

## **Romance and Suspense Romance:**

*The Hotel Riviera* by Elizabeth Adler

I am traveling abroad with Elizabeth Adler this summer. Great light read for the summer.

*The House in Amalfi* by Elizabeth Adler

Pleasure to read. Good author, great descriptions. You experience the location, even the food.

*Invitation to Provence* by Elizabeth Adler

I always enjoy Ms. Adler's books. They are romantic, light reading with a little mystery.

*Heart of a Husband* by Kathryn Alexander

This is a love inspired book not a Harlequin Romance. No sex. Just a good romance. I enjoyed reading it.

*My Sunshine* by Catherine Anderson

Loved the book. I will read other books by this author.

*I Took My Love to the Country* by Margaret Culkin Banning

O.K. I would not recommend it.

*Every Move She Makes* by Beverly Barton

I did not enjoy this book. For me, it started off bad and kept going. I probably wouldn't read any other books by this author.

*Just Rewards* by Barbara Taylor Bradford

This is the story of Linnet O'Neil. The family has owned a store or rather a series of stores called Hartes. It is also a family saga going back to her Great-Grandmother. Very interesting story.

*Flashpoint* by Susanne Brookmann

Fast paced action from page 1. Interestingly developed characters. Plots and subplots catching – great read, can't put it down.

*The Fifth Daughter* by Elaine Coffman

I can see and feel how the fifth daughter feels because I was a middle child and dealt with some of the same things even though I was not a fifth daughter.

*Grand Man* Catherine Cookson (audiotape)

As she always does, Cookson weaves an exciting story with many characters and with many intrigues along the way. She gives glimpses into the different personalities and delights including synchronicity as an important factor. The voice on the tapes were quite believable.

*Undead and Unreturnable* by Mary Janice Davidson

"Cute" story about vampires. Like Janet Evanovich stories with quirky characters except lead characters are the undead.

*Flirting with Pete* by Barbara Delinsky

- This was a sad tale of a lonely girl raised by a single mother (who is comatose in the novel) trying to find out about her father who knew of her existence; but chose to have nothing to do with her. She ends up happily married to the gardener of the house her deceased father left her.
- Good light reading. Good love story with some mystery also. All in all a good summer read.

*Passions of Chelsea Kane* by Barbara Delinsky

Good plot but strung out unnecessarily. Sex scenes very graphic and too numerous. Neatly tied up at the end – Hollywood!

*Carolina Isle* by Jude Deveraux

Good read.

*First Impressions* by Jude Deveau

A single mother in her teens was kicked out of her family after a rape. She was taken in by an elderly, wealthy woman who learned to love her and her daughter. Years later the woman left her Farrington Manor, her beautiful home in NC. Also coming into her life were mystery, fortune and 2 bachelors to juggle along with her spoiled daughter and son-in-law whom she doesn't like. Enjoyable reading.

*A Knight in Shining Armor* by Jude Deveau

This was a good read. Could not figure out the message until I read the author's last chapter.

*The Carousel* by Richard Paul Evans

Light reading romance story – Good 'nuggets' of thoughts begin each chapter. Just profound enough to make the book a worthwhile afternoon's read.

*The Sunflower* by Richard Paul Evans

Good quick summer read-for a day at the beach or pool. A "G" rated version of a romance novel.

*A Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg (audio book)

A wonderful, simple story read with a big heart by its author Fannie Flagg.

*Shem Creek* by Dorothea Benton Frank

Great book! I will read all her books.

*A Bride Most Begrudging* by Deanne Gist

I did enjoy this book starting with the kidnapping, his bereavement, liberation from his past and how they both seem to bring everything together.

*Adverbs* by Daniel Handler

I much prefer this author when he's writing as Lemony Snicket. This book felt like he was trying way too hard to be clever. He goes a bit overboard.

*Magic Hour* by Kristin Hannah  
Very nice book. Super interesting.

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An interesting read about the relationship between a found wild-child and her psychologist. I could have done without the Harlequin romance plot, but it was a quick summer read.

*The Rescuer* by Dee Henderson  
Nice closer to the O'Malley Series. Very inspirational. Reminds you a person can lead a fulfilling life even with a handicap.

*Fair is the Rose* by Liz Curtis Higgs  
Unlike some sequels the story line remains strong and keeps it vibrant and makes you read on. I was sad when it ended in the middle of the story.

*Thorn in My Heart* by Liz Curtis Higgs  
It was an awesome novel. I couldn't put it down.

*Texas Rifles* by Elmer Kelton  
Kelton really is a great western author. This is a very emotional book. At times it brought tears to my eyes.

*The Mermaid Chair* by Sue Monk Kidd  
Enjoyable book – interesting - was as good as the first book – *The Secret Life of Bees*.

*Even Now* by Karen Kingsbury  
Very good. Good author.

*The Big Gamble* by Michael McGarrity  
Very enjoyable romance – mystery. Couldn't put it down from the first page to the last. Great strong characters.

*Sweetgrass* by Mary Alice Monroe

Another charming story about the "Low Country" and its historic offerings of sweetgrass used to make beautiful baskets. I can relate to these although I've only made two. An entwinement of 2 families – black & white, the growing up of children along with secrets - keep the reader's interest.

*Last Voyage of the Valentina* by Santa Montefiore

This book presents a good premise for a mystery but the author relies too much on the main character's relationships in providing the intrigue. There is more romance here than substance.

*Sam's Letters to Jennifer* by James Patterson

- Great book. A grandmother's letters to her granddaughter. They span the life of the grandmother with a lot of secrets only the grandmother knows. At last a happy ending for a James Patterson book.
- I've always enjoyed Patterson's mysteries but his love stories are even better. Excellent read, not too sappy. A great love story from a grandparent to a grandchild. I didn't want the story to end.

*Suzanne's Diary for Nicholas* by James Patterson

Excellent love story! Very captivating. I did not want to put it down.

*A Time to Forgive* by Marta Perry

This is the kind of romance novel I enjoy. Spiritual and not a bunch of explicit sex.

*The Empty House* by Rosamaunde Pilcher

Her writing is easy to read and enjoyable.

*The Wild Child* by Mary Jo Putney

Interesting historical romance where a seemingly mute, emotionally damaged woman gradually emerges from her shell.

*Second Sight* by Amanda Quick

I thought it was a very interesting book. A love story but also about the paranormal. I did enjoy it though.

*Angels All Over Town* by Luanne Rice

Enjoyable – hard to believe it's her first.

*Stone Heart* by Luanne Rice

Addresses a sad commentary on the subject of spousal/family abuse. Don't read it if you are depressed.

*Summer of Roses* by Luanne Rice

- Enjoyed this book. Heartwarming – fast paced. Insight on family abuse.
- Great sequel to *Summer's Child...* Enjoyed the book. Interesting to find out about emotional spousal abuse.

*Summer's Child* by Luanne Rice

Great book...just enough mystery to it. but not 'heart stopping' and clean – no cussing. Off to get the sequel – *Summer of Roses*.

*Vanished* by Karen Robards

I enjoyed the book very much. The two main characters starting out as best friends over her abducted daughter and ending up lovers after 7 years. Also the twists and turns and the happy ending.

*Birthright* by Nora Roberts

My first Nora Roberts read and what a disappointment. The characters were poorly developed and the plot was more suited for a movie than a novel.

*Born In Fire* by Nora Roberts

A good romance story. Showing how two people met who were so opposite yet love prevailed.

*Montana Sky* by Nora Roberts

This brought together a family of three daughters who had the same wealthy father but different mothers. Filled with a lot of suspense because of a murdered husband of one of girls.

*Sanctuary* by Nora Roberts

This was the first one of her books I read. The setting is on an island off the SC coast. The mystery and romance kept my attention and was good all the way.

*Blaze* by JoAnn Ross

This book was about a woman fire fighter who lost her fiancé in a fire. She spends the next 2 years trying to solve how he had died. The ending is a real surprise.

*Impulse* by JoAnn Ross

Suspense novel. The setting is present day in Hazard, Wyoming. Characters include a sheriff, serial killer, radio station staff, Olympic skating contender and university staff and student.

*Safe Harbour* by Danielle Steel

Romance and a story of sadness and of people picking up the pieces and making do the best they can. A warm and caring story.

*The Widow* by Anne Stuart

I liked the way the reporter broke through the "Ice Princess" trying to get his story but in the end the way he gave it all up in the name of love.

*Wild Winds* by Janelle Taylor

A thrilling "old west" novel involving bandits, a US Marshall and of course a female private detective with whom he becomes involved for business and pleasure. A bit of the action is in question about being legal or not legal, but a happy ending.

*Swans Way* by Becky Lee Weyrich

I enjoyed this very much. Being transported into the past and back to the present and finding out in the end who she really is. And finally finding her true love. The sad part was that in the present they both died.

*Along Came Trouble* by Sherryl Woods

It was nice to read about a love that lasted since grade school even if she married the wrong man and then realized after 6 years and a murder that they were still in love.

*Amazing Gracie* by Sherryl Woods

I enjoyed this book because she wasn't sure that she wanted to marry him at first, just as he wasn't sure that her wanted to marry her. I think it all tied into the Victorian House.