



Fire and Rain

Andrew Grey

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Carlisle Cops: Book Three

Since the death of their mother, Josten Applewhite has done what he's had to do to take care of his little brother and keep their small family together. But in an instant, a stroke of bad luck tears down what little home he's managed to build, and Jos and Isaac end up on the streets.

That's where Officer Kip Rogers finds them, and even though he knows he should let the proper authorities handle things, he cannot find it in his heart to turn them away, going so far as to invite them to stay in his home until they get back on their feet. With the help of Kip and his friends, Jos starts to rebuild his life. But experience has taught him nothing comes for free, and the generosity seems too good to be true—just like everything about Kip.

Kip's falling hard for Jos, and he likes the way Jos and Isaac make his big house feel like a home. But their arrangement can't be permanent, not with Jos set on making his own way. Then a distant relative emerges, determined to destroy Jos's family, and Kip knows Jos needs him—even if he's not ready to admit it.

Fire and Rain Details

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Author : Andrew Grey

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Maggie says

Perfect!!

I am completely blown away by this story. The hands down best of the series. Full of emotions and feelings, Kip and Jos just won my heart over, and it was an incredible ride. Andrew writes these amazing stories that capture your heart and don't let go. They are beautifully sweet and engaging and you are drawn in and feel everything. Well done!!

Daniel Mitton says

(Originally reviewed for Love Bytes Same Sex Book Reviews with a copy provided by the author / publisher for an honest review. Rated 4.5 out of 5.0 stars.)

This Carlisle Cops series just keeps getting better! Fire and Rain is by far my favorite of the three, and I loved the two previous books. If you haven't read this series, get caught up!

Kip Rogers is a police officer in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He has just discovered what a shallow jerk his occasional boyfriend, (or maybe hook-up would be a better description), is. Kip has finally faced up to the fact that the guy was obviously just using him.

Then while on patrol one rainy night, Kip responds to a call to investigate a homeless person sleeping in a store doorway. When Kip arrives, he discovers not one person, but two. Kip is instantly mesmerized by the eyes looking back at him.

Josten (Jos) Applewhite and his little brother Isaac are on the street. Their mother is dead, and Jos has full custody, but due to a stroke of bad luck, they are now homeless. Can Kip help these two? Jos is determined to make it on his own. Will he be able to accept help from not only Kip, but all the men we've met in the previous two Carlisle Cops books?

As I said at the top, I love the story that plays out on these pages. As I said above, this is my favorite of the series, and I really enjoyed the way that Andrew brought these guys to life on the pages. The characters, as usual, were very well developed, and I loved how he tied them back to the characters in the previous books. It isn't necessary to read the other two first, but it would definitely help for background information on the extended cast!

I highly recommend this book, and the series. Why not hit one click on all three before you forget about it?

Penumbra says

[

The blurb does a good job explaining the plot, but here's a quick run-down. Officer Kip Rogers finds Josten and Isaac on the streets sleeping in a doorway in the rain. He offers to help take them to a shelter but the shelters are booked. Josten is suspicious

Serena Yates says

The first two books of the 'Carlisle Cops' series are both about men who have had to overcome the odds before being able to live a normal life and find love. This third volume has the same central idea, showing how determination and courage can overcome any obstacle, yet is very different. After physical disfigurement in book one and a dark past causing abandonment issues in book two, Andrew Grey focuses on homelessness and its effect in this third installment. And as devastating as it is for an adult like Jos to deal with the helplessness and hopelessness of his situation, the suffering is different and in many ways worse for his four-year-old brother Isaac. Finding the right way to help, without crushing Jos's self-confidence even more, is a tough job and Kip, a cop and colleague of Red and Carter's, faces more problems than he suspected.

Jos has had a hard time since his and Isaac's mother died. She was an alcoholic and never really provided more than a basic home for them, but they had a fixed address and a roof over their heads. Now that she is gone, and Jos has lost his job and the apartment he found but was barely able to afford, he is living on the streets. Both he and Isaac are constantly hungry, never feel safe, and have discovered that shelters are not the solution because when they are full, anyone not there in time is out of luck. Jos does the best he can to keep Isaac fed, often giving him his own food as well, but it is a losing battle. When Officer Kip finds them in a doorway where they can't stay and ends up helping them, Jos can't believe his luck. It takes him a long time to be able to begin to trust that Kip is not going to abandon him and Isaac. Fighting for independence becomes Jos's most important goal.

Kip never expected to get involved in a homeless guy's case the way he does when he saves Jos from an attack by a lowlife taking advantage of people who have no choice but to live on the streets. Kip is a cop because he wants to help, but he has never taken a personal interest before. As they get to know each other and try to make sure Isaac can legally stay with Jos, Kip begins to develop feelings for Jos. He is hesitant about expressing them, trying to make sure he doesn't take advantage of Jos, but when Jos takes the initiative, there is no stopping them. Kip does a great job supporting Jos, to the point where he lets him move into his own apartment despite the fact he wants both guys to stay with him – and almost loses everything.

If you like stories about men who defy the odds by never giving up, if you want to know more about the effect of homelessness on young children, and if you're looking for a story full of emotion, heartbreak, desperation, and an indomitable will to survive, then you will probably like this novel as much as I did. I found its message of hope very uplifting.

NOTE: This book was provided by Dreamspinner Press for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Denise H. says

***** Andrew Grey brings us to a town that has a caring, loving amazing group of openly gay men, who take their lives seriously, and always strive to be better. *****

Here we have Jos and little brother Isaac, homeless and struggling. Strong, muscled Kip is the cop who finds them, and helps them out. Jos is about the same size, but undernourished and with less muscle, Isaac is a delightful little man, and Kip and his friends in the department and in social services are there to help. Jos is afraid everything will be taken from him once again, but Kip tries to show him there are good people in the world. It's a wonderful story of compassion, caring, trust, and finding love. There is erotic, hot sexiness, and a smooth flowing tale that will hold your attention, and keep you reading.

Highly recommend ! ENJOY !!!

Anne says

I love this series! As both previous books in this series before, Kips, Jos's and Isaacs story is touching, sweet and awww-worthy all the way. Between fighting for his little brother and their secured future together, Jos has to finally come to the conclusion that sometimes an allie is important, and when he looks as hot and is as adorable as sexy cop Kip, even better. To see both getting closer is amazing and sweet. If you loved Red and Terrys story as well as Carters and Donalds, this book will hook you immediately. Just thinking of Kip rescuing Isaacs little cuddle buddie, teddy bear Weeble, awesome. you'll love it, believe me!

Jaime says

5 Stars - Andrew Grey will amaze you!

Andrew Grey continues to amaze me with his ability to write stories that will **pull at your heartstrings and draw you into the world in which the characters live**. This story like many of Grey's others has some moments where you are going to feel the pain of the characters and your soul will cry out to them on a very basic human level. However, while Grey's characters who usually have a very rough start or past they are also very resilient and that is the case with Josten Applewhite who is one of our MC in this story. Josten or Jos has been dealing with blow after blow since his mom died and he has tried desperately to keep a roof over his and his little brothers head but situations just keep getting worse and worse until the brothers find themselves homeless in the cold with little to no resources. It isn't until Officer Kip Rogers responds to a call regarding vagrants that Jos' life starts to slowly turn around.

Kip is immediately drawn to Jos, his brilliant blue eyes and his angelic voice as he hears Jos singing to his younger brother in cold dark alley. Kip knows he should call a social worker. Yet, instead he takes the brothers to his house and gets them settled. These two men find each other through tragedy and despair and slowly they get to know each other and learn to take care of Jos' younger brother and provide a stable home for him. They stand together when outside forces who were not around when times were tough decide to try and step in and they eventually fall in love with each other. It is in typical Grey style a wonderful love story; with well rounded characters, emotional upheaval, series character cross-over, and lots of "feelz" that will leave you turning the pages faster than you imagined and wanting more when the story ends. I recommend this story and the entire Carlisle Cops Series to anyone who is looking for m/m contemporary romance.

Review also posted at: Alpha Book Club
and
Gay Book Reviews

*ARC provided by author in exchange for an honest review. Reviewed by Jaime from Alpha Book Club
and Gay Book Reviews

bookfaerie says

This story is too simple, sweet and predictable for me. Plus, it ends with so many unresolved points and/or events that were unnecessary to the story line. The ending is completely rushed and lacking in explanations and HEA. I struggled to give it 2 stars. Only because I really like Kip and how he is with Isaac. That relationship is well-written and adorable. Otherwise, disappointing.

Melissa says

I really love the Carlisle Cops series. As with the previous books, Fire and Rain was great. The plot and character development was great. I know this book was just released but I really need another one now.

V says

When stories are base in homeless people I know that I'm going to cry, and of course this wasn't the exception.

It was lovely, some parts were sad, but overall a very nice story. The child was adorable and as usual with this author, both MC were great.

Dani Elle Maas says

4.5 rated up
wonderful addition to a fantastic series!
one of my favorite series by andrew grey!

Morgan Skye says

Kip is a police officer who finds a young man and his much younger brother hiding in a doorway during a

terrible rainstorm. The young man is Jos, recently homeless due to an apartment scam.

Jos is wary of help of any kind and determined to do right by his brother, Isaac, by himself. When Kip opens his home to Jos, little does he know he'll be opening his heart, as well.

Jos has an aunt who is after Isaac for some inexplicable reason and determined to prove Jos incapable of parenting.

Kip and his friends (from the previous books in the series) help Jos land on his feet and fight for Isaac. Kip and Jos eventually find themselves in love.

**

This is one of those happily sentimental and sappy series full of Hallmark moments. Underdogs making their way to the top. True love conquering all. Kids, family and home. Do-gooders all around. Happily Ever Afters abounding!

Andrew Grey gives us another wonderful addition to his Fire and Ice series, fans will surely love Kip and Jos as a couple!

Bo says

Sweet Family Network

In this series Andrew Grey has allowed us to come to know that the police force of his hometown of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, is a hotbed for ripped, openly gay, cops. Well, whether you believe that or not, he has crafted three superb romances so far, the latest of which brings the characters from the first two into the mix at the right times, and the result is a delicately paced, beautifully developed, tale of loss and found that will keep you riveted because of Isaac.

Isaac is a four-year-old whose brother Josten has nurtured and protected all his life, and now has added burdens because their mother died and they are homeless. That scenario is the basic premise of this book, and its heart wrenching twists and turns begin when the hunky cop Kip finds them huddled in a store doorway on a cold night because all the shelters are full. At that point Andrew Grey takes your breath away and forces you to still your heart and stanch your tears, but he doesn't allow you, or his characters, to give up hope.

Those characters are headed by Kip the cop and Josten the young man whose life purpose is to take care of his brother Isaac. Both Kip and Josten are damaged by their pasts, but we get more exposure early on to how life has affected Josten than Kip. Only when Kip overcomes his reluctance to get involved in a relationship after the one he has had falls totally apart, do we learn how similar both men are in background and in hopes and fears.

By weaving in the principals from the first two books--Red the cop and his lover Terry the Olympic swimming hopeful, Carter the cop and his lover Donald the social worker, as well as the setting and characters from Café Belgie, from the "Of Love" series--Grey has fashioned and developed a story about

family and extended families. With its side plots involving some pretty selfish characters to deal with along the way, Grey gives us the gift of a tale that will tug at your heart and leave you with hope.

T.M. Smith says

Kip Rogers is out on patrol when he gets a call of vagrancy at a local store, what he finds under the awning of the store will change his life forever.

Josten Applewhite is far too young to have dealt with all the lemons life has given. His nor his little brother's fathers were ever around, only dead beats their mother drug home to keep her company. Speaking of mommy dearest... emotionally unavailable is an understatement. At least she had the smarts to draw up a will, so when she dies, Jos is awarded custody of his four year old brother, Isaac. When it rains, it pours, and the two wind up homeless, sleeping under the awning of a store rather than in a box or under a bridge. Then in a strange twist of fate, a kind Police Officer extends an olive branch, an offer to help Jos and Isaac get off the streets and find a home.

Kip is pretty much done as soon as he sees Jos's scared, but beautiful, blue eyes that night in the rain. Jos, well he takes a little bit more convincing. He may be young, but all he has ever known in his short life is misery, disappointment and pain. Day by day, Kip and his close knit group of friends manage to give Jos and Isaac the things they have never had. A home, family, security, loyalty and friendship. Just when Jos starts to let his guard down and smile, another lemon hits him square in the face.

This latest installment in the Carlisle Cops series came dangerously close to de-throning my favorite Grey book, *Seven Days*. Both these guys, Jos and Kip, were dealt the worst hands when it came to family. I think seeing something of himself and what he had to deal with growing up was part of the draw to Jos for Kip. They really understood each other from the start, and I liked that Grey let Jos get comfortable and start to settle before there was any romance. Even still, there wasn't a lot of romance, it was more touches, tender caresses and conversation; but it really fit for this story.

There was so much character development and growth for both men, but especially Josten. I think it was Kips love and faith in him that gave him the courage to stand on his own two feet and not allow anyone else to bull doze over him. And oh my gosh, little Isaac. Have you seen the movie *Shelter*? Jos and Isaac remind me so much of Zach and his nephew in that movie. The scene where Zach is flying his nephew through the grocery store, there is a scene in the book where Kip is flying Isaac around and I had a flash of that scene in *Shelter*. I guess it's a given that if you like that movie, you'll surely like this book.

Life is what you make it, and family is the most important thing, I think these things are the moral of this story. So what if the family that Kip and Jos create for themselves and Isaac doesn't fit someone else's moral code? To quote Zach in *Shelter*, "Every boy should be so lucky!" But you see, that is part of the story as well. The families that Josten, Isaac and Kip were born into weren't a family at all. The life, stability and security that Jos and Kip provide for each other as well as Isaac are the true definition of family.

Do I really have to say that I highly recommend this read? Definitely, a must buy? I just loved this book and I want to read it again already.

* I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review through <http://mmgoodbookreviews.wordpress.com> *

Roger - president of NBR United - says

This story bring back some of my favorite character in the series of Carlisle Cop and also the Taste of Love series. Kip Rogers is the cop who find love when he rescue a homeless young man and his 4 year old brother, Josten is the homeless 19 year old who recently lost the only family (Other than Isaac, his brother) he knew. like any one who bad luck has taken to the street it is hard for Josten to believe that there are good people who are willing to help because it is the right thing to do. it was so good to see Red and Terry, Carter and Donald, Billy and other familiar characters from previous books set in Carlisle. the only flaw is that I wanted more story .

4.75 star rounded up to 5.
