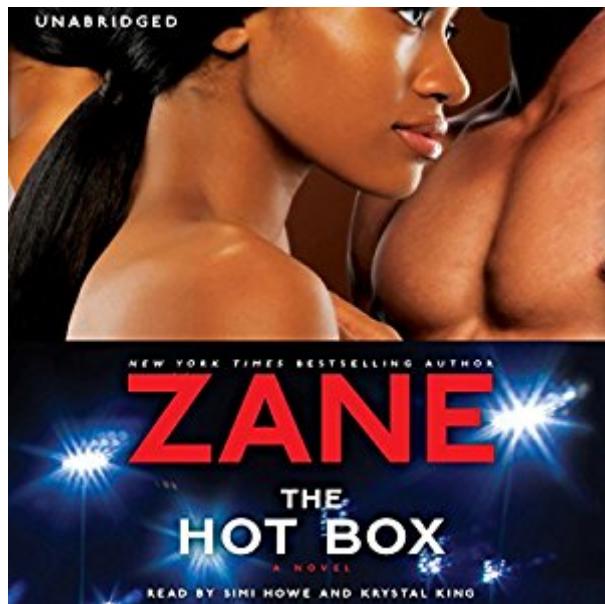


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# The Hot Box: A Novel



## **Synopsis**

"Hot Box" is a baseball drill that can be played with three or more players and two to four bases. The players take turns being fielders and runners, ultimately trying to tag the rest of the players out. In The Hot Box, best friends Milena and Lydia are playing the game with Jacour, Yosef, Glenn, and Phil. The only problem: the men do not realize that they are playing. Milena lives a sheltered and dismal existence and has not allowed a man to touch her body in eight years...until now. Lydia dreams of getting away from small-town America but, until she can make that happen, she is prepared to do whatever it takes to continue to have her bills paid...on time. Good sex always does the trick. Two women. Four men. Two love triangles. Listening has never been this hot because, once again, Zane is taking you outside the box.

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 8 hours and 24 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio

Audible.com Release Date: August 10, 2010

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B003Z8XFUQ

Best Sellers Rank: #81 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Erotica > African American #251 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Erotica #1904 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Erotica > Romantic

## **Customer Reviews**

i finished reading the hot box sometime last week after having it in my Kindle Library for the longest . i was captured into the story only after the first few chapters . i liked it for the most part because it was very different from other novels Zane has written (and i've read a good amount of her books) . from the steamy sex scenes to the love story . parts of the plot and the main character Milena dissapointed me at times but the ending made it all worth it ! Good read !!

This moral train wreck centers on the love lives of best friends Milena Clark and Lydia Sterling. (Perhaps the sister of Patrick Sterling from A Total Eclipse of the Heart: A Novel?) After breaking

off her engagement the day of her wedding, Milena is now a hermit that focuses only on her local veterinary practice. Having been hurt so badly by her ex-fiancé, Milena has foolishly for the past eight years warded off men completely, and even let her appearance go in hopes of not attracting the opposite sex. On the other hand, Lydia is a conceded nymphomaniac on the prowl, and has seamlessly been juggling two lovers secretly for years. These best friends appear to be opposites at first, but before long it becomes clear that the old saying, "Birds of a feather flock together." rings true. Milena's ex Jacour abruptly returns to town for good after eight years of playing for the Yankees. He is on a mission to reclaim his lost love and although she is still in love with him, she still refuses to forgive him for his only transgression. Immaturely she fabricates a love interest and decides to do anything within her power to keep the facts that she has been alone, pissed, and miserable all these years a secret from him. She is determined to search every inch of the state for a man that can pose as the fake "light of her life" as she puts it, Randolph. Disturbingly, Milena finds her fake Randolph in the form of a homeless man begging for change in the street. Once the man, whose actual name is Yosef, agrees to lie for her, not only does she clean him up and let him move in, but she actually develops feelings for him. Love and lies were already involved, but sex quickly follows as Milena finds herself stuck in a love triangle with a millionaire and a vagrant. Lydia has a scandal of her own that she immerses herself in. Not only is she having sex with her boyfriend Glenn everyday, she is also doing it with his best friend Phil as much as she can. She feels as if her lady parts are lined in gold, and that she is irresistible to the opposite sex. She somehow feels that her beauty and bedroom skills can get her anything she wants, yet her reality is very bleak. She works a dead in job, lives off of her boyfriend because she cannot support herself, and has never done anything halfway decent with her life. She absolutely hates living in North Carolina and dreams of moving constantly, but never does anything but make empty plans. Lydia doesn't care a bit for the men in her life, and as repulsive as this character is, she is somehow endearing. Although the roller coaster of ups and downs with Milena, Jacour, and Yosef/Randolph is frustrating, unnerving, and sure to make you cringe, you won't be able to put this book down. You will be flipping pages as fast as you can watching the story of Lydia, Glenn, and Phil unfold while holding your breath waiting for the other shoe to drop. The happily ever after ending is sure to shock. *The Hot Box: A Novel* was of course well written, like all of Zane's other novels. It has a flow unlike her older works and along with *A Total Eclipse of the Heart: A Novel*, it is in a different class. Although the drama and the sex are still there, Zane now seems to be focusing more than ever on the meaning behind everything she writes. Noticeably trying to reach out to her readers and teach us lessons as she entertains. Although noble, I say it unfortunately does not make the material better, but takes

from it. I will still buy the next novel if this new style of Zane is here to stay but, I doubt it will be a five star read.

This book was pretty good. Its the first book I read of this author. Even though this is not my kind of read, I am enjoying it. I wanted to take a break from dark horror books and read some drama, and boy did I find a nice pocket full. I will try more books from this author in the future when I want a nice drama story. EDIT REVIEW 10-26-2012 The last few chapters of this books will have you saying "WHAT!!" "OMG!" "HUH!" "WOW!" The book takes off at the near end! The outcome is not predictable. (At least not to me!) The last few chapters in this book has made me come back and edit my review and give it a 5 star other than a 4. When I first made the review, I was close to finishing it but I thought I would know how it would end. Boy was I a dummy! I recomend you buying this book or buy it for a friend! This was a good book of players who thought they could never be played.

I enjoyed reading this book. I oftentimes don't have time to read as much as I like between my family life and work. However, this book was so good, I couldn't put it down. I ordered it on kindle and I read it within one day. The only negative aspect I can point out is the way the "twist" unfolded. The reactions of some of the characters did not seem real to me. Hence, I gave it 4 stars instead of 5. But that is nothing major to make me not recommend the book for reading.

love Zane always been a fan even though this book was more subdue sexually than her usual work.

I felt like the story was rushed just a little bit towards the end but I definitely enjoyed the read.

Great novel! Zane you've done it again. Great read, keep my interest all the way to the end. I like the bittersweet parts about the homeless man that she cleans up and fall in love with. And I like the way he believed that he had to make something of himself in order to be with her... I especially enjoyed the ending. It reminded me that though we resist change, it is inevitable. Change is good...

Bought it for my roommates birthday and she can't get enough of it. Even played roulette and we yelled out random numbers to see if we got a naughty page, so much fun. She's not big on reading but wanted a steamy book. She likes drama and this book is full of tea. Five stars!

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