



Lessons Learned

Nora Roberts

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Book two of *Great Chefs* by #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Nora Roberts

Coordinating the publicity tour for Italy's most famous—and most adorable—chef was just the kind of assignment Juliet relished. Carlo Franconi could gather a crowd just by smiling, and watching him prepare a meal was like witnessing a lesson in passionate lovemaking. By the time the tour was over, Juliet planned to have Carlo packaged as the world's sexiest chef. Women everywhere would fantasize about him preparing an intimate meal for two.

But Juliet hadn't counted on being part of the dinner plans. Candlelight, pasta and romance...Carlo distracted her with his charms, setting his romantic recipes simmering in her heart.

Previously published.

Lessons Learned Details

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From Reader Review Lessons Learned for online ebook

Kerstin Cordes says

Also wenn jemand Kochen liebt, dann wird er /sie auch dieses Hörbuch / Ebook mögen. Genau das richtige für einen Tag am Strand.

Tarsis says

Fue entretenido, pero demasiadas descripciones innecesarias, le restaban tiempo al romance entre ellos. La cosa va, cuando Juliet acepta ser la publicista de un famoso chef italiano, contrarios en todo, encuentran el amor durante una gira por eeuu.

Elizabeth says

Carlo Franconi loves women and his work as a world renowned chef, and is content with his life wooing women all over the world. Then he embarks on a tour of the US with his publicist Juliet, and both their worlds are turned upside down.

This is a sequel to Summer Desserts (Great Chefs, #1), and both books can be read here Table For Two. It's always interesting to see a womanizer settle down, and once again Roberts does not disappoint.

Karen Whooley says

Loved

I love Ms. Robert's contemporary novels but noting compares to the sweetness of her early romances novels. One of her best!

Maura says

This was a fairly decent story and I would have rated this higher if it weren't for the hero. He just did not appeal to me and I found myself getting irritated while reading. Juliet is the publicist assigned to celebrity chef Carlo Franconi's publicity tour of the U.S. He sex on legs and Juliet is rather repressed and completely commitment phobic. She starts out trying to keep a distance and maintain a professional demeanor. He steamrolls over all of her objections.

My problem with Carlo is his ego. There's a fine line between confidence and arrogance and he's on the side of arrogance. Any man receiving a compliment who says, "Yes, I know." instead of "Thank you." is an arrogant ass. There is even a quote in the book, *"His ego was no small matter."* and it's not used as a

euphemism. As a publicist, her job and her image is important to her, so making a public display of a relationship is a reasonable complaint...but Carlo doesn't care, because he wants what he wants (and don't even get me started on his childish little tantrum over ingredients - is that supposed to be endearing?). On top of that, the man is a flirt - he's slept his way around the globe and he flirts with anything on legs. So I'd be a bit wary about getting into a relationship with a man who loves women as much as he does.

The heroine I actually liked. Her hesitancy to get involved seriously is all very realistic considering his reputation, the fact that they live on separate continents, etc. (view spoiler)

Melissa says

While I read all of the book, I didn't like it. I just hate to leave a book unfinished especially when I'm so far into it. I just had no attachment to Carlo and the female character whose name I can't even remember.

Nora Roberts just has so many books that are BETTER than this.

It's a straight up love story. There is no real conflict other than - SHOULD WE?!

Ugh.

Strong woman with relationship issues falls for suave, over confident man. Done, done, and DONE.

This is the darker side of Nora Roberts that I forgot about that reminds me why I quite reading her.

Saly says

Rating 3.25

I enjoyed this much better than the first book even though I could see parallels between the two heroine's, both ambitious and not thinking much about love and romance, one think I don't get is why can't you have both?

The heroine is a publicist whose newest client is a hot Italian chef and his tour for his new cook book. The hero loves women and cooking and he is intrigued by the heroine and her professionalism.

It actually takes him too long to even get to a personal level with her since she is so adept at building barriers. I actually have noticed in Nora Roberts books that the hero's seem more comfortable with the concept of commitment and the same happens in this book.

Isabella - Madly in Love with Books says

Re-read - changed to 2.5 stars.

This isn't one of her better books. It is rather old and some of the old romance cliches appeared - the worst being were the h got almost assaulted and the H not only saved her heroically but told her perhaps it was her own fault, because she gave him signals. Absolute no go, no matter how old the book.

Both MCs were rather hard to like and I didn't warm up to Carlo at all. He was pushy and arrogant and had an ego the size of a country, also a manwhore before he met h. The h is no push over as almost always with Nora Roberts heroines, even in her old stories and that is always a plus. A smart, determined and ambitious woman made the mediocre story bearable.

Also I liked how they solved their conflicting the end - which of course happened way too fast and ridiculously easy, but the way they did pleased me.

And basically nothing happens at all, even how their relationship changed from an affair to being lovers was bland and easy going. Despite a little conflict in the end, that simply has to be there, because otherwise, how could the reunite and declare Their neverending love at the end?

All in all mediocre and to be honest- perhaps a lot of nostalgia regarding this author happened here. She got me into reading romance when I was a young teen and I adore this genre since then. I forgive Nora Roberts A LOT of shit even her superficial and boring stories, when I know she can do so much better.

Cassandra says

Für Juliet ist die Begleitung der Buch-Promotour des Starkochs Carlo ein wichtiger Meilenstein ihrer Karriere. Wenn der sexy Italiener nicht nur in der Küche nichts anbrennen ließe ...

Ein witziges Protagonistenpärchen, bei dem es herrlich knistert. Liebe oder Karriere? Oder geht vielleicht auch beides? Nora Roberts kennt sich garantiert mit dem Stress aus, den ein Autor und seine Betreuung auf einer Promotiontour durch Amerika erwartet. So bekommt der Leser einen winzigen Einblick hinter die stressigen Kulissen von Signierstunden und Talkshows. Ich konnte mich köstlich amüsieren über den charmanten Koch, und die ehrgeizige Juliet, die von ihrer eigenen Agentur träumt. Hier fliegen die Funken, bis beide lichterloh brennen.

Fazit: Ein richtig schöner Liebesroman zwischen Büchern und Kochtöpfen.

Alatea says

It was okay.

I guess something is wrong with me, not with the book. This one had steamy atmosphere (hot Italian chef), easy to follow plot and literary no problems at all.

Maria says

I just finished this and i've got to say that the last few pages and their reunion almost brought me to tears, i really loved these characters, compared to summer desserts, and although Carlo was a ladies man, he was such a sweetheart and i love how after Juliet got the elephant she left for rome, and i just love how romantic they are together, and i love how she didn't want to lose herself and was scared she loved him so much she would leave everything for him, and i loved that sentiment. i loved how he proposed and gave her a ticket to

rome, and i loved they weren't going to wait to get married. I also liked that summer and balke appeared to show them they could do it! I just loved that it really shows you that love is possible and sometimes you have to go with it and leave plans and past reservations go, and allow love to consume you.

Christina McAllister says

I did not like this book as much as the first one in the series. I had a hard time to keep my interest. There was way too much description when it came to the main character's cooking and the whole story was kind of bland. The book did get better towards the end, but it took way too long before I was able to say I was into the story. Not one of her best books.

Xan West says

This is such a classic 80s romance in every way. At one point, the heroine calls herself an 80s woman. She decides she cannot have love and a career, but he teaches her differently. 80s level wealth is tossed around extravagantly.

It's got a ton of classic 80s romance sexism, including the obligatory rescue from potential sexual assault & of course this idea that he can persist pushing her for a romantic relationship even when she says no, because romance. It's also very much driven by the stereotype of a passionate Italian womanizer.

It made me hungry for Italian food, has all the stuff that I adore about food based romances, along with the details that are one of the things I love about books by this author.

This romance is emblematic of what I grew up learning about sexual negotiation and gender roles in heterosexuality. It is deeply familiar. I personally enjoy the first book in this series more, *Summer Desserts* about a woman who is a dessert chef (and, of course more interested in her career than in love).

Trigger Warnings: (view spoiler)

Beatriz says

Reto #19 PopSugar 2017: Un libro acerca de comida

Un libro bien escrito, pero que me dejó más bien fría. En ningún momento sentí la pasión de los personajes, ni me transmitió sus sentimientos. Incluso me terminó aburriendo un poco ya que la narración se dedica mucho más a describir el agobiante itinerario de la promoción del libro y los detalles de la preparación de algunos platos, pero sin relacionarlo con la seducción que prometía la sinopsis.

Es una novela bastante básica y la autora tiene libros muchísimo mejores.

Carly Ellen Kramer says

What's not to love about Carlo Franconi? But don't insult him by calling him a cook... he's a CHEF, and an artist! Reading the humorous tale of how an American publicist finally made his heart tremble made me smile - and gave me a mighty craving for linguini! I would have liked a bit more about Franconi's family, and about the hated LaBare. Those are minor details. If you love romance novels and like to cook, you'll love this story.
