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# Atramentum



## Synopsis

Joss Perrault left Sky, Colorado after high school with no intention of ever returning, but all that changes when she inherits Atramentum. Burned out on public accounting after too many sixteen-hour days, the allure of operating a small, independent bookstore is too tempting to resist, and Joss decides to walk away from the career she spent the last decade building to move back to the resort town high in the Rockies. Cupid strikes as sheâ™s moving into her new place outside Sky and, contrary to popular belief, Cupid has four legs and a tail, hits like a linebacker, and answers to the name George. Before Joss can recover from being tackled by the Great Dane, she finds herself face to face with George's mom, Maeve Dylan. Joss is immediately smitten with her beautiful neighbor, but their conversations walk the line between friendliness and flirtation like itâ™s a tightrope, and Joss is reluctant to do anything that will risk their budding friendship. Thankfully for her, however, George doesn't give up so easily.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When I was typing in the title of the book, I felt like I was entering in my WiFi internet modem password. A....T.....R.....S...Wait, eff! (Backspace)...A...ME...N.....T....UM. You bet I wikipediaed the word, and guess what I found?\*\*Atramentum or atrament, generally means a very black, usually

liquid, substance. For example, an octopus may emit a puff of atrament (see cephalopod ink). In ancient Rome, the term atramentum signified any black colouring substance used for any purpose\*\* Just a guess, I think that MJ Duncan fancies Latin / Ancient words. (Veritas, anyone?) In Atramentum, Atramentum is the name of the bookstore that the lovely protagonist, Joss, inherits from her Aunt Helen. She decides to chuck her lonely life in Los Angeles and her career as a public accountant, for greener pastures (because anywhere is greener than LA) in Sky, Colorado to manage this charming little bookstore. When Joss and Maeve meet, it's almost as cute as the meet-cute in the 101 Dalmatians movie. Animal companions that are determined to play Cupid for their human companions is a recipe for a fantastic story, folks! If only this happened in real life. I tried walking my cat, Marbles once. Unfortunately, this experiment miserably failed. He refused to walk more than two steps, kept rolling around on his back and belly, and I didn't get any numbers! None! The most we got were curious (and sympathetic) stares from passersby. Ah, well. Anyone in LA need a dog-walker? There are not two, but three main characters in this story. George certainly has enough personality to qualify. MJ Duncan, if you ever decide to do a spinoff starring George, I'm there! George helped make this a really delightful read for me. I almost miss her.

Let me start by saying I can't stand romance novels. I find them boring, predictable, mushy, totally unrealistic, so I never ever read them. The mere fact that I'm a woman doesn't mean I am a fan of the "chick flick" scene either. I prefer sci-fi, fantasy, true crime, and ancient and medieval history books. However, I ran across this book to read free on Kindle Unlimited, and as a newly married gay woman who has owned Great Danes for almost 25 years, this book appealed to me "Great-ly." The novel was such a nice surprise, and very different from the romance novels I read in my old college days. I suspect the author must either own a Great Dane or she is very familiar with the breed. In describing the female Dane George in the story, she nails everything about Great Danes and their ways with amazing accuracy, describing her movements, the noises she made, and her behaviors exactly the way Danes typically do things as they go about their daily goofy lives. In my mind's eye, I can picture George lying on my couch next to my two Danes; she was that accurate. The character development of the two central characters, Maeve and Joss, was OK, but the background characters were not well developed at all. The novel was quite good as a whole, but lack of character development was its biggest flaw in my view. Interestingly, I believe George's character was probably the best developed. I didn't mind that, since I am a huge Great Dane person, but that might bother other readers. The central characters Joss and Maeve were of course the most developed of the humans, but even they seemed a bit shallow.

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