

HEART TROUBLE



A Short Story

JOSH LANYON

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Stress kills. So does loneliness. A very short, very sweet story by Josh Lanyon.

Heart Trouble Details

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From Reader Review Heart Trouble for online ebook

Serena Yates says

This is really a seedling of a little story. With very cute characters, one of them panic-driven and close to a breakdown, the other the epitome of calm and collected, it describes the beginnings of what might grow into a relationship. It is a message of hope, which the romantics among us will definitely love. There is enough of a beginning here to make me want a sequel!

Ford is stressed out on multiple fronts. He is low on money and friends, has writer's block, and is scared of coming out. He also develops an immediate crush on the doctor in the emergency room when he has a panic attack, thinking it is a heart problem. The additional stress of the doctor driving him home as he imagines all kind of terrible murder scenarios doesn't exactly help. Ford definitely needs a keeper!

Dr. Jacob Hoyle is a great guy, the perfect "knight in shining armor". He knows the medical background to panic attacks, but he also has enough compassion for three men. I never had any doubts that he was really interested in Ford, and am hopeful the two will make a go of it.

If you like short, sweet stories with the possibility of a happy ending, if you enjoy a guy in need being rescued by a savior in a white coat (rather than a true suit of armor), and if you need a message of hope, you will probably like this (much too short) story.

CrabbyPatty says

Mmph ... working my way through my list of Josh Lanyon shorts. This is a bit too short and not terribly sweet, just mostly a bit weird. 3 stars.

Katharina says

A very short, but lovely story! A little bit too short for me to give it five, because for a five star review I need a connection to the protagonists I just don't get in 15 to 20 pages.

However, it still amazes me how much can be put in such few lines, how much characterisation, how much feeling, without being overdone. It's just a short snippet of two men's lives but you get an insight into the characters, understand them, get an idea of how their lives could turn out. Josh Lanyon knows how to say much in few words and that is a rare and fantastic skill to have.

And it has the perfect length for lunch time as it turns out! :-D

Anna says

God, why, oh why is this so short? I want more!! I completely fell under the charm on this 21 pages long story. Authors who write characters that are doctors, take note - this is how they should be written; caring, gentle. I've read some books where the doctors were really creepy, and I hate that. Jacob was perfect.

I'd sell my left arm to read more about these two. It was so so sweet!

Lauren says

This was a wonderful little story! It was sweet, and moving, and for such a short story it really managed to make a lasting impression. I read it last night and found myself thinking about it at work today. I just wish there was more, because I fell in love with these characters.

Mandy*reads obsessively* says

3.5*

This is a very short story, it starts with Ford in the ER being examined by Dr Jacob Hoyle. Ford thinks he is having a heart attack , the Dr examines him and asks all kinds of questions, that's how we get to know Ford, his age, his family and financial situation, his fear, and it is also told from his POV, unfortunately except for showing that Jacob is extraordinarily kind we know next to nothing about him. And that was a bit of a problem for me, I liked Ford, but why did Jacob like him, what was Jacob thinking? I missed a little of his POV or at least knowing more about him, the ending is also sweet and hopeful, but that's it.

(view spoiler)

Baba says

3 stars.

A super quick read for a lunch break. No more, no less. It was nice, though way too short.

Reggie says

Love a well-written short story!!

Tully Vincent says

So short and sweet. A coming out sort of story, no sex. Enjoyed these two together...3.5 stars

Irina says

Such a lovely doctor-patient **fantasy** story. Very sweet.

*****4 stars*****

Ami says

Even if the story is only about 5000 words, Josh Lanyon is able to write something quite thoughtful. Here's Ford, only twenty-three years old, suffering from what he thought as heart attack. But as Ford talks to the emergency doctor who treats him, we find out that there are quite a lot of things happening in Ford's life right now. This snippet ends with a hopeful note of a beautiful beginning between Ford and the doctor.

Oh, and while Josh describes this story as "very sweet", there is nothing sugar-brain-dead-inducing elements here. I'm very satisfied.

Justin says

My first Lanyon and I enjoyed it. Will definitely check out some of the longer Lanyon books that were recommended to me.

This is really short but sweet. It fit my mood perfectly.

Deeze says

This was a sweet little look into Ford and Jacob meeting.

Enjoyable and moving in places, but just too short to really get me going.

Johanna says

I fell for this extremely endearing story of a twenty-three year old Ford, who reminds me of a lost puppy. In a way this is such a simple story, but it holds a huge amount of emotions in it. The story happens during a short couple of hours, but it includes a promise of many great things to come.

This sweet story gave me hope and it left me wondering what kind of lives have these two men lived through to get to this exact point of Ford's heart trouble. What made Jacob to act so kind towards Ford? Why was

Ford panicking about the things he did? It's always such a joy to read a new Josh Lanyon story -- and this one was particularly heart-warming.

And furthermore -- how in the world can only 21 pages tell a complete story of two lifetimes without putting it all into words?! I only got a glimpse of these two men meeting briefly, but I feel like I have been shown a slide show of their lives from childhood to old age.

I would prescribe a dosage of this to anyone with a heart -- and a need for quality literature. To be taken as often as necessary. :)

Natasha says

This is why I read romance.

The unrealistically sweet men, the improbable scenarios, the Knights in shining armour.

This short is a brief glimpse into the lives of two men. I could read a novel about them, or just appreciate this incredible short.

Classic Lanyon.
