



Autumn Lover (Maxwells, #1)

Elizabeth Lowell

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In the Brisk Chill of Autumn, Ravaged Hearts Will Be Reborn

Returning to her Wyoming ranch at the Civil War's end, Elyssa Sutton finds it picked bare by scavengers and coveted by determined men. Yet the proud young woman vows never again to abandon her Ruby Mountain home, though it means enlisting the aid of a dark and dangerous stranger who lives for revenge alone.

Hunter Maxwell has suffered from the savagery of outlaws and the faithlessness of a woman. And he will trust no female nor will he rest until the raiders who destroyed his family pay for their crimes.

A woman in need, a man in pain, in fury and fire they must now stand as one to fight for something cherished, something lost...and for a passion neither dreamed could live.

Autumn Lover (Maxwells, #1) Details

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From Reader Review Autumn Lover (Maxwells, #1) for online ebook

Jultri says

DNF 11%. Goodness me, I have forgotten how repetitive this author can be. I was able to look past it in previous books, but the hero's constant references to the heroine being a flirty little girl with "swinging hips" just got too tedious and too misogynistic for me to ignore. She was manhandled and disrespected by another man, and instead of defending her, he accused her of inviting the attention by swinging those busy pendulum hips of hers. And there really is no rhyme or reason behind his vicious preconceptions apart from the fact that she shares the same gender as his dead wife, who wronged him somehow. All the heroine is trying to do is to keep herself and her ranch alive, and she cannot be responsible for him and others getting randy at the sight of female flesh. Quite disturbing attitude, blaming the woman for his inability to control his thoughts and body parts.

Sombra says

Últimamente no sé que pasa, pero libro que leo, libro que no consigo conectar con los protagonistas ni ver su amor por ningún lado.

A pesar de que esta serie me encanta, los dos últimos libros de esta serie han echo que mi interés decaiga bastante sobre todo por los protagonistas.

En esta ocasión tenemos a Hunter, personaje que si mal no recuerdo sale por primera vez en el libro anterior. Tras ayudarlos a ambos con una banda de forajidos que han sembrado el terror por la zona, los Cuppelpers, éste parte en busca de los supervivientes para vengarse de ellos, ya que su mujer y sus hijos fueron asesinados por ellos.

Es en una de sus incursiones que éste decide tomar el trabajo de capataz del rancho S Lader, cuya dueña es una mujer llamada Elyssa. Nada más conocerse saltan chispas entre ellos, pero Hunter tuvo una mala experiencia con su mujer y cree que todas son unas coquetas desalmadas y que solo buscan meterse bajo los pantalones de cualquier hombre.

A pesar de que su primer encuentro no es nada agradable, Hunter es contratado y es aquí cuando empieza una historia de "amor" que hasta casi el final me ha traído de cabeza.

Hunter no hace más que prejuiciar a Elyssa y compararla continuamente con su mujer, que fue una joyita y Elyssa, que está atraída por él quiere que le preste atención, por lo que está continuamente siguiéndole y buscando. Entre él llamándola facilona a cada oportunidad y ella arrastrándose a pesar de su dignidad, el libro se me ha hecho cuesta arriba siempre y cuando ambos están juntos.

Pero a pesar de ello el libro no es malo. Todo lo contrario. Si algo tiene de bueno esta autora es que la ambientación es siempre de las mejores y sus historias te enganchan con tanta facilidad que cuando te quieres dar cuenta ya has leído medio libro.

Ahora estoy deseando leer el siguiente, que espero que sea el del hermano de Hunter, que en este libro me ha tenido muy enganchada su historia y ese misterio.

Juliewheatcox.Net says

As far as readability, this book kept me engaged. However, it could have been so much better if Hunter's disrespect toward Elyssa hadn't gone on for so long. If he had been paying attention, he would have seen that Elyssa was nothing like his first wife. It just got old.

And I really didn't see the plausibility of allowing cattle to roam into marshland. It would be all too easy for them to get caught in a bog and die.

Aside from that, the story had a good pace and kept me entertained.

Margaret says

i give this book 3.5 stars.

I have to say that this book was quite a surprise for me to read. I did not think I would have enjoyed it as much as I did. It was however a struggle to get through, but in the end I am glad that I read it.

Elyssa is the owner of a ranch that raises cows and breeds horses. She is an orphan with only a family friend to watch over her. She is in charge of a few men who are trying to help her keep her ranch afloat. She will do anything she can to keep her ranch from falling to bandits.

Hunter is from a completely different life than Elyssa. He was a soldier who lost his wife and children to bandits. He has grown cold and heartless because of it. He came upon the ranch because he got word it was a decent living and that Elyssa was hiring to help with her herd to get to the soldiers at the other side of the mountains.

Elyssa fell in love with Hunter the moment she met him. Hunter tried to ignore her because he thought she was just like his late wife. A female who only flirted with men just to get attention. Little did either one of them know, they would fall in love with each other when things were at the worst.

Elyssa started having problems with bandits trying to kick her off her farm. Hunter came up with a plan to stop the bandits and get his revenge for his family at the same time. Hunter had his brother's help as well since his brother needed the same revenge as well.

Through a lot of gunfire and death, the bandits left Elyssa's ranch either by running away or by death. Hunter and his brother were making plans to go after the ones who ran away but the brother stopped Hunter. It was then when Hunter realized that his grudge or revenge was less than his love for Elyssa.

Throughout the whole book there was defiantly a lot of sexual tension between our two main characters. It was getting to the point where I wanted to lock the both of them in a room and not let them out. That was until their first sexual encounter. Then I wanted to hang Hunter from the nearest tree for the way he treated Elyssa. But then he reversed his attitude and made everything better.

I have always loved how Elizabeth Lowell wrote. Her books have always made me fall in love with her heroes. Her heroine's were always the type to stand up for what they believed in. Her writing is inspiring to those of us who are fighting for what we want. Lowell lets us know love can be achieved no matter what.

NOR

Pamela says

I'm not sure how I feel about this book, I couldn't handle the way Hunter spoke to and about Elyssa, I felt the author went overboard, especially seeing as Elyssa did nothing that I read about to earn Hunter's disdain and then when's he found out he was wrong, did a complete 360.

Sonya says

Good book

shirley fisher says

I just love continuing story lines (bordering on obsessive) so getting this after finished "Only" series was like dessert! Having suffered loss of young children this really hit home, I know some say "this too shall pass!" Nope..... The struggle here was of a much more brutal time and situation but Hunter and Case both carry the scars and this books with its up and downs, misunderstanding and of course vile villains was a can't put down read. Hunter and Sassy (Elyssa) are two lost souls reaching for something that just seems out of reach, she's still young and innocent, but determined and used to put downs used by condescending English cousins, he's hard as nails and feeling guilt over what he feels was preventable if only, but in each they find their missing other half. On to Case's story, as read more than once no surprises but still a must....read whole group in 90's and still a go to read

~Megan~ says

Ugh, it was just okay. For the majority of the book, I actively hated the hero. I love a good, hard, dangerous guy.....but he was just unnecessarily cruel with no end in sight. It came right in the end, but his behavior, especially after their "first time" just ruined the book for me. I loved the brother, Case, but am not sure I'm willing to risk reading his story.

Zoe says

2 stars for the story, 3 stars for I don't know what but it made me finish the book.

Let's talk about pushing the wrong button in this review. I usually can find some compassion in me to see pass rudeness in misguided masculinity. My asshole radar in Romanceland is a lot less sensitive than most fellow ladies I know. But dude, Hunter, you are an asshole.

That being said, Elyssa the heroine, didn't do better than Hunter in terms of not pushing the wrong button for me. She was running after Hunter like, and I don't enjoy saying this, a bitch in heat. Guy didn't want you. Or

at least his mind was telling him it was a bad idea. Innocent Elyssa though oh let me heal you with my love. You must feel something for me. Let me love you. Let me go talk to you at night and try to convince you that I am not like your unfaithful dead wife. Hunter was a ass. And Elyssa was an idiot.

In the end the story never really convinced me that Hunter loved Elyssa. Elyssa was in love with the idea of being in love. It seemed like that because Hunter didn't really redeem himself in this book. So it made Elyssa's love look idiotic.

I have read maybe 4 books by this writer. One thing I do like about her is that she wastes no time. She gets to the point and tells a compelling story. That's why I was able to finish the book, though I must say, Elizabeth Lowell has done better than Autumn Lover.

Briana says

Would've been a pretty good read if Hunter hadn't been so outrageously stupid, stuck in the past, and set on believing Elyssa was a loose woman. It colored so much of the story and got very annoying very quickly.

Kendra says

The only reason I didn't give this book 5 stars was because of the hero. The story was fantastic, the heroine was strong and independent. The plot was exciting with a bit of mystery. Throughout the story the hero continually misjudges the heroine constantly accusing her of being a flirt and acting like a "little girl". While this bothered me a lot, I figured with the big redemption at the end and the hero realizing he was wrong would make it better. Unfortunately, readers never really got this moment. The hero realizes he loves the heroine and she loves him but he never realizes how badly he misjudged or how wrong the rumor spreaders were. Overall a good story but leaves you missing that final satisfaction.

Scoyphenson says

It's tough to get into a romance novel in which the hero holds no attraction. If I had to read one more time that Elyssa was just like Hunter's dead wife when she clearly wasn't, I was going to climb into the book and slap some perception into him.

Jewel says

This book was pretty entertaining. I found myself more interested in how an isolated ranch would be run post-civil war than I was with the romance. I loved how they were in a situation where Confederate soldiers, Union soldiers, a black cowboy who was a former slave and Mexicans all put differences aside and worked together nicely in the name of survival.

As for the romance, Hunter was not an easy man to fall for as a reader. I'm not sure how Elyssa managed it,

quite frankly. He really seemed to hate women and to hate her. He wasn't very nice to her. This book had the most unromantic "girl loses her virginity" scenario I've ever read. He was decent enough by the end of the book that I thought she'd be happy with him, but it took a long time to get there.

Maddux says

Lowell writes an engaging story. As with many of her other books, this one ran along the same lines. The Hero had his doubts, strong doubts, that the heroine was an innocent. Called her "Sassy" all the time. Thought her an unrepentant flirt - much like his first wife - and he compared Elyssa mercilessly with his awful dead wife.

Hunter had been burned in the past - so he took it out on Elyssa.

Lowell does this in her books. I think she likes to see her larger-than-life heroes brought low by the truth.

Sometimes, I just want her heroine to turn around and knee the hero in the balls. That would be no less than he deserves, in all honesty.

But I do love a good Lowell novel. Her books are delicious.

3.5 stars.

SweetSue says

Almost perfect! The complex web of love and betrayal around Elyssa is made even more complicated when she hires Hunter to oversee her ranch and fight off cattle rustlers. Hunter is tracking down men from the gang that killed his wife and children and sees "Sassy" as nothing more than a headstrong, flirty girl. She's young, but smart, capable and willing to work hard to save her ranch and redeem the men who helped build it up. Such a painful, bittersweet and passionate time they go through until Hunter finally sees that Elyssa is not the way he thinks she is.

I'm headed out to find Elizabeth Lowell's backlist and read it all.

Joan says

This was a very good read. I liked the storyline and the strong main characters. Elizabeth Lowell has a real gift for describing the settings and surroundings of the characters. The beauty of the land that she describes is amazing and vivid, you are right there with them. I enjoyed the struggles Hunter was working through and the way he was still able to care and respond. Good book

Lorka says

I absolutely did not like this book! During the first few chapters, the hero kept referring to the heroine as a

flirt (slut)... and I was so confused because nothing that I had read so far was describing her behavior as flirtatious. Then I realized that he was just being an ass and constantly comparing her to his late ho'ish wife. The hero was just constantly treating the heroine like dirt and I couldn't stand it... so I stopped reading. Based on these other reviews, I am glad that I did and saved my time to start another book that will hopefully be way more enjoyable to curl up and read!

Ian says

Elyssa is desperately trying to make a go of the Ladder S Ranch, but as a woman running a ranch in the sexist wild west, things are not easy. She needs to get her livestock to market or she'll go broke, and when the Culpepper's, outlaws from Texas decide to move in on her things become dire. Her hands are being killed or run off by the Culpepper's, her cattle and horses are being rustled. And someone on the ranch is feeding the Culpepper's information allowing them to run rough shod over her ranch.

Hunter has been hunting the Culpepper's since they fled Texas, leaving his wife and children dead. His vendetta leads him to the Ladder S where he hires on as ranch foreman. He's immediately attracted to Elyssa but he considers her little more than a hussy who will sleep with whoever will help her the most and refuses to let her get in the way of his brand of wild west justice.

Autumn Lover isn't too bad. It's entertaining even if it's a little on the cheesy side. The author's research for this book probably consisted of late nights watching John Wayne and Jimmy Stewart films from the 1950s. If you want to read Western Historical Romance that has a little more basis in the facts, Ellen O'Connell's *Beautiful Bad Man* is well worth the effort. If you don't care too much about historical accuracy, this book is pretty good...but read the Ellen O'Connell book as well.

Angela says

This is another of the books I've read in my marathon charge through a bunch of Elizabeth Lowell's older romance works, and it's the last of the "Only" quartet and related duology. Unfortunately, it's also my second to least favorite.

Lowell's writing here is certainly about on par with the other works, but the biggest beef I have with this story is a hero who really needs to be punched right in the jaw. Right out of the gate, Hunter Maxwell is convinced that Elyssa Sutton is the "town flirt", which is code for the "town's rampaging slut", and he has no real evidence to believe this whatsoever: just the flimsy word of one minor NPC who's an ass anyway. He gives her constant shit about it, up until the obligatory "but I'm going to go at it with you like rabid coyotes"

scene, and all I could think through most of the story was "wait, and there were readers that found this behavior sexy? Da hell?"

Bah. It's a shame, because as with the other stories, this one's not without decent suspense. Sure, the Culpepper Clan is providing stock Bad Guys right out of central casting, but okay, even given that, the whole scenario with their trying to take over the ranch next door and how they're holding an important side character hostage is entertaining enough. But our so-called hero Hunter's behavior to Elyssa all throughout the story, even given how he's all bitter and stuff because the Culpeppers murdered his wife and child and his wife was an *actual* rampaging slut anyway, really was more annoying than sexy. Lowell's done quite a bit better since this book, fortunately. For this one, two stars.

Maqluba says

Oh wow what a disaster... I was cruising along enjoying the ride and then the heroine decided that she will play doormat for 75% of the ride while the hero continues to treat her like trash and continually degrade her because he thinks he knows better.

I can't decide who I hate more- the jackhole hero or the idiot heroine. I really enjoyed the setup and even went along while the hero compared the heroine to his selfish deceased wife but I thought eventually he would see around that and realize who she really is- but no. It took an incredibly long time and a smack in his face evidence before he realized she wasn't a whore. I wanted to smack him in the head every time he called her a flirt (and by flirt he meant ho) and I wanted to hit the heroine over the head every time she just took what he said and didn't try to defend.... If the guy I liked told me he would gladly give me the "fast sex I'm asking for by swaying my hips back and forth" I would realize he obviously thinks I'm a ho and I should forget trying to change his mind about me cuz obviously he's an arrogant d*ck.

Sorry, I don't think I've ever hated a hero as much since the pr*ck in Heartless ; and I would have forgiven the heroine of all her idiocy if ****SPOILER**** she stood up for her self after the first time they did the deed but of course instead of telling him off then making him come begging she pretty much says I hate you and then has sex with I'm again-- tell me that's not the most doormat-y behavior you have ever read! ****END SPOILER****

I did like the writing and the set up and the suspense of the ranch issues so Imma give it 2-stars, close my eyes, and walk away before I regret it and 1-star it.
