As the NHL waits for its first openly gay star, “Heated Rivalry” brings that reality to television

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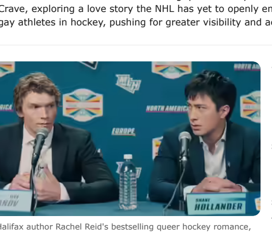
Halifax author Rachel Reid's bestselling queer hockey romance, "Heated Rivalry," is becoming a TV series on Crave, exploring a love story the NHL has yet to openly embrace. Reid's explicit and bold narratives normalize gay athletes in hockey, pushing for greater visibility and acceptance. The series aims to foster conve ... Read More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What if the NHL’s most intense rivals weren’t just battling for the Stanley Cup, but also each other’s hearts? That’s the world Halifax author Rachel Reid has created, and hockey fans are about to see it play out on screen. Her bestselling queer hockey romance, Heated Rivalry, is officially becoming a TV series on Crave, exploring a love story the real-life league still hasn’t made room for openly.

A love story born from hockey culture but breaking its silence

Reid’s series follows two superstar players whose careers and emotions collide in ways that reshape everything they thought they knew about the sport. “I was just being hopeful,” Reid explained of her inspiration. She wanted to imagine “my own kind of … best case scenario if, like, a player did come out and in a way that he completely owned and it was a joyous moment for him and it was celebrated.”

Her books don’t shy away from passion. They are intentionally explicit and bold in their intimacy. Yet the truly radical part is how normal she makes it feel for gay athletes to exist openly in the NHL.

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