



## Stone

*Max Monroe*

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# Stone

Max Monroe

**Stone** Max Monroe

**First, hate. Then, *want*. But in the end? Heartbreak.**

My celebrity life was supposed to be easy, and this movie was the biggest break of my career. But from the moment Officer Levi Fox gave me a speeding ticket on my way into town, he's been nothing but a thorn in my side.

Dominant. Cocky. *Callous*.

Midnight blue eyes, a bad attitude, and muscles for days, he's exactly the kind of man I should avoid.

But as the Cold, Montana Police Department's official movie liaison, he's taken up a permanent place in my life that I can't shake.

We fight. *A lot*.

Then, we kiss—and my carefully crafted hate toward him no longer feels so much like hate.

I'm falling

falling

*falling*.

But how often do alpha-jerks cushion the landing?

Note: Levi and Ivy's story will continue in Book Two—*Cold*.

## Stone Details

Date : Published March 24th 2018 by Max Monroe LLC (first published March 23rd 2018)

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Author : Max Monroe

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Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance

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## From Reader Review Stone for online ebook

### Nissa | Of Pens and Pages Book Blog says

#### 4.5 stars!

Review at Of Pens and Pages.

Max Monroe delivered something different but still so juicy and addicting! I had no idea what I was getting into when I got the ARC, but wow was I sucked right in. The first book in the trilogy was dark, promising, and now that I've finished it, I need to get my hands on *Cold* and *Fox* ASAP!

Cold, Montana's peace and quiet was disturbed by something they'd all rather forget, but six years later, Hollywood forces them to relive it. A serial killer, four victims, and one officer who sacrificed her life to catch the killer.

**Officer Levi Fox wants nothing to do with the film production but the Chief certainly doesn't think so. In the end, he was assigned to be the film's liaison.** He'd have to stick close to the cast and crew, especially to the actress playing his old partner Grace. But just because his Chief told him to do it doesn't mean he'll make it easy for her, no matter how gorgeous and irresistible she is.

**Ivy Stone, the lead actress, wants to give justice to her character, Officer Grace Murphy, but with the liaison being difficult**—he doesn't even hide his hate—she'll have to be creative in getting to know her character. He'll get mad at her no matter what she does anyway. She wants to know about Grace and the man who held her in his arms as she died. Levi was Grace's partner, and as much as Ivy wants to stay away, she can't help but want to know him.

I wanted to punch Levi and pull him close and jump him. An alpha through and through, this man. Brooding, mysterious, and has a presence that commands the whole room. He has demons he needs to face, and he makes some decisions that honestly made me so frustrated. The half-crescent marks on my palm are a testament to that. But, I can see why Ivy can't stay away. He's hot AF, mysterious, and I mean, a guy in uniform??? *Hello*.

Despite it's darker aura, there is still the signature Max Monroe humor I came to love. It blended perfectly with the mystery, intense sexual chemistry, and banter between the characters. The pacing was perfect, the whole story intriguing, and the book hard to put down!

I am itching to find out about Grace, I want to know more about the Cold-Hearted Killer, and most of all, I want to know what happens to Ivy and Levi. They have a love story seemingly bound to end in heartbreak, but I know there's something there.

I can't wait to read the rest!!! If you're looking for a smalltown Hollywood romance mixed with mystery and suspense, you'll enjoy reading *Stone* by Max Monroe!

**Tropes:** Celebrities—Actress, Hate to Love, Small Town

**POV:** First Person, Dual POV

**Standalone:** No

*\*ARC received in exchange for an honest review.*

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### **Melanie (mells\_view) says**

I'll start this off by saying that Stone is book one of the Stone Cold Fox trilogy. A broody cop acting as a liaison, and a down to earth Hollywood starlet come together reluctantly when a film based on the small town of Cold is being filmed on location. It's a pretty quick read, told from the POV's of Ivy and Levi.

What I'll say next is that this story was way more emotional than I thought it would be. Max Monroe usually gives me funny and quirky romcom, with a dash of emotion. This book was angst, emotional, and had characters that are way deeper than I was expecting. If you thought Max Monroe wasn't capable of doing emotional contemporary with some underlying heaviness, then let me correct you they kicked ass with this story.

Levi is moody and a bit broken. You can tell he is just this layered character, and we only chip the surface in this book. Ivy is motivated and genuine, you can really tell she puts her all into things from her actions in this book. When she cares about you she is invested. And together these two have this tension between them from the very minute that they meet, and it only progresses into a subconscious desire for one another. When they finally realize what they are actually feeling other than hate... well it may be a little too late. Max Monroe did so well with these two. I was so anxious to see what would happen every time they got together.

Clearly this book ends with a to be continued ending, since it's a trilogy. It definitely ends on a dramatic note, and it had me wanting to pinch some characters and hold others. I'm just so excited to see what comes next from Ivy, Levi, and the small town of Cold.

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### **☆ Bianca ☆ BJ's Book Blog ☆ says**

A few years ago a serial killer killed five girls in Cold, Montana.

And our hero Levi - a cop in town - has now been ordered to be the liaison to the Hollywood movie that's being filmed about the murders in Cold.

There's nothing he hates more than those Hollywood types coming into town to make another spectacle out of what happened. He has some very dark, sad, and personal memories about that time.

Ivy is the lead actress of that movie. She - and her whole film team - are already hated by Levi before they

even arrive in town. And then she goes and makes a horrible first impression.

But they have to work together for the next few months!

They kinda hate each other, but at the same time, there's this insane insta-attraction ....

Let the fun times begin!

?????????????????????????????

Eeeep - a surprise Max Monroe series!

I had no idea what it was about, but I couldn't wait to get started!!!!

And what can I say? So not surprised, because it's Max Monroe.... I LOVED IT.

It's something a bit different. With all the murders and the serial killer stuff still in the minds of the people of Cold. But of course the love story is the main part of the book. And you'll LOVE Ivy & Levi!

They go from insta-attraction and hate to so much more ... but of course nothing serious can ever happen between a famous actress - who is in town temporary and who is digging into Levi's and the town's past - and a Montana cop with secrets who hates everything Hollywood. Right?

But, of course it can. It will only take us three books to get to that happily ever after! At least I hope we'll get there! ?

STONE was such an adorable and sad and funny and exciting and moving and snowy Montana story. And a real Hollywood Romance too - even if we're never in California!!

You start reading and bam! You're right there in that icy cold Montana town. I even heard the snow crunch under Levi's boots and smelled the winter air! I just adored this book!

I NEEEEEEED to have #2 ASAP!!! I have to know what will happen next!

STONE was such an exciting & adorable & funny & moving & snowy Hollywood romance!  
Hurry to your nearest amazon asap - LEVI FOX will be sold out in no time!!!

*There's a tiny little thing I didn't LOVE-LOVE .... the cover. All three covers. If I would come across them in a bookstore, I would keep on walking. It's a bit ... no idea. The guy is cute, but the colors don't work for me and it's so blurry and not intense enough. I don't like the red and ... I know, I'm weird. I don't even really care about covers - I just love to look at them when they're amazing ... but this book was amazing in itself, so pfffft, don't care about the cover!*

PLEASE HURRY BOOK #2 - I NEED TO KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT!

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? ?

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### **Alex ? says**

Brooding, rude, ruthless, disturbing inexcusable mean a\$\$hole, who treated an *apparently* strong and cool woman like shit. And she, despite trying to convince the readers and I guess herself to be a strong and independent woman, was crushing on him/a policeman officer, who surely had problems with alcohol, and, don't forget, treated her like a disposal piece of plastic, but she just couldn't stop lusting after him, because he:

- was hot
- had damaged past
- was hot

Sorry, but it was pathetic.

I pity every single woman in this world, who is attracted to a man, who treats her like garbage.

And then he flirted with her twin sister and gave her false signals, so the girl attacked him the day after and it caused the scene, where the heroine witnessed her 'prince fuck-charming' kissing her twin sister.

Hell yeah!

Let us celebrate a woman, who would surely find many excuses for a jerk, who insulted her repeatedly, whom she saw sucking tongue with her twin sister, and without any doubt find her HEA with this cringy representative of a male gender, because he

- was hot
- had damaged past
- was hot

Incredible! Hell yeah!!!!

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### **Ari says**

*"Years of my life I'd spent as a walking zombie, but after a couple of weeks with Ivy Stone in town, comfortably numb was a memory. I was angry. I was charged. I was passionate. I was vibrant again. I was living. And she was the reason."*

I've been wanting to read Max Monroe's books for some time now and decided to take the plunge after Deanna and Cristina were both raving about *Stone*. *Stone* is the first book in the *Stone Cold Fox Trilogy* and I'm just warning y'all now that if you hate cliffhangers, you might want to hold off until all three books release so you don't have to suffer through the wait.

*Stone* is a romantic suspense novel that takes place in Cold, Montana. The town suffered a great loss after a serial killer took the lives of five women and now they are forced to relive the tale when Hollywood decides to make a film based on the events of these brutal murders. Ivy Stone, a fiery red-head and the lead actress in the film, wants to do her best to accurately portray the officer who lost her life to expose a murderer and who better to help her get into the role than Officer Levi Fox. Only problem, neither Ivy or Levi can stand one another so working together will be easier said than done.

This book had me hooked from the start. I ended up finishing it in 24 hours because my ass needed the tea on what actually went down with these murders, although we didn't get much since this author duo needs to drag out the mystery for two more books. But nonetheless, the story is still gripping and you may throw your eReader a few times. I loved Ivy. I expected her to be a little uppity, but she is actually super down to earth and I loved the fact that she genuinely cared for how Officer Grace was killed. I have a love/hate relationship Levi. That man urked my nerves with his broody ways, but he is still mourning the loss of his partner and best friend so I'll cut him some slack. He better get his shit together in the next book though or I will fight. The romance is a love-to-hate and is angsty as hell with a dash of steam and I can't wait to see what happens between two in the next book. I eagerly anticipate the release of *Cold* and *Fox* so I can see which of my theories are right and to see how things play out for Levi and Ivy.

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### **Carla Bulian says**

4,5. Perfeito! Adorei!!!! Difícil é aguardar o próximo!

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### **Shannon says**

4.5\*

Stone, the first book in the Stone Cold Fox trilogy, is such a departure from your typical Max Monroe book and I loved it! When you're used to an author writing in a certain style or genre it's sometimes hard to switch gears when they "switch gears", but no such worry with this book!

I was completely intrigued with Ivy and Levi's story, right from the start- I had a hard time putting it down to go about my day. And I am so, so ready to have *Cold* in my hands.

Stone is emotional, suspenseful, angsty, unexpected, and completely captivating. From the Intro I knew this book was going to be nothing like any of the others I've read from this duo before, and it wasn't. It was even better than I could have hoped or imagined.

When Hollywood takes over small town Cold, Montana, bringing star Ivy Stone into Officer Levi Fox's orbit, he doesn't know what's hit him. Dredging up memories he still can't come to terms with, Ivy and her movie are the last thing he wants to deal with. There's nothing more he'd love than for them to pack up and get out of his town. But as the liaison for the police department, he's stuck having his memories, and the

guilt he's hanging onto, brought up time and time again. As he and Ivy spend more and more time together, she burrows under his skin in a way he can't shake, as much as he would love to. The chemistry between the two is explosive, and he's not prepared for the feelings and emotions she brings out in him. It's really more than either of them can handle.

Since this is a trilogy I'm not giving anything away by saying Stone ends on a cliffhanger. And what a cliffy it is! Ivy and Levi have shared some very intense and very passionate encounters, and their last confrontation leaves them both reeling, wounded, and on edge. I cannot wait to see what Max Monroe has in store for these two in Cold.

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### **Dri ☆ says**

**★ 3.5 STARS ★**

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### **1-Click Addict Support Group says**

Complicated and oh so good...

Oh the sweet, sweet tension... I LOVED this first in a trilogy that could only be better if all books in the series were available right now!

***“..of all the men on the planet, my body decided to be attracted to the biggest dick of all.”***

Ahh, Levi... This strong, sexy as sin police officer is a poster child of tortured confusion. And I do mean tortured. It's the only word that I can think of for the way he lives in the past, consumed by love, grief, regret, bitterness... He shares that turmoil in so many different ways with Ivy being a frequent target. There are hints all around about what drives him, what haunts him, but I don't know if we have the full story yet...

Ivy is a feisty heroine who I want to be the best of friends with! She is serious about her craft and cares about those around her. Even when Levi is driving her insane she can't help but empathize and feel for what he must be going through. Even when he is being, well, a dick.

***“That one moment of pussy-to-brain consultation had been enough to slam on the brakes.”***

Together they are gold...

Seriously! The back and forth between them runs the gamut from barely restrained hostility to sexual tension that spills deliciously over. At times, they are awkward and uneasy. Others, they are serious and brooding. There is also loving and caring in between the arguments that blew hot and cold. Bonds were building but will they keep them together or pull them apart....

This gem finished in a cliffhanger that brought the emotions way, way up and then.... Brought me back to reality with a 'coming soon'. Cruel, so cruel.... Bring on book two! ~Diane, 5 stars

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### ☆ BJ's Book Blog ☆Janeane ☆ says

ARC received for an honest review

A new Max Monroe series, and a surprise one at that - woohoo!

I didn't know what to expect when Stone turned up on my kindle, but I dived right in and I didn't emerge until I had finished reading. I was all in right from the start.

Levi and Ivy's story really shows that there is a fine line between love and hate. They are full of snark and bite, but underneath it all there is the pull of attraction.

Stone is not full of all the fun and laughter of their previous series, it is darker and sadder, but it is just as amazing.

Levi and Ivy had me wanting, hoping they can fight their way to a HEA. And just when you think it might be going to happen.

BAM! We are cliffhangered - but that's OK, it is only a few weeks until the second book comes out. Delayed gratification and all that jazz!

Can't wait for Cold - bring on April 22nd!

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### Angie - Angie's Dreamy Reads says

4.5 STARS!!! So intense and twisty and sexy and heart stopping! Absolutely loved this one! And I'm dying for more!

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### Grey says

Take a second and use brain bleach. Forget everything you know about Max Monroe.

I received an ARC for number 2 in this series Cold... which I will most definitely be starting as soon as I am finished with this review because book, (this one), Stone, ends with a bit of a cliffy and gah... my heart is a bit wounded.

OK, so, I recommended that you forget what you know about the writing duo of Max Monroe, because this book has a bit of a different flair than the typical laugh out loud rom-com brilliance of Georgia and Kline, or Thatch and Cassie in their Bad Boy Billionaires series...

This book, while still as well-written as we all have come to expect from all of the Max Monroe masterpieces, aims in a slightly different direction than their usual works. Its compass pointing 'due-feels'. A quick read... and the first in a 3 part trio, the angst in this one had me reaching for my normal stand-by, Godiva.

There's a Spotify Soundtrack...woot woot!

He's a bully... you guys know how I feel about them, they're my favorite book boyfriend. But he's a misunderstood jerk... which is \*really\* my favorite kind. Oh, Levi. Let me love you.

And Ivy Stone, the Hollywood starlet, who wants to do the town of Cold, Montana, right... she's ballsy and pretty much perfect too... except, well...read it.

4.25 stars.

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### **Melanie A. says**

#### **4.5 STARS!**

*He was tortured, and I was the salve. I just had to dance to his lead until he could see the truth. I'd honestly believed that.*

SURPRISE! This book was so much better than I was anticipating! It was edgy, angsty, *and* funny - that's like a trifecta of contemporary awesomeness for me, lol.

Actress Ivy Stone arrives in Cold, Montana, to shoot a movie about the tragic true story of a female cop who stopped a serial killer in the small town not so long ago. Not everyone wants the movie to be made, including Officer Levi Fox:

*Hollywood was really making a movie based on something that had happened in my life. No doubt, the worst experience of my life. One I still hadn't found closure from.*

Levi is forced to be the police liaison for the movie and that means helping Ivy out with her research for the role. Ivy is taken aback by the level of hostility Levi shows her.

So, it's no secret that I adore an enemies to lovers story . . . and this one really delivered, especially because Ivy didn't let Levi tear her down. She easily held her own and then some.

*He might've been a hot as fuck alpha cop, even when he was so obviously hungover, but he was also the dick who welcomed me to Cold, Montana with . . . (sorry, no spoilers :-)*

Together, these two were explosive! Honestly, they had some of the best '*I loathe you, but I want you so bad*' scenes I've ever read. And the way their 'relationship' contrasted so sharply with the small-town setting and their interactions with other characters was really well done; it made the events near the end of the story that much more potent. Be prepared for some great angst-filled moments.

Plus, as an added bonus, the narrative was peppered with humor that I found laugh-out-loud funny:

*Through the glass behind her, I could see that ninety percent of the whopping five desks in the pit were empty.*

*Wait? That would mean there was half a guy, wouldn't it? Whatever, I'm bad at math. There's only one cop working.*

I also loved that even though the reader knows *generally* what happened all those years ago with the serial killer, *specifically* what happened to have affected Levi so deeply is only doled out in bits and pieces. I have my suspicions, but I can honestly say I'm not sure.

If you're into the following, this book is definitely for you:

- ==> enemies to lovers
- ==> sex-on-a-stick brooding alpha hero
- ==> self-possessed, strong-willed heroine
- ==> MC's from 'different worlds'
- ==> angst, humor, and/or mystery

But . . . WARNING: this is a trilogy, and this installment ends on a mild cliffhanger. All 3 parts will be out by May. **I can't wait!!**

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### **Max Monroe says**

STONE is now FREE in Kindle Unlimited!

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Thank you SO much for reading!

XOXO

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