



Back Check

Kelly Jamieson

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The so-bad-they're-good alphas of hockey's Chicago Aces are back in this emotionally charged novel of sex, love, and second chances from the bestselling author of *Top Shelf* and the Heller Brothers series.

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After Marc Dupuis of the Chicago Aces hires wedding planner Katelyn Medford, she discovers that her big break comes with a twist: a reunion with her college sweetheart. The way she dumped Tanner still haunts her. Eight years—and three broken engagements—later, Katelyn knows she'll never have that kind of innocent, wide-eyed passion again. Still, she and Tanner soon generate enough body heat to burn up the sheets. And even with Tanner's career with the Aces up in the air, Katelyn's wondering whether the time is right to let him in for real.

Praise for Kelly Jamieson and her Aces Hockey series

“Kelly Jamieson is my go-to author for hockey romance.”—**USA Today bestselling author Jami Davenport**

“With chemistry that melts the ice, this novel had me rushing into the zone to finish before the whistle blew. I really enjoyed it!”—**New York Times bestselling author Toni Aleo**, on *Icing*

“A sweet story with plenty of heart about that bad boy you always wanted, who couldn't wait to have you, too.”—**Award-winning author Cecy Robson**, on *Off Limits*

“Steamy, sweet, and a whole lot of fun! I loved *Major Misconduct*!”—**USA Today bestselling author Serena Bell**

Includes an excerpt from another Loveswept title.

Back Check Details

Date : Published January 10th 2017 by Loveswept

ISBN :

Author : Kelly Jamieson

Format : Kindle Edition 232 pages

Genre : Romance, Sports and Games, Sports, Contemporary Romance, Sports Romance, Hockey, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Back Check for online ebook

Celestine says

More heart-on-your-sleeve, steamy goodness is coming your way if you pick up the newest novel by the **Queen of Hockey Romance, Kelly Jamieson**. What exactly makes her the Queen? Hockey games. Hockey references. Icy winters in Chicago. Beers after a game at the Sin Bin. Injuries, trades, contracts, front office hassles, celebrity charities, and all the well-researched minutiae that enriches a sport story's setting. And don't forget the teammates. Every time I read a KJ novel, I laugh out loud at the uncouth antics of these guys. Yes, I even laugh at the "locker room talk." These Aces players are such a team that they wholeheartedly "assist" Tanner Bennet in his video groveling to Katelyn Medford. It was a hilarious scene that was at the same time amazingly poignant. THAT is why Kelly Jamieson is the Queen of Hockey Romance.

Back Check lands the reader back in Chicago in the middle of hockey season. The MVP of this novel is defender Tanner "Benny" Bennet, stressing about being potentially released from his Aces contract. Most of the players from the previous novels are back, but we get especially reacquainted with Marc and Lovey from the first novel in the series, *Major Misconduct*. Katelyn is their wedding planner, and suddenly she is face to face with her first love and college flame, Tanner.

I adore second chance romances, and this one hits the right notes. Both Tanner and Katie have been looking for love in all the wrong places, and seeing each other reignites memories, feelings and passion that neither have felt since they were both 19. KJ addresses what it is like to have life pulling a young couple in different directions. Unfortunately, circumstances and stubbornness continue to chew up the ice for these two. At times, Tanner lives up to every bit of his rough-on-the-ice reputation, even in his personal life. Katie definitely needed to slap the guy with a hockey stick a time or two, but Tanner's teammates had his back and did it for her.

KJ always manages to make her female characters feel genuine to me. They have jobs (KJ researches the ins and outs of those professions for her books), friends, responsibilities, struggles and common sense. Both the guys and the girls in her books have to compromise in the name of true love. That's real. Maybe what's not so real is that her gals always have gorgeously matched underwear, which the Aces really appreciate.

Book source: ARC via NetGalley.

Laura says

I'm not sure if the next book is going to be the last book in the series. I'm so sad now.

Auntee says

Love this hockey series...review closer to release date.

Dawn ♥ romance says

I enjoyed this story in the sexy hockey players series. I liked the progression of the rekindled love affair with communication and not a lot of old resentment but I didn't like the hero's action that caused the relationship conflict. It ruined all the trust they built then resolved too easily. Party planner Katelyn runs into her college love, hockey player Tanner.

Alison says

Three stars.

Great cover - wow!

This was OK, a pleasant read but it didn't grip me. Although, full-disclosure, I have no idea whatsoever about ice hockey.

Tanner Bennet comes from a well-to-do but broken family. Both of his parents have married and divorced multiple times. All his friends' marriages have ended in divorce and his marriage to a model lasted less than six months. So when his team-mate and captain Marc Dupuis announces that he is getting married Tanner is less than thrilled. Being an ice-hockey player he is terribly superstitious and worries that he might be some kind of wedding jinx.

After their original wedding planner disappears Marc and his fiance Lovey hire Katelyn Medford as their new planner. Little do they know that Tanner and Katelyn were high-school sweethearts until Tanner got called to the NHL and Katelyn wouldn't/ couldn't leave her home town. Cue the awks!

I liked the story of this novel but in all honesty I felt it got lost in the rather lacklustre sex scenes (I am over "folds" people, find another word) which seemed to substitute for character or plot development. Also, I felt that (at least in the middle of the novel) the writing became very staccato with short sentences and an over-reliance on descriptions on exactly what Tanner ate for dinner and the colour and style of every set of lingerie that Katelyn wore - I just didn't care if she was wearing an orchid purple demi-cup with v-front thong matching set.

Recommended for readers who like light frothy second-chance romances with a heavy dose of smexy.

I received a free copy of this book from the publisher via NetGalley in return for an honest review.

Bumped for release.

Renee says

This was a great story. Tanner and Katelyn have a second chance to connect after separating during college. The chemistry between the two is off the charts and the book definitely had hot scenes! This is definitely a

book that is part of a series but can be read as a stand alone. In no way would you be lost just picking this book up. I am looking forward to Max's story next.

**** I received this book as an ARC from Netgalley in exchange for a fair review.

Ayekah says

I have been waiting for Tanner's story and let me tell you this one did not disappoint!! This is book 4 in the series and we find Marc and Lovey getting married. Losing her wedding planner she hires Katelyn. This is a big break for Katelyn as an events planner because it will open many doors. She hits it off with Lovey instantly.

Tanner, hates weddings, commitment and anything that resembles a relationship mainly due to his upbringing and the multiple wives his father ran through. Tanner learned very early on not to get attached to anyone. The only thing that came close to that was his girlfriend in college, Katelyn.

When Tanner was drafted to the NHL, she chose to stay behind in Michigan, hurt and angry he left. They never talked about it and haven't seen each other since that day he left her. That is until he comes to Marc's apartment and sees Katelyn there with Lovey. The wedding planner. Katelyn made it her business to avoid anything hockey related, she knew Tanner had gotten married and that was all. As for her, three failed engagements which she broke, because she didn't love them.

Seeing each other again brings up all sorts of feelings for these two; some hurtful, some happy, many understandings and things that were never said. Katelyn tries to negotiate the can we be friends thing, since they have to be civil to each other because of the wedding. She's also concerned about appearing professional with Lovey. Turns out Tanner wants more than friends. Adding to the story is Tanner's contract is up for renewal with the Aces and as the deadline looms closer he's worried about being traded. Traded means leaving Chicago and Katelyn. This weighs heavily on Tanner.

When these two navigate their past and start smoking up the sheets, look out! Kelly wrote some steamy schmexy stuff here that will melt your panties right into a puddle. Ice rink or no ice. Melting.

These two are the best MC's. They're so well written, their emotions are bared, they're honest and funny. The guys on the team are as usual, the perfect supporting characters and their antics are outrageous. Moreover they give Tanner a little kick in his backside when he needs it most.

This is my favorite book of the series by far. They're all great and worth a read. They're solid and the stories are all great. I just have a little crush thing going with Tanner.

This book is a great read and can be read as a stand alone, although I'd recommend reading the whole series. Thank you Kelly Jamieson for another amazing story!!

arc from NetGalley and Loveswept in exchange for a fair review

Beth says

BOOK REVIEW: Back Check

BOOK SERIES: Aces Hockey #4

AUTHOR: Kelly Jamison

GENRE: Contemporary Sports Romance

PUBLICATION DATE: January 10, 2017

CLIFF HANGER: No

4 Stars

*This story is for mature audiences only. Contains explicit scenes and language intended for adults 18+

SYNOPSIS:

The so-bad-they're-good alphas of hockey's Chicago Aces are back in this emotionally charged novel of sex, love, and second chances from the bestselling author of *Top Shelf* and the *Heller Brothers* series.

Tanner Bennet hates weddings. They just remind him that he simply isn't cut out for any kind of healthy, committed relationship—never has been, never will be. After getting rejected by the girl he thought was “the one” all those years ago, he made a huge mistake and married the wrong person. Now that the divorced heartbreaker has reluctantly agreed to be a groomsman for one of his NHL teammates, the last thing he expects is a chance at redemption with the one that got away.

After Marc Dupuis of the Chicago Aces hires wedding planner Katelyn Medford, she discovers that her big break comes with a twist: a reunion with her college sweetheart. The way she dumped Tanner still haunts her. Eight years—and three broken engagements—later, Katelyn knows she'll never have that kind of innocent, wide-eyed passion again. Still, she and Tanner soon generate enough body heat to burn up the sheets. And even with Tanner's career with the Aces up in the air, Katelyn's wondering whether the time is right to let him in for real.

MY THOUGHTS:

This was a fun and sexy second chance romance, I loved it! I have enjoyed this series, but this is my favorite so far.

The backstory of Tanner and Katelyn is heartbreaking. They were so in love in college, but life brought changes that couldn't be altered. They both had commitments and there were misunderstandings that led to their heartbreak.

Tanner and Katelyn have amazing chemistry and the pace of their love story is believable. There is a lot going on in their lives professionally and personally that is simmering in the background, but their feelings for each other can't be denied. My heart broke for them when they finally talked about their breakup and the misunderstandings on both sides.

I am not going to give any more about the story away, as I want each reader to enjoy this sweet and spicy second chance sports romance. Everyone reads the same book differently, but I really loved it.

ARC kindly provided by NetGalley for an honest review.

Sarah says

I was given a copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads.

So...I've reached the point in this series where the stories and characters are starting to blur together. The recipe is starting to look simple. Take one sexy alpha male hockey player under pressure. Add a clever and genuine woman who is building her own quirky and desireable business. Stir in angst filled back stories and shake together with girly cocktail time and manly bonding over beer, food and hockey. Garnish with a little bit of sports action before serving.

This time, Kaitlyn and Tanner are childhood lovers who meet again when she starts planning the wedding of his good friends. Their history is complicated and Tanner is struggling with rumours that he will be traded. I liked both of these characters and I enjoyed their romance. If this were the first book in the series, I might have appreciated it more.

Aside from the women's fantasy jobs blurring together, the tired fear of gold-digging puck bunnies is back. Jamieson doesn't do much for the sisterhood by perpetuating the tired and misogynistic division of women into good girls (independent but sexually cautious career women who are improbably eager to settle down and raise families) and bad girls (sexually forward, materialistic creatures who prey on vulnerable wealthy men).

I think I'm also falling out with the cozy socialising in this series. The girl times and guy times in this book felt more like university sorority/fraternity bonding than actual socialising between confident adult professionals. The coupled-up parties are just a little bit smug and a tiny bit claustrophobic.

I may be looking at this too deeply. This is frothy, fun, fantasy romance. As always, the writing is solid, the angst isn't too overwhelming and everyone is completely likeable. But ultimately, I've fallen out of love with this series. I've read them all in a couple of months and my reaction would probably be different if I'd spread them out and if I couldn't remember the previous stories quite as well.

Diane Lynch says

Back Check (Aces Hockey #4) by Kelly Jamieson Kelly Jamieson is on a winning streak with BACK CHECK, the fourth book in the Aces Hockey series. Tanner Bennet feels like he is cursed when it comes to wedding. When his team captain asks him to stand up in his wedding, he could hardly say no. He never expected to be reunited with the woman who broke his heart, the wedding planner, Katelyn Medford. This contemporary sports romance takes place in Chicago.

I loved this story. First of all, I appreciated that it took place during Marc Dupuis' and Lovey Armstrong's (from book one, MAJOR MISCONDUCT) wedding planning. I love the previous characters in the series, and that was a great way to include them into the story. It was also, a clever way for Tanner and Katelyn to be reunited.

I enjoyed Tanner's character. Being the child of parents who have gone through several divorces he

understandably never felt like he had a normal family. His childhood leaves him with some security issues. He doesn't really feel wanted. Katelyn is the only person he ever confided in. While all of this is going on, Tanner has the added stress of contract negotiations and trade rumors. I love that he is a big brother and how he interacts with Jovon. I love the video he makes for Katelyn, especially since he did it in front of his teammates.

Katelyn is a likeable character. She has lived in Chicago the past few years and recently started her own event planning business. Being professional is very important to her. I like that she hits it off so well with Lovey and Amber. She fits in great with their friends. She is a noble person with good values.

Tanner and Katelyn dated while in college at Michigan State; Katelyn broke Tanner's heart when she didn't follow him when he played with the New York Islanders. We discover her very good reason for sacrificing their relationship. I love that these two got a second chance. They are an astounding couple with fantastic chemistry.

Once again, Kelly Jamieson created an amazing story that was heartfelt and realistic. The characters had obstacles to overcome and issues to face. Being a Chicagoan, I love that it takes place here. Kelly Jamieson does a great job depicting the city. I love this series and highly recommend it to anyone that enjoys a good sports romance. I voluntarily reviewed an advance reader copy of this book.

Mindy Lou's Book Review says

I love that I can dive into Kelly Jamieson's sports romance books with confidence. I'm getting my hockey fix without having to deal with puck bunnies. Safe sports romance books are not always easy to find. I like that this author focuses more on the couple than on the fame of the player and she does a great job of creating a group of friends that add to the feeling of the book. This is the fourth in the series and we have all the previous couples back again. Saying that, you could easily read this as a standalone.

Tanner and Katelyn dated in College but it ended badly when Tanner got drafted and Katelyn refused to move with him. Personally I thought she was crazy. It was obvious when they met again the chemistry was still there. It took awhile, but we find out there was a big reason she let him go. Both were deeply affected by that break up and you could see it wasn't easy for either of them to risk their hearts again. It was cute to see the committed guys help guide Tanner towards the end. I'd like to think that would actually happen.

I'm hoping the next book is about Kirby. He's not well liked and I'd love to see him find someone to soften him. ARC provided by NetGalley.

Dali says

Happy book birthday

He doesn't believe in love. She's determined to find it. A sweet and sexy story about second chances at love and a great add to the Aces Hockey series.

Hockey players are superstitious by nature. They leave their beards grow and don't wash their socks all for the sake of a winning streak and Tanner Bennet thinks he's bad juju when it comes to wedding too. Every time he's been in a wedding party the marriage ended in divorce, including his after he decided to marry the wrong woman. So when asked to be part of one of his teammates' groomsmen he half-heartedly agrees. But after the shock of discovering that the wedding planner is the only woman he's ever loved who rejected him almost a decade ago has worn off, will he overcome his fears and seize this second chance at love?

"For tanner, love meant risk. It meant hurt and insecurity and fear."

Katelyn Medford is great at organizing events but it's taken a bit longer for her company to take off. So when the chance to plan a wedding for an NHL star, she can't afford to say no and why would she? There's only the small detail of being unexpectedly reunited with her college boyfriend who she refused to follow when his career required he move out of state eight years ago. But after three failed engagements, she now knows that a relationship like they had isn't easy to find. Now that they're in constant close proximity and that their chemistry is undeniable, will she let him in and be able to follow him wherever his career may lead?

"Maybe you should go back to hating me."

"Maybe I should just do this." And he crowded her up against the counter, cupped her face with one big hand and kissed her.

For those of you who enjoy a story that balances the drama and connection of second chance romances, heated chemistry and the excitement of hockey this is a good book for you.

Jamieson provides well developed characters whose back stories made me feel for them. Katelyn was a hard worker, she wanted love but hadn't found it or more precisely had let it go, so she helped plan fabulous weddings. She did have a good reason for not going with Tanner when they were younger and her biggest fault was that she didn't tell him.

"You don't believe that people will stick around. But I'm going to prove you wrong. I'm going to be the one, Tanner. The one who sticks with you no matter what."

Tanner had big commitment issues because his parents were never there for him due to their endless marriage/divorces and to top it off the only person he ever loved had broken his heart. But he formed his own family with his teammates and went as far as to be part of a big brother association. He's a great hero all around, a sexy alpha who goes for what he wants and not afraid to express his feelings or do hot yoga.

Their reconnection is fun, flirty and hot, and after both having lived, learned and matured they're somewhat better at communicating except when they don't, which creates a bit of conflict for them. Nothing too big that they can't work through.

I loved having Lovey and Marc back while preparing their wedding along with the other couples in the Aces team.

Back Check is book #4 in the *Aces Hockey* series by *Kelly Jamieson*. Even though it has characters from past stories, it's a steamy and sweet full length standalone hockey romance. Told from both points of view with a happy ending.

Pinterest board -> <https://pinterest.com/kellyjamieson/a...>

Amazon -> <http://amzn.to/2iBXONg>

* I was given an ARC of this book for an honest review from NetGalley. The excerpts are from that copy. *

More reviews * Stalk us on FaceBook * As well as Twitter * Pinterest Board for Book Teasers

Siobhan Davis says

Actual 4.5 stars.

I love a good sports romance and *Back Check* by Kelly Jamieson ticked all my boxes. This is a riveting second chances love story that packs plenty of emotional punch. Loved Tanner and Katelynn's romance and it had me hooked from the first page until the last.

Tanner has pretty much given up on women after his disastrous marriage (and subsequent divorce) to a gold digger. Katelynn had been his college sweetheart and he thought she was the one but when he got signed for a New York team she refused to move with him and he forced himself to leave her in the past.

Katelynn has been engaged three times but always calls it off because she doesn't love the guy enough. Tanner broke her heart in college when he left for NY. They had a heated row and he left and they never spoke again and she feels like he just ran away without facing up to the situation they were in, without giving her a real explanation.

Fate intervenes and they find themselves reconnecting when Lovey hires Katelynn as her replacement wedding planner. Very quickly our couple realize that they never got over one another and they rekindle their romance.

I loved this story! Loved how it didn't take too long for them to get it on because the sizzling hot chemistry and soul-deep connection they shared continued to burn bright. How could any couple ignore that for long? Of course, the path of true love never runs smoothly, and Tanner lets her down again before recovering in spectacular fashion. That video, with his teammates cutting in, had me in stitches. It was beautiful and heartfelt and it gave me all the feels.

I really enjoy the worldbuilding in this series and love how we got to meet up with some of the other couples. I have only read Sidney and Jarod's story (which I didn't enjoy as much as this one) but I'm intrigued to read the earlier stories.

The balance between the hockey and romance was perfect, the banter was humorous and emotional, and the romance scenes were perfectly written. Tanner was swoony worthy in the extreme and I loved Katelynn's independent career-woman streak. As an aside, Tanner's dad was a total ass.

I loved that epilogue even if it was a little cheesy, but I love seeing our couples get their HEA.

Overall, this was a fantastic addition to the Aces Hockey series and one I would recommend if you enjoy well-written sports romance.

Thanks to the publisher for providing an ARC of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Alex ? says

Not my favorite in this series.

2nd chance after being 8 years apart...

The thing is, hmm, I didn't feel any chemistry between the MCs. The H was hesitant the whole time - far away from alpha male. The h was just ok.

Thanks God the h wasn't celibate during their separation! Hallelujah! But she was engaged 3 times... *eye roll* 3 times, really?

The H was of course the manwhore... He was a player before they started to date in the high school and continued to screw around after they split. He was even married for six months...

They split because she declined to leave her hometown and he went to NY. Her father was ill, but she told him that only 8 years later.

Safety: (view spoiler)

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Slick's review:

Back Check is the fourth book in Kelly Jamieson's Aces Hockey series and I enjoyed it quite bit despite the fact that I honestly didn't grow to love either one of the main characters something that surprised me greatly as normally I love the characters Ms. Jamieson offers up in her books. Back Check is a second chance love story, college lovers are reunited when his teammate's fiancée hires his ex-college girlfriend as their wedding planner. Having no contact in the 8 years since they last saw one another make their reunion interesting especially as their back story unfolds and they both begin to see things through the eyes of the adults they are now than the 19 year olds they were then.

Event planner Katelyn Medford is struggling to keep her business afloat so she really can't turn down a wedding even though it's 6 months out and especially when another planner left the couple high and dry. Finding out Tanner Bennet, her ex-boyfriend from college, is a groomsman throws her a bit and seeing him again after 8 years throws her a lot, but she's not alone in being stunned by being around him again, but with them both still reeling from their past finding common ground may prove to be difficult.

Honestly I didn't feel the connection between these two for quite awhile in this book, their interactions were so uncomfortable and stilted and considering the all encompassing relationship they had, I expected them to be more comfortable and "in tune" with one another despite the way their young relationship ended. Yes, they were both hurt and the situation they were put in was hard especially since there were extenuating circumstances, but I just didn't "feel" that pull between them.

I admired Katelyn's drive and ambition and the fact that she was determined to make her business a success. I did find it a bit strange that given her profession and her outgoing personality that even after several years in the city she only have one friend and that was her friend from college. I never really felt like we got to know Katelyn very well and thus I had a hard time connecting to her character at all.

I was really surprised by how insecure Tanner was about life and love, but hearing his back story made it easy to understand his issues and after "meeting" his Dad, I could understand him even better. I liked Tanner and it was easy to see his friends and teammates meant the world to him, but he also held himself back from them because of his fears. I was happy to see him open up emotionally to them because I felt like he was growing as a person and on the track to working through the baggage that held him back.

What I really loved about this book was the friendships between the players and their significant others, Ms. Jamieson did a fantastic job of showing how much of a family they are and how much they grow to rely on one another. I enjoyed seeing the couples from the previous books and catching up on their lives and getting to know some of the other players a bit better.

While Back Check wasn't as satisfying as some of the other books in this series, I did love the camaraderie, and the fact that two people found their way back to one another despite the years they were apart.

Review copy provided with no expectations.
