



Heartwood

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"When we were kids, my cousins planned for their weddings like they were coronations. Sleepovers revolved around notebooks stuffed with clippings from bridal magazines and elaborate plans scrawled in purple ink. Horse drawn carriages, twenty tiered cakes, groomsmen in tails, and scads of bridesmaids, none of whom were nearly as pretty as the bride. Me? I'd just yawn and wander off to the backyard and play fetch with their dog. I never cared about any of that crap, at least not until I met Joe."

With her wedding rapidly approaching, Molly's days consist of herding Joe off to tux fittings and diaper changings times two. She misses life on the food truck, but she isn't quite ready to leave the twins. Planning for every detail to be as perfect as her groom, she hopes her instincts are wrong that it's all too good to be true.

Knowing Molly like he does, Joe can plainly see that his girl needs to decompress. She's as stubborn as always, and talking her into a honeymoon without the babies proves easier said than done. Molly's on edge about every little thing, from the nosey next door neighbor to cars speeding down their quiet street. While Joe revels in their otherwise blissful existence, he worries that Molly's paranoia may be a symptom of something bigger.

Come back to Austin one last time for the wedding of Molly Elizabeth Hildebrandt and Joseph Samuel Jensen. Raise a glass in celebration alongside their family and closest friends. Wave goodbye as they ride off into the sunset toward a dark fork in the road that could destroy their happily ever after. Will they finally get their fairytale ending? Find out in Heartwood, the explosive conclusion to the Carved Hearts series.

Heartwood Details

Date : Published February 7th 2015 by L.Pace

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Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Humor, Funny

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From Reader Review Heartwood for online ebook

Michelle Pace says

It's completely fab...but I am the author, so consider the source.

Karen Voitik says

>Book Review - Heartwood -

>I am an independent reviewer. This is the third novel in the Carved Hearts series. This novel ends the series with an HEA.

>This novel has everything, a wedding, drama, suspense and more fun banter from the wonderful characters introduced to us in the first two books. Joe and Molly have a picture perfect wedding, after a slightly wild bachelor/bachelorette night. The suspense is laid down fast, with Molly feeling watched and her disturbing incident at the laser tag place. There are no more doubts as to how Joe and Molly feel about each other. They have a wonderful honeymoon, but trouble starts as soon as they return home.

>I found it strange that they had the twins at separate relatives houses while on their honeymoon. The twins barely tolerate sleeping apart. I know doing that helped with the plot, but it didn't seem like something that would have really been done. The scenes with Molly's ex were heartbreaking, as was Molly's behavior after she returns home. Sexual abuse isn't pretty and this story didn't glorify it at all.

>I love how everything was tied together in the end. What a great series and what great characters to get to know. Even the secondary characters were fun to know, like Stacey and Sanchez. I wanted more on them, but all stories come to an end and I was glad to have read this one.

>This book is appropriate to be read by an adult (18+) audience due to sexual situations and abuse.

Jenna Brooklyn says

Happy tears!

Wow! I am so sad this series has ended but I will say you guys have DEFINITELY ended this series PERFECTLY!! Who else could go through all this and still stay together. Molly and Joe pulled through everything in their path. I cried happy tears, sad tears, and sat on the edge of my seat while reading their story. Such a beautiful series!

Raylene Green says

Reviewed for Hooked on Books---5 stars!

I didn't find out that this was a husband/wife duo until after I finished reviewing the second book. I was surprised to say the least! I enjoyed the first two of this series SO much. This story picks up where it leaves off with Molly and Joe. And while there is a HEA, it sure didn't come easy to either one of them. I must say that the writing in these stories are amazing and well thought out. Les and Michelle make an absolute AMAZING team as writers. I counted how many times I cried while reading this story...it was 6....SIX!!! This series has something for EVERYONE in it. Ups, downs, highs, lows, drama, passion. You can't go wrong reading this. I'm now a fan for life!!!!!!

1-Click Addict Support Group says

Have you ever just absolutely and completely fallen in love with a couple from a book? Yeah, I know every book lover has at some point or another. That's exactly how I feel about these amazing characters the Pace's have dreamed up. I adore Joe and Molly. Moreover, I have enjoyed watching them blossom and grow into the beautiful family they are now. From the moment I put down *Good Wood*, the first book in this series, I couldn't let them go. And now the third book in, I'm sad to bid this couple goodbye.

This book was perfection. I don't think it could have ended on a better note. It was beautiful, heartfelt, emotional, dramatic, and had just enough steam thrown in to round it out. If you haven't had a chance to read this series, I highly recommend it. It's full of everything romance lovers clamor for.

Heartwood is the third book in the *Carved Hearts* series, it cannot be read as a standalone. This is definitely a series that's unique and full of heart. I'm going to miss this couple so much. ~ Erin, 5 Stars

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You'd have to have a heart of stone - or of wood - to not be moved by, and fall in love, with this spectacular couple. Joe and Molly... What can I say? These two are one of my all-time, hands-down, no-questions-asked favorite fictional couples and *Heartwood* was the perfect, thrilling, heart-racing conclusion to their tale.

I didn't want to see this series end. I've loved, I mean *loved* all three of the *Carved Hearts* books. *Heartwood*, thankfully, was enough to make goodbye possible, even if it still isn't desirable.

It picks up as Joe and Molly are moving on to the next stage in their lives; these books have taken us, the readers, on the journey with them as they've picked up the pieces, shattered, picked up the pieces once again, rinse and repeat. And it's a journey I would encourage everyone to experience.

This story is expertly paced, with tender, loving moments that made my heart swell and my eyes overflow. But it also had me on the edge of seat. I couldn't put it down and I tried to balance the need to make sure all would be okay with the desire to draw it out, to savor this last taste of Joe and Molly.

If you haven't already done so, stop what you're doing and RUN, don't walk, to the nearest iPhone/laptop/tablet and one-click this entire series. Devour these books and fall in love with this incredible

couple. Even the hardest heart will be moved by them. I know I most certainly was.

*Heartwood* is the third book in the *Carved Hearts* series. It should be read after *Good Wood* and *Mollywood*. No cliffhanger. ~ Beth, 5 Titanium stars

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### **Christine Mize says**

Molly Hildebrandt is a talented and successful chef who owns several food trucks. She has been in love with Joe Jensen, her brothers best friend growing up, since she was a very little girl. Both Molly and Joe have walked through hell and are healing together. After the birth of their twins, they are finally going to get married. Will they finally be able to put their demons to bed and embrace a joy filled future?

*Heartwood* is the third book and final book in the *Carved Heart* series. I love Molly - her spunk, her talent, her strength that got her through everything that life has thrown at her so far. I adore Joe - his incredible talent in carpentry and carving, his deep love for Molly, and his incredible strength that has carried him through the darkest pits of hell. The twists that this book takes the reader on come from left field and will leave you unable to put the book down until you are finished reading. This series is one of the best series that I have read - passion, love, incredible sorrow, and tons of twists and turns. To get the most enjoyment out of this book, I highly recommend you reading the other two in the series first. I understand that this is the last in the series, but cannot wait to see what the Pace's have in store for us next.

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### **dreamerinxile says**

Hope and heartache beautifully incorporated 5 solid gold stars

To say this one was a emotionally huge roller-coaster ride would be an understatement. I've been Joe's and Molly's life since *Good Wood*. I fell irrevocably in love with these and have been wanting their HEA from the beginning. They have both been through hell and back and they deserved their Happy Ever After.

*Heartwood* starts off with the couple's impending nuptials and their life with their adorable twin babies, Logan and Eva. Watch these two with their kids made me go all gooey inside. It was beautiful and sweet. I wanted to dive into the book and go get my own fix of Logan & Eva.

While I was ecstatic about the doll-babies there were creepy things going around. The laser-tag incident, the speeding cars and shadowy figures in the dark of night was freaking me out. The big day came and I was a bawling mess. Francis, Mac and everything made my all mushy and weepy. There are people who are invisible to us because of who they have become in life but all it takes is a simple kind gesture and you can change someone's life. All it takes is kindness and compassion. I cried reading this part. You'll know what I am talking about when you reach the part. Mac dancing with you know who was one of the most beautiful scenes will always remember and get weepy over.

Then Molly and Joe went away and I read all the things they did and their conversations and everything, I felt a happy blanket envelop me in its warm cocoon. But at the back of my mind, I was waiting for the other shoe to drop. They came back and my mind refused to accept the words. I want chanting and hugging my

pillow, "NO. NO. NO. NO. NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO. EFFFING NOOOOOO."

What transpired was something I never thought was possible. How is this happening? Why is this happening? That vile creature was whacked, seriously how no one saw it was unbelievable. What Molly endured and that little angle. OMG!!! When that a-hole monster threw... ... I cannot write about it. And the Joe and his inner monologues and Molly and her struggle. Michelle was right when she told me that I wasn't done crying in book 2. And she was right. Michelle and Les you two have carved a place in my heart and soul for Joe, Molly and yourselves. I freaking loved this story and although it wrecked me I realized while reading the series that I am in fact a glutton for heartache and that I love stories that break my heart.

Carved Hearts series would take you on a ride that you will not want to come out of and YOU would want to pray and beg the Almighty for the chance of an HEA for Joe and Molly. The story was heart-stoppingly awesome to say the least, the hearts that were carved were beautiful and the souls that inspired such words were indeed epically wonderful. I leave with my heart and soul lost in the sea of Carved Hearts with a solid 5 freaking gold stars.

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### **Sally says**

This is probably one of my top 3 book series of all time. Molly and Joe have wormed their way into my heart and just won't go away. I admit I shed a few tears that the series was ending, and told the authors that they could write 12 books in this series and I would read every single one with absolute fervor.

Heartwood picks up shortly after Mollywood left off. I don't write spoiler reviews, but what I can say is that the Joe and Molly we have grown to love in the first two books are back and better (and more in love) than ever. Building a life together. Getting ready for their happily ever after. But there is a shadow looming, and it could destroy that fairy tale ending.

As with the other two books, the pov goes back and forth between Molly and Joe, and again, just like the rest of the series, it works beautifully. It's seamless and it makes the story so much better when we know what both characters are thinking and feeling. Michelle and Les write so well together, the writing is beautiful and they gave us such amazing characters, the supporting cast of this book is phenomenal and I love them all almost as much as I love Molly and Joe.

From swoonful romance to heartstopping action, this book has a little bit of everything for everyone. Loved it.

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### **Linda Cotter says**

Just when you think it can't get better, Les and Michelle blow it OUT OF THE PARK!!! Following Molly and Joe through their final chapter is uplifting, beautiful and also sad. I will miss them, but what a way to go out! The beauty, the anguish, the twists and turns - I can't stop gushing about this book. If you haven't grabbed any of the books, you need them all now! Highly recommend this book to anyone and everyone!

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## **Izabelle says**

Five stars. FIVE stars. I know I've mentioned the typos and whatnot in my review for the previous book but this was SO GOOD, I just didn't give a hoot, to be honest.

I have quickly fallen for both of these characters and saw their growth, their evolution into better, from broken to healed. God, how much I love Joe and in this part... \*sigh\* Ovaries went ka-boom, really. I mean, really.

It was a perfect blend of funny and darn-there-goes-my-manicure. If you've read the previous books, you know what happens, and what's bound to happen in this. Up to a point. 'Cause what went down... I was NOT expecting that. But once again, Mr. and Mrs. Pace did it well, because I could feel everything these characters were feeling. I mean I got all teary-eyed at certain parts, and swooned over Joe. Yes, I love him. He's become a fave new BBF. Can you seriously blame me? I also have a major girl-crush on Molly. She's awesome.

I didn't read this in one sitting or even two. Why? It was good-bye and I hate good-byes. I suck at them. And after you fall in love with a book, a series, with countless characters, it's like telling your best friend good-bye.

Joe, I'll always love you. You and that sexy scar of yours.

Molly, you rock. Hats off to you, milady!

Along with READ THESE BOOKS, I'll also leave you with a tiny Joe-wisdom.

"We'd been through our separate hells and our reward was each other. We'd paid our dues. Now it was time to celebrate."

\*sniff sniff\* I'll miss them.

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## **Twin Sisters Rockin' Book Reviews says**

Overall Rating: 4.5 Rockin' ★★★★★?

This is the perfect conclusion to the Carved Heats series by authors L. C. Pace III and Michelle Pace. In Heartwood our two main characters from the first two books in this series, Molly and Joe are finally finding their happily ever after. If you loved getting to know Molly and Joe in Good Wood and Mollywood, you will not want to miss this finale.

The twins are safe and healthy, the wedding is in its final stages of planning and life is looking really good for Molly and Joe. What is that old saying about too good to be true...or waiting for the other shoe to drop? Of course like all couples they do have their ups and downs, but the love and commitment is strong and steady. So what if they are both exhausted with caring for the twins or not having alone time for each other they still have each other, the twins and their families.

With the wedding date fast approaching, Molly wants everything to be perfect. She is working so hard at

making everything perfect that she is at a breaking point. The food trucks are doing well without her, yet Molly feels a yearning for something else. While at the back of her mind Molly cannot help but think that something is about to happen and it doesn't feel like a good something. Joe can see that Molly is struggling to keep her head above water with all of the self-induced worries. He has a few ideas of how he can get her mind off of all the pressures she is feeling but the only problem is getting Molly to let go and enjoy them with him!

Hero: 4.5 stars

Heroine: Molly Elizabeth Hildebrandt 4.5 stars

Plot: Joseph Samuel Jensen 4.5 stars

Steam Level: 4.5 stars

Cliffhanger: No

Would I recommend this book: Yes! This book has it all, true love, hot sex, drama and mystery, what's not to love? It also includes a lot of twists and unexpected kinks that will knock you off the anticipated path on the way to Molly and Joe's HEA.

Would I recommend this author: Yes! This dynamic duo does not disappoint once again with their amazing tale and well developed characters. Expect the unexpected with this incredible pair of writers. I cannot wait to see where they will take their creative storytelling to next!

HeartwoodL.G. Pace III Michelle Pace

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### **Laura says**

Ya ever find that series that just gets better as it goes along? Well, the Carved Hearts series is just that. Mollywood (book 2) was my favorite. Then came along Heartwood. I just can't. The ups, the downs, the unexpected twists, the relationships between the characters, the parts that make you laugh out loud...ALL of this is what makes me love this series. I can't recommend this to enough people. Go out and grab all 3 books. NOW

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### **Kelly Corrigan says**

This is the third book in the Carved Hearts series. You need to read Good Wood and Mollywood first, and I really hope you do. You won't be disappointed.

Heartwood starts off right after Mollywood ends. Molly and Joe are the parents of twins and planning their wedding. Of course, a wedding would not be complete without a bachelorette party and all of the shenanigans that go along with that, as well as the surprise, and unwelcome, appearance of people from the past.

Molly and Joe's wedding is picture perfect and exactly what you would expect from this couple. Of course, I teared up a time or two from the emotion and intensity of their day.

But sadly, evil lurks behind every corner, and when I thought this was going to be just a continuation of their



love story, we were hit with a nail biting suspense thriller.

The usual cast of characters are here, front and center and Molly and Joe would not be who they are without their families and friends there to lend support, humor and unconditional love.

I love the aspect of the books that they are told, alternating chapters, by each person. I love reading the inner thought and seeing their growth. I don't think either one of them would have ever gotten to the place where they are without each other.

As Molly and Joe navigate to their much deserved happily ever after, be thankful that we were offered the chance to be a part of their journey.

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## **Tricia says**

It's so hard to find the words to write this review. Heartwood ended up being my favorite book in the series. It wasn't at all what I was expecting, but that ended up being exactly why I thought it was so great!

After the more subdued, subtle conflict in Mollywood, Heartwood snuck in and hit like a battering ram to the heart. It held you close, whispered sweet nothings in your ear, and just when you felt completely at peace and comfortable in its embrace, it gripped you by the heartstrings and tugged at each once until you didn't think you could bear a second more. And yet you couldn't turn away. I truly mean that. I was up until nearly 4am consuming this story. I had to finish every last word before I could even consider trying to actually get some sleep. Even though I was pretty freaking tired the next day, this story was worth every second of the exhaustion I suffered from it lol.

While I wouldn't say that the Carved Hearts series has ever shied away from telling some of the harsher aspects of life, I was quite surprised at the level that was taken to in this addition. I thought it was a brave, and bold choice by the authors, and I appreciated the story that much more because of this. The direction taken here wasn't what I was expecting, but as it happens, that made everything better. I appreciated the other quieter times more because of it.

As always in this series Heartwood also deals with some of the more baser issues of a couple, and their struggles too. It's so great to see how far both Joe and Molly have come. Their character growth shines through in the way they deal with each other and with life in general, especially when it decides to throw them a curve ball.

I can't praise this book enough, but alas, I do not want to give anything away. I wouldn't dream about ruining this breathtaking journey. So I'll just end by saying Heartwood is a CAN'T MISS conclusion to an INCREDIBLE series. If you haven't had a chance to start this series yet, do yourself a favor and start now! Especially since all the books are out now, and you won't have to wait in agony for the next one to come out, like I did!

\*\*\* A very special thank you to L.G. and Michelle Pace for allowing me to take part in being some of the

first people to read and review this series since the very first book. I fell in love with these characters and it's very bittersweet to say goodbye to them, but I couldn't have dreamed up a better ending for them than the one you guys gave us! Happy release day!

I received this ARC from the authors in exchange for an honest review

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### **Stacey says**

Michelle and Les Pace are certainly a dynamic duo of literary awesome and a force to be reckoned with after this beautiful series conclusion. Heartwood was unexpectedly my favorite book in the series. Good Wood made me fall head over heels for Molly and Joe. Mollywood gave them real world life struggles and relatability. But Heartwood... complete heart racing, can't turn the page to read on fast enough, suspenseful thriller. And a swoontastic romance to boot! I feel like these characters are some of the most well developed that I've read in a long time. And both Molly and Joe were so authentic. I know them. Like, really know them. They are my friends. And I am so sad to see them go.

So, a round of applause for these two extremely talented authors for taking us on this fantastic journey of what a true relationship looks like and an ending that makes you believe in love again.

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