



Savior

Rhys Ford

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A savior lies in the heart of every good man, but sometimes only love can awaken the man inside the savior.

The world's had it out for San Francisco firefighter Mace Crawford from the moment he was born. Rescued from a horrific home life and dragged through an uncaring foster system, he's dedicated his life to saving people, including the men he calls his brothers. As second-in-command of their knitted-together clan, Mace guides his younger siblings, helps out at 415 Ink, the family tattoo shop, and most of all, makes sure the brothers don't discover his darkest secrets.

It's a lonely life with one big problem—he's sworn off love, and Rob Claussen, one of 415 Ink's tattoo artists, has gotten under his skin in the worst way possible.

Mace's world is too tight, too controlled to let Rob into his life, much less his heart, but the brash Filipino inker is there every time Mace turns around. He can't let Rob in without shaking the foundations of the life he's built, but when an evil from his past resurfaces, Mace is forced to choose between protecting his lies and saving the man he's too scared to love.

Savior Details

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Author : Rhys Ford

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Download and Read Free Online Savior Rhys Ford

From Reader Review Savior for online ebook

haletostilinski says

This was a pretty solid second installment in this series. Rob and Mace did have really good chemistry.

About the first half of this or so is what happened before that brief scene we got at the end of Rebel where they're outside 415 Ink making out.

Rob and Mace have been dancing around each other for months, but it's clear that they want each other - although they half-heartedly tried to act like they didn't like each other, although it didn't translate for me. They were into each other from the beginning, and the "we don't like each other" was a such a weak thing haha. They had banter, and it was fun, but nowhere near "hate"

Just like with the first one, this book took it's time with the slow burn, and while it didn't wait until 30% for Mace and Rob to see each other, their interactions weren't plentiful at first, and I honestly would have enjoyed more scenes with them.

It's good that these books spend so much time with the family, with the brothers because they are important, but I think spending so much time away form the main romantic couple can also not always be the best. With these two books I've felt that there hasn't been *enough* with both of the couples.

Mace and Rob only have sex twice in this - and that would be fine if we got a lot more scenes of them just...being together, getting to know each other and falling in love. At one point Mace felt like he was falling in love with Rob and it felt a little bit out of nowhere, or really, a little too soon. It just didn't feel like it was earned, even by the end. And especially when (view spoiler).

There wasn't much that happened with the main plot of the book, but it was interesting and drama-filled, although (view spoiler) although with it we got the introduction of Ivo's LI for the next book, and the first scene of them really interacting. I'm definitely intrigued.

Overall, I felt like this book could have just done a little more to be amazing, like it was just missing a little something here and there to make me absolutely love it. But overall I enjoyed it immensely and am excited to read Ivo's story, because Ivo is such an interesting character and his LI is a mystery right now, but he's interesting too.

Recommended for those who enjoyed the first book in this series, because this followed along the same lines as that (although surprisingly, not quite as drama-filled with the relationship, which I did enjoy a lot.)

ARC generously provided by the Alpha Book Club in exchange for an honest review

Karen says

Hot, sexy slightly broken men with tats created by one of my favs...

all this means I'ma happy, happy girl.

'Savior' is the second book in 415 Ink by Rhys Ford. I'll be totally up front here I'm fan of this author...she's at the top of my 'must buy' list and for whatever reason her writing just speaks to my heart and it works for me pretty much without fail. Off the top of my head I can honestly say there's not a book of hers that I wouldn't happily enjoy over and over again either in book or audio format. These stories are totally one of my happy places.

I loved 'Rebel' which gave us Gus and Rey's story. For that matter one of the things that I've come to look for in pretty well any book I read is the character's background...it's like watching a puzzle come together. Finding out how that character went from the child they were to the adult they become...what shaped them gave them their strengths, their weaknesses, their passions all the things that make them who they are and it's stories like these where that background for me is such an integral part of everything.

415 Ink is a series about 5 men all of them failed by the system in one way or another and yet they manage not to fail each other coming together as a family and this time around we get a look at Mason's past. It's not a past that I would wish on anyone and it's left Mason struggling with his sense of self worth. Mason doesn't do relationships because he's pretty sure he's not good relationship material. But try as he might he can't seem to keep himself from being drawn to Rob one of the tattoo artist that work at 415 Ink the family business and the fact that Rob's equally drawn to him doesn't help his determination...sometimes resistance really is futile.

Mason for me was honestly the brother that held the least interest...or at least that's what I thought...but apparently still waters do run deep. The more I read the more interested in Mason I became and the more I realized that he was so much more than the character we'd been given in 'Rebel'. Add in the fact that while we met Rob in 'Rebel' we really weren't given any information about him in that story and I got a book that I enjoyed a lot more than I had anticipated.

Compared to Mason, Rob's had a life of leisure. While Rob never wanted for material needs like so many kids now a days what he lacked was the time and attention of his parents but abuse was never an issue. Rob walked away from the life his father had planned for him to find his own way in the world and while this left things strained between him and his father. It was never a hopeless situation just one that would need time and compromise on both parts to fix.

While I enjoyed the relationship that developed between Mason and Rob. I loved seeing Mason come to terms with and get closure on the part of his life that haunted him and kept him from truly opening up to both his brothers and the man he would come to love.

'Savior' took Mason from being 'just one of the brothers' to not just a brother but an individual and solidified his place in this self-made family for me making him someone that I look forward to getting more of in future stories but for now I'm holding out for what we were teased with at the end of 'Savior' and that's Ivo's story...I can't imagine it's going to be anything less than out there, in our faces and totally flamboyant just like the man himself and maybe, in the meantime I'll get to go to another happy place and hear get my hands on the audio book for 'Savior' when it's available...please, let there be an audio book.

An ARC of 'Savior' was graciously provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Valerie ✨M/M Romance Junkie✨ says

I enjoyed this quite a bit more than book one. I'll have to give my rating some thought.

Ok. I really liked this more than the first book, but... this series is still not up to par for what I expect from a Rhys Ford novel. So far, there has been no real relationship development in either released book. Most of the story is reserved for the tragic backstory of whichever "brother" is featured and more of the family dynamic. Don't get me wrong, I LIKE those parts. If the book would focus on that, I'd be all in. But the books, so far, don't really focus on anything. The second MC is never really developed. There is no real feel for why the MC are together. The "romance" doesn't exist, and Ivo gets the best lines (his story had better kick ass, or I'll be even MORE disappointed).

Gawd. I suck at reviews, but what can you do? ?????

Rhys Ford says

Placeholder. Releasing Fall 2018.

Lisazj1 says

Rhys Ford never lets me down. This one was a bit of a heartbreaker, with all that Mace has survived in his past but still carries with him, everyday. Rob was just what he needed, pushy and bold but also compassionate and kind, someone who wouldn't let him hide everything away inside and retreat from everyone but his brothers.

I continue to love this whole family and look forward to *all* of their stories, and oooh! *Excited* Looks like Ivo is next!

Teri says

I really liked this!!! It broke my heart for sure, and there were a few times I thought I was gonna be sick even, but I adored Rob and he was so perfect for Mace. I do enjoy the brothers, all of them. I love Bear the most, but Ivo is probably the most interesting, though I must say there were some moments in here that made me think that Luke's story might be the one to get me.

I think Ivo's is next

Mace has had a pretty rough time of it and held so much back and was striving to be so perfect and not let anyone down, it really was very painful. He did not feel worthy of love. His father was just evil. no other word for it and his mother--a waste of flesh. I honestly hated Rob's family too, well, his mama seemed fine, but...I don't know. There were a few parts to this story that didn't flow though, like time was missing or I wasn't privy to certain things and then it felt sudden and out of the blue. I did enjoy it though and I'm really

excited for the next one!!!

Annika says

The opening of this book was brutal, horrible and truly heart breaking. But it also made us connect instantly with Mace. It made us want for his happily ever after. It made the reader invested in the book.

Mace is a martyr of sorts. He never asks for anything for himself. Always giving it to everyone else, no matter how much it hurts him. He is part of the family, but constantly afraid of being rejected. He exists more than live. He truly believes he was not worthy of love of any kind, having had it taken away several times before.

Trust me, Ivo, the only love I'm ever going to get in my lifetime is from you and the rest of my family. That's just going to have to be enough

He lives a lonely life, never having anything more serious than hookups he barely knows the name of. So when the attraction to one of the tattoo artists at 415 Ink refuses to die down, he's not quite sure what to do about it. Add in his worst nightmare from his childhood coming back to haunt him in the worst ways and his life as he knows it starts to crumble at the edges.

There was something that kept me from loving this book, and I can't really put my fingers on why. I really like the characters. My heart broke for Mace so many times. For the boy he was, for the man he thought he'd become, how little he thought he was worth. It got to me it truly did.

I also think that it ended there. After reading this book, I can't really say that I know Rob all that much. We never really got to know him beyond a very superficial level. He was always in the periphery looking in. Oh sure, he was always there for Mace and so on, but the focus was never on him. I still don't really know his wants, fears, flaws, hopes and so on.

Then there was the writing. There was something about it that kept me from fully submerge into the book. After that powerful opening scene it all just kind of faded for me, I wasn't all that invested anymore, there was a distance that I can't fully explain. I've read and loved so many of Ford's novels before, but this series, this book don't have their feel to it. If their name hadn't been in the cover, I'd been hardpressed to guess the writer. It feels a bit clunky and messy at times to the point where I had a hard time really following what was going on.

These are all my feelings and are highly subjective, so please, If you've read and loved Ford's books in the past, do pick up this book and form your own opinion and don't take mine for gospel.

A copy of this book was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review

Meep says

I may come back and raise the * it's another 2.5 I did like it a whole lot more than the previous, but don't think it fair to other recent reads if I round-up.

For for me there's the same issue of being unfocused. Life can be a mess that drags you all ways, but a book needs a focus, an end game; with this I was never sure what ending I was reading for - resolution of trauma or the romantic HEA in which case neither really did it for me.

Mace - he's referred to as Mason a bit into the book and I did a kindle search before figuring they meant Mace - the main character; that's not a good sign! His past is traumatic and I read it with my heart in my throat, the mental scars are lasting. He made a strong impression after being the least compelling of the first book, and him facing things was rewarding.

Rob however didn't make a clear impression, there was little focus on him and what's there was frustratingly contradictory. Is he meek confrontation-avoiding or sassy? I love Ford, but it really felt like she lost her notes and changed his story mid way (view spoiler)

Also he's a tattoo artist - but I've no real idea if he has any tattoos himself, were those mentioned real or analogy? and how many does Mace have?

The romance didn't happen for me. They were both in danger of spontaneously combusting with lust for each other long before they figured they liked each other - but I don't know what the attraction was, what was it that caught their attention? That got lost in the 'can not be'. It was nice when they were talking, but seriously it still felt one-sided. And their HEA was too much, too soon.

The brothers are a bigger focus. A great idea, a great bunch. Luke was mentioned and I had to figure out that was the name of the responsible therapist brother - though in our glimpses of him there was some chilling darkness that suggests his story will be an eye-opener. IVO, glorious Ivo again completely steals attention. There are pages of him and his character was better developed shadowing all others. As with the first book I spent most of my time wishing I was reading Ivo or Bear's story. As disappointing as I find this series I'm committed to read on for Ivo.

And tattoos much mention made of neo-traditionalism and packing in colour but leaving it space to breath. Yet somehow the ink didn't carry much life. There's few visuals offered. I like tattoos, although -not sorry Dave- I do indeed have a simple flower on my ankle lol and these might be fancier, done with greater expertise, but they don't appear to mean any more.

Mikki makes an appearance and there's lots of nods to the Sinners series. Ford's trademark green tea scent appears replaced with the scent and taste of citrus in this series but Vietnamese coffee is reassuringly present. While I expect the punchy chapter ends, the attitude they express didn't always suit the character. And with that, the reveal of Ivo's love interest piqued interest aspects of it also had me scratching my head.

Two things felt unfinished, I suspect they'll carry on into the next book.

Um, there's a lot I like. I like the brothers with their differences and strong bonds. I think I've now figured

how many they are and can tell them apart. Can't claim to 'like' the trauma that shapes them but it's highly evocative. (view spoiler)

But the stumbling block for me is it feels the different aspects of the story compete for page time.

Line says

So, I was **VERY** curious about this book! And that was mainly because of Mace since I did **NOT** like him in Rebel (I was pleasantly surprised in the end though!)

I thought Mace was overbearing and antagonistic for no other reason than to be an asshole in book 1.

I did not read him like a '*good brother*', so I was sort of... ~~Wary?~~ Iffy going into this one.

I did end up changing my rating for book 1 to 3 stars instead of 4, since I thought this was a better read and the feel of that one compared to this was very... *Bleak?*!

Okay, so Rob works at *415 Ink* and he's kind of fun and upbeat, even if he did not have an easy childhood. Mace (one of the owners and a fireman), is the opposite. He's moody, stand off-ish and tough and acts asshole-ish more than once.

They're attracted to each other, but due to the fact that Rob works for 415, he's off limits.

I have to be honest and say that I didn't quite '*get*' their connection in the beginning. We're told that they were interested in each other, but it wasn't really shown (and I don't remember if they flirted in book 1?!)

But when they finally gave in, I thought they were very well matched and I liked their chemistry.

One of my little niggles with this one was the weird jumps in timeline when they started actually going out. I felt something was missing at times. It could be that there were instances of '*telling/not showing*' in regards to the relationship, that made me disconnect a wee bit from the story.

Another niggle I had was with Rob's family and the subsequent '*ending*' to that part of the story. I seriously did not understand how he would go from basically being cast out and shamed for being alive (seriously, **FUCK** his birth-family!), to inviting them to a get-together. The family relationship was never really explored or explained thoroughly, so something was a wee bit off for me.

It was... **WEIRD** and I wonder if something was missing or if Rhys ran out of pages or ideas or what.

It **WAS** pure Rhys Ford, but she'd toned down the analogies some, which I thought was a nice change.

They're still there, especially in the second part of the book, but I enjoyed the more direct language here (that is not to say that I don't enjoy her analogies normally, it was just a small change, that I noticed.)

Overall I did enjoy this story and I **LOVED** Mace's spirit and '*fight*'! I thought it was amazing to finally have a MC (view spoiler) I really, **REALLY** commend that choice.

People should be aware that Mace's childhood was not easy and that his father manipulated and abused him in some pretty horrifying ways!

This story was definitely better than the first for me (which is also why I changed that rating)! Despite Mace's horrific childhood, this read '*lighter*' somehow, and I enjoyed the somewhat more specific focus on one MC, where book 1 was a sort of an introduction to the whole family -IMO.

But I have to say I am **RIDICULOUSLY** excited about Ivo's book! Like, I am so looking forward to reading his story, because he's such a character and to pair him with a cop!!!! **YES PLEASE**, and thank you very much!

Joyfully Jay says

A Joyfully Jay review.

4 stars

Savior is the second book in Rhys Ford's 415 Ink series, focusing on a group of five men who are combination of blood and found family. They have all experienced horrible childhoods and the men have bonded over their shared experiences and their determination to support and love one another. These are gritty stories, this one even more than the first, in that we learn about each of their pasts and it is not pretty. In Mace's case, we get some details of intense child abuse and some other horrific incidents. So while the story is generally uplifting, especially as we see Mace find a way to move forward from his past, this definitely has some intense moments.

This book is a combination of the romance between Mace and Rob, and learning more about Mace's past as it returns to haunt him. I did find that the early parts of the story moved a little slowly for me as there was a lot of set up to catch us up with Mace's past and what he had overcome. So it takes a while before the relationship takes a major focus and I felt once it did, things moved rather quickly. Not in the sense that they fell in love too fast, but more that Rob becomes this solid presence in Mace's life and a confidant pretty fast and I wish we got more of a feel for why this connection is so strongly so quickly. But I did like these guys together and there is a steadiness to Rob that really helps ground Mace and get him through the horrible situation he is facing.

Read Jay's review in its entirety here.

Amazonaute says

So I got this because I bought it from amazon by accident and thought I would give it a go. This is a well regarded author, and I thought I would give her another try. Then I got interested enough to skim my way through it. .

This is standard Rhys ford. If you like her stuff, I dare say you will like this. If you connect really well with her characters, you will love this, because there are lots of them.

Trigger warnings: child abuse and animal cruelty.

My take was trope trope trope trope and someone very mentally damaged...who didn't seek professional help, but had his mental injuries healed by his true love and his beloved brothers? And more trope trope trope trope and my goodness these people talked. About their feelings. All The Time.

....and more rampant lust, trope trope trope trope...more talking. All the talking. Almost Laurell K Hamilton levels of talking. But the sex isn't as interesting. Nor is the hair.

I guess the bottom line is that if you connect with Rhys Ford's characters, you will find this a satisfying read.

***J* Too Many Books Too Little Time says**

[And insta-proposal too. The "will you marry me" came a bit out of nowhere. (hide spoiler)]

SoCalBookReviews says

Starting this book, I didn't think there was any way it could be better than book one. But, boy was I wrong. Every part of this book was Awesome. I loved the characters and the plot, storyline. It had conflict and drama and angst, but just the right amount of everything, nothing was too drawn out or overdone. We get the perfect amount of character development and communication between the two main characters Mace and Rob. And the chemistry and heat is off the charts HOT. The two men fit perfectly together and I loved that Mace was able to find the other half of himself in Rob. With every horrible thing Mace has gone through in life leading up to the point in the story, he fully deserves every moment of happiness he gets in life. Rob is awesome, I really liked getting to know his character and background. Knowing and seeing that he was willing to do whatever was needed to look past Mace's rough edges, to see all his insecurities and still try to help Mace overcome them, just shows how perfect Rob was for Mace. I totally connected with Mace and his need to run. Knowing his thoughts and feelings behind it and his reasoning, really made me fall in love with him. I just wanted him to be happy. He's one of those characters you wish you could just jump into the book and hug to try and make everything they have to deal with in life better. And make him realize that he is really a lot stronger as a person than he thinks and believes he is. Mace's dad needs to rot in Hell, he is a horrible human being who deserves worse than death for what he put Mace and others through.

I LOVE this whole entire family, how they bond together and stick by each other no matter what happens. I need more of this series ASAP. Like, I will be holding my breath waiting on book three. I really hope it's Ivo's book and that he ends up with the cop... Ivo has the best personality and we've only gotten snippets of him so far. I really can't wait for more.

*** Copy provided to Bayou Book Junkie by Dreamspinner Press for my reading pleasure, a review wasn't a requirement. ***

Santy says

3.5 Stars!

Though this was angrier than Rebel, I still enjoyed it overall.

When the blurb alluded to Mace having had a horrific childhood, I mentally prepped myself but what he went through was truly horrifying. That such evil people like his father exist in real life is sickening.

shudders

As you can imagine, these horrors greatly skewed the person Mace became as an adult and it took sheer will on his part, the love of his family and Rob appearing in his life for him to begin to fight some of the demons

from his childhood.

This was not as steamy as Book 1 but it worked just right for the tone of the book. Rob was a balm to Mace's soul and I was glad when they overcame all that life tossed at them by emerging at the other side together and stronger than ever.

Ivo's book is next and though I haven't warmed up to him yet, I'm hoping that is rectified because it is obvious that beneath all his sass and snark, lies a vulnerable young man.

***** eARC Was Graciously Provided By The Publisher In Exchange For An Honest, Unbiased, Review *****

Jewel says

Savior is the second book in Rhys Ford's *415 Ink* series. This series is about 5 brothers (in the "found family" sense), all of whom are a bit broken in their own way, who finally find love and happiness. I do think you'd be ok reading this as a stand-alone, but I highly recommend book 1 - Rebel - because it was really fantastic, too!

Where Rebel was all about second chances, *Savior* is about healing and figuring out you're even worthy of one chance. To say that Mace's childhood was awful would be severe understatement. He was horribly abused by his father, until he was sent into the system, and while the system was undoubtedly better, Mace was pretty screwed up and foster care can be unpredictable, to say the least. But, it was there he met Bear, and Bear saw Mace's worth and became Mace's big brother.

Still, though, Mace was pretty screwed up. He used sex with strangers as comfort, not even wanting a connection. He never even thought himself capable of a relationship. Until Rob, who is off-limits because he works for 415 Ink.

Rob had it a whole lot better than Mace, when he was growing up. Like most of us, his parents just weren't that involved. Or maybe that isn't like "most", honestly I don't know, but I could certainly relate. His father did have issues, early on, with the gay, but they're more-or-less on ok footing now. Rob isn't like his straight-laced father, though. He's far more colorful, like his mom. Rob loves what he does and he's damn good at it. He never expected to be attracted to one of the owners of the shop - especially one that seems to hate the sight of him!

Mace and Rob had loads of chemistry once they got together. In fact, one of my only issues with the story is that they were barely together at all for the first third of the book. Still, I loved them together and was very happy we didn't have any manufactured melodrama and miscommunication. Instead, we got two adults who, while they might not have been terribly experienced at relationships, decided to go about it in a surprisingly mature and reasonable way. Rob wanted to talk to Mace and get to know all of him. His childhood demons - that have made their way into the present - and the man he has become.

The story's conflict came solely from Mace's father, who had been in prison for much of Mace's life. That conflict there wasn't huge, though, and it seemed to resolve itself without much fanfare. I'm torn, though, between wanting just a bit more angst and being glad that plotline didn't end in tragedy.

All in all, I'd give *Savior* a solid 4 stars. It's definitely a worthy addition to this series. Now we get to look forward to Ivo's story, next. He intrigues the fuck outta me, so I'm really looking forward to his story.

*ARC of **Savior** was generously provided by the publisher, in exchange for an honest review.*
