

## After the Hurt

By Shana Gray



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Shana Gray's provocative novel features a resilient fighter going round for tantalizing round with the one that got away—a headstrong woman bent on seduction.

Pepper Chapman refuses to throw in the towel. Six months ago, she made the biggest mistake of her life. Blinded by grief after her mom's death, Pepper abandoned the man she loves. Now she wants a second chance at everything she gave up: strong hands driving her to ecstasy . . . a deep voice whispering naughty promises in her ear . . . the future they'd planned since they were teenagers. So Pepper comes home looking for forgiveness, ready for a new beginning—if he's willing to give her a shot.

Retired MMA star Tank Sherman may be used to low blows, but Pepper's emotional sucker punch left him reeling. Trying to ignore the pain and forget the pleasure of her body beneath his, Tank is prepared to ring the final bell on their relationship. Then Pepper shows up out of the blue, radiating pure sex. But Tank won't let himself get hurt again, and that means resisting the heat that still burns between them. Because if he takes Pepper back, he knows he'll never be able to let her go again.

#### Advance praise for After the Hurt

"Brimming with sensual detail and loaded with heart, *After the Hurt* brings together two characters you won't soon forget. Shana Gray gives us a winning combination of sizzling chemistry and emotional depth. Bravo!"—*New York Times* bestselling author Vicki Lewis Thompson

"After the Hurt is a second-chance romance that sizzles and satisfies to the very last page. The chemistry between Pepper and Tank is both heartwarming and explosive."—Stina Lindenblatt, author of *This One Moment* 

"Incredibly sexy and heart-melting, the chemistry in this story is explosive. Pepper and Tank's emotional struggles were so real and just jumped off the pages. *After the Hurt* is an excellent read."—Violetta Rand, author of *Persuasion* 

Includes a special message from the editor, as well as an excerpt from another Loveswept title.





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#### After the Hurt By Shana Gray Bibliography

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

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"Shana Gray's *After the Hurt* is an emotionally packed page-turner. I was rooting for Pepper and Tank the whole book!"—*USA Today* bestselling author Jamie K. Schmidt

"After the Hurt is a second-chance romance that sizzles and satisfies to the very last page. The chemistry between Pepper and Tank is both heartwarming and explosive."—Stina Lindenblatt, author of *This One Moment* 

"Incredibly sexy and heart-melting, the chemistry in this story is explosive. Pepper and Tank's emotional struggles were so real and just jumped off the pages. *After the Hurt* is an excellent read."—Violetta Rand, author of *Persuasion* 

"[A] fiery tale of lovers reunited [with] teasing, sexual tension."—Library Journal

"Such a good story. It will make you feel for the characters."—Once Upon an Alpha

"The chemistry between Pepper and Tank has never diminished and neither has their connection, as much as they try to deny it. With the intensity of their relationship, I felt as if there was no obstacle they couldn't overcome. Because they were each a half of a whole, they could only be together."—**Book Angel Booktopia** 

#### From the Author

I hope you love this story as much as I do. It's deep, full of angst and overcoming heartbreak. It's very near and dear to me as I based the heroine's mother's death on how my mom died. <3

#### From the Inside Flap

Pepper hated winter with the fiery passion of a thousand burning suns and all the bullshit snow and ice that came along with it. So coming home in the middle of one of the coldest winters on record was a pretty big deal. She couldn't have been happier when the restaurant door banged shut behind her, nicely sealing off the crud weather she'd just trudged through. Give her the tropics anytime.

The urgent need to leave the steamy heat of Bali for Toronto in the middle of winter proved just how important this trip home was. Too bad her timing sucked. But she'd finally come to terms with everything that transpired over the past year and a half, and knowing exactly what she needed to do, it had to happen smack dab in the middle of the approaching ice age. So much for global warming.

She glanced back at the foyer and out the window into the blizzard. The door still shook in its frame after it closed as the wind howled against the solid wood as if wanting to reach in and pull her back outside. Pepper shivered and stepped deeper inside the restaurant and wondered if the bang of the door announced her arrival to all those within. Tank in particular. Her plans for a stealthy entrance were dashed.

Turning her back on the blinding snow outside, she hoped if she played her cards right, she'd not have to go

back out into it tonight. It all depended on Tank. She sighed, hoping the hotel room she'd booked and prepaid for online wouldn't be needed. No way did she relish the thought of battling that snowstorm again. She'd rather face Tank--as daunting as that may be--than go brave the cold all over again. Even though her flight instinct was on high alert, she refused to run away from him. She'd already done that six months ago.

Bolting had been her response to a terrible situation. Pepper needed time to come to terms with her mom's death and how it all came about. Her spontaneous actions jeopardized everything else in her life, having been distraught over the suddenness and reason her mom had died. Blaming herself in the process, she lost sight of everything else around her. Including her relationship with Tank. So here she was now, hat in hand, back to beg for forgiveness. At the very least she hoped he would listen to her and not throw her out. Had the shoe been on the other foot, she knew exactly how she'd have reacted. And it wouldn't have been pretty. But she was a different woman now. Changed. And she was desperate for Tank to see it.

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### William Fiscus:

What do you concerning book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material when you really need something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to perform others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Everybody has many questions above. The doctor has to answer that question since just their can do that will. It said that about book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is correct. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this After the Hurt to read.

#### **Robert Russo:**

The book with title After the Hurt includes a lot of information that you can understand it. You can get a lot of help after read this book. This particular book exist new understanding the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world currently. That is important to yo7u to know how the improvement of the world. This book will bring you inside new era of the syndication. You can read the e-book on the smart phone, so you can read this anywhere you want.

#### **Steven Ellison:**

In this particular era which is the greater man or who has ability to do something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you should do is just spending your time little but quite enough to enjoy a look at some books. One of the books in the top listing in your reading list is usually After the Hurt. This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Slopes can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking upward and review this publication you can get many advantages.

## **Nick Peoples:**

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