



## The Hot Corner

*Amy Noelle*

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## **The Hot Corner Amy Noelle**

Professionally, Danielle Pierce is making a name for herself writing biographies of famous athletes. Her star is on the rise, and her publisher is pleased. Her personal life isn't going as swimmingly, and she's recently back on the market after calling off her engagement to Mr. Perfect-On-Paper, not that she's looking for anyone special. Her career is her focus and it keeps her content.

Her agent and publisher throw her a curveball she never saw coming when she's assigned to cover the hottest baseball player—on and off the field—Bradley Reynolds. Brad, the Dodgers' third baseman, spends as much time on the covers of tabloids as on the sports pages, dating models and actresses, each one more beautiful than the last. But he doesn't let them distract him from his need to excel on the field. Baseball comes first, and it always has, ever since the love of his life walked away from him years ago. Danielle Pierce had been the only woman who ever mattered to him, the only one who ever would.

Dani never thought she'd have to see Brad in person again, let alone spend weeks with him writing his biography. He broke her heart in college, and she'd never risked it since. Seven years later he selects her to write the story of his life, and she's stuck between a rock and a hard place. If she refuses, she looks like a coward. If she gives in, he wins. Can she be around him without falling for his Southern charm and deadly looks again? Can she show him that he didn't break her? She doesn't know what his game is, but she hopes she's strong enough this time to play without getting burned.

## **The Hot Corner Details**

Date : Published June 26th 2014 by The Writer's Coffee Shop Publishing House (first published June 24th 2014)

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Author : Amy Noelle

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## From Reader Review The Hot Corner for online ebook

### **Bianca says**

Great read! Second chance sports romance. Well written, enough angst to keep you reading but not enough to piss you off. lol

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### **Jennifer Kyle says**

**3 ~ 3.5 Stars**

*"Some of us believed lies our eyes told us, instead of truths our hearts should have recognized."*

This is the story of Danielle Pierce and baseball sensation Brad Reynolds. The couple had a long college romance that ended upon a failure to communicate and/or get full story before Dani dumps the love of her life seven years ago.

Dani is a sports biographer who has been given the assignment of writing the now professional ball player, L.A. Dodger's third baseman, Brad Reynold's biography.

*"How am I supposed to write impartially about a guy I dated for almost two years in college? A guy who I actually had the bad taste to fall in love with?"*

Dani is hell bent on showing the publicized playboy that she's not only a successful writer but that she is over him. Brad pulls out all the stops to win Dani's heart again while Dani interviews the people in his life and falls for him all over again.

*"God help me, but I could love him again. Maybe I'd never stopped."*

This was a light sports oriented read. The misunderstanding however isn't addressed till late in the story and why didn't he ever face her in person for answers as well? Anyway, the ending was a homerun for the couple nonetheless and I really enjoyed Pam she was a nice touch to the story.

**\*ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.\***

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### **Elizabeth\_s says**

*\*\*Full review on <http://delightedreader.com/review-hot...> \*\**

*Brad just may be my new book boyfriend...*

*Wish I could give half stars as this is more than a 4 star review.*

*When I read the synopsis for this story I thought that it sounded like an interesting read and hoped that it would have humor as well as be a bit spicy...I was not let down. I wasn't crazy about Brad when he was first introduced in the book and didn't know if I could even like him as he came off as such an ass but as you can tell from the title of my review that he found a way into this reviewer's heart. I really enjoyed how the author had Brad send baseballs to Dani during the games in college to let her know that he was thinking of her and that it was carried over to the present time...this was quite clever and endearing. I guess some traditions are hard to stop and this one seemed pretty believable. There is quite a bit of flirting throughout the book and with great chemistry, like these two characters have, makes for a great read! The friendship between Dani and Pam (her best friend) seemed pretty true to life of great girlfriends. I hope that Ms. Noelle has a book in the works for Pam...I think she has a story that needs to be told.*

*One of the main things that I enjoyed about this story was how real it all seemed. I can see Dani believing all she did especially at such a young age and her reactions were exactly how I would have handled the same situation back then. I felt that the excerpts from Dani's book were fabulous and made me want to read it...now keep in mind it's not a real book so I think that states what a great story this is. There were some editing errors and that is why I didn't give this 5 stars. I don't give 5 stars very often but I felt this one was as close to a 5 star review as I have read in quite awhile. The only bad things I found were the editing errors otherwise a perfect read in my opinion.*

*To sum it up, I thought that this was a beautifully written love story. The only bad things I found were the editing errors otherwise a perfect read in my opinion.*

*\*Received copy in exchange for an honest review\**

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### **Sassy Moms Say Read Romance says**

#### **Sarah's Review:**

Thank you to The Writer's Coffee Shop and Amy Noelle for the opportunity to read and review this great story. I have been a fan of Amy's work for a while now and I was looking forward to reading this one as soon as she said it was being published.

I am a huge sports romance reader so this story fit what I was needing at the time that I read it. While I am not a huge sports watcher, I do love reading the romances that involve sports. There is something about this particular aspect of romance that I enjoy.

I love that this story is a second chance romance as well. While personally, I don't have anyone in mind when it comes to second chances at a romance, the idea is something that I could believe in if the chance came along. When it comes to being young and in love, many will say that high school or college romances won't last, but sometimes it is best that time is spent apart then reconnecting.

I love the way Dani and Brad had to work through the past in order to get the future that they both wanted. Communication and trust are two vital elements that they needed to work on but once that happened, you see that the connection they share is still there after their time apart.

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## TeriLyn says

\*\**The Hot Corner* generously provided by The Writer's Coffee Shop Publishing House via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.\*\*

***Release date June 26th***

### **5 Hot Corner Stars**

I LOVED this novel. This is the kind of story in which great romantic comedies are born from. Brad Reynolds, in baseball pants, bending down on the third base line .... holy cannoli. I loved it and I hope you'll love it too. It's one of my favorite of the year, no doubt about it.

*The Hot Corner* embodies what great romantic comedies are made of; I watched this book play out in my head like a movie as I was reading it. I adored it. I devoured the story with a smile on my face. It's a perfect 'beach read'. It's just easy. It's easy to read, it's fun, its hopeful, the dialogue is smart and witty, you root for both main characters the entire time, and the plot is constantly developing. I was completely lost in Brad and Dani's story and I wouldn't have wanted it any other way. *The Hot Corner* soared to the top three of my favorite reads this year. There is something really special about this story revolving around an All-American sport played by an All-American guy. Sports stories can be cliché or overdone, especially baseball stories. But when there's a good one, a really good one, like *For Love of the Game* good, aren't they best? I'm telling you Amy Noelle hit a home run (pun most definitely intended) with her story.

Dani Pierce, scorned by her one true love from college, third basemen Brad Reynolds, superstar third basemen for the LA Dodgers. I'm sucker for a baseball player who looks good in his uniform by the way so Brad soared straight to the top. Ms. Noelle descriptively painted a picture of Brad that I won't soon forget. After moving on to become a biographer of athletes, Dani finds herself with a new assignment: Brad. To curious to decline she sets off for LA and a whirlwind adventure filled with flirty banter, heart pounding passion, and romance that will leave you as breathless as Dani. Her character, at first, started to agitate me; she had a jealous streak that I didn't quite understand when she first saw him again. As she develops and her feelings progress juggling the past and the present, I totally understood her. Dani had some things to learn about herself right along with the reader so her reactions were nothing but honest and real. She's a strong heroine, an admirable one. There is literally not thing negative I can say about Brad Reynolds. He's one of the ultimate's without a doubt. His romantic gestures are seriously swoon worthy. There is no way any straight, hot blooded woman could not fall for his charismatic charm. I swear his smile leapt from the pages; he's infectious. Brad and Dani's whole second chance builds toward an imminent conflict of coming completely clean about the past. Speaking of which, I loved how we got see the glimpses of them in the past. The entire story is told from Dani's POV. I loved being inside her head, her reactions, her thoughts, her turmoil, her fears. It made her character deeper. I think this story is perfect how it is. I have no idea whether there are plans for more stories involving these two but I wouldn't mind being inside Brad's head; a novella about their past, a new story that provides a sequel to where we left them.

Stealing the same word I used to describe Brad I'm using about the book as a whole, this author's writing and her ability to pull you into her story – infectious. It crawls right into your heart and burrows there. With characters you'll fall in love with, a fluid plot, and just the right amount of angst, *The Hot Corner* truly delivers. Any romance fan will love it. I'm now officially a total fan girl of this author and look forward to

more of her stories. A re-read will definitely be in order of this book, who am I kidding, I could read it again right now. I highly recommend Brad & Dani's story for all romance lovers. Bravo, Ms. Noelle, you made a believer out of me.

#### **Favorite Quotes:**

*"There was something beautiful in watching him talk about the game. There always had been."*

*"And even then, you didn't make a scene. You trusted me. You supported me and learned the game for me. It was impossible not to love you."*

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#### **Connie N. says**

My first thought was to rate this 4-stars, but I'm still thinking about it and smiling about it, so I'm moving it up to a 5-star rating. What a great romance! Although the main character is our heroine Dani, she is basically the "bad guy" in this romance since she was in a relationship with Brad while in college but broke it off with him because she thought he cheated on her. Now it's 7 years later and she is contracted to write a book about him now that he's a superstar third baseman with the Dodgers. They have a lot of history to discuss while trying to deal with the strong feelings they still have for each other. What's so heartwarming about this story is the fact that it's all about second chances so we become a part of their memories as well as a part of the current feelings they have for each other. Brad Reynolds was a star baseball player in college and had women all over him. Dani was his love, but she felt inadequate and threatened all the time despite the fact that Brad told her she was the only one for him. Perfectly understandable, actually, as was her reaction of running rather than fighting for him back when she was young and vulnerable. That's what made this story so believable and real. Even though the hero is a superstar athlete, the story is real since it is rooted in his younger days when he was basically just a regular guy. He is definitely approachable. Brad is a fabulous hero--very romantic. My favorite scenes were his sending her messages on baseballs throughout his games and his reading a poem to her in a college class. Great sexy love scenes. Lots of sort-of arguing between them, with her calling him an arrogant ass or a dick. This might offend or irritate some readers, but I found it funny and endearing. Bits of baseball to keep things interesting. Excellent romance. I will definitely look for more from this author.

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#### **Cocktails and Books says**

THE HOT CORNER is a charming story about a second chance at love. Dani Young writes sports biographies about major athletes and Brad Reynolds wants her to write his biography. The only problem is, Brad broke Dani's heart seven years ago and she wants nothing to do with him. Brad and Dani were madly in love when they were in college together, but they broke up and haven't seen each other since. To prove that she's truly over him, Dani reluctantly agrees to write the book.

Brad's a third baseman and the biggest baseball star in the world, but he spends as much time partying and dating famous women, as he does playing ball. When Brad and Dani meet again, they are still drawn to each other and have sizzling chemistry. Even though the connection is still there, Brad's not the same carefree guy from college. Now he doesn't talk about his personal life or his feelings and he has built many walls around

his heart. I enjoyed this story, except when Dani has to interview all the women Brad has dated. Listening to all the woman talk about being with Brad, made me just as uncomfortable as it made Dani.

Amy Noelle writes a sweet romantic story. Dani and Brad have an emotional connection and a passionate relationship. I cared about them and I wanted them to work out their differences so they could be together again. Even though Brad has had disappointments in his life, he's a nice guy and always wonderful to Dani. Brad stole my heart, he's a tough alpha male but he's also sweet, caring and loyal. This is a heartwarming story with a hot athlete and lots of baseball.

Reviewed by Karen for Cocktails and Books

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### **Sparkle says**

One of the best books I've read lately. Amy writes about a subject she knows well, sports, and weaves a delicious romance throughout. I was drawn in from the first chapter and did not put it down until I read the very last line.

I've followed Amy's writing for years. Once again, she has delivered a great read for her fans. The Hot Corner is my favorite of her two published books. Now, I sit and watch the clock tick slowly waiting word of her next book.

P.S. Every woman deserves a Bradly Reynolds!

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### **Downward dog says**

<http://www.cocktailsandbooks.com/>

I was given a copy of this book to review for Cocktails and Books.

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### **Clare O'Beara says**

While I know little about baseball this on and off the field romance kept me reading and entertained.

Dani Pierce ghostwrites sports biographies for a living, but now her agent has signed her up with a baseball star, Brad Reynolds. She doesn't want this assignment because she had a youthful romance with Brad in college and once was enough.

I liked that the author has clearly got to talk with not just the players but their families to find out what life is like behind the scenes. A wife has to share her husband, not just with the sport but with the fans. A single man has more ladies paying attention to him than is sensible. On a family picnic, fans keep coming and asking for autographs - the player grins and considers it part of the job.

There are hot adult scenes as a relationship builds and the two people, each striving to succeed, have to bend their preconceptions and attitudes. Sports fans may get more out of this than I did but it's still an enjoyable read.

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### **Jeannie Zelos says**

The Hot Corner, Amy Noelle

Review from Jeannie Zelos Book reviews.

So, I've never read any of Amy's books and know nothing about baseball – except its revered in US and something like the Rounders we played here in UK as kids ( I'm not being sarky here, just describing my knowledge or lack of!) Still, the description hooked me and I wanted to read this book.

Dani, oh I loved her and her story. I'd have probably thought the same way as her when she saw what she did. She was young, but to be honest most ladies would believe what they saw, though someone older may have had it out with the other person. Then we wouldn't get this story though :) Still, it made her internal struggle with attraction for Brad, and her determination to show him what she's become without him easy to understand. Brad, on the surface playboy baseball star, and yet when we meet him he's so much more. Even though he's a rep with the ladies everyone from most ex-es to his team mates and friends say how loyal and trustworthy he is. Dani finds all this out when she's interviewing for his biography, that she's accepted the commission to write. She hoped to show Brad how well she's done without him and yet...soon as she saw him the attraction that had never quite gone was back, and it was pretty clear Brad felt the same. She fought for a while, and fought hard, before giving in and getting us some erotic and sensual love scenes. Love scenes not just sex scenes as that's what it was; sex he's had plenty of but with Dani it was clearly more. Its all going well, the book is taking shape, Dani and Brad are close and working closer and then...as always the spanner in the works gets thrown and it all goes t \*t's up :( Dani is heartbroken, so is Brad, and somehow they need to find a way back together. Help comes from what Dani would have though an unexpected source, but someone who has become a good friend to them both.

Its a great novel, fun read, lots of emotion, and my lack of baseball knowledge didn't matter. Bard was a star, in the same way as an actor or artist would be – his genre was simply sports, namely baseball, and the media

drama that follows all stars applied to him and Dani.

I don't have price or length at time of writing but I'd guess its around 220 – 250 pages. Its a fun read, full of emotion but not too deep. One to read for the feel-good factor of a HEA.

Stars: Four, excellent second chance romance.

ARC supplied by Netgalley.

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### **christine danielle (Bibliophilic Madness) says**

FOR MORE REVIEWS AND GIVEAWAYS, DO CHECK OUT MY BLOG:

#### **The Hot Corner**

Cover: 5

Plot: 5

Characters: 5

#### **Overall Rating: 5**

*The Hot Corner* is a book filled with sports, romance and second chances. This is the kind of book that has the perfect blend of romance and comedy and would ultimately make you believe in love all over again.

Danielle Pierce also known as Dani Young is a rising writer after having written biographies for famous athletes. Her publisher surprised her when she said that her next assignment would be writing the biography of Bradley Reynolds, the Dodger's third baseman, her ex-boyfriend and the man who ultimately broke her heart. Dani never thought of seeing Brad again after he broke her heart but now she needs to spend time with him for his biography. Can Dani show Bradley that she got over him already or will she just get burned in the end.

The Hot Corner is about Dani a writer who is now getting recognized. She is now requested to write the biography of her ex-boyfriend Brad. Sparks fly between them just like back before in their college days but how can she trust him again after all that he's done.

I don't know if I should hate Dani or love her. She was a great character full of spunk and was very funny too but if she just confronted Brad instead of running and breaking up with him, there wouldn't have been a problem.

Bradley was my favorite in this book. He was sweet and attentive, a very caring boyfriend and he loves Dani as if she was her world. Ultimately he was the victim in this book and I really was sad for him but there would be no book if what happened never happened.

A very great read that would make me want for more from this author.

## Jill says

### 3.5 stars

Dani Pierce is a successful biographical writer of well-known athletes who've overcome difficulties on their path to success. Her latest assignment from her publisher though, is to write a book on baseball's biggest current star, Brad Reynolds, the Dodgers third baseman. But Dani and Brad have history, and not all good.

This is a well-written, if slightly formulaic romance. I picked this one up from Net Galley as I really enjoyed Amy Noelle's debut, *Code Red* which was cute, with a heavy dose of humour. One of the things that makes the often bland, formulaic contemporary romance genre palatable for me, is stories liberally sprinkled with clever, funny lines and scenes. So I was a little disappointed that *The Hot Corner* displayed very little of Ms Noelle's keen humour. However, there's nothing particularly wrong here. The main characters are likable, the romance lovely, the story engaging. Perhaps my expectations were too high.

On the plus side, readers are given a healthy (though not overwhelming) dose of baseball action, which is always appreciated in a sports-themed romance. For readers who enjoy second-chance romances or sports romances, this is an enjoyable read.

**Steam:** 3-3.5

*ARC courtesy of The Writer's Coffee Shop Publishing House via NetGalley*

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## Jolanda Gelissen says

With Amy Noelle, I always know I'm in for an entertaining and relatable read. This book was no exception. I actually had Bryan Adams' *Please Forgive Me* stuck in my head for most of the book. The song seems fitting, considering this is a second chance romance where mistakes have been made.

Danielle Pierce was madly in love with Bradley Reynolds in college. He was the all star third baseman, destined to make it big. Girls flocked to him, but he was devoted to her. That all changed when she went to surprise him during an tournament and caught him cheating. Heartbroken, she ended things.

Seven years later, she is an author on the rise, specializing in biographies of athletes. Her publisher 'suggests' (well, insists) that she takes on the job of writing the biography of the hottest baseball star. None other than Bradley Reynolds. Dani is loathe to accept, but sees no way out of it, knowing that refusing will make her appear weak and scared. Determined to prove to both Bradley and herself that she is over him, she takes on the job and travels to Los Angeles.

The past will not stay buried, however, as Dani soon finds out. The chemistry between her and Brad is still

there, but it is tainted by trust issues on both sides. She doesn't trust him not to cheat, and he doesn't trust her not to run out on him.

As Dani conducts her interviews and observations, bits and pieces of his life and personality fall into place. They cause her to fall for him all over again as well as question their shared past. I enjoyed witnessing this aspect and seeing her come to the conclusion we, as readers, may find a bit sooner in the story.

The author treated the range of emotions experienced by Dani with honesty, making for an engrossing read. Dani and Brad's rekindled relationship is on a fast pace, but this makes sense when taking their history and current situation into account. Although the ending does not come as a surprise, it is satisfying and fitting to the characters.

If you are looking for a second chance romance featuring hot athletes, this is definitely a book to pick up!

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### **AnnMarie says**

After reading the author's debut, *Code Red*, I was excited to see a new story coming out.

*Code Red* is the epitome of chick lit. Story lines I love but don't come across very often. Romantic, cute, sweet and funny. Low angst and drama, except for the girl naturally. A true \*hugs\* kind of story.

Sooooo....what went wrong?

The Hot Corner was just a hard sell for me. I just expected chick lit, the premise kind of led me that way and the author is a chick lit hero of mine.

But no, that's not what I got sadly.

The main reason is the fact that the author based the entire story on one of my biggest pet peeves. A misunderstanding.

Story lines based on a misunderstanding is right up there with over the top angst that goes on and on and on, then end with a POOF all better. \*grits teeth\*

The fact that this misunderstanding happens two years into their relationship makes it worse. A relationship where the couple claim they are each other's best friends? Best friends talk, they communicate.

Nope. It's a hard sell for me, just seems forced, that you have to believe the misunderstanding, otherwise there really isn't a story line. Misunderstandings usually fare well with YA genre. This was not YA.

But regardless of how I sound right now, Amy Noelle is a talented writer and one I will continue to watch.

This one just was not for me. More my issue than anything else.

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