



Mending the Line

Christy Hayes

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Librarian's note: This is an alternative cover edition for ASIN B00AC4A8TW.

Jill Jennings' dream of becoming an elite runner turns into a nightmare when she breaks her leg less than a year before the Olympic trials. After two surgeries and a lengthy rehabilitation, she's ready to pursue her goal again. Or is she...

Jill's healing and ready to hit the pavement, but her passion for the sport she'd planned to make her career unexpectedly wanes. On a whim, she changes course and runs right into tall, blonde, and gorgeous Tyler Bloodworth. Fly fisherman come and go in south central Colorado, but Ty's back for a second summer, minus his girlfriend and hotter than ever.

Tyler Bloodworth's life plan to start a fly-fishing business with his dad back home in North Carolina is suddenly snagged when Jill Jennings runs circles around his heart during a summer stint as a fishing guide in Colorado. Back for a second summer, he sets his bait and casts his line, but Jill's not so easy to catch.

A catch and release fisherman hooks the one girl he won't let go. A distance runner with big dreams and an uncertain future falls hard for a summer fling. Can Jill risk losing her career and her heart to Tyler when he'll be gone in a few months, or will Ty reel in the biggest catch of his life?

Mending the Line Details

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From Reader Review Mending the Line for online ebook

Lyndsey O'Halloran says

Mending the Line begins nine months before the real story starts. Tyler is in Lower Fork working and doing what he does best – fishing. The whole summer he's had his eye on Jill Jennings but his girlfriend back home means he can't do anything about his feelings for her. Near the end of the summer, Jill breaks her leg running and Tyler is the one there to take her to the hospital. What he doesn't know is that Jill thinks he's amazingly hot. Nine months later after a summer back home, Tyler is back for one last summer before he and his dad go into business together. His one aim, now a single guy, is to get the girl he can't stop thinking about.

I really enjoyed getting a small backstory before the book really got going. It was nice to know that Tyler was really interested in Jill before anything happened and that he was good enough to think about his girlfriend back home. So many books I have read before have had characters that don't care about stuff like that and would have cheated but it was so good to see that Tyler had morals and stuck to them. Tyler was also a driven character who knows what he wants and will work hard to achieve his goals.

Jill was not quite as open a character as Tyler was, especially in regards to her feelings. I liked that there was a contrast between the two and that there was something to work at for them both. Jill has always been a runner and it is her dream to run in the Olympics. Breaking her leg messes everything up though and it also makes her question what she wants in life. Just as she's getting back on her feet, Tyler turns back up in town and Jill is secretly super happy about that. The previous summer, she liked him but knew he had a girlfriend and now, there isn't that problem anymore. Just like Tyler, I really liked Jill. She's a pretty grounded girl who also works extremely hard. Her training shows her dedication but she also has a wonderful personality. Due to her being so focused, Jill has kind of forgotten to have a social life but her broken leg makes her rethink everything.

The romance between Tyler and Jill was super sweet and great to discover. Tyler never rushes Jill which was another aspect of this book that I loved. He knows she hasn't had that much experience with guys and relationships and he is very patient with her while still managing to let his feelings be known. There are some pretty steamy scenes between Jill and Tyler but they weren't over the top nor was too much detail given. There was just enough to know what was going on which added a lot more passion between the characters. However, although Tyler doesn't rush Jill, their relationship appeared to go far too quickly. Some things that happened seemed to quite quickly and therefore, came across as a bit unrealistic.

The plot is pretty romance based so there isn't too much else going on. However, both Tyler and Jill have their families around them at different times. Along with the opening of the book, having families added into the story really helped to add depth to both main characters. Due to certain events and interactions, I was able to really get to know both Tyler and Jill as well as learning why they are the way they are and why they act in certain ways.

Overall, Mending the Line was a pretty good book but it wasn't amazing.

Keris Shay says

Sweet, cute romance with a little angst thrown in. Of course I loved the different POVs, I enjoy being in everyone's head, lol! It was such joy to watch Ty and Jill come together. Definitely an easy, relaxing beach read

DCT says

This is a precious addition to Shoe Strings. I immediately started this book after I finished Shoe Strings, which was my first introduction to this author and I was in love. I chose this one to read after Shoe Strings because this is the story of Ty Bloodworth, the handsome son of Kerri Ann and Jesse from Shoe Strings. I loved that we got a better glimpse of how things progressed with Jesse and Lita and Bryce and Kerri Ann. Now to Ty, you can't help but fall in love with him; not only is he handsome, but he is caring, loving, compassionate and considerate-he is darn near perfect. He falls for Jill and she falls hard for him (pun intended). I would have loved an epilogue to see what happens in the future. Hopefully we will get a glimpse into their future in the next edition of Golden Rule Outfitters that will highlight Olivia. I sure hope so!

Cristy Emmnm says

ARC received by NetGalley for an honest review.

This is a title that I particularly enjoyed. I found that the characters were all likable and relatively realistic; moreover, I found myself wanting to escape to the river-rafting, fly-fishing, outdoorsy lifestyle of what's clearly the setting for the Golden Rule Outfitters series.

So to Jill and Tyler - This novel's opening is amazing. I just...it's been so long since I've read a story wherein the romantic leads already know each other at the time of their novel that I found it incredibly refreshing. These are the kinds of stories that *I* write and partly due to the fact that I can't stand the love-at-first-sight nonsense that is packed into NA and YA romances. Happy day for me when I read "Mending the Line." Very soon into the novel, Hayes creates a real solid foundation for Tyler - from his family to his ambitions to his character and personality and, quickly thereafter, is able to contrast Tyler's homelife with Jill's for some added insight into what might end up being their ultimate compatibility. I liked Jill quite a bit as well. I like that she was a long distance runner and that she's had setbacks. Unlike so many of these books, our lead is not the winner. She's not some extraordinary human being with which no one can realistically relate. Instead, Jill is a hardworking athlete who struggles with her ambition vs. her ability. She questions her life's choices and her goals because of her circumstance and because of her situation. She is at that age and it is portrayed in a very real way.

Anyway, I will HAPPILY read the rest of this series. In fact, I can hardly wait for it. I will follow Christy Hayes. I find this to be just my kind of escapism. I'm a big city girl who dreams of the outdoors. This is precisely the book that I like. Good job!

Kara says

I received an ARC of this book from Patchwork Press via NetGalley

This was a good book. The plot & setting were great! I liked the characters. Sometimes I got distracted - but I still finished the book rather fast.

I think this series will only get better as it continues - I look forward to seeing Ty & Jill compromise with their love for each other.

Staci says

Loving this series! Super hard to put down once you start.

Meg - A Bookish Affair says

Mending the Line is a romance novel about Tyler, a fisherman, and Jill, a woman who once dreamed of running in the Olympics. This is a mostly sweet romance about two people who just are happy to have found each other.

Overall, I liked the story. It was a nice romance. Tyler and Jill fall for each other very quickly. Really Tyler falls first and it's not until he comes back to town almost a year after Jill and him first meet and then they fall really quickly. Usually I don't go for the whole insta-love thing but I really liked Tyler and I really liked Jill and they seemed so good together and really good for each other that it bothered me a little bit less. You really want them to end up together because they are both such nice people.

I thought that both Tyler and Jill were great characters. We learn a lot about them from their own actions. I also really liked that we got to see a lot of both of their families because it really helped to flesh out why Tyler and Jill were the way they were and why they did what they did. The families also added a lot to the story line.

As far as romances go, this one is mostly in the vein of sweet romances. There are a couple sex scenes but they are not gratuitous and they are really tastefully done. This book would be a good choice for when you're looking for a book to relax with.

Bottom line: A sweet romance!

Tammy says

First, thanks to Netgalley for a copy of this in exchange for an honest review.

Full review posted at smutwhores.blogspot.com

4.25 Stars!

This is a really cute Romance/New Adult novel. What I really loved about this one is that it was so different from other books I have read. Sometimes you just need a book that isn't so full of angst and cheating and turmoil and this one is just that. Sometimes you just want to read a book and feel the love and not get

heartburn. Right, girls?

Jill stumbles in Ty's world and Ty falls quickly. After beating around the bush for a year, Ty finally starts to make his move. I absolutely adored Ty. He is one of my favorite book boyfriends now. He is so sweet, honest, understanding, and just freaking perfect. I love how he openly admits his feelings for Jill without all the major idiotness we see in some books from the hero (is that a word-idiotness)? Oh well. Jill is pretty great. I am thrilled she showed her dad up! Sometimes parents put too much pressure on the kids and ruin the sport for the kid. I see it happen all the time. Jill got on my nerves a few times with her nieveness (is that a word), but we have to look at the ages here. I kept expecting something more from Lyle, like some sabotage to the relationship or something. Maybe I have read too many angsty novels. And Olivia, you are such an attention whore!

I learned some new fishing terms from this book and I can honestly say I want to gather my pole and a box of worms and head to the lake. Oh, and I most certainly won't forget my Nook when I do that.

If you are in the mood for a great romance/new adult novel, then don't hesitate to try this one out. It's cute and sweet without giving you a toothache.

Cari Sury (Girl+Book Love Blog) says

****See more of my reviews at www.girlbooklove.com!**

Jill Jennings's dream starts to crumble when she has an accident that changes her future. As a competitive long distance runner, breaking her leg was a huge deal. After painful surgeries and rehabilitation, her passion for the sport has waned. Making a drastic change in her life is what she needs. Although met with resistance from her family and coach (aka Dad), she gets a job and starts running only for the love of it. Another change she's trying to make is having a little fun and possibly indulging in her crush for the summer fishing guide, Ty.

Tyler Bloodworth is back in Colorado for another summer...ready to make Jill Jennings his. Last summer they shared lingering glances before her accident happened and he returned home to North Carolina. Now he's back, ready to pursue Jill, which is good because she might be hard to catch.

"You make me forget who I am, what I am, what I want to be. All I want to be when you're around is yours."

Ty supports Jill as she learns to love her job, falls in love with running again and starts to consider if she's up for competing. They both know that Ty has to leave at the end of the summer and they both put off talking about it out of fear. Is Jill willing to move away from her friends and family to be with him? Is he willing to leave his new teaching job to be with her? Everything is uncertain.

"Every time I thought about where I'd be this summer, I kept coming back to this place. To the people here," he hedged. "I listened to my gut." "Any regrets?" she asked. He looked her dead in the eye, held her stare as her chest rose and fell once, twice. "Not one."

I loved the moment when he laid it all out on the line. Overall, Ty was lovable and straightforward. There

were no silly games in this book. Jill is super easy to relate to! Definitely a girl I loved to read about! Hooray! My only question came at the end. There were some conflicts that got wrapped up really quickly, too quickly, and without explanation. It didn't ruin anything for the story; I was just like "wait a second..." I'm looking forward to more books in this series!

My Jill and Ty-

I received this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Lynkcheck says

Awwww I love Ty all grown up and in love with Jill!!! Great love story! Love the follow up on his family too.

Gaele says

This sweetly conceived romance, with characters that are easy to relate to and appreciate, the author has managed to create a believable romance that is solidly grounded in emotions and situations that every reader can relate to.

Told from the point of view of the characters, this inclusion of their inner dialogue helps to define their personalities and provide a sense of people as well as the growth of their relationship. Dimension in the story is also increased with the inclusion of family members and their interactions and viewpoints: we are all aware that no relationship exists in a bubble of just two people and this is a welcome inclusion to both deepen and enhance the story.

This is a romance, and there is a personal choice for an author: making the romance completely sweet, or enhancing and utilizing the more erotic elements of a relationship to further detail the story. Here Christy Hayes manages to add tastefully written and wholly time-appropriate sex scenes that do manage to enhance the feeling of commitment between the characters without overriding the tale of two souls coming together to make a happily ever after.

I received an eBook copy from the author for purpose of honest review. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions are my own responsibility.

Maritza says

Really enjoyed Jill and Tyler's story. I read Shoe Strings and I loved that the characters from that book were also featured here although this book can stand alone. I would have given the book 5 stars except that I felt

the ending a little rushed, an epilogue would have rounded it out. But overall a very adorable story....good read

Stephanie says

This book takes place in a rural town in Colorado where everyone knows everyone's business and not much happens. Tyler Bloodworth decides to come back to town for one last adventure before he begins adulthood, but he comes with a mission and he isn't leaving until she is his. She is Jill Jennings, Olympic distance runner hopeful and hometown "ice queen". She is so driven and focused, no one is getting close to her....or so they think. She has had her eyes on Tyler since last summer.

This is a sweet story of young love. This story is free from angst and there are no exes that are crazy and no secret pasts. This is just about two people knowing how they feel and having the courage to act on it. This was a nice, sugary story to cleanse the soul and remind ourselves that love is real and doesn't have to be ugly.

I loved this story so much! It was cute, but wasn't sappy. I usually like more badass characters, but found Tyler refreshing and sweet. He was so carefree and optimistic, that is was a joy to see. Jill had a fire in her and it was so great to see a female character that stood up for herself and didn't let a guy walk all over her. She was independent and driven and was inspirational. I would have liked more steam between them and instead things were just inferred and the story moved on. I read to escape and like the details and would have liked more of them. I felt there should have been more to the Lyle story. He seemed to have given up too easy and it just seemed unrealistic.

This story was exactly what I needed to cleanse the palate after some harsh reads. What a sweet and great story. Looking forward to reading the next two books.

Yawatta Hosby says

I loved this 38 chapter book. I'm all about romance, and there was plenty of it. I enjoyed being in on the secret when Jill and Ty started developing feelings for one another. My favorite stories are the ones that share both point-of-views. Other characters had their share of point-of-view, so it was fun hearing their opinions of the relationship. Some approved; some didn't.

My favorite lines: 1) Friend didn't mean boyfriend, but that didn't help Ty's mood. Of course, he wasn't exactly one to cast stones considering he'd yet to cut ties with Dana. 2) He knew he gambled quite a bit on instinct and an undeniable attraction. 3) "He only had eyes for you. Strange how he never made a move." 4) "You had to do what was best for you. Sometimes we hurt the ones who love us the most by spreading our wings."

If I could describe Ty and Jill in one word, it would be patient. All summer they had a crush on each other without letting the other one know. Jill broke her leg; thankfully he was there to help her. Once he returns home to the east coast, he dumps Dana (I admire this about Ty—he never cheated) and decides he'll want to return back to Colorado for next summer to pursue a relationship with Jill. I also respected her because she wasn't a homewrecker.

Mending the Line was such a cute love story. Anyone can relate who's ever experienced a crush. Or whoever has been in the beginning of a healthy relationship, experiencing the honeymoon phrase.

The guys at the bar considered Jill an ice queen, so they bet that Ty couldn't win her heart. She finds out and gives him a hard time about it. I liked the sexual tension in those scenes. When they finally got together, there's more tension with her friend Lyle. Plus, her best friend Olivia is jealous; she's single and lonely. I loved that Ty was a nice guy, a listener, a gentleman, caring about Jill's feelings. He never pressured her; he moved at her pace, so he wouldn't scare her off. When they take it to the next level, those scenes were hot and steamy as well as sensual and intimate.

My favorite scenes: 1) everyone celebrating Olivia's birthday at the bar 2) when Ty tells his family at the kitchen table why he wants to return back to Colorado 3) when Jill and her dad argue about her training schedule, causing her to quit 4) anything with Ty and Jill together (they were so cute)

Christy Hayes had a brilliant talent with plot. Everything made sense, and there were no boring parts. She had the right mix of tension, conflict, characters reflecting on their lives. She focused on their social as well as business side of their lives, making everything realistic and well-rounded. The author was also great with pacing. It ended at the right moment—I loved the ending by the way. Each scene managed to enhance the plot and enhanced the different friendships, romantic and/or family dynamics of the main and supporting characters' lives.

I RECOMMEND this book to read.

Mandy Jones says

How do you know when you have found "The One"? You feel it deep in your soul, something just clicks into place. Tyler found "the one" in Jill Jennings. He watched her from afar one summer while working as a fishing guide, now he is back to claim Jill for his own. The author did an excellent job of making you believe in these characters, their emotional trials, and of the spark between them. I liked the fact that not every other page was about sex. The story line developed these two people into something believable. Tyler was willing to make the same sacrifices that he was asking of Jill. This is what true love and partnership is all about. I really enjoyed this book and would highly recommend it.
