



## Can't Help Falling

*Kara Isaac*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online ➔](#)

# Can't Help Falling

Kara Isaac

## Can't Help Falling Kara Isaac

A funny, heartfelt romance about how an antique shop, a wardrobe, and a mysterious tea cup bring two C.S. Lewis fans together in a snowy and picturesque Oxford, England.

Emelia Mason has spent her career finding the dirt on the rich and famous. But deep down past this fearless tabloid-reporter façade, there's a nerdy Narnia-obsessed girl who still can't resist climbing into wardrobes to check for the magical land on the other side. When a story she writes produces tragic results, she flees to Oxford, England—home to C.S. Lewis—to try and make amends for the damage she has caused.

Peter Carlisle was on his way to become one of Great Britain's best rowers—until he injured his shoulder and lost his chance at glory. He's determined to fight his way back to the top even if it means risking permanent disability to do so. It's the only way he can find his way past failing the one person who never stopped believing in his Olympic dream.

When Peter and Emelia cross paths on her first night in Oxford, the attraction is instant and they find common ground in their shared love of Narnia. But can the lessons from a fantasyland be enough to hold them together when secrets of the real world threaten to tear them apart? Cobblestone streets, an aristocratic estate, and an antique shop with curious a wardrobe bring the world of Narnia to life in Kara Isaac's inspiring and romantic story about second chances.

## Can't Help Falling Details

Date : Published October 11th 2016 by Howard Books (first published October 2016)

ISBN : 9781501117343

Author : Kara Isaac

Format : Paperback 373 pages

Genre : Christian Fiction, Romance, Contemporary, Christian, Fiction, Contemporary Romance

 [Download Can't Help Falling ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Can't Help Falling ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Can't Help Falling Kara Isaac**

---

## From Reader Review Can't Help Falling for online ebook

### Laura Van Nice says

Emelia Mason is in Oxford, England seeking absolution for something horrific she feels she set in motion and she longs with all her heart to recreate herself in the process. Peter Carlisle just wants to return to the man he was before an injury sidelined him on the way to Olympic rowing glory. They are brought together by combined charitable work and a little bit of Narnian magic. The story that flows from that beginning contains more than a whiff of that fantastical place.

This was a marvelous book! I loved the underlying theme of C.S. Lewis' Narnia books that was woven throughout the whole story. It added a wonderful level of depth. Emelia was such a sympathetic character, I wanted her to find her happy ending, spiritually, emotionally and romantically. I hurt for the hand she'd been dealt in life and for the choices she made. Peter was a great foil for her, someone who got such a solid start and turned into such a solid guy but still struggled. Kara Isaac does such a wonderful job with characterization, I felt like I could really relate to these two people.

I also enjoyed the spiritual journey this book took me on from Emelia's point of view and, in the end, from Peter's as well. It can be almost impossible to find God in tragedy, especially if your introduction to Him is faulty. Emelia carried a lot of baggage on her road to redemption and the way this story portrayed God's pursuit of her was a lovely thing - even a little magical. Peter's struggle with forgiveness was so incredibly common and a message that we all need to remember. The ending was incredibly romantic, so much so, that I went back and re-read it the next day.

Can't Help Falling was a magical, meaningful story that spoke of forgiveness and the preciousness of each person to God. A deeply moving, yet whimsical treat, it was well worth the read. I'll be eagerly looking forward Kara Isaac's next great story!

---

### Madison says

A truly magical story. From the cover and the title to the summary and the fact that I absolutely adored Close To You, I just knew that I was going to love Can't Help Falling. And I was right, because this book is fantastic.

Emelia longs for a second chance. She has moved to England, left her old life behind and intends to make restitution for her past. But she doesn't expect it to be so hard and when hiding in an antique wardrobe she happens to meet Peter Carlisle. As they continue to meet, they cannot deny their attraction, but the secrets of Emelia's past may prevent a future between them.

This book might start with a teacup, an antique shop and a wardrobe, but there is so much more to this story. Can't Help Falling has a magical quality, much like pushing through the coats at the back of the wardrobe and finding yourself in a magical wood. There are a number of Narnia quotes and references in this book, as to be expected, but even someone who has only seen the movies or has a faint idea of Narnia will understand and love this book. And, of course, the avid Narnia-obsessed reader will adore the way this story is steeped in all things Narnia. Then there is the romance. Beautiful, complicated, meant-to-be, irresistible, sparks-flying romance. It weaves through all the other details to bring together this story of family, second chances,

friendship and the rough and tragic sides of life.

Both Emelia and Peter have complicated backstories. I loved getting to know them both, loved learning more about their pasts, families and dreams. They make for wonderful characters. And the reader is also treated to a return of Allie and Jackson, from Close To You. They are prominent characters and it is fantastic to see the continuation of their romance and story.

I loved how faith is at the heart of this story. But what I loved even more is that this book is set in a realistic world. I loved watching how Emelia, who is not a Christian, reacts to Allie, Jackson and Peter's faith. I loved how Allie, Jackson and Peter talk about their faith and consider it in their relationships. I loved how faith is discussed and valued. I loved that the other characters who are not Christians view those with faith. I thought it was a very clever and refreshing way to position the story.

This is simply a fabulous book. I cannot wait to see what Kara Isaac writes next. It is sure to be brilliant. She has become one of my favourite authors, and Can't Help Falling is a book I can very highly recommend. It will appeal to a wide range of readers and I believe that not one of them could be disappointed reading this beautiful book.

The publishers provided a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Find more reviews on my blog [Madison's Library](#).

---

Before reading:

Can't wait for this!! Loved Close To You, and now Can't Help Falling sounds even more fabulous (if that's possible).

---

### **Karen R says**

Anglophiles beware, once you open this book you'll be drawn into it, and won't want to leave! A sequel of sorts to book one picking up where it left off, with the return of the main characters playing a big part of the story, but probably fine to read as a standalone.

Loved the many references to the Chronicles of Narnia, especially the wardrobe and book quotes. Seriously, how can anyone resist a redemption tale wrapped in all things British, such as C.S. Lewis, the Oxford-Cambridge rivalry, rowing team competition, a cricket match, endless cups of tea, mentions of Downton Abbey, and an antique shop with a sought after tea cup that brings two people together? The couple featured seemed to be bent on redeeming their pasts, especially Emelia; when God's truth finally shines a light on their lives, it brings hope and grace. I wasn't sure how their story would end, with all the ups and downs. Have to say it was worth the angst.

Recommend reading Close to You first, to get the whole story of Allie and Jackson. It's one of the best contemporary romances I've ever read. This one was quite good too. Happy sigh. Can hardly wait to read more from this author! 4.5 stars

---

(Book provided by NetGalley and the publisher in exchange for my honest review.)

### **Alyssa says**

Shut Up! An antique shop, a wardrobe, and C.S. Lewis set in Oxford.

---

### **Staci says**

Kara Isaac's sophomore novel was witty and engaging.

While I found *Can't Help Falling* to not be as filled with humor as *Close to You*, there were still lots of laughs among the pages. In continuing a comparison, the story in *Can't Help Falling* was deeper. I was so pleased to get up to date on Allie and Jackson along with getting to know Peter and Emelia.

What a brave undertaking for the author to set the story at Oxford which she has never visited! I haven't been there either so if there were any elements out of character for the geography, this American missed them!

In Peter and Emelia's story we learn about making mistakes, recovering from them and the ultimate Authority for forgiveness. I especially loved the dry humor, the way Peter and Emelia meet and how the story ends. A delightful tale!

I really love Kara's voice and look forward to what she offers next.

---

### **Emilee says**

*Can't Help Falling* completely captured my imagination from the beginning to end. The writing is a literary treat and the storyline kept me guessing. This is a good read and I would recommend it but with the disclaimer that the theology was a bit off. I would prefer it be left out completely than for it to be off. Also "sex" was casually mentioned but was directed in the right way but if that offends you then this is not the book for you.

---

### **Paula Vince says**

This novel is a tribute to C.S. Lewis as well as a romance, since the main couple first connect over their mutual love of the Narnia Chronicles. Whenever Emelia sees an ornate, antique wardrobe, she steps inside to test the back, just in case. It's a bit of a childhood tradition. And Peter catches her doing this not once but twice. Their relationship is based on a series of coincidences, but the magical, historical setting invites us to suspend disbelief.

I liked the Oxford setting, because I visited there once, many years ago, and it brings back memories. This book features University culture, antique shops and the rowing team, who have their sights set not only on

beating Cambridge but aiming for the Olympics.

Peter's situation evokes a lot of sympathy, since we've all felt hard-done-by at one time or another. Not only is his dream crumbling because of a painful injury, but he has to see his undeserving brother Victor achieve in the same arena (and rub it in too!) It's interesting to see Peter always trying to force the right responses while feeling something completely different in his heart. Victor, who always behaves so badly, seems so blessed. You can't help wondering whether good things are coming for Peter.

The story makes it clear Emelia has a secret reason for upending the life she knows to travel to a different country to apply for a specific job. It's based on remorse and a longing to make amends. This may sound heavy, but Kara Isaac's tone keeps the story lighthearted. She uses a lot of funny similes and comparisons which become part of her writing style. (Such as "She avoided relationships like someone with a peanut allergy avoided a Snickers bar." That's a prime example without being plot-spoilerish.)

Altogether, I can think of several people who enjoy watching rom-coms or reading contemporary romance novels who would surely enjoy this book.

Thanks to Howard Books and NetGalley for my review copy.

---

## **Cait • A Page with a View says**

### **Release date: October 11, 2016**

I love Narnia, Oxford, and all things British, so I absolutely adored the premise of this story. However, it quickly turned into an infuriating mess...

So the basic premise is that Emelia is in London for a fresh start after her tabloid job where she blamed herself for a celebrity's death. She loves Narnia and keeps hiding in every wardrobe she finds because of something to do with her mother's suicide and how she loved Narnia. Peter is a rower guy who also loves Narnia and happens to run into Emelia while he's looking for a teacup for his mother in an antique shop. The teacup is in the wardrobe with Emelia. Peter is also the cousin of the celebrity whose death Emelia was all wrapped up with.

SO MANY COINCIDENCES ENSUE that I thought it was poor writing at first (but it turned out to be "miracles"). Like Emelia goes to her new job and meets a girl who needs a roommate. Turns out that girl is friends with Peter and he's at a house party later. Then Emelia needs to work with a board member at work... who turns out to be Peter. They start falling for each other, but then Peter casually mentions he has to go to church on a Monday night and Emelia gives him a look like "why Monday?" and he launches into ALL SORTS OF CRAZY ASSUMPTIONS. Like he never even bothers to ask her about her faith before she starts bemoaning how they can never be together because she doesn't share his faith:

*"Why did she have to be so perfect in every way except the one that mattered most?*

*What was he even hoping for? Emelia didn't share his faith. He'd always told himself that was one line he wouldn't cross.*

*For the first time in his life, he understood how what looked black and white could be so easily*

*blurred into grey.*

*He couldn't have great with Emelia.*

*There was no chemistry or fierce hope in the world that could paper over those canyon-sized cracks.*

*He'd gone and fallen in love with the one girl he shouldn't.*

*You don't kiss girls who loved you when you couldn't love them back."*

Way later in the story he FINALLY tells her that his religion is very important to him and he needs to be with someone who shares his faith. She says she would respect his religion, but he says that's not enough. And then the story's tone starts to really treat her differently... like Emelia's POV starts thinking things like "*in the haze of blazing attraction, she might like to think that she could be all understanding and tolerant of his beliefs, but she knew when it really mattered she wouldn't get it. She'd get annoyed... resentful.*" She starts shoving him in the chest a lot?? She gets really petty and completely different from the character she was in the beginning -- like his brother gets in a car accident and she's like "*good to know I rank so highly I didn't even warrant a call or a text.*"

So by this point I don't like either of them. Then she asks Peter how a loving God could take her mother and leave her alone as a six year old. Peter thinks to himself that this is "clearly not the moment to launch into a treatise on the original sin and fallen creation." His mother tells him it's not his job to fix her.

And then Peter's POV is all worried that if Emelia did become a Christian she'd have a million guys swarming her suddenly -- "*the minute she found God, she'd also realize she was way out of his league.*" So they kiss a few times and Peter knows he should be sorry but isn't: "*I keep trying to distance myself, I do. I know we can't be anything more than friends unless she's a Christian.*"

I'm already annoyed, but then Emelia does the thing that annoys me most and decides to not tell him important things until everything boils over. Peter ends up being incredibly petty & unforgiving and says she makes him sick. Both of these people need to grow up and exit this story asap...

And his ex-girlfriend is woven throughout the story as the "*smart choice. She was great. She loved God.*"

My problem here isn't the religion aspect. It's how immature the characters are, how shallow the plot is, and how **the entire plot gets thrown out and everything starts to just focus on whether or not Emelia can find God.** And the way she does is so anticlimactic and unconvincing. But THANK GOODNESS BECAUSE NOW PETER CAN ACCEPT HER AND THEY CAN KISS FOR REAL. Every problem is now solved because she decides God is real and miracles happen.

The one good part of the story was the Narnia ball and quotes everywhere, but even that was ruined by how much hate they had for Susan. The huge character development for Emelia is she starts out thinking she's a

Susan and ends knowing she's a Lucy. Peter tells her that she's a Lucy and an Edmund "*who made some bad decisions but doesn't let that define you. You're a Peter who stands up for what is right and just. Of all the Pevensies, the one that you aren't is Susan.*" Because that horrible Susan got into boys and lipstick and stopped believing in Narnia, remember? The amount of girl hate in this book made me sick.

I guess I wasn't aware this was Christian fiction. But then I went with it because I'm Christian and was hoping maybe Christian fiction had become more realistic or worth reading in the past few years. Like all I'm looking for are realistic characters who aren't reduced to cliches and a SOLID PLOT that actually carries through without dissolving. This should not be that hard...

Thank you to the publisher for sending me a review copy!

---

### **Chantel says**

I could not help but fall in love with this book! This story was nothing less than enchanting it had everything you want in a contemporary romance! From beautiful setting in Oxford, England to the super cute meetings at the antique shop and the constant nods to the Chronicles of Narnia that any fan would appreciate. I found myself swept in up in this story. The characters were so endearing and beautifully flawed. I really felt connected to both of the main characters of this book, I really felt for Emelia and Peter as they both tried to make amends from their past mistakes and have a new start. I think Kara Isaac did a wonderful job of displaying God's pursuing love and He how orders our steps and watches out for us even before we come to believe in Him. I definitely enjoyed this book and I cannot wait to read more from this author!

---

### **Amy says**

Newcomer to the Christian Contemporary Romance scene, Kara Isaac has hit the ground running. First book, 'Close to You', is quirky, fun and different from anything I'd read before. With her second book, 'Can't Help Falling' we see more of her captivating writing, so unique that she is carving out a solid place for herself within the genre. The same fun sarcasm between characters is evident here, though less than the first book. It's fun & fresh and puts a smile on my face. Fans of Allie & Jackson will be pleased to know they are in this book as major players, and their contribution not only adds to the strength of this story, for those of us - me included - that love series so we can revisit our faves from the past, you will love that fact. I've never actually read a book in which prior characters had so much vital input in the story. Usually they get a cameo spot, with very little lines. Please Kara, keep writing our faves back in just like this!!!

While there's plenty to love and laugh about in this plot, I have to say we get taken on a serious journey with

Peter & Emelia. A beautiful setting, you can't pick a better spot than the city of Oxford, England. With the rich history, and competitive nature of the UK's top tier Universities, it is the perfect backdrop for Olympic Rowing hopeful, Peter & American, fallen from grace tabloid Journalist, Emelia. Running from shame & hiding a secret so big, she fears unveiling her true self will not only hinder her efforts at redemption, but her final chance at a new life will come crashing down. What's the chances you will meet, work with & fall in love with the last person on earth she thought she'd have to face. I enjoyed the journey, the heartbreak, the self destructive power of guilt, the determination to put things right & the pure joy of learning to forgive not only others but most importantly yourself. I loved both of these characters, I'm hoping we get to see them again, I'm pretty sure their story is not complete!

Finally can I say 'Narnia'?! YES! There's a theme running through this book. Last time it was Tolkien, this time it was Lewis, who will be next?????!!! The way the Chronicles of Narnia was woven into the story was clever, and tied up so beautifully in the end. Who doesn't check the inside of old mysterious wardrobes? All fans of the series do right?! Fabulous original writing, that we have not seen before, makes Kara's books stand out from the crowd. This book has it all. Fun, flirty but packed full of frustrations & challenges for everyone involved. Thank you for a great read, I cannot wait to see what comes next. Easy five stars for this fabulous story.

\*I just want to add, whoever is responsible for these beautiful covers, thank you. As a bookseller, I can tell you that beautiful covers make it into the hands of the reader, and hands down you got this one 100% right.

Thanks to Netgalley & Howard Books for the digital ARC & the copy from Kara, who after reading 'Can't Help Falling', I'm more than happy to be participating as an Influencer for this book. This is my honest review.

---

### **Beth says**

Sometimes you meet a character whose heartache is so palpable, it fairly leaps off the page. This is how I experienced both Emelia Mason and Peter Carlisle in Can't Help Falling. Both are trying to rebuild their lives after poor decisions and shattered dreams, and when they meet, it's hard to see how they are going to get past their regrets and consequences of their decisions. Emelia's former life was that of a successful tabloid reporter; her job wasn't personal, until one day, death made it so. Peter was an Olympic level rower, whose dreams of competing in the games were derailed by a serious injury to his shoulder. Both are determined to re-build a floundering charity before it has to close its doors for good, and both are looking for atonement.

I have never been to Oxford, but a picturesque settings comes to life within these pages. There is a charming, atmospheric feeling to this story; whether it was a country manor house, the pub frequented by Lewis and Tolkien or an antique shop, there is a strong sense of place. The tone is at times more somber, and yet at other times, there is a lot of humor. Rather than feeling jarred in and out of these emotions, there is a nice balance held throughout the story. The Narnia thread is a lot of fun – full of whimsy, but it never becomes an overwhelming thread. Though it's been a good while since I've read the Narnia books, I never felt lost, and honestly, I don't think a reader that hasn't read them would feel lost – although perhaps they'd decide that now was the time to read them. I know I was clamoring for a re-read after finishing this book.

Emelia is a complex, layered character. Sometimes she is downright prickly. But I myself can be downright prickly, so honestly, I appreciated that level of realism. While I didn't always agree with her reactions, I can

understand how feelings just kind of bubble over sometimes. She has a very genuine, endearing quality to her, and I admired how she determined to do a good job, no matter how it might end up for her personally. While she may have been looking for peace in the wrong place, it was understandable as to why she felt like she was going about it the best way.

Sometimes with stories where one person is keeping something with huge implications from the other main character, it just doesn't work. The secret overpowers any chemistry they might have as a couple, but that isn't the case here between Emelia and Peter. Of course, I did want her to tell him this secret, but I also understood that she really wanted to complete the job she was doing, and if she did tell, it might damage the good she had done so far. She knew it wasn't the right thing to do, but it's what she could do at that moment, and I really appreciated how well the story was able to handle the weightiness of that issue.

The plot flows well for most of the story – it has one of the cutest meetings that I've had the pleasure to read, and it really sets the tone for the relationship between Emelia and Peter as it develops. There were a few times that I felt like I had to suspend my disbelief a bit – some scenes a bit too convenient for my tastes, but that's more of a personal preference than anything else. We know fairly early on in the story that Emelia is not a believer, whereas Peter and several of the secondary characters are. I appreciate how Allie and Jackson, and even Peter, when he wasn't being stubborn, treated Emelia. The scenes between her and Allie are especially nice and realistic. I also thought how Emelia comes to faith is a nice part of the story, and, despite my reservations about the coincidental scenes earlier in the story, I actually liked the circumstance that finally moves her to tentative faith as it feels very realistic and true to the life of the story.

Overall, I found so much to enjoy in this story, and I can tell that I've found a new author in Kara Isaac – one whose books I will always seek out and be eager to read. I love how she integrates literature and fandoms in her books, so I'm hopeful that she will continue with that in her books. I also want to mention that I have not read her first book, *Close to You*, and though the characters do feature in *Can't Help Falling*, I didn't feel lost. I do, however, want to go back and read Allie's story very soon, and will be eagerly awaiting the author's next book!

---

### **Kara says**

I LOVED this book! That's it, the end. No other embellishment is needed. That should be enough to make you immediately go out and buy it, right? ;)

Seriously though, this story is absolutely delightful! After reading and loving, *Close to You* earlier this year, I was highly anticipating Ms. Isaac's next book. Even more so when I knew Jackson and Allie would be secondary characters in it! In fact, those two featured quite a bit more prominently than I thought they may, but you'll get no complaining from me, no sir. I loved seeing their life after the 'happily ever after'. But my absolute favorite bits? Were any time that Peter and Emilia were on the page! Because while I loved how perfectly Jackson and Allie fit each other, Peter and Emilia's connection was even more so.

Ah, what is there to say about those two? First of all, that meet cute *has* to be in my top ten! Seriously all kinds of adorable! The best part is it happens *twice*, and it sets the stage for many more amusing moments between them. They have crackling chemistry and when you get the two of them close....ooohhh my! ;) They also have this innate perception of one another. They can see the pain inside the other, for neither has a life filled with happiness and rainbows at the moment. They each carry scars, both figuratively and literally, yet that's the beauty of their individual trajectories. As they interact, slowly but surely they bring healing and

peace into their own lives. Peace has been something the pair of them has been lacking for quite a long time. They've both tried to fill that void, very unsuccessfully. It takes meeting each other and being forced to face their problems head on before they can find true rest and comfort. Their journey's aren't easy, they're rather difficult actually, but as they slowly open up to one another, they begin to learn that forgiveness and grace are not earned, they are freely given.

Slipping in between all the swoony romance and great character growth comes one of the biggest highlights of the story for me. Emilia is a fan of C.S. Lewis (as am I! :), hence all the references to his works, especially *The Chronicles of Narnia!* Ms. Isaac excels at establishing the themes of Lewis' stories as a foundation and then using them to create this really wonderful mix of faith-building and self-discernment, all while feeling comfortably immersed in classic literature. Quite similar to Katherine Reay's books as a matter of fact, except with a bit more romance! (One of the highest compliments I can give. :)

I don't know how Ms. Isaac did it, but this sophomore novel felt so much *more* than her first. *Close to You* was excellent, but this one really showcases her rising skill. I'm not sure how to describe it, it just felt like she had settled more comfortably into her writer voice. Both stories are amazing, but this one simply feels *exceptional*. These characters put down roots in my heart and refused to leave. For hours and days after, I was still thinking about them and *needing* to go back and revisit all my favorite bits. That doesn't happen with every story I read, so when it does? I know I've found a good one! :) It goes without saying that I recommend this story, friends. Try it and see what you think!

\*\*I received a complimentary copy via NetGalley. All opinions expressed are my own.

---

### **Melanie says**

Can't Help Falling was so stinkin' cute! I loved the scene where the two MCs first meet -- it was unique and memorable. I felt bad for the heroine and all the guilt she carried for someone's death..but I could see why she felt that way, even if it wasn't really her fault.

I liked the romance and I knew when he finally learned who she was there would be conflict...and there definitely was. Surprisingly, I wasn't a huge fan of the characters from *Close to You* being in this book. While I had liked their romance and story in that book, for some reason I wasn't a fan here. I did like the characters, it was just the romance that was a little blah for me and I can't even explain why. :/

All in all, I loved Can't Help Falling. It was wonderful and I definitely recommend it!

\*I received a complimentary eBook copy of this book for my honest review. As always, all thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.\*

---

### **Amanda Geaney (Christian Shelf-Esteem) says**

I'm a Narnian at heart, therefore it was the synopsis of Kara Isaac's sophomore novel which led me to take a chance on a new author. Can't Help Falling starts out sweet and a little silly, a clever approach by the author to draw her readers in deeper-like wading into the ocean. Emelia and Peter's awkward introductions wet my feet, with the hint of a secret I was in up to my knees, by the time Emelia's plan of self-redemption is in

motion I was treading water, and then whoosh... The story swept me away.

When Peter finds Emelia in an antique wardrobe he asks “Are you a Susan or a Lucy?” If you are familiar with the Narnia series, you know how Emelia wants to answer the question. However, Emelia is not a Christian and even cringes later in the story when Peter mentions church. She is worldly and Isaac writes an accurate description of the way many 20-somethings think, live, and behave. If the mention of make-up sex in a Christian novel turns you off then consider this fair warning, but I’d hate for sensitive readers to miss out on a really wonderful story about God’s sovereignty, His ability to reach the lost, and His calling on us to extend grace and forgiveness.

The manner in which this author describes a scene, her character development, as well as the C.S. Lewis/Narnia tie in were spot on! Furthermore, I don’t often buy romance novels because I can’t stand it when characters drone on and on about how physically attracted or how strong their longings are for one another (

---

### **Dale Harcombe says**

American born Emilia arrives in Oxford, England determined to try and somehow make amends for the tragedy that occurred as a result of her reporting. But is there anything she can do to make amends? Emilia is a young woman with a penchant for climbing into wardrobes, still searching for the Narnia her mother had introduced her to as a child. Peter Carlisle was a burgeoning rower headed for the Olympics, until he injured his shoulder. He is determined to fight his way back even if it means risking everything. When Emilia and Peter meet the attraction is immediate but there is more than one huge barrier to them ever getting together. When I first started to read, it took me a little while to settle down with Emilia and her obsession with hiding in wardrobes and with Narnia. But she is quirky, interesting enough character that I soon became interested, even though I had a fair idea how the story would turn out. Still, there are some surprises along the way. The dialogue is often amusing and peppered with Narnia quotes, which will add to the fun for anyone who is a Narnia fan. Even if you are not as familiar with the books, it still is a cute twist. I enjoyed this novel. The characters are well rounded. This is Christian fiction with a light touch, though it still deals with some serious issues. I did have some reservations about the end, which seemed a little rushed and a couple of things I questioned. But that is perhaps a minor quibble in what was an engaging read.

---