



The Art of Running in Heels

Rachel Gibson

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The Art of Running in Heels Rachel Gibson **Running in five-inch stilettos is an art form**

Leaving your fiancé at the altar on live television is a disaster. Lexie Kowalsky thought she was ready to get married in front of millions of people, but at the last minute she fled the set of television's hottest reality show, *Gettin' Hitched*. Wearing a poofy white dress and a pair of five-inch sparkly shoes, Lexie hopped a float plane for Sandspit, Canada. She figured no one would find her there. But she was wrong.

Sharing her flight was the Seattle Chinooks biggest star, Sean Knox. Lexie wasn't just a reality-show runaway, she was his pain in the butt coach's daughter. She was chaos and temptation and definitely off limits, but getting her luscious body out of that wedding gown, he couldn't resist getting her in his bed for one amazing night.

Then a photo of Sean and Lexi breaks the internet—and suddenly they're both swept up in a crazy plan to spin the whole story. But you can't run from love—

The Art of Running in Heels Details

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From Reader Review The Art of Running in Heels for online ebook

~Kristin~ says

3 Stars

I was so excited when I realized this was Lexie's story, I just finished the first book in the series about her parents in which she had a huge part, I decided to jump right in to this one.

I was sadly quite a bit disappointed, mostly because of its similarity to her parents story, which was so notable because I just finished it, as well as something just plain missing here. I still really like Lexie and I enjoyed Sean, but didn't love this one...it was just ok.

Jasprit says

Reading a book by Rachel Gibson has been a long time coming and now after finishing *The Art of Running in Heels*, I feel like kicking myself for not trying her books sooner, as this book was such a delight to read. I've always been a fan of sports romances in books, but lately with books featuring hockey I've been devouring and I've kind of become hooked to these big hockey stars prowling around everywhere. And with *The Art of Running in Heels*, Gibson gives us an excellent mix of sports romance and fake relationship trope. It really was done well, as aspects of Lexie and Sean's scenes I wasn't sure if it was all an act or actual genuine emotions that the characters felt for each other. Yes, Lexie's original plan of getting together was so that it would improve her reputation, but I loved the way that things actually played out. I also kept forgetting at times that both Sean and Lexie only really knew each other for such a short period of time, but Gibson really made their relationship believable and their feelings really realistic. What I liked the most about Lexie's character was that a lot of people assumed what she was like, and their judgement couldn't have been more wrong, Lexie really had a lot to deal with especially with the spur of the moment decision she made to leave Pete from reality show *Gettin' Hitched* on their wedding day, of course this would bring about a lot of backlash for Lexie, but I admired her strength, to try and bring her reputation back any means necessary. Also, she had a business which was on the brink of success, which she couldn't let it go down the toilet, with all her hard work. Lexie really made this story for me, her extensive lists and escapades had me totally eager for more and wanting to know how things would go down. Also with a super hot hockey player roped in her plans, I knew Lexie's adventure would be a lot of fun! Gibson was also able to give us wonderful secondary characters in Sean's mom and Lexie's father who honestly had me laughing so much. Like Lexie's whole situation was serious enough, who knew what repercussions she would have to deal with, but I enjoyed the humour that Gibson bought along the way. There was one thing later on which I wished hadn't gone down, but I think it was completely necessary for a certain someone to realise that they were making one of the biggest mistakes ever. This is my first book in the *Chinooks Hockey Team* series, but after reading *The Art of Running in Heels*, it certainly won't be my last! I need more hot hockey players and swoony romances in my life!

Zairobe25 says

2,5 estrellas.

Toda la serie de los Chinooks me ha encantado, pero este fue un poco decepcionante, fue un poco aburrido y plano, fallo en emocionarme, aunque si logro hacerme sonreír en algunas partes y una que otra carcajada

también me saco. Esperaba mucho mas de la hija de kowalsky y Georgie. Un final abrupto, anticlimatico, no solo le hace mucha falta un epilogo, es que ademas sentí que le falta un capitulo completo.

Stacee says

2.5 stars

I'm a sucker for the fake relationship trope, so I was pretty excited for this one.

Lexie and Sean are okay characters. I wanted to like them both so much, but she comes across as flighty and he's really cocky {and not in a good way}. Sean's inner monologue mainly alternated between thoughts of Lexie's boobs and thinking about how there were several other women "out there".

Plot wise, it was what I expected. There was a bit of drama, due to the reality show aspect, but my main complaint is that I just didn't see the relationship progress between Lexie and Sean. Sure, she tried a little, yet he only wanted to hook up. The chemistry was there, but I didn't see anything else.

Overall, it was a quick read with a lot of promise, but I just couldn't connect to the MCs enough.

****Huge thanks to Avon Books for providing the arc free of charge****

Leona says

I found this to be a fun, quick, light read. However, I do agree with some reviewers. The H/h were hard to connect with and spent most of their time apart. It was definitely a case of lust versus love. The romance felt superficial and neither characters (primary and secondary) were likable. Character development needed work. Unlike *Simply Irresistible* which was well flushed out and where you couldn't help but fall in love with the "Wall", Georgie, and Lexie. (Lexie was much cuter and entertaining, as a 7 year old.)

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

3.5 stars

Lexie and Sean met under circumstances very similar to the way her parents, John and Georgeanne met in *Simply Irresistible* (a book I re-read as a refresher), which I found highly improbable, but I guess it worked for the story and some readers might appreciate the symmetry. I wasn't sure I was going to like Lexie (although she was adorable in *Simply Irresistible*). In fact, I kept going back and forth on this character. No sooner would I decide I liked her, than she would do something that was a complete turn off for me. such as allowing people to mistakenly believe Sean had forced her to have sex with him. I struggled to forgive her for this. Rape and/or sexual assault is too serious an issue to be treated in such an offhand manner. She did have her charms--she was dedicated to her business, her dog Yum Yum, and her animal rights advocacy. Some of the details of her life and her business didn't ring true, and issues disappeared into thin air, but overall she was an entertaining character. Sean was, by far, my favorite character. His childhood was so sad, it just broke my heart. The anxiety he experienced when his mother was around was very well-written. The

distance he created between himself and others felt very authentic for someone who had grown up in the chaos of his early life. Sean's character had more depth than the other characters, and his wicked sense of humor had me laughing out loud several times. The Art of Running in Heels was a bit uneven. The story moved along well until the end, which felt forced and rushed. The sudden revelation of deeply held feelings just doesn't work for me, and I found it too predictable.

I can't say this is the best book in the series, but it is entertaining, as long as you don't look too closely at the details.

Tracy says

3.25 stars for me. This book was cute. Lexie took some time to grow on me. But I like this author and her stories. I have really enjoyed this series. The ending wasn't great. Of course Sean came to his senses but I found the ending a bit abrupt and then the last line too corny. Had hoped for better. But a cute book overall.

Tammy Zautner says

I'm thinking Rachel Gibson is another author it's time to move on from. In the past, she was always my go to but as of late, I have not been enjoying her work.

Where the hell was the chemistry and connection between Sean and Lexie? At least 60% of the book was them spent apart, in their own worlds, unless sex was involved. No real progression. Heck, I didn't even feel the friends aspect. Not to mention, if I had to hear how hot Lexie and her chest was one more time...

Absolutely no depth or character to either of these protagonists. Which definitely left me feeling meh about The Art of Running in Heels.

I'd suggest skipping and trying one of Rachel's older books in this series, especially The Trouble With Valentine's Day. Rob and Kate are wicked fun and hot!!

Janja says

Well ... I won't drop down and sing: Hallelujah!!

RachelW (BamaGal) says

Full review...

3.5 Stars. Fast forward twenty-something years from the very first book in the "Chinooks Hockey Team"

series; and we have John and Georgia Kowalski's daughter Lexi all grown up. Lexi decides to drum up business for her pet couture enterprise by appearing on a *Bachelor* style reality series. The reality part of the series has gotten away from her, and she suddenly finds herself at the altar as the 'winner' of the series; about to marry a man she barely knows. She runs away from the wedding to hide in a small town in Canada, where she meets up with hockey player Sean Knox. When her bolt from the wedding earns bad press for her business; she concocts a fake romance to bolster public opinion of her. That is, if she can convince Sean to go along with her plan...

Cute story, classic humorous RG. It's been a long time since she's put out a new book in this series. Gibson's writing style hasn't changed much over the years or really even evolved much; but that's okay, it worked for me. In a day when most love stories involve jumping into to bed within days (or less) of meeting for sweaty, slippery, overly erotic sex scenes; this was a breath of fresh air. The characters actually spent time together getting to know one another. Family is actually involved. Not many do that anymore. Many contemporary romances have lost sight of what romance really is. Now it's meet, have lots of sex, then they suddenly decide they are in love at the end of the book. To me that's not romantic; and I truly enjoyed reading this throwback romance.

Karen says

3.75

I did really enjoy this one, but it was my least favorite of the series. I just didn't bond well with the characters. But it was a cute story.

Laura says

ARC Provided by the Publisher via Pure Textuality PR

2.5 Stars

I have read and enjoyed a lot of the titles by Rachel Gibson, so I was excited for this one. I liked the premise, the idea of a runaway bride and a hockey star escaping to a very small, oddly named, Canadian town.

All of the elements were present for me to really enjoy this story. A quirky heroine, a hockey player hero, the quirky settings.

But, it fell short for me. I think, at least for me, another book in the series felt forced. Yes, it has been years in the Chinooks, and the characters are new...but it felt like their stories would have worked better if they had been a part of another series, or even a new series.

As the story felt forced, a lot of the plot points also felt forced to me. And, the bottom line is I was not able to connect with the characters as I just didn't believe them or connect with them.

This title was disappointing for me and I was hoping for more. I am not really able to recommend this title.

Jen says

Definitely disappointed with this one.

It started well enough but then suddenly everything felt rushed and a little all over the place.

Couldn't quite work out what Lexie and Sean's characteristics were supposed to be.

One minute she's "impulsive" the next she's making lists and spreadsheets - going on reality shows but supposed to smart? Too many opposing traits going on and neither was built on enough to make it justified.

It would have been nice to expand outside of the two of them because their journey was pretty predictable and ergo dull.

Such a shame because I loved the original Chinooks Hockey Team books.

Sharon Redfern says

How much do I like Rachel Gibson's books? So much that even though I have many, many, books to read that come out before this one, I bumped it up to the top of the list and I am so glad I did. The book opens with Georgeanne and John from the first Chinook book "Simply Irresistible". John is now the coach of the Chinooks and he's mouthing off about one of his new players, Sean Knox, and how much he dislikes him. They also wonder how their daughter Lexie is doing with starting her new business and surprise, she shows up on their TV in a reality wedding show with pigs. I knew then I was going to enjoy this book.

Needless to say, Lexie and Sean end up in a fake relationship after she bails on her TV fiancée, ends up in Canada with Sean, and then gets photographed in a compromising position. In order to save both of their careers, they agree to pretend to her parents and the public that they love each other and are together.

I loved that both of these people are so smart but screwed up on some level and that they center each other. Unfortunately, they don't realize that until it's almost too late. I got a kick out of the new secondary character of Sean's mother as well as seeing old favorites.

Long time Gibson readers will appreciate the déjà vu all over again aspect of this story. (I went right to my bookcase and started reading "Simply Irresistible" as soon as I finished this book). That said, this book holds its own for a newbie reader. Very enjoyable addition to the Chinook series!

Auntee says

Ohh, it pains me to say it, but I was *disappointed* in this one!

I was expecting so much more.

I've read every previous book in this series, and all were winners. But this one...*sigh*

It had a lot of promise, and touches of humor.

I liked the whole premise--but the execution was just...meh.

John Kowalsky and Georgie's daughter Lexie running from her wedding to a Bachelor-like reality star--at

first this provided a lot of laughs.

While on the run she meets up with surly hockey star Sean Knox. Isn't this how her parents met?

Now you have to suspend disbelief here--because even though Lexie is a big hockey fan (her dad was a superstar and now coaches the Seattle Chinooks) she doesn't recognize Sean? Isn't he like the league scoring leader? Does she only know players who play for the Chinooks? (And while I'm talking hockey you don't win/lose by "points", you win/lose by **goals**. It's not, "they lost by two points"--this isn't football or basketball--it's "they lost by two **goals**"

Okay, that wouldn't bother me so much if the story was good...

I think my main problem with this story was Lexie and Sean. I didn't think they even **LIKED** each other. Forget love. They might have had a healthy case of lust, but love? I wasn't convinced at all. And neither were all that likable, I'm sorry to say. Lexie came off as a bit of a ditz, and Sean? He did nothing for me.

Kind of sad, because I think the story could've been fun. Lexie appears on a Bachelor-like TV series to promote her "brand" (she has an online doggie duds business), she gets caught up in "winning", and the next thing she knows she's about to marry a guy she hardly knows. Sean come into the picture, sort of "saves" her while dumping her on his hypochondriac mother, and thinks about how he can get in her pants. If only the author had shown Sean *actually liking* Lexie a bit more, than *maybe* it could've been believable when they *suddenly* fell in love. I just wasn't buying it.

3 stars for the laughs at least
