



Headed for Trouble

Suzanne Brockmann

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New York Times bestselling author Suzanne Brockmann, whom USA Today calls “the reigning queen of military suspense,” breaks out a rapid-fire collection of pulse-pounding, heart-tugging stories and novellas featuring the intrepid men and women of Troubleshooters Inc., fiction’s hottest ultimate counterterrorism squad.

- Tough-as-nails Troubleshooters operative Sam Starrett learns the agony of loving someone in danger—and the hell of waiting on the home front—as his wife, Alyssa, hurtles into a foreign hotspot that’s about to boil over.
- Navy SEAL Frank O’Leary’s ill-fated holiday reunion with his older brother takes a turn for the better—when a chance encounter on a rainy New Orleans street gives Frank a reason to be thankful after all.
- In a maze of tunnels deep beneath a military base in Germany, Jules Cassidy, Alyssa Locke, and their comrades in arms match wits with terrorists on a mission with explosive consequences.

Plus more never-before-released adventures featuring Jenk, Izzy, Gillman, Lopez, Kenny, Savannah, and other members of SEAL Team 16—along with Suzanne Brockmann’s exclusive interviews with her beloved characters.

Looking for the best kind of trouble? You’ve found it!

Headed for Trouble Details

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From Reader Review Headed for Trouble for online ebook

Jill says

Headed for Trouble is a collection of vignettes and short stories featuring some of the large cast of the *Troubleshooters* series.

I've always been a big fan of the *Troubleshooters*, beginning with *The Unsung Hero* which was probably one of my early military romantic suspense stories. I have my favourite characters (and their stories), though only some made it into this collection. Notably one Irving "Izzy" Zanella and the other 'boys', Jenk, Gillman and Lopez, who feature in a couple of great vignettes, with their typical banter.

Included is a very helpful timeline showing where each story fits into the sixteen-book series. I really enjoyed this and it was wonderful to return to the *Troubleshooters* world. My only real complaint is that I would have liked to see stories from a wider array of the cast. Of course with such a large series not every character will feature. But a few characters were in a number of stories and others (a couple of my favs) were barely mentioned.

It's not really a book that you can read as a standalone. Definitely more for fans of the series who already know these characters and their stories.

A great addition to the series and a recommended read for fans of *Troubleshooters*.

ARC courtesy of Ballantine Books via Edelweiss

Wendy F says

You know how in a series you'll get a snippet of something that happened off the pages, like 'Sam plans to take Gina, Robin and the kids on a vacation' but you don't get to read it? Well in this book we got all these little side quick looks into events that happened over the course of the *Troubleshooters* books. Plus, we got interviews with specific characters. Suzanne interviews Tom and Kelly, Suzanne interviews Savannah and Ken, Suzanne interviews Izzy, Jenk, Lopez and Gillman (one of my favorites!).

I'm sure everyone who's read this book has their own personal little favorites. Mine was the first time Izzy, Jenk, Lopez and Gillman hang out with Tony V. Funny and cute, and I could read more books about these 4 just hanging out.

But don't let this book of shorts fool you, because not only did I laugh but I cried too. Brockmann brought us face to face with the struggles and tribulations of life as/with a soldier. They die, they leave behind their loved ones, and their family's live every day with a certain amount of fear. It was heart breaking.

I didn't save any special quotes or any special notations, but mostly because my friend Lea wrote a beautiful review for this book that I intended to bring to your attention. There's no way I could say it better.

Erica says

Well, I gave it a REALLY good try, but after getting to 51%, I just finally gave up. And I hate to do that because I always finish books but this one was truly boring to me. And I don't honestly think it was because I hadn't read any of the other books...after reading these little shorts, I don't think this series would be my cup of tea period. It was classified as "romance" in Netgalley, and I guess it kind of was, but to me, there just wasn't enough romance (and no sex scenes, at least in the ones that I read) to classify it as romance. To me, this is more of a fan book, kind of like *The Exile: An Outlander Graphic Novel* is for Outlanderers. It is an anthology for little snippets into the team's lives, little chapters between the short stories where Ms. Brockmann discusses why she wrote about each character the way that she did (which I skipped since I hadn't read any of the other books) and even had some "pretend" conversations and interviews with the characters, but to me, it was more about the military ops that the characters had than anything else, and that's just not really that interesting to me. I loved "When Frank Met Rosie". New Orleans during the holidays is really romantic and there was a definite spark between the two. That was a romantic short. All of the shorts with Alyssa and Sam to me were boring. My favorite story was "When Jenk, Izzy, Gillman, and Lopez Meet Tony Vlachic" because let's face it, guys bullshitting and insulting each other and contemplating meaningless crap such as their best lesbian encounters over poker and beer is just plain funny. The stories about Jules that discussed his relationships with Robin and Ben were touching. Cute how Sam and Jules called each other SpongeBob and Squidward, although strange in a way. I thought it was distracting and annoying using Pig Latin and words like "crapitation" and "stankariffic". People in the military don't talk that way. Not even in their heads. But where I really just said, "Yup, had enough" was "Home Is Where The Heart Is"...Jack and Arlene's story where her daughter Maggie is so desperate for her mom not to go back to Iraq (which I totally get btw) that she cons an ex-lover of her mom's into trying to get her knocked up and married and when that doesn't work, she runs away. That's when I said, "yup, DONE". What I really wish is that a) Netgalley had not housed this under romance (because it wasn't really wasn't) and b) that Netgalley had made a mention in their description that it was so far into the series because I definitely would not have requested.

DNF at 51%

Peridot_Lyoness says

It's a collection of interviews and short stories based on our favorite boys and girls. My favorite story was Arlene's, Will Schroeder's sister and Maggie's mom. She was previously mentioned in *All Through The Night*. It was so poignant, and heart-breaking and sweet. Always good to see the fan faves: Alyssa and Sam, Robin and Jules, and Max and Gina.

Regina says

Suzanne Brockmann is a popular romance and romantic suspense author. In my opinion, her Troubleshooters books are unique in the romantic suspense genre. Suz's books have romance, the sweetness of meeting someone and connecting, some sexy steam and a great happily ever after. So for readers looking for that –

Brockmann offers this. But she offers so much more. *Headed for Trouble* is a continuation of the *Troubleshooters* series; it contains short stories and novellas revolving around characters already introduced in the series. Brockmann writes these complex characters who like most real people – make decisions and choices for complex reasons. Things do not happen easily or coincidentally in her *Troubleshooters* world; characters die and suffer and their happily-ever-afters are hard won. Characters introduced at the beginning of the series stay with the series over the course of the book. Readers get to see their favorites coming back and living their lives – or previously introduced characters become the main characters later on. And yeah, this sounds like many serial romance books but it isn't. Each of the characters has a unique voice, a unique background – and reads like a unique person. There isn't a formula in these books. The characters are all written in complex layers – sounds silly but it is true, they are meaty and tangible. These books and characters offer so much for readers to sink their teeth in. The *Troubleshooters* characters cross racial and ethnic lines, gender and sexuality lines and economic lines. The characters are tall, short, thin, bigger – and beautiful. They are so similar to real people we might know in real life. All of these factors are why I love the *Troubleshooters* series. Like anything else, I haven't loved all of the books in the series, but I have loved many and enjoyed most so overall this is my favorite series out of any genre. And unfortunately, I have not yet found another author like Suzanne Brockmann. Because I don't read Suzanne Brockmann for the genre, I read her for how she writes.

Headed for Trouble brings together most of the short stories and novellas that Suz has written in the *Troubleshooters* world. Some are new and some are not. Included in the book are some character interviews and an interview with Suz herself. Normally, I am not a fan of this sort of book and often feel like I have been short changed as a consumer when I buy something like this. That is not how I felt when I finished with *Headed for Trouble*. *Headed for Trouble* was very satisfying and made me just want more. She wrote these short stories and novellas, she wrote them just like she did her books –to further the storyline line and with great character development.

The stories involve favorite characters like Sam, Alyssa, Jules, Robin, Gina, and Max. We get to see Sam in action and acting his old ornery but sweet funny self. My favorite is a novella involving Will's sister in "Home is Where the Heart Is". The story is set in Spring 2008 and takes place sometime after *All Through The Night* but before *Into the Fire*. The character Will was introduced in *All Through The Night* and in that book we learn that he is caring for his sister's daughter while she is stationed in Iraq. "Home is Where the Heart Is" is similar to other *Troubleshooters* stories in that it is beautifully told and wonderfully touching. The characters do not make easy choices but the ending is rewarding.

Short but funny is the story which features Jenk, Izzy, Gillman and Lopez. It takes place slightly before *Into the Storm* and is set in 2005. As would be expected, Izzy is his usual hilarious self. In telling his friends about meeting a beautiful stranger who seeks out his help he describes what she says to him,

"I need a huge favor. And I'm thinking, Well it's your lucky night because I've got a huge favor," Izzy told them.

Of course it doesn't turn out quite how Izzy expected!

"A Seal and Three Babies" is a new novella included in *Headed for Trouble*. It is set in March 2009 and takes place after *Hot Pursuit* but before *Breaking the Rules*. The story centers around three couples: Jules/Robin, Max/Gina, and Alyssa/Sam. It is full of a lot of action and is really focused on interaction between Sam and Robin,

“What if you go out and they mug you?” (Robin asks) “That’ll be their mistake,” Sam said. “Not if they catch you off guard and knock you unconscious.” “Not gonna happen.” “Your eyes are closed right now,” Robin pointed out. Sam opened them and looked at him. “Because I’m pretty sure you’re not going to jump me.”

To fully enjoy this book and the stories in it, readers should read the other books in the series first. This is a series I strongly recommend – I have my thoughts and issues with the first two books in the series. But starting with book #3, the series is amazing and readers will not be disappointed.

To read more of this review and others like it check out [Badass Book Reviews](#)

Jonetta says

A Bit of Background

If you haven't read Suzanne Brockmann's Troubleshooters series, you're missing out on THE most exciting romantic suspense stories out there involving Navy SEALs and security operatives. Troubleshooters, Inc. is the name of the security firm launched by the former commander of SEAL Team Sixteen. Many of their assignments are a collaboration with Navy SEALs and the FBI and there are 16 amazing full length books in the series.

The Set Up

The last full length book in the series was released in 2011 and fans are dying for at least one more to end it properly. This book seriously whets the appetite with some short stories that were previously released with promotional books or earlier released novels. This is a compilation of those stories with two new ones added.

Highlights

I've never read any of the stories that were included in promotional books so they were all new for me. When Frank Met Rosie just about brought me to tears; Trapped is classic Troubleshooters with its combination of angst, romance and scary ops; Home is Where the Heart is was a bit of a departure but a chance to be with Jules and Robin as secondary characters; and A Seal and Three Babies had me literally howling in laughter for most of it but then holding my breath at the end.

What Worked

I really miss this series and these characters and these stories brought it alive for me again. I'd forgotten how Brockmann really is in a class by herself in crafting the characters, the dialogue, the chilling missions and the smoking romances. The new stories were meaty, fresh and appealing and those I'd missed from the past were insightful and interesting. These characters are so REAL I forget they're fictional (I'm cringing as I write that). You just lose all sense of yourself and get wrapped up in the story. They may be short but Brockmann didn't cut corners.

What Didn't Work So Well

I wanted more, not more of the short stories but more books like these where I get so engrossed I become part of it. It also reminded me that the series is in limbo, with some characters stories still left undone. I thought there would be more that might have moved those situations along.

Bottom Line

I enjoyed the stories a LOT. If it was intentional to leave me hungering for more, mission accomplished in a BIG way. I know a new series similar to this one is coming out next year and I'll be one of the first to read it. It would be nice to know, though, that somehow this series will reach closure either through the new one (crossover works) or we get one more Troubleshooters full length book that wraps one of the most incredible series I've ever read.

Anita says

As a wrap up to the Troubleshooters series - It wasn't. The stories were fun and the one about Frank O'Leary made me cry. The one with Izzy and the guys made me laugh out loud. The interviews were funny and the story about Shane made me dig out Born to Darkness to read sooner rather than later. I love Suzanne Brockmann and will read anything she writes, even when she is standing on her soapbox doing it.

Katie_la_geek says

If you are a fan of Suzanne Brockmann's Troubleshooters series then this book is an absolute must have. I am fairly new to the series so to be honest this book was not really made for me. This book is made for fans which I think is really nice.

Headed For Trouble is an anthology of short stories from the Troubleshooters series, each story is about well-known characters and couples. This book doesn't only contain stories there are also character interviews and some really nice and informative authors notes explaining the writing of the series and what inspired her to write these small stories. There is also a very handy and easy to understand time line letting you know where in the series each story is set, which I thought was a nice touch.

I really liked the idea behind this; it felt personal and was really well planned and put together. For me the stories were a little too short and I couldn't quite connect with the characters as much as I would have liked but for people who have read all the books in the series this will not be a problem.

?Karlyn P? says

More Troubleshooters?!! Wow, I so didn't see this coming. Sounds like it may be one big epilogue for all? We will see. Count me in.

Vic says

Audiobook read by Patrick Lawlor and Melanie Ewbank. I split the audio into the individual stories/interviews/etc so will list the running time as I split it. This list is also in the order as presented in the audio version. I think anyone interested in this book/audio should have read or listened to the entire Troubleshooters series first. Many of these shorts have been available for some time but I believe this is the

first time they are available via audio. I have enjoyed Patrick Lawlor and Melanie Ewbank narrations in this series on other books and this collection is no different.

Book Introduction - Melanie Ewbank - (04:33)

Troubleshooters 00 - When Frank Met Rosie - Patrick Lawlor - (39:25)

- I didn't listen to this story.

Troubleshooters 00 - Thoughts on When Frank Met Rosie - Melanie Ewbank - (07:15)

- This is Ms. Brockmann's thoughts on writing this short story about a character was dropped from the series during book 3.

Troubleshooters 06.5 - When Alyssa and Sam Met the Dentist - Melanie Ewbank - (14:45) **3***

- Nice little preview of the villain from Hot Pursuit (book 15)

Troubleshooters 07.5 - Waiting - Patrick Lawlor - (35:05) **4***

- I love Sam and Alyssa so while Alyssa is mostly off-screen I enjoyed this story. Sam gets bad news about a mission Alyssa is on while he's at home with his daughter. The other wives of SEAL Team 16 show up to provide support.

Troubleshooters 09.5 - Sam Takes an Assignment in Italy Patrick Lawlor - (31:58) **4***

- Again, Sam is the main character with Jules coming in to have his back. It's a fun little short story.

Troubleshooters 09.6 - When Jenk, Izzy, Gilman, and Lopez Met Tony Vlachic - Patrick Lawlor - (25:53) **3***

- Fun little story about when the guys get to know Tony.

Troubleshooters 09.7 - Suz's Interview with Tom and Kelly - Melanie Ewbank - (07:41) **2***

- Not a big fan of the interview style bits in this anthology. This was just OK for me.

Troubleshooters 10.1 - Trapped - Patrick Lawlor - (1:02:44) **3.5***

- First short I listened to with some real action taking place. Was nice to see other members of the group in on this op. I love Sam, Alyssa and Jules. It was also the first story with some length to it.

Troubleshooters 10.2 - Conversation with Navy SEALs Mark "Jenk" Jenkins, Dan Gillman, Jay Lopez, and Irving "Izzy" Zanella - Patrick Lawlor, Melanie Ewbank - (06:26) **2***

- I didn't think this worked that well in audio

Troubleshooters 10.3 - Suz's Interview with Kenny and Savannah - Melanie Ewbank (07:53) **2***

Troubleshooters 12.6 - Home Is Where the Heart Is (Part I & II) - Patrick Lawlor, Melanie Ewbank - (2:52:20) **3***

- Main characters for this short were secondary (non-Troubleshooter) characters introduced in All Through The Night (book 12). I thought the premise of the plot was a bit thin but it was OK.

Troubleshooters 15.5 - A SEAL and Three Babies - Patrick Lawlor - (1:30:18) **4***

- This was my favorite short story in this collection. I loved seeing Sam and Robin working together in this short story.

FAQ Interview with Suz - Patrick Lawlor, Melanie Ewbank - (18:15) **2***

- I wish there had been more/longer real short stories instead of some of these entries. We can find this on the author's website.

Valentine's Day - Melanie Ewbank - (03:35) **1***

- I appreciate the sentiments in this commentary but, again, would have preferred more/longer short stories.

Fighting Destiny 00 - Bonus Story: Shane's Last Stand Patrick Lawlor (1:01:55) **3.5***

- This is a prequel to her Fighting Destiny series. I did read book 1 (Born to Darkness) and found it interesting so I liked this story. I can understand its inclusion in this collection since this takes place when Shane is a Navy SEAL (in the dystopian future) and it's one of the few short stories with some action going on.

Troubleshooters 00 - Glossary of Troubleshooters Terms - Patrick Lawlor, Melanie Ewbank - (18:43) **1***

- A mostly straight forward glossary of terms.

Troubleshooters 00 - Troubleshooters Series Timeline - Patrick Lawlor, Melanie Ewbank - (13:45) **1***

- A brief summary of the books and short stories that are part of the Troubleshooters series. Appreciate the inclusion in an e-book but these last 2 entries of the audio take over 30 minutes and while the narrators can make it interesting, not something I'd re-visit.

While there was a lot of extra stuff in this collection that I could have done without, the short stories I enjoyed were worth the price of admission for me.

Miriam says

The more more substantial stories were okay, although I'd read some of them elsewhere. The shorter ones were pretty weak. Some of the items included weren't really stories. Brockmann's idea of having an author "interview" with her characters or be discussed by the characters works fine as cutesy way discussing the writing process, but doesn't work from a story-telling perspective. Overall, I felt like she was struggling to come up with enough material to reach book length. But given how many multi-book story arcs she's written, I don't think short is her strength.

Leea says

If you're a fan of the *Troubleshooters Series* and you've read all the books and haven't yet picked up *Headed for Trouble* then you're missing out... big time. Never before have I read a book like this, that is all about the fans. This book is filled with little snippets of our beloved characters, those side or back stories that took place when another major event happened. My emotions ran the gamete while reading this book. I cried, laughed and then cried happy tears. There were several short stores but my favorites were...

Sam in agony over being apart from Alyssa when she's in harms way. Talk about heart breaking but also sexy. We get to see Sam at home with his daughter playing daddy while his heart is hundreds of miles away residing in the hands of Alyssa Locke. You know he's not worried about her ability to protect herself, no that's not it. He just wants to be at her side protecting her the only way he knows how.

More Jules and Sam bromance moments. These two men couldn't be more different in some way but in others they're so alike. This is a friendship forged thru so many books and countless moments where they've saved each other and the ones they both love dearly. Under all this action is a story of friendship and mutual respect. Sam never ceases to amaze me when he opens up to Jules.

"You have no idea how much I appreciate your friendship," Jules said. Sam held out several bills. "Yeah, actually I do," he said. "It's probably as much as I appreciate yours."

Brockmanns interview with Jenk, Izzy, Lopez and Gillman that had me holding my side laughing so hard. Izzy has got to be my favorite character and i'll just leave you with this quote from Jenk...

JENK: Here's how you know you're gonna be the hero of her next book. Ready for this? (They nod.) JENK: You stop having sex.

At the end of *Hot Pursuit*, we know that Alyssa is going on a mission to Afganistan to be part of the team to help protect the president when he goes there for a visit. It's clear that Sam and Alyssa cannot go on ops together because of little Ash so they put a plan in place to make it a vacation for Sam, Gina and Robin... In *Headed for Trouble* you get this story and it's not what I expected at all. Somehow *Ms. Brockmann* is able to capture parenthood so perfectly, it's a huge cluster sometimes and you've always got to be ready for the unexpected. This was hands down my favorite short in this book.

Ultimately *Headed for Trouble* was *Ms. Brockmann* way of honoring our armed forces. I would argue that she does that with every book but there was an underline theme thru all the novellas. Soldiers being away from the ones they love in order to protect the country they love. Those holidays, birthdays and special moments that are missed while gone. The ones left at home to facilitate the every day life struggles without their partner as support. That every goodbye could be the last kiss or hug. Those are powerful moments, that those who get to sit under the flag of freedom tend to forget because it's not in our face everyday.

As she gazed into her own eyes, they welled with tears. And for those few brief moments, before Maggie emerged from the bathroom, Arlene allowed herself to acknowledge the dreadful fact—a terrible possibility—that this might be it for her. When she said goodbye to her daughter at the airport, it might be for the very last time. She might never come home again. But there were tens of thousands of servicemen and -women out there, just like her, who had said goodbye to their sons and daughters, their husbands and wives, their mothers and fathers and families, uncertain as to their own futures. That was always the case when one served one's country.

At the end of *Headed for Trouble* there is Q/A section. One of the questions was about Brockmann waving the 'Rainbow flag' and I thought she answered it perfectly. I'll leave you with this quote. In away in sums up these novellas.

I believe strongly that my books are entertainment. I hope you might learn a thing or two while reading them, but first and foremost, my job is to entertain you. If I'm waving a flag in Hot Target, it's the same flag I've always waved in all my books—the American flag. And that's a flag that's supposed to stand for acceptance and understanding. For freedom for all—and not just freedom for all Americans, but freedom for all of the diverse and wonderful people living on this planet; freedom to live their lives according to their definitions of freedom. It's a flag that's supposed to stand for real American values like honor and honesty and peace and love and hope.

Jennifer Wardrip says

How do I desire thee? Let me count the ways... Come on, December 2012!

Robin says

This is a mixed bag of short stories involving characters from Suzanne Brockmann's Troubleshooters series. I've read some of them before since they were published as extras in her full-length stories. There are a couple of original stories and some interviews involving characters and the author. If you're a fan of the Troubleshooters series and a fan of short stories, you'll enjoy this book. My rating: 3.5 Stars.

Aimz says

ARC provided by Netgalley for an honest review

I loved the Troubleshooters series. I love Suzanne Brockmann.
I do not love this book.

It was okay. Too cluttered for my tastes. It is a series of short stories about all 16 from the previous books. It was supposed to give us a bit more insight into their lives, but I just felt it was forced. I didn't feel any of the magic of the originals. The cover is misleading. I was disappointed. There wasn't any substance I felt. Overall it took me 4 days to finish. And I never put a book down until I am finished that day. So I have to call it like I see it. Meh...

Some may like it some may not. Different strokes for different folks they say.

This is my opinion. I am neither now nor will I ever be a professional critic. Thank you Netgalley and Random house publishing for allowing me to review.
