



Keep Me Safe

Kemmie Michaels

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With him, a deep connection happened in spite of the walls she'd so carefully constructed around herself. His self-confessed rage fueled much of his life, with the exception of her. For Erin, Marcus dares to make the step toward love...one with the potential to heal them both.

This is the first book in the Play for Keeps Series by Kemmie Michaels.

Keep Me Safe Details

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From Reader Review Keep Me Safe for online ebook

Karen Weiseman muller says

Oh GOSH! I just don't know where to begin with this book! I am in love with this book completely. I am pretty sure that I could gush about this book all day long. There is something to be said about getting to know someone without the physical attraction to them. I guess that is why in the world today there are so many people who meet their significant others online. This book however doesn't involve internet dating, but the fine art of pen to paper writing. These two wonderful characters that are both equally broken find a connection in writing. There are so many times I have felt it easier to get my full thoughts out, if I write it down. Sometimes it is easier to tell someone exactly how you feel when you aren't looking them face to face.

Two people who normally would never have crossed paths meet over a notebook that finds its way on the floor. This story is such a wonderful mix of hope, strength and love. Everything about this story gives me warm fuzzies even the not so happy parts of the book are made up by something wonderful coming out of it. I have to give it to Kemmie Michaels, she makes a choice and decided to start writing. She has published 4 books so far, all at the same time and this is one of them, this is a top notch 4 star out of 5 book! Thank you Kemmie for putting yourself out there and writing this amazing book!

Erin -

She is a 25 year old accountant, who has completely shut down from the world around her in attempts to keep herself safe. She will prove to herself and those around her she is stronger than she thinks, when she decided that she is longer keeping herself safe because she is miserable.

Marcus-

A strong protector of everyone he meets, battles his own rage from his past. After fighting his whole life while growing up, he takes that rage to the gym. When he isn't full of rage at the gym he is watching out for his sister and is truly a great guy.

Cassie –

One word – SPITFIRE, she is Marcus' sister and she is something else!

My Favorite Quotes

“Every part of him was already hers, and they hadn't even met.”

“You have no idea how badly I want to hold on to you, too” –Marcus

“You're safe with me. I'm strong enough to protect you. Will you let me?”

–Marcus

Heather S says

Very enjoyable read! The whole "Purple notebook" was such a different aspect then a CEO billionaire. The pace was great and loves this. Marcus, swoon! I hated how it felt almost rushed to end but then seeing we will just get a sorta continuation in Cassie's story made me happy! Unlikely hero was an unexpected read, 4.5 stars!!

The Nauti Vixen says

Title: Unlikely Hero

Series: Atlanta Series Book #1

Author: Kimmie Michaels

Rating: B

Review: I was excited to read this book - it had made the rounds on Facebook a few times, and between the cover, a few of the excerpts I read, and the fact that it involves MMA, I just had to read it. All in all, it wasn't quite what I was expecting.

Both Erin and Marcus have issues due to certain events that happened in their past. But the really astounding thing about the book is the way they meet. As a way of self-therapy, Erin begins writing a journal...and in the process this journal becomes the friend she has been missing. But due to quirk of fate, Marcus finds this journal and reads it! He then finds himself compelled to write back to her - and thus begins their relationship. It is really quite endearing, and the author really draws you in - and before you know it you are invested in these characters.

This is a great book about relationships, love, and healing.

One of the downsides I envision is that some people might find it a bit of a slow read. There is a reason for this - as I said it is a book about healing, and it is not a just a fast band-aid put on their wounds. It takes time, effort, and patience, and that is definitely seen through the course of the novel. Though, I thought it brought about a closer connection with the characters. One thing that did bother me though was Erin's level of trauma. With the event that happened I feel that her reactions were a bit extreme. Maybe not initially after the fact, but after five years? I could even understand if she had issues with men, but she distanced herself from female friends, acquaintances, and even her own family. For me, it seems a little over the top - but then again different people react different ways to certain events, so who am I to judge? That was just my take on it.

Regardless, it was an extremely well done book - I loved reading the journal entries back and forth between them, and the fact that they really got to know each other before they met face to face. It lended a little something extra to the story. With all these books out there that just dive right into relationships - and even beds! - it was a nice change of pace. And the whole story was just extremely inspiring. Kudos to Kimmie Michaels for such an emotional and heartwarming tale!

<http://thenaughtyvixen.wordpress.com/>

~Steph K~ says

**ARC from the author in exchange for an honest review by the girls and I at www.sizzlingpages.com **

Synopsis:

Erin never would have expected to fall in love. Never. Not with her past, and not with her fear. She never dated; she didn't even allow herself friendships. She didn't trust her judge-of-character skills enough to allow anyone close...until Marcus.

With him, a deep connection happened in spite of the walls she'd so carefully constructed around herself. His self-confessed rage fueled much of his life, with the exception of her. For Erin, Marcus dares to make the

step toward love...one with the potential to heal them both.

My Review:

Trust is an issue Erin has struggled with for over five years - and Marcus has struggled and dealt with his rage for most of his life. He's healed by using MMA fighting as an outlet - Erin has found journaling as hers. I absolutely loved the way Erin and Marcus met in this story. It was an amazing way to start a relationship - starting with a little "hope" they find each other, which turns into them giving each other the "strength" they need to face life and actually live it - and then becoming an undeniable "love".

This was a beautiful love story about how two very different people meet in a most unusual way - starting as friendship, helping to heal each others past hurts together, making each one stronger and happier in the end - and finding love along the way. You will definitely want to take this journey with Erin and Marcus and experience it with them.

Patricia Maia (The Bookery Review) says

This is a very sweet book where the opposites match.

Its amazing how a diary could bring together two people... I really enjoyed this part!

Marcus is such a sweet man, so strong, dominant, caring, patient, and oh so sexy! Its amazing how the looks can deceive... this is so true, because Marcus is a fighter! A strong ruthless fighter, but inside he is so gentle and so lovable!

I really liked the way he start caring about Erin, a woman he never met, he didn't know anything about her, only that she was broken. Erin really is a great woman, after all she been through she became strong and confident, I like that in the female characters!

I loved the way their relationship grows and how they struggled to outdo their fears!

The end... oh the end makes me want more!!!

Jennifer says

Here is the synopsis:

"Erin never would have expected a hot, passionate affair. Never. Not with her past, not with her fear. She never dated; she didn't even allow herself friendships. She didn't trust her judge-of-character skills enough to

allow anyone close...until Marcus. With him, hot and passionate happened in spite of the walls she'd so carefully constructed around herself. As for Marcus, his self-confessed rage fueled every part of his life, with the exception of her. Marcus dares to make the connection that leads to a passionate affair which holds the potential to heal them both."

I received this from the author as an ARC for an honest review. The first thing I have to say is that I never felt like I was reading a book about a passionate affair. I was reading a book about two people, who were hurt in two very different ways, find each other, find themselves, and fall in love.

After Erin survived an attack in college she shut down and shut everyone out of her life, including her parents. She's never dated, has no friends, and the emptiness is killing her. Remembering advice from a therapist she saw after the attack, she buys a journal to write her feelings in and start working her way out of the hole she buried herself in.

Marcus Walker survived the severe abuse of his childhood but he didn't escape without scars. Over time he learned to harness all the rage from his past into an unstoppable force as an MMA fighter. He worked nights as a janitor in Erin's building saving every dime he could for his future and to put his twin sister Cassie through school. One night he finds Erin's journal where she accidentally dropped it. He opened it to find who it belongs to but found himself reading her private thoughts instead. Blown away by her, he writes to her and starts a series of correspondences that will change both of their lives.

I found this book so charming. I loved watching Erin evolve from victim to victor. I loved watching Marcus learn to trust himself as Erin opened up to him. I loved everything from their playful banter to the scenes where Marcus was fiercely protective of her. At times I found myself with the biggest grin on my face and even laughing at their playfulness.

My favorite quote: "Then his eyes softened a little and he looked up at her with the sweetest, softest smile. "So, anyway, thanks for proving him wrong."

Athena says

Given by the author for an honest review for her Blog Tour

Unlikely hero is such a sweet wonderful story..

It reminds you of what is important and what is completely meaningless..it displays someone's strength, even when that person really believes he's weak..This book is so real..When you see the title, you imagine a flawless handsome man who will rescue the girl..But this books is so much more than that..

>>Erin is the everyday woman, in my opinion. She is driven and smart and knows how to take care of herself, in some aspects more than others...But she still has her insecurities (ok many) . What I did like the most about her was that she is not afraid to be afraid. People usually think that fear is a weakness, when in reality it's not. It's ok to be afraid, as long as it doesn't own you. She may have lived in her safety net for years, but she knows her mistakes and she knows her fears. And then, she just got tired of her coping mechanism so she tried to drop it and rediscover herself. It only needs one action. That first step. Even a purple notebook is enough to start all over again.

>>Marcus is such an injured soul. He has been through so much yet he is one of the strongest characters I ever had the pleasure of reading. He took care of his sister, when he was just a teenager. I cannot imagine

what some people suffer from, especially in such a young age. However, despite his strength he still hides from life, just like Erin. Gym-work-sleep doesn't really sound to me like living your life. More like surviving. He is so different from Erin yet so similar. Their difference is that Marcus is more self-collected and more self-confident. Plus, the fact that he is huge and doesn't need protecting puts him in another category!!

Erin and Marcus fit like a missing piece fits a puzzle. They are perfect for each other, because and I quote "You get it. You understand me." That right there is the outmost truth. There isn't one hero in this book. There are 2 who happened to fall in love with each other...

I couldn't recommend it any more than I already do..I feel happy and even a stronger person now that I read it..And that is another reason why I absolutely love this book!

The Book Cove says

Unlikely Hero is the first book in the Atlanta Series and as this book was my first introduction to author Kemmie Michaels, I must say I loved it!

What I liked

I'm a sports fan. So anytime a sports themed book can really draw me in - I know it's going to be a good time! I especially love MMA (mixed martial arts) and being very familiar with the sport, I was impressed with the number of details that the author provided for the characters. That tells me that Kemmie either really loves MMA herself, or she's done her research. A big plus for me when reading is when I can tell some hard thought was put into the events of the story. These details really brought out the characters, especially the male protagonist, Marcus.

Another part of Unlikely Hero that I loved was how the relationship between Erin and Marcus developed. I don't want to give too much away, but I will say that I may just try this out in my work office and see if a gorgeous MMA fighter with a "reputation" comes to my rescue ;-).

I really liked how Erin's intracharacter was developed as well. As someone who has a million red flags that go off when she's around people (and with good reason), the progression of her conflict resolution is well done. With many books use dark past experiences to draw conflict, I end up feeling like the characters are rushed through a resolution. It leaves me feeling like the problem never really existed to begin with because the characters seemed to get over it a little too easily as soon as some Adonis or Aphrodite walks in their life.

What I disliked

There really was not anything fundamental about the book that I disliked. On that same note, there really wasn't anything that pushed the book over that 4 rating to a solid 5. I reserve 5 ratings for books that have some kind of extra element to it that really leaves me in deep thought about situations/characters long after the book is finished. While I really enjoyed reading Unlikely Hero and I found the relationship between the characters to be beautifully developed, there wasn't an element that left me in awe in the end.

Find more reviews at www.thebookcove.com

Coco.V says

?FREE on iBooks today (5/23/2018)!?

Francesca says

Erin is a troubled individual desperate to break out of her rut after so many years of been a recluse, she "Meets" Marcus the most unlikely person who seems to inspire her to become more as he himself has come through a horrific event in his life. Erin is inspired by him; I felt that this book managed to show deep intimacy between the two without the actual intimacy, which is something I have never experienced when reading before. Kemmie has done a wonderful job in building the strength in these characters and bringing them close together without even meeting each other. And when they actually did WOW Hot under the collar would be an understatement ...I could literally feel the heat between them because they had already had that intimacy. "She was right there with him, wanting to feel everything, her fingers grasped at the sheets beside her and she opened up her legs at the sensation of his mouth again her pleasure point. She most certainly was not hiding." Marcus helps her realise how strong she really is.

This book was a story that I could completely relate to whereby the "badass" with a true heart saves you from a life that you didn't want or deserves and without even realising you do the same. Unlikely hero had light hearted moments where you would smile and laugh to yourself having people on the bus look at you gone out! I was addicted to the book so much I even took my kindle in the bath with me.

Such a wonderful book, that I will continue to remember because it has such strong meaning and is so much more than a book about love and sex but it's about growing and becoming who you want to be In Erin's case "adorable badass butterfly. A truly inspirational story about a young woman's journey in to finding her true self and happiness and a young man realising that before her he was only actually surviving himself.

I would like to thank Kemmie for such an amazing story and would recommend this to anyone looking for an Adult Romance with that something special.

Please check out my blog for more reviews, cover reveals, exclusive author interviews and plenty of amazing giveaway's!

<http://www.francescas-romance-review...>

Jessica says

1.5 stars

I've said before that shorts shouldn't have too much in them because nothing gets developed enough. I've never realized that the opposite could be true til this book. This book had way too little to be a full length book. I loved the meet cute idea and loved that portion of the book, though I thought the author could've tweaked a couple things to fix the more stalkery aspects of it. But once the couple got together basically nothing of any interest happens. And it wasn't even relationship development they had already hit the I love you stage so it was just like day by day accountings of their lives. By fifty percent I was skimming out of sheer boredom. The sex scenes alternated between over prosey and really awful dirty talk so I mostly skimmed those too. The hero is often praised for his intelligence but it doesn't occur to him to give her self

defense lessons til near the end of the book and even then it wasn't entirely his idea. The heroine was a little overly emotional for me. What she went through was awful but she saw a therapist about it...Why did she stop if she was still so upset about it? why did things totally unrelated make her cry...god everything made her cry. Overall the story, writing, and characters felt a little immature for my tastes,a lot of the dialogue sounded more like teenagers in first love than adults who pay bills and have full time jobs.

Tldr: really cute idea but this needed more maturity and either needed to be a short or have something of interest happen.

Dawn says

I received an ARC copy for an honest review.

What an amazing, beautiful story of two people falling in love before they even meet. Erin Connor, 25, is a senior accountant at a mid-sized accounting firm. Five years ago, something happened to Erin while in college that made her apprehensive towards anyone around her. She shut down and became reclusive. She never told anyone what happened, not even her parents. After five years, she was tired of being alone, but didn't know how to go about changing. One day she remembered her therapist telling her that she should write her feelings in a journal, so she did just that. She took it to work with her so she could use it when she needed to. One night she accidentally left it there.

In comes Marcus Walker, 25, who is a MMA fighter during the day but a janitor for Erin's accounting firm at night. He noticed the journal next to Erin's trash can & had to check it to see if it was trash or needed to be put back on the desk. He couldn't help but read it after the first page. He was intrigued by Erin's words & thoughts. Marcus decided to leave her a note inside her journal to coincide with what she was writing. He wanted to make her feel better. As the weeks went on, they both wrote back & forth to each other. They couldn't wait to see what the other wrote. One day Marcus asked if they could meet and Erin kind of freaked out, then taking a few days off of work. By her 3rd day of not being there, Marcus got scared thinking he caused her to fall back into her cautious ways. Eventually they do meet and become even closer friends. He has a rough background that still haunts him. Cage fighting helps him take care of his rage. They are both very good for each other, but they still have problems. Erin is slowly breaking out of her shell, but is still a little leery in some situations. Marcus is still trying to keep his rage in tact, but it's hard at times. After being together for several months, Erin ends up having a set back, which Marcus tries to coax her through. Will she be able to free herself from this turmoil? Will Marcus ever be able to get his rage under control? The start of this story was unlike any others I've read and I quite enjoyed it. Erin thought she'd never be able to have love in her life & Marcus felt like no one would ever be able to love him. It was unique and beautiful. I'm looking forward to reading the next story ("Real Challenge"), to find out if Marcus' twin sister, Cassie find her soul mate.

Claudia says

Unlikely Hero gave me the sweet romance and great characters that I have been craving for.

Even though the story was slow, without angst or drama I can say "Finally some maturity!"

What I have been missing these days from most of the authors and their books I have found in Kemmie Michaels story:

- the story was build in time. Both characters had a lot to deal with and learn and their letters were just right.
- there was not rush to start an intimate relationship they just supported each other
- there was no drama in the couple. The few misunderstanding that happened were dealt almost immediately
- the intimate scenes were great
- the physical aspects took a back seat to character build and their insecurities were nicely outlined and dealt with.

Besides, what's not to love in Marcus! He went straight to my favorite male characters.

If you feel in a mood to just read a sweet love story go for it because it is worth your time. If you want drama, angst and immaturity better move to another story because you are not going to find them in this book.

Holly Matejka Matisak says

What a great book! I loved the creative way the author (Kemmie Michaels) had Erin and Marcus meet initially thought what turned out to be a shared journal. These two lost souls were able to work through their issues and be a comfort to each other. She gave Erin and Marcus time to establish a friendship that lead to a relationship. It was such a refreshing read to see the relationship progress over a normal realistic timeline than an instant love connection.

Both characters carried such torment and uncertainty within themselves. They each exposed one another to uncomfortable and at times frightening situations, and yet neither one would giving up on the other or their relationship.

Kemmie Michaels has gained a new fan and I am hooked. I look forward to reading the other two books in the Atlanta series.

Melissa Yoder says

5 Stars

This book surprised me! I bypassed downloading it in the past, but I am really glad that I have finally read this. Finally a story that is fresh and new!! The couple "meets" and communicates through a journal, she doesn't know what he looks like, what he does for a living, where he lives - ANYTHING. They actually get to know each other on a deeper level from the beginning and therefore forge a stronger bond. A great read, a great story. I was so enthralled with the story that I didn't even notice errors, which surprises me, because I ALWAYS notice! Nice work Kemmie Michaels!

