



Feel the Heat

Kate Meader

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IF YOU CAN'T STAND THE HEAT . . .

Photographer Lili DeLuca spends all her time working at her family's Italian restaurant, instead of following her dream of getting an MFA. When famous British chef Jack Kilroy unexpectedly challenges her father to a cook-off, Lili decides she's tired of playing it safe and vows to seduce the tempting Brit. But once a video of her and Jack kissing goes viral and her luscious (if voluptuous) butt starts trending on Twitter, Lili fears she's cooked up a recipe for disaster . . .

Jack Kilroy's celebrity has left him feeling used and used up. While Lili's oh-so-sexy moans when she tastes his delicious creations turn him on, he's even more aroused by how this beautiful, funny woman is unimpressed by his fame. He knows they could be amazing together, if she could only see past his rabid, bitch-fork-wielding fan base. Now as he's about to start a new prime time TV cooking show, can Jack convince Lili to realize her own ambitions-and turn up the heat in his kitchen?

Feel the Heat Details

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From Reader Review Feel the Heat for online ebook

Aly says

Coming back from a costume party, Lili catch a stranger in the family restaurant in the middle of the night. What is the trespasser doing in the kitchen signing so badly ? But wait a minute... Is that Jack Kilroy, sexy Brit and star of a cooking show ?

Attacked with a pan by a woman dressed as a superhero was certainly not how Jack envisioned his evening. It's all his producer's fault, who forgot to tell her sister about the concept of the new show (a cooking contest between Jack and an other chef, so it means Lili's father in that case) and about his presence.

Lili is not impress by Jack, nor by his fame. The man is too cocky for her taste but she have no trouble retorting back. After years of being bullied about her weight, Lili learned to finally accept and love her curves. But she still lack some sort of confidence when it comes to dealing with her family and she doesn't want to take risks. Jack will change that for her. Making her realize what she's missing and taking her defence against some people, like her disapproving father. Lili will also learn that what you see and hear on TV is not always the truth.

I'm a fan of Kate Meader. I think her writing style is absolutely amazing ! But I have a confession to make : Feel The Heat was the first book I read from her and at the times, it didn't made me a fan. In fact, I only read the following books three years later, after devouring her Hot In Chicago series. I wanted to reread this one to understand why I didn't enjoy it more. Now I remember. I probably thought there was too much bickering between Lili and Jack and the reason I didn't want to read the next book have surely to do with the fact that Lili's sister appeared like a bitch and she was the heroine in the second novel. I still think it could have less quarrel, and I think the idea with the TV world and the contest could have been more substantive but I'm surprised by how touching I found the hero. I felt for him when we realize that being famous is not so fun for him anymore and that he wants Lili to see the real him, not Jack Kilroy the star. And I found it annoying that the heroine got angry when Jack was defending her. But like in every Kate Meader's story, this one was full of delicious banters. You can feel the heat indeed :p I'm changing the rating for a 4 instead of the 3 I previously gave.

(Tori-Smexybooks) smexys_sidekick says

Originally posted at <http://smexybooks.com/2014/02/review-...>

Favorite Quote: "Oh, please don't raise your standards for me, Kilroy. Just like I won't be lowering my standards to a fame-hungry megawhore like you."

Lili DeLuca, daughter to a temperamental Italian chef, wants to attend the MFA but her family comes first. When tragedy strikes close to home, Lili finds herself putting her dreams on hold and managing their small restaurant. Lili sees a change to change things when famous celebrity chef Jack Kilroy challenges her father to a televised cook off.

Jack Kilroy has learned the hard way that being a celebrity is nothing but constant headaches. Meeting Lili puts a spring back in his step when he realizes this beautiful woman isn't even remotely impressed with his

fame and fortune. But Lili sees him as the enemy and proving her wrong will be the hardest job Jack has ever undertook.

Making Lili his though proves to be difficult when his rabid fans plaster inaccurate and unflattering pictures and gossip about Lili all over the internet. Can Jack convince Lili to follow her dreams with him by her side? Or will she decide the heat is just too much to handle.

Feel The Heat is the first in Kate Meader's Hot In The Kitchen series. A comedic foodie romance with an enemies to lovers trope that sparks more heat than a flaming flambe in the battle for love. Meader brings the public's love of reality cooking shows to print with a hero when the personality of Gordon Ramsay matches wits with a heroine whose full body figure and love of food appeals to the temperamental celebrity. Multiple storylines are defined by humorous content, witty repartee, and naughty hijinks.

"I can't believe I'm finally getting to touch it," she whispered in mock awe. "Jack Kilroy's illustrious member."

"My what?"

"It's just that you've been so stingy. Not letting me play with it, telling me I had to wait. I assumed it must be gold-plated or bejeweled-"

Lili was a contradiction. She excels in naughty talk and sexy clothing but has a low self esteem when it comes to her body. Bullied as a child for not conforming to what society deems attractive, she has learned to settle for less throughout her life. Jack's intense attention leaves her confused. A gorgeous sensuous man who has dated some of the world's most beautiful woman...she can't seem to grasp why he wants her. Her family doesn't help with their lack of support concerning her photography and dreams of graduate school.

I really liked Jack. A testy, flamboyant, emotional drama queen, he lives like he cooks-with flair. Lili's animosity towards him in the beginning confuses him. He knows his larger than life persona on the internet and TV isn't the most flattering but it's not him. He's worked very hard for what he has achieved and as he has gotten older, the limelight doesn't shine as bright anymore. He has his own dreams and wants to find someone special to share them with. And that someone special to him is Lili.

The secondary characters are a rambunctious bunch whose own wants and needs cause some heat of their own. Lots of giggling and eye rolling is involved when these characters come into play. Lili's sister Cara, who is also producing Jack's show, has her own reasons for getting Jack into their parent's restaurant and learns a lesson about minding one's own business. Lili's dad is a stereotypical Italian dad whose own imagined failings make him resent having to rely on Lili so much. Jack has his own problems with a younger sister who won't stay put and an adorably cute manwhore of a sous chef who wants his own career out from under Jack's shadow. Several potential story lines are set up in here, waiting for a book of their own.

One aspect I found interesting and appealing is the fact that Jack is the one who refuses to settle for a commitment free affair. He's the romantic in this book. Lili comes on to him strong after some heavy duty flirting, hinting for some vigorous bed sport and he gently but firmly shoots her down. She, of course, believes it's due to her looks and flounces away angry and hurt.

"I didn't stop you because I'm not attracted to you or to teach you a lesson [...] A lot of women who meet me are only interested in screwing me because I'm on TV. After a while, casual sex becomes really old."

Jack refuses to be "used and then discarded.

The romance blends well with the storyline. Jack is trying so hard to win the hand of the daughter of the man he's trying to beat in a cook off. There is drama that can only seem to be found in restaurants and a few side plots that pop up and place our lovers on opposite sides of the stove. T

Though I enjoyed the story over all, the constant push and pull from heroine become repetitive and dragged the story down at times. It seemed Jack spends lot of his time chasing after Lili and explaining himself. They get together, they separate, they get back together, they separate again.

The ending wraps everything up nicely and our couple is finally able to let go of their past issues in order to embrace a future together. Feel The Heat is a quick enjoyable romantic contemporary that heats up nicely.

Rating: B-

Kristen Mazzola says

This book was a quick, awesome romance...great underlining story lines with the secondary characters (Something that I totally a sucker for, just look at my own book, lol) I have to say that I really enjoyed the heat coming from this book's kitchen! Well told and very interesting!

Mari says

There seriously needs to be more books with hot chefs as protagonists. Jack seriously you crack me up, rising in popularity, good looking, arrogant, charming the current it item in food world. And boy can he cook! I was not expecting much from this book but I was so pleased I stumbled on to this one.

One serious plus for me in this book is that it caters to the foodie side of me and that's rare. Kate Meader knows her food stuff. Italian family restaurant, British Chef what a combo.

Seriously though I like the heroine, she's artsy, not your "typical" good looking standard of skinny she's had her issues with the weight but she's still full of life. Her family is old school, her interests not so. Jack is so very popular with the ladies, everyone wants a piece of him. But he was literally struck by Lili and he was a goner. I liked that they didnt dive into anything right away, their relationship was build on these two interesting characters you get to know.

But really I enjoyed Jack and Lili they butted heads, created for some hot chemistry and spark. Jack was such a huge supporter for Lili and Lili slowly became one that could see past the Jack that people see.

Full of life, reliability, wit and humor, this was one read I definitely liked a lot. I liked the secondary characters as well, Laurent, Jules and Tad. At first Cara irked me but thankfully she pulled through, her book looks very interesting as well. I cant wait to read the next books in the series. Overall a good debut novel by Kate Meade, if you like Italian families, food and chefs check this one out.

Pandora Black says

Plus 3,5, j'ai eu un peu peur que ce soit très très cul au début, et en fait pas du tout. J'ai bien aimé Lili, lui est très très très très bien, et purée ça donne faim !

Julie says

Oh Jack! The poor guy, he didn't know what hit him when he met his Lili. Their coming together was such an enjoyable read. The ups and downs, crazy family hyjinks, sassy siblings and super sexy food make for a great read. I want more NOW! I hate to wish away my summer but I'm really wishing it was August cause Cara's book preview has me heading to Amazon next to see if its available for pre-order.

Lyndy Ann ? says

Feel the Heat certainly made me hot under the collar with all the sexual chemistry, flirting and dirty talk between Jack and Lili made Feel the Heat a great read for me.

Jack Kilroy was a refreshing change he is a bossy alpha but what made Jack different for me was the fact he did not want a quick f*ck or a one night stand with Lili he wants to date her first get to know her before they sleep together. Jack is tired of being used by women for his celebrity Chef status and Lili is the first woman in a long time that is not impressed by his fame and this makes Jack want her even more.

Lili DeLuca has a low opinion of herself she was bullied throughout her childhood for being overweight she lost some of the weight and she is now comfortable in her own body but after a kiss with Jack goes viral she is hated on the net and tagged "the fat cow" she does not know if she is strong enough or good enough for Jack to give their relationship a chance to develop.

Jack and Lili are hot together lust at first sight for both of them when reading I could feel the sexual chemistry and all the dirty talk and flirting WOW I loved it, I love Jack for his straight talking and I felt sorry for Lili at times the way her father treats her.

I loved all the characters and I can't wait to read the next 2 books in the "Hot in the Kitchen" series and get to know the rest of the DeLuca family better and hopefully get more Jack and Lili. :-)

Kate Meader has become a new favourite author of mine this is her third book I have read which I have loved, she writes strong sexy characters and dual POV and I love her writing style.

Jennifer Zorko says

Ok ladies! Put on your aprons and get ready to for a great book. Feel the Heat by Kate Meader is one of the funniest books I have read so far. Let me tell you a little about it.

Liliana DeLuca is a photographer who manages her families Italian Restaurant, takes care of everyone in her family and is generally over looked by everyone. One night she is on her way home from a costume party (dressed as Wonder Woman no less) and she sees the lights on and hears noises coming from the kitchen of her families restaurant. That is when she takes matters into her own hands and smack world renowned chief Jack Kilroy over the head with a frying pan. Her older sister has booked Jack cooking show "Jack of all Trades" to tape there, she also wants Lili to hook up with Jack for a one night stand to help her get over being dumped by her fathers business partner.

Jack Kilroy is on his way to even bigger and better things. He is opening a new restaurant in Chicago, owns other around the world, is writing cook books, has a new cooking show in the works and wants people cooking his recipes on his cookware. He is driven, confident and totally taken by the beautiful woman that Lili is. Jack is done with a quick roll in the hay. He is tired of people only wanting him for his money, his looks and what they think that he can do for their careers. He wants more, and he wants more with Lili.

I really connected with Lili. Growing up as a pudgy kid, I can relate to the teasing and name calling that Lili went through. As an adult, still not a size 10, she is comfortable with who she is, but at times, the taunts of the school yard bullies still haunt her. Lili has a hard time believing that someone as handsome, wonderful and funny as the famous Jack Kilroy could possibly be interested in someone like her. What I love the most about Jack is that he NEVER once looked at Lili as anything less than what she is. In his eyes, she is a strong, capable, sensitive, beautiful woman, and he will do anything that he can to protect her and convince her that they are meant to be together, while trying to help her fulfill her dreams of becoming a photographer. I really loved them together as a couple. They just seemed to be two halves of a whole.

Along for the ride is Lili's large, close knit, loud, nosy, meddling Italian family, (I can say this because I married into one!) and Jack's sister Jules. I loved the dynamic with these characters and their families. They will have you crying they are so funny! I loved everything about this book and look forward to the next installment of this wonderful new series. RUN to your computer and download a copy to your eReader! You will be sharing this story with all of your friends it is that good!

Sam (AMNReader) says

This book's characters felt so fickle I couldn't get a sense of their personality other than understanding their interests and relationships. They ping pinged back and forth so often I would catch myself wondering what I missed on the prior pages that set them up for an estrangement or separation.

It was weird. I'm not convinced I don't like the author yet, and will try again but this book was weird. I didn't feel the chemistry at all...

Kim Reads (Read Your Writes Book Reviews) says

Reviewed for Read Your Writes Book Reviews
www.readyourwrites.blogspot.com

I'm not quite sure what to say about this book. I know that statement sounds bad, but I don't mean it in a bad way. FEEL THE HEAT by Kate Meader is beyond what I expected. As a first time published author, Kate

has given the reader everything. There's humor, mouth watering food, HOT sex and society issues all put together. I went from spewing my drink one minute, to needing ice water because the scenes were so hot the next, and then being hungry with all the food talk the next minute.

Jack Kilroy is the talk of the cooking world. He's a British/Irish chef who cooks French cuisine. He's in Chicago to open a new restaurant and film an episode of his cooking show, Jack of All Trades. Jack is sexy and arrogant, but self-assured. He also has a super soft spot for those he cares about. With Jack what you see is NOT what you truly get.

Liliana DeLuca is a heroine like I've never read before. What I love about her is that she isn't this size two to six girl with blonde/brown hair that's fall to her shoulders wavy and soft as silk. She has curves and probably buys the low end size Laine Bryant clothes and her hair is like that of a lion, very untamable. Lili is a former "chubby girl" who was bullied all through school. But she's worked really hard to be comfortable in her own skin. Lili is all about her family and she has a tendency to put others before herself. She's a talented photographer who has given up her dream of going to graduate school to be the manager of her family's Italian restaurant. That, in and of itself isn't a bad thing. However, what is bad is the fact that Lili's father, Tony, puts down her talent in what seems to be every chance he gets. Lili is mouthy and generally isn't one to take crap off of anyone, except for her father. Aww...Obviously, I have some serious fan girl love for Lili.

When I first picked up FEEL THE HEAT, the opening scene had me laughing. My first thought was Jill Shalvis. Then further along I got to the romantic heat and it was "Woa", I wasn't expecting those words. You then get into the issue of what society thinks is beautiful and the way people react to someone who isn't your traditional model size thin.

I loved this book, because Jack Kilroy could have anyone he wants, but the minute he lays eyes on the curvy Lili DeLuca, in her Wonder Woman costume, he's a goner. It doesn't even matter that she hits him over the head with a frying pan. Jack has to convince Lili to go on a date with him before he will sleep with her. These are two characters who have so many layers that it's fun watching them peel them away. These two face issues almost immediately, and from the start, Lili knows that without a doubt, Jack is her biggest supporter.

The secondary characters are surprisingly not people I hated. Cara is Lili's sister and Jack's producer. There's something about her that I just can't put my finger on. She also just so happens to be the heroine in the next book, ALL FIRED UP. Tad is Lili's cousin and bartender at the family's restaurant. He's someone I really want to know. He's protective, but flirts with everyone. He has his eyes on Jules, Jack's younger sister. They actually get their story told in book three, HOT IN THE KITCHEN. But I REALLY want the story of Laurent, who is Jack's best friend and co-owner of Jack's New York restaurant. Laurent is this suave, French chef who appears to be a ladies man. But when he's had too much to drink, he's funnier than usual. I'm talking he will curl up on the sidewalk like a baby.

FEEL THE HEAT is a love affair that should not be missed. Now if only I could actually have someone make me all of the dishes Jack made.....

Source: NetGalley

Jess says

This is probably more like 3.5, but I'm going to round up to four for a couple of reasons. 1) Chicago, 2) it's a well done former fat girl book, 3) it contains complicated family dynamics that I don't hate which is rare, and 4) I kept picturing Jack Davenport as the hero, which is always a win as far as I'm concerned. I blame watching Smash.

But really, this is very enjoyable. A little purple-kitcheny?-prosey at times, but I loved the dynamics and the characters and that it used the city, so I'm going to go ahead and call this a win.

Kusanagi says

Bien aimé. Mais un peu long à se mettre en place. Par contre ça donne faim... et ça donne envie d'acheter les livres de Jamie Oliver (en particulier celui sur la cuisine italienne) XD

Lenny says

My first romance novel, and loved it.

Talltree says

DNF for now.

Don't have it in me to read about another manho H and his "exploits":(Maybe later.

SpanxmcB (Yovanka) says

3.5 stars! A charming romance involving a former 'fat chick', a celebrity chef, a close knit Italian family, a cast iron skillet, a wonder woman costume, a scooter and social media scandals.

Finally a book where you don't want to throttle the heroine for her constant low self esteem (it's present here, but well managed) and where her sister isn't the "evil pretty one" and actually sticks up for her former 'fat chick' baby sister.

This story was well put together and thought out. Funny, steamy and more about family, loyalty, love and staying true to yourself than anything else.

The visuals created in the description of the DeLuca women and their big hair...hilarious.

A charming start to a series that's all about love in the kitchen. I'll be reading the other books in the series.

