



Car Wash

Shawn Lane

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Kevin Flaherty's life really sucks. He's already been laid off from his job, compelled to sell his motorcycle, and now faces eviction from his apartment. Things can hardly get worse. Now, forced to work a low-paying job at a car wash and barely surviving, Kevin is too embarrassed to even tell his friends.

Hotshot lawyer, Michael Bennett, comes into the car wash to have his Maserati cleaned. Kevin knows Michael well. When Kevin was fifteen, an openly gay twenty-one-year-old Michael was Kevin's dream. But when the teenaged Kevin made his move, Michael rejected the young man.

Nine years have passed and Michael is surprised how attracted he is to Kevin. He soon takes him out, then takes him home. This time the beautiful man is not too young. When he learns of Kevin's situation, a smitten Michael makes it his job to clean up the disaster that Kevin's life has become. But his take-charge, bossy way irritates a sensitive Kevin, who starts a fight, ending in the breakup of their budding relationship. A breakup neither of them really wanted.

Can they repair their fractured relationship or will their differences and hurt feelings keep them apart for good?

Car Wash Details

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From Reader Review Car Wash for online ebook

Lily says

3.5 out of 5 stars

Kevin is going through some really hard times. He's lost his good job, had to sell his motorcycle and now works at a car wash without good prospects for the future. One day he's shocked to see Michael, his first teenage crush, waiting in line. They quickly get together and just as they are working towards a happy future Michael starts to take charge of Kevin's life. This doesn't sit well with him since he hates the fact that he's poor and that Michael has money and thinks he can just take over. There is a big fight and hurt feelings but soon enough a HEA future for the guys.

This was a nicely written story. While overall I did enjoy it during parts of the story for some reason I just didn't feel a true connection between the protags. Thankfully the last third of the story really pulled me in and by the end I was happy with Kevin and Michael's relationship. I think if Michael had been a bit less domineering and take charge both Kevin and I would have been happier. Overall though I did enjoy this sexy story and the HEA ending was as sweet as anyone could want.

Ele says

Wow. This was a big fat cliché. Bad dialogue, underdeveloped storyline, and boring.

My second read by the author. There won't be a third.

Sidda Lee says

i loved kevin. i wish there were more heroes like him. this may be one of my all time favorite books. a definite desert island keeper for me!

DarienMoya says

^^MY MAIN MAN KEV!^^

So I was really excited to read this one, after meeting Kevin in **Pulling Away**. I thought this dude has got to have his own story and thankfully Shawn Lane gave it to him.

So Kevin is pretty much out there, he is here and he is queer and he effin rocks. We know him as the fun loving, joking and super confident guy, but Mr Kev is hiding some serious issues. Like he lost his job, he might end up homeless and he has no idea how he is gonna feed himself. To make matters worst, he is working at a car wash and the pay is no good, he is way down on his luck. A fact; Kevin keeps smiling and his friends have no idea he is going through this tough time, our great ball of sunshine is losing a bit of his

light.

Until Michael Bennet pulls in to his car wash, in a Maserati no less. So Kevin had a crush on him when he was 15 and Michael turned him down at the time. We know young love can be serious and hurts when they break your heart. Well Kev is grown now and gorgeous and Micheal wants a peice of the pie, he couldn't have a taste when Kevin was jailbait, but now he can have him.

The relationship moves pretty quickly and feelings come in like a wind storm, but what does the future hold for Kevin, a man who always does his own thing, and who quite frankly is a bit of a queen and I bow down. Michael is rich and likes to run things, how will they cope and will love conquer all. Kevin did not disappoint he is as awesome as ever, and Michael can hold his own to him, together they are hot hot. So loved it.

Heller says

A cute, angsty piece.

Kevin has lost his job, his vehicle, he's on the verge of eviction and he's hiding his problems from his friends.

Michael is a well off divorce attorney who happens to be the first crush that Kevin ever had. He's the older brother of Kevin's former best friend and he rejected a younger Kevin back in the day.

They reconnect at the car wash where Kevin is working. Lots of sweet, sexy moments here and series of freebies set after that continue their story. Fun and fluff.

Kevin's Stories: Volume 1

Kevin's Stories: Volume 2: The Christmas Edition

Kevin's Stories: Volume 3

Maggie says

This book is a desert island keeper for me. I simply fell in love with Kevin. He is one of my all time favorite heroes. I immediately reread Car Wash after I finished it, I didn't want to let Kevin go! Since I read it a couple of weeks ago, it has continued to be one of my books I fall back to when I want to read a fantastic love story with a more than memorable hero.

Daisiemaes says

There isn't much I can say about Car Wash by Shawn Lane that hasn't already been said. Shayne was very eloquent with his review, and Ava (who evidentially doesn't write fast enough) and Sandy all wrote awesome reviews! So I decided not to repeat what has already been said, and instead tell you what I thought about this story.

Here's what I have been dying to say for over a week...I LOVED THIS BOOK! First of all, Kevin is one of

the most enchanting heroes I have read about in a long time. There is something that is very attractive about his outlook on life. His stubbornness not to let things get him down and his determination to come out better because of all the things he has gone through, made him very appealing in more ways than one.

Kevin's sexiness is apparent throughout the book. His willingness to be himself, and not conform to other people's expectations of beauty, or normal behavior made him one of my favorite heroes. I love a hero that is willing to put himself out there. Even though he might be scared to death, he is unwilling to give up the fight lying down. AND, when he is in love, he loves with his whole heart and soul. Too me, that is a real man, and that sums up Kevin to a tee.

Actually Michael said it best... Kevin is every gay man's wet dream, and well, maybe a middle aged straight woman's too! LOL

Michael was perfect for Kevin. His may not have always said nor did the right thing to keep in Kevin's good graces at all times, but his heart was always in the right place. Lucky for both of them, Kevin sees through Michael's wealth and truly falls in love with the sweet and giving man he is inside.

I loved the storyline. Shawn always amazes me with her ability to pull me into the lives of her characters. I find it so easy to relate to them, care about them and root for the happiness that they deserve. They are people who are always flawed, but still so worthy of the love they receive.

Now, for the really good part! The sexual chemistry between Kevin and Michael was so hot, it raised the temperature in my house and I had to down the air just to cool off! I swear if I had been feeling better, my husband would have already written Shawn a Thank You note! Michael was a lucky man! I get flushed just thinking about the kitchen scene! WHEW!

To me, Car Wash is a perfect example of how versatile Shawn is as a writer. It didn't have the angst or the conflict some of her other books have, but it still was very enjoyable and I thought that it's one of her most interesting character driven books yet.

Oh yeah, did I mention that I loved Kevin? LOL

5+ stars

Ava says

Kevin is having a hard time keeping up his usual perky disposition - laid off, riding the bus because he was forced to sell his motorcycle, behind on his rent, and now working at a car wash. Too embarrassed, he hides his troubles from his friends. To make matters worse, his slimy boss starts hitting on him. It's sure hard to smile when everything seems to be going downhill in his life, but then Michael Bennett shows up at the car wash to have his Maserati cleaned.

Handsome, wealthy and now a successful divorce attorney, Michael was Kevin's childhood friend's older brother, and the man a teenage Kevin had been infatuated with. But when Michael rejected Kevin's advances, Kevin fled, cutting off ties with his friend. He hasn't seen Michael in almost ten years, but his attraction to the man never went away. As for Michael, he finds himself more than intrigued by the grown-up version of Kevin. With dyed red streaks in his dark hair, a small stud in his nose, and his rather flamboyant appearance,

Kevin's not Michael's usual type. But his type changes as soon as he lays eyes on Kevin again.

Michael asks Kevin out to dinner and the two start a sizzling hot relationship. Michael can't help but feel protective of Kevin, yet his efforts to help him out come across as rather controlling to Kevin. And being understandably sensitive about his financial situation, Kevin's not too keen on all of Michael's 'help'.

I really, really liked Car Wash! In fact, I liked it more than Pulling Away. Loved Pulling Away of course, but I enjoyed Car Wash more. I adored Kevin - he's so damn cute and sexy, and I really felt for him. And Michael was damned gorgeous. This book isn't heavy on the angst - there's conflict, of course. I liked how Shawn Lane didn't draw out the 'getting back together' part. It wasn't chapters and chapters of angst (that wouldn't have fit the book), nor was it a phone call the next day and everything was peachy keen. It was just right considering the characters and the cause of their breakup.

Fantastic read! Highly recommended. :)

Natsroshan says

I really like Shawn's writing and her characters are really sweet and sexy. And characters are the ones that make me fly, even more than the story itself.

Unfortunately, in this one, i did not felt it. I couldn't connect with them at all.

Katrina Passick Lumsden says

This one's pretty lame. Bad dialogue, zero character development, conflict that makes very little sense, and a very rushed, shallow relationship. The emotions are manic, the situations clichéd, and points are made which are never resolved. Predictable, boring, and all-around unsatisfying.

Without a second thought, **Removed from Kindle**

Mandy*reads obsessively* says

3.5

Sweet read about down on his luck Kevin (definitely Cinderfella) and rich, successful attorney Michael. The insta love/lust is explained that 9 years ago 15 year old Kevin had an unrequited crush on the then 21 year old Michael.

It's nothing new, but it was a nice, cute read.

The one thing that bugged me was Michael calling Kevin a brat, I know it was in fun and in a loving way, but it just rubbed me the wrong way, I guess.

Deeze says

A straight forward story about Kevin meeting up with his childhood crush. The attraction is instant, there's a slight hiccup along the way, but everything works out in the end. A feel good story for when you need something light and fluffy.

Mahlet says

OOOooh, this was so good! The aesthetics of reading off my pc has delayed my plunge into m/m e-books. But after reading Car Wash reviews from friends, and friends of friends *grin*, I couldn't wait any longer and I'm glad I took the leap with this very HOT HOT HOT and *sweet* love story!

I was drawn in by page 2! Recently laid off from his office job, Kevin is just arriving to his job at the car wash. He's behind in rent, his creepy manager keeps leering at him, and he's counting on the day's tips to provide him tomorrow's bus fare. When he had to turn down the offer to go in on some lunch with a co-worker, I just broke my heart. In spite of the weight loss Kevin's tough financial situation has caused, he's still absolutely gorgeous with black hair with red streaks (*I was so jealous!!*) and a tiny nose stud and ear hoop. He's got that sexy, funky thing going on - and I loved his edgy style.

I could completely relate to Kevin's shock and embarrassment when he saw his childhood crush - Michael, the man he begged to take his virginity!- enter the car wash with a freakin' Masarati. Ok, who hasn't had that "Oh shit!" moment - when you run into that person that's deeply affected you in some way, and it's not definitely NOT how you wanted them to see you?

The connection between Kevin and Michael is immediate and undeniable. But as seeing Michael has resurfaced some old rejection wounds, Kevin tries to take the cool, reserved approach. But Kevin isn't an underage teen anymore, and Michael likes what he sees, and he's going to get his man! :)

Kevin and Michael were such a great couple with two different personalities that complemented one another really well! The sex was incredibly hot, and there was just the right mix of relationship development and erotic sexin' :) If you're like me, and have only read m/m as a side plot to a mainly m/f book, and you're looking for your first m/m erotic romance, this would be an excellent choice. And if you're already a fan of the genre, you've got another wonderful one to add to the batch! You will love this, too!

Shayne says

I am no good at writing reviews. I think I have stated before that I really don't have any desire to write them. I enjoy reading them too much, plus that is what I keep Jack around for! LOL!

Once in a while I'll read something that I thoroughly enjoy, and I want to share my pleasure with my friends. Car Wash was one of those books. I am not going to get into the storyline. Our dear friend who needs to write faster, Ava March and our sweet friend Sandy, did such an excellent job, there is no reason to get into

the description of the storyline.

I wanted point out that this book moves along quite quickly. The immediate attraction and past connection between Kevin and Michael make the pages practically sizzle off of the computer screen. It's true our angsty lovin' Shawn threw both characters a bone on this one. I think she must have felt pity on them because they both had been through so much before they reconnected. There is some conflict, but thankfully it was resolved and Kevin and Michael got the ending they so deserved.

Kevin is such an interesting character. I didn't know how he was going to come across in his own book, being that I loved him so much in Pulling Away. Between his individual sense of style and his bouncy, but loveable behavior, he is a man after my own heart. He is one of my favorite heroes. What's funny is that Michael couldn't be more different than Kevin. Between his no-nonsense attitude and his big old heart of gold, I thought he and Kevin were perfect for one another.

I hope everyone gives this book a shot. Reading Car Wash was a great way to escape into a very romantic and sexy love story for a couple of hours. Plus, the sex was freaking' HAWT! I rate this one a very well deserved FIVE stars!

Nichole (DirrtyH) says

More like 2.5 stars. This was an adequate little m/m short, but it kind of left me wanting. And not in that "Ooh, I wish it could go on forever" way. In that "I wish this had been more satisfying" way - like when you really want a good burger but you end up at McDonald's?

This was a cute m/m romance between Kevin, who has recently been laid off and is working at a carwash, struggling to pay for food and recently evicted from his apartment, and Michael, a super rich divorce lawyer who rejected Kevin's advances 9 years ago when Michael was 21 and Kevin was 15. So the two romance obstacles that they deal with are their awkward past, and Michael's current desire to take care of Kevin by just sort of throwing money at all of his problems.

The things I didn't like about this story:

1. The "I used to have a huge crush on you" angle is one of my favorites in romantic fiction. There's so much potential there. It was a *fantastic* angle in Jet Mykle's Pergatory, and made that story so great. But it just wasn't explored here. Not to the extent that I would have preferred. I wanted to really feel how amazing it would be to be with this person for the first time, after having feelings for them so long ago and being rejected. But it was totally rushed.
2. Michael, even though his heart was in the right place, was *totally* out of line with all the things he did to try to take care of Kevin. I totally understand why Kevin was upset about it. I don't feel like this was really resolved to my satisfaction. You can't build a relationship when your foundation is that unbalanced, and I just didn't think this got explored to the extent that it needed to. I have a hard time accepting the HEA with an issue that big lurking in the background.
3. This kind of ties in with issue one, but character development was nil. Usually, I might be tempted to give the benefit of the doubt because the story was only 100 pages and it's difficult to do a lot of character development in a book that short. But having just read Evangeline Anderson's Str8te Boys and seeing what totally compelling characters she was able to create and what a satisfying story she was able to tell in only 60 pages, it just sets the bar higher for everyone else.

4. The sex scenes weren't all that hot. Maybe this is because I didn't ever feel connected to the characters. But they also seemed like just a collection of common terms in m/m romance, almost like a fill-in-the-blank scene. It didn't feel original and there was very little tension.

What I liked:

I did have a lot of complaints about this story, but overall it was very sweet. Especially the end, at a fourth of July celebration with Michael's family. I finished the story with a smile on my face, so that counts for something.
