

*Love Inspired* SUSPENSE

Backfire

Elizabeth Goddard

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## Backfire

*Elizabeth Goddard*

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# Backfire

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**Backfire** Elizabeth Goddard

NOWHERE LEFT TO HIDE

Tracy Murray had thought she'd be safe disappearing in the wilds of Alaska after her testimony put away a gang leader. But the gang symbol tattooed on an attacker's arm means the clock has run out. She's been found—and she knows the killers won't let her escape alive again. She can't fight an entire gang alone—she needs help. But when she finds herself relying on widowed firefighter David Warren, a new struggle emerges. Fleeing Alaska and cutting all ties could be the only way to survive...but it would mean leaving her heart behind.

Mountain Cove: In the Alaskan wilderness, love and danger collide

## Backfire Details

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Author : Elizabeth Goddard

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# From Reader Review Backfire for online ebook

## Elizabeth says

Backfire ( Mountain Cove #3 )

By, Elizabeth Goddard

Backfire is the third book in Mountain Cove series, but it can be read as a stand alone. I had no problems following the story or the characters. Goddard has weaved us a story full of action , danger, and romance suspense. I was grabbed from the start and not releases till the end. I love the two main characters , Tracy and David. Both has loses in their past and trying to recover. Is Tracy safe in the wilderness , where love and danger collides ? David is my hero, he is a widower , he lost his wife and trying to recover. Oh, there is another character you will just fall in love with and that is , Solomon, a search-and -rescue dog. I caught myself holding my breath a lot in Backfire, so do remember to breathe. Be sure and get you a copy of Backfire so you can read more about these wonderful and exciting characters deep in Alaska. I was given a copy of this book by the author for my honest review, which I have given.

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## Wilani Wahl says

Page turning suspense that will have you hooked from the beginning. I fell in love with the characters and fell like I was right there living everything with them. This book is well written. In addition to the awesome suspense I loved the Spiritual thread throughout the book. One of my favorite quotes from the book--“There are no guarantees. We have to live each moment as if it was our last. Treasure the time we are here. Cherish our loved ones.” I am looking forward to the next book in this series. I was given a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

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## Debbie Oxier says

There were too many things wrong with this story for me to like it. David was a firefighter whose wife actually died when their house caught on fire. He blames himself for not saving her so he doesn't want to love again. Tracy witnessed a gang leader committing arson and murder and is hiding out in Alaska, refusing to go into the Witness Protection Program. Even though the bad guy is in prison, his gang is still looking for her. When one of them shows up where she is, bad things start happening. First of all, why wouldn't they just kill her? Instead, a grocery store where she shops burns down with the clerk in it. To get back at Tracy? He could have walked in and shot her. Then David has a flat, is knocked on the head and wakes up in his burning truck. Coincidentally, his brother just happens by at that moment and saves him. Oh, it's his brother's truck. Remember that for later. Next, Tracy is helping serve breakfast at the bed and breakfast where she works when it appears a guest is eyeing her strangely. She pours hot coffee on his arm to make him reveal the gang tattoo on his wrist. He runs away. Why not just shoot her before he takes off? Because obviously the story can't end yet. So what does David do? He takes Tracy to stay with his grandmother!!! Putting her directly in the line of fire ( no pun intended, except then the killer burns his brother's store down.) While all these things are going on, Tracy is wavering between staying or getting out of town, even though it's apparent she's the cause of everything. She's put several calls in to the U. S. Marshall who is her contact, but the woman keeps putting her off. Seriously? Isn't her job to protect? Why isn't she urging Tracy to come in? Can anybody say red flag? Then poor David, he's having a terrible time with this because his first wife dies

and now Tracy is in danger and he doesn't want to fail her too so he keeps putting the rest of his family in danger until he decides if he loves Tracy or not. I'm sorry, but this was just too much for me. I kept waiting for the Marshalls to whisk her away or at the very least for David to hide her somewhere. And what's really odd was that in spite of the killer's actions, the town's people supposedly had Tracy's back. So what if he burned down the entire town and took them with it - which he did set a forest fire in order to finally kill Tracy. I've read a couple of books by the author before but I couldn't fathom this one at all.

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### **Hannah says**

3.5 stars

While the plotting and writing was more realistic and engaging than the first in the series (no strange color/word picture issues interrupted me), there were a number of coincidences in plot that made it so I couldn't quite call it "very good" and some large loads of predictability. It was a fun read, though, and I definitely enjoyed the characters!

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### **Brittany says**

Backfire is the newest addition to the Mountain Cove series, but can definitely be read as a stand alone novel. I enjoyed this action-packed story!

The two main characters are very likeable, yet both are filled with guilt over past losses they each endured. Watching them battle the guilt from the past, against their growing attraction to each other, made this already exciting story even more so.

This was a very intense plot and each time it seemed that Tracy and David might be past the worst, the author added a new twist and kept things very exciting. I enjoyed getting a quick peek back into this search and rescue family and getting to know the oldest Warren brother's back story.

I definitely recommend this book to fans of romantic suspense.

My thanks to the author for the complimentary copy of this book that I received in exchange for an honest review.

This review will post on my blog on 5/25/2015.

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### **Valri Western says**

I have enjoyed this series and have been looking forward to David's story. He is a widowed firefighter who wasn't there to save his wife several years before and has lived with the guilt ever since. The heroine, Tracy, moved to Mountain Cove in the Alaska wilderness after testifying against a gang leader. She didn't want to be put in the witness protection program a couple years earlier but thought no one would find her in this small backwoods town in Alaska until she sees a gang tattoo on an arm of a man who attacks a man on a trail

while she is running with her dog! Her life is suddenly thrown into chaos again! I can only imagine how someone in Tracy's position would feel. Suddenly everyone you know, or are in contact with is threatened, even the grocery store owner! I think I would fold under the pressure! If my family, friends or even acquaintances were being threatened, I think I would just run to the nearest US Marshall! Tracy, though, let's David help her. I enjoyed this story and the action is non-stop! Just when you think nothing else can happen, it does! It gives an accurate portrayal of the lengths to which gangs will go to silence anyone who gets in their way. I am already looking forward to the next book in the series. You don't have to read the other books in the series to read this one though! It can stand alone!

\*\* I received this book from the author for an honest review.

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### **Laura Grace says**

In BACKFIRE I liked Tracy, but I have to admit that I enjoyed David more. Like the previous two books in the Mountain Cove series, Elizabeth has made the epiphany of a true hero. David was no exception to this. He's far from perfect, but yet he was willing to put himself on the line for the woman he loves every time.

I thought it pretty neat that Elizabeth had included a search-and-rescue dog in the story. In my opinion it gave a little bit of an edge to some of the situations that Solomon was involved in. Plus, I'm an animal lover who enjoys reading about a character with a pet every now and then.

Lastly, I have to mention that I absolutely loved the ending! It was perfect, especially since the events that Tracy and David went through together as the book progressed. It definitely made the story that much sweeter.

I recommend BACKFIRE to readers of suspense who enjoy a twist of events and romance.

\*(I received this novel from the author in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts expressed are my own and I was not required to write a positive review.)\*

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### **Carol says**

Intriguing, well plotted book with tension that is thick and well sustained and ends in the midst of a "Backfire".

Tracy Murray has moved to Mountain Cove in Alaska with her dog, Solomon. Solomon becomes a search-and -rescue dog.

While participating in search-and-rescues, they meet David Warren, a widowed firefighter. And sparks fly!!!

But both, Tracey and David are hiding from the past filled with doubt and self-recrimination. Tracey testified against a gang leader who has threatened to kill her so she is trying to hide from this gang. David is recovering from the death of his wife.

David intentions are only to help keep Tracey safe, but things just get more and more complicated as the story progresses.

Just the right mix of action, mystery, intrigue and romance that will keep you glued from the beginning to the end.

This is the third book in Elizabeth Goddard's Mountain Cove Series but can be read as a stand alone.

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### **Kara says**

Wow oh wow!! Another fast-paced, explosive, how can this be happening, RUN FAST, try and keep up, dodging bullets and danger at EVERY turn, can't trust the authorities but wishing we could, heroic, nonstop, how do we STOP this villain, SPECTACULAR story from Goddard \*taking a breath\*

Love Solomon the dog, hated how this gang member was ALWAYS a step ahead attempting to kill or harm innocent people along the way just because ONE woman testified against him and she blames HERSELF every time someone gets hurt (c'MON Tracy, TOTALLY not your fault, forgive yourself and LOOK OUT!). The villain is a pyromaniac so LOTS of fires in this one just because he can! Also frustrating how the police don't take the case seriously at first because Tracy is kind of new in town and attempting to hide out so no one really understands that a real psycho is on the loose, just not right.

Then there's David, an incredible guy and FIREFIGHTER/MEDIC, who thinks he doesn't deserve a second chance at love because he feels responsible for his wife's death. Okay David, I understand regret but you also NEED to forgive yourself and buck up because the story gets you involved FAST while buildings are burning down and then something bad happens to your AWESOME truck (SOOOOOO not cool) and Tracy will only feel safe because of you and your courage.

These two do EVERYTHING possible NOT to fall in love with one another, but unfortunately when dangerous circumstances place you both in the middle, it ONLY makes you fall faster than you would in regular life (didn't either of these wonderful characters watch the movie SPEED?). However, this is not a bad thing, just that your emotions and adrenaline are high, sleep is very low, and you really have no choice but to stick together in this or it will be worse.

Another GREAT book from Goddard who knows how to raise the stakes and make the reader GLUED to the page. I promised myself i would finish just one more chapter and then go to sleep and that DID NOT work :) One of my fave parts of the story (other than Solomon the dog being so awesome) was the beauty for ashes scripture and reference used towards the end. It was difficult for Tracy to believe in God's protection/love/provision, but that's understandable considering all the trauma she went through. Despite her doubts, there WAS faith and prayer throughout the story from David and other characters that help in the plot.

Also loved the author's note at the end of the book, it was an enhancement to an already terrific story :) So what are you waiting for? Get a copy of this ASAP and prepare for a romantic/suspenseful adventure that Goddard does SO WELL!

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### **Michelle says**

Backfire, Mountain Cove series book 3 by Elizabeth Goddard  
Love Inspired Suspense

## Christian Fiction

Look out Christian fiction book lovers Elizabeth Goddard has written another 5 star book to set your world on fire. Backfire is action packed with a heat filled plot. The Mountain Cove series has been great and I look forward to more. This book can be read as a stand alone. Elizabeth Goddard interweaves suspense, faith and romance to create a awesome book.

Tracy moves to Mountain Cove to get away from a gang member set to kill her for revenge. Our hero David is a firefighter. They take us on a adventure through Alaska wilderness. There story is heartfelt and blessed. Makes me feel hero really do exist.

I want to thank the author Elizabeth Goddard and publisher Love Inspired Suspense for bringing good clean Christian books like this one to readers like me. I was provided with this book in exchange for my honest review.

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### **Karen says**

This was an easy read. A decent mystery/suspense. A bit slow on the romance side. I enjoyed it, don't get me wrong, but I felt like the relationship between Tracy and David just wasn't ever there, and then at the end I was to believe they were "in love". I just had a bit of a hard time with that angle.

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### **Barb says**

Mountain Cove: In the Alaskan wilderness, love and danger collide

Tracy Murray had thought she'd be safe disappearing in the wilds of Alaska after her testimony put away a gang leader. But the gang symbol tattooed on an attacker's arm means the clock has run out. She's been found--and she knows the killers won't let her escape alive again. She can't fight an entire gang alone--she needs help. But when she finds herself relying on widowed firefighter David Warren, a new struggle emerges. Fleeing Alaska and cutting all ties could be the only way to survive...but it would mean leaving her heart behind.

A definate page turner. Keeps you on the edge of your seat. Every turn of the page brings new problems and no answers. An exciting read. 5 stars.

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### **Kathy Davie says**

Third in the Mountain Cove Christian romance series and revolving around a small, almost inaccessible small town in Alaska. The couple focus is on Tracy Murray and David Warren.

### **My Take**

Christ, this was bad. The story is cute enough, but the execution...yeah, *execution* is the right word. Keeping in mind that I'm an agnostic and don't particularly enjoy religious anything (so it may color my review), Goddard was an annoying writer.

She kept repeating thoughts and conversations. Enough so, that my eyes started rolling without thought from me. In some respects, I think Goddard has had some sort of therapy that requires restating what someone has said to you to ensure you've heard it correctly, giving the other speaker a chance to correct any

misunderstandings. It's a great technique in boss-underling or an argumentative situation, but please, not in ordinary conversations.

Then there's the premise: a witness who has gone into hiding but not in WITSEC. Fine and good. I can understand not wanting to cut all ties to one's family. But she keeps whining on and on about WITSEC, hiding from the bad guy, worrying about her family, oh woe, the trouble she has brought onto the town. She must leave, disappear, and then the bad guy won't come after her family or friends.

Huh? You mean, if she disappears, then the bad guy's interest in her family will disappear? I don't think so. He's gonna keep taking people out whether she's there or not. The way Tracy leads David on is so annoying, even if it is consistent with Tracy's stupidity. Goddard does not make this believable at all. I know that writers do make *I want him, I don't want him* a part of the conflict, but they do a much better job.

Then there is their similar but separate guilt over how *they caused* the deaths of their loved ones. Dang, that called for an eye roll that sank mah eyes down to mah toes. Gag. Yes, it means they can never love again. And, yep, it means that melodrama is rife, only this melodrama is really low key. I suspect it's because Goddard is all *tell*. There is no *show* in this, so Goddard doesn't pull you into the story.

There's no lead-up in the small things as Goddard jumps without her characters needing to think. Hmm, okay, that's not fair of me. Goddard doesn't have her characters doing any productive thinking, so she is being consistent. So am I. Being consistent. I do not like Goddard's writing at all.

How can anyone be so lame as to not think of where strangers might be congregating?? Duh. More duh, is that solution at the end. Why wouldn't she have thought of it before? At the least, she could have changed her name on her own. It wouldn't mean abandoning her family. Major duh.

I do like the town and the people are very nice. But it's not worth suffering through the story. I'd only recommend this to people who love Christian romances and don't pay attention to how it's written. And don't want to be emotionally involved in it.

### **The Story**

He's found her, and he's burning down businesses and homes of anyone who has contact with her.

She has to leave.

### **The Characters**

**Tracy Murray** was an editor in her other life. Now she's the whiny, stupid, lame-ass woman in hiding from the man she put away in prison and working as a maid-of-all-work at a B&B in Mountain Cove. **Solomon** is her air-scenting search-and-rescue dog. He rescued her as well. **Derrick** was the investigative reporter she'd almost married. Her family (**Gina** is her mom; **Carol** is her sister) refused WITSEC, so she did too. **Jewel** is her friend and runs the B&B.

**David Warren** is a firefighter these days, retired from his days as a wildfire fighter after he lost his wife, **Natalie**, in a house fire. The guilt is killing this whiny man. To be fair, he is a decent man who wants to help. **Adam, Isaiah** (he's married to **Heidi**), and **Cade** (**Leah** is his wife and **Scott** is their baby son) are his brothers. **Katy** is their beloved grandmother.

**Jay Woodall** is the hiker who's shoved off a cliff. **Veronica** is a grocery store clerk. **Billy** is a float plane pilot. **Winters** is the chief of police in Mountain Cove. **Marshal Hanes** is Tracy's contact regarding future



WITSEC possibilities. **Detective Palmer** is running the investigation in Missouri. **John and Kari Nash** are David's friends on the Kenai Peninsula.

**Carlos Santino** is the gang leader in jail because of Tracy's testimony. **Clarence Mercado** is one of his.

### **The Cover and Title**

The cover is a forest fire with leaping, roiling flames and smoke in a stand of tall pines.

The title is how Tracy is rescued, a *Backfire* of biblical revenge.

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### **Marji Laine says**

I loved these characters. Elizabeth Goddard ties up the threads of her third book of the Mountain Cove series in a perfect bow. Brief cameos from the heroes and heroines of the other two books are embellishments on this story. But David and Tracy, along with a search and rescue dog named Solomon, carried me away with their intrigue.

Intense suspense kept me turning the pages. It seemed the worst thing I could imagine was exactly the thing that happened next. The author masterfully created a twisted and helpless situation, while digging deep into the psyche of characters marked by brokenness and tragedy.

Anyone enjoying suspense or romance will love this book.

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### **Katrina Epperson says**

When this book arrived my first impression was "Wow!"

The beautiful cover only gives a hint as to the truly amazing story within. This is the third installment in the Mountain Cove series, but I think it's definitely a stand alone story.

Tracy Murray moved to Mountain Cove a couple of years ago in hopes of just disappearing and so far she has been successful. She and her dog, Solomon, have lived a private life. Solomon was a air-scent rescue dog and was in training for both cadaver and avalanche certification, but Solomon was much more than that to Tracy. She had been running for so long that she was unsure how to stop, but was trying.

David Warren has been trying to move on with his life since the death of his wife, but some days seem harder than others. He learned the best thing he could do was keep putting one foot in front of the other and rely on God's help.

One summer day Tracy decided to hike up to Keller Falls with Solomon, but an uneasy feeling crept upon her. She when Solomon took off and barked an alert she knew something unexpected was pushing her forward. Finding the hiker and that he was alive pushed her into action. Luckily David was on the trail and heard Solomon's barks and knew something was up and headed in their direction.

I found Tracy a very endearing character. She draws you into the story immediately. Her courage shows in numerous ways as the story unfolds. David is a character that you fall in love with immediately.

The characters find a way into your heart immediately and the storyline keeps you turning the pages. The imagery will literally bring the story to life for the reader. I recommend this book to anyone who loves a mystery, intrigue and a good, clean romance.

I was given this book by the author for a honest and unbiased opinion as stated above.

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