So, no matter how much I liked the characters, no matter how hot the sex was, I

still can't rate this one higher. 2.5 is high enough for something like this.

Robin (Bridge Four) says

3.5 Stars

If you've read the blurb then already you know this is about a pair of sisters. One who married the man and the other who watched it all crash and burn then tried to help pick up the pieces. Sure this is shades of *American Sweethearts* in a very loose sense and maybe it isn't for everyone because it is about sisters who eventually fall in love with the same man. I can't even imagine liking the same type of man as my sister but...for whatever reason the sisters angle never bothered me. Probably because I was team Mollie all the way.

It took some time to connect with Jackson. I know that the Stiletto series Oxford series are technically different but there is so much cross over that this the first book since *After the Kiss* I didn't know either of the main characters. We got a brief look at Jackson during Cole's book as his career falls apart, but unlike the rest of the side characters that eventually got their own book we have no personal one-on-one experience with either Jackson or Mollie.

Mollie however I loved from the beginning because she is a little bit awkward, totally sweet and slightly goofy.

"Mollie, is that why you went all Rain Man on me during dinner? Because you wanted to say yes but thought you shouldn't?"

"Rain Man?"

"He winced. "God, tell me you've seen it. I know I'm old, but it's a classic."

"I've seen Rain Man, I just don't' thing I am Rain Man."

"Molls, you rattled off like the fifty most common diseases I was likely to die from. You paused only when the server brought over our food, and then you proceeded to tell him the diseases he was likely to die from."

She waved this away. "I tend to talk diseases when I'm nervous. That and animal mating habits, apparently."

See Mollie is A-D-O-R-A-B-L-E, well at least I think so. Jackson grew on me as the story progressed and he starting hanging out with the other team members at Oxford magazine.

I enjoyed their inner turmoil as each tries desperately to deny the attraction between them and the feelings they have for one another until there wasn't any more denial to be had and then they had to face the repercussions of said attraction.

But...the best parts of the story for me were the interactions with both the Stiletto and Oxford crowd. There is the boy banter than I've come to really love in the series. There is also all the flirty fun of the Stiletto girls as they bring another person into the fold. The side characters and glimpses into the ongoing live of the couples from the Stiletto and Oxford series are really one of my favorite things. Alex Cassidy especially got to get a few really good ones in along with Cole. But the kicker is there are a few hints dropped about Lincoln and his colored past.

"I know I've said this a million times, but if I'd met you first, you'd be so in love with me."
Mollie laughed and leaned toward him, lowering her voice to a whisper. "I'm on to you Lincoln Mathis. You may have this city wrapped around your little finger, but I know your secret. I don't think you want anyone to fall in love with you. I think you're terrified."

This wasn't my favorite of all the couples in the series, this probably has a little to do with the sisters aspect of it and that both characters are very new. But by the end I very much liked their story and how Jackson was able to find a new dream to have after his football career fell apart. **For me this book is more of a filler book until we get to Lincoln who I know is going to be a complicated character with some teeth to it.**

So if you loved all the other Stiletto or Oxford books then go ahead it will be fun to hang out with the gang again but if you haven't read anything in this series **WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR. This is some of the funnest chick lit around and you are missing out.**

ARC provided by Netgalley in exchange for review

Lisa Jayne says

FOUR ALWAYS YOU STARS

"Mollie Carrington was twenty the first time she fell in love ..."

Nothing gets me more excited than a chance to spend my time reading a Lauren Layne novel. You can almost guarantee that you won't get much sense out of me during the time that this author's novel is in my hands. And this time around it wasn't any different. This author has a uncanny ability to make me addicted to her series and with plenty of characters to fall in love with I was giddy with excitement to read the next line up in the Oxford series. Already intrigued about the lusty Jackson Burke I was ready to once again fall in love with a worthy hero.

What's it all about?

Mollie Carrington has crushed on Jackson Burke for as long as she can remember. Always placed in the friend zone, Mollie has resigned herself to the fact that this gorgeous quarterback will never be in her reach, especially when he marries the person she is closest to - her sister. But after betrayal and a disastrous end to their relationship Jackson finds himself depending on Mollie and her unwavering friendship and this girl is finding it hard to be distracted from all those old feelings resurfacing. And so the story of real love begins ...

What did I love?

What Lauren Layne didn't squeeze into the 250 plus pages of this romance novel isn't worth talking about. There is all sorts of romantic themes and schenanigans going on in the latest LL novel. And although not an exhaustive list you can expect the following; unrequited love, a complicated angsty love story with a twist, opposites attract, a nod towards the friends to lovers trope, plenty of heat and definitely that trademark

Lauren Layne sweet. All of the above came together to provide me with exactly what I can expect from this talented author and quite frankly I don't mind admitting that I'm an LL addict.

Why not five?

Whenever I read a Lauren Layne book I always expect that I'll be helplessly in love with everything about it. So it always comes as a shock when I don't automatically give out a solid five star. That's not to say that I didn't enjoy my time with this book because let's face it a solid four star review isn't anything to be worried about. Here's a short summary which hopefully explains why. To start with I didn't automatically fall in love with the characters with the ease that I normally do with a Lauren Layne novel. Something held me back from being fully convinced of the sincerity of the hero and his intentions. But once I got to the finishing line and was able to relax into their story I found myself just as wrapped up in the romance as I would have expected from my favourite author, but sadly by then the four star niggle had already been planted and I didn't find that wow factor that I crave. With that being said there's not much to concern yourself over, as a fan of Lauren Layne I was well pleased to devour yet another of this authors work. A solid four stars for a series worth being excited about.

Final thoughts ...

There's not much more I can say that I haven't already about my addiction to this authors work. I can guarantee that I'll always love a Lauren Layne release and this series is shaping up to be a cracker. Readers who love a little angst to be served on the side of their romance will be pleased to know that 'I wish you were mine' will keep them on their toes. Jackson and Mollie are a couple that I'm sure I'll revisit one day for a re read until then I'll be on the sidelines waiting for more from my number one. Enjoy, readers ... Kisses.

ARC provided in exchange for an honest review. (Christmas has come early).

Lisa says

4 Stars!

I Wish You Were Mine is the second book in Lauren Layne's Oxford series. This is only my second book by this author and I most definitely enjoyed this one every bit as I did the first book in the series. I have come to discover that Ms. Layne certainly has a penchant for writing some fantastic chick lit that keeps me engrossed with the story and her wonderfully developed characters. She writes fantastically hilarious and witty tales, swoony romances and hot and sexy times that leave you all hot and bothered. This book is no exception. Another heart-warming gem about trusting your heart, letting go and falling for someone that should be firmly off-limits.

Jackson Burke once had it all – a successful career as a quarterback with the Texas Redhawks, Super Bowl wins and a marriage to his high school sweetheart. When a car accident suddenly ends his career as a football player, matters are made even worse when his wife files for divorce shortly after the accident. Jackson now lives in New York and has joined the Oxford team as the new health and fitness columnist for the magazine. It's not where he ever imagined being and Jackson is having a hard time fitting in and accepting his new life. Throughout the ups and the downs the one constant for Jackson was his former sister-in-law, Mollie

Carrington. When they reconnect in New York Jackson has a hard time reminding himself of all the reasons he should not be having inappropriate thoughts and feelings for Mollie especially when he helps her out and she moves in with him temporarily. Can Mollie and Jackson really put the past behind them and follow their hearts especially when Mollie's sister (Jackson's ex-wife) makes it known that she is not through with Jackson yet?

When I first read the synopsis I was not sure if I would enjoy this one. I am not a huge fan of this type of a storyline – evil sister versus the good sister. Evil sister had the man first when all along the good sister should have been with said man. I am pleasantly surprised that this book turned out to be an enjoyable and sweet tale with the added twist of the familial drama. The pairing of a sweet, down-to-earth, geeky, adorable girl-next-door with a broody alpha male has obviously been done before; however, I loved the fact that this author gave us such a wonderful mix of humour, romance and steam with a seamless and flowing writing style. I absolutely loved Mollie even though there were times where I wanted to shake her when it came to how she dealt with her bitchy sister. Mollie, though, is what made this book for me. She was hard not to love with her adorably geeky intelligence and sassy attitude. There was such a sweetness to her that was hard to resist. She was someone that Jackson should have stayed far away from; but, how could he not fall for the girl when she was such a breath of fresh air and who had always been there for you? Jackson was working through so much inner turmoil and watching him find himself once again was deliciously sweet. These two endearing characters had me rooting for them right from the beginning.

All in all, *I Wish You Were Mine* was a fun-filled and heart-felt read that has me looking forward to future books in this series. I can't wait to see the rest of the Oxford boys meet their match! Bring on Lincoln's story!

****An advance reading copy of *I Wish You Were Mine* by Lauren Layne was generously provided to me via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

**Patty Belongs To Kellan~Jesse~Lautner~Miller~Jack~Racer~Rafe~Liam~Prince
Nicholas~Hayes~Simon~Gianluca & Archer says**

*****4.5 STARS*****

{Netgalley ARC}

This book was just what I needed to get over a disappointing read. Lauren Layne's books are definitely sure to bring a smile to your face. I haven't had a chance to read the first book in *The Oxford Series*, but after having finished this, I plan on finding the time to read about Cole and Penelope!! It started off a little slow and I wasn't sure if it was a good idea having the heroine be the little sister of the hero's ex wife, but in the end **IT WORKED!!** I seriously fell in love with this story.

Jackson Burke is the new fitness journalist at Oxford Magazine. This is not his dream job and NYC isn't winning him over either. He's still stuck in the past where he was once a Superbowl winning NFL Quarterback and he desperately wants to be that guy again, and to be back in Texas, where he thinks he belongs. But a car accident, that injured his shoulder took it all away from him, including his wife, Madison. Although Madison bailed on the marriage soon after the **I do's** when she started having an affair with his best friend. He's in a bad place in his life and spends most of his time avoiding his co-workers and dodging the calls from his ex sister-in-law, who happens to live in New York now.

Mollie Carrington has been smitten with Jackson since he first started dating her sister, but she was always considered the geeky little sister. She and Jackson became close friends during the time he was married to Madison. Mollie was his "go to" person whenever things were strained between he and her sister, which happened quite often.

After months of avoiding Mollie, Jackson agrees to meet her for dinner. He's not prepared to come face to face with the beautiful woman she's become. He's uncomfortable with how attracted he is towards her. And Mollie is struggling with the fact that she's still pretty much hung up on Jackson while she's also feeling guilty he's her sisters ex husband. After a brief conversation about how she's living with the roommate from hell, Jackson ends up offering the spare bedroom in his penthouse to Mollie.

Till these two start to acknowledge their attraction to each other, the story seems to be very slow building. From the 40% mark on, I couldn't put this book down!! The fact that Jackson was once married to Mollie's sister, ceased to be a pain point for me. As you get more details about Madison, it's pretty much impossible to feel that these two are doing anything wrong. I really loved the chemistry between Jackson and Mollie. I was rooting for them to get passed their insecurities and hang ups. I feel like this was one of the steamiest Lauren Layne books to date!!

Will Jackson and Mollie be able to leave the past behind them and let what's starting to develop become a possible once in a lifetime love? Or will they let the past take control and possibly make the biggest mistakes of their lives?

Aside from all the angst, we get a chance to be with the other Oxford employees, including Alex Cassidy and Jake Malone, who we met during the *Stiletto series*. All the ladies from *Stiletto* are back as well and they become fast friends with Mollie.

I know this may be premature but I think I like this series more than *Stiletto*.

"I Wish You Were Mine" is due out Feb 2nd. Make sure you pick this one up!

Jennifer Kyle says

3.75~ 4 STARS

Laurent Layne delivers a very sticky situation in the second book of this series. The story begins eight years earlier with the young heroine's first interactions with the hero. It was a great way to grab a reader's attention and start this story.

"Tonight at her sister's wedding, Mollie Carrington had gone and fallen head over heels in love. With the groom."

Eight years later, we have a brand new addition to the Oxford Magazine staff, former Texas Redhawks quarterback, Jackson Burke. Jackson has relocated to New York and is licking deep wounds left by the end of his eight year very public marriage and recovering from physical injuries from a car accident that ended his football career.

Jackson has always had a great friendship with his sister-in-law, Mollie. Meeting up with Mollie leads to him offering her a bedroom in his apartment. Mollie has always had a crush on her sister's husband but never would cross any lines and Jackson only ever loved his wife. What happens when these two get to know one another without the former Mrs. Madison Burke's presence?

"They both knew this was crazy- forbidden, even—and that made it even hotter."

This story is pretty complex as Mollie struggles with the sister she knew as a young girl and the lying reality star her sister has become. She also has grown a lot over the years and Jackson notices how desirable Mollie truly is. Madison plays a very interesting villain/fame whore part in this story. She's angling on getting her ex back and makes this situation even more of a mess.

Overall, the story line was well structured but I did wish it was longer especially on how they were perceived publicly and a true couple behind closed doors. I loved how Jackson falls for his nerdy sister-in-law while getting to know his new colleagues at the magazine and struggling with life without playing football. For some reason, I wished Jackson fell harder for Mollie if that makes any sense? Still, this is another good read by Lauren Layne and I'm hoping that Lincoln Mathis' book is next in line!

***ARC provided by Netgalley in exchange for an honest review ***

Allison ♥?Will Never Conquer Her TBR♥? says

4.25 Stars!

Lauren Layne hooked me with her *Sex, Love & Stiletto* series so when I'd heard she was going to write a spin-off series with the men of *Oxford Magazine* I was all over it. Both these series are filled with a sexy cast of characters that have humorous interactions as well as that comfortable camaraderie you find in long time friendships.

Jackson Burke's life is turned upside down when a car accident renders him retired from professional football. To add to his grief, his cheating wife decides to serve him with divorce papers while he's laid up in the hospital. So divorced man and washed-up quarterback, he packed up And found a new start as a fitness editor for *Oxford Magazine* in New York City. It's far from his dream job but he'll take it for the time-being. He hates the job, hates the suit he has to wear daily, hates New York City. All he knew was *Jackson Burke, football player*, and nothing else...

Mollie Carrington has been trying to get ahold of her *ex*-brother-in-law forever. Ever since she served Jackson his divorce papers for her sister Madison, he has avoided her. But now that he lives in the city- her city- she's finally gotten him to agree to dinner. She's loved Jackson since he was the groom in her sister's wedding. Never acting on it, except in a tight friendship even her sister couldn't measure up to with him. She lost her best friend with that divorce and she wants him back...

Ms. Layne grabs us right from the start in this book with Mollie's revelation that she's in love with the groom. Fast forward those eight years, a lot has changed. But what seemed apparent is their connection never faltered until the divorce. To say that Mollie's sister Madison was a witch is an understatement. This is truly a story of a guy marrying the wrong sister. Back then he didn't know it but when she walks into the restaurant to meet him finally, he's struck for the first time that she isn't the young little sister anymore. Mollie has grown up and he notices!

Okay, maybe not quite **that** fast...

I felt both the MCs struggle with their attraction and although it's a bit *unethical* to be lusting after your ex's sister, I felt his inner battle and found myself mentally pushing him to step it up...to freaking kiss her! When he offers his spare bedroom while she's transitioning between apartments, I knew they couldn't hold off their mutual attraction much longer. I pretty much had one thing on my mind for these two...should they choose to ~~go balls to the wall~~ act on their increasing attraction.

Anywho, the rest is up to you to read and find out. A great new installment in the *Oxford* series. We also get to see all the past characters from the *Stiletto* series as well as our resident *Oxford* ~~pieces of man-meat~~ fellas. Lincoln is still the resident man-whore and I'm biting-at-the-bit to get his story. We get glimpses here that maybe he is a lot more vulnerable than we think.

I look forward the next new book as well as catch up with the past characters. Lauren Layne has found her niche in this *Sex in the City*-like trope and she hasn't failed me yet.

Advanced copy received by author in exchange for my honest review.
