



# holiday wish list

# Calculated Risk by Katherine Rupley

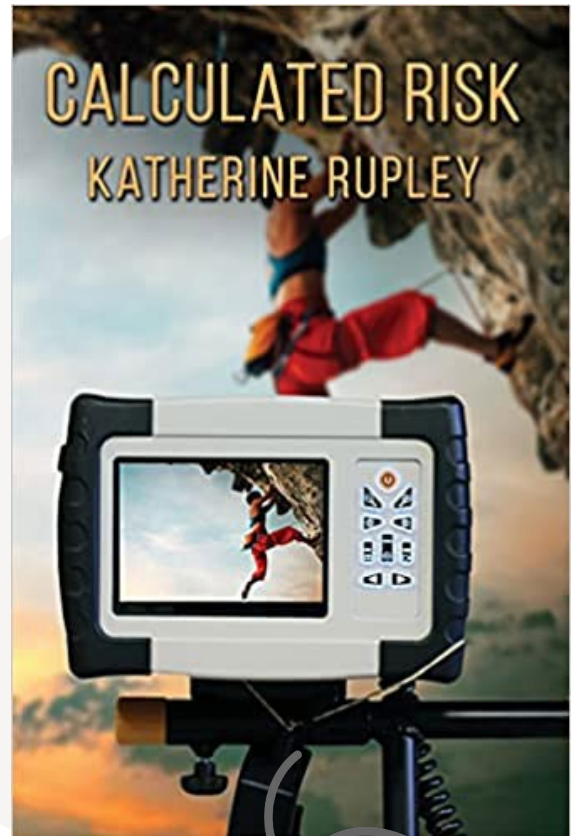
Ex-US national rock climber Leslie McAllister finally has her life right where she wants it. When she's asked to accept a new position in Boston, she must decide whether to stay in her comfort zone or take a leap and trust she's anchored herself well enough to not fall.

Stuntwoman CJ Broadmore has big dreams and a big problem. She needs to learn to climb, and fast, if she wants to do stunt work on a new movie. Enter Leslie McAllister, who not only sparks an attraction, but who may be CJ's ticket to success.

CJ and Leslie must calculate each step, weigh the risks, and work through their fears as they reach for the top—and toward each other.

**Publisher:** Bella Books

**Genre and Tropes:** Contemporary romance, Sports, Cool professions, Living in a small space together



*“A stunt woman needs to learn climbing fast, will a champion rock climber get her where she needs to be.”*

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# Christmas Bizarre by Jodi Payne and BA Tortuga

Charlotte Miller is tired of feeling like a failure. She may have gotten herself fired, her love life has imploded...so when she gets the call that the annual Summit Springs Christmas Bazaar, which helps support her family's farm, is in trouble, she heads home to try to save the day. Maybe her luck will change and she will be happier for the holidays. Too bad her car decides to break down on the way.

Naomi "Lars" Beckett is too busy with the tree farm she runs and Christmastime to worry about a stranded hottie like Charlotte, but when they get snowed in together at an old cabin, she figures that's what she gets for trying to help. On the surface these two seem to have nothing in common, but opposites do attract, especially with the magic of the season, and they find they have more in common than they think.

Once they're back in the crazy mix of family, well-meaning town folk, and trying to make things just right for Christmas though, will they be able to make something together that lasts longer than old wrapping paper and holiday leftovers?

**Publisher:** Tygerseye Publishing

**Series:** Summit Springs Universe (# not important, all books are stand-alone)

**Genre and Tropes:** Rancher, Western, Small town, Second chances, Hurt/Comfort



*“A rescue by a woman on a dogsled was just the beginning of her happy ending.”*

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# Cuffing Season by Monica McCallan

Maeve Murphy doesn't have much to celebrate this holiday season. Ten years ago, she moved from Kingsford with no intention of returning. But home came calling, in the form of her mother's unexpected death. The least thing Maeve wants is to make friends—she's only back in Kingsford to help her father keep the family business, Murph's, afloat.

Bianca Rossi, whose father is the chef at Murph's, moved to Kingsford four years ago from the hustle and bustle of New York City. She loves everything about the charming little river town, and her positive attitude and willingness to engage is usually reciprocated by the Kingsford locals.

Maeve's been resistant to Bianca's attempts to strike up a friendship so far, but a little holiday magic may be just the thing they need to push them both in the right direction.

**Publisher:** Indie

**Genre and Tropes:** Contemporary romance, Friends-to-lovers, Opposites attract, Workplace romance, Christmas



*“Keeping  
things casual  
never felt so  
complicated”*

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# Darkness Falls by KC Luck

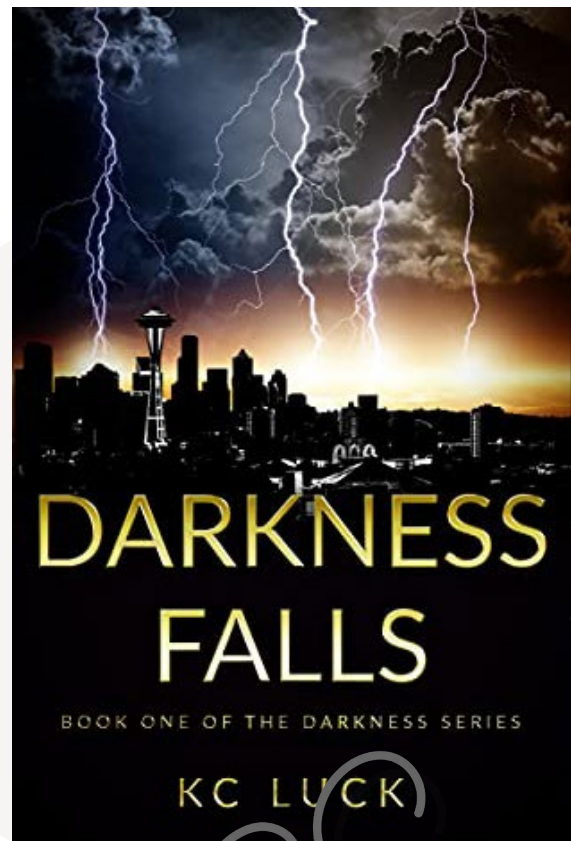
Jackie Scott wields incredible influence as a magazine executive in Seattle. As she plans a smashing party for her fortieth birthday, everything is precisely as she wants it. But when a solar storm lights up the night sky in a dazzling display, it not only ruins the party but destroys power around the planet and Jackie must turn for help from the one woman she has tried so hard not to want ... Taylor.

Taylor Barnes is an Army veteran new to Seattle and wants nothing more than to find some peace and quiet working as a rent-a-cop in a corporate high-rise. When she is asked to attend the birthday party of the building's powerful and sexy CEO, she can hardly say no. Little did she realize every skill she ever learned would be put to the test to save the woman she can't seem to stop thinking about ... Jackie.

Anna Patten is a nurse practitioner who has returned one last time to the town she ran away from to pack up the house where she grew up. Trying to avoid any drama, she cannot get away fast enough, or so she tells herself while her heart wonders about her high school crush. When fate lands them together in Seattle at a birthday party, suddenly Anna must lean on the woman she once left behind ... Lexi.

Lexi Scott has built a simple life of writing novels and remodeling her farmhouse, but when she runs into a long-lost friend, her world is turned upside down. It's not until she attends her sister Jackie's birthday party that she is forced to not only face the apocalypse but now she must decide if she is willing to risk her heart again to save the only woman she ever loved ... Anna.

The end of the world is only the beginning.



*“If the lights  
go out forever,  
can love  
survive?”*

**Publisher:** Indie

**Audiobook Publisher:** Audible

**Audiobook Narrator:** Violet Dixon

**Series:** Book 1 in the Darkness series

**Genre and Tropes:** Coming home,  
Second chance, Dystopian, Adventure,  
Apocalypse, Butch/Femme

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# Defining Moment by KA Moll

Welcome back to Dallin, a small town in rural Utah that's nestled in the land of hoodoos and red rock canyons, a quaint little community with thriving businesses, antique shops, clothing stores, and art galleries, a locale where an ornate Church of Latter-Day Saints sits in a prime location on Main Street, and a place where a train whistle is always blowing in the distance.

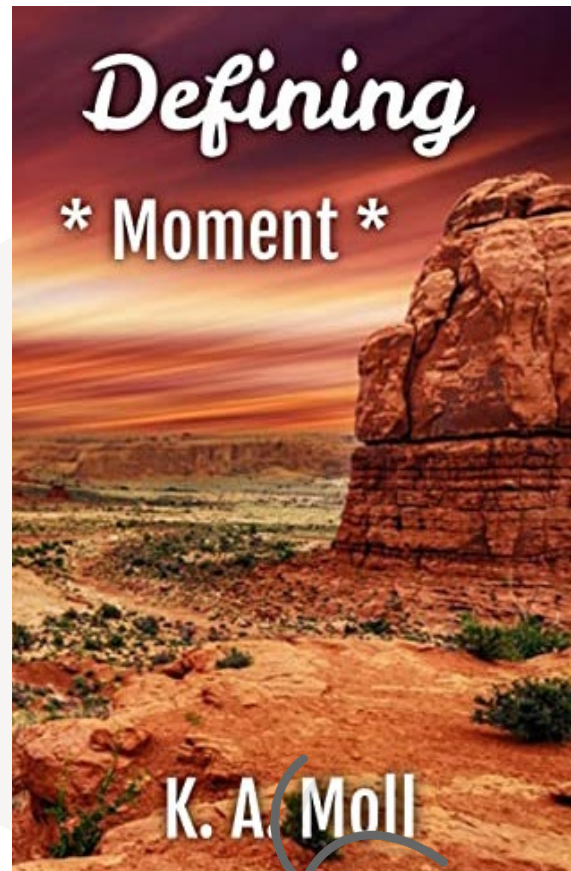
At forty-one, Dakota Dawson is packed, prepared to move across the country to avoid seeing her ex-wife in the produce section. Bet you know where she's going. That's right. Dallin. She's Lauren's new Physician Assistant, an androgynous woman with an athletic physique who can't believe she's single again. On her way into town, she runs across Afton Memorial's attorney at the bottom of Tear Drop Canyon, and experiences an emotional connection, unlike anything she's ever experienced with anyone. The problem is that Nikki's a straight woman with boyfriends—or at least she has been.

Pull up a chair, make yourself comfortable, and catch up with old friends. Oh, and while you're here, don't forget to make a few new ones.

**Publisher:** KAM Books, LLC

**Audiobook Publisher:** KAM Books, LLC

**Audiobook Narrator:** Emily Beresford



*“Pull up a chair,  
make yourself  
comfortable, and  
catch up with old  
friends.”*

**Series:** Book #3 in the Dallin Series

**Genre and Tropes:** Contemporary romance, Medical, Mystery, Toaster oven, Small town

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# Fire, Water, and Rock by Alaina Erdell

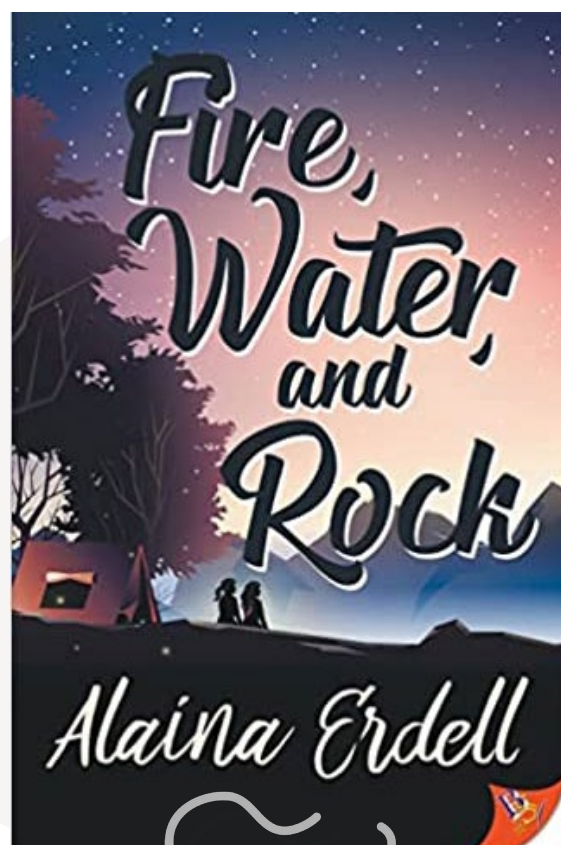
When budding geologist Jessica Sterling arrives to work on her thesis while camping in Washington's Dry Falls State Park for the summer, she shatters park ranger Clare DeVere's hope for an uneventful season. Neither can deny their unexpected attraction, but their secrets make romance impossible.

Clare's best friend since college, Lyn, works as one of the park's dispatchers, and her long-standing and unrequited crush on Clare grows increasingly obsessive as Clare draws closer to Jess.

While Clare contends with Lyn's infatuation and unwanted advances from her womanizing boss, and Jess grapples with her unexpected feelings for a woman, their fiery fling challenges them to confront their pasts.

**Publisher:** Bold Strokes Books

**Genres and Tropes:** Contemporary romance, Age gap, Slow burn, Toaster oven, May December



*“A hot  
summer  
fling or true  
love?”*

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# For the Long Run by Cheyenne Blue

A koala ruined her life. Well, that's how elite athlete Shan Metz sees it.

When an idiot charity runner in a koala suit trips Shan during a community fun run, her knee blows out, destroying her dream of making the Australian Commonwealth Games team. Recovering from knee surgery will be bad enough, but living on her building's fourth floor will make it a nightmare.

Consultant Lizzie Carras, aka the dream-wrecking koala, does guilt like a pro. The only decent thing to do is offer Shan her spare bedroom during recovery. Their incompatible lifestyles don't help matters. Neither does Shan's training partner, the haughty and possessive Celia. But they'll muddle through until Shan's knee has healed enough to get out of Lizzie's life.

Because it's not like Shan would ever miss a dream-wrecking koala or anything. Right?

**Publisher:** Ylva Publishing

**Genre & Tropes:** Sports, Opposites attract, Roommate, Enemies to lovers, Grumpy & sunshine



*“An enemies-to-lovers lesbian sports romance about making it to the finish line.”*

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# On the Square by Brenda Murphy

Dropped from her television show after a very public split with her cheating ex, celebrity chef Mai Li wants nothing more than to reopen her parents' shuttered restaurant and make a fresh start in her former hometown. So what if twenty years of neglect has left the building in need of a major renovation?

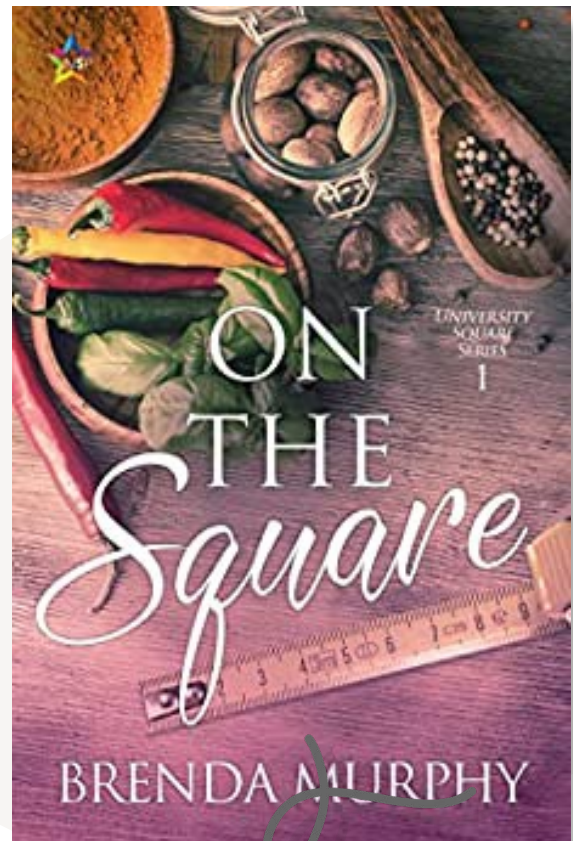
Seduced by Mai's charm and determination, hard-edged contractor Dale Miller agrees to take on her renovation project.

After a spring storm causes significant damage to the building and renovation costs exceed Mai's budget, Dale offers her a deal, but is it a price Mai is willing to pay?

**Publisher:** Ninestar Press

**Series:** Book one in The University Square Series

**Genre and Tropes:** Contemporary romance, Age gap, Butch/Femme, Multicultural, Rich girl/Poor girl, Small town



*“Small town, Big love.”*

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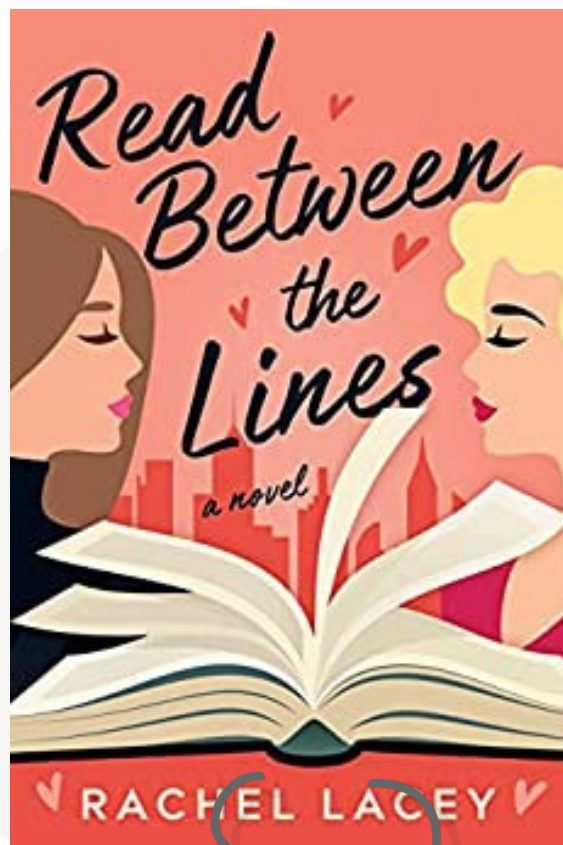
# Read Between the Lines by Rachel Lacey

From award-winning author Rachel Lacey comes a playful romance about a Manhattan bookstore owner and a reclusive author who love to hate—and hate to love—each other.

Books are Rosie Taft's life. And ever since she took over her mother's beloved Manhattan bookstore, they've become her home too. The only thing missing is her own real-life romance like the ones she loves to read about, and Rosie has an idea of who she might like to sweep her off her feet. She's struck up a flirty online friendship with lesbian romance author Brie, and what could be more romantic than falling in love with her favorite author?

Jane Breslin works hard to keep her professional and personal lives neatly separated. By day, she works for the family property development business. By night, she puts her steamier side on paper under her pen name: Brie. Jane hasn't had much luck with her own love life, but her online connection with a loyal reader makes Jane wonder if she could be the one.

When Rosie learns that her bookstore's lease has been terminated by Jane's family's business, romance moves to the back burner. Even though they're at odds, there's no denying the sparks that fly every time they're together. When their online identities are revealed, will Jane be able to write her way to a happy ending, or is Rosie's heart a closed book?



*Can a Manhattan  
bookstore owner and a  
reclusive author write their  
way to a happy ending?*

**Publisher:** Montlake

**Audiobook Publisher:** Brilliance Audio

**Audiobook Narrator:** Abby Craden

**Series:** Ms. Right book 1

**Genre and Tropes:** Contemporary  
romance, Enemies to lovers, Mistaken  
identity, Book lovers, Femme/Femme

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# Special Delivery by Sue Still

*A Fun, Festive Sapphic Short.*

Christmas Eve Night. A cottage in Wales. A strange woman in a Santa outfit.

'Something was inside the fireplace. Too big to be a bird or animal. Uh oh. Sam squinted into the darkness, trying to work out what she could see. At the base was a block of red. A little higher up, a dark area. And finally, at the top, two pale... legs. Legs? No way! Yikes. Yes. She could see them now. Someone was in the fireplace. In-her-fireplace'.

Samantha Cole wakes in the middle of the night on Christmas eve to the sound of thumps, bumps, and bangs. To her horror, she finds a strange woman in her house, dressed in a saucy Santa costume. The woman insists she is not a robber. That she is Santa's granddaughter, Holly, and has a special delivery for a child at that address.

Sam has several issues with this.

First, how did the woman get in, and why would she even want to? Second, there are no children. Sam lives alone in her little Welsh cottage and the nearest police station is over an hour away.

Is Holly trying to trick her or is she delusional? Finally, there is the fact that Holly is tall, Amazonian looking, and sexy as hell. Sam's instantly attracted to her, but she doesn't trust her. Or anyone.

Everything Holly represents rubs Sam up the wrong way. Brings out her defences and shrouds her in disbelief. Especially Holly's flirty nature and the insistence that she's there to leave the present. It is all too much. Besides, Sam doesn't do Christmas. Sam lost her beloved mother on Christmas day when she was little. Since then, she has closed herself off, shut the door, and cancelled Christmas for good.



*“A Fun, Festive Sapphic Short. Christmas romantic comedy featuring cute animals and a grumpy MC.”*

**Publisher:** Indie Publisher

**Genre and Tropes:** Romance, Magical realism, Grumpy/Sunshine, Forced proximity, Age gap, Holidays, Cute pet/Animal.

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# The Stepmother by Melissa Tereze

After the death of her estranged father, Hayley McAllister plans to tie up loose ends in England then head straight back to Ibiza, where she lives exactly as she pleases. Then she meets Diane, her dad's wife. A walking, talking dream of dark beauty.

Despite their age difference, Diane quickly recognises a kindred spirit in the beautiful, vivacious Hayley. But their undeniable connection comes with an expiration date—and consequences neither expected. Now, both must decide if holding onto lives they thought they wanted is worth losing the love of a lifetime for.

**Publisher:** GPC Publishing

**Audiobook Publisher:** GPC Publishing

**Audiobook Narrator:** Nicole Eden

**Genre and Tropes:** Contemporary romance, Age gap, Erotic romance, Forbidden, Coming out later in life



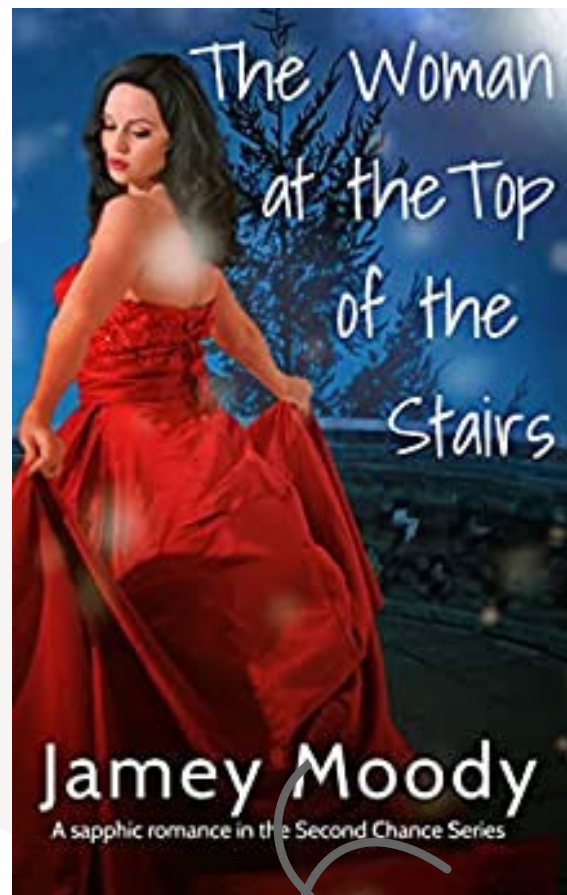
*“Their  
connection  
flares hot in an  
instant...but is it  
doomed to fizzle  
out?”*

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# The Woman at the Top of the Stairs by Jamey Moody



Dru Rae gave up everything to get away from her mafioso family. She disappeared with hopes they'd never find her. All she wanted was a quiet life with a few friends and the woman she knew in her heart was out there.

Marina Summit was an uber successful realtor in a thriving housing market. She gave someone two dates, if there wasn't a spark then she moved on. Besides, she was too busy for love.

As a house stager on the first day of her new job, Dru was waiting to meet the realtor for a final walk through.

Marina was set to approve a new listing when she went to check on the house staging. She wasn't prepared for what happened to her heart when she saw the woman at the top of the stairs.

Get your copy of *The Woman at the Top of the Stairs* and come along on a journey of passion and discovering what you would do for the woman you love.

*“What would  
you do for the  
woman you  
love?”*

**Publisher:** Indie Publisher  
**Series:** The Second Chance Series,  
Book 1

**Genre and Tropes:** Contemporary  
romance, Age gap, Second chance,  
Steamy, MC that's 40, Mafia family

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# This Time by S.W. Andersen

Some people believe love transcends time and space.

Neuropsychologist Dr. Contessa “Tess” Kenner isn’t one of them. She can explain in detail how lust and desire cause the limbic system to battle the prefrontal cortex over ethical decision making, but ask her about her aversion to relationships and she’s completely at a loss. It’s not due to lack of trying. She’s just never felt the need or the connection to put in the effort.

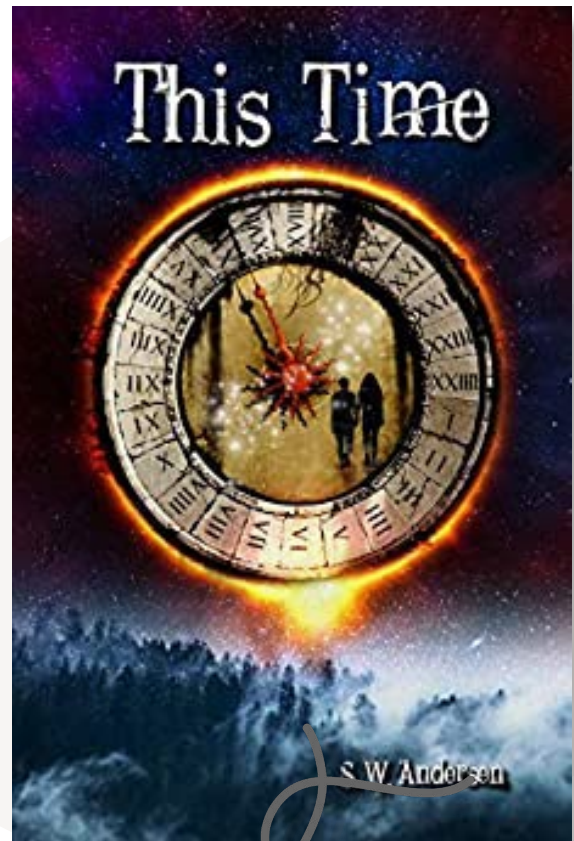
Free spirited artist Elena Jake, on the other hand, wants to fall in love with the woman of her dreams—quite literally. Ever since her youth, her nights have been consumed by a beautiful stranger, so much so, that no flesh and blood woman has ever been able to measure up. When the lines between fantasy and reality begin to blur, she seeks guidance from her Native American roots.

Driven by strong astrological influences, the “powers that be” attempt an intervention between the two women. Their pasts and presents merge, sending Tess and Elena on an unimaginable journey, causing them both to question their sanities.

Will these two souls rediscover an epic love?

Or are they destined to forever be star-crossed lovers?

This romance is a must read for every true romantic who believes love knows no bounds.



*“A must read for  
every true romantic  
who believes  
love knows no  
bounds...”*

**Publisher:** Indie Publisher  
**Genre and Tropes:** Paranormal  
romance, Butch/Femme, Native  
American influence, Soul mates,  
Medical doctor

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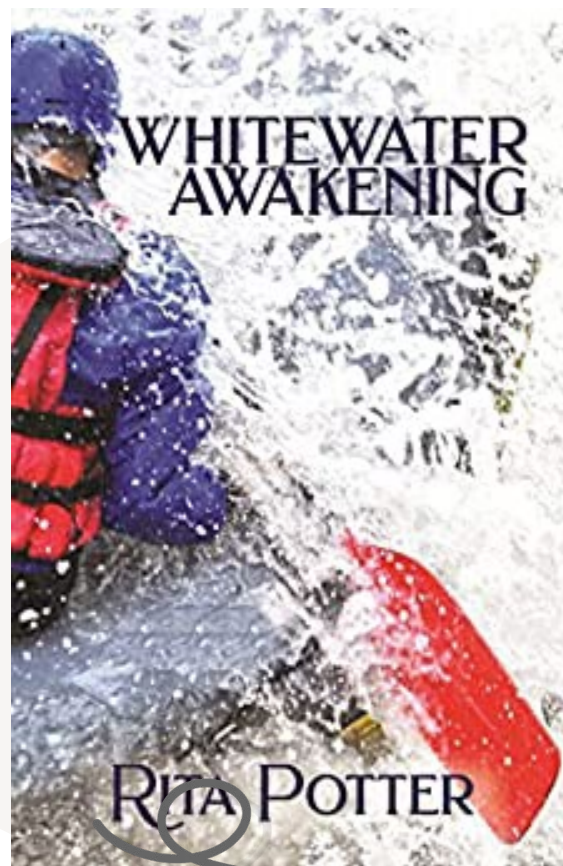
# Whitewater Awakening by Rita Potter

Can two lost people find themselves, and possibly each other, halfway around the world?

After a tragic accident, Quinn Coolidge leaves everything behind, hoping to find solace in a secluded life in the Ozarks. Her solitude is disrupted when her best friend, unexpectedly, shows up with a proposition she may not be able to resist.

Faced with a series of failed relationships, Aspen Kennedy is left wondering why she can't find true love. With each new partner, she immerses herself in their interests, hoping to find the connection she's been missing. That should make her the perfect girlfriend, shouldn't it?

Come along with Quinn and Aspen as they travel to Africa, to take on one of the most grueling whitewater rafting courses in the world. With the amazing Victoria Falls as their backdrop, the pair will have to look deep inside to discover what holds them back. Will the churning waters of the Zambezi River defeat them, or will it lead them to a whitewater awakening?



*“Can two lost people  
find themselves, and  
possibly each other,  
halfway around the  
world?”*

**Publisher:** Sapphire Books  
Publishing

**Genre and Tropes:** Romance,  
Sport, Vacation

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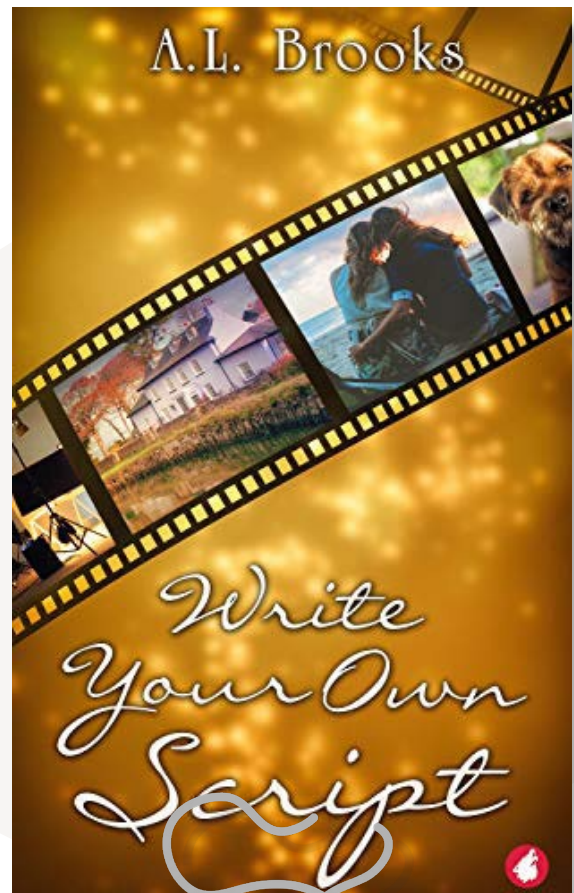
# Write Your Own Script by A. L. Brooks

A sizzling lesbian romance about finding out what's important in life.

Beloved famous British actress Tamsyn Harris is in her early fifties and works hard to prove she's still got "it", despite her age. That means never revealing she's a lesbian, for fear it would threaten her acclaimed career. After an on-set incident blows up, she disappears to a retreat to lay low for a while.

Maggie Cooper is a successful author with two pseudonyms and suffering from burn out. It's hard enough trying to maintain both worlds, let alone keep them separate from real life. After checking herself into a retreat in Norfolk, the last thing she expects to find is the respected, beautiful actress she's had a crush on her whole life.

As passion sweeps them up, they agree it can only be a holiday fling. But is that enough? Can they just return to their lives and leave each other behind?



*“A sizzling lesbian romance about finding out what’s important in life.”*

**Publisher:** Ylva Publishing

**Audiobook Publisher:** Tantor

**Audiobook Narrator:** Rachael Beresford

**Genre and Tropes:** Contemporary romance, Celebrity romance, Character over 50

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