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## **Let's Get Intimate – The Last Four Stages of Intimacy**

By Debora Dennis

Welcome back to the stages of intimacy! If you've come this far, you are well on the road toward getting your characters to the "point of no return." Knowing how to use sexual tension and physical intimacy to heat up the pages and create dynamic characters with loads of tension is an essential part of a good romance novel. Whether you're writing a sweet inspirational or a book with no closed doors allowed...the trick is to know how to do it in a way that leaves the reader satisfied. Not every story or couple will get to the last stage, but if they're headed in that direction, these last four can be quite exciting!

In the first four stages, they noticed each other with eye to body, moved on to eye to eye, then voice to voice and finally we had contact with hand to hand!

In the middle four stages, arms went around shoulders, arms lingered on waists or the small of her back, we felt the fresh excitement of a first kiss with mouth to mouth and witnessed the familiar and sexy hand to head move.

Now it's time to get them closer and maybe even to the sweet spot!

Of course, the length of your story, the heat level you're writing, and your characters will all dictate how fast or slow any of the stages last (or even if they show up in your story at all) - the idea here is to know them and use them wisely to get the biggest emotional impact.

**Hand to body** – Oh those roaming hands! There's still time for your characters to pull away, to be interrupted and develop further tension at this stage. This move is all about exploring, about getting closer. As the intimacy builds, this is a place for emotional and internal conflict. Is he getting too close to fast? Does she pull away?

**Mouth to Breast** – Now this is getting closer to the point of no return. This is an act of trust, it's emotional and one that can define your characters true feelings and inner conflicts. This is

foreplay, baby! The fuse has been lit and fires are starting to burn. It's time to fan those flames and turn up the heat.

**Hand to Genital** – Kicking the foreplay into high gear. While either party can still retreat, it can't be done without heaping on hurt feelings. At this point the guy has gone into "launch mode" and for her to stop the countdown now you can bet it won't be met with enthusiasm! Imagine the conflict you can inflict on these two at this stage of the game, oh the tension of being interrupted.

**Genital to Genital** – Home run. Point of no return. The big payoff. Liftoff. Whatever you want to call it – **THEY HAVE ARRIVED!** There are no interruptions, no turning back. How much you share or don't share is up to you, your characters and the story you're writing. Whether it's implied and off the page or a fully graphic consummated scene, it doesn't have to be the end of the emotional journey, or the end of the story for that matter, it just has to be anticipated by the reader and fulfilling.

All these things together are like a road map to adding a layer of physical intimacy for your characters and their story. Now it's up to you to put them together in a way that suits the story the best. Linger on one stage, rush through another...it's all a part of building the intimate connection between two people and dragging the reader along for the ride. It's all about packing the emotional punch. Make the reader feel the connection and the tingle of heat and you're on your way.

Now you have all 12 stages to easily plot your characters intimacy and trust me, following a path and calculating each step leads to a bigger emotional payoff at the end. Now go forth, explore some ways to get intimate and most of all, have fun!

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Debra Dennis writes sexy time travels because she believes in second chances and that it's always the right time to fall in love. You can find her at [www.deboradennis.com](http://www.deboradennis.com), blogging several times a week, procrastinating on Twitter or chatting away on Facebook—all in the name of researching her next book.