



Skin Deep

Kimberly Kincaid

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Where there's smoke...

For firefighter Kellan Walker, checking his emotions at the door doesn't just keep him on the level. It keeps him alive. A gut-wrenching find at the scene of a blaze threatens to blow his ironclad composure, but when the detective assigned to the case is the same woman who put his sister's life at risk three months ago, all bets for Kellan being calm, cool, or collected are definitely off.

There's bound to be fire...

Keeping people safe is Isabella Moreno's number one priority, no matter how tough the case. Working without solid leads and with the gorgeous, broody firefighter who believes she's responsible for endangering his sister on a previous case isn't ideal. But someone is hurting women in the here-and-now. Isabella will do whatever it takes to find justice.

As Kellan and Isabella reluctantly team up to catch a criminal, they realize they have more in common than they'd ever imagined. With every move, the stakes grow higher and the passion sizzles hotter, but can they race against the clock and the odds to catch a killer? Or will they lose their hearts—and their lives?

Skin Deep Details

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Author : Kimberly Kincaid

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From Reader Review Skin Deep for online ebook

Sheryl says

WOW... I honestly wasn't expecting this at all!!! Seriously SMOKIN' HOT and lots of ACTION!!! I absolutely LOVED Kellan (*always love me some dirty-talking ALPHA*) and I have to say that while Isabella came off as very balls-to-the-wall at the start, I adored her in the end!!!

Can't wait to read the next book in this series!!!

ARC courtesy of Netgally and Kimberly Kincaid

Bette Hansen says

After I finally started this one, because hey I had to stare at that gorgeous cover for a while, I absolutely could not put it down. Ms. Kincaid has decided to dip her toe in the romantic suspense genre pool and she does it in spectacular fashion! The writing is great, the twists and turns in the story hooked me right away, and the romance that develops between the incredibly yummy firefighter Kellan Walker and Police detective Isabella Moreno is perfection. These two had a not so great history when Kellan's sister was in trouble but they get past that when they begin working a case together after some horrifying pictures are discovered at a house fire Kellan worked.

Put this at the top of the must read list! I highly recommend it.

Coco.V says

?FREE on iBooks today (6/21/2018)!?

Blurb:

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they'd ever imagined. With every move, the stakes grow higher and the passion sizzles hotter, but can they race against the clock and the odds to catch a killer? Or will they lose their hearts—and their lives?

Monique V says

4.5 stars! That was so good. Even though the suspense parts were very predictable, they were very interesting. The case they were investigating was very cool to read about. But I think that the romance was the best part. it developed nicely and it was so very HOT. THIS IS ONE OF THE HOTTEST BOOKS I HAVE READ. The sex was very well written so I very much appreciated that!

I cannot wait to read more!

A Klue says

Kellan Walker, the hero, is a smoking hot handsome firefighter/former Army sniper who is walking around neck deep in animosity towards Isabella Moreno, the detective he blames for a police protective custody gone wrong shoot-out that put his sister in harm's way three months ago.

Beautiful, lives for the job, sassy Isabella is still beating herself up over the rogue, on the take from the bad guys cop she mistakenly vouched for while working Kellan's sister's case. Honestly though, how was she to know? The woman does not own a crystal ball, people. That turncoat cop fooled everyone. Her self-imposed guilt over that and the unsolved, violent death of her beloved cousin has only made her more determined than ever to work twice as hard to be a figurative caped crusader for protecting women/fighting for justice for all.

When Kellan accidentally stumbles across some evidence suggesting women are being abused/held against their will while putting out a fire in an abandoned building, he finds himself face to face with the one woman he still holds a grudge against. Fortunately, it doesn't take him long to finally let the truth sink in and see Isabella for who she really is, one extremely dedicated police officer.

Against Isabella's wishes, Kellan ultimately becomes her back up while they try to secure concrete evidence so the FBI will officially investigate the human trafficking case. This part I sort of had a problem with. It just didn't make sense she wasn't working on the low down with some of her police compadre pals.

Julian, the bad guy behind the women being abused, was very sick and twisted, my fellow romance book-loving friends. So much so it is very disturbing, along with his wealthy only, anything goes illegal drug/sex club like party the main couple had to covertly infiltrate in order to try to solve the case. Unfortunately, things unravel with deadly consequences, and for quite awhile it seems Julian keeps getting the upper hand. But the words "give up" is not in Isabella's vocabulary, folks. She'll risk life and limb to free these women and stop Julian, no matter what it takes. Yeah, that's where she gets in over her head. Rules are meant for a reason, and it isn't until she has the sense to follow them her team successfully accomplishes their mission, with Kellan unfortunately caught in the crosshairs.

The writing did flow and was engaging. However, the content/very idea of what these abused women were going through was very disturbing. Some of these girls were likely underage, as well. I'm just not a fan of incorporating that type of content into my romantic reads. I did really like the strong, confident heroine's character, even though she acted rather rash at times and didn't always make the right decisions. The hero

was pretty dang swoon worthy/incredible, except for taking him so long to admit he was more than just “in like” with Isabella. The smexy scenes were “extremely” steamy with lusty language, folks. So brace yourself for that, as well.

Here’s to hoping my review has been helpful in some way so you can determine if this book will get under your skin in a good or bad way.

Romance Safety Gang: No cheating, no OM/OW drama, no love triangle, but has the stereotypical “I’m just in like/lust with her” until about 80%, despite their numerous, very smexy times together. However, at least he seems to really respect her. Isabella is inflicted with an “afraid to love because once someone trusts me I let them down” repeating mantra. The likely only objectionable moment is near the beginning, while on their way to speak to an informant, Isabella mentally admits she is attracted to Kellan, but thinks he still hates her. She briefly wonders if she should seek out a lusty one night stand to get over it. Yeah, that’ll do it (huge eye-roll).

Title: Skin Deep, Series: Station Seventeen (Book 1), Author: Kimberly Kincaid, Pages: 357, HEA, stand-alone, disturbing scenario involving women being abused and held against their will/forced into prostitution, VERY steamy scenes with lusty language, a big part of it is a cop drama, strong/sassy/doesn’t back down heroine, alpha good guy hero, no cheating, no OW/OM drama, no love triangle.

(This review is based on ARC generously provided via NetGalley in exchange for an honest, unbiased opinion. No monetary compensation was paid to the reviewer, nor is there any affiliation between the reviewer and author/publisher.)

Dísir says

Kimberly Kincaid surprised me with this one. I’ve come to expect many firefighting books to be about arson-related cases or about bush-firefighting, but ‘Skin Deep’ deals more about sex-trafficking crimes and sexual slavery than it is about firefighting itself. It works very well as a standalone, even if it’s a full-fledged continuation of Liliana Hart’s Kindle Worlds Mackenzie series, which Kincaid was a part of.

‘Skin Deep’ is quite a ride from start to end, with a deliciously filthy villain (channelling all sorts of odd shades of serial killers, Lady Macbeth and the local mafia) and characters who could well be plucked out from primetime TV. The criminal case that emerges is engrossing enough and I found myself liking the pacing as well as the solid cast of characters that come and go from the story.

The leads were credible, even if I did find myself gravitating towards Kellan Walker more than I did Isabella Moreno. Closed-off and distant, Isabella assumes the role of most male protagonists in the romance genre, staying off commitment and relationships because they tend to hurt more if they care - along with the rather stupid belief that forming close relationships would somehow lead the other person to die. Despite this clichéd behaviour trait, she did seem competent initially, if reckless and foolish for launching a private investigation without telling everyone else about the danger she’d placed herself in. I liked how she was called out for her lonewolf, untrusting behaviour early though, first by her colleague and then by Kellan, who muscled his way into Isabella’s private investigations and past her defences. Kellan on the other hand, seemed like a godsend: loyal, discerning, not afraid to show her as much tough love as her colleagues do, then led by example by putting his faith in her so she could do the same for others.

Even if I'm not entirely convinced by the rightness of this pairing (after all, sex did seem be a way to skip the serious talking business too much here), the slight twist at the end upped my enjoyment of the book, leaving me only hanging a little by the abrupt ending and a very battered HEA.

*ARC by netgalley
(always grateful, mind)

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Kitty's review posted at Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

4.5 stars

A Romantic Suspense ... not exactly what I thought this was going to be. But, once everything started coming together, as I got to know the characters and understand the storyline, I was thrilled that I took the time and read this story. Kimberly Kincaid did a fantastic job of keeping me totally engaged and interested in where the story was going. She surprised me with a few twists and turns and delighted me with Kellen and Isabella.

Skin Deep was a complicated story with just as complicated characters. Both Kellan and Isabella had pasts that haunt them. A senseless murder and several deployments. Both of them have their own ways of dealing with what has happened in their lives. Isabella refuses to let anyone get close to her. Kellan compartmentalizes everything. They had a rough beginning but neither one of them can deny the sizzle when they are together. As they work together, pull this case together, they can't but fall into each other's arms and bed.

Kellan opens up and slowly gets Isabella to let him in, to make her see that he's more than just a firefighter but a man who's ready to care, to love and to depend on. It takes a lot for Isabella to truly see the man that he is and to accept him and her team in the police department. In the end, when it's her life or his, she picks his ... opens her eyes, makes the right call and brings an end to what could have been the end of both of their lives.

As I said, I wasn't really expecting a story as intense as Skin Deep was. When she brought us to a fire, she was spot on with how everything would go down. When she brought us to the undercover meets, she was spot on with how everything would go down. Now, would a firefighter and a detective work a case together? No. But, it did make things interesting! I was really impressed with how the story flowed, how the police investigation did intertwine with the fire scenes; with how Ms. Kincaid brought Kellan and Isabella through their pasts and had them looking forward to the future. The supporting characters were just that ... supporting ... and he did a wonderful job integrating them into the story and making them a true part of it. Skin Deep had a wonderful storyline, interesting characters and kept me on the edge of my seat waiting to see how, exactly this would end.

Review copy provided for an honest review.

Kaylee Nizza says

Loved IT!!!!!! Just WOW!!! Kimberly Kincaid has done it yet again. An absolutely fantastic new series. Kellen and Isabella are on the hunt for answers for a crime that needs solved quickly before more die. The chemistry between them is smokin hot. This book had action in it but I felt like it needed more. Kellen and Isabella both come to a truce you can say. I highly recommend reading this book. I look to read the next book in this new series.

Kate's Corner says

This is first book in the series by Ms. Kincaid and it starts with a bang. It's been a long time since I read a book with a fire fighter and it was about time that I got round to reading one again. It's just I'm picky.

Kellan Walker a firefighter in Remington with Station Seventeen with the RFD. A former army ranger more specifically a sniper He's been compartmentalizing things since his tours overseas. His emotions start to go a haywire when a certain RPD cop is around. Kellan can hold a mean grudge against said cop.

Isabella Moreno is a tough as nails cop. She is totally bad arse and a strong female MC. For months Isabella has had to put up with Kellan's grudge which isn't justifiable. What happened to Kylie Kellan's sister isn't her fault. For the last couple of months they have managed to avoid one another until a disturbing case brings them together.

After putting a fire out, Kellan stumbles across some photos that point to a prostitution ring and they handed over to the thirty third precinct where Moreno works. Their first meeting is chilly, very chilly that is until Moreno comes around and asks for another walk through, through the burnt down house.

Kellan doesn't want to help her at first but then caves.

Although they have a rocky start that doesn't dampen the chemistry that they have together and what I love is that they didn't act on it straight away. After the elephant in the room that was between them was taken care of did they start a relationship. A physical one to begin with but emotions soon got involved. I love them together they have some similarities between them but also enough differences to make what they have. The sex was sizzling, strong attraction and well I want myself a firefighter.

The story plot progresses naturally and all the loose ends are tied up. Although overall fast paced it did drag in some places that is why I could only give it 4 stars.

But there is also superb character development. Isabella goes from being closed off to trusting specific people in her life. After she lost her cousin to a tragic event she has been living on the outskirts so that no one can get close to her.

Kellan has to deal with the emotions he isn't sticking to anymore and well we see how he has a tough time but he openly accepts his feelings for Isabella.

I loved the gender reversal where Isabella saves the day.

The writing style is completely different to the book I read before that the transition was pretty easy though. Engaging, captivating and worth a read.

We all have auto buy authors. Over the last year or so, two of my auto buys have been dropped due to cookie cutter romances and well repetitive stories/plots and characters.

Getting to the actual point here is that Ms. Kincaid seems to suit me for an auto buy. I will most certainly be checking out her other books in the future. Just still have a lot of books to read beforehand.

Review can be found @ <http://jerisbookattic-reviewblog.blog...>

Book received by Season Publishing via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Claire Robinson says

4 - "I'm going to take my time with you..." Stars!

Kimberley Kincaid starts off her new *Station Seventeen* series with a really enjoyable romance between two battered souls, with a hefty dose of romantic suspense on the side to keep you on your toes.

It took me a little while to get into *Skin Deep*, not because the writing and story-line weren't appealing but more of the fact that the opening chapters felt very similar to the last book I read by the author, also funny enough set around a Fire House, also about one of the crew members with a few personal demons, as well as having a large dose of romantic suspense delivered through the plot.

"Being a cop isn't just about you. It's about solving cases as part of a team."

But once Isabella and Kellan started to get to know each other and the story progresses, although there were still a large number of glaring similarities, the story itself was just different enough to keep me from feeling that I was reading exactly the same book again.

"You're working without backup, and sooner or later, no matter how brave you are, that's going to blow up in your face if you don't let someone help you."

After putting out a fire at a derelict house, Kellan comes across a lock box full of photographs, pictures that indicate the house may not have been as disused as initially thought, and that the activities taking place there were probably not on the right side of legal. Calling in the RPD, Kellan and Isabella are forced to work together again, not something either of them are particularly happy about after the last time, which resulted in Kellan nearly losing someone close to him, due to a dodgy cop.

It goes one step further when the local FBI rule that the pictures do not warrant enough evidence to open a case, which pushes Isabella to take matters into her own hands. It doesn't take Kellan long to work out what

she is doing, and he unwittingly becomes her unofficial partner in the out-of-hours investigation she starts conducting. Her motivations stem from personal incidents in her past, something Kellan doesn't know about at the start, but Isabella is taking this potential crime a whole lot personally, which if not careful could lead her down the pathway marked 'trouble'.

There is a lot going on in this book, the set-up of the Remington FD characters as well as the RPD team that Isabella is a part of. Both of them have heart-breaking pasts, and both of them struggle on a daily basis to live with this. Kellan mentally boxes everything up to the nth degree, while Isabella just blocks out the things she doesn't want to think about, but as things progress with the (non)case, they both see something in the other that allows those personal demons to fade into the background while they are together, the sexy-times are hot between them and nicely diverse, and Isabella is a woman who is not afraid to take her own pleasure in the bedroom.

"I've spent the last ten years compartmentalizing every emotion I have, because if I don't, I can't act. So instead I keep everything packed away. But I'm really just going through the motions. I can't let go and really *feel* something with all I've got, even if that thing is good, because I don't know how to do that without breaking..."

Everything moved along at a fast clip with *Skin Deep* so much so that I thought it was going to end on a cliffy when at 94% the villain still hadn't been captured, and then BAM, job done and they all drove off together into the sunset the sirens blaring and lights-a-flashing. I'm interested to see where the author takes this series, as there was no real clear indication as to who would get a story next, and as everything was resolved to neatly in this one, it doesn't look like there will be a bigger story playing out through the progression of the series.

ARC generously provided via Netgalley, and it was a pleasure to provide the above honest review.

Rachel says

Kimberly Kincaid not only kicks off a new series with *Skin Deep* she also jumps into a new genre with it and does so with a bang. I'm a sucker for her books, I make no apologies for it. But what she has delivered with *Skin Deep* blew me away. To say I loved this book is a huge understatement. It's flipping awesome.

This book was so much more than I expected. I knew going in that I would love it and that at some point I would want to pack my bags and move there. But what I didn't expect was for KK to step up the steam and heat and to give me a book that left chills racing down my spine more than once.

I'm going to keep this short-ish so I can remain spoiler free, because believe me, you need to not see the twists and turns coming.

The author does an amazing job of blending romance, heat, snark, hot saucy sex, past and present day horrors, comradery and so much more into a book that will have you glued to the pages as you get acquainted with the guys and girls of Station Seventeen and Remington Police Department. All the while falling for Kellan and Isabella, the hero and heroine (oh so perfect description for them) of this book.

I've already told the author I don't know who I loved more in this story. Kellan or Isabella. They are both such strong characters that it's hard to choose. I fell for both. I loved that they both have a reason to push

them to do what they do and they make no excuses for it. It's just part of the DNA. But put them together and watch the fireworks start to flare and consume them. It was a delight watching them fall hard and fall fast.

This may be the first in a series but it doesn't really feel like it. You get to know and love the secondary characters as the story unfolds and you never feel rushed or like you've missed something. I call that damn fine story telling. It almost feels like you've known all these characters forever. I love when that happens.

Well so much for keeping this short huh? I will say this before I go, if you already know this authors writing, you will love this just as much as any of her other books. If you are new, then you have no doubt found a new series to love. Kimberly Kincaid has managed to jump feet first into a new series and genre and done so with ease and with a 5 star must read book. Bring on the next one, I need it ASAP.

Kimberly Kincaid says

Reader friends! I am thrilled to bring you the first sizzling hot book in the Station Seventeen series! Grab a cold drink and get ready...it's about to get hot in here :)

« Court (Take the Read) » says

Overall, this was more suspense than romance in my opinion. Very accurate, I'm assuming, in terms of police and firefighter procedures. I couldn't, unfortunately, connect with Isabella. She was pretty cold emotionally and held most everyone at arm's length. Kellan was a likable character - I'm all for ex-military, sexy firemen. And despite his personal trauma, he had her back. A lot of the book focuses on the chase after a sadistic maniac, and that was interesting, but I still found it easy to be distracted by other things and come back to the book. It almost never takes me 3 days to finish a story, but I had no pulling drive to pick it up at every opportunity. I may give the others in the series a shot because the writing itself was good, but I need to connect with characters to enjoy a story. Hoping that happens next time.

Carolyn says

SKIN DEEP by Kimberly Kincaid, is the first book in a new Station Seventeen Romance/ suspense series. Loved it! It is a romance with lots of suspense that will keep you trying to read each page faster so you can find everything out! Kellan Walker, ex-military sniper for the rangers and a two year veteran firefighter for the Remington Fire Department at Station Seventeen, is who we meet first. Hot guy. Nice Hot guy. Add a fire at an abandoned house that yields a suspicious find that could lead to a crime. Now meet Detective Isabella Moreno, from the Remington Police Department, who was assigned to investigate this mystery at the same fire where Kellan Walker is on duty. Isabella is one tough detective and also one sexy woman who wants to do things her way and in doing so, has to learn to trust others, including Kellan. Sparks really fly now! Detective Isabella Moreno and Kellan Walker have a personal history together, and both are still very much aware...and wary... of one another. Following how they work together to solve this mystery they found at the fire, saving one another and working through their not so subtle attraction to one another, and falling in love is a joy to read. I want what they both have with one another. You will too! I just didn't want the book to end!

Dali says

#99cents #Sale <http://amzn.to/2g9EQ4L>

A thrilling and smoking hot story about an ex-Ranger turned fireman and a passionate police investigator.

“Everything. You feel like everything,” he whispered

After two tours as a sniper for the Army Ranger, Kellan Walker knows how to manage not only his adrenaline but also how to keep a tight lock on his emotions, two things that have come in handy as a firefighter. But when he finds evidence of a possible crime after putting out a fire the detective who he barely tolerates and strangely also finds incredible attractive shows up, her mere presence threatens to unravel him completely. Especially when she insists on finding the person who she suspects is harming woman all by herself. Can he convince that he'll have her back even when she doesn't want it?

“Don’t look so surprised, Moreno. I’m more than just a pretty face over here. I go all-in at the firehouse just like you do at the Thirty-Third.”

A tragedy in Isabella Moreno’s past prompted her to become a police officer. She’s promised to serve and protect above all else no matter how hard a case might get or how many dead ends she might run into. That includes having to deal with the sexy fireman who hates her because he thinks she put his sister in danger a few months prior. As they join forces, not only does their attraction turn from smoldering to burning hot, their walls start to crumble around each other, but will they realize they’re perfect for one another before their time runs out?

Kimberly Kincaid knows how to write blazing stories with appealing characters and spine-tingling plots so well researched and described it felt as is a movie reel was playing before my eyes.

“Fall out immediately...”Kellan’s rib cage threatened to constrict, but shit, he had no time for body betrayal. He needed to finish clearing this room.

Isabella is not only beautiful, she’s smart, determined and capable. She’s head strong and completely dedicated to her job to the point where she’ll gladly spend her vacation time volunteering to catch bad guys. I could only admire her for that. She’s also closed off because she’s afraid of letting anyone emotionally in and then having to worry about losing them, which made hurt for and with her.

“I don’t think you trying to help those girls is stupid, Isabella. In fact, I think it’s really fucking brave. But you’re working without backup, and sooner or later, no matter how brave you are, that’s going to blow up in your face if you don’t let someone help you.”

Kellan is not just a gorgeous, brave and dedicated firefighter, he’s a caring and protective brother and loyal friend. He was a good man who had seen and lived too many things and was unable to let himself feel for

fear that his emotions would rule him. Getting to know Isabella allows him to not only change his mind about his initial assessment of her, but also share their passion for the job and their tortured pasts. I just loved how much he looked out for her and let's not get into their witty back and forth and fiery sexy times!

“I like my pizza cold.”

“You’re serious. We’re giving up personal information, and that’s what you’re going to lead with?”

“You didn’t really think I was going to give you something juicy on the first go, did you?”

The plot flows moves easily from burning houses to crime investigations, from them barely being on speaking terms to flirting and teaming up to them finding a strong and trusting connection. I will confess there were times where I wanted to story to go faster because I really wanted the sociopath they were after to go down and for them to realize they were good for one another, but I also realize that the provided detail made the story richer.

Sin Deep is book #1 and a wonderful start in the Station Seventeen series by Kimberly Kincaid. This is a steamy and exciting standalone book with a gripping firefighting/police investigation background. I can't wait to read more about the supporting characters. This story is told from several points of view with a happy ending.

* I was given an ARC of this book courtesy of the author via NetGalley. The excerpts are from that copy. *

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