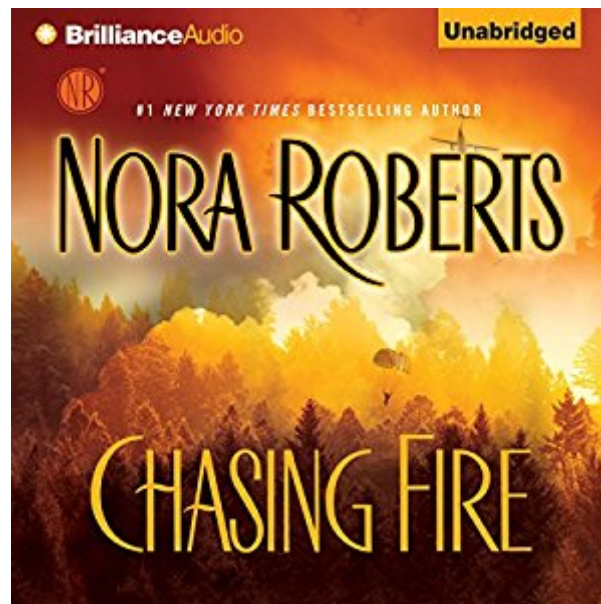


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# Chasing Fire



## Synopsis

Little else in life is as dangerous as fire jumping. Flying past towering pillars of smoke, parachuting down to the edge of an all-consuming blaze, shoveling and sawing for hours upon hours, days at a time, all to hold the line and push back against the raw power of Mother Nature. But there's also little else as thrilling - at least to Rowan Tripp. The Missoula smoke jumpers are one of the most exclusive firefighting squads in the nation, and the job is in Rowan's blood: her father is a legend in the field. She's been fighting fires since her eighteenth birthday. At this point, returning to the wilds of Montana for the season feels like coming home - even with reminders of the partner she lost last season still lingering in the air. Fortunately, this year's rookie crop is among the strongest ever - and Gulliver Curry's one of the best. He's also a walking contradiction, a hotshot firefighter with a big vocabulary and a winter job at a kids' arcade. He came to Missoula to follow in the footsteps of Lucas "Iron Man" Tripp, yet he's instantly more fascinated by his hero's daughter. Rowan, as a rule, doesn't hook up with other smoke jumpers, but Gull is convinced he can change her mind. And damn if he doesn't make a good case to be an exception to the rule. Everything is thrown off balance, though, when a dark presence lashes out against Rowan, looking to blame someone for last year's tragedy. Rowan knows she can't complicate things with Gull - any distractions in the air or on the ground could be lethal. But if she doesn't find someone she can lean on when the heat gets intense, her life may go down in flames.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 15 hours and 9 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Brilliance Audio

Audible.com Release Date: April 12, 2011

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B004W5KFZO

Best Sellers Rank: #40 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Romance > Suspense #138

in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Romance > Contemporary #1231 in Books > Romance >

Romantic Suspense

## Customer Reviews

Well - I remember last year when Nora Roberts's *The Search* came out there were several reviews complaining that it was an overly long dog training manual. At the time I thought it was kind of harsh because I LOVED the dogs and the descriptions of dog interaction. This book, in a similar vein, is obviously heavily researched, this time in the topic of "Smoke Jumping." Much like *The Search*, there is a huge amount of information dump on the reader concerning the professional career of the main female character. The training, the equipment, fire after fire in various locations where they do things like stamp out spots and fight the head. I don't know about everybody else, but for me it made the book overly long and in parts tedious. For me the difference between this book and *The Search* is I like dogs. The subject matter here didn't interest me nearly as much. There were many points where I was just like "Yeah, Yeah jump out of the plane, more burning trees" click click click on the eReader next page button trying to get past it. Once, I almost missed a near death experience because of it. The good part. I really liked both the main characters in this novel, in spite of their really odd names. Rowan is smart, independent and strong and she isn't afraid to be in charge. Gull is tough, intelligent, well read and between the two there is a banter of word play that is quite amusing to read. I wish that would could have had about 50% less forest fire education and much more relationship between the two because they were just the type of characters that you like to read.

Rowan Tripp loves being a smoke jumper and fighting fire with her fellow jumpers. But this year things are different. Last season her jump partner died in a fire and his death is not so easy to deal with. And then there's Gull Curry, a rookie smoke jumper, who seems to be seriously interested in Rowan. Normally she doesn't mix work and play but Gull is not that easy to discourage and pretty tempting. When a murder happens and Rowan is in danger, she realizes that maybe leaning on Gull and letting him into her life might be not such a bad idea. Will Rowan and Gull's relationship make it through the fire season and will they be able to stop the murderer before he kills one of them? When I get a new book by Nora Roberts I always feel a bit like a kid in a candy store. She is my favourite author and once again created an amazing novel. "Chasing Fire" is about a group of smoke jumpers and after reading the book I think that what they do is amazingly brave and absolutely crazy. At first I needed some pages to get into the language used between the smoke jumpers because it's a bit different from Nora Roberts's usual style (there's a lot of ribbing and the tone between the jumpers is casual and blunt). But after the first ten pages I appreciated the way the book is written because I felt that it fit to the smoke jumpers and the constant danger they are in. I loved reading about the main characters Rowan and Gull. Rowan is strong woman, she is hard but also fair. She is a good

trainer and team leader. I loved the scenes in which she trained the new smoke jumpers. The way she supported them and joked with them was admirable. Gull is a hero after my own heart.

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