



## **Eye of the Beholder**

*Carol Lynne*

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For a year, Bo Lawson has tried to get closer to his boss, Backbreaker Ranch foreman Rance Benning, but the stubborn ex-rodeo champion refuses to be swayed. Bo can't understand Rance's aversion to being alone with him. Could it be Bo's HIV status?

Rance noticed Bo the first day he laid eyes on him at Brynn's Bakery. Since that time, he's done anything and everything to stay away from the dangerous-looking gardener with the chiseled six-pack and tight-fitting jeans. Rance has seen what pity in a lover's eyes looks like, and he doesn't plan on ever putting himself in that position again.

When one of the ranch's prize bucking bulls breaks through the fence and disappears, Rance and Bo are thrust together to help find the one ton money-maker. Although Bo sees their forced time alone as an opportunity, Rance sees it as torture. Every minute with Bo threatens the secret Rance won't tell anyone, least of all this dangerously sexy man.

Reader Advisory: This book is best read in sequence as part of a series

## **Eye of the Beholder Details**

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Author : Carol Lynne

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## **From Reader Review Eye of the Beholder for online ebook**

### **Traci says**

So excited for this couple. After reading Campus Cravings with the introduction of Bo, I have been waiting for this relationship with Rance and Bo. Totally did not see it coming (History of Rance). Continued to be shocked about the author's ability to keep these series fresh and interesting.. Never feel like it is the same ol' thing due to her back stories...

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### **Karen K says**

\*\*4 1/2\*\* Loved this 11th book in the series - loved the angst and the confusion and the insecurity that surrounded the characters. The storyline was quite different from the rest of the series and the characters just popped for me.

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### **Melissa says**

Bo was someone I met while reading the Campus Cravings books and that's when I first learned about Cattle Valley. It was obvious from the beginning that Bo and Rance had a thing for each other but Rance wouldn't let Bo get close and when you find out why, you understand.

Bo is HIV positive but that was learned in the CC books too. We get to see Lark and Kade a lot in this book and I enjoyed that blast from the past!

When Bo goes back to the commune in Canada he gets the surprise of a lifetime and even though it takes some getting used to, it's a wonderful thing.

Rance and Bo have a lot of things to work out with each other before they get to a really good solid point in their lives but they do it and it was good! A very good story in this series!

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### **FloJ says**

Oh she's good. got to keep those suckers coming back for more, So write a few pages, describe a few hunks, give two of them 'issues'. Chuck in teasers for the next books. The teasers were far more interesting than Bo and Rance.

A, Jay the femme guy who arrived at the end of no 10, once more we have a few lines about him right at the end of this one. Is he going to be a chef or a singer.....? Is he or is he not going to get together with Enrico. Or is it going to be another threesome with another couple I don't even want to think about going in that direction so I won't mention names in case it gives her ideas she didn't have lol.

- B. The old couple from the foot of the mountain who are finding difficulty breathing in the winter.
- C. Carol (the Mayor 's secretary) is getting mysterious text messages

D. Lark and Kade (from a few books ago in the Campus Cravings series) moving to Cattle Valley.

E. Asa Montgomery, I don't think I have missed anything but I can't work out where he fits in, but he is obviously going to eventually.

F. The doctors have employed someone new to relieve them so the threesome can get together and leave him behind holding the fort.

So - 2 stars only. 1 because it is a pathetic and short story, and 2 because it is going to achieve what she set out for it to do, make me buy the next one and it makes me really really cross that I pay the money and don't get a good read out of it, especially when by my own reckoning there are at least 5 books to come in that list alone. Just please please Carol would you make them a bit more substantial.

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### **Bubbles Hunty Honest & Direct Opinions says**

Rance was such an asshat for most of the story.

I never got into this one since it was after 50% before the two MC's really started connecting and even then they had more miscommunication than actually getting closer together. This one just didn't interest me at all the whole wild bull thing wasn't interesting to me at all and that seemed to be the whole plot besides the sex commune in Canada thing which also doesn't interest me. By the time they get together I just didn't care about Bo or Rance or Joey.

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### **Sarina says**

Review written for Love Bytes Reviews.

I never like saying it, but this one was just okay for me. I think the author did some great things in regards to Bo but there were underlying problems with the rest of the story that just took my enjoyment of it down immensely. Let me start with what I thought was great: Bo. I've only read maybe one other book that featured a main character that had HIV so I loved that the author wasn't afraid to put that out there. With everything Bo does, it was showcased just how careful he has to be and the steps he constantly takes to ensure no one else gets infected accidentally. Despite what he lives with, Bo was cheerful and friendly and it wasn't unusual to see him making others laugh. Bo was seriously the best character in the book.

Now, unfortunately, the rest of the book just wasn't as enjoyable to me. For one, while you get an explanation later, and I can kind of see where Rance was coming from, he was way too much of a jerk when trying to keep his distance from Bo. His attitude made the eventual turn around and start of a relationship kind of unbelievable. Besides that, I just wasn't feeling any chemistry between these two men at all. I seriously felt more heat from them both when they were first introduced earlier in the series than what I felt from them here and that was a huge disappointment. That extra thing with Jan and Joey also felt superfluous to me; it didn't add anything to the story (much like Bo's two friends) and I think I would've been happier had it all been left out.

I found the story likable in a kind of general sense but if you're reading the book for the 'romance' between Bo and Rance you're going to be disappointed. I enjoyed seeing Bo a lot more and the set up with Jay was

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nicely done but I may not read this one again in the future.

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### **H.A. says**

A wonderful follow up to The Last Bouquet. Both characters struggle with emotional and physical damage done to them by people in their past. While Bo learns to continue living, Rance refuses to leave himself open to vulnerability and keeps everyone at a distance. Just when these two start to get things right, Rance messes up and risks losing the family that he's grown to love but is too scared to give himself completely too. Bo was my favorite character, if for nothing other than the strength he continues to display despite the blows dealt to him. The ending was lovely and a perfect way to end an so engaging story.

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### **Jenny Wood says**

I loved loved loved Bo and Rance!

Such a different aspect in this one for a couple reasons, one being that Bo was HIV positive. It's hard to see that in a positive light and not think of it as something scary, but it was nice to see how both of them handled it as well as people from work when Bo had gotten hurt. As many romance books as I've read, I'm surprised I haven't come across this illness more often. I'm always reading about billionaire playboys and all around ladies men who have been with hundreds of women or men and yet.... it's so rare to find a story where it's an issue. I liked how this one tackled it.

Then, aside from Hearn and Tyler adopting Gracie, there's a baby involved now!

I'm such a sucker for hot dad stories and I loved how Rance jumped in and loved Joey like his own. Well, Bo as well seeing how Joey isn't his biologically as well... it was beautiful to see the family grow.

I also really felt for Rance and I'm so glad he had someone like Bo, who accepted his "problem". He handled that beautifully as well... I loved this story sooo much!

Can't wait to read more!

On to the next!

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### **Jeski says**

I have to admit to having a soft-spot when it comes to HIV positive characters. While I usually think that Carol Lynne's stories are vastly overrated I really did enjoy this novel.

Bo is HIV positive and totally stuck on Rance who wont give him the time of day - but not for the reason you think.

Rance has a secret that has affected his physical person as well as his views on relationships.

It's cute and funny watching them come together.

Conclusion: Give it a read, you'll enjoy it. Just don't make the mistake of thinking every Carol Lynne story

will be as enjoyable.

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### **Bailey says**

A great book! I absolutely love the author and the whole series!

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### **Gigi says**

Great book for my new healing/comfort shelf! Full review shortly.

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### **Chappy says**

Rance and Bo both feel they are unworthy of true love.

Bo is HIV positive while Rance's "junk" has been brutally disfigured during an unfortunate shooting. If they can both get their heads out of their asses, they might make a go of the love they both feel for each other.

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### **Elisa Rolle says**

The eleventh book in the Cattle Valley series is the classic example of why this is a serial, and it's almost impossible not to read it in the right order. Bo Lawson is a spin off character from another serial, Campus Cravings. He was Lark's first lover, and he had a quite important role in Lark's book, A Biker's Vow. In that book, Lark and Kade were considering to move in Cattle Valley, and Bo tagged along when they went to perusing the area. He liked the place and he decided to stay; in the very first scene in Cattle Valley he set his eyes on Rance, but in the following books there was no indication on what happened to them. In this perspective, you are not forced to read all the Campus Cravings books to enjoy this one, but maybe it would be better if you read at least that book, A Biker's Vow.

Bo is a friendly and handsome man, so friendly that he managed to stay friend with Lark even after their relationship ended and he married with a woman. Bo lived in a Canadian "free love" community, and why he married a woman it's not quite clear, since Bo's preferences are all for men. But in the community the marriage's bond it was not so important, it was almost like a roommate statement, if you are married, you share a room, nothing else. Bo's main characteristic in that story it was his HIV positive status, something he shared with Kade, and this allowed Kade to see that, even if positive, you can still have a normal life, with some precautions more, but still a life. The same acceptance Bo found in the community, he finds also in Cattle Valley, and when his story starts, he is in the middle of wooing Rance, trying to overcome Rance's barriers.

It's not Bo's HIV+ status that put a stop to their story, it's something in Rance's past; I like this taken on the story of the author, she deals with Bo's illness in a light mode, but not underestimating it; I believe that she willingly decided to not make it the turning point of the story but at the same time giving the right importance to the matter. Actually, once the reader finds out Rance's secret, compared to Bo's trouble, I had

almost a reaction like, "well, is it all? And you have a problem due to that?" and since I'm quite naughty, I also anticipated the enjoyable conclusion that Bo arrives to... I don't want to give up the story, but it's all a question of right angles ;-)

Book 11 in the series is one of those books that is nice and good, without any breaking event, but nevertheless essential to the story; it serves also to know something more about Jay, the almost androgynous new Cattle Valley's character, and about Asa, the multimillionaire gay man who decided to move in Cattle Valley, but that I still haven't quite framed.

<http://www.amazon.com/dp/1907010963/?...>

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### **Lyndac says**

Two men who are broken for very different reasons find true love. So heartwarming!

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### **Danae says**

Great story. Yikes about Rance's past. Yeesh! I got a little confused because I kept getting this story and Lark's story from Campus Cravings mixed up. I got it sorted quick enough but it was weird for a little while LOL

\*\*\*As you'll have noticed, I don't really write "reviews", just my own rambling thoughts and impressions. (I've decided to include this on all "reviews" just so people know. Maybe I should put it at the top?)\*\*\*\*

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