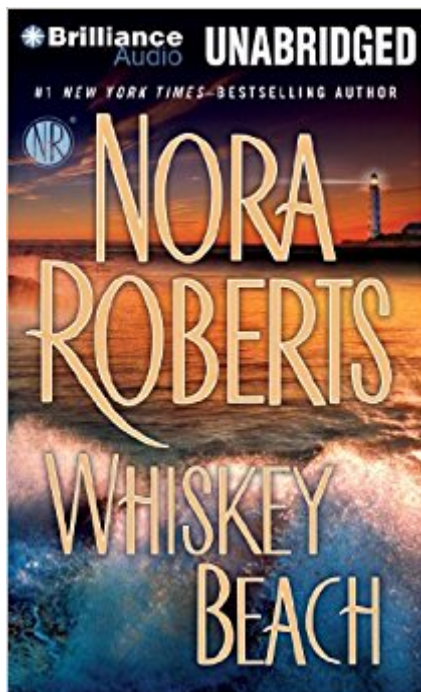


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Whiskey Beach



Synopsis

For more than three hundred years, Bluff House has sat above Whiskey Beach, guarding its shore and its secrets. To summer tourists, it's the crown jewel of the town's stunning scenery. To the residents of Whiskey Beach, it's landmark and legend. To Eli Landon, it's home.... A Boston lawyer, Eli has weathered an intense year of public scrutiny and police investigation after being accused of murdering his soon-to-be ex-wife. And though there was never enough evidence to have him arrested, his reputation is in tatters as well as his soul. He needs sanctuary. He needs Bluff House. While Eli's beloved grandmother is in Boston, recuperating from a nasty fall, Abra Walsh has cared for Bluff House, among her other jobs as yoga instructor, jewelry maker, and massage therapist. She is a woman with an open heart and a wide embrace, and no one is safe from her special, some would say overbearing, brand of nurturing including Eli. He begins to count on Abra for far more than her cooking, cleaning, and massage skills, and starts to feel less like a victim and more like the kind of man who can finally solve the murder of his wife and clear his name. But Bluff House's many mysteries are a siren song to someone intent on destroying Eli and reaping the rewards. He and Abra will become entangled in a centuries-old net of rumors and half-truths that could pull them under the thunderous waters of Whiskey Beach.... Passion and obsession, humor and heart flow together in a novel about two people opening themselves up to the truth and to each other.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review Despite what his grandmother might believe, Boston attorney Eli Landon

doesn't need a keeper. Eli had come home to Bluff House, his grandmother's home on Whiskey Beach, to put his life back together. Although he had been cleared of murdering his wife, Lindsay, in Boston over a year ago, some people still believe that where there is smoke, there is fire. All Eli wants to do is get away and put in some serious time working on his novel. But when he arrives at Bluff House, he discovers his grandmother has asked her neighbor, housecleaner/yoga instructor/jewelry maker/massage therapist Abra Walsh, not only to take care of her house, but also to look after Eli. Eli attempts to keep Abra at arm's length, but she gradually wears down his resistance with her home-cooked meals and kind words. What's more, Abra firmly believes Eli is innocent, and, with her help, Eli sets out to finally clear his name, and not only for himself. With its compelling characters and irresistible plot, this is a perfect synthesis of romance and suspense, guaranteed to keep Roberts's fans up long past their bedtimes. HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY: As the sole author of more than 200 novels, Roberts knows a thing or two about writing page-turning romances, and Whiskey Beach's number-one spot on best-seller lists is a sure bet. --John Charles --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

★ ★ "America's favorite writer." ★ •The New Yorker --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Nora Roberts (and her alter ego J.D. Robb) are auto-buys for me, but she isn't always on top of her game, and here she bobbles the ball. From the very first pages, I was disappointed. First - though this would probably be the least of the problems for the average reader - there wasn't enough editing. I've noticed this over the past couple of years, and it may be due to churning out too many books on schedule. Ms. Roberts claims to write all her own books. Now consider that she produces two mysteries, one romantic suspense, and at least one novella each year. That's a pretty tight schedule and doesn't leave much room for the edits and rewrites that books are subject to. In this book, it's noticeable that "filler" words are used multiple times in a paragraph, and descriptive passages seem retreads from previous books. Second, the setting and some plot points are definitely reruns. Old family house on a hill/bluff/cliff overlooking the water? Try her MacGregor series, Calhoun series, Three Sisters Island series. Old family house with a secret treasure? Yup, back to the Calhoun series. Third, how about the characters? Abra is one of the author's stock types, an all-competent, nurturing free spirit. She's a yoga instructor, a housekeeper, a good cook, a shoulder to lean on. The wounded hero? Eli is rather weaker than most, and the interaction between

him and Abra is more therapeutic than romantic. The ending is strangely flat and some of it is frankly unbelievable. There is little real suspense. I love romantic suspense, but I need at least one strong ingredient. Since the suspense is watered down and the romance is lacking, I found this an unsatisfying book. Her previous book, "The Witness", had some similar problems but was more engaging overall. "Whiskey Beach" is a disappointment. I hope this isn't a trend. I would rather have one wonderful book by Ms. Roberts in a year than several mediocre novels.

I love Nora Roberts and buy everything she writes but this one is a disappointment. It never caught my attention. In fact, it took me almost 3 weeks to finish it because it was so easy to put down. Eli was ok but I didn't find Abra believable at all. Sometimes I felt like she was more like his mother than his girlfriend. I didn't think she had enough development. Yeah, she was this this and this, but I just couldn't see it. I think Roberts needs to focus more on quality vs. quantity. Justin Suskind needed more development too. I hate it when you can't figure out the ending only because the author gave you absolutely no clue where it is going and when it gets to the end it just doesn't make enough sense. I just think this book could have used more development and I hope Roberts tries harder in the future. I feel like she is cheating her fans that know she is capable of so much more.

So, I don't really know how many times I've read this book now. All I know that I love it every time I read; its like the best Christmas/birthday present you can open again and again. NR always writes great books and I have never been able to choose an all time favorite but this is right up there. I love Eli and Abra (isn't abacadabra the best nickname ever?), I love their story. How both went through traumatic events, events that shattered the lives they had and thought they wanted and from that wreckage they built lives that best suited them and together they created a life based on love, trust and joy. It's a story of the resiliency of human spirit and the power of human will. It shows what man and woman can accomplished, even when everything else is taken away, for good and bad. How love can redeem and save you and how much damage it can do when its twisted and abused.

"I learned to accept I was a victim, but I didn't have to stay one."YES! Another Nora Roberts and romance winner! I'm all for her series but this stand alone was fantastic.The story did drag in some parts, but I loved the slow burn romance between Eli and Abra. It was wonderful seeing their relationship go through different stages, how they lived every moment and there was no need to rush. They got to know each other, trust each other, and talk with each other. Couples who communicate are my favorites. Seriously, we don't always need the keep-secrets or

misunderstanding cliché. Trust and communication are essential for a relationship to work, and Eli and Abra proved it. Yes, yes! I loved them individually and apart. I loved how they developed throughout the book, especially Eli. He started as an extremely broken man after being accused of murdering his wife. Thanks to Abra, he slowly got rid of his walls and became the man he was always meant to be. I absolutely loved him. And her. And both! THEY WERE THE CUTEST! AND FUNNIEST! AND SWEETEST! Another great aspect of the book was the mystery surrounding the book. I guessed the killer of one of the mysteries pretty early on (yes, they're various but they're connected and make sense in the end) but that didn't lower my enjoyment to see Eli finding out. **OVERALL: Though Nora Roberts' newest books had either been a hit or miss with me, there's no denial that when she hits the jackpot, she's the best. 'Whiskey Beach' was a wonderful, heartbreaking, mysterious, funny, romantic, lovely, and incredible journey. Eli and Abra won me from the very first page and it was sad to see their story ending. Luckily, I can always go back and re-read it. Definitely recommend for fans of: slow-burn romances, couples who communicate and scarred main characters that finally get their HEA.

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