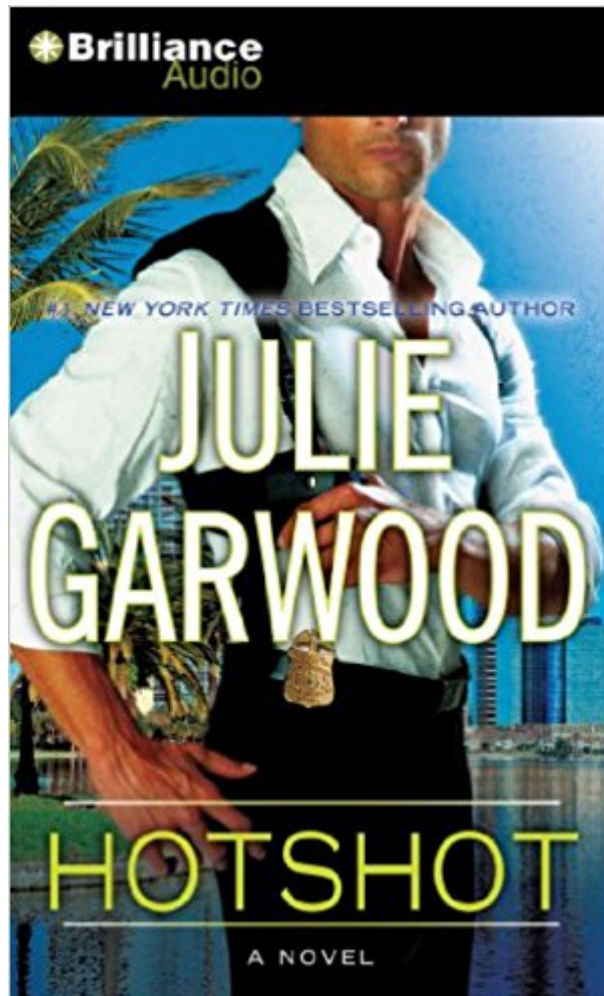




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# Hotshot



## Synopsis

He saved Peyton Lockhart's life when they were kids – but now she's all grown up and he's a seasoned FBI agent who comes to her rescue again in the new contemporary romance from #1 New York Times bestselling author Julie Garwood. Peyton and her sisters have inherited Bishop's Cove, a small, luxurious oceanfront resort, but it comes with conditions: The girls must run the resort for one year and show a profit – only then will they own it. A graduate of a prestigious French culinary school, Peyton has just lost her job as a food critic after rightfully accusing her boss of sexual harassment. Out of work and in a bad place personally, to Peyton a year doing something completely different sounds wonderful. Peyton dives into learning the resort business but is quickly derailed by an escalating chain of events that puts her life in danger. She refuses to be intimidated – until she's nearly killed. Then she calls on her childhood friend and protector, Finn MacBain, now with the FBI, and asks for his help. Finn is more than happy to do a favor for Peyton, but he doesn't plan on dealing with the beautiful, passionate woman she has become. There are countless challenges and too many people who want to stop Peyton and her sisters from succeeding. Among them are their contentious cousins and a powerful group of land developers who have been eyeing the coveted beachfront property. And it also becomes apparent that her old boss holds a serious grudge and believes in payback. While the attraction between Peyton and Finn flames bright enough to distract them both from their dangerous situation, a happily ever after ending seems all but impossible. But the well-trained lawman never loses focus: He saved her life once; now he must do it again.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Praise for #1 New York Times bestselling author Julie Garwoodâs "Whoever thinks romantic suspense is dead should read a Julie Garwood book."â"USA Today"â"A trusted brand name in romantic suspense."â"People"â"Julie Garwood creates masterpieces every time she writes a book."â"The Kansas City Star"â"Undoubtedly Garwood is a pro."â"Kirkus Reviews"â"If a book has Julie Garwood's name on it, it's guaranteed to be a meticulously written...and thoroughly engaging story."â"Sun Journal (ME)" --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Julie Garwood is among the most critically acclaimed and popular romance authors around, with thirty-six million copies of her books in print. She is the author of numerous New York Times bestsellers, including *Sweet Talk*, *The Ideal Man*, *Sizzle*, *Fire and Ice*, *Shadow Music*, and *Shadow Dance*. She lives near Kansas City.

I have read everything the author has written. This book kept me turning the pages, but mostly because I kept waiting for everything to improve. The characters and the plot all seemed a little flat and one dimensional. Julie Garwood usually makes her characters relatable and likable, but I thought the heroine's choices were unbelievable and trite, while the hero seemed like a typical cardboard alpha male. This book read more like a first draft than a finished product. All the secondary characters seemed like placeholders who were given a single personality trait and never fleshed out beyond that. This is the first Julie Garwood book that I dislike. If you are a completist and must read it, save your money and go to the library.

With her trademark sense of humor and ability to take you into the story, Julie Garwood delights and intrigues you to the last word. From the moment a young Finn MacBain rescues a very young Peyton Lockhart, to the grown Finn locking eyes on the grown Peyton I couldn't read fast enough. Following his many outstanding accomplishments, Peyton gives her hero the nickname "Hotshot". I absolutely fell in love with her quirky heroine. Peyton had me gripping the book when she had to deal with her sexual predator of nightmare boss. She flees her dream job to find her life in danger, and her hotshot hero once again coming to her rescue. Being a huge fan of Ms Garwood's Highlander novels, shades of Gabriel MacBain from *THE GIFT*, rolled in on me as Finn blasts his way into my heart. Peyton and her sister's are given the opportunity to own their uncle's resort, Bishop's Cove, if they can turn it around in a year. With danger still on her heels, more treachery is

a foot when Peyton and her sister begin their task. Through love and heartbreak, to a diabolical relative, and danger and intrigue, the journey keeps you turning to the last page and then some. Thanks for sharing such a gift with us!

Julie Garwood's stories are usually very good and fun to read. This one is not. It is very contrived (the bad people are ridiculously bad, there are always more than one person committing the same type of crime that could be "the bad guy" - just unlikely, unbelievable plot lines. That takes the enjoyment out of it because you spend time being disappointed at the silliness instead of enjoying the story. While I expect fiction to be fiction, I don't enjoy stories where the author hasn't put any effort into making it somewhat believable. It had potential but doesn't meet it.

Julie Garwood has become a predictable writer. She has a model of story and plot and repeats it over and over again with different characters. Her contemporary novels are all exactly the same: girl in danger (usually) meets a hot, superhandsome, wealthy and either FBI, Seals or other federal position guy, who will protect her no matter what, and eventually will fall for her. You know what is going to happen and how from the first page. I learned five books ago not to pay full price for them, not worth it, so I wait till they lower the price (kindle mostly) to read them. Still, they are somewhat entertained, especially for long flights and endless layovers at airports (hence the two stars), but Garwood has lost the wit and spark she used to show for the dialogs and events in the past. Even the chemistry between the two main characters is non-existent most of the time.

I'm seriously wondering if Julie Garwood even wrote this book. This is the first time I have ever had such a negative reaction to one of her books. I'm disappointed because I feel like I've been waiting for over a year to read this novel. While the story was interesting, I found it a bit too long and drawn out. And for the first time, I truly did not like the hero and heroine. Garwood has a habit of writing 'perfect' heroines, but they usually always have some kind of quirk that makes them endearing. Something that always makes me fall in love with them despite their perfection. This book is about Peyton and Finn. They met when Finn saved Peyton's life when she was a little girl. They have always kept in touch and when Peyton found herself in trouble, Finn is the obvious choice for her to call for help. They get together again, and fall into bed almost right away. Finn tries to help with the trouble Peyton is in and when he thinks everything is ok, then he leaves. Only to come back when things get scary. I didn't like Peyton. She was just perfect, physically and emotionally, and could do no wrong. I found myself getting exasperated reading about her perfection and it just made

me not like her. Same goes with the hero, Finn. The man could do no wrong. He can win Olympic medals, work for the FBI, have the perfect body and an amazing personality. There was nothing wrong with him. So why shouldn't such perfect people get together? Well they do. But the romance between them gets completely over shadowed by the drama plaguing Payton. So much focus is spent on what is going on that it makes the romance between them seem disingenuous. Something that never really happens in a Julie Garwood book. The book lasted way too long. With the action becoming stagnate half way through. The villains are too bad, without a real reason, and the resolution was a bit anti-climactic. I feel bad writing this review. I really wanted to like this book. Guess it's not meant to be. :(

Julie Garwood is the best author ever! I've read all her books and never been disappointed. The bride, the wedding and the gift are all 10 star books, so do not pass them up. The rest are excellent and I can't wait for wired to be released!!

You unfortunately know who the bad guys are from the beginning, so it was just a matter of how things would play out. I wish that there was more chemistry between the main characters, but it was still a good book overall. It is also very funny at times when it comes to having family members drive you absolutely crazy. She writes in the book everything that most of us would like to say to someone at some point of time, but don't have the guts. :-)

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