



## Forest Fires

*Tara Mills*

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## **Forest Fires** Tara Mills

Some sparks catch. Some consume.

When Charley Jensen, a rough-edged handywoman, stops to help a stranded biologist with a flat tire in the middle of nowhere, she writes him off as too soft to survive in this isolated and unforgiving wilderness.

But Drake Carver is more than just a brain in a beautiful package, he's resourceful and, much to Charley's surprise, fun to be around. However, only when their lives are on the line does she learn he's tougher than he looks.

Suddenly, her secret, burning question, 'Are you strong enough to be my man?' becomes 'Am I strong enough to love this man?' Will they get the chance to find out?

## **Forest Fires Details**

Date : Published September 23rd 2016 by Sherman Hills Press

ISBN :

Author : Tara Mills

Format : ebook 254 pages

Genre : Romance, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit

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# From Reader Review Forest Fires for online ebook

## Kathryn says

Tara Mills has created the best Sunday afternoon entertainment I've experienced in a long time. The story had everything; characters you can love, laughter, danger, and a powerful amount of sexual magic.

I found myself falling in love with the hero (who wouldn't fall for an ornithologist who sheds tears over a dead baby loon?) and cheering for the heroine.

Do yourself a favor and dig into this book one day when you want to meet a man you can really fall for, and a woman who deserves him.

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## Mac Rome says

My biggest challenge in reviewing Forest Fires by Tara Mills is that I see so much in the book, it's hard to pick an approach to the review.

It's a great examination of what makes an alpha male, with male lead Drake so strong he doesn't need to show it off.

It's got layers (I'm resisting Shrek references, since the book is neither an onion, nor a cake, nor a parfait.) From the literal forest fires of the story to the burning relationship between Drake and female lead Charley, to even something as simple as Drake's name, there are layers. (On Drake's name: it suggests both his profession in one sense of the word and, in the ancient sense of drake as another term for dragon, his role in the fires to come in Charley's life.)

In the mythological sense, it's a hero's journey — but the hero on the journey here is the heroine, and it's not her journey out into the world, but the world's reach to her, that drives the story.

But all those descriptions miss what Forest Fires really is — a red-hot romance that moves from the lightning strike of Drake when Charley rescues him to the roaring blaze that begins when he rescues her, to the sexy, passionate and romantic ending.

I found the epilogue a little wobbly, but it adds to the book, and it all rings true.

Now, after she heard me describe a scene in this book, I have to comb my wife's hair ... ?

I give this book 5 stars.

I received a free copy of the book in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Erin Richards says**

Another Fantastic Novel by Tara Mills!

The first chapter of *FOREST FIRES* sucks you in and doesn't let go. Ms. Mills' successfully sets up the story from page one when Drake has a flat tire and Charley stumbles across him on the highway. Drake is returning to the small town and cabin where he spent his boyhood summers, the place Charley calls home. Sparks fly and the adventure begins!

I got a kick out of the role-reversal with Charley as a handywomen and Drake a scholarly wildlife biologist. It creates great tension between them when Drake needs a helping hand at his rundown cabin. Charley doesn't trust due to having been burned before in love, and Drake's all too willing to be the man to help her overcome her distrust. When the two get caught in a suspenseful and gripping escape from a raging forest fire, their relationship starts to sizzle (literally!). Down to the last page, I didn't know how they would reach their happily ever after when Drake is only in town for the summer. But Ms. Mills' wraps it up beautifully and the ending was real and satisfying.

I loved Tara Mills' first novel *CAUTION: FILLING IS HOT* and was excited to read *FOREST FIRES*. Tara Mills has a flare for injecting humor into her stories in just the right places and in the right amounts. I love her writing and story-telling ability, and I highly recommend both books. Tara Mills is now on my instant buy list.

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## **Rena Koontz says**

Author Tara Mills gives us a little taste of suspense and an even bigger bite of romance in her new novel, "Forest Fires."

Her imagery of a raging fire roaring through Eagle Point makes the reader gag from the smoke, the danger is so real. With watering eyes we follow Drake Carver's and Charley Jensen's escape from the blaze, and we watch a different flame ignite from a spark to a fire as they each concede they need each other. Charley is the handy woman we all wish we could be, able to repair everything but her heart. Drake is the clean-cut all American guy who looks good in a preppie shirt and better out of it.

Together they take us on a journey that teaches us not to judge based on first impressions and to look beyond the book cover to see the value on the pages.

This is a gem of a story with just the right amount of heat and love.

Rena Koontz

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## **Peggy Bird says**

The first chapter of "Forest Fires" is one of the best first chapters I've read in a long time. It drops the reader into the story quickly, draws in bold strokes the two main characters and sets them on the path to the adventure Tara Mills has set up for them!

Drake Carver has returned to the cabin where he'd spent his boyhood summers to work on a contract for Fish and Wildlife. He's a wildlife biologist—an unusual occupation in romance heroes—and will be spending the

summer studying the birds in the area. Charley Jensen is a handywoman who has lived in the area all her life and who is about as girly as the lug wrench she loans Drake when she first meets him on the road where he's had a flat tire.

It's a role-reversing, gender-bending mismatch made in heaven. Or, in this case, Haven, which is the name of the small nearby town.

When Drake needs some help with a couple projects at the cabin, I'll give you one guess who the handywoman is who takes the job. And when Charley wants company on a hike to a breathtaking piece of scenery, who do you think she invites to go with her? I'll give you the same single guess.

It's on that hike that a wildfire traps the couple. Mills' description of their climb out of the danger zone is nail-bitingly good. As is her portrayal of the tension between them as each comes to terms with the growing attraction between them.

But Charley has been burned before and isn't sure she wants to trust him, a man who is as far away from what she thought she liked as possible. And he knows she's not the kind of woman his socially conscious mother would like him to marry. On top of that, his work will be over at summer's end and he'll be leaving the cabin. So, Charley breaks it off before he breaks her heart. But Drake has a surprise up his sleeve that just might help her see their differences aren't important although being together is.

I was fortunate to read an advanced copy of "Forest Fires" and have reviewed it as a favor to the author. If you're smart, you'll buy this book as soon as it's available October 15th. I'll bet you agree that I was lucky to have been among the first to read it. Until then, grab a copy of "Caution: Filling is Hot" by the same author. It's another good read.

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### **Cary Frates says**

Oh, this was good! Tara Mills takes us on a fun adventure through mountains and forests and breathtaking views, but all those pale in comparison to the strength of her characters and her storyline. I found myself right there beside them for every electric moment, whether contentious, high altitude, or heart-stoppingly dangerous. While the hero's profession is, at first glance, a brow-lifter for those anticipating a hunky alpha male, he does not disappoint . . . not a bit. The heroine is strong, capable, and fiercely independent, and following her route to self-discovery is pure delight. Well done. This reviewer received an ARC from the author in return for an honest review, which is given as a professional courtesy and without monetary compensation.

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### **Deborah Cordes says**

Well done, Tara Mills! I read FOREST FIRES in one sitting - it's a definite page turner. The novel ran like a movie in my head, because Ms. Mills has an excellent visual writing style. I grew up in the mountains of Arizona, and I immediately identified with her description of the environment around Haven. Her keen ability to get into the heads of her characters should also be praised. All of her settings, townspeople, and her heroine, Charley, rang true. I loved the fact that Charley hadn't worn a dress or heels in years! And she nailed

her biologist-hero, Drake, although I must admit I never met a hunky ornithologist like him when I was in college. :) The scenes where Charley and Drake must escape from a mountain during a raging forest fire were so harrowing, I could not put down my Kindle (appropriate name, eh?). The world fell away and I was there, smelling the smoke, feeling their pain, and gripped with fear.

Kudos to Ms. Mills for creating a suspenseful read!

This reviewer received an ARC from the author in return for an honest review, which is given as a professional courtesy and without monetary compensation.

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### **Galen Rose says**

Tara Mills has a gift for words and it shines through in Forest Fires. Charley is a handywoman and is quite capable of taking care of just about anything. Drake is a biologist who finds out pretty quick that the mountains can be unforgiving if you are not prepared for anything. Though they seem mismatched, there is no mistaking the attraction that burns hot between them. There is even an escape from a raging forest fire that will have you biting your nails as Charley and Drake run for their lives. I enjoyed this book from beginning to end and look forward to more from this author!

This reviewer received an ARC from the author in return for an honest review, which is given as a professional courtesy and without monetary compensation.

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