



## **The Heat Is On: Blame It On the Bikini**

*Jill Shalvis , Natalie Anderson*

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*Catching Fire*

Bella Manchelli didn't *stick*, not to places, or to people. Even though she liked the coastal town of Santa Rey, California, and her job as a pastry chef, she never made promises and she never got hurt. So when she signed up for Eight Dates in Eight Days, it was just for fun. And when she went home with Date Eight, she crept out of his room in the morning and never expected to see him again.

Until she found a body on her doorstep. The detective on the case? None other than Mr. Date Eight—Jacob Madden. Bella was glad to see him, because there was definitely chemistry between them. She felt safe and protected with Jacob, and for the first time Bella felt at home. But he wasn't looking for forever...and they both knew the killer wasn't finished.

## **Bonus: *Blame It on the Bikini* by Natalie Anderson**

How not to get a guy's attention...

For Mya Campbell, trying on a ridiculously tiny bikini and texting her best friend the incriminating photo was supposed to be a private joke. Emphasis on the private. Realising she's sent the photo to her best friend's brother Brad...? Public humiliation of the highest order!

Because hotshot lawyer Brad Davenport is one of those guys - tall, dark and definitely not interested in workaholics. Plus Mya doesn't date players. In fact, she doesn't date at all. But that's before Brad sees a side of Mya he never knew existed...and makes seducing her his brand-new project...!

## **The Heat Is On: Blame It On the Bikini Details**

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**Anderson**

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### **Cheri says**

Both of the stories in this book are really cute.

In the Jill Shalvis book *The Heat Is On*, things happen fast. For the most part that's a good thing, but the story seems rushed in a few places. Especially the end. But I'm not going to complain because this was a fun and quick read, perfect for the beach.

In the Natalie Anderson book *Blame It On The Bikini*, I found the beginning a bit confusing. In fact, if I hadn't read the description I may not have known what was happening. I'm happy to say it got better from there. This is my first introduction to this author and it piqued my interest enough that I'll try another of her books. As usual, when it comes to an author that is not American, my selfish and egotistical American brain had a bit of an adjustment to some of the language and slang. But it wasn't too out there and didn't detract from the story for me.

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### **Carrie says**

Other than the somewhat overused "irresistible chemistry" thing, this was a very enjoyable story. Well-written and well-paced. I did figure out the suspense pretty early on, but that's okay. I loved both main characters, and would liked to have seen more of Willow and even Ethan. The shorter series format doesn't leave much room for secondary character development, but Shalvis did a lot with the limited space. I also liked how Jacob pulled himself from the case. That seemed realistic.

There are two more brothers (we met Cord in the Shalvis's very good short story *Friendly Fire* in the book, *Born on the Fourth of July*. *July HQ Blaze*) so I'm looking forward to Austin and Wyatt's stories!

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### **Judi says**

Let me get this random thought out of the way first...the character's names. Bella...Jacob; Bella...Jacob...Whaaaaa??? Wait was I reading *Twilight* this week LOL? You think this means Ms. Shalvis is Team Jacob?

In this day and age of social networking and hooking up, on-line dating seems like the perfect way for Bella Manchelli and Jacob Madden to meet. In *The Heat is On*, Bella's experience can best be summed up by: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly.

The Good:

As someone who never stays in one place long enough to get bored, you meet a group of guys (no last names required), have fun and then move on since you have no interest in any long term commitment to tie you down. If you're really lucky, you meet a tall, dark and drop-dead sexy guy, get your freak-on on the first date and slink away before that morning after awkwardness descends. Saving the best for last...date #8 was

GRRREAT!

The Bad:

The men of dates #1-#7 are getting shot at and when one of them is discovered murdered at the back door of your place of employment...turns out they weren't quite so lucky and now neither are you.

The Ugly:

You have a deranged stalker after you determined to eliminate the competition for your affections so he can have you all to himself.

Back to The Good: The cop investigating the murder? Well it's none other than Jacob Madden...hot, sexy date #8. Imagine his surprise when he turns up in cop mode the "morning after" only to discover you really weren't planning on moving to Siberia like you told him and are in fact, at the center of his police investigation.

The Heat is On is a quick easy read, with lots of sizzle and a nice balance between the romance and suspense action. Shalvis' trademark witty style of writing is of course always a plus.

Got a few hours to kill? Don't spend it trolling those on-line dating sites...read The Heat is On!

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### **Darcy says**

This book is based only on the story by Jill Shalvis.

I thought this one was cute. For some reason I really loved Bella's Siberia excuse, especially when she was busted with it. I liked how things seemed to progress with Bella and Jacob, with the police and Jacob's brothers butting in and with Bella running away. I especially loved it when fantasy #2 was ruined by one brother. The ending was just right for this one.

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### **Janna says**

It's been a while since I read a Blaze romance, but I still enjoy the light and easy reads Harlequin has to offer. This was a hot little story with some suspense thrown in the mix. The killer/stalker storyline was a bit simple and too easy to figure out, but that was okay. Jacob's and Bella's chemistry made up for that entirely! Both were great protags and together they were smexy! My only niggle concerns the wrap-up of Bella and Jacob's HEA: I thought that the 'misunderstanding' was a bit artificial and drawn out too much and then suddenly (with one voicemail message) all was solved in a blink of the eye. But Jill Shalvis' writing is a delight. I've enjoyed a few of her other Blaze books and her sports contemporary Double Play. Her writing is just so witty, funny and sexy. I'm looking forward to the stories of Jacob's brothers.

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### **Dina says**

I really like Jill Shalvis's writing. She knows how to write fun and sexy stories with very likable characters, and The Heat Is On was no exception. Jacob and Bella's chemistry was off the charts but believable, and I

was very satisfied with their HEA. The mystery surrounding the dead body found at her back door was easy to figure out, but that was OK since the main focus of this story is the romance between Jacob and Bella. All in all, this was another good read by one of my favorite authors.

*Note: Jacob was introduced in "Friendly Fire", one of the short stories from the anthology Born on the 4th of July. Cord, the hero in that story, is one of Jacob's brothers. They have two other brothers, Austin and Wyatt, and I hope Ms. Shalvis writes their stories soon. After all, they're still single and need to find their HEA...*

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### **Pamela says**

The title of the book describes the story to a tee as it's absolutely sizzling. Wow! I loved the way the author starts off the novel; that the one-night stand between the two protagonists, Bella and Jacob, has already taken place. Instead, she has the two already reliving the passion between the two right off the bat, and when Jacob arrives on the scene - let's just say I'm surprised my Kindle didn't start smoking. Don't fret ladies, you still have a front row seat to some hot sizzling sex between the two. I had to fan myself thru the entire book as I couldn't get enough of Jacob - he's a cop, drives a motorcycle, and owns a couple of horses. What's not to love?

Oh yeah, it's a good story full of romance with some suspense thrown in.

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### **MountainKat says**

\*3.5 Stars\*

This was a nice story, not exceptional, but nothing wrong either. It may be suffering a little in my opinion because the book I was reading while I was listening to this one was very similar, but just had a little more substance. Both the hero and heroine were very likable, but I would have been happier if they had spoken their feelings sooner. They both wanted the same thing, but were afraid to say it.

I listened to the audio of this book, the narrator, Gayle Hendrix, was just ok to me. My biggest complaint is that the men's voices were very stilted and that felt a little uncomfortable. I really had no complaints about the rest of the narration, it didn't make the book better, but it didn't make it worse either.

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### **Becky says**

Not bad, though Bella's insistence that Jacob tell her he needed her to stay with him (when she herself told him over and over she was only going to be temporary, and never once indicated to him that she was beginning to feel differently) got to be a bit much. I also wasn't crazy about the narration. I might have given it a higher rating--a half star, most likely--if I'd read the print or ebook instead; the narrator had odd little quirks that annoyed.

Still, though, it was a decent story with fun characters. Jill Shalvis and Blaze can't be a bad combo!

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## **Lisa Kay says**

[image error]

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## **Saly says**

I cannot believe I didn't read this book before, it was a pretty good read and connected to a novella I read, as in the hero here has a lot of brother's and I have read the stories of one brother, I do hope there are stories in store for the others.

Anyways, the heroine is a pastry chef for now, she has this travel gene and not putting down roots. She comes from a big family and being the youngest felt kind of rootless even though she knows her family adores her. She likes her new job and friends but isn't sure she is gonna stay and when the book opens she is working while reminiscing about the date that didn't end up until the wee hours of the morning and then she finds a dead body and runs into the guy she spent the night with since he is the Detective on the case.

The hero is shocked to see her and immediately discloses to his superiors his conflict of interest. Being a cop he has see relationships fail since his job demands a lot and he wants to keep things casual, for some reason their chemistry is scorching and they can't keep their hands off each other.

It turns out that someone is targeting the men the heroine dated. What I enjoyed was that we saw these two share a deeper connection as time passed even with the sex and we also see the heroine panicking about her growing feelings and attempt to pull back, so no miraculous cure for her commitment issues. All in all I liked the book, it was short, sweet and sexy.

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## **Desty says**

Pas membaca buku ini, dan melihat nama tokohnya Bella dan Jacob, saya harap-harap cemas jangan-jangan ini fan fictionnya Twilight lagi...

Bella menjalani Delapan Kencan dari biro perjodohan. Dan baru semalam dia mengakhiri kencan ke-delapannya dengan perasaan puas. Mungkin lebih dari puas. Tapi sudah menjadi kebiasaan Bella untuk tidak menetap di suatu tempat, termasuk di Santa Rey ini. Jadi, dia berbohong akan pindah ke Siberia kepada pria tinggi, berkulit gelap dan seksi setengah mati itu.

Tapi ternyata Bella ditakdirkan bertemu kembali dengan Jacob, pria kencan ke-delapannya. Bella menemukan mayat di depan toko kue tempatnya bekerja, dan tentu saja Jacob sebagai detektif di Santa Rey yang menjawab panggilan dari 911. Namun karena keterlibatan personal dengan Bella, Jacob harus melepas kasus itu.

Bukan berarti Jacob tidak lagi bertemu dengan Bella. Mayat yang ditemukan di depan toko itu ternyata salah satu kencan Bella. Penembakan berikutnya yang terjadi juga masih berhubungan dengan kencan Bella. Nyawa Bella terancam, dan Jacob memastikan keamanan dan keselamatan Bella. Selain dia tidak bisa benar-

benar melepaskan diri dari Bella. Setiap berada di dekat Bella, yang terbayang hanyalah bagaimana mereka sangat cocok bersama.

Lucunya novel ini karena heroine-nya yang tidak bisa betah di satu tempat dan menunjukkan ciri-ciri anti komitmen. Sementara hero-nya sebaliknya. Padahal biasanya kan hero-nya yang anti komitmen. Ketika mereka melanjutkan kencan semalam menjadi dua malam, tiga malam dan beberapa malam berikutnya Bella dan Jacob mulai merasakan kebutuhan yang berbeda satu sama lain.

Dialognya lucu, dan adegan steamy-nya bertaburan nyaris sepanjang novelnya. Nggak heran sih...soalnya ini salah satu Harlequin Blaze. Cerita yang sexy dengan sedikit unsur suspense di dalamnya. Sepertinya saya akan melirik karya Jill Shalvis lainnya.

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### **Laura (Kyahgirl) says**

3.25/5; 3 stars; B

This was the first Jill Shalvis book I've ever read. I wanted to check her out after reading good reviews by several people I follow on GR. This was the only one on the shelf at my library so I picked it up.

It was a well done, fast paced contemporary romance. I liked it. I liked this author and definitely want to read more of her.

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### **Sabrina says**

This book is what a Harlequin Blaze is all about - sexy, fun and with the kind of heroine you'd love to have as one of your girlfriends. Jill Shalvis is a damn good author and I really enjoyed this story that started with a bang, literally, and never let up.

You'll root for both the hero and heroine and I couldn't find a thing I didn't like about them. I loved how realistic Police Officer Jacob Madden was and Bella was like the embodiment of a lot of modern women today - feeling restless, wanting to travel the world, and scared of settling for life.

The suspense in this story mixes well with the love story and did contribute to the central story very well instead of taking away from it. In fact, the suspense was written so well that it helped showcase who the characters really were and why they belonged together.

A really solid book with something a little extra that will make you smile and keep you reading straight through, *The Heat Is On* is an excellent book and I really recommend it for lovers of contemporary and romantic suspense.

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**Afifah says**

unexpectedly good

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