



## **Erotic Research**

*Mari Carr*

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It was just a little innocent research

Romance writer Julia Martin is fine with her life, just the way it is. Her simple apartment, successful career and Thursday-night pizza dates with her too-hot-for-words editor Ross are more than enough for her. At least, that's what she thinks until her cat dies.

Ross Philips has spent years lustng after his shy best friend, but fears his rather strong sexual desires will be too much for Julia. When she falls into a depression over the death of her cat and stops writing, Ross decides she needs a change.

His suggestion? Try a new genre erotica. And, of course, being such a good friend and editor, he even plans to help her do a little research."

## **Erotic Research Details**

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Author : Mari Carr

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## From Reader Review Erotic Research for online ebook

### C Joy says

Wow! I mean, that was fan-f\*\*\*ing-tastic! Mari Carr just moved to the top of my favorite authors list. It's amusing that this her first novel, and the first one I've read. It has a very simple story and I've always liked friends-to-lovers. Ms Carr made it work with the other side of the double-edged sword, Julia and Ross were supercharged together, and I'm impressed with how the story went on, the character developments, the layout of the plan, and the plot.

This story exceeded my expectations in an erotic romance, the setting was perfect, the characters were hot for each other and they have a strong relationship foundation. It's true how your deep-seated emotions would show when the object of your desire is talking to another one, a potential threat. That's how Ross knew he's hopelessly attracted to his inhibited Julia. He's really sweet and affectionate, the role of big brother died when he saw Julia with another man on that fateful night.

While it's common for heroines like Julia to have this desire for her editor, I loved her character, she's virginal (not literally) and I was amused how she blushed whenever Ross talked to her about sex like the weather. With the death of her cat Duke, the only friend she has (except for Ross), she went downhill and got depressed, and thankfully Ross set his plans into motion with a quick suggestion of genre change and volunteered his personal assistance for the research.

The title says it all, I didn't mind the numerous sex scenes because that's what this is all about. Not most authors could pull this up with a love angle, but Ms Carr deftly weaved it all together and put one helluva ride. The conflict was presented with trust issues, seeing as Ross is the wham-bam-thank-you-ma'am sort of bachelor, he's the worst guy for Julia, but he just proves how much he loves her again and again by keeping his promise. THAT is real love. Great read!

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### Rachel says

If you like a hero who's alpha with a big heart, this is the book for you. You know right off the bat how he feels for his Jule's, and you are rooting for him to get his girl. Ross wants to take his friendship with Julia to the next level, and you so want him to succeed, he's just got to show her just how good it could be between them. He's gentle, but rough and loving, but honest and to the point.

I like my heroines who are independent regarding their career, but not so saavy about their personal life and don't know how to get what they truly desire.

Sometimes the heroines come off as total \*itches in these romance books, and your left to wonder, what the heck did the hero see in her in the first place, This is not so with Julia (though I did want to slap her upside the head at one point.), you know the deep affection these to have for each other, and the fear of losing that connection if they take a huge step over the line of friendship to romance.

Love this book and also enjoy the fact that Julia is not a svelte supermodel, but a real woman who's got natural curve, we need more books like this.

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### **Sasha says**

I picked this up to have something to read while I was out at the cabin. Rarely do I want to read anything remotely heavy while I'm out there because I'm constantly picking it up and putting it down. Plus, I like motoring through a handful of books while I'm out there, despite how shitty they might be.

This was one of those books that wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. Granted, it was nothing great but I flew through it and didn't complain.

The protagonist was a little too ditzy for me at times. She was this shy thing that did a weird sort of flip whenever she was with the male lead. But I didn't find her too virginal which tends to piss me off in other books. I liked that she could be shy but didn't have to be this innocent virgin at age 30-whatever.

The male lead wasn't anything special either. I was a little irritated with his 'studliness' and his surprised feelings of love for the protagonist. However, he did sort of have to work for her so that always makes me happy. I did find him melodramatic at the climax when he knew about the protagonist fear of love through the entire beginning of the novel.

The ending felt a little forced and rushed but it was a soft read and I didn't mind it.

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### **MaggieReadsRom says**

3.5 stars

Historical romance novelist Julia Martin is in a bit of a rut. Personally because it seems like everyone she loves, dies or leaves her, most recently her beloved cat. Professionally she's experiencing a bit of writers' block. Her editor and best friend Ross Philips suggests a change of genre from historical to erotic to get her creativity back and offers to help her with the research. But soon the research takes on a serious character unveiling simmering feelings between Julia and Ross.

Ross is the ideal hero, planning Julia's seduction and demanding not only her sexual abandon but also emotional commitment from her. Since he knows her so well, he knows exactly how to get both. He's been in love with Julia for a very long time but has never acted on it, afraid that she won't accept his darker sexual needs.

Julia's fiery personality lies just below the surface waiting to be ignited by the right man, in her case Ross. Though she wants to protect her heart, she knows her surrender to him both sexually and emotionally is inevitable.

Ms. Carr's debut is a delightful, intense and solid erotic romance. With all the elements I require from an erotic romance she touched dark sensual desires and combined these with deep emotional dilemmas. The characters that have enough of a background and are very likeable complement the hot erotic love scenes. Even with the limited page-count (only 114 pages), she managed to write a fully and well-rounded story that contained more than just steamy erotic scenes. However, with such a small page-count little room is left for

true depth in the characters or their backgrounds. Still I thought Ms. Carr did a good job in giving Julia and Ross a background that went beyond the story at hand.

I liked both the premise and the execution of the story. There are no secondary characters because it's just about Julia and Ross and the exploration of their (sexual) relationship. Right before the end the book dropped a bit in pace and intensity but she more than made up for that with the ending. It was heart breaking and beautifully done which earned this e-book an extra half star.

This was a purely character-driven book that had enough body to it to keep me interested from the first to the last page and in the vast amount of erotically charged romances Mari Carr has definitely captured my attention with a story that I found myself fascinated with to no end and I'm glad I have more of her books in my possession.

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### **Gee says**

Pretty good for a short story. Not long enough for me to give it 4 stars.

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### **Rejane says**

It is what it is. And we're back to it again. Female mc is speechless when she sees a (big) dick. A writer nonetheless supposedly smart and so insecure, zero self esteem. Eye rolling

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

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### **Juliana Philippa says**

#### **2.5 stars**

From what I understand, this is Mari Carr's first published piece and frankly, it kind of reads that way. I liked the two main characters and enjoyed their connection, plus there were some places with decent chemistry and sizzle. Overall though, it all felt very inconsistent. At some points Ross seems very alpha, at others we're told he's alpha but really see no evidence of that.

The beginning of their sexual relationship felt a little awkward, with them running hot and cold and bouncing around back and forth on what they understand their relationship to be. The whole thing felt choppy, the love scenes short, jumping from one to another, then skipping a few days, etc. There were only a few lines in each scene that started to make me feel hot and bothered, and then it would sizzle away. It sometimes seemed like the ingredients were there, but for some reason they didn't come together as they should and it ended up feeling ... flat.

One **HUGE** complaint I have> They start off almost at the beginning with role-playing - and role-playing in which Julia is a captive or sex slave, i.e. she's supposed to be somewhat resisting. While resistance is not a big part of the role-playing, it's still present, so I found it extremely disturbing that there was no safe word and they didn't lay down any rules or understandings beforehand.

As I said before, I liked Julia and Ross and really enjoyed their friendship and the dialogue back-and-forth between them. I think the story could have turned out far better if that part had been more heavily explored and the sexual component of their relationship slowly integrated in. A really fantastic example of this that I read recently was Claire Matthews' *Intimate Friends*. That novella is even shorter, so the length constraint is greater and they start sleeping together pretty early on, however it felt much smoother and worked far better than in this case.

### { Romance Novella Recommendations }

- \* *Intimate Friends* by Claire Matthews (4.5 stars)
- \* *Hearts in Darkness* by Laura Kaye (4.5 stars)
- \* *Willing Victim* by Cara McKenna (4 stars)

(Written August 11, 2011)

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### Kristy says

Julia and Ross have been coworkers and best friends for ten years. She is a best-selling romance novelist and he is her editor. But for those same ten years, Julia has been somewhat of a recluse - she hardly dates or goes out. Ever. And then her cat dies and she loses it.

To help her out of her funk, Ross suggests she try writing erotica and he gives her a ton of books and the keys to his mountain cabin so she can go do "research". But underneath his helpful exterior, Ross is plotting to seduce his best friend. He's been in love with her forever and he can't keep it from her any longer. BUT, he fears his somewhat kinky sexual tastes might scare the somewhat vanilla Julia.

While Julia is secluded in Ross's cabin during the winter, he drives up from the city for a surprise visit (and hopefully a seduction). Of course, they get snowed in together. And that's when things really begin to heat up. (bad pun, \*rimshot\*)

The sex is, whoa, incredibly hot. And about as un-vanilla as you can get! While it starts off as "research"....or at least that's what Julia thinks....it quickly turns into so much more. What these two crazy kids had was a failure to communicate! Both have always had the hots for the other one, but neither of them ever had the balls to admit it. But I swear, during the story....I just wanted to slap them both to make them confess their feelings to each other. They're bubbling just barely below the surface....it's the subtext of every word they say to each other....and yet it goes unsaid for so long! It's so frustrating as a reader, but as frustrating as it is....it's that much more satisfying when their feelings true finally do come out.

I can't think of a hotter fantasy than best friend turned love of your life. And if said best friend-turned-true love can also manage to give you the best sex of your life....well, that's all just icing on the cake, baby.

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### Cyn Mistress Kitty says

Another great best friend to lover short story. LOVED the hero who is an editor and I loved that the heroine is a romance writer. I got a little mad at her in the end when she was so mean to Ross. The thing I did like though was it didn't have a quick resolution to her insecurities but took some soul searching on her part to

find her HEA. This story had some 5 alarm sex and Ross is one creative guy. Yummy.

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### **Jamie Leigh says**

wow. what a great read! loved the plot and wow. sizzling "research". loved it!

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### **Elena R a.k.a. Lunies R says**

This novel drove me insane!!!

Julia Martin is a Historical Romance novelist by trade,she has spent the last 10years,hiding away in her small apartment,writing about damsels in distress,hunky lords and knights and glorious adventures. In reality she *thinks* she doesn't need a man to be happy..... YEAH RIGHT!! Honestly? What year is she living in?

Now as For her Publisher/Best friend, Ross Philips.Ross has tried for many years to pull Julia outta her thick cocoon, and give her advice to open up and live a little. So his suggestions were for Julia to make a change and write novels on Erotica Romances.....But little does she know,Ross is into the kinky bondage,buttplugs,whips,paddles,vibrators,nipple clamps,etc.

Well that said.Julia agrees to Ross's thoughts on "Her needing a change" so she let's him convince her to escape the city and to a luxurious cabin high in the mountains of West Virgina,so she can start on writing her new novel.....Which in Ross's mind,he set it her up to seduce her ,shag her and help Julia with her writing. It's so obvious that she is a total ditz, and had no clue her best friend/publisher had the hots for her.How didn't she notice that?

Now,everything I wrote above are just somewhat of a summary on what this novel is about.I'm not much of a detailer. Now for **my thought's** on this novel: YES! YES! That's the Word WTF?

C'mon! It's suppose to be an Erotica Romance novel. Why are they constantly talking? I don't care to know about the Heroine's constant bantering on her insecurities and how she has no experience with Sex at all. People learn as the go! Damn That Woman! How many times does a guy have to repeat himself over & over that he wants her for you just who she is? Get over yourself! As for Ross,seriously dude? Stop Talking! You're just adding more fuel to her fire,now Jules won't shut Up! I want hot smutty sex scenes! Damn it! Not Blah,blah,blah, \*spank,orgasm, talk,2min quickie,talk some more,orgasm,spank again\* Bla,Blah,Blah, That shit is boring!

Here are a few things that were a turn off for me,I hate when either the H/H talks about the guys cock like it's just to die for.

"I—" she stumbled, unwilling to take her eyes off his very large appendage. She was sure she'd never seen anything quite so big and her curiosity outweighed her

embarrassment.“My God,” she whispered, awestruck as the monstrous cock seemed to grow even larger before her eyes. Without a thought, she reached up and nearly touched it before a growl above her and a strong hand on her wrist stopped her.....**Mmmmm...Not my thing**

**This is the constant talk & insecurities I tried explaining above,so annoying**

“Why are you doing this? It’s humiliating enough without you laughing at me.” His continued torture infuriated her. He’d proven—yet again—that she was an inexperienced, naïve fool. How many more times tonight was he going to make her feel stupid, unsophisticated, unworthy of his attention? She simply couldn’t compete with the Bridgets of the world. “Humiliating?” Slowly, he turned her over and cradled her in his lap. “Oh, Jules, I’m not trying to humiliate you. I just want to show you what you’re missing. Look at me,” he demanded, lifting her chin to face him. “Look at me, Jules.” Slowly, she raised her eyes to his, almost surprised to see Ross. Her same, sweet, comfortable friend Ross. He smiled at her and she couldn’t stop herself from responding in kind. “I’ve made a mess of this, haven’t I?” he asked. “As far as seductions go, I have to admit, this has been my worst.” Unwilling to hear Ross berate himself, Julia immediately tried to console him. “Oh no. This isn’t your fault. It’s mine. I—I’m afraid I don’t know exactly how to do all of this. It’s

“If you come without permission, I will beat you.” **SAY WHAAAAAA?**

All in all, it was not might kind of Erotica, I’m not sure if I should continue the series and cross my fingers that it would be better than this one or if I should just toss it and never look back again.

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**Dianne Owens says**

**GIST**

After her pet cat dies, romance novelist Julia’s long-time editor Ross suggests she try her hand at writing erotic romance. She goes out to a cabin after nearly a month of book research, not realizing that he has lured her out there under false pretenses. He has been secretly in love with Jules for years, and vice versa. The problem is that Julia has trouble letting people past her defenses for fearing of losing somebody else that she cares about. She also has a low self-esteem from all of the failed relationships and an attempted rape. Neither wants to jeopardize a decade-long friendship either, but Ross dares to take a chance, sneaky devil that he is.

Anyhoo, Ross arrives at the cabin only to be snowed in by a blizzard, thus allowing him time to work on the big plan of seducing her as a way to convince her to let her guard down long enough to trust him with her heart. Self-delusion convinces her that the intimacy he suggests is just research for the book. However, sexual intimacy has a habit of complicating things.

## MY THOUGHTS

I expected purely erotica when I started reading this short story, but it became apparent from page one that it was anything but. The characters and narrative were engaging. I started caring about the two protagonists immediately. The dialogue and internal monologue added to this, with the author careful not to overdo it. It was a delicate balance, but Mari Carr has proven once again how talented a writer she is.

The often kinky sex scenes added to the story, showing the vulnerabilities of each character and helping their relationship to evolve over the span of their time at the cabin. The emotional overtones were ripe but not overbearing. Readers will note the use of a deadline for the pair at the cabin. This works well, adding to the drama. The couple also had an existing relationship, instead focusing on the action.

## CONCLUSION

I really enjoyed the story, hence the high rating. The characters are complicated yet cute, the sex scenes emotional yet spicy, dialogue sweet and clever, plot progression spot on. All in all, an awesome read!

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## Rosa Ramôa says

Som de Tom Waits...Closing Time!

<http://youtu.be/NEyTyHiptk>

Fantasias e banquete...

Cardápio variado com carboidratos e tudo:-

Mm-hmm.

Adultos

Ross e Júlia

Olhos castanhos e mel...

Sais de banho.

Odor e sabor!

Render ou recuar?

Anjo

Entrar sem protecção...

Oh Deus!

Aumentar a velocidade...

Mais.

Bem fundo...

Vamos ao mar?

Uhhh.

Quinta-feira é dia de pizza@gmail.com

Atirem água fresca...

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## Katie says

This was such a meh read for me. I absolutely adore best-friend-to-lover books, but this didn't do it for me whatsoever. It was a short, so I do take that into account, but there was no demonstration of their being best friends. And Ross's personality was all over the place. Either he's forceful and there with a purpose or he's not. Getting all upset and emotional and storming off when Julia reacted EXACTLY THE WAY HE KNEW SHE WOULD is not hot and doesn't fit in with what the author was trying to portray as his personality. The

sex was generally hot, but without the real emotional component that allowed me to BELIEVE in their feelings, it was just meh.

Generally I like Mari Carr's books, so this won't put me off of reading others, but I was disappointed in this one.

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## **Til says**

Review de Rosa Ramôa:

Som de Tom Waits...Closing Time.

Fantasias e banquete...

Cardápio variado com carboidratos e tudo:-)

Mm-hmm.

Adultos

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Bem fundo...

Vamos ao mar?

Uhhh.

Quinta-feira é dia de pizza@gmail.com

Atirem água fresca...

5 lik

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