



To the Ends of the Earth

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* *This is an updated cover of this Kindle edition.* *

Photographer Cat Cochran has been to exotic places most people only dream about - but all she wants to do is settle down and get her life in order. One last assignment and she can put her past behind her. But first she must photograph the mysterious and elusive ship designer T.H. Danvers and his awesome creations. Travis Danvers is dangerous - a millionaire with an athlete's body; an enigmatic charmer capable of breaking down Cat's well-constructed defenses with a buccaneer's arrogance and flourish. She knows she must resist him, for experience has taught her that pain is the eventual price of pleasure to be found in the arms of such a man. But caught in the waves of a sensual sea, Cat hears a siren whisper seductively, telling her to abandon all caution; to ride with Travis on the winds of forever.

To the Ends of the Earth Details

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From Reader Review To the Ends of the Earth for online ebook

Rose says

This book was an absolute miss for me. Amongst the bad puns, cheesy lines, and overall lack of a true plot, sexy photographer Cat Cochran and ga-zillionaire shipmaker Travis Danvers found...um...love? I couldn't relate to any of the characters in this book because the author didn't really give enough time for me to get to know them. I felt that the 'romance' moved way too fast(which is saying a lot seeing as how it's a romance novel).

Within about 10 minutes of initially meeting, the characters were already spilling the story of their lives to each other and after all was said and done the end result was that we still didn't know much about the main characters except a couple of their extreme neuroses. Cat is working herself to death (almost literally) for a mother and two twin siblings that we never even get to meet. If her devotion and love for them was so strong that she was willing to sacrifice so much for them, they should have at least had one line in the book.

I could go on and on with what this book is lacking but I won't, seeing as how it's already taken up precious hours I'll never get back. I will just say this; Having read some of Lowell's later works, I was extremely disappointed with this read. I had to make another shelf called "Never Touch Again!" just so I'll never be in danger of re- reading this in the future.

KatieV says

I know this is considered a classic Lowell. But, overall, for me the only part that really stood out was the last few chapters. Those were tear jerking, even if the prose was a bit too OTT at times. But - hey - I freely admit to loving Kathleen Woodiwiss.

The H definitely had to make an effort to get the heroine back, which is SO lacking in many romances. Several chapters, rather than a couple of pages, were devoted to the fallout. Honestly, if you can get a copy for cheap, it's worth it to start reading around chapter 18-19 and through the end. This book has been discussed and spoiled to death, but here's a brief summary of the big drama if you're interested:

(view spoiler)

The first part was a bit boring for me. The dialogue seemed dated, even for the 80s. I kept waiting for Travis to call Cat a "dame" or something similarly hilarious.

If you have a interest in sailing or photography, your mileage may vary. There's a lot of description of the art of both. If you're into that, you may appreciate it more. Sadly, I can't take a decent picture with a shiny new digital camera that basically takes the picture for me :(

They are two TOTALLY different books, but I couldn't help being reminded of my favorite Lowell book Only His. Both heroes are convinced of the type of woman the heroine is (1980's = whore, 1880's = fancy lady). Both end with the hero crying, which proves to the heroine that he's not a douche and really loves her, because nothing but love could make such a strong, manly man cry.

Yeah, dude was a teeth-grinding ass for hundreds of pages, but some of us get a kick out of these fictional assholes. Don't ask me why, cuz I dunno.

Alexis-Morgan Roark says

Kinda ranks up there with Linda Howard's "Sarah's Child" on my Alpha Males you just REALLY want to smack upside the head list. There is a HEA although very, very bittersweet.

Noelle says

Even though this book did make me cry , I still only thought that it was worth 3 ** . It's very dated and usually I can deal with that just fine, take Separate Beds by LS, very dated but still a fav of mine that I love to reread. TTEOTE however had me skimming through a lot of the dialog, too many "my love"s and over use of nick names such as Fire and Ice for the h.

Cathy, aka Cat (h) knows that rich men are just incapable of love , she's been there and learned the hard way. After her experience with her ex husband , that lesson was well and truly learned. Now she is living on her own and earning her own way as a photographer . One day while she's out in the Ocean taking pictures, she's so focused on getting the perfect picture that she fails to notice that the tide is coming in, and it's a little too late when she does notice. As she is trying to make her way back to shore out of no where comes a very handsome stranger and he wisks her to safety.

Travis (H) can't believe that he was watching this young woman who apparently had no clue that the tide was coming in, as he watches her he notices that she doesn't look around for help , she doesn't call out for help and really doesn't expect anyone to be there to help her. Now he knows that she lives alone, and if he's lucky she will repay him with a simple dinner date to repay him for the rescue. He's not looking for anything meaningful, just a mutually gratifying experience until it runs it's course , and then they can part ways. His exwife has taught him that women only really love money and if he ever marries again it will be to some one who is as rich as he is.

Like I said, this book is dated and it reads like an early Harliquin. It is a tear jerker and for that alone I think it's worth a read.

Mo says

Just discovered this author - written a while ago but with Kindle all these "Old" authors are being discovered by me. Loved it. Very atmospheric, beautifully written - OK Travis is a bit of a dog with some of the things he says to Cat but sure we all love a mean-ass hero (at least I do) especially when they redeem themselves in the end. Off to check out some more of Ms Lowell's work.

Dana says

There were so many reasons to hate this book.

Travis - D-bag. Total asshole, probably one of my least favorite heros of all time. He really gave me no reason to like him through the first 7/8 of the book.

Cat - Working herself to near death...for what? So her mother could have a new chaise? So the twins could go to college and...not work while there? It just didn't make sense to me that she took on all this responsibility without complaint, or forcing the **adults** to take care of their own issues. I also got irritated at the incessant reminders by EL of Cat's physical duress from all of her hard work. *And I say hardwork with a slight snarl. Come on. You're a photographer on a beach. I think EL could have come up with a better occupation to garner sympathy than a freaking photographer on a beach.*

But I digress...

I caught myself snarling on more than one occasion of Travis' continued dismissal of Cat's intentions, and constant comparing her to his ex-wife.

However... I freaking **love** this book. One of my favorites of all time, my copy is so beatup as I've read it more times than I can count.

Everything about it, despite all that should turn me off from liking it, just seemed to work. The climax was **ahhhhh-may-zing**. Travis' redemtion was epic, probably the best I've ever read. This is one of probably only 5 books I've ever read that made me cry, and brings tears with each re-read.

This is also the first EL book I ever read and made me a fan for life. She writes such gripping emotion into each character, and spends time really developing each person with so many layers that you can't help but feel connected to each and every one. She's an amazing author and To the Ends of the Earth is one of my favorite novels of all time. Love it.

I give it a tearful 5 stars.

Jeannie Smith says

1-1/2 stars (extra half star for really good grovelling).

I usually love Elizabeth Lowell, but this one did not do it for me. I pretty much hated it.

*****POSSIBLE SPOILERS*****

I do like books when the H screws up royally and hurts the h. I love the angst and tear-your-heart out feelings. With it, I also need a lot of groveling. For it to work, I also have to like the H and h. In this book, Travis is very, very wealthy. He also has been burned by his ex-wife. Because of that, ALL women are not to be trusted and are after only one thing of course. I could not buy that at all, and I'm not a big fan of other books like that. Anyway he meets Cat, who is a very successful photographer. For some reason, she is responsible for paying the way of her twin siblings into medical school. Her mother is too flaky, and for some reason the responsibility belongs to her. I did not understand this part. Her mother is going to marry someone rich in January, then she is off the hook. Until then, she is working 20 hours a day, seven days a week. Not only am I not sure why the mother can't figure it out herself, I'm wondering whatever happened to student loans? She is maxing out her credit cards and can't pay the rent, but they don't think of a student loan? He has issues with his ex that cause distrust in all women, and she has issues with her ex that cause issues with rich men.

Almost from the moment they met, he was hostile and nasty to her. He keeps thinking she is somehow after him for his money and trying to set him up. He would say something horrible to her about her money hungry ways (they have not even known each other more than a few hours) and she would get justifiably pissed and tell him to leave. Then he would kiss her and it would be over. And then something else would happen to set him off and make him suspicious of her. He is so paranoid about women being only after his money, he is completely unlikeable. Finally, he starts to trust her and they are in a relationship. Until she gets pregnant. Instead of being happy, at all, he is furious and immediately decides she is trying to trap him into marriage with a baby. He says a lot of hateful things, including calling her a whore. He offers her one million dollars to have the baby and then he would take full custody and she would never see the baby again. He leaves her after she refuses, and because of her poor health from working so much for so long with little rest or sleep, she is in an extremely high-risk pregnancy. When she does miscarry, because she was saving the life of a little boy and almost drowns, Travis returns. He is sorry he misjudged her. He is sorry she lost the baby and she almost died. He ends up doing a lot of groveling by trying to take care of her and nurse her back to health. Although I'm not sure he ever uttered the words, "I'm sorry" to her. That's always a good start.

I wanted to like this book, but I just could not bring myself to forgive Travis. He was just too nasty and rude to her too many times. One cutting remark I could understand and forgive, but after that the h becomes a doormat and liking the H becomes impossible. Why characters make the choices they make also has to make sense to me. The H painting all women as money-grubbing whores (his words) because his ex-wife wronged him, and the h sacrificing her health and everything else to put her siblings through school didn't really work for me. This is one I just cannot recommend.

Eastofoz says

What a suck-all read and an overall waste of time. After the first 100 pages it felt like the story was being rehashed endlessly because the author didn't know what else to write. I had to virtually skim read my way to the end to get through it.

The story is about Cat, a successful photographer who's having a hard time making ends meet because she's financially responsible for way too many moochers in her family. Her clients don't pay her, she has bills and creditors up the wazoo and her health suffers drastically because she works round the clock but she still keeps taking on new jobs in the hopes that in a few months everything will be better. Initially she comes

across as a tough as nails heroine but really she's just another doormat waiting for the right jerk-off to walk all over her. And in walks the hero, Travis, one of the most annoying characters I've read in a while. He came across as some geezer instead of a guy in his 30s. All he talks about is how rich he is and that he can buy his women because he's not getting burned again after a failed marriage. All his "I have so much money and I can buy anything" crap just grated like nails on the chalk board. His incessant bragging made him look insecure (which I don't think was the author's intention) instead of "manly and virile". Granted this romance was written in the 80s and they were a bit different then compared to now but I really can't see how anyone could like these two even if you do like the pain in the butt alpha.

Cat's character was moderately better than Travis' but she took too much garbage from him and he needed to be kicked to the curb after the first time he called her a whore and a bitch. Better yet when he referred to all women like that you know this guy is flashing the ol' neon forehead sign "I am a loser". Their sparring was more like petulant children who needed a good time-out than adults who don't know how to convey their feelings to one another. Travis was always suspicious of Cat and if you add that to the "you're nothing but a slutty whore like all the others" over and over well I don't know why she kept giving him that "one more chance" :-/ She also sounded like a walking skeleton with all her health issues so I found it very hard to believe that she could work as much as she did. A near rape scene with one of her clients by the beach was treated like nothing more than an aggressive flirtation –the guy said he was going to have her whether she wanted it or not and he was forcing her to the ground --had me bug-eyed. She went about her merry way after and continued working with him because of her "contract" (!) and even the hero didn't bash his head in when he saw it happening --???????

There was way too much photography info filler about colour, light, shadow play blah blah blah that got on my nerves. There's one of those cutesy 6 year old kids that everyone gushes over but that gets in the way one time to many causing easily avoidable trouble. There's a sad part almost like Linda Howard's Cry No More where the heroine is nearly catatonic but in no way is it as well done. The romance itself, though more on the hot side, felt dated almost like an older Judith McNaught contemporary. I didn't think that the h/h were compatible so I couldn't believe in their "love" --how do you love someone who blows like the wind one day treating you like you're lower than dirt and the next day singing your praises?? I also thought the writing was overly flowery and that there was a hyper use of adjectives in general. Lowell went overboard on some of the description and she could've taken out a thesaurus to find some other way to describe the hero's 'tourmaline eyes' and 'tawny hair' –ack the repetition! She also tried too hard with the feline references for 'Cat'. At one point you're wondering if she really is a cat 8-/ What I did like was the beach front setting. She did a good job painting the picture of this white beach house all fresh and sparkling with the sea for a view.

So, unlikeable characters, a story that doesn't move and over the top writing just makes for one bad book.

Cynthia says

Books almost never make me cry. This one made me tear up...then cry...and cry some more. It was a long time ago when I first read this book, and it might just be conditioning, but now I cry every time I read this book.

Cat's almost too good to believe, but she's a woman you can respect and love. Travers definitely doesn't deserve her at first, but by the end you love them together.

Isha Coleman says

Every year I reread To the Ends of the Earth by Elizabeth Lowell. I have owned the paperback for over 10 yrs and it always breaks my heart every time. Travis and Cat are both so desperately seeking to find the other piece of their heart, yet when they find it are scared to claim it. Have read many of Ms. Lowell's books but this one is my favorite. All the drama, emotion and heartbreak you would expect in a romance.

Pat Cromwell says

If you like Sharon Sala's Out of the Dark or/and Linda Howard's Cry No More you will not be disappointed in Elizabeth Lowell's To The Ends of the Earth. Lowell's hero's can be abrasive and hard edged and Danvers is no exception. However, in this book, the hero grows emotionally and he is the one that gives up a part of himself.

The heroine - Cat - is so incredibly strong so when she reaches her breaking point it is so incredibly sad. The scenes that for lack of a better word cripples these two are some of the best lines I have read. What makes the culmination of their love story so great is that the heroine remains the same and it is the hero who undergoes the changes. He is still a strong alpha male but he becomes so much more for her and opens up in ways I didn't think possible when I first started the book. When he cried it was for her and for him.

This book is a keeper!

*** says**

"I want to sink into your soul the way you sank into mine. You taught me how to love."

It's not often you find a book that you're compelled to continue reading. One that you carry with you into the embrace of night and well into the welcome of dawn. I stayed up all night determined to finish this book.

I'm so glad I did.

"You're like me, a wild creature caught in a civilized world."

I adored every part of this book. It was so beautifully written as well. I know some readers don't like overly flowery writing but I just love it. I think it captures the poetic essence of romance very well. I think I'm just way to whimsical and idealistic when it comes to these things.

Tonight the sea was quiet, a dark playground where moonlight danced to secret music.

I don't think we should ever underestimate an author's ability to write a book that takes us by the hand and pulls us off to explore the unknown. Escapism, pure and simple, is what this book offers. I was whisked away to the enchanting Laguna where I met the strong-willed, independent and artistic Cat. And that's precisely where she met the free as the wind, fascinating and stubborn Travis. A man who will never bind himself to another. A man whose only ties are to the wide, open ocean.

And yet...

"You're mine, sweet Cat, my woman. You're mine and I've only begun to touch you. . . ."

I find characters like Travis so interesting and complex. There is something so wonderful and endearing about someone who is so free and in that freedom, untouchable. There's an intrigue there that only builds. A mystery and a curiosity too- like the vast sea he so adores. I also understood the pain of his past. His mistrust of women was the sad result of a previous betrayal but there was a point where I lost my patience with his cynicism.

Give the girl a break!! Cat also had her own past turmoil. Something that she overcame. I honestly believe her to be the strongest character of the two. She depended upon herself and that kind of independence is often scary to a man. But props to Travis- if anything, it drew him in deeper.

"You see an extraordinary world."

I was enchanted by both characters and found their differences and similarities a great combination. It was also a fairly steamy read and I think it's always nice when authors delve into both soul connections but the physical side as well. I just loved the romance. Maybe it's cheesy of me but it was heartwarming.

"When I'm done we can dive along the Great Barrier Reef, drift in diamond waters with fish more brilliant than any jewels. We can love each other and sleep in the sun, and then we can love again beneath a moon as big as the world. Come with me."

I also loved the themes. The complexity of human nature, how our own pride can be downfall. Wealth and status and how it affects our relations. This book was no one dimensional romance, if you care to look a little closer.

"Everyone should ride a wild, breaking wave at least once."

All in all, I think the romance was very raw. Very real. There was tragedy and heartache. A lot of pain and tears on my end. I respect an author who can move me to such a stage. A poetic and well-researched read.

For a long moment Travis stared down at Cat, drinking in her appreciation and wonder until she thought she would drown in the depths of his sea-colored eyes. Then he gathered her in his arms, holding her as though she was sunrise after a lifetime of night.

Now I've finished, I feel a little something like this:

Welcome back to reality!..

Now to find some more books... ;)

Rappaccini's Daughter says

Only part worth reading is the grovel, which I do re-read on occasion.

Preeti ♥? (Romance She Reads) says

A book with hyper-hyped up angst and a really mean, cruel H. I liked the story but the treatment was overly dramatic and the h was tormented all the way to hell and back by the H and the author.

Spoilers

The h is Queen Mary Sue of Miseryland.

She has the weight of the whole world on her poor undernourished shoulders. She is putting her siblings' through med school, supporting her silly spendthrift mother and don't ask about those photography expenses. All till January. Only if these 4 months would pass soon and then she could rest- and love, but till then she has to soldier on!

She is so overworked, so exhausted, so drained all the time that I felt my energies getting sapped just reading her.

And btw what work? For most of the book, she's only traipsing around the beach in front of her house taking *meaningful* pictures of the sea, sand, shells and little or big boys. Only later she goes out to photograph politicians, babies etc.

She's an adult who should know how and when to eat or sleep - as her doctor keeps telling her. And creepily her doctor warns her of the impossibility of sustaining a pregnancy even when there was no pregnancy-yet.

And the H was a real prince!

He is so pathetically insecure and paranoid that some woman is going to take away his hard-earned and otherwise money like his ex did *sob sob*(only a measly million actually!) that he wants to marry only someone who's at least as rich as him. He keeps bragging how rich he was (with his own business and his family's ?16 companies), but I never got the measure of his wealth (like one does in the billionaire world of HPs!). Towards the end when he is thinking how his best buddy- the h's mentor/agent - was richer than him, I wanted to facepalm. And here I was thinking we are talking the Sultan of Brunei scale!

The amount of blow-hot-blow-cold routine in this book can give you whiplash. Everything's fine one minute, then his suspicions would rear their ugly uppity head and he turns all sneery and scary. Even when he believes her that she needs the money for her family, he thinks she's overdoing the self-respect bit and should simply take money from him because that's how women operate anyways. The h just sighs wearily, goes for her iron-vitamin shots and he/they are back to normal again – for the day.

The mother and siblings, for whom she does *soooo bloody* much, weirdly remain nameless and faceless and phone-less.

For more angst - she was once a rich girl who married an 'even richer' guy who treated her about as awesomely as the H!

The scene where she happily announces her pregnancy and the H's 'fear' of 'the trap' are realized was one of the ugliest I've ever read.

Saly says

Rating 2.5

I read this book because few of my friends tell me it has really good grovelling in the end so I continued with the book even when I was annoyed by the hero's attitude of judging every action through his money hungry ex-wife's behaviour, even when he got involved with the heroine and she made it very clear she likes being on her own, supporting herself and not wanting his money, he didn't listen and kept waiting for the other shoe to drop.

I actually got very annoyed with the heroine's absent family as well, she was pushing herself beyond exhaustion to pay for her brother's education and her mother's wedding. She should have maybe told them how hard it was for her. She grew up rich but when her father died her mother wasn't someone who had money awareness and then she got married to a rich guy who turned out to be a douche since she couldn't have kids.

She tries not to get involved with the hero since he is rich and she sees his arrogance and his wanting to have an affair on a business level but well she does and is happy. The hero is one of those jerks who wants her to spend time with him instead of working so tries to offer her money.

I wish she had slapped him and left and when she finds out she is pregnant, his behaviour is despicable, though he does try to make up for it.

Read this book if you are in a mood for oldies & drama and can wait till the end for grovelling.
