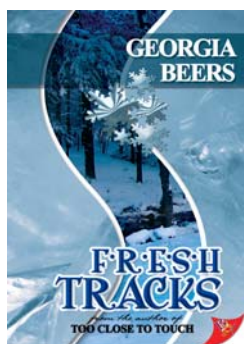


Book Review: December 2006

by Kathi Isserman (reviewer at [JAW](#))



Fresh Tracks

Georgia Beers

ISBN: 1-933110-63-5

Trade paper, 240 pp, \$15.95

November, 2006

Lesbian Romance

Bold Strokes Books, Inc.

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Nann Dunne

Editor-in-Chief

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Georgia Beers pens romances with sparks. Based on the reviews she receives and the ranks on Amazon and other online book stores, her readership loves these stories. They expect a certain kind of romance from Beers, and she always delivers. I have been waiting for a book that defines Beers as not just another romance novelist. I found this with her newest release, *Fresh Tracks*. From the start it is very different in many ways from Beers' other books. Her trademark style is still there, but more solid and more developed. If you are looking for a story where two women fall in love, have some misunderstandings along the way, and then move on to a committed relationship, *Fresh Tracks* is not that book. And I, for one, am glad that it is not that simple. It is a meaty and challenging story with an ensemble cast where the lines between lovers and friends are sometimes blurred.

The story spotlights one week in a vacation cabin in the mountains, between Christmas and New Year's Day, with a group of women who are friends, lovers and others. Each chapter focuses on each character and their relationship to the others, rotating between the entire cast more than once to fully understand where they have been and where they are right at the moment. The author takes her time meticulously developing the back story so we learn each character's history especially as it connects to the other women in the cabin. Beers does not overdo the details; her writing is tight and fluid. The realism is refreshing but not maudlin. Beers' characters take a hard look at the issues. We see the grit and glue that hold friends and lovers together as well as the splinters that tear them apart. Beers does an exceptional job at conveying this.

This is a story told uniquely by Beers with a clear and strong voice. She stretches her talent with *Fresh Tracks* and rises above the pack of romance novelists. It takes a lot of guts for a popular storyteller to try her hand at something new. Beers' love of her craft shines through with this bold and successful move. I applaud her and look forward to more offerings like *Fresh Tracks*.

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