



Melting Ice: Seattle Sockeyes Hockey

Jami Davenport

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USA Today Bestselling author Jami Davenport presents another Seattle Sockeyes hockey romance and the fifth book in her Game On in Seattle sports romance series showcasing alpha male heroes of football, baseball, and hockey.

Brimming with attitude and broken beyond repair, Isaac "Ice" Wolfe has a heart as cold as his nickname, and he likes it that way--until he meets his neighbor Avery Maxwell. Avery is unlike any woman he's ever known. Her smile thaws his frozen heart. Being with her heals his broken places. She makes him feel, and for Isaac that's not always a good thing. Isaac has burned every bridge in his professional hockey career. When he's traded to the Seattle Sockeyes halfway through their inaugural season, he knows he won't get another chance. He's never been a team player, yet he needs to become one--and fast.

Avery has only wanted one thing in her life--to train and show horses. Her decision to drop out of college to pursue her riding career causes a rift with her big sister, but Avery is tired of following everyone else's dreams. Now she's following her own, and no one is going to distract her from her passion--until she meets a dark stranger and his cantankerous dog.

When Isaac is warned away from Avery by the team's captain, who happens to be Avery's future brother-in-law, Isaac sees the writing on the wall. It's Avery or his career. To Isaac, a life without hockey wouldn't be a life worth living. But what about a life without Avery?

Do Isaac and Avery sacrifice their mutual passion for each other in order to achieve their goals, or do they fight to have it all, even if by doing so, they might lose everything in the end?

While all books in this series can be read as standalones, you'll likely enjoy the other books in the Game On in Seattle sports romance series:

Book 1--Skating on Thin Ice (Seattle Sockeyes Hockey)

Book 2--Crashing the Boards (Seattle Sockeyes Hockey)

Book 3--Crashing the Net (Seattle Sockeyes Hockey)

Book 4--Love at First Snow (Seattle Sockeyes Hockey)

Book 5--Melting Ice (Seattle Sockeyes Hockey)

Book 6--Blindsided (Seattle Steelheads Football) AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER 2015

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From Reader Review Melting Ice: Seattle Sockeyes Hockey for online ebook

Jean Smith says

Melting the Ice and finding the liquid love inside

Avery Maxwell is a highly intelligent and passionate woman but you wouldn't know it with the opinion her family has of her giving up her premed studies to take on horse training full time. You certainly wouldn't be applying the term passionate to her love life if you watched her sitting home alone on New Year's eve or her very nonexistent sex life. Finally, life is just where Avery wants it to be. She's living life on her own terms and doing what she enjoys most in life and horses are her life. The only thing that could make it even better is Isaac "Ice" Wolfe; Avery just doesn't know it yet.

Isaac is hanging onto the last bit of rope in his career. Either he can shape up or he can use that rope to hang himself. He's been traded to the Seattle Sockeyes, a new hockey team and the last stop in his career. You see Isaac has a few problems. He built quite the reputation as a womanizer, a drunk and a fighter. It doesn't seem to matter whether the fight is on the ice or off, opponent or team mate. In fact, Isaac isn't much of a team player at all. He's had an abusive childhood and tragedy has estranged him from his family. He lives with guilt every day of his miserable existence. He puts on his big boy pants, lifts his chin and puts on an indifferent face. He is "Ice." No one likes him. Hell even his dog hates him.

So it's no surprise that things are a little explosive when these two meet and the chemistry between the two is off the charts. He's that bad boy one night stand Avery is looking for. Avery is that one and done ride he's itching for. Nevertheless, this is one bad boy that isn't going away and neither is that itch. After a night of wild and crazy things get a little complicated. Isaac's team captain, who just happens to be Avery's brother in law threatens his NHL career if he gets involved with Avery or her twin Emma. With the ever present threat hovering over them Avery and Isaac decide on a friends only approach and the slow burn begins. Neither Isaac nor Avery can forget their explosive beginning. The more they come to know each other the greater the temptation.

Much the way Avery reads the abused horses she rehabilitates, she sees the wounded man beneath the surface of Isaac's icy demeanor and she sets about cracking that ice. Boy is she successful. Watching Isaac turn it all around is powerful let alone watching these two fall in love. It takes some commitment and maneuvering for Isaac to figure out how the two might have a chance at being together. Both are challenged with deciding just how important their relationship is and what they'll do to keep it. This was a great story of leaving the past in the past, learning to forgive and finding the future. I really enjoyed it.

Review copy provided via Candid Book Reviews in exchange for an honest review.

Auntee says

Loved everything about this one!

Loved the emotional growth of Sockeye defenseman Isaac (Ice) and loved the strength of horse trainer Avery. Especially how their romance developed from a "one and done" to a "friends without benefits" to true , mature love.

Of course I love a tortured hero and a strong heroine, so this definitely fit the bill.
5 big stars

Downward dog says

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

I was given an advanced copy of this book to write an honest review for Cocktails and Books.

This is a feel good hockey story that pulled at my heartstrings. Isaac Wolfe, a professional hockey player, doesn't care what people think of him. He has a bad attitude, doesn't have any friends and because of his behavior, he continually bounces from one team to another. After yet another team lets him go, Isaac starts to worry when he finds out the Seattle Sockeyes are the only team willing to sign him. He knows this is his last chance and if he messes up again, it will be the end of his hockey career. All Isaac cares about is playing hockey and he knows if he wants to continue playing hockey, he needs to make some changes. Isaac has many layers and beneath his surly exterior, is a nice guy suffering through a lot of pain and he covers up his sensitive feeling with a cocky attitude.

Isaac pushes everyone away, until he meets Avery. Avery gives him hope and for once in his life, Isaac wants more from a woman. Isaac has learned not to trust anyone and to always expect the worst from people, but with Avery, everything is different. Avery is persistent and she sees the good in Isaac that most people miss. She can see Isaac's pain and wants to help him. I admired Avery's strength and her confidence; she is not afraid to go after what she wants. There is a lot of chemistry sizzling between Isaac and Avery.

MELTING ICE is the fifth book in the Seattle Sockeyes Hockey series and each book is a stand-alone, but all the characters are interconnected. There are a fun cast of secondary characters and I hope to read their stories in future books, they include Isaac's brothers, Avery's sisters and the guys on the hockey team. This entertaining, heartwarming story is fast paced, well written and has great character development and can't wait to read the next book in the series.

Isha Coleman says

Melting Ice (Seattle Sockeyes) by Jami Davenport

Reviewed by (Isha Coleman) for Candid Book Reviews

Did not expect to like Melting Ice. I am not a hockey fan and hate characters that come off as jerks. Jami Davenport you caught me from my first glimpse of Isaac. Isaac is definitely a lone wolf. The emotional turmoil that he has endured throughout his young life broke my heart. I just wanted to reach out and give him a great big hug. Avery did just that. Drawn to this wounded warrior, she discovered the tortured man within. With a gentle hand, giving heart and lots of patience she helped to mend the damage. Melting Ice is a story of sorrow, strength, pain and healing. A touching story lingers even after the last page. Enjoyed reading this

book.

Diane Lynch says

Bad-boy hockey player Isaac "Ice" Wolfe has one last shot to stay in the NHL. He doesn't let anyone into his life until he meets horse trainer, Avery Maxwell.

Jami Davenport created another fabulous book in the Game On in Seattle series.

I liked Isaac's character. He has had a rough life, not letting anyone become close to him. His reputation precedes him. Once he meets Avery, he finds himself wanting to change and become a better person. I like the similarities between him, and the broken horses that Avery is trying to reorient. I couldn't believe some of the things that Isaac suffered. My heart went out to him.

Avery is great. I like that she followed her dream to work with horses. She is the perfect person to befriend Isaac and make him realize his worth. She has also gone through a lot and can sympathize with Isaac. They understand each other.

I appreciated how things that happened in previous books within the series came to play in this book: for example, Isaac's roommate, Blake, and the charity Isaac and Avery become involved in.

I love that the Sockeye are unconventional and give Isaac a shot. They treat him different than he was handled in the past, and they give him a clean slate.

Melting Ice has a believable and entertaining plot. It is heartwarming and kept me enthralled. I could not put this book down. I look forward to finding out what happens with Isaac's brother, Tanner, and Avery's twin sister, Emma, in Blindsided (Game On in Seattle #6).

Complimentary copy provided in exchange for an honest review.

FicCentral says

Isaac "Ice" Wolfe is as cold as his nickname implies, but his bad attitude has led to what very well be his last trade in the NHL. The Seattle Sockeyes are taking a chance on the player no other team wants, and if he doesn't make a change, he'll be off the ice in no time.

Avery Maxwell is finally pursuing dreams of her own. Terribly neglected by her parents, she followed her sisters in making sure they had roof over their heads and food on the table. But now that she finally has the chance to do what she's always dreamed of — train and show horses — she's abandoned her college education and the future her sisters had planned for her, and is putting her heart into the one job she's always wanted. But the handsome and bitter man next door soon has her adding to the list of things she wants for herself.

Judging Covers: I'm still trying to figure out why this one is pink when the other books in the series have been blue, but that doesn't mean I don't like it. The guy doesn't look quite as capable of a scowl as I would have expected, but I still think the couple fits, and they're definitely more on the attractive side than some of the previous cover couples for this series.

The Verdict: We didn't get to know Avery very well in the previous books, though we saw her quite a bit and watched her relationship with her sisters hit a rough patch when she decided to leave school and make her living working with horses instead. So I was definitely looking forward to this closer look into her life and personality.

Isaac, or "Ice" as he's known in the league, seems to have spent his life burning bridges. Rather than be a team player, he's used his hockey skills to prove his own worth on the ice, and he hasn't limited that attitude to his time on the ice. Reporters, fans, teammates, and coaches have all been subjected to his refusal to play nice for appearances' sake, and it's gotten so bad that every other team has washed their hands of him. But his trade to the Sockeyes is just the wake up he needs, finally seeing for himself that if he stays on the same bitter path, he'll find himself a has-been in no time, not because he's not good at the game, but because he's not good at everything around the game. Watching him come to grips with his own shortcomings and work to change his ways made for a very interesting bit of character development.

Avery is Isaac's neighbor, spending her days working with horses and attending to damaged hearts, and she doesn't have room in her life for a man who wears a permanent scowl. But as their attraction heats up and Isaac's past is slowly revealed, it becomes apparent that he needs just as much love as anyone else who's been scarred. As Avery gets to know him better, though, she's also got to remain focused on her work as a horse trainer, hoping to make her mark in an incredibly competitive field, and their budding relationship is bound to create waves for Isaac as well, since Avery's sister is engaged to his team captain.

Avery and Isaac both have pretty sad backstories, though Isaac's certainly takes the cake when it comes to tragedy and self-blame, but between their fiery spirits and Avery's big heart, they really do make the perfect couple. It would have been easy to rush the plot around them and add all kinds of unnecessary drama, but instead it played out at the perfect pace, focusing on Isaac's learning to accept the past and forgive himself and Avery's finally taking hold of what she wants. I've certainly enjoyed the other books in the *Game On in Seattle* series, but I think this one just might be my favorite yet.

***FicCentral received this book from Tasty Book Tours for free in exchange for an honest review.

Lindsay says

4

This book was a slow burn with a few twists. There were some frustrating moments where I got impatient, but I loved the romantic roller coaster of Isaac and Avery. They are perfect for one another, healing wounds, giving strength and esteem. They start off as friends and slowly move to love, there are things that they have to work through and overcome, just like in real life relationships.

There are some editing issues that were hard to overlook, but I kept on reading through.

I really enjoyed reading this book and would recommend it.

Rejane says

I didn't like the execution. I didn't like what he did with those 2 puck bunnies in the stadium parking lot after meeting the heroine and having sex with her. I liked nothing about this book but the animals. The dog and the horses. They were the highlight of the story.

2 stars for the horses because I love them too and because he bought the 2 horses: one for her and one for him. That part was the most emotional. The only attachment and connection I had with this book was due to the horses. The book could be about them and I'd be happy.

Heather says

Isaac Wolfe has come by his nickname honestly. The newest member of the Seattle Sockeye's hockey team is known as "Ice" and judging by the bad attitude he exudes and the fact he wants nothing to do with being a teammate or a team player, the name fits. Having been traded to Seattle after stints in several NHL franchises, he knows that if he is out of line this time, he may very well find himself on the outside of the NHL looking in.

Avery Maxwell is trying to live her life the way she wants to live it. After always trying to please her sisters, especially her sister Izzy, she has taken her life and her future into her own hands by leaving the family party crashing business to work with her first love, horses. She is determined to make a living doing what she loves most and she's dead set on proving it.

When Isaac meets Avery after his dog pays a visit to her horses, he realizes that this woman is very different from those he has been around in the past. Even though he's attracted to Avery, and she to him, he is not in a place where he wants any kind of relationship. He gave up on those many years ago when a tragedy turned everyone closest to him against him. Now he lives only to play hockey. What he comes to realize over time is he enjoys spending time with the horsewoman next door. Will these two unlikely people end up being exactly what the other one needs? Will they be able to put their careers second to the person that could mean everything to them?

Jami Davenport has done a phenomenal job with this book and the characters. I loved how complex both Isaac and Avery were and I found myself rooting for them from the get go. It was wonderful to see the evolution of Isaac throughout the course of the book and Jami deserves all of the credit for painting that picture for us. I would highly recommend this book without a doubt!

Deb Markanton says

The title, MELTING ICE, perfectly conveys the story Jami Davenport skillfully tells in book 5 of the Game On In Seattle series.

Isaac "Ice" Wolfe has, at the young age of 26, burned just about every bridge imaginable in regard to his NHL career. Solely focusing on winning and maintaining his phenomenal skill level, Isaac lives in his own world. A world where no one, team and family alike, is invited. He refuses to play nice with reporters, fans, and more importantly, his team members. His surly attitude has finally outweighed his value as a hockey player and he is traded to a relatively new NHL team, the Seattle Sockeyes.

Realization dawns that this just might be his final chance and Isaac is scared. Hockey is his life. He's damn good at it and it's all he wants to do. But can he turn himself around and be the nice guy team player?

Isaac's past is slowly revealed, bit by bit as the story moves forward. We learn he has good reason to protect himself and his heart; he blames himself for the deaths of his sister and girlfriend.

Good thing his new neighbor, Avery Maxwell, is dedicated to healing damaged souls. Sure, she works with abused horses but her compassion and need to heal have spilled over into helping a troubled teen cope with a tragedy. Now it appears she can't resist Isaac and his mysterious history.

Avery has her own issues. Her family looks down on her choice to make horse training a career and at times she is unsure of own abilities for success as she works day and night to make it in the highly competitive field.

Avery and Isaac's meet cute is just that. The first thing Isaac's dog Hal does is escape his surly owner and waddle next door to the horse barn in search of nicer company. Looking for Hal, Isaac runs into Avery. Cue the sparks and chemistry.

Ms. Davenport developed her characters so well and at the perfect pace. As the story unfolded so did Isaac and Avery, their pasts, their hopes, their fears, their desires. Isaac Wolfe could very well have been an arrogant jerk throughout this story, taking two steps back for every step forward, however, Ms. Davenport kept that from happening. The chemistry and passion between Isaac and Avery led to a beautiful journey for both characters. I thoroughly enjoyed this book!

I received this book from Candid Book Reviews in exchange for an honest review.

Cocktails and Books says

This review was originally posted on Cocktails and Books

This is a feel good hockey story that pulled at my heartstrings. Isaac Wolfe, a professional hockey player, doesn't care what people think of him. He has a bad attitude, doesn't have any friends and because of his behavior, he continually bounces from one team to another. After yet another team lets him go, Isaac starts to worry when he finds out the Seattle Sockeyes are the only team willing to sign him. He knows this is his last chance and if he messes up again, it will be the end of his hockey career. All Isaac cares about is playing hockey and he knows if he wants to continue playing hockey, he needs to make some changes. Isaac has many layers and beneath his surly exterior, is a nice guy suffering through a lot pain and he covers up his sensitive feeling with a cocky attitude.

Isaac pushes everyone away, until he meets Avery. Avery gives him hope and for once in his life, Isaac wants more from a woman. Isaac has learned not to trust anyone and to always expect the worst from people, but with Avery, everything is different. Avery is persistent and she sees the good in Isaac that most people miss. She can see Isaac's pain and wants to help him. I admired Avery's strength and her confidence; she is not afraid to go after what she wants. There is a lot of chemistry sizzling between Isaac and Avery.

MELTING ICE is the fifth book in the Seattle Sockeyes Hockey series and each book is a stand-alone, but

all the characters are interconnected. There are a fun cast of secondary characters and I hope to read their stories in future books, they include Isaac's brothers, Avery's sisters and the guys on the hockey team. This entertaining, heartwarming story is fast paced, well written and has great character development and can't wait to read the next book in the series.

Reviewer information can be found under the Tags section of the post on our site.

Ruth says

Do professional athletes not do therapy? Because, I know it's a romance, but sometimes more is needed to heal than the love of a good woman. This guy goes from world class jerk to sweet puppydog way too easily to be believable. I could see everything coming from a million miles away.

Diane Lynch says

Melting Ice (Game On in Seattle #5) by Jami Davenport Bad-boy hockey player Isaac "Ice" Wolfe has one last shot to stay in the NHL. He doesn't let anyone into his life until he meets horse trainer, Avery Maxwell.

Jami Davenport created another fabulous book in the Game On in Seattle series.

I liked Isaac's character. He has had a rough life, not letting anyone become close to him. His reputation proceeds him. Once he meets Avery, he finds himself wanting to change and become a better person. I like the similarities between him, and the broken horses that Avery is trying to reorient. I couldn't believe some of the things that Isaac suffered. My heart went out to him.

Avery is great. I like that she followed her dream to work with horses. She is the perfect person to befriend Isaac and make him realize his worth. She has also gone through a lot and can sympathize with Isaac. They understand each other.

I appreciated how things that happened in previous books within the series came to play in this book: for example, Isaac's roommate, Blake, and the charity Isaac and Avery become involved in.

I love that the Sockeye are unconventional and give Isaac a shot. They treat him different than he was handled in the past, and they give him a clean slate.

Melting Ice has a believable and entertaining plot. It is heartwarming and kept me enthralled. I could not put this book down. I look forward to finding out what happens with Isaac's brother, Tanner, and Avery's twin sister, Emma, in Blindsided (Game On in Seattle #6).

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Danielle says

I am such a sucker for a hero that hasn't had it easy and this book was one of those reads. At first I thought Ice was a real asshole but as the story of his past is revealed little by little I just wanted to hug him. Only the right woman could make him want to be a better man.

I really liked this book had a fair amount of hockey scenes and it wasn't like a lot of sports romances out there who limit those scenes. I believe that those scenes should be included in the books along with the lovey dovey stuff. It makes it more realistic.

When Ice first sees Avery he can't keep his eyes off her and the connection between them is strong. They have sex in the barn and they agree it can only be a one time thing. Slowly they start to become real close friends and Ice starts to open up to her. Avery didn't have an easy life either but with Ice by her side they are working through things together.

I enjoyed the characters and the challenge of these two characters getting over their past and looking forward to the future they both want and deserve. Although this was a quick read and I wanted more I ended up feeling satisfied by the end of the book. The story ended just how I thought it would along with them getting engaged.

I can't wait to see who the next book is about!

ReadingInThe6ix says

Ugh, sorry...just no. There is too much wrong to list...

- 1) no real heat between the H/h
- 2) constant contradictions, multiple times on the same page (I'm gonna go for him, but no I'm not, but yea I am)
- 3) after already sleeping with h and then being friends while feelings grow, H hooks up with two women for a fling.....just no...sorry, that's too much.

I found the writing juvenile, the characters boring and one-dimensional, and the gross hook-up too much.
