



The Firefighter's Appeal

Elizabeth Otto

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Reliving the past ...or letting it go?

Lily Ashden is finally ready to have fun again. It's been a year since she survived a deadly house fire, and she wants to celebrate being alive. Enter Garrett Mateo—gorgeous, funny and extremely capable of arousing her flirtatious side. He would be perfect...if only he wasn't a firefighter. After what happened to her, she refuses to consider him.

Too bad Garrett is suddenly everywhere, tempting her to look beyond his job. His charm proves irresistible, and Lily lets herself fall...until she learns his devastating secret. Now she must decide if her future happiness depends on giving him another chance....

The Firefighter's Appeal Details

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From Reader Review *The Firefighter's Appeal* for online ebook

Nicola says

I make no secret that I have a bit of a soft spot for a firefighter. Who can resist a rescuer of fellow beings and fluffy kitties? If a romantic, sexy and emotional romance is what you're after *The Firefighter's Appeal*, is that and does indeed contain a firefighter with plenty of appeal...

Elizabeth Otto has brought us a story encompassing love, loss, grief and acceptance. Both Garrett and Lily are strong and determined with pasts that have shaped them into individuals who have more in common than they realise. They have realistic insecurities and vulnerabilities and you can't not feel for them.

"I promise you'll know with every touch, every kiss, how much I don't take this moment with you for granted."

Garrett was a sweetheart, I adored his honest nature. Yet I have to confess, throughout the first 60%, I felt something was missing and no matter how hard I tried, I couldn't put my finger on what it was. The chemistry between Lily and Garrett was evident from the opening chapter and brought heat, wit and some fight, the storyline flowed nicely, although I did feel that some moments were drawn out a little and the secondary characters added important content plus an additional emotional angle. But it still niggled away as I continued reading... and then it happened, the missing *something* appeared and I spent the latter part of the book a little desperate. *That's* what was missing, because I know that Elizabeth Otto can write a story that makes your heart ache and your throat hurt because you might just blub. *That* was what I needed. I needed the *feels*. And when I got them, the overall story really was kicked up a notch.

Overall, *The Firefighter's Appeal* was an enjoyable read that wasn't heavy despite having emotional content and detail that does tug on the heartstrings. Well worth reading.

Reviewed for Read Your Writes Book Reviews.

Copy received courtesy of the author for an honest & unbiased opinion

Bette Hansen says

I enjoyed this read so much!! Their attraction is immediate and powerful but they both have reasons not to pursue it but fighting it might be too much for either of them. This is a great story that is well written with wonderful characters that pull you in. If you like really Hot firefighters, this one is for you. I highly recommend it.

Maria Rose says

This is the emotionally romantic story of Garrett and Lily. Lily lost her sister in a devastating house fire a year earlier and is still coming to terms with this loss. She meets Garrett and is instantly attracted to him, only to discover that he is a fireman and she has sworn off ever dating one after her personal experience. The question is whether she can let go of the past, and look to a new future with Garrett.

I loved this story! Both main characters were very appealing to me. Lily is a bright, talented woman working for her father's construction company. She is trying hard to put the loss of her sister behind her. Meeting Garrett shatters her perception of firemen and forces her to look deeper into her feelings about what happened. Garrett is portrayed as an attractive, strong, confident man who also is dealing with fire-related trauma from his past and his current career. He's sworn to not get emotionally involved with a woman, knowing the heartache that loss can cause. Yet something about Lily attracts him beyond just her looks, scaring him at the same time as it entices him into a relationship with her. The alternating points of view give insight into both Lily's and Garrett's thoughts and emotions as their relationship progresses. The sexual tension between them is obvious from their first meeting and leads to some steamy love scenes. The secondary characters are key to the plot development and to the enjoyment of the story, adding tension, humor and heart-tugging moments. There were some scenes that I found quite stressful to read. This is a testament to the writing of the author, that she is able to immerse the reader into the firefighting experience. It's obvious that the book has been well researched and that her own personal experience adds to the realistic situations portrayed.

Combining a well written story with suspense, tension, humour, sex and romance, this book will satisfy readers of contemporary romance on all levels. 5 stars!

Margaret says

4.5 Appealing Stars!

This was such a great read! I loved both Lily and Garrett, and couldn't wait to find out if the pain from their pasts could be healed enough to let them have a future together. I loved the writing style, the depth of the characters, and the emotion-packed storyline – all things which seem to be consistent in Elizabeth Otto's books.

So, we have Garrett, otherwise known as Mr. September, a nickname he's earned from his spot on the fire department's charity calendar. He's not really a player, but he's so emotionally closed-off that spending more than a few nights with the same woman just isn't in his game plan. Keep it short and sweet, no promises and upfront about the arrangement, and you never have to worry about getting close to someone who you might lose one day. Of course being part-owner of a bar also gives him enough women to choose from, although lately he really just hasn't been interested.

Garrett was such a contradiction – he couldn't deny his attraction to Lily was something more, but you could

tell how scared he was to pursue anything permanent with her. And despite his reservations, he couldn't seem to stay away...and I loved watching the sparks fly between these two and Garrett's shameless pursuit of Lily!

Then we have Lily. She has one rule – never get involved with a firefighter. With the pain from losing her sister, having her fiancé walk out on her, and dealing with a father who can't even seem to start the grieving process, Lily has had a hard time dealing with things. And then she finds out the hottie behind the bar who she had a make-out session with is also Mr. September, the firefighter, and really, could things just get any worse? Of course the attraction between her and Garrett is off the charts, and has her rethinking things – at least in terms of a short-term fling. When Lily is hired by Garrett's uncle to come up with plans for a remodel of their bar, Lily and Garrett are forced to spend time together...and you just know that it's going to be next to impossible to ignore that attraction!

I just loved Lily. With all she had been through she was strong in so many ways even though she was so emotionally scarred. Her business persona was wonderful, and I loved the fact that she was such a force to be reckoned with in the typically male dominated world of general contracting. My heart ached for her as she struggled with her relationship with her father, but was lightened by her ability to give so much of herself to others.

This book was also full of a wonderful cast of supporting characters. Lily's best friend Macy was a hoot (and it would be sweet for her to get her own book – hint, hint!), Lily's dad ultimately made me smile, Garrett's uncle and all of his friends at the fire department added such depth to the book, and even the woman at the junk fair with the skeleton keys added so much to the story.

This book had everything I love – great characters, a wonderful story that had me feeling the emotions with the characters, some hot and steamy times, and a hero and heroine who were easy to like and root for as they found their way to each other. Another great read by Elizabeth Otto!

I was given a copy of this book from the author for an honest review.

Karen says

This was a good read once you got into it. I did have a hard time because I am familiar with the fire service though working in EMS and because of her feelings towards firefighters do to her lack of understanding it was hard for me to get into without getting annoyed. Once Lilly began to understand the workings and consider that she might have feelings and that it was OK it started to pick up only to have Garrett ignore his feelings because he didn't want anyone to go through what his mom went through when his father died in the line of duty to also come to the realization that no matter what you do, things can happen and you can not prevent it from happening just by pushing someone away. The ending was awesome and I am hoping for more of these two.

Harlequin Books says

"Otto's nicely written story features root-worthy characters and an emotionally intense plot line. The tension between Lily and her father and a tornado gutting part of the town add extra drama to the story" (RT Book

Reviews). 4 stars

Amy Sabatka says

Cheesy romance providing easy escape.

SnoopyDoo's Book Reviews says

This was a very enjoyable read.

A wonderful story about loss, grieve, love, learning to accept and letting go the past and starting over again all with some humor mixed in.

You can find my full review here:

<http://myreads.booklikes.com/post/921...>

Smartmouth Smut says

Holy Smoke...this is a really good book!

Elizabeth Otto's A Firefighter's Appeal is a heartwarming love story, and I really enjoyed it. I liked the characters, the story arc and the resolution.

The book is about Garrett Mateo and Lily Ashen. He's a charming, gorgeous, seemingly carefree firefighter determined never to commit, and she's a strong-willed fire survivor wanting to have some fun. The problem? She blames firemen for her sister's death. Uh-oh. They are both afraid of getting too close, but they can't help doing just that. Add in that he needs her to design an expansion onto his bar, (so he can help take care of his uncle's family), and she needs his business and, ultimately, the closure he can provide, and these two can't stay away from each other.

The story is intense. There is a lot of sadness because of what they have both gone through, and you get both POVs. I loved the supporting characters; they add such depth to the story. There is one very moving scene at the end that is really powerful. I laughed (spiders!), and I cried (when they each realize who is on the other side of the wall) when Garrett's worst fear is almost realized. It was also very moving watching Lily come to terms with her sister's death and move on from some things that have happened in her past. I liked Lily. Occasionally I was frustrated because I wanted her to stop dwelling on the past. Thank goodness she came to her senses!

I would have liked a little more heat between the sheets and maybe one more scene of just enjoyable, carefree times between Garrett and Lily, because it was such a heartfelt book, and I wanted them to have some fun!

This book is really well written. I've mentioned before how much I enjoy Elizabeth's writing style and how she immerses you in the world she knows. She's an EMT in real life, and her husband is a firefighter. Her inside knowledge is invaluable to this story. She knows the thought process, fears and actions of a firefighter and feelings of victims of a tragedy and passes those on to the reader. Be it cowboys and ranching or

firefighters and emergency situations, Otto knows how to draw you in. She puts a lot of loose threads out there and once again pulls everything together beautifully at the end.

You can't help but be charmed by Garrett and want Lily to get the happiness and unconditional love she deserves. Let's hope one of the wonderful side characters (Mikey? Macy?) gets a book of his or her own, because I'd love to burn through another book like this! *pun intended*

Moisture Meter: 3

Story: 4 stars
