



The Anniversary Gift

Elle Dawson

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With her tenth wedding anniversary barely two weeks away, the only gift Kate wants is to spend a week alone. After all, life with Ethan has become so cold and distant, it's a strain just being together. But Ethan wants just the opposite and his indecent proposal at dinner is a shock that rocks Kate's world off its axis and into a sensual world of possibility. Will Kate fulfill Ethan's fantasy? Is their relationship even worth saving? Just how far is she willing to go to save her marriage? The Anniversary Gift is a story of two people struggling to rekindle the love and passion that brought them together to begin with, a journey of re-connection, exploration and love.

The Anniversary Gift Details

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Author : Elle Dawson

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From Reader Review The Anniversary Gift for online ebook

Janet says

My favorite line in the book and one I have come to fully embrace...Lower your expectations and increase your appreciation. So many girls, young women, and women haven't learned this lesson. The fairy tale never ends as you "expect". So you need to appreciate the love of a good man - if you are lucky enough to have it!

Chris Chainey says

I wasn't sure what to expect from the title though the cover was clearly a clue. If you've been or are in a relationship that's lost its spice then this is one way to get it back... with a vengeance!

Fifty Shades? Eat you're heart out, this is way better. Highly erotic yet so sensual with a totally believable story line, you can relate to the characters completely, I was Kate and it felt good! Nice little twist at the end that leaves you uplifted and happy. I've already bought The Birthday Gift on the back of this!

Karen says

I went into this book not knowing anything about it. Honestly, I picked it up because it was free. But it was BEAUTIFUL!!!! There were some really steamy scenes but overall, it was simply a beautiful read about a couple falling in love again. I loved it!

BooksandBeyondFiftyShades says

Kate and Ethan are about to celebrate their 10-year anniversary and have been starting to feel a loss of that old spark. Even though they love each other very much they have fallen into the rut of life. Ethan decides that a threesome may be the way to go to get things back on track. Kate is skeptical at first but decides that she is tired of being boring and go for it.

As the weeks fly by toward their anniversary, things get hot and steamy between Kate and Ethan. They explore each other in a whole new light. Ethan becomes all alpha male, and Kate gets her sexy back. Kate even begins to fantasize about some of the women around her thinking this could be fun. Finally their anniversary has arrived the hotel is booked, the blind fold is in place, and Ethan is undressing his wife.

It was exciting to read how Ethan and Kate reconnected together as a couple. So many of the books I read are about meeting, falling in love, then getting married. This one was all about falling in love all over again, rebuilding the love and trust you had, and learning to excite each other in new ways.

The author really was able to capture what it's like to be that couple that starts to get into a rut. The struggle is real and this author really showed that just because you've lost some of your spark doesn't mean you have to give up. That spark can be rekindled with communication and love. The scenes where Kate is fantasizing about other women are so hot they could melt glass. Let's not forget the ones with Ethan going all alpha

male pinning Kate to the wall and having his way with her.

Mary says

I loved this beautiful story of Kate and Ethan, married 10 years and the tale of their reconnection. Despite the sad circumstance of lack of connection, I loved how deeply responsive they were to each other and the shared need to bring new life into their marriage.

"The Anniversary Gift" was humorous, but mostly sensual, erotic and loving between Ethan and Kate. I loved the ending it was exactly what I was hoping for.

I will definitely be reading more from Ms. Dawson.

Review also posted on Amazon.

Sharon says

Great story of a couple reconnecting after 10 years of a marriage gone stale. Loved the story, well written.

Sassy Moms Say Read Romance says

Can a story be sweet and also be super sizzling HOT?? The answer to that is absolutely yes!!! The Anniversary Gift by Elle Dawson is just that. What a beautiful story about a couple trying to learn to put the passion back in their marriage before it is to late.

Kate just does not know how to feel anymore with her marriage to Ethan. It seems like they just do not connect anymore the way that a married couple should.

Ethan loves his wife Kate with all his heart but just does not know what has happened or how to get their marriage back on track. So, one night over supper & ten days before their 10th wedding anniversary, Ethan makes a suggestion to Kate for an anniversary "gift" to each other. Kate is shocked at this suggestion and is not sure how to react.

This very emotional story takes the readers on a mini journey as this couple tries to figure out how and if they are able to put the passion back into their marriage. They both will discover things about themselves but also about each other.

For being a brand new author, I totally feel that Elle Dawson hit the "nail on the mark" with this story. The reader can so very easily feel & understand what the characters are going through in the story. There are so many of us that can honestly understand what this couple is going through. Sometimes marriages may just need that "jump start" to get back on track

I have to admit that I laughed so hard several times during the story at the "arguing" back & forth with Kate's "mental friends". You will for sure know what I am talking about when you read this story. lol

This is an author that I am hoping will get lots of readers so they all know what an incredible talent she has.

p.s the anniversary gifts that are given at the end of the story are purely priceless and extremely touching. Please read this to find out what happens!! You will not be sorry

Elena says

I liked this book! It was different and unusual. Definitely a good debut book ...

Quick Summary:

Kate and Ethan have been married for 10 years but have grown apart. Two weeks before their 10th Anniversary, Ethan proposes they spice things up and rekindle their marriage ... by having a threesome! Kate is shocked and appalled... at first! But then she decides to take these two weeks and work on spicing up their marriage and overall bringing them closer together, and if – at the end of two weeks – Ethan still wants to experiment with a threesome, she will do it! During the two weeks, Kate examines their attitudes and behaviours in an attempt to see where they've gone wrong during the last 10 years and how they can fix it...

Comments:

- I was expecting pure erotica, but this was actually quite an emotional read!! It was completely different from a standard romance of "naive girl-meets-rich boy-they-fall-in-love-and-live-happily-ever-after!" This book addressed the "what happens if the ever after is not so happy?!" It addressed REAL situations, that could happen in REAL lives! No one lives happily ever after – at least not unless they work hard for it! So this novel focuses on a married couple, trying to rekindle the magic and get themselves back onto the track for "happily-ever-after" .

- Wonderful and *very* insightful quote... Couldn't be more accurate and it goes like this: "Women, it seems, are born with a bubble over our head of how love should look like from the moment we are born. Being doted on by Daddy, watching love stories by Disney and then reading Harlequin romances through the night sets us up for disappointment in the real world." Speaking for myself - this defined me to a T.

- Another excellent quote : "*Lower expectations and increase appreciation.*" YES!! How many of us do actually do this for anything in life?!

- My major issue was the lack of a reason for the two of them drifting apart. I'm not saying that it can't happen for no reason, but usually there has to be something there... They clearly still loved and excited each other – so how was it possible to just stop speaking and communicating all together? For a couple who was financially stable, with successful careers, no extra-marital affairs, no health problems, no children to get in the way (lol!), with loving friends and family – what causes them to just drift apart to the extent that they just want vacations away from each other?! The whole time I felt like I was missing the gist of their problem. I thought that unless they got to the root of their problem, they couldn't have a happy future... And they never seemed to address the problem, just had really hot sex and kept telling each other how much they love each other and how they can't live without each other. Which is definitely something, but doesn't change the fact that something caused a rift between them and what's to say it won't happen again once the "tantric sex" gets old?

- I really enjoyed being privy to how Kate's mind worked throughout her difficult situation. She seemed like

a real person to me – it was all very realistic... I loved how she fought for what she wanted, believed in and loved! Ethan, on the other hand – I didn't really learn much about. I felt like I didn't know him and didn't understand a lot of his actions. Even the fact that he started acting very dominant in bed was a little confusing... If he was into that – why wait for 10 years with no hint? Also, why *was* he constantly late (not only is that my biggest pet peeve, but I also find it very rude and insulting if someone is constantly late - so my husband excusing his perma-lateness with "I was daydreaming" would drive me absolutely insane!) ? ... What I'm trying to say is that I don't really see how Ethan changed. Kate seemed to make all the sacrifices and changes, but he only got to reap the rewards and have really hot sex with his changed wife ... :D

- Considering this was much deeper than a pure erotica book, I was against the whole threesome idea from the start. It seems shallow to think some hot sex with another hot chick will solve your marital problems. Unlike in porn, in real life, I don't see how that would solve *anything* – it could only add additional hurt, jealousy, possessiveness, sense of betrayal, etc... So I was happy at the way this book showed maturity with the woman trying to solve her problems, not just throwing a random threesome in there because "sex sells". (view spoiler).

- I found it a little unrealistic that Kate was thinking whom she would pick for their threesome, and a random girl she just met volunteered right away... I don't really run in those circles so I wouldn't know, but – does stuff like that really happen? You are sailing with a group of people, when the conversation of "threesomes" comes up... and a random acquaintance jumps up and says "I'll do it!!" ... I wonder.... Maybe that's exactly how it works ?...

- I liked the Hidden Goddess and Bitch in her head... cute but a little too much like Ms. Steel's Inner Goddess and Subconsciousness in 50 Shades of Grey... It really wasn't necessary to borrow ideas, since this book is better written and overall superior to 50 Shades...

- Overall, an enjoyable read with lots of amazing quotes that I plan to keep with me!

I have received this book for free through Goodreads First Reads - many thanks to the author for giving me the opportunity to read and review it honestly!

Katerina says

I remember reading an article in a women's magazine, while I was sitting in the waiting room of a doctor's office. As far as I can recall, the title was something like "Ten things to spice up your sex life" . Reading this book, I got the impression that the author must have read the same article too.

So if you feel like the horizontal activities in your relationship are in dire need of improvement regarding the length, frequency and variety, you can start buying sex toys, let your partner read 50 Shades of Grey, start texting messages with sexual content and maybe even entertain the thought of having a threesome...

But if an Inner Goddess and a Bitch are having dialogues in your head and your name is not Anastasia Steele, I would suggest you get your head examined!

My personal conclusion after having read this???

The Search For The Ultimate Cure To A Frustrating Sex Life Continues...

itsToya says

I was hooked on this book from page one! Great for us erotic-romance lovers!

Prior to reading this book I've not heard of "Tantra". I've been married for eleven years and although Tantra (an equivalent form of making-love) sounds lovely, I'd take the 50SOG or Mr. Hyde style any day! ;).

The one thing I felt this book lacked were descriptions/explanations of what their relationship was like prior to his anniversary proposal. Other than Ethan's lack of punctuality which understandably caused Kate to have insecurities; what else contributed to their relationship taking a turn for the worse? To have included some memoirs in comparison to what both she & he previously encountered would help the reader to believe this new connection that was so badly needed between the two.

Cons:

- The text messages become a bit redundant.
- What happened to Mr. Hyde??? I NEEDED to see more of him. Mr. Hyde and I were just getting to know & like each other, lol.

Pros:

- Another well written book!
- I absolutely love the fact that this couple is married (ten years) and re-discovering themselves together!

My Personal Analysis--

Fave Line: "Do you trust me?" --Mr. Hyde

Fave Scene: The tub when Mr. Hyde asked, "Do you trust me?" Ahhhhhh!

Cheesy Wording: No, well, it has its moments. In some of the love-making wording & text messages...

However, not in her dreams!

Plot/Character Relations/Connections: Yes, I feel the author does a tremendous job in making sure the reader connects w/ the plot & characters. At times plot got slightly slow, again in wording of the 'talk' of love-making.

Debbie "Buried in Her TBR Pile" says

[I hope I got this spoiler to work. I don't think

Racheal says

Can a story be sweet and also be super sizzling HOT?? The answer to that is absolutely yes!!! The Anniversary Gift by Elle Dawson is just that. What a beautiful story about a couple trying to learn to put the passion back in their marriage before it is to late.

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Debbie says

This was a great story about a husband and wife who have been married ten years and have lost that connection that time seems to cause. Both are unhappy, but both desperately want to fix it. When Ethan suggests a threesome as an anniversary gift to Kate as a way of adding spice to their marriage, she is devastated. She thinks he no longer loves or desires her. Ethan follows her upstairs and in a very hot and no nonsense manner, proves to her that isn't how he feels. They share a loving evening together. Kate wants what Ethan gave her that night. She realizes that by being so boring and unwilling to try things, their relationship has suffered. She's determined to be more open minded and help she and Ethan rediscover the passion they once had.

Over the next days leading up to their anniversary, we go on a loving journey as Kate and Ethan begin reconnecting. They have tender moments, hot and heavy moments, and they even begin sexting. It was really sweet and very obvious this wasn't something they were used to.

SOME SPOILERS BELOW

I adored Ethan. You could tell he thought Kate hung the moon. He loved her so much and would do anything for her. He was a perfect man and husband.

Kate was a little more naive. She goes into a sex store and giggles for ten minutes, yet she's supposed to have been married for ten years. She has to be at least in her late twenties if not early thirties. Then there's a part where a male colleague hits on Kate by kissing her in her hotel room; lying on the bed with her and holding her; and telling her he's in love with her and has been. However she never mentions this to Ethan. I

personally felt since this was a book about reconnecting and repairing a marriage, that Ethan should have been told. The incident was breezed over as if it never happened. But in fairness Kate had no feelings for the guy.

Overall it's a good book. Marriages often suffer after years spent together. Work, kids, chores, day to day activities all cause couple's to slip into routines where it's easy to forget to spend time together. This was a nice story reminding you to take the time. It also proves that adding spice to the relationship can be worthwhile. By the way, you'll have to read the story to see if they ever have that threesome for their anniversary.

Lynette says

This is a beautifully written, achingly detailed book about a couple married nearly ten years and who have grown apart. I love that it isn't about new love, when two people just meet and go through the angst of getting to know each other and having sex all the time. Instead, the couple has grown apart and must find their way back to each other. In very unusual ways.

While it is very sexual, there is so much good advice and inspiration that could give real life couples food for thought.

I hope more books are written like this, bringing people back together, re-connecting them and giving them hope that love can last.

C.T. Mitchell says

Bringing Sexy Back

Move over Justin Timberlake.

This book is bringing sexy back.

This well crafted, well written book has your heart beating from the very first chapter. With such intensity you ask yourself if it can get any better. And it does!

Elle Dawson takes you on a magnificent mind journey offering you both brutal reality for a lot of people facing a divorce while at the same time taking you to high that again most people haven't experienced in a long time. And after 10 years of marriage....that's a long time.

It's a beautiful book about one woman's journey trying to save her marriage. Kate faces many confronting issues that a lot of us have had to deal with or are facing now. She does it beautifully and it makes you wonder how her husband Ethan ever went off the rails.

Well done Elle. I'm hooked. I'm off to buy your next book 'The Birthday Gift' I'm looking forward to another arousing account described with taste and eloquence.
