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Winter Jacket (Winter Jacket Series Book 1)



Synopsis

It all started with a broken classroom heater—Graduate school prepares you for many things —the rigor of academic life, how to pull consecutive all-nighters, and living off a meager stipend without having to be roommates with cockroaches. Elle Graft might have made it through six years of graduate school, but she's not convinced she'll survive her first position as an Assistant Professor. Because for all she learned, graduate school never prepared her for dealing with a student crush.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Loved the entire series. Winter Jacket is the first in a trilogy that comprises a sweet, erotic evolving love story of rolling with life's punches and new love, when it might not be conventional or seem wise... for either of our main characters, the 30-year-old Elle or the nearly 21-year-old Hunter. The surprises and challenges of navigating outside one's lane of traffic are a familiar drama vehicle, resulting in disaster or delight. This story hits on familiar touchstones of smart women searching for traction amid academia and professional life, with unexpected but not unwanted emotions. Some might get hung up on the age difference, but it's the hook, not the whole picture by any means. And age ' does not equal maturity. There's thoughtful deep love and introspective pain to fuel the flow,

instead of door slamming melodrama - which is much appreciated and shows Lentzski knew how to dig deeper. Apart from age, both Elle and Dyson do have much in common... beyond a magnetic attraction. They are actually quite a traditional couple. The emphasis is on forward motion: treasuring strong interrelationships with select friends, not losing self while moving into love, and shedding that which no longer works. The series is refreshingly not shored up by bars, too many nasty exes, dogs as children or sports. Though the local dive bar makes minor appearances to move the story forward in book 3; the local coffee bar is the more common setting. The characters are relatable and likable. Many readers will recognize all these characters as someone they've known at some time or another, including family and colleagues. It'll hit home if someone has dated outside a narrow age range, struggled with a long distance committed relationship hampered by work pressures, and learned the joys of making do by making out via technology. Subtle but present is the affect of family and childhood function-dysfunction that's a critical cog in everyone and every couple, like it or not. The concentric circle surrounding the couple is the one we all wish we had: a small clan of interesting, funny and endlessly supportive lesbian friends dealing with their own careers and relationship challenges. Not sure I could pick a favorite between the 3 Winter Jackets (WJ; WJ: New Beginnings; WJ : Finding Home), as each had it's own tone, story and new characters within the primary love story.

This story is not only lovely it's pretty much a Lesfic romance masterpiece. We are introduced to two strong, intelligent, yet very different characters in Elle and Hunter who are drawn together by forces beyond their own understanding in this first installment of the series. Elle is tall, dark, and intense with a PhD in English and, oh-no, teaching Hunter's English composition class. Hunter is a shy, polite and also very intelligent nursing student who is stumbling through her Lesbian awakening. Their attraction is undeniable and intense, but the consequences of a student/teacher relationship could be dire for both of them. Not to mention the 9 year age difference plus family, friends, and colleagues pleading with them to put the brakes on and steer clear of impropriety. In these pages you will be treated to witty dialogue, polished writing, strong character and plot development, plus well placed bits of humor and sarcasm as told through Elle's POV. You will become as smitten with Elle and Hunter as they are with each other.

The characters weren't developed well, therefore I felt indifferent. Her descriptions are what I would expect from a person who is not only heterosexual, but is also male-identified. The dialogue is juvenile and reads like a b-novel.

I do want to give the author credit in her ability to hook the reader into the story by making the main character's love interest somewhat vague and mysterious. As I reader, I had to keep going to find out just WHO this other woman was. Then, after *meeting* Hunter, the protagonist's crush, I couldn't get enough of her. Unfortunately, I felt like I never really got to know her throughout the book. I didn't mind the main character, Elle, but I found myself wanting to read less of her and more about Hunter. I also would've really enjoyed reading more scenes of them together and how they grow together as a couple, which I think the book wanted to do and had great potential to do, but lacked a little. I also thought that when Hunter and Elle were apart, there should've have been more of an internal struggle on Elle's side. Additionally, Hunter seemed too passive when it was time to accept Elle's apology (and in the beginning of the book, Hunter does NOT seem to be the passive type). I also thought there could have been more build-up to their reunion. However, I did laugh at some of the commentary made by Elle's friends. I would tell people to read this book if they were looking for something light to read. It's a fairly engaging story. I liked a lot of the author's word choices. And again, I think Eliza Lentzski did a great job luring readers in. I just wanted to see more of Hunter and her development, more of Elle's struggle and development, and more scenes of Hunter and Elle together. Even though it's not a new favorite, I do not regret buying it. I did like it.

This was the first book by this author that I have read, and I really enjoyed it. The characters while growing on me also annoyed me, making their trials all the more real and their development on that much more enveloping. Elle Graft is a professor who becoming infatuated with a student, Hunter Dyson. Elle fantasizes about Hunter and keeps talking about this girl over and over to her best friends. When it is revealed that Hunter feels the same for Elle, Elle suddenly goes into self destruct mode. If Hunter was not such a wonderful grounded young woman, this relationship would never have had a chance, showing maturity is not closely tied to age. As much as Elle's character made me want to scream because of her self destructive relationship patterns, I am now hooked on these two and will now be purchasing the other two books in this series to see how make out.

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