



# This Time Is Different

*Mae Wood*

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## **This Time Is Different** Mae Wood

Life can change in a flash.

Marriage and a baby wasn't Amy Forsythe's college plan. After a shotgun marriage glued together by her son, she's convinced that love isn't meant for her. Now nearing forty and single for the first time since her senior prom, her friends are pushing her to date. Her teenager isn't thrilled by the idea and neither is Amy.

Silver fox Thomas Popov isn't looking for The One. He found her decades ago. And fell apart when she died. At fifty-three with a new job, a new city, and an empty nest, he's focused on climbing the corporate ladder.

When a softball accident lands Thomas in Amy's dental chair, sparks fly.

Lightning doesn't strike twice. But love might.  
This time is different.

## **This Time Is Different Details**

Date : Published October 12th 2017

ISBN :

Author : Mae Wood

Format : ebook 283 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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## From Reader Review This Time Is Different for online ebook

### Kate Canterbury says

I want you to read this book. Let me tell you why.

First, it's a lovely, emotional story. It's not ugly-cry-emotional but you absolutely feel these characters as they're experiencing each step of the relationship. There's a bit of angst as both Amy and Thomas are caught in precarious situations that they must handle with deference and grace, and that often means setting their own wants and needs aside. That's real life, and it's tough.

Second, the characters themselves are beautifully developed in rich, round ways. You really know them as individuals and part of a couple, and you care about them.

Since the characters are worth another mention, they're my third point. These are mature characters. They've both been married previously and have mostly grown/adult children -- and it's so refreshing to read a book with a healthy co-parenting relationship for once. The evil ex-wife trope is pleasantly absent.

I imagine that many of us will see ourselves in these characters, regardless of whether we're single, married, divorced, widowed, whatever. I recognized some friends/extended family in Thomas's children, and I saw bits of myself in both Amy and her friend Diana.

This story doesn't rely on crazy twists or dramatic revelations to move you along; it focuses on the developments of these characters as they experience something they hadn't planned on experiencing again. There are moments when the developments are quick, and moments when it's more gradual. Again, that's real life.

This novel is a gorgeous treat of second loves, doing it all over again, and trying to find balance or space in your life when it's already full of career, family, and spy movies.

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### KelMelTell BookBlog says

**\*\*4.5 Stars!!\*\***

So, Mae Wood is a new author to me. I saw a teaser for this book, read the blurb and had to have it.

This Time Is Different is a fantastic read for some of us 'older' ladies. This book is a standalone but also ties into her other book, Plus One.

After going through a divorce, Amy is in a great place in her life. She is an orthodontist and shares a practice with her best friend. The day Thomas comes into her office with an emergency visit (he took a bat to his face during a softball game) he is taken by her. Thomas is a widower and in his early 50s. They each have kids and have managed to balance each of their lives raising kids and just simply living life to the best ability.

Thomas, who works for a local hospital asks Amy out on a date. Their relationship is so sweet. They take their time getting to know each other and learn to love again. They have twists and turns with their children adapting to their parents having relationships, but learn to overcome any obstacles.

This story was so sweet. I adored these characters and especially Thomas. He is a true, 'silver fox' and very delectable. Second chance romances exist ladies, and this book helps to celebrate that.

I must say, it is so refreshing to read a book for an over 40 age bracket. Don't get me wrong, I still enjoy and love books with characters in their 20s and 30s. But reading this book without any drama and dealing with real life situations is so relatable!

\*\*An ARC was given for an honest review\*\*

-Mel

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### **Kindling Micky says**

I picked this book up first for the cover, because silver foxes with smiles are a weakness I find I have. Reading the blurb convinced me that this was more than a skin deep interest. THIS TIME IS DIFFERENT was low on angst but full on story with two main characters that I really liked.

Thomas, in his early 50s, widowed some years ago was something of a delight. Not overly perfect and a little under-confident. Amy was a 39 year old orthodontist and she was not looking for anything but really, Thomas was charming in a convincing, swoony way. These two had great chemistry and family complications which made for depth of storyline.

Mae Wood writes a great story and I'm definitely interested to read more by her, especially as I see some of the characters in this book have their own standalones. I particularly want Bert's story. I highly recommend this for a good, easy read when you don't want angst.

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### **Bev says**

A sweet, easy read with no drama at all. At times I found it to be too smooth sailing, with perfect characters that if I'm honest came across a tad flat and didn't hit me in the feels.

I also wanted more for Amy, she totally loved Thomas - he was her one for sure but as he himself said *"There was only one Laurie. A man can only get that lucky once in his life."* I didn't like that for her, she so deserved to be his everything like he was for her.

I'm curious to read Bert's story but if it's going to meander along like this one did I'm not too sure I'm going to jump into it in a hurry. I liked Bert and think he totally got shafted.

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### **Jess F Hey Girl HEA says**

#### **The Silver Fox We've Been Waiting For**

This story is Mae Wood's best one yet! It's a refreshing story with grown-up characters, smart writing, and steam.

As you read, you come to know Amy and Thomas as they reconcile with something they never thought would happen again- falling in love. I loved seeing some of my favorite characters from the Pig & Barley series (hi Bert ?).

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This story is a must read!

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## Laurie says

There are those times when you are reading a book and fall in love with a supporting character because their story is equally intriguing and being in their head is going to be everything. Such was the case of Amy Forsythe, who was introduced in Mae Wood's Plus One, her ex-husband, Bert's own second-chance romance. I am so happy that Amy's story is here and it is nothing short of wonderful. This Time is Different is a book that sings off the page and allows the reader to get lost in its melody that is beautiful.

Very honestly, I am in love with this book, in the month since it first hit my device, I have probably re-read certain parts 3 or 30 more times. That doesn't count the most current re-read which started as I was gathering my thoughts for this review. Chapter one soon became chapter 13 and I am once again pulled into this story of a second-chance love between two grown people who absolutely deserve it. Amy and Thomas' story feels like real life, with dashes of Nora Ephron and Nancy Meyers added for good measure. From the get-go, Amy and Thomas have a chemistry that absolutely beams off the page and warms the very bottom of your heart.

It is hard to describe just how much I adore Amy. She has been a mother, wife and a professional and with her divorce isn't necessarily looking for love, but for a person that shares her passions and doesn't care one whit that she can't cook. But mostly I love this grown-ass woman for being just that – she ended her marriage on her terms and did it in a way that wasn't full of acrimony. No, she doesn't go looking for love, but it finds her in the person of a man who shares her love of mysteries and mob stories. A man who sees her as a woman different as any other.

Thomas Popov might be older, but that certainly does not dull his appeal. A sexy silver fox with a passion for gardening? Um, YES. PLEASE. This man is thoughtful in ways that make your heart skip a beat. He is not new to the art of courting, though maybe a little rusty, it does not show. He sees in Amy the things that make her an ideal partner for this stage of their lives and the things he says and thinks turn the swoon factor to +20.

I may not have done This Time is Different justice, but just know this book is in my heart. It, along with Plus One are in my top books of 2017. Mae Wood has created a world that I love visiting over and over and over and over again. Get both, This Time is Different and Plus One and get ready to fall in love!!

HAPPY READING!!!!

Laurie's Rating: 10+++++ STARS

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## Alex ? says

**4 'older MCs' stars**

**BUT**

**2 'annoying kid Grady' stars**

I absolutely loved the idea of older MCs!

Yeah! Finally slightly older and mature characters. Amazing, that the hero was 53 – there is still life and love after 50! Many times yes!!!

I wish the heroine were older. Her 38 to his 53 felt a bit too young. As if they didn't want to write a woman after 40. Why? 38 is still sexy, but 40 is too old? I wish she were at least 45. Why not?!  
Women at 40 and also at 50 are still sexy and deserve to have a full life!  
They even 'stole' her ability to have more kids, so this topic wouldn't be an issue. Well, it didn't sit well with me.

Overall I enjoyed this book.

It didn't bother me, that he spoke about his love to his deceased wife, she was a mother of their 3 children!  
I didn't have a feeling the h was his 2nd best.

My biggest issue \*seething\* was h's son Grady \*seething\*

Damn, the 'kid' annoyed the living shit out of me.

17 years old and he behaved like 10-year-old boy in puberty; and he was also treated like one.

He called his mother slut...., she slapped him and then *she* felt sorry???

WTF???

She even told sorry to him.... WTF???

This spoiled bratty POS called his mother a slut! She should have slapped him 10 times and 'ground' him for a year.

*Grady this, Grady that. How will Grady feel when I have a new man? Poor Grady. Oh, Grady! How do you feel about it, Grady? What can I do for you, Grady? Shall I wipe your ass, Grady, and then kiss it?*

UGH!!!

Grow the fuck up, Grady!

UGH!!!

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## Ann says

Loved it! Just what I needed. A grown up real life romance. Even though he's 53 and she's 39 it worked for me. I loved that there's a building romance. Not the endless sex scenes from the get go and the word "fuck" used in every other sentence. This romance had some class. It was a smooth read that I didn't want to put down. And I liked the prickliness of the kids...getting to know the new person in their parents life. And for once the ex in this story was a good guy. Pleased to know we get his story. I'll be devouring that book next. This is a new author to me and a great experience. Give me more!

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## Sarah/DragonflyReads says

4.5 stars

I happened upon Mae Wood's Pig and Barley series after my sweet friend Beth of Panda & Boodle reached out, asking if I wanted to review Plus One. I adored Bert's story. When I found out that his ex-wife Amy would be getting her own book, I absolutely jumped at the chance to read it and I'm so glad I did!

This Time is Different starts before Plus One and works it's way into the same timeline. It's a complete standalone, and works well if you haven't read the previous books in the Pig and Barley series.

Amy and Thomas meet during a dental emergency - why does that sound so funny? Thomas gets whacked with a softball bat and needs emergent care, Amy is the only local doctor around. She helps him even though she's an orthodontist. Even when Thomas is under the influence of anesthetic, he is completely drawn to Amy and wants to know more about his *Doctor Dentist Angel*. Thomas goes out of his way to send her tokens of appreciation and thanks and decides to ask her out on a date.

Amy is completely set in her ways. She's got a great schedule at her dental office, her son is about to graduate high school, and she's cordial with her ex-husband. She's not looking for any sort of relationship, but is drawn to Thomas. The two have a nice age gap going on, and Thomas' **#SilverFox** status doesn't hurt one bit.

I absolutely adored this book. I recall a few times saying out loud "**man, I love this story!**" There's something special about an older couple. In this romance world, so many books we read are about twenty-somethings, or people who don't have their lives together. It's nice to read a story where the couple is established singularly, and then we get to experience them blend their lives together. I loved that about this entire series, really. As I stated previously, I started Pig and Barley with Plus One, then This Time is Different. Immediately after finishing Amy and Thomas' story, I started from the beginning with Trip and Marisa. Each story is easy to read, and I enjoyed every word.

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### **Rachel K says**

Not sure about this one. I like the idea of the book, but don't know if I can get past feeling like the heroine is second best.

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### **Mo says**

A bit disappointed, to be honest. They did not come across as an older couple. Especially him. Found him a bit immature at times. I was so excited when I read that the character was 53, older than me (not by much). Maybe my expectations were way too high.

Nice, sexy older man on the cover.

Sorry, I cannot be more enthusiastic about it.

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## Beth ~ Panda & Boodle says

**Happy and bittersweet. This is what it feels like and I'd never had it before. Soul-consuming and utterly transcendent.**

It's not just *this time* that's different—this *book* is different too. In a needed, wonderful way.

It's life after kids and second chances at happily ever after. It's messy relationships and uncertain beginnings—and endings. It's real life in all its imperfect glory, and it's *perfect* because of that.

*This Time Is Different* takes smart, sexy characters—*Gen Xers*—and proves that the dreaded 4-0 doesn't mean that romance is dead. Not when there's a silver fox waiting to charm you.

You guys, THOMAS. I wanna shiver all over just thinking about him—about his kind, happy personality, which has enough hallmarks of alphaness to be downright *hot* without ever getting into OTT territory.

And that's the way of this entire book. Mae Wood brought her A+++ game to this story, lacing humor with heat and real life with romance. It's mature and brilliant and utterly addictive—I was 50% through before I knew it, and though I tried to slow down and savor it, I couldn't stop myself from reading, devouring each and every word.

My only gripe? It's over. I'm finished. *This Time Is Different* has an ending that fulfills and satisfies and rewards, but I have no shame in my greed. I want more. I want six epilogues, two novellas, and a short story. Please and thank you.

But until then, I'll take more books like this one—smart, sexy and imperfectly perfect. (And written by Ms. Wood.)

**And it wasn't just fire in his eyes but an uncontrolled and uncontrollable chemical reaction, burning bright and hot and white like magnesium.**

~ FIVE *Silver Fox* STARS ~

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## Vee Paige says

4.25 I really enjoyed this book! I loved that this couple was mature. I loved the humor. They have successful careers, they already have older kids who are at the age to have their own lives, and I loved the progression of their relationship even how each of their kids reacted to it. What a refreshing change where the heroine isn't suddenly some kind of "earth mother" that makes me roll my eyes. I also liked how they connected with their love for movies and books ... (And I agree with their favorite movie, although I'd categorize it in a genre because I have other favorite movies. ;). I think I connect with the couple because I connect that way with the hubby ... we love action/suspense thriller movies and good food.)

So why not five stars. I wanted a bit more .... I know Thomas loved Amy, but there's that dead wife issue. (view spoiler)

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## **maggieandteddy says**

Great writing. Enjoyed the "older couple". I had NO problem with their age difference. Thomas is a "young" 53 y/o health care executive. Widower (8 yrs prior). 3 grown kids. Amy is 38/39 y/o Orthodontist. Divorcee. 1 son, about to start college. Little to no angst. Except trying to start over without the guilt and pissing off their kids. I really enjoyed this author's writing style. Very smooth flow. Ms Wood knows how to turn a phrase. The entire book is them getting to know each other. No separations. No ow, om drama.

Thomas is in shape, works out & even does yoga. He does like pizza, so he's mortal. In real life, I have to say I bloody sick of grown men that act like babies when they don't get their way or life throws them lemons. Thomas seemed to make lemonade when ever necessary. A real positive guy. It has been 8 yrs since his wife passed away. The love of his life. He meets Amy. By the way, their meet cute was really... cute. This was a nice mild story. No suspense. Just... life. I did think that they both had a LOT of disposable income. They sure did take a lot of holidays, trips and sending kids off to schools and freakin' expensive NYC (one of Thomas' daughters). Oh well, this couple won't be fighting about money. Thomas had his late wife memories. Now he is making new ones with Amy. I don't know if I would want someone new after my husband. I seriously doubt it. It's weird, but i think that he WOULD. I think that he would be too lonely. This story gave me a lot to think about. 1st person POV. alternating every other chapter Amy/Thomas. I got this book thru KU.

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## **Victoria says**

**4.0-4.25 RATING-** A solid romance featuring a 39 year old heroine and a 53 year old hero. Hooray! There's definitely not enough romances featuring older characters at least with the types of books I tend to read and I was happy to spend my Sunday afternoon reading this one!

The writing was good, very readable. There wasn't any over the top drama or problems, nothing manufactured here. Just a realistic depiction of two people meeting and trying to navigate their relationship. There was some funny, some sad... a little bit of everything. We get glimpses into their past but thankfully these are just through each characters thoughts, no flashbacks littered throughout the story. I saw someone mention that there could have been more development and I agree. Because I liked the story so much it might have been nice to not have everything wrapped up so nicely and I would have loved to have spent some more time with these characters but in the end I liked it as written.

This is a new to me author and I was impressed with her story telling. Nothing complex, nothing fancy, just a nice romance which sometimes is just what I want. I definitely plan to read more from her.

Note: At the time this review was posted, this book was available to borrow through Amazon's Kindle Unlimited program.

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