



Blindsided

Shey Stahl

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Landon Slade.

Highest paid quarterback in the NFL.

Demi-god.

Certifiable ladies' man.

It's no secret my ego is boosted. Being light on my feet and good with my hands, I control the plays and my stamina is legendary. And on and off the field, I make the decisions, the rules.

Do I do complicated?

Hell, no.

I take what I want, tackle life my way. But then there's her. My hotter than sin assistant. Art is her weapon, painting secrets knowing the colors will never reveal the truth. Her heart is fire and walls—impenetrable. Mine is rules, strategy and execution. But I have a play-by-play game plan for my life, for her. What could possibly take me out of the game? My brother dying.

Now, I have five complications I'm responsible for. There are no rules about hormonal teenage girls, coaching pee wee football, or braiding hair. Can you intimidate a toddler into potty training or wearing clothes? Who the hell knows?

But what I do know is that sinfully sexy best friend of mine with the razor-sharp wit who won't give us a chance... she has a soft spot for kids. I may have been blindsided, but I refuse to let this bring me to my knees.

Blindsided Details

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Author : Shey Stahl

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From Reader Review Blindsided for online ebook

Pelusa Rivera says

Ok so when I started reading this I was surprised of all the stars it had gotten, I hated Landon, hated his attitude, I found him to be a jerk and again I couldn't understand and still don't when characters claim how much they love someone and yet are sleeping or having relationships with others, but that is one of my pet peeves. I almost stopped reading because I did not like him but thankfully because I had purchased book and because I wondered if other readers had gotten so wrong. As I continued reading Landon got better, and I liked Ember but I adores Cat and the kids, by the end of the story I wanted them to get together the only thing that bugged me at this point was when one of his friends was telling him to find someone else that Ember was just pussy, yeah didn't like it and didn't like that Landon didn't defend her. I hope the brothers get a story.

Andrea says

This book completely took me by surprise! It's been a long time since I've read a sports romance that I've really enjoyed and I must say that I more than enjoyed Blindsided and couldn't put it down until I turned the last page. Landon is sexy, talented and a pretty likable guy but can be self-centered and a bit irresponsible. Ember is unique, artistic and a giver— often at the expense of herself. When Landon is thrust into the role of guardian to his brother's children he is forced to grow as an individual after continual reevaluation of the way he has been living and the relationships he has been dabbling in. Of these relationships, the one he has had with Ember has the greatest impact on his and the kids' life and sees the largest change. As Ember takes on more with Landon and the kids she also loses more of herself while also finding what & who her heart most desires. Both Landon and Ember quickly learn that the most important things in life never come easy and that love grows in the most unexpected times. The characters in this book are excellent and the storyline is engaging—the two together grab your interest from the first page and keep it to the very end. This book was truly a treat to read! I am providing an honest review of an advance reader copy (ARC) of this book generously provided by the author.

Candace Tidwell says

Hmmm. How do I even start this review?

Blindsided is one of a kind. I loved Stahl's writing in this book. It was different and intriguing. The characters are original and witty. Landon is a bit of a cocky bastard and there times you want to slap him but then you get pulled in by how ridiculous he is. Ember is fabulous. Shes a kickass and take names later type of chick and she is a shining star in this book. The two together are a powerhouse. Now there will be times, while reading, that you will have a moment where you are "dope" and the next thing you know your pulling a bart Simpson and slapping your hand up to your forehead. There will also be times where your cheering on Landon because he finally did something right. This book is organized chaos and its fabulous. Buy it and read it you wont regret it.

Anne OK says

I liked the premise -- it had lots of potential to be a gamechanger in the sports-related genre. But I had lots of issues with this one as well. I'm mulling all the pros and cons around in my head -- and heart, too. So much so that I haven't really decided if that star rating will go lower or maybe push forward.

FULL REVIEW TO FOLLOW SOON

Nancy says

Landon Slade the cocky arrogant pro football quarterback's life is drastically altered in the blink of an eye. Ember his bestfriend and assistant who argues with him at every turn (what are best friends for) is by his side to help him out while he stumbles through his families choices. The story and the characters just grab a hold of you and won't let go. Blindsided is filled with amazing people from Landon and Embers friend Cat who I can't explain but totally kills me (everyone need a friend like Cat), to Landon's scary Oma, or his crazy rock star brother Revel who lets face it I can't wait to spend time with. His teammates who support him or test his temper and patience or maybe just drive him crazy. The toothpick runway model ex-girlfriend (yes she was annoying, did you expect anything less?) and last but not least the 5 kids who change Landon and Embers lives for ever. All of whom are beyond entertaining , Nalani the youngest total scene stealer. I laughed, I cried, I yelled, I swooned and yes I googled his awesome car :) #landonisswoonyAF #emberownshim #catkillsme #illbetensoon #5starread

Tahsin says

Another KU winner! NOT!

I just cannot deal with the writing style. I tried, have been trying for a whole day now, to no avail. This is not an academic article I'm reading that every single point has to be justified in great lengths and excruciating detail. Page after page of description/justification with no dialogue. And I'm really not feeling the interactive first person POV either. Or the use of every single stereotype possible. Literally every single stereotype associated with any given issue is present and my head is about to explode with all the underlying but rampant misogyny. I can only take so much before I want to chuck my beloved phone at the nearest wall. No thanks. Skipped the second half and skimmed the end, and I don't feel like I missed anything. Read at your own discretion.

G (heartbooked) says

Blindsided brings you emotions that go far beyond skin-deep quality. It is the touchdown you get from an intercept!!!

People may read and think Landon is an a-hole... cocky football player... a heartless man who is not shaping up right!!! But walk a mile in his shoes then talk. Maybe not even a mile... this is why I love this book. Because his reaction to what's happening is understandable. Everything that oozes out of him in this

situation is real. Ember is just amazing.

This football romance, best friends to lovers gives you so much more than just football and being lovers. The interactions in this book - Landon & children, Ember & children, Landon & Ember (theirs is like scorching hot at times)... Their lives have been altered. The children will have you laugh so much because they have mouths that are virtually attached to Wikipedia.

Shey Stahl did amazing with this book although she said it was the hardest book ever. But I'll say this... 'One-click because its pages speak volume of the real and raw emotions of this situation. Loved the dual POV. And absolutely loved the way this book was written - it's like I'm actually watching the scenes.

This book is filled with witty, dirty, hot, funny, and heart melting scenes. Glad I signed up for an arc... the 5 stars I've given this tells you that I loved this book. This story explores a lot more than just romance. But I won't take away the fact that the romance is HOT!!! Keep at it Shey. Here's to a successful release!!!

heartbooked on instagram xX

Heather andrews says

Landon kind of annoyed me the first couple of chapters, I mean yes his life had been uprooted but damn the man came off as selfish, and sometimes the way he talked to ember kind of agitated me, it was like he had a one track mind but he could be sweet and then that sweetness turned to crap at times, "I'm not trying to buy your happiness. I'm trying to make sure you're safe and keep you close. Keeping you close makes me happy, so you see, I'm really just trying to make myself happy." At a snail's pace I find myself becoming less annoyed with Landon especially s him and the kids get closer, "makeup." He pauses and bats his eyelashes at me. "Haisley made me a pretty girl for a night." Landon is seriously a territorial man, doesn't like thinking others touched what's his, "when did you get a effing c**t ring and who did it?" I enjoyed the plot of this book immensely, and the kids were entertainment all their own. Landon took some time to love and it was a slow process to get there, but I eventually got there.

Sherri Romero says

Just missed the mark

It could have been very good. But a couple of big fails for me.

There was a general overall lack of depth of emotion. Our hero's brother dies, leaves him with all these kids, and there are no real emotions expressed. No grief in his part and very little in the part of the children.

I was distracted by some of the ugliness of some of the minor characters, which contributed very little to the

story

Why did we have all these deaths in the form of parents, siblings? Are we setting up for future books? What was with his brothers?

But the biggest issue for me - the hero's total lack of maturity. He is left with all these kids and his thoughts all day, apparently every day, focused on sex with his assistant.

It was a good premise. The heroine was solid, even the hero's love for the heroine was solid, but just too many misses for my reading enjoyment

Merrie says

BXTCHES Gotta Warn: There really isn't much of a warning with this book. There's no prerequisite for *Blindsided*, it's ready for you to dive right in. Here is what I will say. . . it was very difficult for me to put this book down, which seems to happen every time I open up a Shey Stahl book. So, consider that your warning. . . you will get absolutely no adulting done once you begin to fall in love with Landon and Ember.

Blindsided will be told through the POV's of both Landon and Ember and sticking to the theme of the book, it will be broken down gridiron style. . . four quarters, with a halftime and an overtime thrown in.

If you read the blurb for *Blindsided*, then you know that the story will revolve around Landon (QB for Seattle) and Ember (Landon's personal assistant). You also know that Landon's brother and his brother's wife has just died (well, you might not know that, but that is what has happened), leaving their five kids (Marley, Adler, Haisley, Braylee, and Nalani) ages range from 2-13 in Landon's care. **#handsarefullAF** That tragedy is exactly where this story kicks off, which also coincides with the start of Landon's training camp.

Without giving too much away, Ember came into Landon's life about five years ago, when he met her in a tattoo parlor, she was the one doing the inking, she was also in a relationship (one that I understood as maybe BDSM and maybe not so healthy) with her boss. Forming an instant connection with Landon, she left her boss and tattoo parlor behind, becoming the personal assistant to the NFL's hottest player. Don't get confused, their relationship is definitely one based on friendship, though you quickly learn that both of our leading characters are beginning to feel that this relationship is or at least could be, much more than just friends.

So that's where we're at. *Blindsided* is a love story to its core. One would think that Landon already had a relationship with his nieces and nephew, but he didn't really even know his brother, much less his brother's offspring. So he has to learn not only how to be a father, but how to love the kids the way they deserve and in a way that would make his brother proud. And even though both Landon and Ember are beyond the **#friendzone** where their relationship is concerned, they see their relationship through two different sets of lenses. Ember is afraid of ruining what they currently have. . . **#bestfriendsforever** and Landon knows that Ember could be his HEA. Now they need to start reading from the same book and Landon does have the pesky problem of an on again, off again girlfriend, but that just spices up the story a bit.

While *Blindsided* is a Landon + Ember = forever type of story, it would not be the book it is if it weren't for

the kiddos. I believe that I mentioned this in my review of *Untamed*, but Shey Stahl has an ability to write children better than almost anyone I have read. She gives them an adult quality while keeping everything you love about kids in place. And what was so superb in *Blindsided* was how the relationships developed between Landon and the kids as well as Ember and the kids and also Cat and the kids. . .the kids may just be the common denominator in all of this. . .and you'll understand once you meet them. Now, I know I haven't mentioned Cat, but she is Ember's lifelong BFF who was in an accident, one that caused a traumatic brain injury and affected her short term memory. And speaking of Cat, what I loved about that particular character is how well integrated she was with not just Ember, but Landon and then eventually the kiddos. She wasn't written as someone with a handicap, but as someone who happens to forget things from time to time. We do get to meet some of Landon's teammates, and while they may not play as big of a role as some, they do add another layer to Landon and it gives the reader a chance to experience Landon's professional QB side.

If you're expecting the sex in *Blindsided* to hawt, hot. . .then you would be right. I'm sure not all NFL players bring their A game into the bedroom, but in our fantasy they certainly do and Landon has a couple different versions of his A game and they are all sweat inducing. But it's not just the actual sex, it's the tension that has been building over a five year friendship, it's the dirty whispers and dirty promises that are made in Ember's ear, let's just say that you BXTCHES will not be disappointed.

I don't think Shey could've given us much more with *Blindsided*, though I do wish we could've gotten more of a glimpse into Landon's family. I feel that we were almost on the cusp of something really great or juicy or maybe a little of both, but were kind of left hanging. Now it could be the introduction was brief because there will be more to come, which I'm good with, I just want more with Cat first. . .please and thank you. The only other storyline I wanted addressed a bit more was Ember's past relationship with her boss. There was closure, but the nosy BXTCH in me wanted to know a smidge more.

I have several boxes I need checked when I crack open a book and *Blindsided* checked them all. I love a hiccup in the middle of a love story and though this hiccup didn't come deep from the gut, it was enough to add the angst that has me eagerly turning a page. I also need humor, which was not only provided in spades, but was clever from every angle. And while we all know we're probably gonna swoon over the male lead, I need a female lead to swoon over as well. I need her to be fiercely independent while having some vulnerability. I need her to be sharp and witty. I need her to be able to go toe to toe with her male counterpart, unapologetically. . .Ember encompassed it all and then some.

Shade was my introduction to Shey Stahl and I was hooked from jump street. I'm not even sure how I came across that book, but I'm thankful nonetheless. I also think I have mentioned this before, so I apologize for my redundancy. I believe I have read about six of her books and one of the qualities that keeps me captivated is how conversational her imagination is. I love how the reader isn't just an observer of a story, but you feel included. She welcomes the you into whatever world she has created and invites you to sit back, have a drink, and fall in love. . .#overandoveragain

For more BXTCH'n reviews, visit: www.bxtchesbeblogging.com

Thuy Taylor says

So, I finished *Blindsided* this morning, and I absolutely loved it. It was funny, heartbreakin, HOT, made me

giddy, I couldn't put it down! Shey's writing made me feel like I was watching this whole ordeal play out right in front of me. Landon and Ember's POVs made me crack up...

Landon is a famous NFL player, who's life is in for a HUGE MAJOR change. He is now responsible for his 4 nieces and 1 nephew. While I was reading his thoughts, his very very reluctance to the kids, it made him feel real. He didn't have a relationship with the kiddos and did not know them, so being single one day to being the sole caretaker to 5, is a huge ordeal. I know while reading it, I knew that Landon would come off as cocky, as an A**hole about the kids, but this guy was so imperfect, it made me want him to succeed so badly. So, while he takes on this role, his best friend/assistant Ember helps him along the way. I loved their relationship, their banter, his need for her, his want for her. Everything for her. The chemistry is off the charts.

While he is trying to figure out daddying, he's also figuring and realizing he needed these kids in his life. While there were really cringing Landon please, shut your mouth moments, I think it made it feel more real and how these things can happen in real life. The sweet moments with the kids, (OVARY EXPLOSIONS), gahhh, Nalani and Landon moments (MAJOR HEART EYES).....so freaking adorable.

I really recommend this book. What a breath of fresh air. Kids are not easy, and this book contained the good, the bad, the oops, the sweets, all of it. The love Landon and Ember had for each other and them finally going for it....I have a major crush on Landon Slade.

Karen says

I see I have four "to read" books on this author's GoodReads list and after this book I mean to get after them!!

I wasn't a great fond of the "in your face" writing style nor all the f swearing around kids. It was a really tough book as the main characters had suffered much loss in their lives (a bit OTT) and yet, I loved the plot of a guy with the world going for him with some major issues coming down on him. As we figure out he's gotten to where he is with certain skill set and perservance. The romance was a bit prickly on Ember's behalf but she's had to work for Landon when he's had a model girlfriend who wasn't nice but thin and beautiful. Ember has had a hard life so she protects her heart by being a best friend and great life assistant to Landon. He inherits his brother's five children and it's a very funny book once Landon brings them to his one bedroom penthouse...(1 bedroom?). Still those kids were many handfuls!!

Fun read.

Lydia says

I was not feeling this book. I did not like Landon and his feelings for Ember were a tad confusing. He says he wants a physical relationship with her, but then turns around and says something about marriage. He was pushy in an annoying way. The way he broke up with his ex-girlfriend was just weird. He was high of prescription drugs and he did it with Ember in the car. Was that supposed to be romantic??

I did not find any humor in the book at all and I think the author was trying to be funny. Their feelings for

each other did not feel real to me. Landon has wanted to have sex with Ember for years, but she has turned him down. He has been with other people, but still continues to push their relationship to a sexual one. Of course Ember is in love with him and has to see him with other women and even lets them down easy after Landon has sex with them.

Rolls Eyes

Ember was a confusing character as well; you expect her to be tough, but she is a weak heroine. She is not confident in herself. She gives in to Landon's demands all the time...have some self-respect.

I did not like the writing style at all. The author was trying too hard to be funny and the whole book just fell flat.

Megan says

Blindsided was the perfect blend of sassy, hilarious & sweet with a dash of pull on your heartstrings while kicking a field goal (see what I did there ?) right in all your feels. Landon's life changes in the blink of an eye; but the one person he knows he can count on is Ember his best friend/assistant/his everything if only she'd remove him from the "friend zone" & let down her walls. Ember would do anything for Landon; but is she ready to admit her true feelings?....Well I'm certainly not going to tell you... you'll have to read Blindsided and find out ?

I will however tell you that there were so many reasons that I fell in love with this book....The chemistry between these two..the slow burn...just wowza ?? The absolutely hilarious inner dialogue had me literally laughing out loud, the hashtags & all the family moments this book simply had it all. Do yourself a favor and read Blindsided #itsworthit #whyareyoustillreadingthis #gooneclickthisbook ??

LS Kralicek says

Truly Blindsided

Blindsided is true to the title from the first page to the last the reader is Blindsided. Landon truly keeps the reader in suspense and wanting to keep reading. Landon and Ember definitely are best friends who are blindsided in multiple ways throughout this book.

I loved this book and have read all of Stahl's books. Shey Stahl has outdone herself with this amazing book! It is truly written differently from narrator point of view and it is amazing! Could not put it down.
