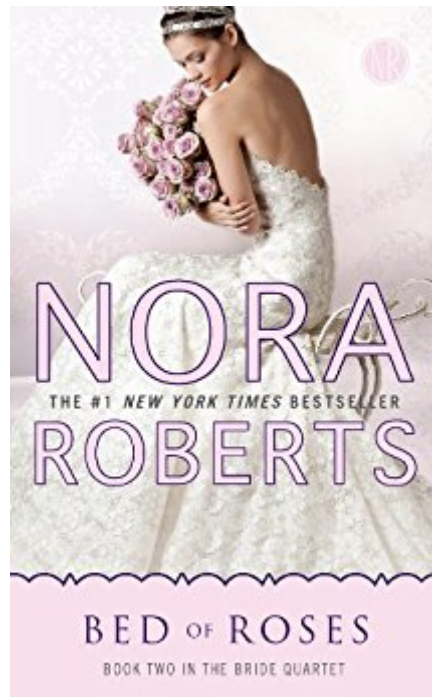


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Bed Of Roses (Bride Quartet Book 2)



Synopsis

Love blooms in the second novel in #1 New York Times bestselling author Nora Roberts's celebrated Bride Quartet. Wedding florist Emma Grant gets to play with flowers every day and work with her three best friends in the process. She couldn't ask for a better job. And her love life seems to be thriving. Though men swarm around her, she still hasn't found Mr. Right. And the last place she's looking is right under her nose. But that's just where Jack Cooke is. He's so close to the women of Vows that he's practically family. Now though, the architect has begun to admit to himself that his feelings for Emma have developed into much more than friendship. And when Emma returns his passionate kiss for blistering kiss, they must trust in their history and in their hearts. Don't miss the other books in the Bride Quartet: Vision in White, Savor the Moment, Happy Ever After. From the Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you are looking for a classic romance with only a little bit of drama and lots of love, friendship and fun, then "Bed of Roses" will be a perfect choice. Emmaline Grant's job is all about creating the perfect wedding day. As a florist and partner of "Vows" she is living her dream. She believes in love

and hopes to someday have the kind of relationship her parents share. But she still hasn't found the one man with whom she wants to dance in the moonlight. When suddenly the relationship to commitment shy architect Jack Cooke changes and they realize that there is more between them than just being good friends, Emma is excited but also a little bit afraid. She doesn't want to lose Jack as a friend but can't say no to the new path their relationship is going. Because she soon realizes that Jack has some flaws (he's a man so that's to be expected) but that he also might be just perfect for her. Wonderful characters, a beautiful story that concentrates on love and friendship and Nora Robert's love for details makes this the perfect book to forget everyday life. Emma is a great heroine even though in real life it's hard not to hate a woman like her. She's beautiful, outgoing, intelligent, loves her life and job, has the best friends you can imagine and her parents are the perfect couple. But because she is also very kind and funny you just have to love her (I guess some envy is ok). Through the detailed description of her work (it's like the bouquets and arrangements are right in front of you) the reader can share the enthusiasm and love for her work and get a close connection to Emma. Jack is a man of action who's sexy and very manly. He enjoys his life as much as possible and works as hard as he plays.

After finding *Vision in White* (The Wedding Quartet, Book 1) a disappointment, I was hoping *Bed of Roses* would be much better--it was better, but not by much. One element that makes a romance book interesting is the introduction of conflict. Emma and Jack had chemistry in this book unlike Mac and Carter in *Visions*. But, the conflict seemed contrived. Emma and Jack realize after a lifetime of friendship that there is something more there. Emma comes from a happy family and Jack comes from a divorced set of parents. Jack is afraid of commitment and Emma wants it all. The reader can tell right from the beginning that Jack is going to get cold feet, break Emma's heart for a few weeks and then we have the happy ever after resolution. (Possible spoiler) I felt the last scenes in the book were very contrived as every one decided to shut out Jack. Here is a group of people--men and women who have been friends for decades and they rally around Emma and shut Jack out in the cold? Give me a break. Yes Emma deserved some sympathy, but everyone knew Jack and knew his issues and no one stood for him? Although this isn't a very romantic statement, I think if I were Jack, I might want to find a more loyal group of friends instead of this crew who spurn him and figure he is wrong without even giving him a hearing! This is an easy read, but lacks the power of some of Robert's other straight romances. Personally, I find the *Donovans*, the *Calhouns*, the *Chesapeake* series, the *Key* trilogy, and *Garden* trilogy books to be much better overall in presenting the romantic element.

Bed of Roses is the second book in the series the Bride Quartet and this time the couple is Emmaline and Jack. Emma has had a interest in Jack for a while but because of the "Ex Rule" and being that Jack's practically a brother to the four of them and Del's best friend Emma never made a move. But that soon changes when one night during a snowstorm Jack helps Emma get her car started up again and they have a little hot moment underneath the hood of Emma's car (locking eyes not lips though). This helps them become finally aware that they have an interest in each other and that it may be time to do something about it. Things heat up even more when Jack gives Emma a massage during a wedding and ends it kissing her which she doesn't even put up a fight for and participated in to boot. But the kiss is cut short when Parker beeps for Emma so Emma has to run back to work and Jack takes a walk outside and then goes home. After the wedding is done, Emma begins to wonder why Jack kissed her in the first place and what did the kiss mean. OK Emma is suppose to be the romantic but she can't even figure out what a hot kiss means, much less come up with a solution? Her nickname should be the romantic idiot. Of course she tries to hide the fact that she's got it bad for Jack but after saying anyway too many times to Del about the issue of Jack's jacket, Del doesn't notice anything amiss but Laurel does and she makes Emma spill the beans but not before Emma makes Laurel swear not to tell anyone else. She does finally come up with a solution by storming over to Jack's where she accuses him of kissing her and just leaving without a word when he should have taken full responsibility for his actions.

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