



Not Today, But Someday

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In December of 1994, when she was a junior in high school, Emi Hennigan discovered her father's infidelity. Forced to transfer schools mid-year, she wasn't trying to make new friends. In that same month, sophomore Nate Wilson's girlfriend broke up with him. Searching for someone to fill the void left by his first love, he meets Emi in his art class.

Nate knows he wants Emi from the moment he sees her. Emi knows she needs Nate after one night together. A life-long friendship is born, and a pact is made to ensure that nothing will come between them.

This novella is the prequel to the Emi Lost & Found series. After the 3-volume series was published, readers wanted more. This is for them – the story of how Nate and Emi met – and although it's a prequel, it can be enjoyed before or after the series.

Not Today, But Someday Details

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From Reader Review Not Today, But Someday for online ebook

Elizabeth (Liz) says

Not Today, But Someday is a very nice YA prequel, and setup, to the adult contemporary Emi Lost and Found series by Lori L. Otto!

I started with this long novella in order to gain the background and history of the main characters, to understand the foundation of their deep friendship, and I'll be moving on to book one of the ELaF series now, Lost and Found. I love that I've had the opportunity to get to know the young Emi and Nate in high school, the early days of their bond forming, through a sweet, simple and straightforward story written in a lovely, mature voice. Now, I'll have the opportunity to experience their adult relationship.

I'm pretty sure this series is a bit of an emotional ride, with some unexpected events and choices. I'm looking forward to it! On to book one!!

Beatrice ~ Confessions of a Pinay Bookaholic says

I want to thank my friend Jane for giving me this book and of course to Ms. Lori Otto for a signed copy of this prequel. Again, Thank you so much! :">

Not Today, But Someday is the prequel to *Emi Lost & Found* series. Yet, it gave me an emotional rollercoaster. I laughed, cried and feel giddy at the same time. I tell you, it is a GOOD prequel and I'm definitely looking forward to read the rest of the series.

I love the way it's written. It was realistic and pure. I'm very fond of Emi and Nate. Both characters are vulnerable and broken. They shared this *connection* that no one will understand. I love how they help each other in forgiving those people caused an impact, leaving them broken. Gosh, I love them both!

The conversation between Emi and her dad made me emotional. It's one heartfelt conversation. As for Nate, he have this bad boy image with a soft spot. He just made me smile while reading and I can't help it! I'm looking forward to get know them more.

Overall, it's really good. I love both POVs, I can't wait to start the series.

Liz says

5+ Lovingly Connected Stars

Really **LOVED** this story (and it's just the prequel) I cannot imagine how the rest of this series will impact me.

Scared to read the first book. its gonna be a heart-shredding-into-pieces kinda story. I can feel the build up of tears. The simplicity of the connection between the MCs were just magically beautiful.

HIGHLY recommend this book to be read first, as it gives you the foundation of how it all started.

Dirty Dayna says

5 Not today Stars

This is the prequel to the series and serious this is one of the best prequels I have ever run into and I am lucky and got to snag this one for free.

Emi was moved in the middle of her school year after discovering her father cheating in public. She has to transfer school and find something besides chocolate to consume because chocolate reminds her of her father feeding his mistress strawberries and chocolate. After she fights going to school for 4 days she finally goes to school and walks into it blindly. She is not ready to be happy, to find love or even friendship for fear of another betrayal she cant handle.

Nate comes off at the beginning as a little rough around the edges and just floating through campus after his girlfriend left him for his friend.

Emi and her sister have a falling out because her sister comes home and tells her she is pregnant and getting married after 2 months of knowing someone and Emi takes off into the city she doesn't know. Nate tries to find her and figure out what haunts her so besides the color of her eyes. Due to the weather being very bad Nate brings her to his house (or mansion) and they stay up painting and listening to music.

Nate is a wise character and says many profound things while he is still a teenager (so there are those teenagy moments)

Emi and Nate have that perfect friendship and you vie for a perfect relationship Not today, but maybe someday. They make bets against eachother and I love their easy banter. Emi convinced Nate to quit smoking by saying they will have their last smoke together (it was Emis first time) and Emi also bet Nate if they both take a 1.5 year oath of celibacy they may be together. Not today, but maybe someday.

Megan • Reading Books Like a Boss (book blog) says

4 stars

"When love is strong, loves knows no law. Love itself has greater dominion. Earthly rules are of no account. Lovers break them every day. A man must love, even if he strives against it; he cannot escape love, even at the cost of his own life. It may be love for a maid, for a widow, or for a married woman. It does not matter. Love is the law of life itself."

~The Canterbury Tales, Geoffrey Chaucer

I had no idea what Lori Otto's Emi Lost and Found series was about before I jumped into it. I had been told that it would wreck me and then put me back together. And that's all I needed to know. Going in blind seems to work well for me, that way I don't have any expectations and can form all of my own opinions. As I read this series, I am so thankful that I didn't know very much. It allowed me to truly experience the characters, their emotions, and process through all the FEELINGS.

The Emi Lost and Found series has captivated me, held my attention and made my heart burst out of my chest for more reasons than one. I can't get enough of it. This series is without a doubt one of my favorites and I will forever sing its praises. This leads me to my next question: Why isn't everyone reading this series? Seriously.

Not Today, But Someday tells the story of how two of the main characters in the series, Emily "Emi" Hennigan and Nate Wilson, met. When I started reading this book, all of the Emi Lost and Found homies started commenting on my statuses. One of my friends, Marcie, used the word "magic" to describe this series. As of right now, I'm in the middle of book three and I can't think of a better word to describe this series and its characters. It really is magical, raw, and emotional.

Sixteen-year old Emily Hennigan, her older brother, Chris, and mom just moved into an apartment. Her mother and father recently divorced after Emi caught her father cheating while she was out with her friends. This event sort of scarred Emi for life and tainted her view on love. Emi meets Nate Wilson during her first day at her new school in art class and these two have a connection immediately. It was in no way instalove, but you could tell that there was something very special between them.

Nate Wilson is very different from Emi in some ways but very similar in others. He is very wealthy and lives in a ~~compound~~ mansion. But it's he and Emi's love for art that bring them together. Emi is an aspiring graphic artist and Nate is an artistic child prodigy. He has his own art room where he will lock himself away for hours and deprive himself of sleep in order to put his emotions on canvas.

"She built the art room for me. It's probably my favorite place in the world. It's not just the room I learned to become an artist in. It's the room that taught me how to feel. It's the room where I discovered who I was."

Right before meeting Emi, Nate's first girlfriend dumps him, leaving him with a jaded view on love. It's their mutual hatred of love that bond Emi and Nate together. As they spend more time together and get to know each other on a deeper level, the magic happens. I know what you're thinking - seriously? magic. Yes, people, magic.

Within this novella, Otto uses *The Canterbury Tales* to pull the series together. Emi and Nate are given an assignment for English class in which they portray characters from the novel. I don't want to say too much for fear of spoilers. As I've read majority of the series at this point, I can understand the deeper meaning. According to Lori Otto's website, you can read the novella first or last. I chose to read it first, but now that I've read more the series, I am going to go back and reread the novella in the end.

Lori Otto creates these beautiful moments between Emi and Nate. I was hooked on Emi and Nate after this novella. Both of them had dealt with some heavy issues at a young age, which led to some deep discussions between the two of them. Even then, they both made each other better people and challenged each other. Their friendship was very mature for their age, which was something was really appealing to me as a reader.

"What do you want?"

"I want whatever won't hurt me. I want whatever leaves me whole, and keeps my faith in the belief that bad things don't happen to good people."

"But they do," Nate says. "That's inevitable."

"Well, there's fate that intervenes, and then there's humanity. There are people who fuck up. Who choose to do that. People who make a conscious decision to hurt another person."

"Which one do you think happened to my dad?"

"Fate," I answer quickly.

After finishing the novella, I wanted to know what adulthood held for them. Were they still friends? Were they more than friends? This prequel set the perfect foundation for book one, *Lost and Found*. I knew the

characters more and could understand their motivations and reasons behind their actions.

**I received a copy from the author in exchange for an honest review*

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Allen Grace says

"Have you ever been in love, Emi?"

"I don't think so."

"Then this is a real shame," he tells me.

"What is?"

"You've never been in love. You don't want to be in love. How does one live their life without love?"

"So you were in love with that girl?"

"No," he says. "I thought I was, but no."

"Then have you ever been in love?"

"I'm not sure," he answers and his eyes linger on mine just long enough to make my heart skip a beat.

"But I want to be."

Oh. Mah. Gah.

I don't think I'm capable to write a completely lucid book review that will convince people to read it. I just don't think words can do it justice. **I loved this book.** I wish I could explain it to you in a way that you will truly understand and see it differently.

Do you ever get stuck in a book you find it hard to move on and get your act together? Seriously, don't feel bad because I feel it too. This book makes me think of warm mornings, pancakes and hot coffee. It's undeniably refreshing as it is tasteful. I just love how it's written, I love how the author's choice of words left me reeling, and begging for more, I love how everything had become insanely real all of a sudden I felt the elation give way to a small squirm of pleasure here and there as I worked my way out through the midst of proverbial drums and subtle variations of each structured sentence.

Without further ado, let me start with the main characters and get you trapped into their little "arty" world, and maybe lead you on, tease you a little, among other things.

[image error]

I want whatever won't hurt me. I want whatever leaves me whole, and keeps my faith in the belief that bad things don't happen to good people.

Emily Hennigan is a refreshing character. She has a knack in graphic designing and dabbles a bit in painting. She has this reddish blonde hair that caught Nate's attention but her eyes are the first thing that he notices and he feels instantly connected with her. She's feisty and yet absolutely charming. She's a pathological pessimist, and yet idealistic which I found a little obscure but I can relate to her in some ways, she has a good taste in music (ehem, Radiohead), it made me think of my teenage hipster days, though. Her consequential ideals about love and romance and other whatnot, some of it are relatable. She's a girl with so much passion and hope and dreams about life until she caught her father cheating, all of those romantic notions of love in her mind had become totally passé. She made a promise to herself that if she falls head-over-heels in love, it should only happen once.

[image error]

"I think that love is greater than us all. Sometimes, it traps people, and holds them, frozen in time... for weeks, or months, even years."

Nathan Wilson is not your ordinary guy in a leather jacket and scuffed-up boots. While there's something admittedly sexy about him he's more than a pretty face, really. I found myself perfectly drawn to his character because he thinks and sees things differently having a mind of an artist. He's particularly keen on exquisite and intricate details just about anything. Painting is his way of expressing himself. He also smokes cigarettes constantly, he likes being alone, he prefers his own solitude ever since his father had died in a car accident months ago. At a young age, he realized that life is too fleeting you can barely hold it with your bare hands, let alone control it.

This is a nice prequel, a wonderful prelude to the Emi Lost & Found Series. It is like a prelude to a song, a kiss waiting to happen, there's a promise of things to come, a show of intent and longing. This book captured my heart in more ways than one. I admire the writing, the words, the flow of the story, it's too much I just can't put enough emphasis into it. I loved the feeling that came over me when I finished reading it, one that I've never experienced for a long time now. I connect with this book, with the characters, deeply and instantly, as if I have known them like they are my own to keep.

What I know about love, I know in detail, given the fact that I read a lot of books in contemporary romance genre but my view about the whole context is not that expansive. This book made me realize that none of us are good judges about love because sometimes we fall in love and then later on we don't. Love is a complex feeling, and yet a powerful one. You don't get to judge someone's feelings based on your own perspective.

I loved Emi and Nate's intense conversations, there's also a discourse between them, an intellectual connection I never think could be possible. I loved how they continuously inspire each other. I got a little carried away with their friendship that I couldn't help myself but wonder if they will end up together in the end or not. This book rocked me so powerfully I had deliberately stopped from reading for a few seconds and took a deep breath, letting the dawning truth arrive, filling me slowly and steadily. It was too much to take on board in one go. Nevertheless, I fell in love with the characters and their life's aspirations. I still do.

I have yet to read the series, though, and I can barely wait to begin discovering their secrets, and see how it turns out. This book is definitely a must read!

[image error]

I'd pray to whomever I needed to, but above all, I'd fight for her. Not today, but someday, I will fight for her. I'll play by her rules. I know that I need her. I think that I love her. I know what I have to do. When she's ready for love, I'll fight for her.

Soundtrack of the day: **No One Like You** by *Best Coast*

Gina Valdez says

Don't read this review if you haven't read the Lost and Found Series. I was fortunate enough to not have heard or read any spoilers and was able to enjoy the series to the fullest extent emotionally.

This is the innocent beginning of Nate and Emi. It serves as a background to how their bond formed and you are able to see how fond they were of each other even back in the beginning. The story is full of hope and promise. Even the title hints to greater things to come. However, I have to say this book just left me sad. It was as if I dusted off an old VHS tape and proceeded to watch someone I loved who was no longer in the world. My mind could not think of the hope and the promise of Nate and Emi. I know what happens. Perhaps I should just be happy that they did find love in the end, Nate's end. Much like life, you always long for the "what might have been". I miss Nate. :(

Peach says

SHOOT! That was it? No effing way!

That was my initial reaction the moment I realized that I had read the last word in the book.

It left me hanging and feeling deprived. I was craving for more.. I still am. Gawd, I am in love with this book! :)

That is why I am going to start reading "Lost and Found" already. As in, right now!

P.S. To all the people who recommended this book to me.. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! More books like this for us to read. Cheers! ;)

Lydia H says

I will start off by saying that even though the PREQUEL, *Not Today, But Someday*, was written AFTER the *Emi Lost & Found Series* was released, you should definitely read it BEFORE book one, *Lost & Found*. In my opinion, it will allow you to connect more with the characters. At least, that's how *I* feel.

"I believe you can love more than one person in a lifetime, Emi." - Nate

Nate and Emi. *sigh* Two broken kids that couldn't have found each other at a more perfect time... Emi was dealing with the divorce of her parents, trying to adjust to all the changes in her life. While Nate, was still coping with his fair share of emotional baggage. They were just what each other needed. Since day one, in Art class, they had an instant connection - they just *clicked*. Emi and Nate quickly developed a *truly amazing* friendship... the type that lasts a lifetime.

"You're crazy, Em."

"Then I'm perfect for your weird. I see the beginning of a long, crazy, weird friendship."

"I couldn't have said it better myself."

"You know more about me than anyone else I know."

Not Today, But Someday was phenomenally written. I absolutely LOVED Lori Otto's writing style. It was just so natural and flowed perfectly. A huge plus for me was the fact that this novella was written in dual POV - Nate and Emi's. I instantly connected with both characters and quickly fell in love with them. You get first hand how both of them feel every step of the way. Even though they make a pact to just stay friends, (in order to avoid eventually hurting each other) you just *know* that since practically day one, Nate wants *more*. So does Emi, but her parent's situation has her feeling scared and the last thing she wants is to lose that one person that makes her feel whole.... *Nate*.

*"...patience is what will bring Emi to me, the man who will love her best...
Someday."*

And so, their journey begins...

Daniela (Lost in a Book Blog) says

Updated review:

My second time reading this book and seriously.. wow. You know that feeling, when you're reading a book that's so good, you're actually falling in love with with it? Well, I've fallen in love with the book TWICE.

This time, I understood some things I hadn't seen the first time I read it.

First. Emi's situation with her dad and their relationship. After reading NTBS I got to see Emi from a new perspective and it's easier to understand her decision knowing everything that happened here. Her dad let her down, he broke a promise to her and her family, but I believe that all she went through with her dad, what he told her about how he felt... It helped her get through everything she had to face later in life. But you know, I believe she didn't actually understand her dad's feelings until she found herself falling in love with another guy who wasn't the one she thought was her soulmate. What she went through with her dad made her stronger and made her believe in second chances.

Second. Nate. Of course I had to say something about Nate. His words, his feelings, his way of being. He's so passionate. I've read a lot of books with passionate characters, how they feel and what they say... But Nate? Yeah, he wins. Hands down. I just love how he loves Emi, how he would do anything to make her happy, to make her smile. From day one, she became his life. He adored her. I could feel that adoration without effort.

My god, I just love this book. The series. And Lori. And Nate. And Emi.

<3

This entire series is beautiful. It breaks my heart every time I think about it, but it also makes me happy. Very, very happy.

You should probably finish the series before you read this! Especially if you are a Nate fan :). This makes up for everything, I promise.

Wow! I can't believe how happy this book has made me, especially since I've been so sad with all that happened on book 1 and 2. I had a smile on my face while I was reading this, but I guess that's what Nate does! :):):):) I was dying to read this. This was going to bring Nate back. So, thank you, thank you, thank you!!!! Because it totally did. <3

This book describes how Emi and Nate met and how they became friends. They were both going through some difficult situations, but somehow, they found each other. Nate was what Emi needed, and Emi was what Nate needed. I loved how comfortable they were with each other, even from the first time they met. It was easy for them, they could relate, they found truth and love in each other. **I just LOVED it.**

Nate, oh Nate. How I've missed you. It's not fair this book is so short. But then again, I would read a single page just to have Nate back. Here you see how he meets Emi, how he starts to like her and how he falls in love with her. Just in a matter of days, but it doesn't really matter, because what he feels for Emi is completely true and different. She inspires him. She makes him a better person. And he makes her a better person too.

"For the first time in my life, I understand what people mean when they talk about artists having their muses. Maybe she's mine."

So, after reading all the books and some posts on Lori Otto's page, I understand that maybe, in the story, Nate wasn't Emi's "soulmate". But, I have a hard time accepting it, so... to me he'll always be her soulmate. And she'll always be his :). And that's that.

"Not today, but someday, I will fight for her. I know what I have to do. When she's ready for love, I'll fight for her."

I'm sure I'll read this particular book and Lost & Found again in the future. I loved them that much.

Jellyace says

5 f**king Stars!!! God, I love Nate. And the mere fact that he's a Nirvana fan almost made me fainnnntttt!!!

Megan McCooey says

Not Today, But Someday... is NOT what you should be saying if you haven't read Not Today, But Someday!!

As the true YA book whore I am, I must say I am IN LOVE with Emi and Nate!! I read this book in one sitting... started it in the morning over coffee and finished it before closing my eyes last night... and I worked 9 hours in between there as well.. it was a fast, engaging, enthralling read. I loved the relationship between Nate and Emi, I loved them individually, I loved their banter and their quirkiness.

I loath spoilers so I don't want to say too much about the story in general, because it's one where you can easily spoil the fun without trying. SO what I will say is the issues within the story are real, with real consequences that so many families today face. Divorce and infidelity are on the rise and it's often the children who pay the highest price... this is a lesson Emi knows all too well. I think Lori created special characters and an engaging plot. Her gift of storytelling is exceptional and left me turning page after page without realizing I had nearly reached the end within hours... I went to bed last night elated that there were 3 more books in this series, this being the prequel... which meant, I had just begun getting to know Nate and Emi. This morning, my coffee hadn't even finished brewing and I was already buying the series....

I can hardly wait to dive in and read the next 3 books... I have seen tidbits from the descriptions of each of the books in the series and was excited when I realized this story follows Emi into her adult life.... Eek, cue the giddy, squeaky adolescent in me!

I highly highly recommend Not Today, But Someday by Lori L. Otto - YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED!!

Stephanie says

Lori Otto..you amaze me amaze me beyond amaze!! I have never loved any book/Series as much as I now do love this one! I want to be your drug pusher, I want to force everyone if I could to pick up this series and read it, Yes you will cry, you will feel emotions you did not even think possible, but what you do walk away with is, a story that touches your heart, soul, and leaves you breathless, begging for more, your an evil genius! How can I move on from Nate & Emi, I just simply can not!! I already miss them, I want it to keep going on, who cares I went through half a roll of tissue, make up smeared down my face as my family thinks, I am a lil bit Looney!! It was one amazing beautiful story!! screw the 5 stars it needs 10 plus...!!!

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

4.5 STARS

This is possibly the best prequel I've ever read.

Not Today, but Someday tells the story of how Emi Hennigan and Nate Wilson first met. It's 1995, and both are in high school. After publicly discovering her father's infidelity, Emi and the rest of her family relocate and she's forced to transfer schools, landing at the high school Nate goes to. Around the same time, Nate's girlfriend breaks up with him and he's left feeling empty and at a loss. These two people who are completely different from each other meet and in an almost transcendent but believable way, connect with each other.

I love how REAL this story is, and how well Emi and Nate complement each other. After catching her father cheating, Emi turns cynical and scoffs at the idea of love. Never expecting betrayal from the one closest to her, Emi fears getting hurt and believes that love isn't enough.

"I want whatever won't hurt me. I want whatever leaves me whole, and keeps my faith in the belief that bad things don't happen to good people."

Nate, on the other hand, is a romantic at heart and firm believer that everything happens for a reason. He's patient, thoughtful, and just wise beyond his years.

"You have to have a little faith. Maybe not today...but someday."

Another part of the book that stood out to me was Nate's art. I love how it wasn't just a hobby; his passion for art and his paintings are an extension of himself, and his way of communicating & reaching out to others.

The writing is just flawless. Technically speaking, this book is categorized as YA, and books in that genre tend to bore me or piss me off with character immaturity but neither happened with this story. There's a depth and quality to this book that many prequels, heck, even full length novels lack.

The only reason I didn't give it 5 stars is because it took me a couple of chapters to connect with Emi's character. She's feisty and stubborn as a mule, which are admirable characteristics and totally understandable given her recent family dynamics.

The book ended on a very high note, and it really does what a prequel should do: it provided me some important background information about Emi and Nate's early friendship and prepared me for what I just *know* will happen in the trilogy.

"I know what I have to do. When she's ready for love, I'll fight for her."

Note: Although this is a prequel, you can read it before or after finishing the trilogy. However, I highly

recommend reading this story first. It really sets up the premise of the series and explains more about Emi and Nate's characters.

Rebecca says

This book is the prequel to the lost and found series. I have had this series on my tbr for awhile and finally decided I was going to dive right in.

Let me just say, if the rest of the series is as good as the prequel I am in for a treat.

Emi, her mom, and her brother have just moved, which means a new school in the middle of the school year. Emi feels lost and is most definitely not happy about the move. Everything she thought she knew in her life has been turned upside down and she doesn't know how to deal. That is until she is seated beside Nate Wilson in art class. There is a friendship and a bond that is formed that seems unbreakable.

Nate is somewhat of a bad boy. Leather jacket, sleeping around, smokes, and drives fast. However, he too seems lost. Nate is different, very mature for his age, unsure where he fits. He thinks he has things somewhat figured out until Emi. She changes him, she changes EVERYTHING.

I cannot wait to read the rest of this series. As this only laid the ground work of Nate and Emi in the beginning, I am dying to see where their story takes us. My heart is already racing and my stomach feels tight with dread, hoping it there is no heartbreak! Me thinks this will be an angsty series!

I can't wait to read about their someday.
