



Julie Rowe

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Dr. Emilie Saunderson is driven to finish her late husband's research. Her quest brings her to Antarctica, where she hopes to find a measure of peace in the isolated and icy wilderness. It's the last place on earth she expects to be given a second chance at love.

Tom Wolinski loves his work at the bottom of the world. Damaged by his dark past, he has vowed never to get close to anyone—a promise that's easy to keep in a place with no permanent residents. That is, until Emilie arrives, and he's irresistibly drawn to her warmth and inner strength.

Emilie has no desire to get involved with another adventurer, and Tom has made it clear he's not interested in putting down roots. But as they work together to survive in the harshest of climates, they turn to one another for comfort. Is the heat between them enough to melt the ice around their hearts, and bind them together forever?

50,000 words

"In ICEBOUND, Julie Rowe blends the perfect cocktail of action and romance. Get ready for a rip-roarin' read!"

—Brenda Novak, *New York Times* best selling author.

## **Icebound Details**

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Author : Julie Rowe

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## From Reader Review **Icebound** for online ebook

### **Kerry sullivan says**

This book was reviewed for Musings of a bookworm

#### **This is what the book is about.**

Dr. Emilie Saunderson is driven to finish her late husband's research. Her quest brings her to Antarctica, where she hopes to find a measure of peace in the isolated and icy wilderness. It's the last place on earth she expects to be given a second chance at love.

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#### **This is what I thought about it.**

This was a sweet story of learning to love again after tragedy. This was defiantly a feel good book and I read it with a smile on my face most of the way through. I liked that it was not all plain sailing or all hot an heavy. It felt like you were being shown real people with all their quirks. I have to say the bit I liked best was the decompression/distraction technique Tom used, its worth reading just for that visual.

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### **KB says**

4 stars

I purchased a copy of *Icebound* by Julie Rowe and this review was given freely.

Recently widowed Dr. Emily moves to a station in Antarctica to finish her late husband's research and recover from a miscarriage. A dramatic opening followed by multiple injuries and accidents balance out general life in this emotional second chance at love romance between Emily and the Tom Station Master.

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### **Trish says**

Fiction; Romance

4.5 stars

I really LOVED this book and thought it was a great way to kick off a new year of reading.

Dr. Emilie Saunderson arrives in Antarctica as the new physician of the South Pole Station and also to finish a research project that her now deceased husband had started.

Tom Wolinski is the stations manager. This is his third year in Antarctica. While strong and capable of

running the operations of the station, as the Doctor and Tom become closer it quickly becomes apparent to Emilie that Tom is running away from some of his own demons here in the frozen tundra.

Emilie and Tom's characters were very likable and their relationship seemed realistic under the circumstances. It was obvious right from the start that there was a mutual attraction and the author did a great job pulling the story along at a smooth pace.

The choice of setting was a huge bonus for this story. Isolated in an extremely cold climate made for an interesting backdrop to a hot love story. I loved the uniqueness of it and how the author brought various situations into the story that seemed plausible in that environment. I was sad when the story ended. I would have loved to read more about their lives.

This debut author has great potential and I look forward to reading more of her work in the future.

Highly recommended.

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### **M.J. Fredrick says**

Fast-paced, interesting read!

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### **Pamela says**

Total, utter crap.

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### **Christi Snow says**

My Review:

I became completely immersed in this book. It is shorter...approximately 50,000 words vs the normal 100,000 for a full-length novel. But I was completely taken in by the story, to the point where I actually felt like I had seen a movie rather than read a book when it was finished. The imagery and the writing is so complete and lush and it wasn't even until looking back at the book that I realize what an effortless read this was for me as the reader. I could see every single detail of the scenes completely and without doubt in my mind's eye and that takes incredibly skilled writing. I don't think that there was ever a single instance where I had to go back and re-read a sentence for clarity or confusion, and that may not sound like such a huge deal, but it really made this book a lush reading experience for me. I definitely need to pick up more of Julie Rowe's books.

It's also very creative. I liked the different locale to the story. You don't think about an outpost on Antarctica as a good location for a romance story, but this was fabulous. The 65 people on this station become like a huge family and, as such, provided a great backdrop to the romantic story line with a variety of supporting characters that I really enjoyed getting to know.

Tom & Emelie's love story...so rich and poignant. They are both dealing with demons that stand between them developing an actual relationship. I enjoyed watching them each grow and develop into the people that they needed to be for that to happen. The best thing is that they did this through the growth of several other characters that live on the station with them. There are some great sub-plots and story lines throughout this entire story.

Emelie is the new doctor at the Antarctic station. She is there a year after her husband's sudden tragic death and the loss of their baby via miscarriage caused by stress of the incident. Her husband was working on a NASA science experiment and Em wants to carry out the research for his project. As the doctor, she works very closely with the station manager, Tom. Tom is a confirmed bachelor and NEVER plans to change that. No marriage or babies for this guy, but he has reasons for that which take some healing for him to get past. These are two wounded people who are perfect for each other. Eleven months trapped in the very close proximity of the station life may be just what they need to realize that fact.

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I highly recommend this book. It was simply a really, really good read!! A few of the plot twists are nothing new, but the quality of the writing and the uniqueness of the setting makes up for that fact in my mind! I really loved that I got the chance to read this one.

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### **Wendy Marcus says**

I really enjoyed this book. I would have liked an epilogue to show what happened a few months later. (Don't want to ruin the plot!) But other than that, a wonderful read.

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### **Amy R says**

This was a nice (yet cold!) read. I think Julie Rowe did a really nice job with all the characters. The relationship between all of them seemed real for their situation. The book flows nicely and I read it in a little over 24 hours because I wanted to see how things would end up. The only thing I wished it had was more description of the station itself. I couldn't really picture the connecting points such as the cafeteria in relation to Club Med, the sleeping areas, etc.

I thought Emilie and Tom showed great growth which I always like to see in the hero and heroine. It would be fun to see what they were up to in the future and whether or not they stayed in Antarctica! I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in reading a good, clean, medical romance!

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### **MBR says**

Icebound is the story that delivered me from the recent bout of doldrums that I have been suffering from in the world of romanceldia. From the opening page itself, Julie Rowe managed to entice me into turning the next page to find more on what Icebound could deliver.

Dr. Emilie Saunderson makes her way to the South Pole to finish the research her husband had been doing

before his sudden death that still torments Emilie one year on. Still grieving over the loss of David and their unborn child, Emilie is betting on the isolation of working in the most stark, cold and barren place the Earth could provide to bring her the closure that she seeks.

However, all her dreams of keeping her problems to herself and working her way through dies an early death when she meets the sexy Tom Wolinski, the South Pole Station manager. Her attraction towards him is an immediate one which makes Emilie question her sanity and of course makes her feel guilty enough to question whether one year after the death of David is a bit too soon to move on.

But life in Antarctica demands from people a lot more than one's average workplace and Emilie realizes that all too soon when the harsh environment plays havoc with the lives of more than one of their team members. And through it all, Emilie's feelings towards Tom continues to grow though Tom makes it clear right from the very start that he is not a man for long term relationships.

*Icebound* is a great contemporary romance told from Emilie's point of view, Julie Rowe's ability to draw in the reader an obvious one right from the very start. Tom turned out to such a devastatingly sexy and alluring hero though his point of view is not given in the novel, his tortured nature making me remember Callum from *Lauren's Eyes* by Norah Wilson.

I fell in love with Emilie right from the start because she accepts Tom for who he is right from the very beginning. Tom is someone who firmly believes that there is no good that resides inside of him and that there is no way he is fit to be any woman's partner on a long term basis. But in Emilie he finds a woman who is strong enough to accept the good with the bad and someone who is patient enough to give him the time and support needed to overcome his fear of himself.

I loved those tidbits about the harsh reality that is life in Antarctica that Julie brings so vividly to life right from the very start. The romance between Tom and Emilie is a believable and compelling one at that and the story with just enough extra fodder to make it a great read.

Recommended for fans of contemporary romances in unique settings; Antarctica being one of the most unique settings one can get.

Loved the romance, the characters and the ending though an epilogue would have been a nice touch to make this a fantastic one!

**Rating=4/5**

Original review posted on MBR's Realm of Romance

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### **Tara Chevrestt says**

This is like a psychiatry lesson and contemporary romance in one. It addresses handling grief in the face of losing a loved one, feelings of guilt, sharing the 'blame,' and surviving a traumatic childhood. In the background is the trials and tribulations of surviving a winter in Antarctica.

Emilie is the one dealing with grief. She has lost her husband and is struggling to get past his death a year later. She's a doctor with "everything needed to treat every malady except her own. Loneliness wasn't listed

in the medical textbooks." She goes to Antarctica to finish her late husband's research and falls for Tom. Tom is the one trying to overcome a traumatic childhood. He knew nothing but abuse growing up and feels that he will be an abuser too. He must learn that you are not always what you are raised to be, that one can overcome a childhood full of hate. There's immediate chemistry between these two....

For full review, please follow the link: <http://wwwbookbabe.blogspot.com/2011/...>

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### **Jeanette Grey says**

3.5 stars

Halfway through the first chapter, I predicted this would be a four-star read. Julie Rowe's writing is tight, her POV is clear, and her characters were instantly compelling. There was a great sense of place, and the whole premise was colored by the unique setting. Instant winner.

In the end, I popped it down to 3.5 stars, though. I know this is a medical romance, but the emergencies and injuries just kept coming and coming. And while I really enjoyed Tom's character, the explanation for his dark past left me a little wanting.

All the same, I would recommend this book. It's really different for a contemporary romance, and a nice read for a cold, winter day.

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### **Donnell Bell says**

Since I must assume, Author Julie Rowe didn't herself fly into Antarctica and get lost in white out conditions, I must conclude she did amazing research. From the opening pages, we are swept into Dr. Emilie Saunderson's story of escaping her grief and the loss of her child, she decides to carry on her late husband's work. Here she meets paramedic and station manager, Tom Wolinski, South Pole Station Manager. The chemistry between Saunderson and Wolinski is immediate, as Emilie becomes hopelessly turned around in deadly, blizzard conditions, even though she's only a few feet from the base.

Rowe does an amazing job of describing how cold it is even wearing three-layers of Mount Everest-worthy clothing. A love story in such a captivating setting, readers are in for an educational treat, as I imagine, not many of us will ever go there. Thank you, Ms. Rowe.

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### **Cindy ~ SnS Reviews says**

This book was sooo alive it was like watching a movie.

Dr. Emilie Saunderson goes to Antarctica to finish the research her husband had been doing before his sudden death a year earlier. Still grieving over the loss of her husband she hopes that working in this frozen part of the world will help her accomplish this. But right off the bat stepping from the plane she gets lost in the blizzard and freezing cold and has to be rescued by Tom Wolinski, the Station manager who has a few of

his own past demons he is battling.

From here we find out what life is like stationed in Antarctica. The author gives such great details that I truly felt like I was there. From the having the dress in millions of layers to extreme frostbite, to how easy it is to get lost in the snow just going outside with a team to try and fix a problem.

Right from the start Emilie and Tom have great chemistry though Emilie doesn't think she is ready to let her dead husband go and Tom only does one night stands.

I really loved this book.. I would have given it 5 stars if it would have had an epilogue. But don't let that deter you from reading this great story.

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### **Donna Tunney says**

In mourning after the loss of her husband and unborn baby, Dr. Emilie Sanderson takes up residence at a remote outpost in Antarctica. Tom Wolinski, the hunky hero, is a polar (pun intended) opposite, who's on the run from the institutions of marriage and family.

The story is told completely from Emilie's point of view, so you learn Tom's secrets along with her--and uncover the reasons behind his fear of commitment. Along the way, there's a host of interesting facts about life in the Antarctic and the people who live there, as well as medical details--all woven seamlessly into the plot. And I have to mention the great metaphors--about cold, and warmth, and storms--that the author skilfully integrates into the prose.

This is a solid debut novel from a writer who knows her stuff--both technical jargon and the details that will tug at your heartstrings.

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### **Lynne Marshall says**

I was very excited to read this debut contemporary romance by Julie Rowe since she is a fellow chapter mate at Heartbeat, RWA. I would categorize this wonderful story as a contemporary romantic adventure with strong medical elements. :) I loved how the first part of the book focused on Emilie and why she had come (run away to) Antarctica, and how by the middle of chapter two Ms. Rowe had deflected the spotlight from Emilie to Tom. Why had he come back to a god-forsaken ice cube four times? Well, as the story unfolds we find out Emilie is a widow with a vision of completing her deceased husband's medical/scientific project. Tom remains a mystery for most of the book until Emilie forces him to face his fears and admit he isn't like his father. Tom was a gorgeous hero - what's not to love about a hero who bakes cookies! When their wild night of carefree romance turns into something more complicated, Emilie isn't sure she wants to stick around in Antarctica, but Tom insists she can't leave unless it is a matter of life and death. A tragic accident of two co-workers brings the two of them closer, and once Emilie makes up her mind about what she wants to do about their situation, she challenges Tom to do some self examination and step up to being a true hero - which, of course, after three days, where the reader bites her nails along with Emilie, he does! I loved the setting in this book. It was an added bonus and well depicted. Good book all around!

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