

# Unbroken

Maisey Yates

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In the latest Silver Creek romance from *USA Today* bestselling author Maisey Yates, former rodeo star Cade Mitchell may never ride again, but there are still a few things he can do—like care for the woman he loves.

Amber Johnson has always thought of her best friend Cade as an older brother. A really hot older brother. But growing up in foster care, she learned to rely only on herself. As much as she likes stealing glances at Cade's chiseled jaw and painted-on jeans, she resents the way he swoops in like a superhero to fix things for her.

When former rodeo rival Jim Davis starts harassing Amber to sell her grandfather's failing ranch, Cade swoops in once again. To send Jim on his way, Cade pretends to be Amber's boyfriend, moving in to help fix the place up. With her grandfather behind the idea, Amber and Cade have to keep the charade going—whether she likes it or not.

But as their make-believe romance starts to heat up, maybe Cade and Amber will learn to admit that they both could use a little saving...

#### **Unbroken Details**

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Author: Maisey Yates

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Genre: Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Westerns



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## From Reader Review Unbroken for online ebook

#### Mikki \_At\_A Bookish Escape says

After I finished reading Unbroken, by Maisey Yates, which is the third installment in the Silver Creek Series, it left me wanting for more! It was beautifully written, a friends-to-lovers story that warmed my heart and left me cheering for Amber and Cade until the very end! This was my first time reading a book by this author, and I loved it!

Friends-to-lovers stories are my favorites! No matter how many books have been written about it, I can't get enough! Each story that I read is like a breath of fresh air and the characters always end up stealing my heart. Most of the time the story is predictable, and I still I end up falling in love every single time!

Amber and Cade were awesome!!! When I started reading their journey I was hooked from the first page! Their banter is crazy funny, I loved the way they helped each other out and once the sparks starting flying ... Oh my God! ---> Bacon <--- That's all I'm sayin'!!!! \*Fans Self\*

Amber is taking care of her grandfather while trying to save the ranch that he's worked so hard for. Cade is trying to rebuilt his life after a tragic accident that left him with emotional and physical scars. When an unexpected visitor starts causing trouble for Amber, Cade pretends to be her boyfriend. From that moment on, their friendship will be tested.

The Mitchells have been through a lot in the last couple of years and the surprises keep coming! I was intrigued by their story and how they overcame the obstacles that life has thrown their way. Cade knew that he had Amber's support, but getting closer to his siblings, and accepting what he could not change was a big achievement for him. What I loved the most about this story is how honest Amber and Cade were with each other. They have known each other since their teenage years, and the more time they spent together, the more their friendship grew. It was beautiful to see their relationship develop into something more.

Before I started reading Unbroken, I was a bit concerned that I would not connect with the other characters from the previous books. But, I was so wrong to feel that way! The author did an amazing job at making me feel connected with them! I got to find out how these couples found each other, but it does not in any way take away my curiosity about them. After reading Unbroken, I want to read their stories even more! I will definitely add the other books of this series to my TBR list so I can revisit really soon!

I give, Unbroken, by Maisey Yates 4 fun, engaging, romantic, friends-to-lovers stars!

#### Andrea says

I went into Unbroken with very few expectations. It sounded like a good story, but I'd only read one Yates book (another series/publisher) before this and while it was fine, I wasn't exactly in love with it. I'm happy to say that I did enjoy Unbroken very much, and look forward to reading more of the Silver Creek series.

Unbroken is the perfect example of a good friends-to-lovers story. What made it special was the history between Amber and Cade, who'd been best friends for sixteen years. All those years were strictly platonic, with no suggestive words or actions between the two. Amber came to town after an entire short life of not

being wanted. She challenged her newly-connected grandparents, and Silver Creek. The one person who initially got Amber was Cade. Cade came from a good family, but it was a family built on lies. Cade spent many years carrying his father's secrets, a burden he only unloaded with Amber. So, the author did excellent work at backing up this great friendship between Amber and Cade, and made me understand why neither wanted to risk it, despite their attraction to one another.

I know I've mentioned that I'm not into cowboys, but dang, I really liked Cade. I'm not sure if I'm changing, becoming more flexible in my book heroes, or if it's just this one in specific. The fact he wore a hat and a huge belt buckle (not my thing) actually didn't bother me. I will say that I know for sure that I liked Cade because he was kind of cranky and gruff. It's pretty understandable, given the fact that a severe rodeo injury left him in near-constant pain. But I'm pretty sure Cade was gruff before and I love that. Amber loved it, too, obviously. And she was such a great leading character, as well. I like how Yates gave us insights into her background, from being a promiscuous teen seeking a connection, to being a woman who's forgone that charade in an effort to be someone she's proud of. Amber and Cade's connection was strong, but it was also fun. The banter the two shared - a favorite part of a relationship, for me- was witty and held a great sarcastic tone, but still full of affection. I just really got these two, and wanted their happy ever after.

Good news: Unbroken is a two-fer! That's right, you get two romances for the price of one in this book. The second coming courtesy of a long-lost sister and the local bearded, flannel-wearing store owner (I know, right?). I almost wish this secondary story between Nicole and John hadn't been told because those two needed their own book. So, so good.

Unbroken was a really good read. I was on-board with the love story, loved the surprises that came along the way, enjoyed getting to know former series leads, and was sold on that ending. I want to go back and read the first books in the series now. It was steamy, funny, endearing and I definitely recommend it.

#### **Favorite Quotes**

"Why else would I move into that farmhouse she has and take on all those projects. Sex. And bacon. You can't overlook the bacon."

"When did this happen?"

"Is this what marriage does to people, Cole? Turns them into women? Are you honestly asking me for romantic details? There was a day when sex and cured meat would have been enough of an answer for you."

They were just kissing. Deeper and hungrier than she'd ever kissed anyone in her life. But still just kissing. Just kissing that made her feel like the heavens had opened up and let fire rain down. Just kissing that made it seem like the world had tilted on its side and everything was completely, irreversibly different.

"Chivalry and sex. Tonight's gonna be good."

He turned then, and smiled, then he pushed her up against the wall, firm hands pinning her in place. "Very good," he said, angling his head and kissing the side of her neck. Gentle, his beard scratching her tender skin.

"Oh...wow." He moved away from her and went back to the door. "I think your facial hair has better moves than my ex."

"That bodes well."

#### Codi Gary says

Cade and Amber have a very special friendship and have been there for each other for sixteen years. Through all the bad and the good, they have stuck by each other. This book was so filled will sweet, funny, and heartbreaking moments. It is chalk full of family, drama, and secrets. Those of you who love small town, family centric romances will adore this book. Now I have to go back and read the rest of the series.

### **Anna's Herding Cats says**

Reviewed for herding cats & burning soup.

Sooo...pretty pretty cover plus a pretty pretty and petable hero--who's a cowboy and named Cade-- a little family drama, some twists and turns, a kick ass heroine, lots of steamy sheet time and a bison or two made for one damn entertaining read. Unbroken definitely delivered on the yummy romance front.

The quick of it is that Cade and Amber have been best friends for most of their lives. They've always been there for each other. Good times and rock bottom bad ones but things...are changing between them. Even if they are just shacking up and pretending to be a couple to get one creeptastic and pushy man to leave Amber alone. And, well, best laid plans. You know how that goes. Someone's gonna wind up nekkid. \*nods\*

"I don't want to lie to him," she said. "Not Davis. My grandpa."

"Yeah, I get that.And I don't want to lie to him either. And I didn't mean to. But he overheard what I said--which was not premeditated, by the way."

"Which gets you a reduced sentence, but doesn't absolve you entirely," she said, glaring pointedly.

"I wanted to help. Which I think should get me pie and cookies, and not your laser eyes of doom."

I loved that these two knew each other so well. Their conversations were just tinged with that I-know-you-better-than-anyone-don't-pull-that-shit-with-me kinda vibe. They could be sweet and funny and add in a little snark and it was just...them and fit. And whew boy it's hella awkward once a drunken night and morning after land them in a totally different place since, you know, now they've seen each others goodies and whatnot. I felt uncomfortable for them in more than one spot. lol

Cade and Amber were great though. Good, honorable people and so damn broken in their own ways. Cade's a former rodeo star who was sabotaged and severely/permanently injured. He's struggling something fierce over not feeling like a man and losing everything that made him...him. And I totally felt for him trying to find his place again. And Amber--I really didn't like her name--had that problem too. Her life has been hard. Parents abandoned her, foster care, etc. She's always tried to fit in to get people to keep her and never felt like she could just be herself and that totally broke my heart.

The chemistry between them though is just stellar. And sheet time is scorching hot even with the awkward they sometimes rock. I mean...dayum! Cowboys are masters at some good lovin'. Not only with the main couple but a secondary one as well--that was fun to watch play out too and damn I wish had had more page time. Verra, vera nice all around.

All in all Unbroken was a blast. Mixed in with the romance was some family drama happening in both their lives and that guy creeping about trying to get Amber to sell. There was some searching for the truth about Cade's injury as well. All of it really provided a nice complete story and setting which I loved. I'm liking this community and really wanting to spend some more time with them. No doubt I'll be checking out the earlier books in the series real soon. The teasers in this one about how they all got together totally peaked my curiosity.

## **Emily says**

Glad i read it. loved the story

#### Stephanie G says

Passion heats up a romance between best friends when they pretend to be engaged in this riveting contemporary romance. Cade has always been Amber's superhero, swooping in and saving the day, but this time he may have a went a little too far in an effort to save her grandfather's ranch, but as their make-believe romance heats up, maybe they will learn to admit that they both could use a little saving...

This steady to fast paced and smooth flowing plot keeps readers emotions hovering on the edge with lots of drama, some suspense and passion. The author describes the story with well written scenes and details that capture the imagination and the well orchestrated drama draws the reader deeper into the story while the suspense adds excitement. The characters are strong, compelling, easily related to and invite the reader to come back and visit the Silver Creek Ranch anytime.

The friendship between Cade and Amber is strong with an undercurrent of passion that both try to deny and when things go too far and everyone believes the couple has finally hooked up that passion explodes into some red hot and passionate sex scenes that send the couple spinning. The reader can't help but get caught up in all the emotional drama that Amber and Cade torture themselves with due to their inner turmoil and chuckle at some of the snarky banter between best friends that know each other so well.

The Mitchell family drama adds some spice and excitement to the story as well and introduces new characters to the story. I haven't read the first books in the series and had no problem enjoying the story, although I wish that I had because of the references to the others that have my curiosity aroused. I enjoyed this HEA tale and I am looking forward to reading the next one, but I must warn you to be prepared to shed some tears in this one.

- Eva

#### Becca says

I really enjoyed this tale of two lifelong friends who find love.

Cade and Amber have been friends since high school. There isn't anything that these two don't know about each other. Especially the fact that they are both broken.

A little white lie to help deter someone snooping around Amber's grandfather's ranch, turns into a full fledged charade - with a fake engagement and all.

This was a fun reads with twists and turns through out. Can't wait to go back and read the other books in this series.

#### Carrie (Rotten Banana) says

Originally reviewed at Red Hot Books http://redhotbooks.com/2014/08/review...

I actually twitter-stalked the poor author for this book. Every time she posted a snippet, every time she mentioned Cade or Amber or bacon, I would bug her for this book. I think she sent me the galley just to get me off her back! Thankfully, the book was everything I wanted (Man, it would've been embarrassing if it wasn't).

For the last four years, Cade Mitchell has been just treading water. He's been nursing a multitude of hurts from his father's infidelities being discovered to healing from his injury that ended his promising rodeo career. Yet now, seeing his brother and little sister move forward with their careers and families, Cade feels adrift. Fortunately, he's always had his partner-in-crime and best friend, Amber, by his side to commiserate.

For Amber Jameson, Cade has been her lifeline since she came to Silver Creek. Abandoned to the foster system by her parents while young, Amber bounced from family to family until her paternal grandparents took her in. She was a bit of a wild child in high school until she realized her grandparents weren't going to give her back and it was then that she found Cade, a kindred soul who was struggling with his own troubles.

For the last fourteen years, the pair had taken on life together but not in the way most people in town assumed – they were just friends. Of course, Cade never admitted to Amber that he had sexy dreams about her for years and Amber never admitted that she harbored a secret longing for Cade deep in her heart. When one of Cade's rodeo rivals comes storming into town harassing Amber to sell the only home she's ever known, Cade moves in and pretends to be her boyfriend to warn him off.

Amber is resistant to the idea but relents when her grandfather agrees to Cade's help. Cade initially sees the move as a way to help Amber but realizes that he can put his ideas to work in rehabbing the ranch and invest in his future. Fate is not done throwing punches at the two and they come from all sides. The hard knocks only pull them closer together and this time, lines are crossed – for better or worse.

Cade is a broken man in many ways. He's struggling with his place in life after the rodeo and harboring

tremendous guilt over concealing his father's infidelity for years. Amber is equally as broken. She's never allowed herself the possibility that someone might want her and never forgiven herself for youthful transgressions.

I absolutely loved the pair together. Their banter is a perfect example of two people who are completely comfortable with each other. I really appreciated the authenticity of the fits and starts the relationship goes through once the couple has passed the line from friends to lovers. They don't automatically look at each other in bliss. However, the transition isn't overly complicated either. Cade & Amber's struggles, both individually and as a couple, are eminently relatable.

To best appreciate their story, I think the books should be read in order. I think readers will miss a lot of the nuances that make up the Mitchell clan, especially Cade. However, I think it is still a funny, bittersweet and sexy best friends to lovers story that can be appreciated by anyone. If you enjoy contemporary romance that's sometimes funny, sometimes sweet, but always genuine, you should be reading this series.

Rating: A-/B+

\*ARC provided by author

#### **Tiffany says**

This is only the second book I've read by Maisey Yates, but she is becoming one of my favorite authors. Her books are excellently written with believable relationships and endearing characters.

*Unbroken* is actually the third book in the Silver Creek series. I follow Yates on Twitter and she has posted excerpts from the book that peaked my interest, so I went ahead and jumped into the series without having read the first two. Even though I hadn't read the others, I didn't have any trouble following the plot. Events from the other books are summarized, so if you're a stickler for avoiding spoilers, then it's probably best to read the series in order. I plan on going back and reading the other books since I loved this one so much.

And there are so many things I loved. It involves one of my favorite tropes--friends to lovers--which, when well done, can be very convincing and make the book far more enjoyable. I'm not opposed to suspending my disbelief, but I prefer a realistic relationship far more than a fantasy.

The main characters, Amber and Cade, have been best friends since they were teenagers. Now adults, they find their relationship changing and eventually they become friends with benefits. But as is so often the case, they find that they can't really stay "just friends," can they?

And the romance is off the charts. Yates is really great at writing cowboy heroes (aka, sex on a stick cowboys) in addition to sexual tension propelled by sharp, witty dialogue. I highlighted so many favorite passages in my ebook. Amber and Cade's back and forth banter is hilarious at times, heartfelt at others. They both have complicated issues from the past that they have to work through in order to grow as individuals, but I never felt that the book falls prey to being overly angsty or melodramatic. Even though they have their issues, their romance is always in the forefront of the story.

In addition to the romance, the theme of family is strong without being sappy. The supporting characters are interesting and it's easy to see how they fit into the series as a whole.

The one thing I didn't anticipate was (view spoiler)

I finished the book with a satisfied sigh and a smile on my face. I highly recommend it and look forward to the rest of the Silver Creek series.

#### Nate Brightman says

Unbroken is the third and final book in the Silver Creek series (if you don't count the two novellas). While it can be read as a standalone I strongly urge you to read the first two, Unexpected and Untouched to fully enjoy this book because the familiarity gained from knowing the other characters and their backstories will add to your reading enjoyment. While I've openly acknowledged my skepticism at some of the implausible scenarios in the first two books while still acknowledging I enjoyed reading them, all I can say about Unbroken is WOW! This is what a romance novel should be. This is what the final book in a romance series should be. I've read more than my share of romance novels by very good writers and enjoyed them. But Unbroken is so chocked full of, everything, (emotion, plot twists, sex and romance) that it will probably serve as a litmus test by which I judge all future reads of this genre. Oh I could quibble about the poor proof reading where her's should have been his and I even think there was a spot where in an intimate moment between Amber and Cade someone had inserted Cole's instead of Cade's name. If it were in real life I think Cade might have been more than miffed. But overall this book was just so enjoyable, so good it doesn't matter. I don't normally gush over a romance book and I know I'm in grave danger of losing my man card, but it's that good. I questioned why Ms. Yates hadn't continued the series beyond the three novels and two novellas but I suspect after Unbroken she might has felt it was done. That there was no where to go with the series but down. And as much as I'll miss reading about the lives of the characters in this series I sadly have to agree with her. I give this book 5 stars and I think if I could I'd give it even more

#### **Debbie Lester says**

Author Maisey Yates continues her Silver Creek series, with her latest book, Unbroken. Readers continue to be enthralled by the Mitchell family, a family of ranchers and modern day cowboys and cowgirls. Yates uses the age-old theme of best friends becoming lovers to drive Cade's story and fans of the series will be captivated by his relationship with Amber. With Amber's grandfather's ranch and stake, as well as, Cade's self-respect, Unbroken is a story of love and redemption that readers won't soon forget.

#### What I liked:

This was my first experience with author Maisey Yates and I will have to say that I was surprised at how much I liked her writing style, her humor and her ability to get inside the heads of her characters. She took a well used theme and injected it with new life. The best friends to lovers theme is always a challenging one, because it has been done so many times before, but Yates was able to add a refreshing originality to the plot of Unbroken that was unexpected.

Yates uses a lot of humor and general banter to endear her readers to her characters and I found myself wanting to know more and more about them. She lets readers see a glimpse inside both Amber and Cade through their inner-dialogue and their interactions with each other. I loved the parts of the book where it was just the two of them talking, because it was light and fun and the reader will easily believe these two had

been friends for years. There was a comfort and smoothness in how they related to each other.

This was a relationship that grew out of adversity. Both Amber and Cade have had some tough experiences in their past, from foster homes, to infidelity. From rodeo injuries to atoning for past mistakes. There was a lot of depth to their relationship and I liked the way Yates developed it. I think most readers can relate to having feelings for someone who you thought was in the friend zone. It was believable and beautiful to read. There was an underlying theme of redemption that ran throughout the story. Cade feeling guilt over his past mistakes and Amber trying to show that she had changed from a wild undisciplined youth to a young woman capable to taking care of grandfather. Overall it was a very gratifying read, as well as, a steamy one.

The romance was hot heavy once it got going and I think readers will be able to see just how much these two characters are feeling for each other. They not only respect each other and care for each other as friends, but the passion they share has a depth that comes from truly understanding the other person. That doesn't happen in too many of the fly by night romance books out there. Very nice!

#### What I didn't like:

Since I had not read the other books in the series, I was a little taken aback by Cade's relationship with his family. It appeared that the Mitchell's were this great ranching family, with lots of love and tradition, but the way Cade was treated didn't seem to fit into that mold. I guess there is always a black sheep in the family and Cade must have been it.

#### **Bottom Line:**

I truly enjoyed this book. Yates was able to create a romance that didn't fall into the typical rut. It was different, it was engaging, it was funny and just down right romantic. I loved Cade and Amber and thought they made a great couple. I do think readers would benefit by reading the series in order, because I felt like I didn't get all nuances and relationships down as well as I could have.

#### **Tiffany Lake says**

I loved this series

#### Susan R says

Friends to lovers, one of my favorite tropes. And this one is done so well! Cade and Amber each have so much baggage but have been there for each other through it all. Their journey is rough, funny, serious, and everything in between! Have not read the others in the series, which hurts my OCD soul lol, but will add them to my TBR list.

#### Luvmyfamily says

Let's say a 3.5 star rating. I didn't care for the drunken blow job and I kinda feel like their love story was rushed. Not the part about their platonic friendship for 16 years but the part where they started having sex

way	to early in the story	and too freque	ntly. I think i	f she would	have cut b	ack on that	then the s	tory v	vould
have	e been better.								

## Laura the Highland Hussy says

Review posted on