



Make Me a Match

Lori Brighton

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Teenager Emma Watts doesn't believe in true love. After all, she's worked for two years in her family's P.I. business catching cheating husband's in the act. Then Owen Emerson arrives (while she's in the middle of a stakeout, no less) claiming Emma has inherited a deceased aunt's ability to supernaturally match soul-mates. Emma wants nothing to do with her aunt's powers, nor with the frustrating and perfectly handsome Owen Emerson. Too bad she's stuck with both for the rest of her life.

Owen Emerson is a Protector, a person fated to protect Matchmakers for eternity. A guy who does things by the book, Owen figures he'll rationally explain to Emma her newfound abilities and they can have the professional relationship he'd had with her much older aunt. But as he soon finds out Emma Watts is anything but professional. Fortunately, when she has her first vision matching two friends she has no alternative but to believe Owen's claims. But Owen isn't the only one interested in Emma. When the supernatural world discovers how to exploit Emma's matchmaking abilities for their own, she has no choice but to trust the man who holds her life, and her heart, in his hands.

Make Me a Match Details

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From Reader Review Make Me a Match for online ebook

Wendy says

Thanks to NetGalley for the ARC

Emma was a little annoying at first just because she was so stubborn that it was getting ridiculous, especially when it came to her first match. Then when she was finally getting the hang of it and acting human Owen was getting annoying too. He kept hiding things from her and then kept pushing her away. Plus I didn't know match makers were that big of a deal until the bad guys wanted her. Plus the whole "matchmakers can't love" is dumb, how selfish are they to these women. I really got into it in the end and can't wait to see what happens.

Jane says

I was blown away. I have no words. Lori Brighton surprises me yet AGAIN! I REALLY enjoy her historical romances as well as the paranormal romances, but goodness gracious! This book brought me back to my Twilight days, and by that I don't mean it's similar because it's probably a million times better! Make Me a Match had romance, action, comedy, and a little bit of suspense inter-weaved throughout the chapters.

17 year-old Emma Watts is a feisty, pessimistic, say-what-you-wanna-say kind of girl. I related to her quite a bit since I was just like her at that age. She is disillusioned with love after her parents' bad experience: a father who ran away with his secretary and a mother who desperately searches for any scrap of affection given to her by her many boyfriends. Owen Emerson is a Protector who used to be Emma's Aunt's protector, but since her death, her matchmaking powers were passed down to Emma, the next in line.

I adored Emma. At times she was very stubborn, but within reason. Her persona was very well-portrayed through her actions as well as her dialogue. I found the maturity of the writing to be astounding considering that it is a YA book. Owen Emerson is a 19 year-old modern day Mr. Darcy (And it wasn't lost on me that Emma and her sister were named after Jane Austen heroines!). Well, at least he started off that way. Our first look at him suggests he's a put together young man who is free of all emotion. NOPE! The boy is AMAZING! I felt like a cougar falling for the kid. *Sigh* He was a mature character who knew exactly how to go about his job, having grown up when he was 10 years old. Both Emma and Owen are mature enough for each other. Their usual couple spats were entertaining and oh-so-fun to watch- or read. Made me wish I had my own Owen, maybe a little older though. 23 wouldn't be such a bad age. ;)

I cannot put into words how established and well-written this story is! Forget Twilight! It's all about Matchmakers and Protectors now! I think I have a brand new favorite YA series to look forward to! From the story-line, to the characters, to the intelligently written plot and dialogue, this was definitely a big o' 5 STARS from me! Lori has outdone herself yet again. Yep, I have a girl crush, so what?!

Mutmainna says

I really liked the cover *sigh* It's one of those books I had requested mostly based upon the cover art itself, and I'm disappointed. Throughout the book, there were loads of things that bothered me, and yet I can't put my finger on a particular one, it was just plain dragging and boring. One thing to specifically state though,

would be the love part. I'm a biog sucker for romance (though I'm personally not a heart and chocolates person tbh). I've even fallen in love with books dealing with teenage, stupid sounding, light hearted romance, or predictable ones. But I couldn't like this because, I REALLY didn't know where was love in the middle of all that was happening. The relationship between Emma and Owen is not a friendly one, I understand that. And they kiss, that too I understand. But where on earth did love come all of a sudden? It wasn't even lust according to me. If it was solely physical attraction, I could've understood they way they reacted, but it really wasn't just physical. Gaahh...even describing it leaves me in loss of words!

There is Emma, the lead. I can tolerate, if not like, almost all type of heroines in a book, but I've got a serious issue when it comes to characters like Emma. Once again, I can't specify what I didn't like about her, since it looks like she was a dislikable package on the whole. And why is she so goddamn confused? One moment she is not at all into the whole love thing and in the other she is pining for it with all her heart. And then feeling 'love' for a guy like Owen, who I don't even know how to describe. I NEED to like at least one of the leads in a book, either male or female. Here, I was at a loss. Owen lacked the character development needed for a strong hero and I really had no idea what to do about him.

The storyline lacked finesse. At times, it was dragging and at others, it was skipped a lot, without giving any details of the time in between. I've seen people liking Lori Brighton's other books, so I had attempted reading with this one. But I guess I took the wrong book :(

Lisa says

Emma Watts is 17 and due to all that's happened to her growing up, doesn't believe in true love. She's worked for two years keeping her deceased grandfather's P.I. business going by catching cheating husband's in the act and providing a roof over her little sisters head..

She has a grandmother who is too busy with appearance, a new husband and society to take an interest and a mother who is hopping from broken relationship to another man continually.. Where would she ever get the idea that love is real?

Then enters 23yo. Owen Emerson - handsome, debonair, and desirable! He claims Emma has inherited a deceased aunt's (whom she never even knew) ability to match soul-mates. Emma is shocked! definitely not what she foresaw in her future and wants nothing to do with her aunt's powers, nor with Owen.

But Owen has other ideas and as her "protector" he is sworn to be by her side for eternity... This is where it gets good!

Emma is a strong, feisty, definitely "negative-on-love" kinda girl - which made for a great lead character. growing up in a broken home has left disillusioned with love. Owen Emerson is a gorgeous, strong Protector who doesn't want to fall in love, is free of emotions and determined to succeed in the job fate has given him. The relationship grew slowly and built on attraction and events. They were both stubborn characters, not willing to give in to the obvious attraction.

The support characters add a lot to the story... Overall, it was a very enjoyable read...

I really hope there is more to come in the future!

Tina says

[Another is when she said she felt euphoria after matching Tony and Paula together. If I remember correctly, she ran out of the coffee shop because she couldn't stand the sight of them working and that she could

Jazmen says

Told in a contemporary fashion Make me a match follows Emma, teenaged PI, she is a private investigator for women looking to catch cheating husbands and boyfriends. It was her grandfather's life work and now it's hers.

She's on the job when she encounters Owen, Brit talking, suit wearing, nerdy hot teenaged something. He comes to notify her of her aunt's death but big whoop she didn't even know her, but she's left her something behind. Despite her protests and her growing attraction to the Clark Kent looking teen she refuses to take whatever it is he's come on her dead aunt's behalf to give.

But he keeps showing up, and what he's come to offer is more than monetary possessions. It's hers whether she wants it or not and it's about to change her life.

Make me a match has an interesting plot with even more intriguing otherworldly characters. Great YA novel with series potential. Will make you believe in love!

Brittani says

3.5 stars

Lori Brighton has successfully found the perfect balance between YA romance, Buffy esq action, and extremely strong characters.

Emma is a PI whose main focus is revealing cheating husbands for who they really are. She soon finds herself in the most undesirable position, she is actually destined to be a matchmaker. Trust me, the irony is not lost on Emma. Enter Owen, who is supposed to be Emma's extremely handsome protector. Poor Owen, what's he to do when the girl he is assigned to not only doesn't believe him when he explains what she is, but doesn't WANT his protection!

The reason I enjoyed this story was because both of our protagonists were strong willed and feisty. This story was the perfect blend of action and romance. Personally, I really appreciated that while yes there was insta-attraction, it was NOT insta-love. These characters had to, dare I say it, actually get to know one another! As a reader you really believed in the two of them as a team. I also enjoyed how the chapters switched perspectives between Emma and Owen. They each had a clear and distinctive voice that was uniquely their own.

If you are a fan of paranormal romance with plenty of action, this story is definitely worth checking out.

Cassandra says

My Thoughts – 3 out of 5 Unicorns - I liked it!!!

***I choose what I read and review based on what intrigues me!! Yes, I got a review copy of this book, but no one tells me what to think, feel, or write about any book!

The cover is interesting though I doesn't really represent Emma. This is the first book in this series, and it is definitely left in a place that you expect another book.

This is my first book by Lori that I've read though I do own most of The Mind Readers series to read in the future. I like Lori's writing style and the premise of this book. It was slow in parts, but this happens when I start a new series sometimes. I think it is set up at a good spot for the next book.

Emma is independent and questions everything which I like because you should never just accept what a stranger tells you. Owen is another story. I'm annoyed that he misled Emma, but he does sort of redeem himself. I'm interested in seeing what becomes of the pair if book 2 comes out. I have no idea when this might happen though.

People who like YA Paranormal Romance will like reading this book!

Ashleigh says

2.5 Read as digital ARC.

Make a Match reminded me a lot of the books I was super into during middle school, and even though I knew I probably shouldn't pick it up, the cover was so fierce, I read it anyway. Had I read this book as a middle schooler, I'm sure I would have shelled out more stars, because I was very much into the whole love-hate relationship with a paranormal twist-type story. Reading this at the age I am now, and comparing it to all of the other books I've read recently or want to read next, it just didn't compare.

That being said, if you're still in the phase where you like these teen romance-y books, and haven't overdosed, as I have, Make a Match should be a fine read. I thought there were several interesting points touched upon, such as needing to mature enough to be ready to be matched and musings on the love life of a match-maker herself.

If you like Make a Match, you should also consider checking out Got Fangs?.

Laura Elizabeth says

This was provided to me from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

And I think I might have to apologize in advance.

Something here, just didn't work for me. Maybe I'm getting in a young-adult-book-rut?

It was my first Lori Brighton, and I just found myself skimming, wanting to jump chapters, and sometimes I just felt like I was missing something for others to love it so much. (Disclaimer: My GRs feed for this was filled with 5 star reviews, which prompted me to add this. Now it's like they disappeared.)

First my biggest problem and a problem running rampant in young adult reads these days, is this insta-love. Why is it these characters meet, hang out, kiss once or twice and then they're in love. Clearly its lust. And as

a romance lover, there's nothing wrong with lust. Just don't package it as love and expect me to swoon. And speaking of swoon? The male lead wasn't charismatic to me either. Why should we love him? Why should Emma?

Anyway, I'm thinking I'm going to take a break from YA literature, unless its something from Jennifer Armentrout, or my long awaited Veronica Rossi's final Never Sky book.

Alexis says

Loved this book! Very entertaining- I could barely put it down. The plot twists and turns and keeps you wondering what will happen next. I definitely recommend this book...

Leann says

I've liked other books by this author, but this one didn't work for me. With a few tweaks and a little more editing, it might have gotten there. First, the characters' actions didn't flow from their internal motivations. Don't get me wrong, I know people often do something other than what they think they should, but that's not what happens here. It's disjointed. It's hard to explain, but it bothered me.

Second, the whole I'm-annoyed-by-you-but-falling-for-you-anyway theme didn't work. They were both annoyed by each other - that part worked. But the falling part didn't. I'm still not sure why Owen fell for Emma. Lust, maybe, or pity, but even that was weak.

And, finally, my biggest pet peeve about the book:

Chapter 1: "I never should have sneaked a peek at Lizzie's latest romance novel."

Chapter 7: "It was like a freaking scene from one of Lizzie's romance novels....."

Also Chapter 7: "My life had become a horror novel."

Chapter 9: "It was like I was in the middle of one of Lizzie's freaking romance novels."

Chapter 18: "I felt like I'd just stepped into one of Lizzie's romance novels."

At this point, I wished I were reading Lizzie's romance novels instead.

Elizabeth Curington says

This is my favorite kind of paranormal story--someone gets mysterious powers and must figure out what to do with them. I enjoyed Emma's stubborn determination to take care of herself and not rely on a boy to rescue her. The conflict that leaves when she is given a Protector builds some nice tension. And the I hate you/I love you, we must be meant for each other is hard for me to swallow, but the love interest angle keeps the plot moving.

The storyline was thin in places: How does a 17 year old keep a PI business running single-handedly? Does her grandmother notice she has left? How much of this Matchmaker history does the family know? Some may be dealt with later but left some serious questions in the meantime.

Overall, a decent first book, and I would read more in this series.

*ARC from NetGalley

Laura Greenwood says

<http://a-reader-lives-a-thousand-live...>

Title: Make Me a Match

Series: The Matchmaker (#1)

Author: Lori Brighton

From: Netgalley

Genre: Urban Fantasy

Release Date: November 2013

Challenges: 2016 Blogger Shame, 2016 Netgalley & Edelweiss Challenge, Summer COYER 2016

Links: Goodreads - Amazon

Synopsis (from Goodreads): Teenager Emma Watts doesn't believe in true love. After all, she's worked for two years in her family's P.I. business catching cheating husband's in the act. Then Owen Emerson arrives (while she's in the middle of a stakeout, no less) claiming Emma has inherited a deceased aunt's ability to supernaturally match soul-mates. Emma wants nothing to do with her aunt's powers, nor with the frustrating and perfectly handsome Owen Emerson. Too bad she's stuck with both for the rest of her life. Owen Emerson is a Protector, a person fated to protect Matchmakers for eternity. A guy who does things by the book, Owen figures he'll rationally explain to Emma her newfound abilities and they can have the professional relationship he'd had with her much older aunt. But as he soon finds out Emma Watts is anything but professional. Fortunately, when she has her first vision matching two friends she has no alternative but to believe Owen's claims. But Owen isn't the only one interested in Emma. When the supernatural world discovers how to exploit Emma's matchmaking abilities for their own, she has no choice but to trust the man who holds her life, and her heart, in his hands.

Make Me a Match is a random pick from my Kindle (it has to happen sometimes when I just can't settle on something to read). It was a good read, though I wasn't blown away by it but it was a solid read and I didn't feel like I didn't want to finish at any time.

The magic system in Make Me a Match was interesting. There was clearly a wider supernatural world out there than there was shown in the book, which was intriguing and well thought out. The two main characters, Emma and Owen, had different types of magic and learning about those was interesting.

One thing I really struggled with was the characters' ages. At the beginning of the book Emma is 17, her sister Lizzie is 16 and Owen is 19. They just all seemed to be more mature than their ages and while I was reading my imagination was making them that bit older. I realise that the three of them went through some rough things to make them that way, but it just didn't gel for me.

While there was a romance between the two lead characters it was only a small part of the story, and they were both ridiculously stubborn on admitting that they liked one another. There were other issues in the way as well and I'm still a little unsure how they were worked out, but it was an interesting twist.

I enjoyed reading, and would be interested in reading more for certain!

Alisha Tarran says

17 year old Emma Watts has lived with her younger sister in their own flat ever since their mother moved to Florida. She pays the bills by being a P.I....which means she takes down cheating husbands for a living. So she doesn't really believe in true love. Her worlds about to change when, in the middle of a stakeout, Owen Emmerson arrives out of the blue claiming she's inherited her deceased Aunt's cottage in France....oh and her power to supernaturally match soul mates. At first Emma doesn't believe, but when you've got Demon's chasing you down, and you find the soul mate for the guy you have a crush on...it's hard to argue. Unfortunately she's stuck with the power and with Owen for the rest of her life.

Owen Emmerson is a protector, he is fated to protect Matchmakers for eternity and when he failed to protect Emma's aunt, who may have been murdered, he then moved on to protecting Emma. Owen's used to dealing with Matchmakers who are much older....they're usually crones after all. So he was seriously wrong in thinking he could have a calm and rational chat explaining Emma's powers to her and then have a professional relationship like he did with her Aunt. That's just not how Emma rolls. When Owen finally gets her to believe, the problems don't end there. The entire supernatural world discovers how to exploit Emma's powers for their own use....including the people supposedly protecting her. Matchmakers aren't supposed to know love, but can Emma and Owen deny their feelings for each other? Who's betraying them?

This was soooo not what I was expecting, for some reason I was expecting some sort of future world or something. Don't ask me why. But I wasn't disappointed at all, in fact Make Me A Match turned out to be a lot better than I was expecting it to be!

I loved Emma straight away, she's the kind of heroine I love, she's sassy, she's strong, she's used to taking care of herself although she does have some heavy emotional issues revolving around love and relationships, but I just loved her and how she handled herself and situations in the book. To me she had a very real quality, and she was very relateable. I mean come on. Who hasn't sat there and despaired about the true love fairy tales promise us, when we see our friends, parents, relations or even celebrities love lives going down the pan, whether due to cheating or not?

Owen was also very likeable, and I'm not saying that because I'm also British I swear! He tries so hard to follow the rules and to stop how he's feeling, and he's so protective of Emma it's sweet! I loved how they slowly got closer, and the attraction was there from the beginning but it was built up as they got to know each other better, and they overcame certain obstacles to the relationship.

The mythology of the Matchmakers and the Protectors was very unique. My faith in this genre has been restored because this is another of many totally unique to the genre books I've read, that is different to anything else. You've got your usual vampires, demons, fairies and so on, but the Matchmakers and Protectors where so unique and so intriguing. I want to know more!

The story is told from both Emma and Owen's point of view, alternating between the two, and as everybody knows, I do love when books do that. I loved seeing Emma's point of view and how she didn't understand Owen or his actions, and then from Owen's point of view you could see he understood why she is like she is, and you could see the reason behind his actions, and you could tell they both liked each other, and why each of them was pulling away and so on, and you just wanted to bang their heads together really!

Make Me A Match drew me in right from the first page, partly because of Emma, I immediately connected with her, and partly because of the situation she was in. From there the story was fast paced throughout, with plenty of angst, romance, mystery and action in the form of fights with demons and so on. Even the supporting characters where well written, and the world building and prose are so good you're sucked right in to the world created by Lori.

If you're looking for a fresh, new and unique subject matter in the Paranormal YA genre...then this is it! The mythology we were told was so unique and rich I need to know more! You won't be able to put it down, and the romance between Emma and Owen will have you going aaawww as much as wanting to slap some sense in to both of them! Now excuse me while I shamelessly beg Lori for a second book....please please please please pretty pleaseeee!
