

HAPPINESS ISN'T SOMETHING YOU CAN PLAN FOR



## GLASS HEARTS

AUTUMN DOUGHTON

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*Autumn Doughton*

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**Glass Hearts** Autumn Doughton

*This is an alternate Cover Edition for ASIN: B00BRKQY8Y.*

A boy.

A girl.

A missed opportunity.

No matter how much she studies, Ellie Glass can't prepare for every aspect of life. A fact she realizes after a chance encounter with a young musician leaves her scrambling to speak in coherent sentences. Scruffy, long-haired, and undeniably sexy, Ben is the exact opposite of her type. So why is it that Ellie can't stop thinking about him?

When fate intervenes and the two are thrown together for a second time, Ellie gets more than she bargained for. With the help of her friends and a newfound romance, she begins to redefine herself and slowly realizes that happiness isn't something you can plan for.

This is the captivating story of an undeniable attraction, the choices that we make, and ultimately, the unexpected power of love.

**\*\*Formerly published under the title *On an Edge of Glass*\*\***

## Glass Hearts Details

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Author : Autumn Doughton

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# From Reader Review Glass Hearts for online ebook

**\*Marsha,Marsha,Marsha\* It's always Marsha says**

I'm sort of struggling with finding the right words at this moment. I have so many "thangs" I would like to say to new indie authors and maybe, just maybe, one will listen.

Normal. Realistic. Connections. All of these just seemed to swirl and blend in a nice, normal way as I read this book. As a reading teacher, one of the important reading strategies I teach my students is that of making connections: to your life, the real world, or another book.

This book had me making connections in sundry and varied ways. This was not an overly drawn out, angsty novel with drama seeping through every pore. The level of sweetness and longing just came naturally as I read the story of Ellie and Ben.

Insecurities abound in us all and Ellie is no exception. Huge parental expectations about her career choice hang over her head daily. Law School. Columbia. The LSAT. Every single tidbit I could relate to.

But a tiny moment in a coffee shop leaves her wondering about a guy. A guy who only spoke to her for a very short time. Enter Ben. Sweet doesn't begin to define this guy. And what I liked so very much was that the author did NOT make either of them over the top gorgeous. The reader knows there is an attraction, a chemistry, but it's the glances, the covert, literal under cover way their romance begins.

Ben is recovering from a heartbreaking relationship. He's a musician. And he ends up as Ellie's new house roommate. Neither expect the other at that point and time. But time and circumstances and being thrown together do catch up.

The drama is there but not completely overwhelming the story. The hurt in both Ben and Ellie is there but not blood curdling screaming, cursing, and flat out pandemonium. Misunderstandings abound but with the help of BFF's, Ellie finds a way to reach out to Ben one more time. And it is so sweet and special.

A good dose of reality is something we all can share at some point in time. I connected with these characters on so many levels and for that reason, they became real to me. Took me back to college life, applications, rejections, boyfriends and more rejections. And I smiled and my heart tugged in all the right places as I finished this very sweet, normal love story.

Enjoy. I certainly did.

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**Chu says**

**The best things in life are free.**

Indeed, I got **On an Edge of Glass** for FREE at Amazon.

Oh yes, Ms. Autumn Doughton did it again!

And as I have expected - it was awesome. Okay, a little bit cliché, with a plot that I have read a couple of times out of a YA cover, but

Ms. Doughton can spin magic out of it. She writes in a way as if readers can find it familiar but somehow, **better and a little bit different than usual.**

*Why pursuing anything with Ben is a bad idea? -Ellie*

*1. He's not my type. He's scruffy, whereas I'm put together. I wear cardigans for God's sake. I think that effectively blocks me from being allowed to date musicians*

*2. Ben is my roommate*

*3. I made a pact with Payton and Ainsley. I made the two of them promise that they wouldn't go after Ben, regardless of how tempting he turned out to be. That has to stand for something*

### **Character Profiles**

Name: **Elizabeth Jane Glass** or *Ellie*

*Qualities:* Intelligent, talented photographer, type-A personality (obsessed with plans), a very good friend, not-so-good communication skills.

*Current Activities:* Reviewing for LSAT (Law School Admission Test)

*Future Plans:* Ace LSAT, go to NY for summer internship, go to Columbia for law (like her parents), and join her parent's practice as a corporate lawyer - *whew! big plans!!*

*Roomies:* Payton and Ainsley

**What I love/hate about her:** *she's a dear, a great friend, someone who loves to plan things ahead, like I do but she can also be a pain in the a\*\*, especially when she runs away from something without confronting it, she could be intelligent but when it comes to the matters of the heart - she's going to fail without a doubt.*

Name: **Benjamin Hamilton** or *Ben*

*Profile:* tall, dark, handsome, lanky

*Current Activities:* he's proficient on three instruments, plays cello at the university, bassist for a local indie band

*Future plans:* going for auditioning for several orchestra placements

*Current Address:* apparently, he's Ellie's new roomie!

**What I love/hate about him:** *I'd say he's a total boyfriend material: he's sweet, doesn't do drugs, doesn't have dirty secrets, isn't a womanizer (although anyone can fall at his feet, esp groupies). I find him cute especially when he turns shy, he's witty, has a heart that's ready to love and honest with his feelings (at first), but of course what more can you take when the girl you wanted the most won't give you a chance to explain?.*

### **Favorite Scene**

1.) On the doorstep: Ellie and Mark were talking about the boy she met at a coffee shop, and here was the boy coming on their way.

**Ben:**

**Ellie:**

**Mark:**

2) The Lunch with Dad - it was so funny, it's like watching Ellie shrinking into her sit with all those funny stories her dad was sharing with Ben from her youth. I was glad that her dad instantly liked Ben as well. Even though her father only appeared a couple of times in this book - he projected a kind, and understanding father who's willing to support her daughter whatever her decisions are. (The way Ellie was trying so hard with the exams- I thought her parents were very strict and wanted nothing but excellence for their daughter - but it was the exact opposite!)

#### **Favorite Characters**

How can I not adore **Mark** he's the gay best friend who's uber-loyal to Ellie but won't take any sh\*t coming from her. He's her number 1 fan and critic, he's honest with her and points out what exactly he sees and best of all, he's there when he's needed. He's super fun and I couldn't help but laugh when he comes in the picture.

Asher - just a little bit of him on a chapter and I totally want to get to know Ben's younger brother more. Unlike Ben who seems to be shy and simple, his younger brother is cocky, and plays lacrosse and baseball. Oh yes, he could be a great main character in the making, wouldn't you say so, Ms. Autumn? :)

Roomies: Payton and Ainsley, besides Mark, they were Ellie's best friend. They wanted Ellie to have fun instead of burrying herself in piles of LSAT reviewers, they encourage her to go out, have fun and date. They were very, very understanding when the truth finally revealed itself.

#### **To End:**

I had a grand time reading this novel, it was short with just enough angst, drama and comedy to complete my day. Yes, our dear Ellie frustrates me, and I would have strangled her if she were a true human being, and I would have love to read what was going on inside Ben's mind. Going to recommend it to friends who love a feel-good, not-so-emotionally-draining, amazing book. And yes, I will patiently wait for the next Autumn Doughton novel.

Let me give you that hug again:

**THANK YOU SO, SO MUCH!**

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**Brittany says**

Whoa! So this book blew my expectations away. I absolutely loved it!

I'm a sucker for musicians so I was totally digging Ben's vibe, and he was genuinely good guy--a book boyfriend that I don't have to feel guilty for falling in love with. And Ellie, the main character, was likable and easy to relate to. I think that we've all felt like her at one point--like we have all these expectations to live up to and we aren't quite good enough.

*On an Edge of Glass* is angsty and dramatic, but in exactly the right amount. The book never crossed over into the absurd, which is hard to say for a lot of NA indie-type books.

And, can we pause for a moment to talk about how much I **loved** Mark??? He was hilarious and sweet and probably the best sidekick/best friend character that I've come across in a long time.

I am begging the author to write a sequel. I need more Ben hotness in my life!

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## **Linda Sims says**

### BEAUTIFULLY WRITTEN ROMANCE

Ellie Glass has had her whole life planned out for as long as she can remember. Following in her parents footsteps she's hoping to go to Columbia university to study law. Ellie never allows any distractions to derail her from her planned course in life. When she briefly meets a handsome guy in a coffee shop, Ellie is bemused by the affect this man has had on her. When fate plays a hand and throws them together, they both find their mutual attraction hard to deny.

I have read one other book by this author, but this is far superior IMO. The story itself is beautifully written with real feeling and passion. The author makes the reader truly believe in her characters. Ben is a classically trained musician, but he also plays in a band, at first look he doesn't seem like he would be Ellie's type. He's just come out of a long term relationship, which does cause Ellie some concern. I liked Ellie even though she was frustrating at times, constantly looking for reasons why she and Ben shouldn't be together. When her plans for her future start to unravel, Ellie finds it easy to blame the one good thing she has. With disastrous consequences. Her best friend Mark is the one who is her best support, even if at times she balks against his advice. Her other two friends Payton and Ainsley share a flat with her. I liked how the three girls characters were all different but just contrasted against one another perfectly.

A really enjoyable read, descriptive and well paced. There are love scenes, but I thought they were very tastefully done. With characters that were easy to relate to, and a great story. This is a recommended read.

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## **Autumn Doughton says**

Here's the LINK

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Hey all! It's live on Amazon. Thank you, thank you, thank you to all the readers and especially the GOODreaders checking it out.

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## **Judy says**

You know what's worse than reading a melodramatic, over the top romance? Reading a boring, lacklustre romance where nothing really happens.

The heroine Ellie Glass is a relatively well adjusted good girl who does spend a significant amount of time studying. The author is vague on the details of what pre law entails though and I couldn't get a sense of why she is studying to be a lawyer other than her parents are both lawyers. Which is a poor excuse for pursuing law as a career considering the future prospects of it in the present job market. That runs throughout the whole novel where we are simply told that Ellie does things, but we never gets a sense of why she does them or why we should care about them. Even the attempt to give Ellie a hobby through photography is unbelievable as there is no feeling of the drive there behind it; we as readers must simply accept that her photography is excellent because the love interest says it is.

This also applies to the romance as well, since the story begins with an "electric" first meeting (like always) where she can't stop thinking about this guy she meets at a coffee shop but he's just not "her type" because all musicians are apparently flaky and unreliable. She wants to date corporate political types that she thinks her parents would approve of but she's not ever shown to be close to her parents to confide or discuss any part of her life with them for that to matter.

In true romance fashion, this cute musician guy turns out to be her roommate. He plays cello as his "serious" job while playing bass as part of an indie band. It amazes me that he is able to do this as the people that I know in the music program devote their entire lives to their instrument and practice day and night. They don't have time to pursue gigs in a band on the side on a regular basis, but maybe Ben is just that amazing and talented. I usually love stories with music in them, but the scenes about music are more about their eyes meeting electrically and his crooked smile or whatever. Meh.

Unfortunate for Ellie, she makes a pact with her roommates that they can't sleep with Ben since they all have to live together, but of course she goes ahead and breaks that rule immediately. This is all an attempt to build some sort of romantic tension, but is all very boring. There's some drama with an ex and some attempts at a rebound, but all of it leads nowhere. Ellie is insecure and jealous, once again for no apparent reason and flips out every time Ben is seen associating with other girls unless they are her roommates.

The one thing this story does well is that Ellie is not ashamed of her sexual experiences and sexual identity. She goes for what she wants physically, but is very immature emotionally. Due to the writing style though, the make out and sex scenes are awkward to read and she has a tendency to blush. A lot.

Everything about the story wraps up in a perfect bow and everything ends up turning out ok. This romance is cliché and formulaic, with supportive gay best friend in tow. This book was labelled on some lists as featuring LGBT issues and I think I confused it with another book as I thought this was going to be about a girl who falls in love with a ftm transsexual, which I think would have made an amazing story about sexuality and would be perfect for the new adult audience. Too bad.

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## **Figlet says**

This book is so damn good that I wasn't going to finish it tonight then proceeded to blow everything else off

to finish it. I had high expectations based on my undying love and admiration for Autumn Doughton's "I'll Be Here", and they were exceeded.

Ellie (don't call her Elizabeth) Glass and Ben Hamilton may be somewhat star crossed, but their connection is instantaneous and mighty. You are in their grip from the first meeting, and it never lets up even when it's painful.

What I liked the most (and this was also true of "I'll Be Here") is the humor and authenticity that the author brings to her characters. They are living within the pages (or my Kindle's screen) so immediately that they become a part of your soul.

I'll stop with the gushing now. Maybe.

I would give an infinite amount of stars if I could. In this limited system, I'll settle for five, and I'll highly recommend.

Oh and (view spoiler)

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### **Heather andrews says**

I loved this story I loved both Ben and Ellie. Well mostly Ben as he was in a band and he's oh so yummy and he's not afraid to set things straight with Ellie, "just so a few things are clear: Julie's just a friend. She borrowed a book for class the other day and she came by here to drop it off. And I do want to have sex with you badly." Well then! When Ellie loses at games she's has the advantage points to have minds wonder else where, "oh God. Ellie, either you're trying to kill me, or this is a ploy so that I don't finish beating your sorry a\*\* at Scrabble." Ben is also very considerate, "considering that we're officially grown-ups now," he says as he kisses a path from my earlobe to my mouth. "I was thinking that in the name of responsibility, we should test out the bed to make certain that I set the frame up right. I'm not entirely sure that it's safe for sleeping." See he's so considerate.

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### **J says**

~I am on an Edge of Glass . And it's breaking.~

Ellie Glass- Destroyer of fun.

Always over-planning, over- achieving, over-analyzing and over- studying.

After a chance encounter with Ben, Ellie can't stop thinking about him.

but fate steps in and brings Ben and Ellie together again.

Ellie starts to lose focus. Always thinking whats next, never living in the here and now.

Pretty soon she finds herself feeling and doing things that she never thought were possible.



When Ellie's plans for her future don't pan out how she planned, She pushes Ben away at the first chance she gets.

But sometimes it's hard to decide what you want your life to be about. What's hard, is figuring out what you're willing to give up in order to do the things you really care about.

**"Perfect isn't meant to be. When you aim for perfect, you just wind up ruined. "**

I loved Ben, Omg Loved him!

Ellie was just lost and not living in the now. Thinking she had to live up to everyone's expectations, when those expectations were only set by her!

This was a really sweet story.

Loved all of the secondary characters.

But what ultimately drew me in was Autumn Doughton's writing style.

She writes with such elegance and sophistication that you cannot help being drawn to the story.

Her words connected with me. I found that even though there were no "Detailed" steamy sex scenes my stomach was in constant butterfly attack mode. I loved it. I have never been drawn in like that without all the "details".

Who needs graphic when you got this...

WOW That kiss,

~"It's the kiss of a hundred thumping kick drums, a raging earthquake.

Ben's strong arms pull me against him and I fold.

He parts my lips with his tongue and it's like discovering that you can fly. One minute you're tied to earth by gravity and everything you know about the world, and the next you're up, floating, soaring and the houses and people below are tiny, insignificant specs of dust slipping away.

We are exploring- tasting, sucking, burning- ungluing everything. A million tiny bells ring in my ear. Every thing brightens, like the sun has been shoved out of its hiding place from behind the clouds. "~

~"Then I wake up. And, it's not the purple- hued light of the house at three in the morning that has woken me up, or the sound of Payton stumbling into the bathroom. It's a hand.

A single hand.

So innocuous.

I feel it before my eyes blink open. A slight weight on my hip. A current of electricity running through me, reshaping the air that I breathe. it takes only a second for me to process what it is, to rearrange the spaces in my head around the feel of his fingers on my body."~

Amazing!

My Ellie and Ben

Favourite lines

**"Insecurity is like a net, and I let it catch me."**

**"Happiness isn't something that you can plan for. It comes knocking unexpectedly, just like opportunity. And it's up to you to answer the door and invite it inside."**

**"Lily**

**Even her name is pretty, I realize that I was hoping that he'd call her Henrietta or Gertrude or something equally awful so that I could at least make it sound nasty inside my head."**

I will definitely be reading more from Autumn Doughton.

+ 4.5 stars +

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## Katherine Owen says

4.5 Stars Can I just say I LOVE Autumn Doughton's writing and her ability to weave a story so eloquently? I'm not sure that's the right word--eloquently--in fully explaining my feelings about this novel and this author. Effortlessly? Beautifully? Amazingly? These are the adverbs that came to mind while reading this book.

*On an Edge of Glass* draws you in with the simplest yet most elegant and easily recognizable premise: *boy meets girl*. Then! Doughton creates this intricate little story that is actually so much bigger than the page, virtual or otherwise.

Autumn Doughton writes characters that readers will fall in love with and care about deeply. You will *feel* with them. I especially loved Ben. Boy, did I love this guy. And Ellie? Well, she was complicated and stubborn (to me) and sometimes she didn't get out of her own way enough to see her life for what it was or where she was going. And yet? Somehow, Doughton makes that okay. There's a certain underlying reassurance within Ms. Doughton's writing that will make you, as a reader, believe that everything just might work out. *Hope?* Maybe.

As a reader, I trusted her.

As a writer, I just admired her writerly ways and her beautifully spun words. Her turn of phrase and description seems effortless but powerful.

Like these lines: *"A cool autumn wind picks up, blowing the smells of buttered toast and nutmeg and red currants over to us. The trees sketched out against the bright blue sky are tipped in flames. A few dried*

*leaves--as brown as packaging paper--scatter to the ground around our feet."*

See that there? Awesome prose. You can smell and feel the autumn in her words.

And then! There is the incredible ease with which the author tells this story, how it all unfolds. She makes it all look so easy which actually reveals the intricate depth of her writing. Amazing, probably because Doughton is never hurried, and the story never feels rushed. Instead, Doughton takes her time and lays the story out with just the right amount of detail both in description and character building and meanwhile her use of dialog is also just so perfectly believable.

*"I wanted to grill these but I noticed that the propane tank on the grill is empty."*

*I scrunch my nose. "Yeah...I'm not even sure how that thing works, and my instincts tell me that I should stay away from devices that combine gas and fire."*

Sweet dialog. Just sweet.

I write more complex storylines so I openly admire Doughton's style. It's refreshing and it never feels forced.

This is a sweet romance with unforgettable characters and such a nice style of writing compared to so many other books I've read in New Adult / Contemporary romance that tend to come off as formulaic. Not this one.

So. Read *On An Edge of Glass* just for the pure enjoyment of reading and falling in love with characters one page at a time. Go ahead and get lost in a story that slowly reveals itself as its own sweet perfection.

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### **Lisa Jayne says**

I liked what the author did with this book. It spoke of a true to life story, almost like the author popped inside a college students head for awhile and scribbled her findings on paper.

There was nothing over the top or overly dramatic about this story. It was a pleasant, enjoyable ride. The book is a curious mix of ordinary and heart stopping ~ every so often, the reader is treated to 'wow' moments.

This story was all about the relationship between Ben and Ellie. Ellie is studious, responsible heading all the way towards success, her life is mapped out for her. Ben is a musician, likeable and following his dreams. The story follows the meeting of the pair and all that inbetween finding love and each other.

A cute, likeable story from an author who I'm sure I'll be looking out for again.

3.5 stars

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### **Komal Kant says**

I LOVED this book! It's my favourite this year so far! Read it! Read it! Read it! \*jumps up and down like a crazy person\*

Okay, um...where do I even begin? On an Edge of Glass was written beautifully. Oh my gosh, the description, the imagery, the emotion, everything was written so well. I felt like I was reading poetry, that's how beautiful the writing was.

The story has been done before, but the writing was what pushed this novel to the top of my favourites list. I was swept away in the story and the emotions and the drama. And don't even get me started on Ben.

\*swoon\* Oh, Ben, welcome to my list of book boyfriends. You can take a seat beside Lucas Maxfield and keep your shirt off. Oh, and bring your cello.

I loved the main character, Ellie. She was wonderful and different and fantastic. Her friends were great, the dialogue was great. I kept thinking about the story when I wasn't reading it. I started procrastinating once I hit the 70% mark on my Kindle because I didn't want it to end.

Ugh. Why did their story have to end?

Basically, I loved this so much that I will read anything that Autumn Doughton writes. I'm off to read her debut novel now!

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## **Trisha says**

*"This time I'm not looking for oblivion. I don't want to get lost. I want to be found."*

I absolutely LOVED this!!!

So, when I first started it I was worried. I've been a little jaded about New Adult lately. I'm still trying to understand the genre and I've been stumbling around with some books that are either too close to porn (eww!) or are so choppy and have so many typos and errors I want to pull my hair out (or a red marker!)

But this one was pure genius.

Ellie isn't annoying or awful. She's just your average girl trying to find a medium between pushing herself through school (getting good grades, living up to parents expectations!) and having fun and not letting college life pass her by.

Her roommates are loving and fun but also have their own life - so they are all about taking care of each other but also about living life. The perfect mix.

And....Mark...LOVE him! Everyone should have a best friend who says "We're home team. Everyone else is playing on the guest side." Love this guy!!!

And Ben. Walking sexy rock guy. But he's not self absorbed or angry possessive or any of the strange quirks I tend to find in a badboy type rocker. He's sweet and sensitive but isn't going to take crap either. he's been through enough, he doesn't need another Lily.

And these characters are all so real! Ellie shows irrational anger and jealousy (but mainly only struggles in her head) and Ben isn't punching and fighting every guy that talks to Ellie (because honestly, that's weird!)

and their story is very real and honest and I fell in love with it. The writing was lyrical and easy and just wonderful!

Please Autumn Doughton write more and more! I could read your stories all day long!!!!

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**Sarah says**

**Free on Amazon today!**

**UK: <http://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B00BRKQY8Y...>**

**US: <http://www.amazon.com/Edge-Glass-Autu...>**

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**Bayli says**

**FREE ON AMAZON! MARCH 13, 2013**

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