



## The Craft of Love

*E.E. Ottoman*

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# The Craft of Love

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## **The Craft of Love** E.E. Ottoman

When professional respect leads to something more ...

Benjamin Lewis has created a life for himself as one of the most respected silversmiths and engravers in New York City. For Benjamin, his work is his passion and he has never sought out companionship beyond the close ties of family. Stumbling across dresses sew by his late mother, however, reawakens painful memories from his past. Now he is determined to forge something beautiful from the remains of the life and identity he left behind. In the process, he discovers stunning and fiercely intelligent Miss Quincy who might just have the power to tempt him out of his quiet isolation.

Remembrance Quincy's talent is as undeniable as her needlework is exquisite. She has made a name for herself crafting quilts and embroidery pieces for all the wealthiest ladies in the city. When soft-spoken, yet charming, Mr. Lewis comes to her with a particular project in mind she is intrigued both by his artistic design and by the man himself. He treats her like an equal, values her work and makes her smile, but Remembrance already gave her heart away once, now can she risk doing it again?

## **The Craft of Love Details**

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## From Reader Review The Craft of Love for online ebook

### Aleksandra says

If you like historical romances - *The Craft of Love* is excellent novella and I highly recommend to read it. If you don't usually read/like historical romances, may I recommend you this short novella as a starting point. It's a good introduction to what the best of this genre has to offer. It's sweet, atmospheric, feminist, inclusive and beautifully written.

*The Craft of Love* is about silversmith Benjamin and quilter Remembrance meeting and falling in love in New York, 19th century. Benjamin is trans man, Remembrance is bisexual cis woman. Both of them have distinct personalities, they have strong moral compass, I especially liked Remembrance's drive to protect fellow business women and their interests, as well as her stance against slavery and using cotton and other products from south states.

Benjamin and Remembrance have excellent chemistry together and the moment they finally hold hands, I died.

Excellent read, highly recommend!

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### M. Arbon says

A lovely, gentle romance between ordinary working people who are doing their best and living their lives.

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### Isabella ~Mikku-chan~ says

\*~~\*ARC kindly provided by the author to me in exchange for an honest review \*~~\*

- Review to come

Review originally posted on my blog with added content Mikku-chan / A world full of words

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### Joanna says

This was sweet and lovely and something I really needed to read. If you are looking for a short, adorable love story then this will absolutely do the trick.

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### Alison says

This is a really lovely novella. It's a quiet, gentle queer historical romance that takes place in 19th century

New York City. The main characters are two intelligent and skilled craftspeople--a quiet transman silversmith and a determined bi lady quiltmaker--who connect as artisans and then become friends and more. I love the gentleness and simplicity of this story. It's uplifting and nice and warm and easy. The historical and sociopolitical details concerning women's work and gender identity are very interesting. The slow buildup of their relationship is beautiful and touching. I enjoyed this a lot.

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### **Ellie says**

Quiet and gentle low-heat romance! I wanted a bit more of the ending but overall it was a lovely, heart-warming read.

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### **Anna says**

I received this in advance review copy so wanted to say a few words about it here. This is a sweet novella set in antebellum New York City featuring a romance between a skilled quiltmaker and silversmith who fall in love when the silversmith commissions a quilt from some dresses once sewn by his mother. Being a novella, the love story moves briskly and my reader's heart wanted MORE by way of the characters getting to know one another and their respective families, friends, and colleagues/employees. Those who enjoy a lot of sexytimes in their romances (as I do) may also be a wee bit disappointed that there's hand holding and kisses but nothing more complex (I really enjoyed the sexytimes in The Doctor's Discretion so was sad not to get any here). Those wishes for MORE aside, this was a lovely historical and I look forward eagerly to whatever comes next for this author.

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### **Miss says**

ahhh, so pleased to be running across so many great historical romance novellas these days

lately novels and i haven't been getting on, anything i can't get read in a day just doesn't seem to get finished

anyways this is a very sweet romance set in antebellum new york between a silversmith and a quiltmaker. i might recommend it to my cross-stitching group, i feel like they'd enjoy the craft feels alongside the romance

4 stars

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### **Tori says**

This is a very charming novella with a trans MC. Very sweet, very happy.

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### **Pam Faste aka Peejakers says**

Oh, this was really lovely! ❤ Something about it just felt so warm and comforting to me. I think it was both the characters and their occupations, two quiet, gentle people, the making of a quilt and a silver teapot.

I had a thought that reading this felt a bit like being wrapped up in that quilt, drinking tea served from that pot.

The slow-blooming friendship and romance between Benjamin and Remembrance was deeply touching and full of sweetness. This story has the same beautiful simplicity as the quilt and teapot they create for each other.

An instant comfort read ?

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### **K.J. Charles says**

A very sweet novella about a trans man working as a silversmith in 19th century New York, and his gentle courtship of an independent and determined quilt maker. It's got a lot to say in its few pages about the struggles of women in work, the lack of recognition, the complexity of a trans child growing up with a parent whose love doesn't stretch to understanding. Great historical detail, too, and the crafts have some serious metaphorical resonance for the story. And it's hopeful, too, about people's ability to accept, learn, and grow.

Can I also add how nice it is to see a woman in histrom with strong political opinions who isn't also portrayed as being bull-headed/extremist and putting her foot in it. I didn't realise how prevalent that is until I read this and realised I was waiting for the heroine to quixotically torpedo her career. Like...women can possess strong opinions and it doesn't have to make them socially inept or lead them on a direct road to martyrdom, it might just mean quietly changing the world around them!

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### **Peyton says**

I bought this story based on a recommendation on Twitter for a sweet, gentle love story, and this definitely fit the bill! Benjamin and Remembrance are skilled in their respective crafts, and I love competent heroes and heroines. It also has a trans hero in a historical setting which was so great. I did think the ending was a little rushed, but it is a novella after all.

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### **Cat C says**

#### **Beautifully gentle queer historical**

EE Ottoman writes with such lovely tenderness. Their characters are always good, nice people making their way quietly in the world striving toward beauty and love. I loved this romance even if I wish there were more. I particularly enjoyed the loving details of their crafts of quilt making and silver smithing. And I loved that their secrets (the hero is trans, the heroine was in love with a woman) helped them see and know each other, making their own happiness together. So nice to read a romance with genuine, likeable people who are just adorable together.

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## **K.B. Rainwater says**

### **A nice comfortable read**

This book is sweet from beginning to ending. It doesn't wrench at emotions, it doesn't have a lot of excitement. It's just a nice quiet story about two people falling in love.

I really like the way it deals with Benjamin's gender identity. For the most part he just is. We find out about his past through his memories of his mother.

I really liked the two characters, and liked the development of their relationship.

If you're looking for a sweet story before going to bed, this is it.

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