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Denise Grover Swank

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While fashion design major Caroline Hunter may have been born economically unlucky, in college, she's been lucky in love. Until her senior year at Southern University. She's gone from a serious long term boyfriend to a string of crappy dates.

Then she meets mathematics grad student Reed Pendergraft.

Reed is everything she's not looking for. Serious. Headed for a low paying university job. Boring. Caroline spent the first eighteen years of her life wondering where her next meal was coming from. She sure wasn't getting trapped in that life again with a man living on a professor's salary.

An encounter with Reed in a club proves she might have pegged him wrong. He brings out a lusty side she never knew she had. But just when she's about to give in to her hormones, Reed makes a fool out of her.

When she shows up for the first committee meeting for Southern University's Fall fashion show, a fundraiser for underprivileged kids, Caroline's horrified to discover the insufferable Reed is the committee chairman. While she refuses to tolerate his totalitarian rule of the committee, she's not sure she'll survive the month with her heart—and her pride—intact. Just when she thinks she has everything figured out, she finds that her entire life has been redesigned, thanks to Reed Pendergraft.

Redesigned Details

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From Reader Review Redesigned for online ebook

Terri (Le Book Chronicles) says

Originally posted on Le Book Chronicles Blog

I read the first book in this series After Math, a couple of years ago and I remembered really enjoying it. When I first read the blurb for this book, I didn't think it was something I would like based on the main character being a design students. I don't know why I do this, but I'm always turned off of books based on what the character studies or what their job is, but then when I do end up reading them I end up really enjoying it so I don't know. Anyway, I read the book and I surprisingly enjoyed it, although there were a few things that I was disappointed with but I'll get to those.

First of all, I really liked the romance in this book. I liked that it started off as one of those 'love to hate' sort of relationships which developed into something more. I feel like when they're done right, they can be the best sorts of relationships. I also liked that there was no love triangle (or none that was worth mentioning anyway).

My issues with this book are limited, but they are also pretty major to the plot line. Firstly, I think that this book focused way too much on Reed's sister Lexi. I understand her issues are part of Reed's character development, but I also think that it was a little unnecessary at times, especially that I now know that Lexi gets her own book. I don't think it did much to this particular story, to have that as a main plot point to be honest. I also didn't understand why it was such a big deal. I'm not going to say what it is, but the big plot twist was so predictable, and while it was shocking, I didn't understand what the big deal was and why it was such a secret.

I also found Reed to be very over protective. You later understand the reasons behind this which I found to be valid, but nonetheless I think that their relationship was slightly unhealthy. I did really like Reed though. He was a very normal character.

Caroline on the other hand, really got on my nerves at times. Some of the things she would say were just unbelievable. For example, "I strike him off as potential date material. For one, he's in the math department so we would have nothing in common, but most importantly, I can't imagine a college professor makes much money." OMG who even says that? Where are her morals? And yes, her whole reasoning behind this is explained in the book, but I would think she would be the complete opposite because of what happened to her. I don't know, it just didn't make sense to me. Apart from that major character flaw, I did really like her

Overall, I did really enjoy this book. If it weren't for the main plot being slightly unrelated to the story line, and for my issues with the main character, this book would have been damn near perfect.

Would I recommend? Yes

For fans of: New Adult romance e.g. Ugly Love by Colleen Hoover

Overall rating: 4/5

Stormy Udell says

15 stars...or a million but I don't want to get carried away

Algorithms, Algebra, and Attitude

AAA – Amazing, Awesome, Astounding. Have you ever read a book that made you want to peruse a college campus for math majors? Or maybe re-enroll to study math in hopes of finding your very own math hottie? No. Then read this. Reed is dark, mysterious and commanding with just the right amount of over protective sweetness mixed in. Caroline is the strong, ambitious woman that challenges him. I connected to both characters more than I have any of Denise's other characters. Caroline had her insecurities but rather than sit and whine she did something about them. She was proactive. She faced her fears. Reed was the right amount of asshole. The kind of asshole that commands a presence in a room just by walking in, granted when he does walk in, good luck breathing because his sexiness has sucked all of the air out of it. The kind of asshole that won't put up with your BS but at the same time love all of your BS...and he is a math major. Nerds will never be the same for me. This is a something different from one of my all-time favorite authors. Of course Denise's voice is still heard, but it's different this time. The fact that she was able to almost completely reinvent her writing in such a powerful way but still be signature DGS, is prophetic to where she is headed as an author and speaks volumes to how versatile she is. I'm quite impressed I was able to find the words to write this review. It was so much more than my weak description. So clear your schedule on June 10, 2013 (yes schedule it), if you don't you won't get your to-do list done...it's a one sitting kind of book.

Vikki ~ *squee* lite ~ says

3.5

I really enjoyed this one. I really liked both Caroline and Reed, and really enjoyed them as a couple. I liked seeing Caroline making peace with her past. I wish we had known more about Reed. As much as I liked him, I still didn't feel like I knew that much about him

My favorite part was Tucker. I hadn't read book one yet - and I had to start it immediately after. Totally swoon-worth hero.

Ill be looking for more in this series.

Overall it was a touching, very well written very readable romance. Recommended.

P.A. Warren says

I was given an ARC for an honest review

So I first fell in LOVE with AfterMath, which is Book One in this series. They can be read in my opinion as a

stand alone,BUT I Highly suggest you read AfterMath first as you will miss quite a bit.Who wants to miss a great read,anyways?This is the story of Reed and Caroline.Caroline is Scarlett(from After Math's) Best friend.Caroline is so much more then she seems and so is Reed.In the beginning Reed and Caroline do not hit it off.They both are on a committee to help underprivileged kids.Caroline learns that what she used to want in life maybe isn't what she actually needs to be happy.Caroline always thought she needed money to be content due to how she grew up..But then Reed Happened...and Caroline isn't so sure of what She wants anymore.

Gosh seriously.Reed STOLE THE SHOW.He walked in there and it was like BAM let the Chemistry begin. Whew Im still fanning myself from the bar scene. The sexual tension was H-O-T.There were quite a few fan yourself off scenes and boy does Denise do them justice.Denise knows how to write and she knows how to draw you in and leave you wanting more.Boy do I want more.I Utterly loved this book. This is one of those books where your eyes are glued to your kindle and you contemplate actually having to do stuff other then read.I almost had to bring the kindle in the shower with me so I could finish reading it.Its that good.Thank You Denise for writing a book I was able to immerse myself in.It is wonderful and I feel the need to re-read It and AfterMath again.

SueBee★bring me an alpha!★ says

FREE on Amazon US today (7/29/2015)

This sounds soooo good! Stand-alone book 2.

BLURB:

*While fashion design major **Caroline Hunter** may have been born economically unlucky, in college, she's been lucky in love. Until her senior year at Southern University. She's gone from a serious long term boyfriend to a string of crappy dates.*

*Then she meets mathematics grad student **Reed Pendergraft**.*

Reed is everything she's not looking for. Serious. Headed for a low paying university job. Boring. Caroline spent the first eighteen years of her life wondering where her next meal was coming from. She sure wasn't getting trapped in that life again with a man living on a professor's salary.

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<http://www.amazon.com/Redesigned-Subj...>

FREEBIES are often good for MORE than one day, I have gathered all my FREEBIES on a special shelf:
Kindle-freebies (currently over 430 books)
<https://www.goodreads.com/review/list...>

Linda Kage says

What a great story! Caroline was a determined, hard-working sweetheart. I loved how she always knew when she'd messed up and was so aware of her flaws but was still continued along, trying to be better. And Reed was one of those perfect jerks-you-can't-resist. And I was thrilled to see Tucker and Scarlett again from After Math!

Ailene♥ says

Oh my God!!! This book was awesome! It has been staying on my kindle for ages and I'm beyond regretful that I just decided reading it now. I loved it! I loved it A LOT! It's fast paced. There were no boring moments and it had easily sucked me right in!

Caroline, the heroine, was a college student with high hopes for her future. She's obsessed in finding the perfect rich guy for her. She craved for the security which she didn't have growing up. She's actually a gold-digger and only wanted to date men who came from money. So when Reed, a grad student and a math teacher, asked her out, she declined and accepted the offer of the rich guy instead. She did that while Reed was just in front of her. What she'd done may have seemed to be mean. But I didn't feel it that way. It's actually at that point where their chemistry had started.

Caroline was never a bitch. She grew up poor. She lived in a trailer her whole life before she went to college using student loans. There's nothing wrong that she just wanted a better life for her.

This story had some twists. When Reed was asked where he's from just in the beginning of the story and he became hesitant, I kind of suspected who he really was. But it was well written. So there's still anticipation and surprise.

I seldom find a book that's perfect for me. But this one really was. It had just the right amount of everything. It would take me awhile to get over these two characters. They're a dynamic couple. They talked things out. They're acting their age. Reed's a sensible man. He's not a manwhore. He's a bit nerdy and loved Math! But then, he had a dirty mouth in bed and his sex appeal had been smoking right off the pages. He's a lover boy, indeed. Lol! And he's really sweet. Come to think of it, nerdy, smokin' hot and sweet. The combination was deadly! He's totally my perfect man!

The sex scenes were I don't even know what to say! I'm totally swooning right now! Oh my! *fans self*.... Just read it yourselves!

This one's highly recommendable. It was actually the first book I have read from the author. And I loved her

way of writing. She made it believable. I think anyone could relate to this story. It's a young woman's journey through life and realizing what really matters...

This one's another addition to my very few favorite books! 5-stars for me!

Jacqueline's Reads says

NOW FREEE - > <http://amzn.to/1G3FLTX>

4 Nerdy Stars

Redesign is an adorable Swank novel. It doesn't have the typical heart throb Hero, but it will make you swoon regardless

Caroline Hunter grew up poor, so poor that when she left for college, her hick mom made her feel guilty for leaving and finding something better. Caroline changed her name and decided to never talk about her past again. Reed is the sexy math nerd that wants to date Caroline, but he doesn't fit her criteria of what she's looking for in a guy. Caroline has grown up poor and doesn't intend to live the rest of her life that way, so she likes to date guys who pick successful majors that will make a lot of money. Reed is not one of them.

I have major issues with the plot of Redesign. I need to just say, I love the writing style. The writing is really easy, light and it flows. I love the dialogue and scene changes, I just HATE the plot.

WHY WOULD I LIKE A Heroine who is into RICH GUYS?

I get Caroline, I do. I grew up poor. My parents came to America with \$20 in their pocket, so yes, I know what it's like to grow up without presents, not celebrating holidays or birthdays. I also get why you want to marry someone who can take care of you, HOWEVER, it's not like I ever go for rich guys. This is the simple solution...

You grew up poor? Well pick a profession that will take you out of that category. I'm sorry if fashion doesn't pay the bills, but you can't rely on your partner to give you the life style you want.

UGGGGG... it just gets me so irritated.

I wanted to slap Caroline many times. She would be so hot and cold to Reed, who is freaking amazing! When Caroline and Reed first meet, she blows him off and goes on a date with another guy, who she obviously isn't that interested in. But Reed is still sweet to her after that?!

Yes, I love Reed, he's adorable, he's nerdy, he's sweet and just all around thoughtful. I have no idea what made him so interested in Caroline. The only thing I did like about Caroline was how sweet she was to the kids. In the book, she makes clothing for needy children and her interaction with them was very nice.

There's just something you, Caroline Hunter. You make the simplest things infinitesimally better. You captivate me.

There were some nice steamy scenes and Reed really saved the day. I love his interaction with Caroline and I like how he pursued her. It was also refreshing having a nerdy Hero (only b/c I married a nerd). I really liked the pace of the book. I think if there was a different reason why Caroline was so guarded and if she wasn't so flaky, I would have loved this book. I will move forward with the series because I like the style of writing so much.

Series Order

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More reviews - > <http://jacquelinereds.blogspot.com>

A_Ryan says

The second installment in the "Off the Subject" series was an easy read, but a little disappointing after the absolutely fabulous "After Math".

Caroline is determined to find herself a rich husband. Reed is determined to stay away from the gold digger who didn't want to give him the time of day when she found out his goal was teaching. But the two can't seem to keep their hands off each other and decide on temporarily giving into their baser instincts, until Caroline's Mr Rich and Right comes along.

The writing seemed scattered. It was badly paced and I wasn't sure if it was meant to be humourous, dramatic, angsty, inspirational or a Christmas special. It seemed to keep changing it's mind in this regard, and failing miserably at trying to be all things at once.

The characters were less likeable here. Tina, who was fantastic in "After Math" suddenly changed into a selfish slut who nobody liked and ultimately fell into the land of non-existance and no resolution.

Reed certainly had his moments but his temper and secrecy were kind of creepy too.

Meanwhile, Caroline was so full of self-loathing and bitchiness that I wasn't quite sure if she was irritating... or just realistic? She wasn't the most loyal of friends and always had poor judgement. In the end, she just wasn't a stand out heroine for me.

The insta-lust element seemed a little forced, even though the sex scenes were very well written (and nice to see Reed use a little bossy aggression in the bedroom once in a while too!) Without the insta-lust the story would not have worked but it still didn't ring quite true in the end, particularly with Reed's big reveal.

The children in the story were a lovely addition and were perhaps underutilised in developing Caroline's softer side. Her scenes with Desiree were among the strongest in the book.

Overall the story was okay, if a little underdeveloped. The characters (and their motivations) needed a little more tweaking to help this story achieve it's full potential. There were some cute moments but Reed's

character was relied upon too heavily to carry each transition so seemlessly (even though he was constantly described as "expressionless"). Ultimately, the magic moments were too few and too far between for me to give a great-4-star rating.

3 "good" stars.

Carol [Goodreads Addict] says

Redesigned is a great book. I really think it gets more like 4-1/2 stars. Of the two books in this series, it is by far my favorite. I thought the story line between Reed and Caroline was fresh. I also loved that we got to revisit Tucker and Scarlett from After Math. I really enjoyed seeing how their relationship has evolved and the protectiveness Tucker feels toward Scarlett and Caroline. Denise Grover Swank should have spelled Caroline with a "y"ne since that is how I spell my name. lol Caroline Hunter is a senior in college, former roommate of Scarlett. She is determined to meet a rich boy to insure that she will have a financially secure life. She has grown up very poor and was ridiculed as a child for her clothing and holes in her shoes. As a child she went to bed often with an empty stomach. She meets Reed Pendergraft at a party who is a graduate student in the math department. Reed is handsome and sexy in his nerdy shirt and tie. Even though she instantly determines that a future math professor will not be able to earn enough money to provide a secure financial future, she is drawn to Reed as he is to her. Their interactions are...ummm...quite heated shall we say!!! More like melt the words off my Nook reader steamy!!! They fight, they make up, they fight their attraction to each other, but they just can't stay apart. But, they both have secrets. Caroline is hiding her past. She's embarrassed at her poor upbringing. And, Reed, stubborn, controlling Reed, has many secrets of his own. I really loved this book and read it in about a day and a half. Definitely for the over 18 readers.

Theresa says

**4.5 Stars

Caroline, a senior fashion design major, grew up white trash poor. She doesn't want that life for her adult self or her future kids and makes it her mission to land a guy with a promising major and money-- she wants her MRS degree. Life has different plans for her though when she crosses paths with math grad student Reed Pendergraph, an aspiring university professor. Caroline tries to stay away from him, knowing he's not what she's looking for. Their super hot chemistry pulls them together and Caroline finds that she might not be so sure about what she wants afterall.

This is now my favorite DGS book. I loved the characters and the story. Caroline was insecure, but not whiny and I thought her struggles and fears were realistic. I liked the build up to her relationship with Reed. It was a little fast, but the tension level was perfect and their first encounter was especially hot. What to say about Reed... sigh... This genre is a bit overpopulated by the bad boys and Reed, the sexy math nerd, is a welcome change. He's funny, smart and sexy. The total package. Not that I don't like a good bad boy story, but Reed is the book boyfriend I'd choose over all of them. I liked getting to see a little more of Scarlet and Tucker and I really enjoyed Tucker's big brother relationship with Caroline. I did have Reed and Lexi's secrets figured out pretty early on and the ending seemed a little rushed which is why I took off half a star.

I received a free ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Emily Pearson says

Denise has done it again!! Aftermath was fantastic but I think I found my new favorite DGS book. Redesigned is such a beautiful, sexy, and romantic story. Did I mention sexy? Reed has taken over the book boyfriend fantasy world for me. I mean hot-damn, where can I find mine? I absolutley LOVE the characters relationship build up in Redesigned. Reed is a stubborn jackass with a sex appeal like none other. Now when I say sexy jackass I don't mean the womanizing pig jackass, I'm talking full fledged, smoking hot, cocky jackass every woman fantazizes about. Caroline, fashion student trapped by her past, is no different. The raw, physical connection that keeps pulling her towards Reed is undeniable no matter how hard she tries to deny it. Reed and Caroline are both troubled by their pasts but will that be enough to bring them together? Or will it just tear them apart?

Pre-order your copy now to find out!

Denise graciously allowed me to read an ARC in exchange for an honest review. I'm telling you, this is a MUST REED! (hehe get my pun?) ;-)

Lauren at Live Read and Breathe Reviews says

4.5 Stars!

Let's start with I absolutely loved After Math with Scarlett and Tucker and I was not sure if it was going to be as good but it was. In Afer Math Caroline was meh! for me but in Redesigned her character shone through.

Caroline is a gorgeous superficial gold digger fashion designer. Or so we think...

Reid is a cranky, yet good looking struggling math nerd. Or so we think...

Everyone has secrets and these two have secrets that will either destroy them or bring them closer.

Tucker be still my heart is still super awesome as well as Scarlett. You can't ask for a better BFF's boyfriend.

Even though Reed and Caroline fight the inevitable. Fate and love pull them together.

Normally secrets can be bad but with them because of these secrets they were able to see the other more truly

instead of what they want to see.

This is a sweet story where love is enough

I love this series and can't wait for more.

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***J* Too Many Books Too Little Time says**

This one started out a little iffy for me. I wasn't so sure I was going to like Caroline. I did read After Math, but I honestly didn't remember much about her character going in to this one. I didn't love After Math but I did like it.

Redesigned starts off with Caroline (our heroine) at a party for Scarlett (the heroine from After Math). Scarlett and Caroline are BFFs. They both grew up poor and because of that Caroline will only date guys that are already rich and will continue to be rich after college. She has her eye on a guy named Dylan who is on his way to becoming a lawyer. In the meantime, she meets Reed (our hero). But poor Reed is only aspiring to be a college professor, so it would appear he doesn't have a chance.

Now, this is where I had a problem with Caroline. I get that she came from a poor back-ground and doesn't want to live like that anymore...or for her kids to live like that. But she was kind of a bitch about it...and it was really a turn-off for me.

Reed and Caroline continue to "run into" each other on and off campus. They have a bit of a tumultuous relationship from the get-go. They both have this insane attraction to each other yet they are always at each other's throats. Once they give in to their attraction for each other though their relationship starts to develop nicely. And luckily Caroline realizes pretty quickly that the feelings she has for Reed run deeper than what money can provide. Otherwise, I might have had to give this book a lower rating.

I thought Reed was a fantastic character. He wasn't the typical super buff, frat boy, player that we see in a lot of books. He was nerdy HOT, a Math major afterall. He wore suits and ties and glasses. But he was also kind of alpha....especially in the bedroom which was SUPER HOT!

Caroline and Reed were both pretty secretive about their backgrounds and of course, once the secrets were revealed it created some angst in their relationship. But I was pleased with how it was all resolved. Overall, I enjoyed Caroline and Reed's story...despite Caroline's little personality flaw regarding the money issue.

This was a standalone with a HEA. But I do recommend reading After Math first so that you are familiar with all of the characters. I will definitely be checking out book 3--which is hopefully about Lexi!

Lyla Payne says

This book is beyond great. I started it and couldn't stop reading until I was finished. It's funny, sweet, real, and, oh yeah, pretty effing hot, too. I would like a Reed of my very own, please. *applies to grad school*

Full review to come.
