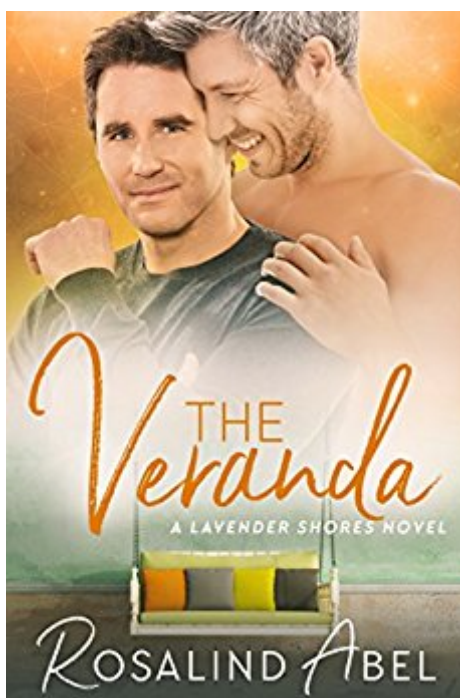


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The Veranda (Lavender Shores Book 3)



Synopsis

Donovan Carlisle helps countless people in Lavender Shores with his skills as a therapist. It seems, however, that his ability to enable others to live their happiest life only works outside of himself. Donovan truly loves his life, but isn't able to find a relationship that satisfies his heart's craving. Maybe the problem is that the only man he wants is off-limits. Spencer Epstein came to Lavender Shores to find himself. Instead, he married one of the local town beauties. He'd thought his prayers had finally been answered. Then, he met his pregnant fiancé's brother. It turned out those answered prayers were just cruel twists of fate. A decade later, after a divorce and the crumbling of all Spencer thought was set in stone, he sees his brother-in-law at a masquerade sex party. He takes full advantage of the anonymity and acts on the desires he's held at bay all those years. The problem is, those silent and frenzied moments didn't satiate anything. The fire and heat between the two men only grows as secrets are uncovered and they must determine if the cost of their passion is too high...(Now contains Lavender Shores maps and family trees.)

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is one of those series that just keeps getting better. With this book, the focus shifts to Donovan Carlisle, Lavender Shores resident psychiatrist, and Spencer Epstein. Spencer and Donovan have feelings for each other, although neither knows about the other. They can't act on those feelings because Spencer was married to Donovan's sister, Erica. I'll give you a minute and let that sink in. I had to read that line a couple of times just to overcome my surprise. Talk about juicy. And it only gets better from there. Their relationship is almost soap operatic by nature and necessity. Lavender Shores is a small town where everyone literally knows everyone. There's a certain amount of sneaking around that is required in order for them to be together. Spencer doesn't want to hurt his kids, and Donovan doesn't want to hurt his sister. This all works great, until it begins to put a strain on their relationship, as secrets often do. And, as with every good soap opera romance, once the secret comes out, it does so with rather explosive results. Although, I was fully expecting Erica to react one way and was pleasantly surprised to find she didn't. I love this series because it does a great job of mixing high drama with an almost fairy tale setting, focusing on one location within Lavender Shores. This time around, it's Donovan's veranda, or front porch. Hence the book's title. Now, you wouldn't think there would be anything magical about a front porch. But you'd be wrong. Like the other books, this porch, or Veranda, is a peaceful setting, a place Donovan can go to in order to relax and unwind, to rid himself of worries of the day. I also love this series because of the large cast of characters. In less capable hands, I would fear a cast this size of becoming unruly. Have no fear, even though the cast of Lavender Shores is large, each book focuses on a select few, just the ones integral to the story. But for those curious about the Lavender Shores cast, an appendix has been added to this book that may be useful to new readers coming in with this book or readers of the previous two that want a refresher on the who's who.

The first two stories set in Lavender Shores set the stage for this emotionally charged novel. Spencer and Donovan have been stuck in a painful dance of longing for years. The story started out in a seemingly impossible scenario, but soon the pieces began to fall into place. Spencer's experience was a breath of fresh air and I loved how he embraced it. And Donovan surprised me (ahem, suits) in his response to Spencer. It's difficult to write this review without too many spoilers, but suffice it to say I was delighted with *The Veranda*. I wish I had my own veranda! Looking forward to more stories from the always-entertaining Rosalind Abel!

I couldn't help but feel so much for Donovan and Spencer. They so deserve the happiness they work to find together. This is such a real story with raw emotions and hits hard on the wait and journey to find your way to true love. This story was so well written and I got drawn in from the first page. Wonderful characters mixed with sweet moments, sexy times & banter makes it a fantastic addition to the series. Five sexy suits

Wow, just wow! This series is just getting better with every one it seems! This one just hit me right in the feels! I swear I say this with each one, but this one is now my favorite! These two just caught my heart and just did not let go.

Another delightful installment in the Lavender Shores world! And there was something especially heartwarming in Donovan & Spencer's story. I'm really enjoying this series, and each story is better than the last. Each couple faces very real and possible hurdles on their journey to their HEA. Come visit Lavender Shores, you won't be sorry!

Every book in this series is better than the last. Great depth of characters, the melancholy of loving someone for ten years and never be allowed to tell or touch, and the joy of finally getting a chance. Loved everything about it. And OMG lawyers in suits!

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