



Rescue Breathing

Zoe Norman

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When Manhattan Psychologist Olivia Burke receives an invitation to present her research on trauma in servicemen in Seattle, she is determined to turn the business trip into the start of healing her own traumatized heart.

FDNY Firefighter Owen Maxwell is an unapologetic playboy who spends his days saving lives and his nights breaking hearts. He puts his life on the line every day and is skeptical about doing the same with his heart. But when he meets Olivia, the girl with the shattered spirit—sparks fly.

They share a hot weekend in Seattle and discover that they want to share so much more.

Both Olivia and Owen are in need of help mending their hearts. What remains to be seen is if they can do that for each other, or if they are so damaged they go up in smoke.

Rescue Breathing is the journey of two lost souls, trying to breathe new life into each other without losing themselves along the way.

Rescue Breathing Details

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Author : Zoe Norman

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From Reader Review Rescue Breathing for online ebook

Mara De Guzman says

★★★★★

5 Very Beautiful, Very F-able Stars!

Copy provided by the author for an honest review

Review also posted on *Mara's Bookshelf*

Aaaaaaah! This... this... this. Is. Such. A. Treasure! I've been on a "just okay" slump these past few days but **Rescue Breathing** just rescued me! This is such a fun, heart-melting, panty explosive story that I am beyond glad to have read!

A huge bonus that I found a new book boyfriend in Owen Maxwell. **sigh** He is a firefighter for the FDNY Brooklyn Rescue Company, a specialized group of men. Highly trained. Elite. Only a chosen few. He loves his job and the adrenaline that goes with it. But with all the fire fighting and rescuing, he's had his own share of traumatic experiences. That didn't stop him from being an amazing, easygoing, sexy man. I really just have to put the "sexy" in there. Owen may be a ladies man and came from an ugly engagement but he's charming and not the a-hole type. He's still close with his childhood friends and it's adorable how he takes care of his Mom. *Super swoon-worthy guy here, ladies!*

Then there's the very intelligent, almost recently heartbroken, and very f*ckable psychologist -- Olivia Burke. Having come out from a very deceiving relationship, Olivia was broken, understandably so, but she rose above the pain and betrayal she experienced from her douche of an ex. She's allowed herself time to wallow in self-pity and then (*hesitantly*) started living her life again with a nudge from her friend, Charley.

And from Owen's closeness with his childhood friends a.k.a T.O.M. and Charley's nudge to Olivia... a chance meeting happened between them -- Owen on his way to Travis', the "T" in T.O.M., bachelor party and Olivia going to Seattle for a conference. Fate may have had a hand on their meeting, well that's what Owen thinks. What are the chances of two strangers who were easily attracted to each other landed having the same flight going to the same city and ends up sitting beside each other are? Oh, let's not forget that their hotels are across each other's. Owen made sure Olivia knew about this fate thing he came up with.

Owen and Olivia's attraction was pretty "instant" and absolutely sizzling. I love the smart and very seductive back and forth banter they have. They can make a light bulb blow up just with their flirting. And that has nothing compared to their bedroom activities! *Owen is a sexy, sexy, sexy man.* I know I keep saying that but please bear with me. If you've read this already, I'm sure you understand this swooning I have going on.

They started with the flirting and thought that once they scratch the itch they have for the other that they will be done already. Count the experience as weekend fling. **WRONG.** Olivia was not a one-night stand kind of woman but with Owen and the previous relationship she had, she threw all care out the window and decided to just enjoy the moment. Owen is not looking for anything serious. His ex-fiancee burned him and he is now enjoying the life of a single man.

But that one night together was not enough for both of them. It was beyond satisfying, explosive, and their chemistry was too fierce for them to ignore. So they ended up coming back for more. And more. Until what

they have wasn't just about the sex anymore. Owen started to think of Olivia as his "normal", as that one woman who he will constantly spend his time with and love every second of it. Olivia's insecurities keep rearing its ugly head, a sign that she's getting emotionally involved already. She keeps running and Owen keeps going after her. Their personalities blend so well together and their story was so charming that it's a page-turner and made me want to finish in one-sitting.

When they gave their exclusivity a go, it was almost effortless for both of them. They're just compatible, it's easy to experience the development of their story with them. Of course though, just when things start to take a full blast, a blast from the past happens. In their case, both of their pasts start coming around. Owen's reaction to Olivia's ex was compassionate. He was so understanding and gentle about it and I loved him even more for it. He can be a filthy-mouthed bossy man but this side, a side where he was open to communication before reacting, is pretty rare in all the alpha book world and because of that he get's huge cookie points from me! Eh, I may be gushing about Owen's overall awesomeness, Olivia sometimes get on my nerves though. Running. She runs every time she feels scared and hurt. She doesn't confront. She just walks away. At first it was understable, and okay I can still understand her, but where I would've thrown a fit or at least threw what I'm holding over to their heads, she just goes away quietly. Olivia is an extremely lucky lady to have someone like Owen who is patient and (*yes, you guessed it right*) sexy who is very understanding of her.

I cannot wait to read more about these two! It feels like their relationship is just getting started after those 2 hurdles they faced and it's time for maybe more drama and answers and then some to the questions that I'm sure will be on the second book.

Stars: 5 stars!

Recommended to: EVERYONE! <3

POV: First person. Dual POV.

Series: Yes.

Cliffhanger: No.

EXTRA COMMENT: Did I mention how much I enjoyed this book? I loved it!

Zoe Norman

Jeannine Cohen says

I loved the book, love the characters. The couple is one that you can relate to. I couldn't put it down! Can't wait for the next book! Must read!!

Jennifer says

Loved it. Now I have to wait for book 2. :(

Christina says

Complimentary copy provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Olivia is a New York psychologist studying the impact of trauma on servicemen and first responders. Professionally, things are pretty good for her, but her personal life? That's another story. Having dated a man for over two years only to find out he's married with kids, she's having a hard time picking up the pieces of her broken heart and is far from willing to trust another man. At the insistence of an old friend who lives in Seattle, where there just happens to be a conference Olivia can attend to present her work, she begrudgingly finds herself at the airport, headed to the conference and for a little girl's time.

Owen is a NY fire fighter. He's hot, dedicated to his job, and is a love 'em and leave 'em kind of guy, having been burned in his last serious relationship (no pun intended). When the opportunity presents itself to head to Seattle for a weekend of bachelor debauchery with his two best friends, Owen also finds himself at the airport.

Olivia and Owen happen upon each other in the airport lounge and immediately sparks fly. While nothing really happens other than some innocent flirting, they find themselves on the same flight... in the airplane's bathroom, just short of joining the Mile High Club. When they get to Seattle, they make plans to meet up at some point; never really thinking anything will come of it. What happens over the course of the next couple of days is something neither one of them saw coming. Owen finds himself brushing off his friends in favor of spending time with Olivia, but when Olivia's lack of trust rears its ugly head, she finds herself back on a plane to New York, thinking things with Owen are done.

When Owen returns to NY, neither of them can resist the pull towards each other and they find themselves in an actual relationship, something neither of them had originally intended. But when former lovers return, the relationship is put to the test and they're each questioning whether a future together is really possible, given they are both so broken by their previous relationships. Can they each ever learn to trust again, but more importantly, can Olivia stop running at the first sign of trouble?

Rescue Breathing was hot (again, no pun intended!), there's no doubt about that! But unfortunately the ease at which Olivia is willing to walk away from their budding relationship starts to get old. She's constantly insecure and suspicious, and while her past should make her leery of jumping into a relationship, it gets to be too much after a while. They fight, they make up. They fight, they make up. Rinse, lather, repeat. Some of that could have been edited out and it really wouldn't detract from the story. The angst, distrust, and heat are all still there, but things would have been just fine if there just hadn't been quite so much of it.

Rescue Breathing is a solid four stars. The book was well written and again, HOT and I was able to finish it within a day it kept me so interested. The characters were well developed and Owen was certainly swoon-worthy! I will definitely continue with this series, as I'm eager to find out how things work out, not only for Olivia and Owen, but for their friends as well.

Ashley says

1.5 miserable stars.

I will try to come up with something positive to say-

1) I liked that Owen was an elite firefighter.

2)..... Um..... I very much like that it is over.

Basically, I thought the writing from the male POV was horrendous & embarrassing. I'm a giant tomboy & hang out with boys far more than girls. I have three brothers. I have a husband who has his friends over ALL the time (both married & single) I have never heard any of them talk so silly. It didn't seem authentic to me at all.

I DETEST when the MC's brag about their own attributes. (Thank God I'm so good looking & witty) Seriously, I can't even! Let those compliments come from the other parties perspective.

WTF- just bc he's drunk it's NBD that he was grinding on a stripper then says hurtful shit to his gf who saw the whole thing?? I felt as though he was one of the most unlikable book characters I've ever met. And I don't mind crazy, fucked up psychos! Travis Maddox is as bad as they come & I'd loan him all my vital organs. This chump was just ...UGH!!!

Lastly, I'm really tired of this cover pic. I swear it's been used by 23 books I've seen this year. It was a lovely one on the first book I saw. Now it's just like a generic joke at this point.

Red Cheeks Reads says

Olivia: "Wait for it. He was married. With kids. The whole time we were dating. All three years of it."

Can you even imagine finding out the guy you thought was "The One" was really a lying/cheating/bastard-type? Well, that is what Olivia Burke is dealing with. She shuts herself out from men, dating, and pours herself into her work as a psychologist. She is finally persuaded to visit a friend in Seattle while attending a conference.

So, then enter Owen. He's tired, overworked, and devastated from his lying/cheating/bastard-type ex-fiancé and en route to Seattle for a guy's weekend. He may be devastated from his ex, but he is also devastatingly hot and all man!

Owen: "You ever have those moments that you know are going to be etched in your mind until the day you die?" (I hope that is what my hubby thought when he first met me!!)

This book was AMAZING! I might be a little biased though? The story revolves around a firefighter and a doctor (she has her Ph.D.) and I'm a doctor (I have my M.D.) and my husband is a firefighter. From the title "Rescue Breathing", I knew this book was going to rock. I mean "Rescue Breathing" is a great metaphor for Olivia and Owen. Can they help each other revive their jaded and rusted hearts? Can breathe life into their mundane existences?

So what is so great about this book? Let me give you the list:

Characters! This author (who is really a duo) does an awesome job at the development of each character, which leads me to..

Dual POVs: The story is told from both Olivia and Owen's eyes!! Love that!

HOT HOT HOT HOT schemxy scenes, like seriously these girls know how to write a romp!! Including firehouse quickies!

Emotion: Each character is real; they have jobs, and are figuring each other out. It's not a perfect fairy tale which makes it believable and interesting.

HEA with the possibility for more! There are still a few unanswered questions that leave you wanting for more, but you will feel satisfied with the ending!!

Alpha Guy: Owen is quite an alpha, he is particular about everything and I totally fell for him!

There was not one thing I did not like about this book! I am so happy to have found a new writing duo! I have to add Zoe Norman along with Christina Lauren (you know from the Beautiful Bastard series). Please go check out this 5 star read and I know you won't be let down!!

Lisa

Angela says

This is the first book I've read by Zoe Norman and the first book in the Breathe Series.

I thoroughly enjoyed it from start to finish.

As much as I loved this cover, what prompted me to review it was the blurb. I mean who come one who doesn't love a book with a hunky firefighter in it, but it was the female character which grabbed it for, well her occupation actually. Yes, I do have weird ways of picking books, but it was well worth it.

The story surrounds Olivia, a Manhattan Psychologist, who is invited to present her research on trauma in servicemen in Seattle. And Owen, a FDNY firefighter and unapologetic playboy who spends his days saving lives and his nights breaking hearts.

Olivia is determined to use this business trip to heal her own traumatized heart. Owen is skeptical about putting his heart on the line the same way he does everyday with his life.

Well until he meets Olivia that is!!!

A chance meeting, in an airport bar on all places and Olivia and Owen have one very H.O.T and STEAMY weekend fling (or so they thought). I'm fanning myself just thinking about those scenes in all of those places!!

The club scene left me blushing beet red, which in turn has my husband asking what had gotten me so hot under the collar!! The prude in me (which I'm slowly trying to lose) came out and said absolutely nothing!!!

Can Owen mend Olivia's heart? Will Olivia be the one to get Owen to put his heart on the line? You'll have to read to find out....

The book was funny (laughter is always welcome), sexy, left me with more than a few tears which was easily remedied with an absolutely swoon-worthy male character! -sigh-

Firefighters, (more specifically Owen :D) are slowly creeping up the ladder as some of my favourite book boyfriends!!!

**** 1/2 Stars for an awesome way to start a series. Can't wait for Book 2

Flavs is Mrs David Gandy♥~♥' says

This book was amazing and the reason I say amazing is because of Owen...lol

He was hot/a firemen alpha and totally sexy!

Olivia was such a sweet/caring/gentle person and sexy in her own way. Knew what she wanted (but only in the bedroom)

At times she annoyed me with how many times she ran away when things got tough. But Owen didn't give up.

This is such a sweet/romantic story with lots and lots of good steamy sex. :-)

To my friend Chris for gifting me this book on Amazon, you are the best.

I #heart# you! Mwah!

A definite yes from me!

Debra says

★★★★ 4 Stars!

Rescue breathing; also known as the "kiss of life", is a rescue technique where one person provides air for someone who has stopped breathing.

Rescue Breathing by Zoe Norman is a story about two people broken by their past, who come together and try to breathe new meaning into each other's life without losing themselves along the way.

Olivia Burke is a psychologist who's currently researching the topic of traumatic events some firemen and police officers go through. Invited as one of the guest speakers at a conference in Seattle, she's determined to make the most out of a seemingly uneventful business trip.

Owen Maxwell is a FDNY firefighter by day and an unapologetic playboy who enjoys his freedom more than anything. After a tough break-up he's decided to entertain his carefree, no strings attached lifestyle as much as possible and a bachelor weekend with his best friends is exactly the kind of entertainment he's looking for.

When two of them end up together on the same flight, being seated right next to each other, it's almost like fate brought them together...

"Olivia, you know this means fate brought us together on this flight, don't you? I mean, you think it's a coincidence that the psychologist writing about firemen is sitting next to a fireman? It's karma... I knew it!"

At first, both Owen and Olivia try to keep their distance from each other. Olivia out of fear of being rejected and becoming too attached to someone who isn't interested in a long term relationship and Owen because all he wants is a casual fling with no strings attached. The more time they spend together though, the closer they grow and the more they both realize they want so much more than their single weekend together in Seattle. But what will life be like once they're back in New York?

"Normal. Normal is boring. This...This right here, right now, is exciting. Could Olivia become my new normal?"

As the story progressed I started to root more and more for the two of them to get their happy ending. Their carefree, funny banter, their steamy, passionate encounters and the fact that they've both had their hearts broken all showed Owen and Olivia were a perfect match. And despite Owen being quite a player at the beginning of the story, it became obvious pretty quickly that he has a much softer, more caring and even a bit of a quirky side to him; which turned out to be the perfect combination to help Olivia come out of her shell and take a chance on life again.

At the end of the story we were left with a happy ending - for now and I was relieved with the fact that there wasn't a cliffhanger. The ending still leaves a lot of possibilities for the future and I'm looking forward to the continuation of Owen and Olivia's story!

If you're looking for a fun, steamy, cliffhanger-free read with a limited amount of drama and lots of entertaining banter, I would highly recommend giving this one a try.

ARC kindly provided by the authors in exchange for an honest review

Mandie Foxylutely says

Four and a half stars!

**Copy provided by the authors in exchange for an honest review*

This is the first book in the Breathe series by new authors Zoe Norman. I was immediately sold on the blurb. Hey NYFD firefighter? Oh yes! Owen Maxwell certainly lives up to the imagery of I have of a sexy, smoking hot firefighter in my head and is a definite new book boyfriend to drool over.

He meets beautiful Olivia Burke in the airport bar when both are on their way to Seattle, him to celebrate his best friend's wedding and her for work purposes. The coincidences then keep happening by finding themselves on the same flight, in adjacent seats and hotels next door to each other.

Owen is a bit of a player and has been ever since his fiancé walked out on him and he resolved never to fall for a woman again. But Olivia is something special which he acknowledges on their first meeting. She's gorgeous, funny and permeating that spark that seems to ignite when they are together. They share a hot and sexy moment in the airplane bathroom and after agree to meet up whilst in Seattle. It's from there that the coincidences continue and the attraction increases tenfold.

The chemistry and sexual tension was a total winner and instantly the reader is taken on a sensual and believable story of two people trying to overcome disappointment from a past relationship gone badly. I loved the story build-up and how the reader was gently brought in to grasp a full knowledge of both characters and their psyche. I totally 'got' why they both said and did and there was none of this annoying angst and game playing. It was just a hot, sexy, enticing romance.

There was one area that I did not feel was needed and that was the turn up of the 'exes' as this just follows from where other books go. They certainly needed to be left in the past as their interference in Owen and Olivia's life was an obstruction of the story flow. Yes we like to have a touch of angst and jealousy but not with how these exes had exited from their lives.

Anyhow that is only one minor thing as I loved everything else about this book and it definitely lived up to my expectations. Great storyline, gorgeous characters and a real feel good factor sexy romance. I can't wait for the next one. Four and a half stars.

Cassia Brightmore says

"You gotta take big risks in order to get big rewards." When it comes to love, that should be everyone's motto. I read these words and it made me fall more in love with this book. I didn't just love it - I adored it, I'm obsessed with it, I can't wait until I have the time to read it all over again. I am a romance junkie and this book absolutely gave me my fix. From the second I flipped to this one in my Kindle carousel, I was hooked. Zoe Norman creates a world of characters that are just simply irresistible.

Olivia Burke is a successful psychologist - she's strong, smart, beautiful and funny. But she won't tell you that - she will say she's boring and damaged. Burned and hurt from a devastating past relationship, she has all but given up on the hope of ever finding someone to share her life with. A chance meeting with a handsome, sexy as hell stranger in an airport bar is about to change all of that...

Airport bars. They are my new favorite place and I am in danger of becoming that weird crazy girl that just hangs around airports sticking out like a sore thumb. All in the hopes of having Olivia's luck and meeting a man like Owen.

Owen Maxwell. Sexy, cocky, and a firefighter. And not just any firefighter - a rescue company firefighter. In New York City. Are you drooling yet? No? Well let's see what I can do about that. Fate is definitely smiling on these two - after an engaging meeting at the airport, they discover they are both headed to the same destination - Seattle. Olivia heading out there to present at a conference, Owen on his way to a debauchery filled bachelor weekend with his buddies. The two have an instant connection - Olivia's panties almost leaping into Owen's hands she's so attracted to him. And the feeling was more than mutual. There is a seriously hot bathroom scene on the plane, and if you didn't want to join the mile high club before, you will after reading that part! Owen has some serious skills to be able to work the magic he does in that tiny little space.

The two embark on what they think will just be a fun-filled weekend fling...with some of the hottest love scenes I've ever read - Zoe Norman! That scene in the club bathroom, Jesus - that is not one I will be forgetting anytime soon. The naughtiness of it, the whole club listening and the two of them so wrapped up

in each other (and Owen's amazing skills with his mouth).

This book had it all for me, the humor, the personality, the fantastic and wickedly delicious love scenes - I enjoyed every minute of it. There wasn't a page that went by where I wasn't laughing out loud or panting and dying for more.

In the words of Olivia and her best friend Charley - this one's a scrapbooker, give it a shot - you just might find that you've hit the penis jackpot ;)

****5 Deliciously Wicked Stars****

xo Cassia

deliciouslywickedbooks.com

S.A. Wolfe says

I was fortunate enough to receive an advance copy of Zoe Norman's upcoming Contemporary Romance, RESCUE BREATHING. It is an exciting, face-paced read with very steamy, erotic passion. Owen, a New York City fireman is too sexy for his own good, and let me add - I love NYFD men. Wow. When Owen meets Olivia in an airport bar, sparks fly, and when they discover they are on the same plane, their chemistry ignites. Not even hotshot Owen can put out this fire. RESCUE BREATHING is the first book in the Breathe Series and will be released on June 11, 2014!

Christie«SHBBlogger» says

[HFN (hide spoiler)]

Tessa Teevan says

THIS IS LIVE!!!

Loved, loved, loved! Fun, sexy, erotic, and just down right fantastic! I laughed, cried, swooned (boy, did I swoon?!) and loved every bit of it!

Owen Maxwell, I think I'm in love with you!!

Aestas Book Blog says

Sexy firefighter hero!!!

He's an "unapologetic playboy who spends his days saving lives and his nights breaking hearts... But when he meets Olivia, the girl with the shattered spirit, sparks fly."

It's the journey of two lost souls, trying to breathe new life into each other without losing themselves along the way.

I want to read it!!!
