



## Ready for Wild

*Liora Blake*

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## Ready for Wild Liora Blake

Featuring Liora Blake's signature "funny, endearing, and more than a little hot" (*Library Journal*) style, the third novel in the Grand Valley series features a rough-talking game warden going toe-to-toe with a TV star who unexpectedly turns his life upside down.

Braden Montgomery is certain about three things: one, luck is for suckers; two, time spent outdoors is what keeps him sane; and, three, when it comes to sharing his bed, there's only one female he's willing to put up with—his Chesapeake Bay retriever, Charley. Braden's constructed his life on these beliefs, and he's quite content with the status quo.

But when a moment of bad luck lands Braden toe-to-toe with a blonde bombshell with her own television show, his stubbornly structured reality begins to unravel.

As for Amber Regan, her brand has been built on camo, cut-offs, and cleavage. With her own hunting show on the foremost sports channel and enough social media followers to garner her plenty of endorsement deals, Amber's come a long way from the tomboy in a small Texas town she once was. Unfortunately, ratings are down and her contract for next season is in limbo, so she's in desperate need of a reboot to save her show—and filming a rough and tough archery elk hunt in Colorado might be the way to do just that. Too bad the local game warden grunts more than he speaks, seems determined to despise her—and makes her heart race in all the most inconvenient ways.

## Ready for Wild Details

Date : Published October 31st 2017 by Gallery Books

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Author : Liora Blake

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## From Reader Review Ready for Wild for online ebook

### Giedre says

3.5/5

The whole hunting thing is not my cuppa, but I really enjoyed this one. Features a super grumpy (but sweet) game warden hero and a heroine with a hunting TV show.

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### Chris C - A Midlife Wife says

Very hot just like Braden! 4.5 Stars!

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I love how you can just tell from the flow and the structure of the writing whether a book is going to capture your attention for the most part. From the first page, I knew this was going to be something special. I'm so happy I was not wrong about that.

From a cranky male lead to a tough girl who is not afraid to do it on her own, the sparks were flying. Frequent sarcasm, humorous banter, sweet down-to-earth love and affection, plus plenty of off-the-charts steam make this a read to remember. It is the perfect ending to this series that I am so sad is ending.

Ms. Blake has managed to capture my heart with this book. Her style of writing combined so many different elements make it memorable, sexy, yet sweet and playful. The perfect contemporary romance that will pull your heartstrings.

\* copy received for review consideration  
Full review <http://amidlifewife.com/ready-for-wil...>

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### Kini says

I really enjoyed this book. I have read the previous two and was really looking forward to Braden's book. He is a surly game warden and gets tasked with helping out a reality star, Amber, on her quest to hunt in Colorado. This was kind of a enemies to lovers, but didn't have a ton of antagonist behavior, just the right amount for me. When Braden fell for Amber, he did it hard. Even though he had a crusty exterior, his interior was soft and gooey and wonderful. He appreciated Amber for more than just her body and sexuality. It was great to see him felled by his love. Amber was pretty kick ass with her hunting and such. It was nice to see really fit H/H with little to no shaming of others.

This book was way sexier than I remember the first two books being. So if you are looking for a book that has a high heat level, this might be for you.

There were some fun side characters, particularly Colin and Teigen that I wouldn't mind learning more about. And there are brief glimpses of characters from the first two books.

All told, this was a solid read and delivered a HEA for two characters that I believed in.

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### **Kara Hildebrand (Two Book Pushers) says**

Ready for Wild is the third book in the Grand Valley series by the super talented Liora Blake. I love this series and I'm very sad to see it end! I've become very invested in these characters and their lives and I really do want more! Ready for Wild is Braden's story. I've been a fan of his surly, grouchy goodness since the beginning. And I knew the lady who was going to bring him to his knees was going to be fabulous. Braden is a game warden who literally drew the short straw to babysit a TV show star who's hot as hell and wears pink camo and high heels. She's everything he's against. Show off, wanna be hunter. They share barbs and she has an answer for every one of his jabs. Once he learns she's the real deal, he not only respects her, he wants her. Badly. But that would be a mistake, right? Amber is more than just her sexy good looks. She knows what she's doing. She's a real hunter. She knows the rules, the terrain and the animals. She loves doing the show because she makes the calls. She's been working for a long time to make something of herself and Braden is the first man in a long time to stir something inside her. She's not put off by his cranky ass. She's intrigued by his way of thinking and his straight forward answers. She also wants to wrap her entire body around his and feel his hardness. At first they seem like an unlikely pair, but they soon learn they have more in common than they thought possible. Can a few states and job uncertainty keep Braden and Amber apart? Will they figure out how to have it all? Oh man! I loved this story. Braden is perfection with his 6'5" frame, bulging muscles, homemade healthy snacks and cooking abilities. I love his sweetness and his dirty AF mouth! Amber is hilarious! She's a tell it like it is girl and I love that about her! He's more than just a pretty face and she's determined to be who she is. Together they are hot, sexy, funny and sweet. Add in Charley, the perfect dog, and Ready for Wild is everything!

"Take us, Braden. Take us to your Fortress of Frosty Doom."

"Oh my God. Are you a firefighter, Braden? Or do you just play one in a calendar?"  
"I'm on the volunteer squad, yes."

"Now explain yourself. Tell me what you're doing here, why you didn't tell me you were coming" - he pauses and works over a labored swallow - "and how long I have you for."

"I missed you. Losing you turned me into a real asshole. Fine. It turned me into a bigger asshole."

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### **Saly says**

3.5 stars

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### **Paula says**

Such a good book! Looking forward to reading more from this author--loving her voice!

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### Stacee says

I had only read the first book in this series, but I loved it and I was eager to get back to this setting.

Love love loved Amber and Braden. She's sassy and smart and stands up for herself. He's stubborn and stand off-ish, and a bit hardened. Together, they have excellent banter and chemistry for daaaaays. I love that they fought for each other and that they acknowledged there needed to be communication.

Plot wise it was loads of fun. There's a great cast of friends and some mild bumps in the road, but it was mostly fluff. The angsty conflict didn't last too long and the last chapter was damn near perfection. My only complaint is that I would have loved an epilogue or even one extra chapter.

Overall, a quick and sweet read. I'll definitely be looking for Liora's next book.

\*\*Huge thanks to Gallery Books for providing the arc free of charge\*\*

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### Rosa Sharon (iScream Books Blog) says

*So many 'filthy and fabulous' moments to enjoy.*

This is my 2nd Liora Blake book, but the first in the **Grand Valley** series. While they were totally different from each other, the author's talent and sense of humor shined through in both. She kept me smiling from beginning to end while reading **Ready for Wild**

Braden has a '**porcupine personality**' per his boss. Which makes his job as a game warden perfect for him. He gets to spend lots of time outdoors, and **alone**. When he learns that a sexy pin-up version of a game hunter with her own reality TV show is coming to check out his territory, he's not happy. His disdain for her profession is something he doesn't even try to hide when he meets her for the first time. While he can't deny she's beautiful, camo should not be pink! His prickly personality is not the best kept secret, however; his coworkers have been around him long enough to see that underneath his growly exterior is a true friend willing to help out when needed.

Amber was subjected to, "**An hour and a half hiking behind that behind while it flexes away, right in front of you. Good luck trying to keep from noticing-or appreciating-it.** I know I was only there **virtually**, but I was mentally appreciating it. I was also appreciating the witty banter and sarcasm as he suffered through the experience, having drawn the short straw with the other game wardens who actually **wanted** to be her tour guide. I could **feel** the chemistry between them as they bickered. I was rubbing my hands together in anticipation of the **explosion** that I knew would occur when they finally gave into the sparks flying.

It only got better from there as the grunting and gasping escalated when they went belly to belly over many topics and situations. It was a very entertaining read and a nice break after reading something heavy or dark. **#TeamYeti**

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### **Under the Covers Book Blog says**

Ready for Wild is the third and last installment of Liora Blake's Grand Series. Just like the previous book, Liora Blake writes a love story of two people from two different worlds.

As luck might have it, Braden Montgomery, the Game Warden of the state of Colorado is assigned to give Amber Reagan a tour/guide to scout out the lands for her new show. Amber happens to be the star of a hunting reality show looking for a new edge. Unfortunately, Braden hates hunting shows and this starts them off to a very rocky start.

I don't blame him and like him, I already have my reservations about Amber. I thought she was superficial and a narcissist to boot. I also thought she was just a "glorified shooter". A sell out. All she cared about was making new edge to keep her show. She's very Hollywood. Such a different being from Braden who is pretty much a eat healthy and a tree hugger. Braden is serious and broody. He was described to be with a hulking stature with a glowering scowl like Joe Manganiello. That's exactly how I pictured him as I read the book. Definitely quite the opposite of Amber but as different as they are, they're attraction is undeniable and there was no stopping their romance.

I sort of anticipated that Ms. Blake will show us a different side of Amber that will prove her worth to be with Braden. And I guess she did. There's more to that girl than meets the eye. Unfortunately, she's still my least favorite heroine of the series. Fortunately, the overall story was a fun read, and so is the rest of the series. I'm looking forward to Ms. Blakes future work.

\*ARC provided by publisher

Reviewed by Angela♥ ? Don't want to miss any of our posts? Subscribe to our blog by email! ? ♥

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### **Mandi Schreiner says**

I didn't read the blurb before picking this one up (I loved book one and two so this was a given to read) and I didn't realize the heroine was a professional hunter. I'm just not into hunting in my romance books. I spent the entire book stressed that she was going to kill the bull elk - so I worried more about him than the romance. (And yes, I know this is a book and not real life - but guys - the elk)

But - well done grumpy hero - super grumpy - I loved him.

And it's sexy.

But hunting.

Review to come

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## Dani (Dani Reviews Things & Love in a time of Feminism) says

Nothing like a book to expand your mind past the stereotypes and beliefs you had for another kind of life. That's one of my favourite things about reading: exploring other people's lives and trying out new ways of thinking. And that's what happened in this book. Much like Braden had to face his contempt for TV shows featuring hunting, I had to face my issues with hunting itself. I mean, Bambi, guys.

Luckily, this book was written in such a way that I was hooked on the characters and their attraction, enough to distract me from the fact that they enjoyed killing things. But more than that, it showed me that while there are idiots who go around doing it irresponsibly, there are people who go hunting for the challenge, and who don't do it just to hang up trophies but actually use the animal for sustenance. (For the record, I am one of those people Braden mentioned early on who is better off pretending the meat I buy is from a magical land where nothing gets hurt. I like steak too much to be a vegetarian, sorry.)

But enough about that. You want to know why I've given this book four stars, don't you? Well! A few reasons.

First of all, yes, the hunting thing. It was new ground for me, and it meant the characters were inherently different from others I've read. Both Braden and Amber are very self-reliant and hardy, able to handle the wilderness on their own for days on end. They had skills that are pretty enviable, such as archery and, well, basically just surviving without plumbing. I even made a vow to check protein bar packaging in the future.

They were also different in other ways. Amber was so sure of what she wanted, and she had no qualms with speaking her mind, taking no shit from Braden. She didn't apologise for liking both "masculine" and "feminine" things. She worked hard and took responsibility for her actions and her life. On the other hand, Braden was your typical brooding mountain man, but he went further than that, enjoying isolation and reading.

Braden earned a whole star on his own in one particular scene. There's a trend in romance novels to have these alpha males who have to swoop in and save the day. They want to protect their women from other men AKA stake their claim. This is often seen as swoony and caring, but it's also condescending and controlling to assume the women can't handle the situation or want their help. In *Ready for Wild*, there was one such scene where I was preparing myself for Braden to play the hero, but then he did something that actually made him a hero. I won't spoil it for you, but when you reach the scrawny cowboy scene, you'll know.

And it didn't stop there: he was very attentive to what Amber wanted when they overcame the tension between them. Which, by the way, was wonderfully shortlived because those two could *not* help themselves. Especially with Amber being so upfront about their shared attraction. There was no fade-to-black when these two got those pesky clothes out of the way, but I didn't find it overly gratuitous either. I really liked the creativity of some of the scenes. ;)

My one niggle? WHY did she have to be petite? Why are heroines always teeny tiny things? Why can't they be a normal height and size?

All in all, I liked this! It was sexy, fun, and educational, in a good way. I'll have to give the rest of the series a go soon!

*I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.*

-This review was originally posted on Love in a time of Feminism

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## Melissa says

Picking up the final book in a series is always a bittersweet experience, especially when it's a series I've come to adore as much as Grand Valley. Saying goodbye to the charming little mountain town and all of the couples that have managed to steal my heart—not easy.

Despite the title, *Ready for Wild*, there was something about this storyline and scenario that felt a little tame; especially for Liora Blake. Don't get me wrong, there's no question, this author can write. Her signature style has shone through with each unlikely couple—the humor, charisma, smart banter and undeniable chemistry—this time though, things landed on the milder end of the spectrum.

If you've read the previous books in the Grand Valley series, you've met Braden, the grumpy and grumbly game warden; a man of *very* few words. Or so I thought. Turns out, he wasn't much of a curmudgeon after all, more of an undercover teddy bear.

I have a soft spot for grumpy and domineering guys—I don't even understand it myself sometimes, but it is what it is—so getting a chance to see what was going on in Braden's head was enticing. The fact that he was a genuinely sweet guy, one that had plenty to say, kind of caught me off guard. Surprisingly, he didn't have the biting edge I was craving and caught feelings for Amber pretty quickly. That's not to say I was disappointed though—anything but. Those dreamy sage eyes of his, yummy scruff, refreshing outlook on life, impressive kitchen skills and a book nerd to boot—need I say more?

In the beginning, my feelings were similar to Braden's—Amber seemed like a person unworthy of my time and attention. Everything about her life felt staged—done in an attempt to gain more followers and sponsors—not genuine or *real*. As Braden started to peel back her layers, it was apparent there was more to the woman than just her social media persona or reality show with an obnoxious title.

Sometimes you meet people that manage to change your outlook—sometimes it's even a fictional character. Not to sound all dramatic here, but I consider myself to be an anti-hunter. The thought of anyone taking an innocent animal's life for "sport" breaks my heart. Something about Braden's beliefs touched me enough to consider the situation in somewhat of a different light. You'll never find me in the woods with a bow, but I can now appreciate the reality that not everyone is out to prove they're the superior beast. Can you tell I've been chugging the Braden kool-aid? #ihearttheyeti

### **“Sauerkraut, sauerkraut, sauerkraut.”**

I wasn't the only one that found Braden's brutal honesty or outlook on life to be refreshing. The biggest takeaway for both me and Amber—you can't ever go wrong being your *true* and *authentic* self.

*\*A HUGE thank you to Pocket Books for the gorgeous galley. Not only is the cover even prettier in person, but it looks stunning on my bookshelf. Mwah!*

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## **Christi Snow says**

### **My Review:**

This was a sexy, fun story that I truly enjoyed. I love the idea of Amber. She's a sexy, blonde bombshell who models with guns in bikinis and has a hunting show where she's taken out on the most exclusive hunting ranches where she's completely catered to. She's everything Braden hates about hunting shows, so he's less than thrilled when he finds out that he's going to have to escort her out to the backcountry to see if she wants to bring her hunting show to his areas.

Braden is a game warden. He's grumpy and curmudgeonly and isn't shy about showing it. He's also not shy about showing how he feels about Amber's fluffy style. But as he takes her out, he suddenly realizes that while she definitely has a flighty, bimbo type style for the camera, Amber truly is the real deal. She grew up hunting and knows as much, if not more, than he does about the sport.

Suddenly his disdain switches to intrigue and fascination. I loved watching his attitude switch around for Amber. Unfortunately, Amber's show is on the chopping block and she's having to do everything she can to try and save it. If that means she has to pose and act, she will. Braden just doesn't get that aspect of her job, and that causes problems.

I've loved this series. It's completely different and creative and this book especially was fantastic. I'm a Texas girl, so the hunting aspect of it worked for me. There were a few minor details that made me stop (the drive between Ft. Worth and Austin...yeah, no), but overall I thought this book was EXTREMELY well done and researched. It was fun and sexy and I was questioning right up until the very end how in the world the author was going to make it work out between Braden and Amber.

It was a great book that's part of a great series. You can easily read any of the books as a stand alone, but I highly recommend the entire series.

I received a complimentary copy of this book in return for an honest review.

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## **Sheyla \ says**

"My live wire"

"You were so worth waiting for. "

Ready for Wild delivers the perfect ending to the Grand Valley series!

Liora Blake has the perfect formula for romance and she has a perpetual fan in me. She knows how to mix two very different characters and make them irreplaceable to each other.

Amber Regan travels to Colorado to scout different areas for her hunting show. She has always loved the

outdoors and her uncle taught her to hunt when she was just a kid. Her show was very popular and made her quite famous. It helps that her exterior is nothing short of a bombshell. Unfortunately, the last season of her show didn't get high ratings and in a desperate move, she believes if she comes back to her roots, she can make the big wigs renew her contract. She's determined to prove them and herself that she can do one hunt all by herself.

"This is when my body decides to perk up and take real, carnal notice of a man? And for this guy? Mr. Jolly Green Giant with a bad attitude?"

Braden Montgomery is one of the Grand Valley game wardens. He projects a "sourpuss attitude" and he appears to be grumpy most of the time. We met his character in the last two books and I was dying to see a smile on the face of this big guy. By chance or maybe by fate, Braden picks the short straw (literally) and it's the one chosen to meet Amber and her team. Of course, he is not blind and his body knows Amber is a knockout but he has nothing bad disdain for people who don't understand what being a hunter and respecting the prey is. He has all these preconceived ideas about Amber and he's not scared to share them aloud.

"The dark hair and the scruff, the serious sage eyes, and a sourpuss attitude many a woman would love to claim she single-handedly charmed into submission. All of that and he's built like the caricature of a lusty lumberjack."

It was absolutely amazing reading the characters banter. I was smiling or laughing the whole way through Ready for Wild. So many great interactions and I love when Garrett was giving Braden a hard time and the scene with the selfie.

I loved discovering the real Braden and Amber. Amber was someone who took her job seriously. She knew how to respect nature despite being a hunter. She was a good sister and she cared for her co-workers. Braden's real personality was not surly. He was a book nerd who loved the outdoors and healthy eating. The scenes with his dog Charley had my heart melting. He also realized his preconceived ideas regarding Amber were wrong and he was man enough to admit it.

I have no idea why this is the last book in the series. Liora introduced two couples who could continue this series or a spinoff: Trey and Dayton and Colin and Teagan. I hope she gets to write their love stories.

Cliffhanger: No

5/5 Fangs

A complimentary copy was provided by Pocket Star via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Bookgasms Book Blog says**

With *Ready for Wild*, the third book in the *Grand Valley* series (but only the second one that I've read - of this series, and by this author), it has become pretty clear to me that I may have stumbled upon a new favorite author. It happened easily and naturally as I turned each page, a giant love-struck grin plastered obnoxiously across my face, and my tummy filled with those delicious butterflies that I will never *ever* get enough of. I fell completely in love with Braden and Amber and, indeed, with the charming, effortless storytelling Ms. Blake has gifted us with in these books.

Grumpy heroes are my favorite. I love that their feelings don't come easily and their resistance proves futile - especially when the heroine intent on busting down those walls and drawing out those reluctant smiles is as spirited and adorable as Amber Regan. These two were so much fun to read. Braden is the best *kind* of grumpy hero: surly and domineering, with an irresistibly soft underbelly. The banter between him and Amber was smart and hilarious (I actually giggled out loud more than once), and the chemistry is sizzling (no, really \*fans self\*, these two bring the heat). The whole thing just worked for me. It was easy to lose myself in their love story, easy to allow these fantastic characters into my heart, and *so* easy to invest in their happily ever after.

I'm sad that this is the last in the *Grand Valley* series, but I'm hopeful that we may see some familiar faces moving forward (I wouldn't be opposed to a spin-off. Just...throwing that out there...). In any case, I've enjoyed these *Grand Valley* books so much that regardless of what she writes, it's a sure thing that I'll be back for more! ~ Shelly, 4.5 Stars

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