



## Ache

*Alison Hendricks*

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## **Ache** Alison Hendricks

"You're what makes me whole." Doctor Wes Monroe is just looking for another one-night stand. When he takes a stranger home from the bar, he never expects to see the man again--and definitely not at the hospital he calls home.

Kyle Harris is ready for a change. New town. New job. New person to mend his broken heart. After a lifetime of thinking he was straight, he never expected that person to be a man, let alone a very difficult man he has to work alongside every day.

Sparks and tempers fly as Wes and Kyle try to co-exist in the same workplace without giving in to the heat between them. But when the hospital threatens to close its doors, can they trust each other enough to fight for the town--and each other?

*Welcome to Hidden Creek, Texas, where the heart knows what it wants, and where true love lives happily ever after. Every Men of Hidden Creek novel can be read on its own, but keep an eye out for familiar faces around town! This book contains an arrogant doctor in need of emotional healing, a stubborn nurse with the perfect cure, and an on-call room that sees more action than the rest of the hospital combined.*

## **Ache Details**

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Author : Alison Hendricks

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## From Reader Review Ache for online ebook

### Earlyn says

Interesting read.

It's not only about finding love, but about compassion, family, forgiveness and doing the right thing. Wes and Kyle are poles apart. They both have major issues in the love department and neither is looking for long term. They meet in a bar, even when Kyle never been with a guy he is attracted to Wes. On the other spectrum Wes is just looking for a good time.

The story line will pull you in ...not knowing they both work at the same hospital. They meet for the first time the morning after.

A tentative friendship is formed, but underlying there is drama going on within the hospital.

Showing the affect of a dedicated medical team and the difference it makes, really gives the book some heart.

Good read.

Was provided with an ARC for an honest review.

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### Cee Brown says

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REVIEW ON THE HORIZON.

I voluntarily and honestly reviewed this book without bias or persuasion from the author through **LesCourt**.

Merged review:

\*\*)4.5 achingly sweet stars

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(.• (.•`\*Welcome back to Hidden Creek, season two, "***where the heart knows what it wants, and where true love lives happily ever after.***"

**"Change is exactly what I need. New home, new job, new life..."** ~Kyle

New to hidden creek, Kyle was trying to forget the life that had left him whirling. Finding your fiancée and your best friend/best man *in flagrante delicto* was enough to send any man packing and starting a new life. But for Kyle, his first night in town posed some interesting questions. One was: How do you face your almost one night stand, the one person who had you questioning your sexuality? He could not gasp the fact that ***he was straight. That was what he'd always thought, anyway. But apparently he just hadn't found the type of guy who did anything for him.***

**Wesley Monroe was an a\$\$hole of the highest order.**

A doctor who considered himself one of the best, Wes drown his sorrows in being attentive to his patients,

garnering a high percentile of praise. What he could not do was bring back the love of his life. So instead, he stood outside of society, coldly indifferent. Yet, one man threatened to topple him as the heat of steamy lust from these two was enough to burn a hospital down. *"We can draw this out. Get to know each other over a couple drinks—my treat." Wes' eyes burned like molten steel. "Or you can leave with me right now, and I can make you forget all about your ex."*

Along with Kyle's revelation, Wes's change and getting to know one another, the men fought the possibility of losing it all when their jobs were placed on the line. Was the attraction enough to fight, or were they doomed to be apart?

I won't lie, this was by favorite story line so far and on I continue to book 4...

I voluntarily and honestly reviewed this book without bias or persuasion from the author through **LesCourt**.

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### **Fabi says**

This little beauty comes out next week, 8/7/18. Lucky me got an ARC.

I enjoyed it so much!

Doctor Wes Monroe may be a patient favorite with his caring bedside manner, but he is known to make nurses cry. His unrelenting and unflappable dour demeanor makes him the curse of the hospital floor.

On his own time, Dr. Monroe keeps life simple. Amicable one night stands with no attachments or strings to tangle keep him satisfied and emotionally stable. His life is simple and straightforward, until Kyle Harris drops into town.

Kyle is basically left standing at the alter when he catches his fiance and best friend in flagrante delicto. He moves to his half-brother's home town in the hope of mending fences and re-establishing a familial connection. During his first beer out with this brother, he catches Wes Monroe's eye. Strangely enough, since he's always considered himself straight, Wes catches Kyle's eye too.

Kyle is an easy-going guy so he just rolls with it. Until it's actually time to move forward with things and he comes to a screeching halt. Fate must have intervened because the next morning, Nurse Kyle finds himself working alongside Dr. Monroe.

The chemistry is unmistakable. When the hospital they both work at comes under pressure of closing, they put their minds together. They scramble to find a solution, learning about each other and falling ever deeper for the other in the process.

It's a great love story. I loved it. It's easy to read and flows quickly. There is something heartwarming about the MCs care and empathy for their patients. They make a great couple.

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*A big thank you to the author for this ARC*

## **Jaymie says**

### **Great Read**

Ache

4 Stars!

**What I Loved:** I liked that this story was balanced quite well between the drama and romance and sex. Ache wasn't just about these two men getting each other in bed but it was also about the two learning how to work together as colleagues, potential friends, allies and lovers. I really liked the push and pull between them and I loved watching each man put the other in their place when they deserved it. It made a relationship between them that more believable.

**What I Liked:** I enjoyed both Wes and Kyle. While Wes comes off as a first class jerk I liked him right away. I thought he could be cold and arrogant and stubborn but I truly felt as if he wasn't a bad guy. I found him funny and charming and his crappy attitude didn't bother me all that much. He was great with the patients and that right there made him sweeter in my eyes.

**What I Didn't Like:**

GFY/OFY Happens to be one of my favorite tropes. However this is one case in which it just did not completely work for me at first and even by the end I kind of wished Kyles previous Straight status wouldn't have been part of the story. He really doesn't do much in terms of thinking about what it all means. There's no emotional journey, no angst about it. He doesn't even really talk it out with anyone. He just shrugs it off and decides he's bi and he wants Wes more than any other person ever.

Like I said, I love GFY and I know it's not exactly realistic, however what I thrive on is the emotional journey the character goes on when they realize they might not know themselves as much as they'd thought. The angst and decisions they are faced with if they want to see where things may take them. It's truly about the self discovery that excites me about this trope. Well that and the realization that true and deep passionate love can come from places and people we least expect. You can't plan it or force it, it just is. I missed that in this story. I truly think it would've been fine just saying he was Bi but hadn't ever acted on it before so now was his chance.

Overall though, I really enjoyed Ache. I love Alison Hendricks and she's definitely a author I will keep reading and recommend.

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\*\*\*Copy provided to Me by the author/publisher for my reading pleasure in hopes of an unbiased opinion, a review was not a requirement.\*\*\*

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## **Kendra T says**

We met Kyle and we *very* briefly in Allure when they were treating Grayson's sister. We saw a hint of something going on with them then, and I was glad that we were able to get the full story here. I loved how Blake pulled Alison's characters into his story. That's one of the beauties of the Men of Hidden Creek series.

Kyle and Wes meet the night before Kyle starts his new job after moving to Hidden Creek. Kyle has always been straight, but he isn't going to deny that Wes makes him feel things he wasn't expecting. After spending some time together (where Wes acknowledges and helps Kyle with his feelings and helps put the brakes on things before they go to fast and far for Kyle), Kyle finds out that Wes is in fact the JERK doctor that everyone hates at the hospital they work at.

I loved watching them work around each other, and I loved seeing Wes come to terms with why he has always been difficult at work and try a little to shift how he interacts there. I loved their relationship, and I loved watching them come together to save their hospital and each other.

Fabulous story!

*I am voluntarily reviewing an ARC provided by LesCourt Author Services*

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### **Megan says**

#### **3.5 stars rounded up**

An almost-hookup opens Kyle's eyes to more than just a new start in a new town, it opens them up to a future he never saw coming. It doesn't help that the sexy, understanding man who could play a starring role in that future is the arrogant doctor all his coworkers are warning him about. I like that Wes is different around Kyle, that Kyle's competence and general demeanor are what draws Wes to him just as much as his looks and their combustible chemistry. There's something absolutely real between them that I enjoyed watching grow. What I did have a hard time with was Wes' arrogance. It came off as him being an a-hole rather than just a cocky kind of arrogance. Even after we get the reason for his impenetrable walls and attitude he keeps doing things that make me want to roll my eyes so hard they get stuck. Without Kyle's persistence and determination Wes' cowardice and vulnerability would have won. Together they change things for the better for Hidden Creek as well as themselves. The steam was hot, hot, hot and their hearts, once opened and shared, were achingly tender. There was so much to enjoy in this story.

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### **Ottilee B. says**

I enjoyed this book more than I thought! When I read Wes was quote an asshole unquote, I thought Kyle was done for- but he wasn't! Wes was such a neat person getting to know K, etc. What a great community- I wanna live there! No real homophobes there just a bunch of great people. YAY!

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### **haletostilinski says**

I really enjoyed this, it was a fun read.

Kyle has just moved to Hidden Creek after he caught his fiance fucking his former best friend, and one of his brothers, who he hasn't really seen in years, lives there too with his daughter.

Kyle is trying to recover from what happened, but when he goes out with his brother to a bar, he gets hit on

by a man named Wes, and Kyle...liked it. Which he was not expecting, as he had always thought he was straight.

But Kyle goes with it, until they get to Wes' place and Kyle realizes he isn't quite ready for it - understandable, as he just found out he was attracted to a man for the first time and wanted him. And Wes surprises Kyle in how understanding he is and how kind he is about it.

They figure they might see each other around, but Kyle starts his job as a nurse at the local hospital the next day and Wes just so happens to be a doctor there....

I liked Wes and Kyle's chemistry, and I thought the progression for Kyle, who had previously thought himself straight, getting to being comfortable with being with a man was good, and Wes' patience and kindness about it all was awesome.

When the hospital becomes in danger of closing, Wes and Kyle get together to save it, and they end up spending more time with each other as well...

Things do get a little angsty near the end, and I do wish they had talked things out more than they did, but the ending was sweet and I was happy to see these two get their happy ending.

Recommend for a fairly light, low on angst story with a happy ending :D

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### **Lelyana says**

I was skeptical when I read this book, because medical story is not my jam.

But turns out, this one is interesting, sweet and feel good. How many times a nurse could drive an arrogant doctor into blushing all the time? How many times a nurse could over-smart a doctor without that doctor annoyed by it? Rare.

So this one is a nice and adorable. I enjoyed Wes and Kyle a lot.

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### **mrs sarah frost says**

Kyle has moved to Hidden Creek to be closer to his brother Brandon and his niece Katie. He starts a new job as a nurse at Hidden Creek Memorial Hospital where he bumps into the man he went home with the previous night, Wes. Wes, a doctor is a totally different person who's completely rude to the nurses. What's his problem?

When the hospital is threatened with closure Kyle and Wes work side by side to save the hospital, growing closer together but Kyle needs to own up to his sexuality.

I warmed to Kyle straight away but Wes takes getting used to. He does grow on you and you'll understand his bluntness towards to nurses further into the book. Another great MOHC book

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## **Denise GremoryKohta says**

### **Man I didn't want it to end.**

I was pulled in from the beginning and as I read, my attachment just got stronger. I became fully vested in the outcome of both Wes and Kyle's relationship and what they were fighting to save. My God the tears this pulled from me when I thought of all the people being affected. Such an amazing read.

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## **Amy Dufera says**

Ache is a new contribution to the Men Of Hidden Creek series, which is penned by different authors. This is a fun one by Alison Hendricks.

When Kyle moves to Hidden Creek, he almost has a one night stand with a guy who ends up being a doctor at his work. Kyle, who's never been attracted to a guy before meeting Wes, can't resist the handsome and confident man. He isn't quite ready for what the doctor wants though, as he needs some time to come to terms with this new side of his sexuality.

I adore Kyle. He was engaged to a woman, but caught her cheating on him. He is just so darn likeable and you can't help rooting for him.

Adrian's past has been tough and he's closed his heart of from love. Kyle might be the one man who can teach him to take a chance again.

There are a couple of quotes that just stand out to me -  
"Change was the order of the day, and with change came risk."

"Your life and your experiences are yours, Kyle. Live them the way you want."

This tale contains angst and suspense, as the hospital is having money problems. I actually appreciate this storyline, as this is an all too common problem.

Alison Hendricks has a hit with Ache, this new contribution to the Men of Hidden Creek. She manages to perfectly capture what makes Hidden Creek so wonderful - small town charm, handsome and intriguing men, and the overwhelming acceptance of the LGBT community.

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## **Kristine (A Cozy Booknook) says**

This is an engaging story with complex characters that I couldn't put down. There is a lot happening in this story between finding trust, rebuilding a relationship, and finding love. An enjoyable story. This can be read as a stand alone.

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## **Mel Sparks says**

Ache was sub par at best.

Kyle and Wes represented all things stereotypically inaccurate with GFY plots. The story begins with the return of Kyle to his old home town after a messy breakup with Rebecca, once described by Kyle as the "love of his life," things quickly change for this protagonist when he comes face to face with Wes. The once straight Kyle goes through a .05 second transition and realizes he's no longer straight, suddenly he's overcome with these feelings of lust for a complete stranger and act on them straight away as a convoluted tactic to get over his old flame.

Absolute bullshit I can assure you.

Wes' character was overly domineering and rude at times but for the most part I tolerated his shortcomings, for much of the plot the exhaustive repetitions of the phrase "the man" or "younger man" added no quality to the narration except to make it monotonous and somewhat amateurish. Honestly Ache is easily forgettable. The characters are predictable, the writing is average and the plot is moderately interesting.

If you're interested in reading this one that decision is up to you, for me however it's a meh.

**\*\*THIS WAS AN ARC PROVIDED IN EXCHANGE FOR AN HONEST REVIEW\*\***

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## **Ami says**

Although I skipped most of the sex scenes -- not THAT many but still more than one scene, and for me, sometimes I only prefer one great scene -- but I honestly thought that *Ache* was one of my **favorites** from Alison Hendricks. I read it through my 3-hours train journey out of town.

It has pretty "traditional" romance recipe. One one corner is the slightly older guy who is more experienced and due to a tragedy in his past, doesn't let people into his heart. On the other corner is the younger guy, who is more upbeat, more positive, and despite not having gay experience before but is able to crack the wall protecting the older guy's heart.

I really liked both men. I thought Wes and Kyle had the right chemistry, and the process of them falling in love was lovely. It's always great to see characters like Wes, one who is written as not having "feelings" mellows out a bit.

I also enjoyed the hospital setting, and the 'threat' involving the hospital added just the right amount of drama that touched my heart near the end.

Although it's part of a series, it can easily be read as a stand alone. Having said that, I'm kind of curious of Kyle's brother, Brandon, now. Will he gets his own man??

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