



# Center Stage

*Ali Parker*

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## Center Stage Ali Parker

From Best Selling Author, Ali Parker comes a new Billionaire Series filled with sexiness, humor and intense attraction...

The bright lights of Hollywood can be blinding at times.

Riley and Ethan dive head first into the hard work required to produce a blockbuster film. With only ten months to get everything done, they're working around the clock and it shows. The tension between them is building to an explosion neither of them is ready for. In hopes of trying to keep things professional between them, Ethan takes a step back and presents himself in a new light – a more responsible, mature Ethan Lewis.

The smoke and mirrors takes its toll on both of them, and everyone is starting to notice. It isn't just about their relationship anymore, but about the possibility of messing up both their careers and all of their dreams.

This is book 2 in a continued series.

18+ Explicit sexual content and possible foul language.

## Center Stage Details

Date : Published May 24th 2016 by BrixBaxter Publishing

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Author : Ali Parker

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# From Reader Review Center Stage for online ebook

## Dianna says

Center Stage is the second in the 'Bright Lights Billionaire' series. Riley's got a part in a big movie, and Ethan's got a big part.

Seriously, this book spends A LOT of time talking about how big Ethan's part is. If you like many conversations about the size of a man's 'personality' maybe you will like this book. I'd had enough of it in the first book, and was hoping the second would move on to something else. This book is filler. It feels like it's 90% conversation, 10% plot. And the conversations are so incredibly repetitive. Ethan sexually harasses his agent. She laughs fondly at his antics. Frank, the movie's director, laughs admiringly at Ethan's sex jokes. Riley admires how 'natural' everyone is about sex talk. Sometimes, Ethan tries to persuade Riley that they should sleep together. Even less frequently, they work on the movie.

Ethan's a child. In the first book I thought he might be based on Justin Bieber which made him sort of interesting, but he was so painfully spoiled. Probably Justin Bieber is too, but when I picked up the first book I'd just recently watched Bieber do carpool Karaoke with James Corden, and he was delightful. So I was prepared to read a fictional Bieber move on from making his flunkies carry him up the Great Wall of China (I really don't know much about Bieber) to become a loveable, interesting adult.

Instead, I found myself hoping that this book is all a big set up for Ethan to discover that when his agent, brother and director joked about him being a meal ticket they were actually being deadly serious, and fully prepared to dump him in it when the movie he and Riley were making bombed.

I could potentially have liked this book, despite Ethan being so boring and repetitive about his bits, and despite the fact that nothing happens, if I'd liked Riley more. Mostly, disliking Riley came down to how she quit her waitressing job. I think I was supposed to be sympathetic about how much she suffered at the hands of difficult customers. But since she'd clearly lost any interest in doing her job properly, I also think she deserves to have the movie bomb to teach her a lesson.

It's a really bad sign for me when I start hoping that both main characters will fail horribly, so I'm not planning to pick up the next book.

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## Cally says

This is the follow up from Stage Left. We pick up where book one ended. The chemistry continues to heat up between with Riley and Ethan along with their sexually infused banter.

They are both diving in head first with both Ethan & Riley are gearing up for Rio where they begin filming their movie Down Low. They are racing against the clock as they only have 10 months to produce and get everything ready for the Down Low.

Amongst all of this Ethan and Riley are trying to keep the chemistry and attraction under wraps but how long can they not give into their feelings as the more they deny the feelings the more that they are hurting each other. One night Ethan is desperately trying to get Riley into bed as usual Riley turns him down and isn't best

pleased when she finds out that Ethan got a female to keep him and his bed occupied that night.

There truly are some lol moments in this book especially when it comes to the scenes Riley and Ethan have together. Its musing to read Riley to take out all her frustration out on Ethan.

Things start to look up when Ethan receives a phone call.....

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### **Susan says**

Every time I read a book by Ali Parker, I think that this one is the best one yet. Yes, it happened this time too. I absolutely loved this book. The banter between Ethan, and his manager, Deza, is so funny, you will catch yourself laughing out loud, and people looking at you funny. That is what happened to me. Then, to balance that out, there is the emotional mess that is Ethan. He might be a big star, and the fantasy for many women, but he is a lonely man. Then, there is Riley. She is a college student with a really bad home life, that has been chosen to play opposite the sexy hunk, Ethan, in his next movie. With, this we get a wonderful well written book that gives you many different emotions as you read it, and you do not want to put it down. I received this book from the author in return for an honest review. Each of the books in this series is not a standalone, and the cliffhanger at the end of this book had me calling the author many names, but at the same time also has me very impatiently waiting for the next book.

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### **Monica says**

Cover: 1/5 (I didn't like it) - Ugh seriously... I really don't like these covers

Story: 4/5

The problem with reading 3 books back to back is that you kind of forget what was in each one. I do remember that I continued to enjoy the story though. This book isn't really "smutty" so much as crass. Again, the d\*ck humor is probably overdone, but I still thought it was funny.

Reread: Yes

Challenges:  
2018 Goodreads Challenge

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### **Cassie says**

Read book 1 First!

I have to be honest... not sure whether I love or hate Ethan. He has moments when it's like okay so he's damaged and this is why he acts this way, but then he's a jerk so, not sure. I felt for Riley's character in this one being that she was being pulled back and forth. Cannot wait to see how the next book in the series goes!

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## **Lucia says**

Part two of an ongoing series that ends with another cliffhanger!

Following on from Center Stage and it's cliffhanger ending, Center Stage quickly jumps back into the action with Riley and Ethan and has you turning the pages until you find yet another cliffhanger at the end of this book. The book doesn't have a lot happen in terms the romance in the book, more just a filler book to move the story along.

Center Stage is told from both perspectives as was the previous book. While the relationship between Ethan and Riley is still being built up, there are some sweet scenes within the book to satisfy romance fans and show the developing relationship the two characters have.

As with Stage Left, Center Stage is a relatively short and easy to follow book. Obviously to read this book you do need to have read the previous book in this series to understand things as it picks up right where book one ended. Also, if you are not a fan of cliffhangers, you won't enjoy this book.

I look forward to reading more of this series and really hope these two will get a HEA very soon and all issues will be resolved and overcome!

\*I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. I was not compensated for my review, and I was not required to write a positive review. The opinion expressed here is my own.

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## **Amanda Grooms says**

This was the second part in this 4-part series. It was decent, but it felt like a 2nd book-- a lot of exposition, and very little satisfying plot. Yes, filming started. But no, Ethan and Riley have still not hooked up, and they're likely going to get in trouble for doing so anyway. The book ended with something horrible happening to Riley's family, but... I'm not very invested in the character that was affected, so it's hard to be overly affected by the shocking conclusion. It's just yet another roadblock in the furthering of Ethan and Riley's "relationship", for lack of a better term.

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## **Mandy Saial says**

Center Stage ( Bright Lights Billionaire book 2) - Ali Parker ( 5 Stars )

The Tension Build - Up between these two characters is enough to Spark a Firework Celebration!!

My amazon review link below.....

### **Kristen Lewendon says**

As the tension ratchets up between Riley and Ethan, this book could be subtitled 'actors behaving badly'. I'm still seeing flashes of the broken young man capable of redemption in Ethan, but it's pretty hard to get past his frat boy persona most of the time. Riley seems to fall flat in this book. She's not the sparkling spitfire of the first one and she appears to be mostly 'going alone to get along'. I can't wait to read the next book to see where they go from here.

I received a complimentary copy of this book.

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### **Virginie says**

Loved reading this !

Honestly , the chemistry between them. The sexual tension. It's just too much. I Love It !!

I think this series is becoming one of my favorites ..

5stars !

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### **Amymargarita says**

Ok Center Stage, Book 2 in the series, continues with Riley and Ethan steaming up the pages with their sexually infused banter and the chemistry between them is HOT, HOT HOT!

They head to Rio to begin shooting their new movie together and are now spending 24/7 together. Wouldn't be so bad if they weren't trying to maintain indifference to each other...yeah Ethan doesn't hold to that facade for long and once he sets his mind to something he's all in and a force to be reckoned with. Riley on the other hand sees different sides to Ethan so she's confused as to which is the real Ethan. While he dims the lust she has for him by being a crass spoiled brat sometimes, she can't help but want him in her bed anyways! Will they finally succumb to their darkest desires and see what could be between them???

This story ends on a doozy of a cliffhanger and I cannot wait for Book 3! Definitely a fun and witty must-read with a side of sexual tension and innuendos. Ali Parker creates such real and honest characters that you can't help but keep reading and cheering them on!

I was given an ARC for my honest review.

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### **Donna Peebles says**

I was gifted this Arc from the author in return for an honest review.

--->> 10 ★ button needed!!

That was blinking AMAZING.

It was like being on a rollercoaster with Ethan and Rileys emotions....the will they wont they aspect had my head all messed up but in a good way..you cant help think thats its building up to something spectacular. You really cant help but feel sorry for Ethan with his monster package, all he wants is to find someone to take everything he has...lol not sure id be able to, but the trying would be amazing.

and oh my god the fun between Ethan and Deza....lol....i laughed my head off

such an awesome read, and the passion and emotion put into this book by parker is beyond beautiful.

HOLY CRAP that was one hell of an Ali Parker style cliffhanger....i will admit i did shout noooooo!!! They almost.....ALMOST..eeeeeeek had each other...but it really was such a powerful ending.

im really looking forward to more in the bright light billionaire series.

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### **Mary says**

Ethan & Riley are gearing up for Rio where they begin filming their movie Down Low. They have the large press conference with dinner and dancing event with the crew where it will be announced that Riley is his female lead. These two are still fighting their growing attraction for each other, especially Riley. She doesn't want to be another notch in Ethan's bed post and they still have to work together. It doesn't help when Riley turns him down, again, and she learns he found someone else to occupy his bed. The part where they have to do a scene with another one of the characters and then critique each other is somewhat funny! Riley definitely gets to take her frustration out on Ethan. Just when you think these two are finally going to hook up, a phone call from Riley's friend, Charlotte, just might change their course of direction. Thoroughly enjoyed this book and looking forward to the continuing story of will they, won't they! Received an ARC for an honest review.

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### **Ashley Hedden says**

Center Stage by Ali Parker was a great read. It was the second book in the Bright Light's Series. Riley and Ethan start working on their movie. They are both feeling the sexual tension. I loved reading Riley and Ethan's story and can't wait to read more by the author.

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### **Alisa says**

While I kind of like the book... the story is not tempting enough to continue for the next 3 in the series. I feel like we are being constantly teased by the possibility of a relationship between Ethan and Riley. I also hate that Ethan keeps bedding other women. I understand he has insecurities but the dude can be a massive douche! It's not sexy or alpha it's just pathetic and a turn off. Ethan is crude and crass. He has the emotional maturity of a 2 year old. I went ahead and read reviews for the next 3 books in the series and even though it seems Ethan redeems himself I'm just not buying into the drama and teasing for 3 more books. Especially if I have to deal with Ethan being that crass for 2 books to be redeem in only 1 book. I mean you give me 4

books of jerk and 1 of heartthrob? Nope.

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