



Verbena

Nanci Kincaid

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When Bobby died in a car wreck with another woman at his side, Bena was left with five kids, a small house, and a big empty place in her heart. Five years later, she's got two daughters who've run off with no-good men, a backyard full of marijuana plants none of her kids will own up to, and a semi-personal relationship with Jesus. But she's trying. And when she's ready to invest again in love, she knows what she wants: Lucky McKale. And despite the fact that he's married, he seems to want her too...

Verbena Details

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Author : Nanci Kincaid

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From Reader Review *Verbena* for online ebook

Cheryl says

Wow! I loved this book.

Steph says

Verbena isn't good. It's long, it's boring, it tells rather than shows. There's no plot to speak of, and any character development is quite meager.

But... BUT - there is something there. Maybe it's just my silly sentimentality, but I like the tone, the feeling of *Verbena*. It wasn't good enough to keep me from skimming the last hundred pages or so, but fans of *The Bridges of Madison County*-esque stories and fans of southern fiction will probably enjoy this book and its simplistic structure.

Therese says

This was one of those books you go in knowing will be a bit fluffy and not full of sophistication, but other than some huge plot holes and some unbelievable plot lines the ending sped up like a freight train and was touching and emotional all at once. Good read if you're into Southern US fiction in particular.

Katrina says

I lost interest about half way through. Things just seemed to get sort of boring. Maybe someday I'll pick it up again, but with so many other books out there, I doubt it.

Joann says

Wonderful authentic Southern voice

Angela says

You can't help but root for Bena and her self-sacrificial mothering instinct to find some happiness for herself. And it's hard to imagine what can go wrong with Lucky, who you also have to root for, after all he has been through. But when Lucky pulls out the wedding photo of his parents, who look blissfully content, and muses over how two people can look so happy, yet end up so miserable together (just as his parents did), you know that ominous feeling isn't by accident.

A sad book, but a true book. One that you believe in because you can see your friends and family, and even bits of yourself in the characters.

Darlene says

I really enjoyed reading this in the style of *The Confederacy of the Dunces* - while I don't read a lot of farces, I tend to enjoy them once and again. I really liked the way it ended.. Although I believe others found it unsatisfying and perhaps unrealistic, I would say again, the qualities of a good farce.. yes?

Melissa says

Imitation Southern Gothic full of stereotypes and unrealistic plot developments, but good, realistic dialogue and some nice uses of metaphor. Sort of a weak-tea Welty/Mason and Harlequin romance mash-up. Characters not very believable and author gives you no idea what they look like (I hate that), but gets most of the Deep South culture/language right. I kept wanting to like it, but then getting irritated.

Lori Galaske says

My second time through this book and I enjoyed it every bit as much as I did the first time around! There's not a lot of suspense, which I typically prefer in any novel, but somehow Nanci Kincaid pulls it off. She draws the reader into the story, making it difficult to put down.

Jackieinthebox says

It was good at first and then got really slow and kinda hokey and then it ended ok. Not something I would jump to recommend or anything but it wasn't a total waste of time either.

Maryann says

I thought the writing was very good. The story was sad and emotional at times and I found myself wishing that the mom would demand a bit more for herself. Although I guess she epitomizes what moms do - give and love and hope, especially for their kids. The book did have some happy parts too, it wasn't all sad.

Frances Scott says

I thought the writing was better than the book itself; I would like to try others by this author. Well written, but somehow the story did not grab me.

April Sutherland says

I loved it.

Kellie says

it's a mother's story, a story about a mother, how a mother thinks, feels, lives for everyone but herself – makes that self-sacrifice a beautiful thing, a gift, not something to resent – about how children are tied to their mother – about lots of different kinds of love – a beautiful, thoughtful, touching story

Starla says

I loved this book! A story of love from all aspects. Mother, children, friends and lovers. The book made me feel like I was in the South. At times slow, but in a good way. The way it is, I imagine, living in a small southern town. The ending for me was especially moving.
