



## Chasing Serenity

*Eden Butler*

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Graduate student Autumn McShane has had her share of heartbreak. She's been abandoned and betrayed and she lost her beloved mother in a tragic car accident five months ago. That loss damaged her body and fractured her spirit but she's learning to recover, until her ex-boyfriend returns to town, intent on making her life miserable.

Declan Fraser hates her ex as much as Autumn does, but the last thing she needs is to put her trust in the hands of another man, especially one like Declan: his hard body and lulling Irish accent makes more than a few girls weak-kneed. The talented rugby player is rude and sarcastic, with tattooed, muscular arms and a cocky attitude, but he's the only one who can help Autumn win an ill-advised bet that, if lost, could cost her more than she's willing to pay. The reluctant alliance between Declan and Autumn stirs up cravings she doesn't want to admit, but Declan is a hard man to resist.

Just when Autumn starts letting down her carefully constructed walls to the sexy bad boy, he betrays her when she needs him most. Autumn suspects Declan has secrets, and she is determined to uncover what drove him away from her, even if that means fraternizing with the enemy. But will the truth return Declan to her arms or add to the scars on her heart?

## Chasing Serenity Details

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## From Reader Review Chasing Serenity for online ebook

### The BookWhisperer says

I know that I am not supposed to admit this. I am about to commit a cardinal sin. Here is my admission, and I will bow my head in shame as soon as the words cross my lips. I AM A SUCKER FOR A PRETTY COVER!!! There I said it. You can know shun and punish me. Chasing Serenity instantly caught my attention with this simply beautiful cover. Now, let me say this was not the only reason that I am reviewing, but I just had to say that the eye catching appeal is a positive, and I fell for it. Fortunately, I was a story that totally backs the amazing cover, and once you then check out the book description it is a no brainier. Chasing Serenity is a story of heart break and tragedy with a side runner of intense romance. Autumn's entire life has been shadowed with dark corners, but I don't want to say that this is what the entire story is about. It proved so much more than the dark and lonely depth, and the shadows are overpowered by the courage and strength of Autumn and her ability to survive. The level of emotion throughout the telling of this story carries an intensity I was definitely not expecting. Not because I didn't think it capable, but it was the level of which very few stories can accomplish. Declan and Autumn's chemistry has the power to move mountains, and readers will sense the intensity from the start. Autumn is a girl with a life of struggle, and it was so encouraging to see her gain this bright ending. I am a fan, and will be continuing the series.~BookWhisperer Reviewer Jax~

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### Philomena Callan Cheekypee says

This is the first book I've read by this author & it certainly won't be the last.

I gotta say I totally loved this book. Autumn is a fantastic main character. Although she has gone through a lot of headache she is an extremely strong character.

Now Declan the male character.... Swoon:) he is certainly drool material. I couldn't have guessed how this book would end. I stayed up late last night as I had to finish it.

This is a fantastic book that I'll highly recommend.

Received from author in return for honest review.

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### Patrycja says

#### 4.5 stars

*I love you, Today, because you give me peace, you give me a sense of who I am meant to be, because you proved that not every word is a broken promise. And I love you, Tomorrow, because you are limitless, because every thought, every hope I have right now is reflected in you. I can't say I love you too much because my heart is an all-consuming, constantly replenished source of potential. It is full, bursting with hope, with serenity.*

I really enjoyed reading Chasing Serenity. It was the first book by Eden Butler I've read and it certainly won't be the last. This incredibly funny and wonderful story got me hooked from the beginning and didn't let me go even for a second. I was instantly drawn to this dynamic, sensual and intense novel about love, courage and never giving up.

Autumn McShane never had an easy life. Her past is full of painful memories and lost dreams. When she was only 14 year old her father left her and her mother to fend for themselves. After that her childhood never was the same. Then, eight years later, Autumn lost her mother in terrible car accident, that nearly took her life too. Now, she's no one else, but her four crazy friends, that love her like family. Add to the mix crazy, possessive ex-boyfriend, that seems to not getting that they over, Autumn has a lot on her mind. So, when she gets 'molested' by a drunk rugby player with amazing bod and sexy tattoos, her life could have turned more upside down.

Now, she has a lot of things to deal with: finally make her ex understand she's not the same girl anymore, stop feeling lust after Declan, win a run, and make amends with her father. That's a lot to take in.

Declan Fraser is Irish university rugby player with more than few problems. One of them is sexy, red haired beauty with freckles that makes him lose his mind. The other is the fact he lost his mother at early age and had to move across the world, to live in the small town of Cavanaugh.

I immensely adored how Butler created her story. From the complex, interesting characters to the phenomenal writing style, author captured my attention, and easily made me fall in love with her.

I really, really liked the plot. It was full of twist and turns, never predictable and hot as hell! Mixed with fantastic characters, that not only were likeable (with exception of Tucker and Heather) but realistic, sincere and extremely interesting, Chasing Serenity was a winner for me!

Declan is amazing hero. His irish brogue, cocky attitude and outstanding passion for rugby made me hot and bothered! Declan is totally unique and wonderful character that needs a standing ovation.

Autumn is fantastic, strong woman, that is very likeable. I instantly connected with her, and kept crossing my fingers, she will get her own HEA.

Overall, Chasing Serenity is a compelling story, that is worth your time. Incredible page turner that left me completely satisfied, relaxed and begging for more.

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## Kim says

Find this review and more at [kimberlyfaye reads.](#)

I ... don't even know where to start with my review for Chasing Serenity. That's part of the reason I've put it off for so long. This is likely to be less "organized, coherent thoughts" and more "mind ramble to get out all the feels". You've been warned.

I'd never heard of this book until my bookish bestie pitched it to me as her "favorite college romance". That's a strong statement. Who can pass that by? Certainly not me. So I ran off to Amazon, saw it was only 99¢, one-clicked it and decided it would be my next read. I jumped in as soon as I finished the book I was reading and found myself pretty much totally addicted right from the first few pages. I didn't look back after that. In fact, I basically mentally kicked and screamed anytime I had to put the book down.

Autumn and Declan were both wonderful, though I wasn't so sure about the latter in the beginning. Let's just say he didn't make the best first impression to either me or Autumn. (Spoiler alert: he grew on me relatively quickly and absolutely reached swoony book boy status.) It was easy to like and respect Autumn — for her strength, determination, wit and sass. She had been through a thing no person should ever have to endure and, while it did very clearly affect her, I admired her strength. I understood why she was closed off. Because I spent the entire book in her head, I just felt like I "got her".

Declan was also amazing... even if it took a little bit of time to see that. Some might even say he was "fecking" swoony. (I certainly would.) He was a complicated guy — I mean, it's not often you get a geeky, athletic guy in books. (Give me more, please.) If I'm being totally honest, I did want to smack him sometimes though. Those situations were generally resolved quickly though. I think the biggest reason I struggled at times is because I didn't \*quite\* trust him as much as I wanted to. What were his intentions? Why was he so into Autumn? Whyyyyyy was the obnoxious Heather hanging around if he was "all in" for Autumn? Honestly, I wish the book had been written in dual POV so I wasn't so uncertain.

Full disclosure: I was floating somewhere between 4 and 5 stars for this one because of ONE situation that occurred towards the end. It's a scene I might've taken far too seriously, in retrospect. After I read the follow-up novella, Behind the Pitch, I felt like I had new insight into Declan and that pushed my rating back up to the 5 I wanted to give it all along. Behind the Pitch is written solely from Declan's POV and that's why I say I think including his POV here would've made all the difference. For me, at least.

I'm not going to tell you anything else about the plot of this one. I feel like it's one of those books that's just best experienced, knowing as little as possible going in. What I will say is that Chasing Serenity was a gorgeous book. It was a lovely coming of age story with characters I just couldn't get enough of. However, it was NOT an easy read at times. The emotions are so raw and real. It was SERIOUSLY angst — not that there's anything wrong with that. Who doesn't love a good angst read? But, it was also light and funny at times. It was sweet and sexy. It was loaded with feels and there were more than a couple tears shed. In fact, I think I went through ALL THE EMOTIONS during this one. I do love drowning in feels sometimes... and I definitely did that here.

I'm so glad my bookish bestie told me about this book. It definitely did things to my heart. I've already read the follow-up novella AND the second book in the Seeking Serenity series and I'm totally in love. Now I just need to make time to read the rest of the series. Eden Butler is one of my new favorite new-to-me authors for 2017. I can't wait to tackle the rest of her backlist!

## FAVORITE QUOTES

*It doesn't make sense for me to embrace the love of the game more than my own safety, but rugby is in my blood, it breathes and thrives within and echoes who I am.*

*The climb ahead of me will be slow, stinging, but I've got my girls, I'm stubborn as hell and no amount of limping or drunken rugby assholes or returning ex-boyfriends is going to stop me.*

*Passion is not the same as love. Love shouldn't consume you, shouldn't breathe fire and rage and venom inside you.*

*"We spark. The pair of us, we bleeding spark, McShane."*

*"I'm not for you, Declan. I don't think I'm for anyone. I don't want to be in love with anyone, but I do like you. You're insufferable and an utter alpha male, but I do like you."*

*"The whole of life's questions, even those of the heart, can be resolved by the words and knowledge of Joss Whedon."*

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## Wendy'sThoughts says

4.5 Not a Weepy Whiny New Adult Stars \* \* \* \* 1/2

I can sometimes have trouble with New Adult books... I admit it.. my frustration level is low when the usual things come into play... non communication... continual complaining and the ever present... not taking responsibility for ones actions. It could be an age thing... I don't know... but these are things that can bug to no end.

This story and the telling of it felt different to me. It may have had all of the components of NA... but I couldn't stop reading this book. There was heart and soul with the added pleasure of Ireland.

This takes place in Cavanagh, a small Irish settlement just outside of Gatlinburg, Tennessee, full of expats who married Americans but held tight to Ireland through the generations. This book is teeming with the feel of it, through descriptions of people, ways, and the sport of Rugby. With some places in America, Football is close to a Religion; here in Cavanagh, it is Rugby. In fact, the game, the location, the players and competition felt like characters, too.

We have Autumn and we are in her head most of the time. At 23, her life has been quite an experience. She is a ginger with freckles, happy with her womanly figure. She is proud to be a book geek and is a graduate student, assistant teaching at the University. She's been abandoned and betrayed by her father when she was 15. Eight years later, she loses her beloved mother in a tragic car accident. We meet her on the hard road to recovery. She was an athlete most of her life, so the goal is to reclaim her body back... to be her again. Her support system is her 3 girlfriends whom she feels is her family. They held her together when she was devastated through a traumatic breakup with her ex boyfriend, Tucker, and now through the loss of her mother and recovery.

We also have Declan, the rugged sophomore rugby player recruited from Ireland. He is really quite something. He is brash, broad and built; his charm sneaks up on you. The meeting of Autumn and Declan is

unique and starts as a dislike for both. She is very wary of any guy and has built barriers to protect herself. They end up having a common goal; they both do not want anything to do with her ex boyfriend. Tucker, unfortunately is back on campus, reinstated as the Captain of the team. He expects Autumn to jump right back as his girlfriend as if nothing wrong happened between them; Tucker is treating Declan like shit... so both have this common enemy.

The tale follows these two... there is, to quote Declan, a spark which cannot be denied between them. The pleasure of watching it ignite is what held me. Also I got my dose of Irish Lingo which to me seemed real. When I get to hear about snogging, shagging, calling one's self an eejit, Jaysus during passion... then I think it seems authentic.

The feels in this book hit close to the heart. There is so much yet is all strung together and somehow worked for me. There was confusion, tension, shocking surprises and redemption.

This author has more to come... and I will be looking for it.

UPDATE!!!!

Due to readers' demand, Declan's POV has been written: Behind The Pitch.

I highly advise you to first read Chasing and then run and get Behind The Pitch. Here is the link to the review, gasp, love letter for this book :D

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

A gifted copy was provided by author/publisher for an honest review.

#### **For more reviews, Free E-books and Giveaways**

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#### **Geri Reads says**

##### **4 Solid Stars!!**

#### **The Story**

Five months ago, Autumn McShane lost her mother and she almost lost a limb. A year before, her rugby star boyfriend left her to pursue his career. Eight years before that, her father walked out on her mother and Autumn. These tragedies taught her one thing; people, no matter how much they love you, will leave you eventually. She became guarded with her feelings, not allowing anyone in except for a few close friends. She was content until a brash, young, handsome but cocky rugby player caught her attention and held it.

Declan Fraser is the new guy in town. His first encounter with Autumn was anything but ideal. He is the last guy that a girl like Autumn wants or needs. He has serious baggage. But when Autumn's ex-boyfriend came back intent on making trouble for Declan's rugby college career and Autumn's carefully constructed confidence, Declan and Autumn decided to team. A bit later, Declan and Autumn found themselves slowly becoming more and more attached to each other until a secret from the past threatened their whole relationship.

#### **The Characters**

I have this tendency to get annoyed with female characters in my books especially in this genre. I thought

Autumn was going to be one of those whiny heroines but she wasn't. She has issues, very serious ones. She's recovering from a car crash that took her mother and almost took her limbs, so her bitterness wasn't out of character. I loved how she fought those people who said she couldn't run again. She had her moments, like any other female leads out there, but I ended up genuinely liking her. Plus, she's a bit of a geek. Her best friends are all geeks, so I can totally relate to her.

But Declan Fraser is who made the book for me. He is definitely swoony. At first, I wasn't quite sure I'd even like him because he was such an ass. He was crude, standoffish and hot-tempered. I couldn't understand him at first until almost half-way in the book. Then he started to get interested. I just loved the way Eden Butler unraveled his character. Then I started to see layers to his personality that is oh-so-deliciously charming and wonderful. Plus, he a closet geek. His speech during the Halloween party had me fist-pumping. I mean, come on, who can resist a guy who reads everything from comics to steampunk to GRR Martin and would lay his life down for Arya? And oh yeah, he plays rugby, too. And I almost forgot to mention the Irish brogue. I mean, really, Declan is a dream.

Aside from Declan and Autumn, we also read about Autumn's three friends; Mollie, Layla and the pink-haired Sayo. And all belong to the tribe, the geek tribe. I loved the dynamics of their friendship and I'm pretty sure these other three girls will get books of their own, which is something to look forward to.

### **Final Thoughts**

Overall, I really, really liked this book. Me and NA haven't been friends lately, but this book has finally gotten me out of my NA funk. The writing is actually good, great even. It's in first person POV but the Autumn, I feel, was a wonderful narrator. She took notice of not only her emotions but other people's as well. There's also that twist near the end that really broke my heart. And again, I feel that the author did a wonderful job of telling all sides of the story even though, we only get to read it from Autumn's point of view.

I won't be saying anything more because I don't want to spoil anything for you guys. But yes, this has a standalone novel and has a wonderful HEA and an epilogue. :D

### **My Casting**

Autumn McShane

Declan Fraser

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*A copy of this book was provided to Ever After Romance Book Blog in exchange for an honest review*

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### **Ally says**

**Let's call this one pretty good**

This won't knock anyone's socks off, at least not in my world, but it kept my attention for the most part. I didn't see the twist coming so that made things pretty interesting HOWEVER there was quite a bit of dialog skipping for me. Just a wee bit too much talking, inner voices especially.

Solid. I'll read the rest of the series since I was able to grab most of em as freebies.

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### **Pamela says**

So, there I was searching about for a book that had some of the things I love which include: rugby, The South and romance. I saw Chasing Serenity listed as being on sale at Amazon and snapped it up. I am so glad I did! It ended up being one of those unexpected gems that come my way when I take a chance on a new author.

The story takes place in a small university town in Tennessee that is a bastion of naturalized and expatriate Irish. A rugby loving town with a rich history, surrounded by the beautiful Smokey Mountains. I fell in love with this town and was heartbroken when I couldn't find it on the map. I so wanted it to be real because the author made it real for me.

One of my pet peeves is weak heroines, so imagine my joy when I met Autumn. She has had a rough life of great loss, yet she persevere with amazing grace. She is educated, self supporting, independent, loves rugby and is a survivor. Her personality quirks and occasional defensiveness are understandable and normal.

The Hero, Declan, originally comes off as a big lug rugby player on a sports scholarship. He begins to expose the layers of his personality to Autumn as she learns of his sensitivity and intelligence. Their eventual love almost becomes an unrequited love.

Secondary characters are well written and interesting. I believe the second book in this series, Seeking Serenity, will involve two of them, but this is a stand alone novel.

The HEA was wonderful. This is a soul enriching book and an amazing first novel.

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### **Bindi Boo says**

3.5 stars

This was a little more serious with a side of angst.

That first 45% was an absolute winner for me, had so much fun reading Declan and Autumn find their way around each other. But after that martyr act by Declan(which i absolutely detest) and then all that other drama(I mean like 3-4 different dramas) i lost that connection. Too much happened towards the end. I still don't understand Heather's role and wished they had fought for each other instead of that over-the-top miscommunication.

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## **Kristi says**

Solid 4 stars for me. LOVED the writing in this book. Sweet but not too sweet.

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## **Nance says**

Oh, there's nothing I like more than a guy with an Irish accent. It just seems so sexy and hot! And, Declan Fraser was one HOT guy! He's a rugby player, so he's fit with abs and arms and legs. But, that's not what Autumn McShane notices when he comes out of nowhere and attacks her with a drunken kiss while she's out running at college. **WHAT THE HELL!!** First impressions do not go over easy with her when Declan just acted like an ass. He tries to apologize to her in front of her ex-boyfriend Tucker, who just happens to be the captain of the rugby team, but it's awkward. Tucker wants to punish him for his indiscretion, so Declan is now supposed to sort books for an up-coming booksale at the library. And, lucky him, Autumn will be there too. Autumn hasn't had it easy. Losing a family member in an accident, having to deal with a chronic injury, and wondering where her missing father has run off to just leaves her life sad and painful. But, with good friends and keeping on track with her education, she has been able to make her life somewhat bearable. Declan also has some skeletons in his closet, which when released are detrimental to both main characters. And, it's a doozy of a secret that is exposed! Did not see that coming at all, and I loved it! So unpredictable, which will keep me going back for more from this author. As the end drew near, I knew that Autumn's feelings would be so profound with sentiment and love.

***“I love you, Today, because you give me peace, you give me a sense of who I am meant to be, because you proved that not every word is a broken promise. And I love you, Tomorrow, because you are limitless, because every thought, every hope I have right now is reflected in you. I can’t say I love you too much because my heart is an all-consuming, constantly replenished source of potential. It is full, bursting with hope, with serenity.”*** ~ Autumn (June, 2013)

I just couldn't put this one down. Eden Butler writes with intrigue and heart. I couldn't help but like both main characters. And, Tucker played the part of the jealous ex-boyfriend fabulously! There was quite a lot of history between Autumn and him. He broke her heart, and he just was not going to swoop in, claim to love her, and she would go running back to him. NO WAY! She was so over him!! Declan was the one that seemed to interest her with his sexy Irish accent, stellar fit body, and bright green eyes. He's 6 ft. 4 and all male with his sleeves of tattoos proudly displayed on his arms. And, who doesn't love that irresistible Irish charm. Declan is sweet too, and he knows that she's interested...(sigh)

I never read a story about rugby before. So, that was interesting. There was not all that much discussed about the actual sport, but it was a nice backdrop centered in a small college town. And, Autumn's friends, they were so supportive and loyal. That's what true friendship was about. Yup, I really enjoyed this book!!! And, the heat between Autumn and Declan was sensual and tender. Definitely quite a few "fanning" moments! I couldn't recommend this book more! It just did it for me, and that's why I won't hesitate to pick up another Eden Butler book. **FABULOUS!!!**

**Beautiful cover as well!!!!**

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## **Kele Moon says**

I was lucky enough to read this book shortly after she finished writing it. . . I've been a big fan of Eden's writing for years (Though this is her first published book) and I am so THRILLED she's finally shared this amazing story with the world. Very sexy. Very inspiring. Engaging characters and on a side note. . . The fun, unique town they live in is so real in this book I emailed her and asked if it was a real place because I wanted to go visit. . . Alas, this very cool college town isn't real, but it's so vivid in Chasing Serenity it makes you feel like it is!

Though this is a new adult romance I think it's a book that will appeal to all romance fans!

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## **Marissa says**

I loved this book, both characters fighting the attraction, finally giving in, then a secret comes between them. And I honestly thought the secret was going to be so crazy (maybe I'm just used to those type of secrets now) that I liked that it wasn't life or death. It was a shock still, and there was definitely foreshadowing on who it belonged to, but Eden explains it all very well. I don't like to give spoilers so that is all I'll say about it. But, I'll end with one of my favorite quotes of the story from Declan, in his lilting Irish accent: "And now, I don't care about being so fecking weak, wanting you, loving you . . . I don't care about needing you. If that makes me weak, then so be it, if it means you love me too."

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## **Amanda says**

### **3.75 stars**

After enduring a week of book funk, this is the first book I manage to complete after Third Debt. I had been wanting to read this series for quite some time and I'm glad I finally did it.

The story started off with Autumn involved in an accident that killed her mum. Five months later, she had to deal with recuperating and getting back on track with her running. She had three supporting best friends, Layla, Mollie and Sayo. To make her life even more painful is to have her ex-boyfriend, rugby team captain, Tucker Morrison back in school.

Now that Tucker is back, he want his trophy girl back. Tucker is a self-serving, arrogant piece of shit. I don't even know why did Autumn dated him for two years. I wouldn't want to read the Autumn who used to worship the asshole.

Moving on, we have the new guy, Declan Foster. He is Irish and a new player for the rugby team. Due to his recent drunken miscreant towards Autumn, he was in Tucker's shit list.

Declan is the kind of NA hero that I really enjoyed reading. He make flirting, dating and misbehavior sounds so fun and effortless. Despite having Tucker breathing down his neck, he still enjoy spending time with Autumn and working his way into her pants. His 'backward date' is adorably cute.

Things were great between he and Autumn until something happened and Declan decided to put a stop to their budding relationship. Autumn was baffled by his sudden change of heart and convince to find out the reason behind it all.

The reason I didn't rate it a full 4 stars was because I feel that Declan and Autumn didn't actually had much time to be an official couple in the story. Half the book is about Autumn doing some soul searching and spending time with her three best friends. By the time she and Declan are really together with all the secrets out in the open, the story is ending and I'm sad. I hope to see more of them in the future. Definitely will pick up the next one with Mollie and the ex-army, Vaughn.

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## **Ing says**

Favorite quote from the book!

Autumn McShane has had a painful past. Her father walked away from her mother and her when she was a child. Her world was turned upside down when this happened because her father was her hero and she never knew why or understood why her father left. Then Autumn loses her mother in a horrific accident that left Autumn's body broken & lasting scars to remind her of this tragic event. While Autumn is dealing with this lost her boyfriend at the time runs off to pursue his dreams leaving her when she needed him most. All of these things have taught Autumn to not rely on anyone else and that people no matter how much you love them will leave you.

Declan Fraser lost his mother too at a young age. He was raised by a stranger who grew to mean the world to him. He loves playing rugby and he's just moved across the pond to come over and play the game at the University in the small town of Cavanaugh. Cavanaugh is a small Irish settlement outside Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The folks here take their rugby seriously. Declan fits right in with all the expats with his sexy Irish brogue, cocky attitude and his love for rugby!

When Autumn runs into Declan for the first time she was not impressed. Declan kisses her out of no where while intoxicated and Autumn lets him know her displeasure by kicking in his "bollocks"! LOL. Anyway with that bad first impression of Declan in her mind it takes Autumn a bit to warm up to the sexy Irish rugby playing newbie in town. With an ex interfering, a long lost father popping back up and a less than perfect first meeting will Autumn and Declan have a chance at all? ;)

Autumn, Autumn, Autumn! Eden Butler gives us a very well developed, strong, stubborn heroine in Autumn. She is no wilting flower. I found that refreshing since I tend to think most heroines so far in the new adult genre a bit weak. With that said Autumn still had her moments in this book that made me want to slap her silly and tell her to get the stick out of her butt. Especially at the beginning of the book Autumn comes off a bit judgmental and a prude to me. I get why she's like that...believe me I get it. I loved how she picked herself up after all she'd gone through but it still didn't stop be from wanting to give her a swift kick to the butt at times. Through all this I still enjoyed her character though. You can't help but still love the girl. She had spunk and she had determination.

Now Declan...wow! He totally made this book for me. I love me a sexy Irish hero and I found that and more in Declan Fraser. He's cocky, sarcastic, sweet, funny and schmoking HOT. His character is like an onion...with layers. Each page turned we start to slowly learn more and unravel and understand what's behind the sarcastic and cocky attitude that makes Declan tick. There is a lot of depth to him. The things I kept

discovering about him just made me love the sexy boy more! Best part was his love for geek shows. His conversation with Autumn and her girlfriends when he reveals his geek side was too cute. I love me some Declan Fraser and he's been added to my list of memorable heroes.

Autumn has some great girlfriends. Sayo, Mollie and Layla are there for Autumn through it all cheering her on and supporting her through all the craziness and sadness. They were another favorite part of this book. I wanted to pull up a chair and be asked to join their group. They were that awesome and I wanted to be their friends too. I am so happy each of these ladies will be getting their own story! Woot-woot. Their friendship and interactions was another added plus to this book. Some of my favorite moments were when the girls were together. Their banter and teasing reminded me of the conversations I'd have with my girls!

The setting of this book in the small town of Cavanaugh was like it's own character as well. The town itself and their rugby loving way added to the story. I swear I wanted to hop on a plane and find this town..but alas it's not REAL! There are a lot of fun moments in this book and we are introduced to many characters that kept the book moving along smoothly. Tucker the ex gave the readers someone to root against. There was an unexpected twist at the end. I knew something was up but hadn't expected the twist to be that so that was a nice surprise.

I wish there had been more time spent with Declan and Autumn's developing relationship. I wanted a bit more time seeing them as a couple before the twist kept them apart through the second half of the book. I also wish we had seen a bit more of Autumn's reconciliation with her father. It played in the background more than I liked. Her father was someone that captures your heart and you can't help rooting that he'd be able to gain Autumn's forgiveness. Overall this was a strong start for a newbie new adult author. I really enjoyed the town of Cavanaugh, Declan, Autumn her girlfriends and even Tucker. I can't wait for more from Eden. She's one that you need to be on the look out for. I give my stamp of approval to this author and book. The story, characters and banter will keep you turning the pages!

See review originally posted on blog: <http://bit.ly/1a54mam>

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Review to come as part of the blog tour! I have two words for you all - DECLAN FRASER!!! Sigh.

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