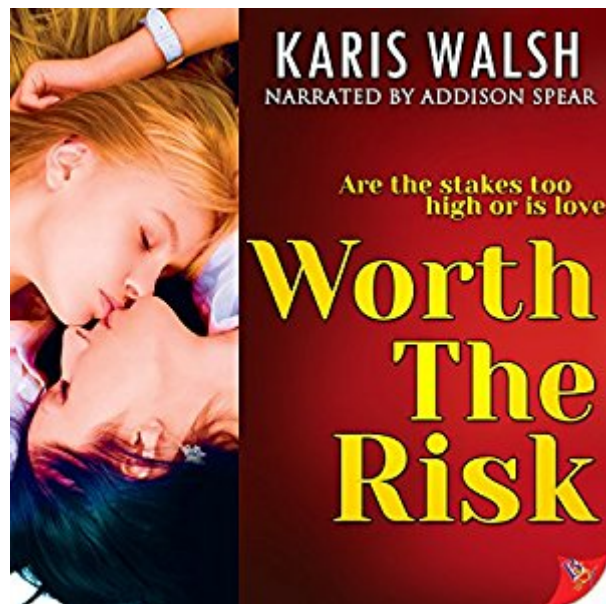


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Worth The Risk



Synopsis

Is it possible to overcome a lifetime of barriers and finally take a chance on love? Jamie Callahan handles her job as an investment analyst, her distant relationship with her niece, and her romantic liaisons with a cool head and unaffected heart. Until she meets Kate Brown, a woman who threatens to push aside Jamie's protective defenses and uncover the emotions hiding underneath. Kate has a mask for every occasion. She wears them to please her parents, to move ahead in her career, to fit in the right social circles. She meets with Jamie because she needs funding for an Olympic-caliber horse, but instead she finds someone who sees beyond the image Kate projects and brings out her true desires. From the boardroom to the show ring in Portland, Oregon, Jamie and Kate routinely face uncertainty and challenge in their careers, but never in romance. As their growing attraction threatens to expose vulnerabilities both try to hide, they must decide if the stakes are too high or if love is worth the risk.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This story has one of the popular themes for a lesbian romance in that you have one character who has a wounded psyche from her past, and the woman who will save her. In other words, the type of story that I always seem to like despite the fact the theme has been told many times. Jamie is your seemingly overbearing and commanding businesswoman who is the "Love 'em and Leave 'em" type. Her modus operandi is to pick beautiful and willing women up for a few hours of sex. She won't allow herself to fall in love because of the guilt she carries in believing she is responsible for the tragic

incident that happened to her young niece. She is the caretaker for the niece and gets her anything money can buy, but can't give her love. Then there is baggage from actions that transpired when she was a teen. The other main character is Kate, a beautiful equestrian with dreams of competing in show events on a top-flight show horse she wishes to purchase with funding from Jaime's company. Kate has her own baggage in that she was groomed by her parents to be a social climber, and does this very well, fitting in with those that have wealth and prestige. Kate also has a caring and genuinely nice side. These two do not hit it off, but are attracted to each other. I liked that these two were not between the sheets together until their feelings started to grow. They were still in denial, but the attraction eventually leads to more, but things are not smooth. Both main characters are depicted very well and came across as authentic. The writing was good and the story flowed. A great book to spend the weekend reading.

Jamie Callahan is a high flying Investment Analyst. She keeps any relationship at arms length. She will never let her heart become involved with anyone. Her niece Anna has everything money can buy, but she has neither love or Jamie's precious time. Any romantic liaison Jamie has is short lived. Love them and leave them is Jamie's attitude. Kate Brown has grown up pleasing her parents. She puts on many different faces to meet all occasions. Kate's parents are pushing her up the social ladder, maybe beyond what Kate actually wants for herself. Jamie and Kate meet when Kate applies to Jamie's investment company for funding to buy a superior horse to enter an Olympic event. Jamie finds herself fascinated and attracted to Kate. Which she must ignore at all costs. She has to protect her heart. The more time Jamie and Kate spend together the more difficult it becomes for Jamie to ignore her feelings. Kate herself, is feeling similarly torn by her attraction to Jamie, she knows Jamie is a player, she must also protect her heart. Both women are vulnerable. They have to decide whether pursuing their path to love is worth the risk to their hearts. When I read the first book Karis wrote back last year, I wondered how she would be able to top her debut book. Well, she has done it. This is a wonderfully refreshing, well written romance set among the horse world. Always a winning combination for me. This story is far more than a romance though. I don't want to give away any spoilers here, it would not be fair. If you love a good romance with a story to get your teeth in to, this in my opinion will fit the bill. I think the whole book, including the characters, story and setting is absolutely spot on and perfection. I loved it from start to finish and was really sorry to reach the end. Another one for my re-read shelf. Dare I ask how this one will be topped? I hope we see another Karis Walsh book soon.

Even if you know next to nothing about horses and horse shows (like me) this is a very well done lesbian romance featuring a hard-nosed banker who wants no part of a relationship and a horse farm owner who is following her parents' dream that she climb up into the ranks of high society. The connection between the two is strong and believable and the sub-plot involving the banker's disabled young niece is poignant and sensitive. After reading this book, I bought another book by this author. She's got the genre down. Worth your money and your time. No risk.

I started to read this book at 11:00 am on Friday and finished it 12:12 am Saturday. I only put the book down to use the rest room and have a smoke. Loved the story line and the characters were awesome! I can't wait to read other books by Karis Walsh. Well done!

The story as a whole was good. There weren't too many elements, which I appreciated. It is mainly the story of the two women and their romance. It's a classic romance plot, foreseeable but done well. Events evolve naturally and don't seem contrived. Bonus points for the solution of the conflict! I thought it done well, both the business/financing setting and the equestrian setting. More than sketched in but no overly detailed explanations of what's what. A good background that felt real. Main Character One is a bit of a stereotype, if a nice stereotype and done well. Main Character Two was the more interesting character, more complex and less easily pigeon-holed. There's some development, but it follows the well-worn routes and remains somewhat superficial. The writing's good, flows smoothly, with only a few awkwardnesses. An enjoyable read and the perfect book for a rainy Sunday. This story has almost everything that I like to read in a romance. The start is really good because there are two main characters that are interesting, and make you want to read more to know them better and discover all their secrets. The start between the two of them is rough because they seem to find each other physically attractive but they really don't like all the rest because they seem to live in two sooooo different worlds. But chapter after chapter the differences between them seem to vanish, they have to spend time together and the attraction becomes much more than a physical itch. I like most of all the depth of the two characters and the way they chose what it really matters at the end.

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