

# **Deadly Chemistry**

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Former undercover cop Mike Gibson has been lying low, working as a maintenance man to put his troubled younger brother through college. But when a beautiful scientist enlists Mike's help to repair the damage done to her lab by a group of vandals, Mike finds that his, and his brother's pasts, are about to be brought to light.

Laura Kane was happy having a secret crush on the hot maintenance man at Tucker University, but when the drug she was studying is stolen, Laura has a chance to get to know Mike in person. The problem is, he seems to know more about what's going on than any maintenance man should. But then the drug turns up in the wrong hands, and Mike and Laura have to decide if their own chemistry will help, or hinder, the race to save innocent lives.

# **Deadly Chemistry Details**

Date : Published June 23rd 2014 by Entangled: Ignite

ISBN:

Author: Teri Anne Stanley

Format: Kindle Edition 195 pages

Genre: Romance, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Suspense, Mystery

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# From Reader Review Deadly Chemistry for online ebook

### Colette says

I liked this one a lot. Bits more of a 3.5-3.9 review. Full review to come. I agreed to review b/c i had met the author and was worried when I realized it was a romantic suspense book. Those of you who know me know I don't do romantic suspense, so the fact that I was able to finish it says a lot about the writing!

### Stacy McKitrick says

Okay, Goodreads states the character's name as Laura, but it's actually Lauren! Oops. This was a fun, light-hearted read, yeah, even for a romantic suspense. From the cute meet, I realized this book was not made to be serious, so I went in and enjoyed the ride. If you're looking for a quick, fun read, this is your book. Don't worry about the science-nerdy stuff if that's not your thing. It's not really all that nerdy. But if it is your thing, the hot-hero stuff more than makes up for that.

#### Melanie says

Full review available on All About Romance - http://likesbooks.com/cgi-bin/bookRev...

Why did I pick up this book? Because it's the first in a new series - Sex, Lies and Science Geeks. I mean, come on, how can I pass that up? I'm not usually one for romantic suspense, but add in a good geek girl (or guy) and I'll give it a shot! I'm pretty glad I did, too. It's not the most exciting mystery ever, but the romance was cute and it was an easy read. I liked it.

Dr. Lauren Kane is a bit of the absent-minded professor, spending her time and energy on her algae research, attempting to make a better, addiction-free pain killer. Unfortunately, some of her product has gone missing in the intermediary steps and is now hitting the street as a new, very addictive, and very dangerous drug, Devil's Dust.

Enter Mike Gibson, maintenance man at the university Lauren works for and former Cincinnati detective. Currently on indefinite suspension without pay after a bit of drugs from a gang bust goes missing on his watch, he's still looking to finish his last assignment, which has led him to Lauren's lab. What he finds is a lovely and naive scientist who has no idea what is going on, or that her lab assistant is a former gang member with ties to the Devil's Dust drugs. And also Mike's brother.

So now Mike and Lauren have to work together to find the culprit and drug dealer, deal with family, figure out their new relationship, and somehow keep Lauren from losing her research and grant money.

The story was cute, if a bit predictable. Lauren volunteers at an animal rescue, and when Mike follows her (in case, you know, she's dealing drugs, not because he's attracted to her, oh no), he ends up meeting the oldest, grumpiest, mangiest cat there. Does he end up adopting the mangy old cat? Why, yes! Yes he does! And there are definitely some passages that made me scratch my head a bit ("her golden eyes so full of...his own reflection" - I'm not sure what that means, especially since the ellipses are not my addition. Also, her

eyes were golden? I thought they were hazel. Or brown.). Also, if Lauren is working on research for a grant, with the intention of selling the end product to a pharmaceutical company, is she really going to tell a guy she barely knows all about it? Or her ex and fellow scientist? I'm a little concerned at her idea of confidentiality...

#### Margarida says

#### **3.5** stars

I really don't what I felt about this book. I really liked it but there were sometimes that I just wanted to punch the characters! This time it wasn't just the girl who annoyed me it was both and that's not normal for me. Another thing that I didn't like and that when this kind of thing happens in books my rating is never more than 4 stars. The time. It was to fast for me...After a couple of days they were already in love...Besides these things I really liked the story.

I really liked Lauren when she described herself saying that Mike wouldn't a bookish girl a cat-lover I was like **yup that's me** though I'm not science nerd like her I like science but I'm not very good at it. I loved her experience and what she wanted to do with it. A thing that I really liked that she did was working with rescued animals that's one the things a really want to do in the future and I loved that she did that!!

I swear to God that books are ruining boys that aren't from the fictional world! Why do these characters have to be so hot?! Obviously Mike is one of those guys....hot hot hot...I so wouldn't mind living in his house with him and Dylan, Evan could go live there too I wouldn't mind at all \*sigh\* So Mike is an ex-cop (see what I was talking about *an ex-cop* means mystery and now I'm drooling all over the keyboard) and now he's a handyman who thinks that's hot?

Another thing I like in guys is when they like animals and Mike saved a kittie!! Though he wasn't expecting Lauren just made him adopt him but anyways it was pretty adorable seeing him with the cat!!!

The mystery/crime that occurred in the book I think it was quite predictable who stole the algae, the moment the person show up I said *You're guilty bitch*. and just how Lauren described her/him it made doubt that person and then there were some events that made completely sure who was guilty.

When I went looking for this book on Goodreads I saw this was the first in a series and now I'm really curious what or who the next book will be about.

\*\*ARC kindly provided by Entangled Publishing via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review\*\*

# Ren says

#### 3 stars

When Entangled first send the list for ARC to be reviewed, I think that Deadly Chemistry is a PNR book (or Sci-Fi) just based on the cover and its title. Turn that the first installment of Sex, Lies and Science Geeks

series and also Ms Stanley debut is romantic suspense. Beside PNR, RS is one of my favorite genre and so I request this. Aside from the yummy cover of course..

Deadly Chemistry is story about Lauren Kane, a scientist and Mike Gibson ex-cop turn to be maintenance man. Mike try to trace some drug that lead him into the university where Lauren's lab reside. Like the title, the chemistry here do not refer to Lauren and Mike's relationship but to drug that Lauren create that indeed deadly. There are some family drama, angst, chemical terms here and there and some suspense as well.

What I like is the background about drug and science. Also Mike's step sibling, Evan and Dylan. I think that Mike sometimes can be jerk, even he can be charming. But guy must loosen up a bit, for Mike while he just want to protect his little brothers, sometimes he have a hero complex. Like all weight in the world rest in his shoulder. Lauren sometimes can be cute, awkward. But I will not said that she is a nerd or geek. I mean, even it's normal for woman to lust after Jason Statham or The Rock, but as nerd, uhmm, nerd women will choose another option. And this is because I'm a nerd, so I can said about that, lol! I don't get what the appeal of The Rock and Jason Statham and believe me, I watch their movies.

Because Deadly Chemistry is book #1, I wonder if there will be book #2. I hope that Evan will have his own story, for I like his stoic and devil-may-care attitude. Make him more interesting than Mike that soo predictable. Deadly Chemistry is well written, even there are some cliche that kinda overused. Like why Lauren try to track her lost notebook, ALONE, after her lab had been vandalized. That make no sense for me, because if Lauren indeed smart, she will call police. Not try to investigate by herself (even she did have a reason. But still). The ending also kinda cliche, but still imho, well written.

I will recommend Deadly Chemistry if you search for a fun, light RS with a little bit family drama.

e-ARC provided by Entangled for honest review

#### **Bette Hansen says**

This is a fun light hearted story with great humor, romance, and mystery. Down on his luck, shamed detective Mike Gibson is working hard to restore his name and honor by tracking the deadly strain of drugs that have hit the streets. When it is traced back to the nerdy yet sexy scientist Mike has been trying not to lust after things get interesting fast!

I really enjoyed this book. Well written, funny, and a story that moves along at a good pace all work together to make this a very enjoyable read. Highly recommend it.

#### **DelAnne Frazee says**

Title: Deadly Chemistry - Sex, Lies, and Science Geeks Book 1

Author: Teri Anne Stanley Publisher: Entangled Ignite Published: 6-23-2014

ISBN: 13-978-1-62266-739-0 ASIN E-Book B00KP86AVU Pages: 246

Genre: Romance Tags: Suspense Sensual Level:

Overall Rating: Very Good

Reviewed For: Entangled Publishing

Reviewer: DelAnne

Nerdy scientist and over-protective ex-cop finally acknowledge their attraction...trouble comes and together they make everything right. Sounds familiar doesn't it? Well forget it because this book is so much more.

Mike Gibson a former undercover cop who was compelled to leave his job under a cloud of disgrace. He takes a position as maintenance man at Tucker University. His two brothers, one is researcher at the university and the youngest is Lauren Kane's research assistant, are two of the most important people in his world and he would give his life to protect them. He thinks Lauren is the sexiest thing on two legs but will do nothing about it because he feels she is so above him.

Lauren Kane is a bit of an introvert. Outside of her work and her kitty she is unsure of her self. She finds the maintenance man just yummy, but she can not seem to keep from stumbling over herself when around him. How can such a brilliant mind turn to mush around the sexiest man she has ever seen. When her lab is vandalized and part of her research stolen Mike comes to her aid. Can she trust Mike? What is he hiding? Is he helping her find the thief or is he helping the thief?

Such a wonderful story which moves smoothly and quickly from scene to scene. Using humor with a touch of slap-stick comedy to have you laughing as you read. There is also a touch of drama and suspense to keep you grounded. Add in two main characters who are intelligent and caring of those important to them. There is so many subplots to keep you on your toes. Indulge yourself with "Deadly Chemistry" and pick up a copy for yourself today!

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#### **Christi Snow says**

#### My Review:

I'll admit when it came time to decide whether or not to accept this book for review, I didn't look much past the series title...Sex, Lies, and Science Geeks. I do love it when geeks and suspense collide so this was a no-brainer for me.

Overall, the book was okay. It had an interesting plot with just the right levels of science thrown in to make the "geek" part of the story line believable.

I enjoyed the entire set up with Mike's family with his brothers and their troubled past. I loved all three of the brothers even though they are very different and have a difficult relationship with each other. I thought their story added a LOT to the overall book and the suspense story line. It was interesting to see how their past (especially Mike and Dylan's) helped the suspense line story unfold.

Mike is the oldest of the three boys and takes that responsibility very seriously, especially when things go wrong...which you know they are going to in this book. That is one of the things that endeared him as a character though...when he loves, he loves deeply and completely. As a former cop, he is absolutely a protector at heart and takes it to heart when someone he loves gets hurt. He feels that he should be able to protect everyone, whether they want him to do that job or not...even the sad little crazy cat that he ends up adopting partway through the book.

Then there's Laura...she's the science geek. She works at the university and is on the verge of developing a new drug. She knows all three brothers...the youngest acts as her assistant sometimes in the lab, the middle is another scientist who works there, and Mike, the oldest, is the maintenance man. She honestly doesn't realize they are all brothers until she gets involved with Mike because they are all so different. Laura has a pretty simple life...she works. She had a momentary fling with another scientist, but that was more a matter of convenience than anything. She never really had any true feelings for him other than annoyance when he offered his advice on her trials. She's truly pretty geeky...she works and has her cat.

I'll admit that for me, something about the relationship between Mike and Laura didn't quite hit the right buttons for me. I just didn't get their chemistry. But the rest of the story line worked so well for me, that I was okay with that. The book was still well written and I'll probably plan on reading the next in the series.

I received a complimentary copy of this book in return for an honest review.

## **Kate SeRine says**

Really enjoyed this novel by my pal, Teri Anne Stanley! A fun, engaging romantic suspense. And, hello! Hot ex-cop and science in one book? Sign. Me. Up.

#### Margaret says

Every scientist knows that opposites attract – but Laura Kane also knows what happens when that attraction leads you to letting a man take over your life. After watching her mother give up her career as a scientist

after getting married, Laura knows that there is no room in her life for any man...that is until she literally falls in the arms of "The Hottest Maintenance Man In History" – Mike Gibson.

Mike Gibson is trying to pick up the pieces of his life, trying to get his younger brother on the straight and narrow, and trying to clear his name. After being suspended from the police force, Mike takes a job as a maintenance man at the local college – and little does he know that the demons from his past are about to slam right into his present...and have him falling for the sexy scientist who he helps when she has the drug she is developing stolen out of her laboratory.

It was fun but also heartbreaking at times to watch Laura and Mike navigate through their relationship. They both had such issues to work through. Laura knows what her mother gave up in order to have a man in her life, and is so afraid of losing herself to a man that she never lets herself get close to anyone. Even after she begins to realize that a relationship is possible, she still has a hard time thinking that she, the scientist, could capture the attention of a man like Mike.

Aaaaand there she went. Just because she'd realized she could probably still manage a career and a love life didn't mean she could manage a love life with a guy like Mike Gibson. Or that, late-night condom runs aside, it was unlikely a guy like Mike Gibson would want that with her. He would want the big city and big adventures, bad-guy-chasing adrenaline highs and stiletto-wearing sex goddesses. Not bookish, cat-loving, sneaker-wearing homebodies like Lauren. Though she might like to try out the sex goddess thing for a while.

Mike was such a great guy but had taken the weight of the world, or at least the world of his family, on his shoulders. And he couldn't forgive himself for the times that he feels he let his family down...especially since he'd been trying to take care of and protect his brothers since they were kids. Now that Laura is in danger, he has a hard time realizing that pushing her away isn't going to keep her safe.

I really enjoyed this story and loved the fact that the female was the nerdy scientist. This seems like a great start to a fun series and I look forward to more....perhaps Evan's story?!!!

I received a copy of this book from the publisher for an honest review.

#### Susan Swiderski says

The chemical reactions found in this book don't only take place in the research lab. Nope, there's also plenty of action going on between the delightfully nerdy research gal and a hunky manly man of a maintenance man, who's actually a hunky manly man of a cop who's trying to clear his name after a botched drug dealer take-down made him trade in his badge for a tool belt. The plot (and sexual tension) thickens when it looks like the new deadly drugs on the street might be coming from the gal's lab. Whether or not they're both working on the same side, one thing's for sure: they're gonna be tangling, in more ways than one.

This is a fast fun read. Very enjoyable.

### Diana says

ARC received for an honest review from publisher. post originally posted at ramblingsfromthischick.blogspot.com

Deadly Chemistry (Sex, Lies, and Science Geeks #1) by Teri Anne Stanley was a fun, light, suspenseful and romantic read. Stanley delivered a story that was enjoyable and suspenseful at the same time. The hero and the heroine were complete opposites but they definitely attracted! The author provided great main characters and also supporting characters.

Mike Gibson is in a tough situation. He is working as a maintenance worker because of a set-up he was a part of when he was a cop. But although Mike is working as a maintenance worker he still has his eye set on taking down the man that ruined his career. Mike is also a very hardworking guy. He has a very special relationship with his brothers. I really loved this aspect of the story it really added to his already strong character. While Mike is working at the university he meets Laura. Laura is a scientist and working on very important experiments. She is in the process of creating a new drug.

Mike and Laura are night and day. He is a tough, confident, no-holds bar tough cop. She is a nervous, self-conscious and very awkward scientist. When Laura fears that she is in trouble and that she needs protection she goes to Mike for help. Although I really like Laura I felt like there were some aspects of the story that just didn't click. One aspect is that although she works with the brothers she doesn't realize that they are related. Laura is very "geeky" but sometimes it borders on irritating. The qualities that made her endearing were also sometimes too much. Also, most of the issues that she has with her relationship with Mike are really self-inflicted. Most of the issues are things that she is insecure about.

The suspenseful part of the story was fun. Once Mike is aware of the danger going on at the university he uses his undercover cop skills to trace down who is trying to steal the drugs and who is responsible for all the deaths as a result of a deadly drug that infiltrates the streets. The suspense really pushed the story along and I think also helped make the romance more believable. Overall, this was a fun and light story. It's perfect for relaxing and laughing. Lauren is a funny character and her relationship with Mike was enjoyable. I'm looking forward to his brothers and their stories!

#### Cathy Skendrovich says

I love reading about couples where one is a "Geek," maybe because I was a bit of one in high school. Lauren was the perfect geek. I loved how she thought in terms of science, and cells and whatnot. I liked how, even though she was a geek, she had a sexual past. And lastly, I liked how Mike saw the non-geekiness in her. True love, ha ha!

Mike was a great hero. Sexy, smart, and flawed. His desire to keep his family together was well-written; I could feel his angst, and empathized with him. I liked the way the author threw in bits of his past, so that I wasn't bombarded with an info-dump.

The mystery was good; it kept me guessing, which is always a plus. The ending played out well, though it was just a tad farfetched on that person's abilities of subterfuge. I may be splitting hairs; I read a lot of mysteries. I also found there was a lot of internal dialogue. I prefer dialogue between characters. I get bogged

down in a lot of narrative, and tend to skim. Hence, the four star rating.

All in all, I enjoyed Deadly Chemistry, and will read the next one in this series. Hot guys, smart women? Heck, yeah!

### **Linda Grimes says**

What a fun read! My inner science nerd loved every page, especially the ones that involved, ahem, chemistry. Take one Mike, add one Lauren, throw in some deadly danger, and kaboom! Enjoy the explosive reaction.

Yes, kiddies, science CAN be hot!

#### Cassandra says

ARC kindly provided by the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Deadly Chemistry was a cute read!

#### What I liked:

- 1) Lauren was pretty geeky and awkward. She rambled on about random things when she'd get nervous around Mike. It was kind of endearing. Even though she was career-driven, she wasn't stuck up. Despite the fact that she had her doctorate and a great job, Lauren still entertained the idea of dating the maintenance man. Never once did she look down on Mike.
- 2) Mike was fiercely protective of those he loved, even when he was on the outs with them (which, now that I think about it, he often was). That's a sign of great character, because people can be pretty petty sometimes.
- 3) This was a quick read that kept me entertained the whole way through!

#### What didn't work for me:

1) Lauren was a scientist at a university that shared way too much information about her project to anyone that would listen. It was a three-step process that resulted in a harmless drug that she was hoping to market to pharmaceutical companies, but the first- and second-steps of the process were a little trickier. Step one yielded a compound that was deadly if consumed. Step two yielded a street drug akin to heroin. The problem was that her drug was being stolen and sold to drug users that ended up overdosing.

Perhaps if Lauren hadn't shared so many details about her project with pretty much everyone, they'd have found the thief a lot sooner. Heck, after speaking with Mike the maintenance man for a total of, I would guess, 30 minutes, she'd told him the whole process and discussed with him how it could be used as a drug. Why wouldn't you keep something like that confidential? That being said, I knew very early on who stole her drugs and I'm a little shocked it took them so long to figure it out.

- 2) There were also times when Lauren's awkwardness and angst went from cute to teenager. There was quite a bit of "does he like me?"
- 3) The final thing that threw me was the very strange, unfounded, unexpected breakup. I don't think there were any real reasons for it other than Lauren was feeling feelings.

Despite there being a few things that didn't quite work for me, I would still recommend this book because it fulfilled its purpose of taking me away for a few hours!