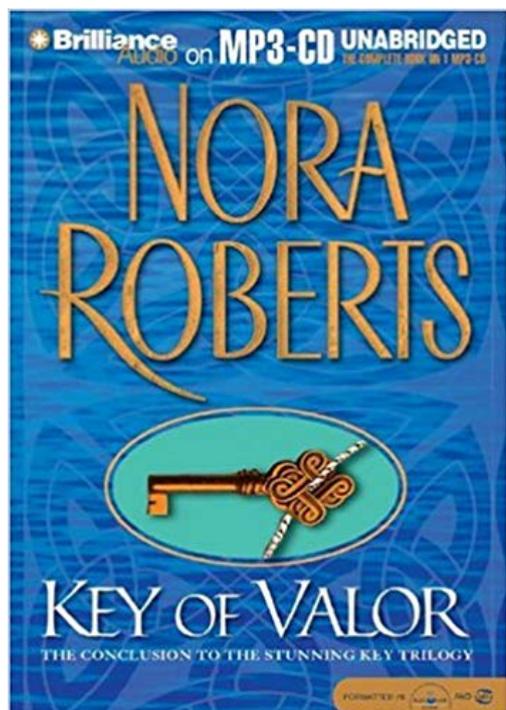


Key of Valor (Key Trilogy) by Nora Roberts, Susan Ericksen



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Fate brings three women together for a chance to unlock their deepest desires in the Key Trilogy. Now, in the stunning conclusion, it's Zoe's turn....

Growing up, Zoe McCourt did not have an easy life—some might call it “disadvantaged.” A hairstylist from a West Virginia trailer park, she ended up in beautiful Pleasant Valley, Pennsylvania, by sheer determination. How she ended up on a quest for a key to unlock the soul of a warrior demigoddess is another story....

Invited to an imposing estate overlooking the town, she met Malory Price and Dana Steele. Each woman was at a crossroads in her life, each facing an uncertain future. And a mysterious couple offered them the chance of a lifetime: a million dollars each if they could free the trapped souls of three mythological sisters—an artist, a bard, and a warrior.

Malory and Dana had to reach deep inside themselves to find their keys—and not without paying a price. Now, it has become Zoe's quest. As a single mother, she has more to risk, more to lose. But her courage in the face of overwhelming odds cannot be underestimated. A nurturer to her son, a defender of her friends, she must confront dark forces amassed against her to make all of their dreams come true....

Don't miss the other books in the Key Trilogy....

Key of Light
Key of Knowledge



Reviews of the **Key of Valor (Key Trilogy)** by Nora Roberts, Susan Ericksen

ME

Smoke jumpers, those that fight wildfires with specialty training and parachute jumping, is the setting for this story.

The story opens with a smoke jumper and her jump partner falling from the sky on a fire. As she looks back at her partner she sees him pull his toggle in the wrong direction, which sends him into the bowels of the fire, where he is killed.

The following summer, as the wildfire season begins, there is trouble between the female partner of the jumper that was killed and his dating fling, and her baby.

There are several incidents where the smoke jumpers are placed in dangerous situations in and around the base camp. And then a fire is reported in a forest close to base and a murder has occurred.

The story continues until the equipment used for fighting fires is tampered with and they are put in danger in a fire.

The smoke jumpers continue fighting wildfires with a twist on the final fire.

This author again demonstrates her ability to learn the correct language and procedures for fighting wildfires and she completes a love story between firefighting incidents and keeps the readers attention on the characters as they go through this different summer. She also interposes a secondary love story and connects the events so that the reader is rewarded with an exciting story line and is able to follow through the entire book without losing their place and to remain enthralled with the story line.

Gir

Such a refreshing and entertaining reading:

1. I've never read a book about smoke jumpers, so I loved getting immersed in their foreign-to-me world.
2. The main romance between Rowan & Gull was an absolute delight to read thanks to the lack of clichés. Every now and then I have enjoyed them in romance books, but a couple who communicates their feelings and thoughts will always be a winner for me. No need to use third parties or unnecessary denials to stop them from getting their HEA.
3. The romance subplot didn't bore me, and it usually does when it's not about the main couple.

What stops this from being a perfect reading:

The long descriptions about the missions got tiresome. I get being told once or twice about them, but there were many missions, so to read the technical talk over and over and over again was exhausting. (Although thankfully not as much as the one in the Inn BoonsBoro trilogy.)

***OVERALL

Chasing Fire is another Nora Roberts winner. Too bad it isn't part of a series, would've loved to see every one of them getting a HEA like Rowan and Gull.

OTANO
3.5

'Key of Valour' takes us to the last quest to find the third key. It's Zoe's turn and she's gonna have to find the courage to trust her heart and go for what she wants.

I had an absolutely wonderful time getting to see Zoe and Brad falling in love even though Zoe did annoy me in the last chapters because she didn't want to accept what she felt (and what Brad felt for her). I felt it took her so long to accept her feelings and it frustrated me. But I loved Brad because he had a lot of patience with her.

And speaking about Brad, he was a sweetheart! My favorite parts of this book definitely include his scenes with Simon. It was a pleasure getting to see man and boy loving each other. The only issue I had with one of the scenes is that a couple of dialogues were a copy of one of Nora Robert's books: Sea Swept. It is my favorite book from her. I've read it plenty of times so as soon as I saw the dialogues I knew where it came from. It bothered me and I wish it could've been said different.

But keeping that aside, I liked there were barely sexist comments. And I liked seeing more of Flynn, Malory, Dana and Jordan, too.

The climax with Kane wasn't as interesting as book 2. I was definitely expecting something bigger. But in the end, I'm just glad the villain was vanquished and Rowena and Pitte got to finally have their HEA. I even cried with that part and it was my favorite moment from the whole book.

*OVERALL:

The last book in the Key trilogy was an interesting and great conclusion.

The series as a whole was a pleasure to read because it has the essence of Nora's oldest series. Sure, I've enjoyed her new ones but there is nothing like her old and classy. There's something about the writing and characters that stand out from the more recent ones.

If you're looking for a series about love, friendship, family (and you don't mind a couple of sexist comments here and there) this is the series for you.

Wohald

Warning of Domestic Violence triggers.

Compelling blend of history, Wiccan, thriller and HEA. Believable characters. The dialogue is informative, enjoyable and snarky. Easy to follow stand-alone storyline. Formatting and editing errors.

"The Puritans came here, searching, they said, for religious freedom. Of course, many of them were only looking for a place to force their beliefs and their fears on others. And in Salem, they persecuted and murdered blindly, so blindly that not one of the nineteen souls they took was the soul of a witch."

"Prejudice and fear are never clear-sighted."

"She wouldn't if you weren't trying to push your psychic hoey on her."

"'Psychic hoey' sounds like the name of a second-rate rock band and has nothing to do with what I am. But even that's better than blind, stubborn denial. Knowledge is always better than ignorance."

I will re-read this story and look forward to other works by this author.

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