



## **Another View**

*Rosamunde Pilcher*

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There are only two men in Emma's life--her father, a remote artist who leaves her in boarding school and sees her every few years, and Christo, who has been her stepbrother for a few months and now wants to get to know her. But until Emma can understand what she means to them, there can be no room for love.

## Another View Details

Date : Published March 23rd 2013 by St. Martin's Paperbacks (first published 1968)

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## From Reader Review Another View for online ebook

### Relyn says

I started keeping a record of my reading on Goodreads in 2008 so I can hardly believe I've never reviewed this book. I definitely love Rosamunde Pilcher. Her short stories are my favorite and her short novels are next in my love list. On my last birthday my husband and daughter took me to Mt. Home, Arkansas to spend the weekend in a little cabin on the lake. I had been feeling very stressed and exhausted from about 6 weeks of back to school craziness. I took a few shelter magazines, a book of poetry, and this story. I just grabbed a Rosamunde because I wanted to revisit her simple, sweet domestic stories; I didn't even pay much attention to which one I grabbed. Turns out, though it had been years since I read it, I chose one of my most favorite of her little books. I love Ben Litton, even if his parenting makes me cringe a bit. I love watching Emma Litton grow up and seeing the way she finally learns to accept her father (and brother) for the flawed, selfish men that they are. I love that she finally learns to love without wanting to change someone. And how, with that ability, she finds the man she doesn't want to change. *Sigh* Just a simple, sweet story.

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### Debbie Robson says

It is amazing that this book was written in 1968! It's also amazing how quickly we become acquainted with the characters. That's one of the reasons I love Rosamunde Pilcher's books. The other is her locations, especially her novels set in Cornwall. In *Another View* we meet the first invocation of the distant artist father who features so prominently in *The Shellseekers*.

At the age of 19 Emma has decided to finally settle down in Cornwall and spend some time with her artist father Ben in his studio in Porthkerris, Cornwall. But of course all doesn't go as planned. To confuse her plans is her childhood step brother Christopher and her father's manager Robert Morrow. A delightful read!

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### Sid Frost says

My wife bought this book because of the author, but set it aside when she saw the 1968 copyright. She had read *Winter Solstice* and is now reading *Shell Seekers*, and loves them both. This is my first Rosamunde Pilcher. We're in Germany on an extended visit, and I finished reading (my more manly) Grisham's *The Broker*, and had nothing else to read. For some reason I expected *Another View* to be a romance novel, but it was much more. And, the fact that it was written so long ago didn't lessen it at all. The only time-sensitive part was the excessive (in my view) amount of smoking. Everyone smokes in the book. But, of course, many did back in 1968.

As a father of two grown girls, I especially enjoyed the father-daughter struggles. Of course I'm not a famous artist like Ben is in the story, but still, fathers are often taken away from their children by their work. And, often, we have regrets for that lost time.

I thought the plot was well structured for the most part and I wondered if this might have been her first novel. If so, what an exceptional job for a first book.

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## JayeL says

I really like Rosamunde Pilcher's books. In a way, they are comfort reading. I love her descriptions. Her descriptions are not just a description of the way a landscape or house looks. She writes "...a cheeky young man wearing a red checked shirt," which tells so much more about the background of the story than 'a man with a red shirt'. What she creates with her descriptions are fabulous images in my head.

The way she writes her stories is wonderful. There is a story, some drama and a resolution, but reading the book seems to make the actual story secondary.

This is one of her older stories - copyright 1968. Still, it does not seem overtly dated; the story is a classic. However, they smoke like chimneys and the offering of cigarettes at social events are as normal as offering someone a drink to be hospitable.

One thing I like is the continuity in her books. Artists often show up in Pilcher's stories. Ben spends a lot of time in the Sliding Tackle, a very wonky pub in Porthkerris in Cornwall. This pub also shows up in her other books, such as *The Shell Seekers* (I think!). Ben's studio is very similar to the studios of other artists in other books. Her continuity does not seem repetitive, as it does with other authors. I think it makes the books seem like a variety of characters reside in the same location. The continuity is like meeting old and well liked friends.

Many of her characters have money. The money isn't flaunted, but it allows them flexibility in their lives.

This is an easy, comforting book to read.

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## Atiqah says

This book is about Emma Litton, 19-year-old trying to reconnect with her emotionally distant artist father. Being a child who had lost her mother and afterwards a child of divorce, she yearns for a family connection, that is, to have any resemblance to a normal family because she feels that she has never had it. Other characters include her former step-brother, whom she met by chance just before her return to Porthkerris. Is she going to reconnect with Christopher? What about the father-daughter relationship she yearns – will she get it? And what are the 'unexpected benefits' – is it friendship, career, love, or something else entirely? Guess you'll have to read to find out!

I'm not sure if I can even adequately describe how charming Rosamund Pilcher's writing is. She has this way with words that makes me feel as if she's saying, "Come here, let me tell you a story" and proceeds to melt away my stress and anxiety. After finishing *Another View*, I literally had to let out a nice long breath because the book was just so... charming. It's like chivalry; you just don't see it anymore that often and when you do, it's so refreshing. Her imagery techniques are exceptional. There's this blank canvas and Rosamunde Pilcher slowly paints us a picture.

Cigarettes are featured often in this book. It may provoke a reaction in certain readers but it is worth noting that during the time setting of this novel, cigarettes are culturally acceptable and significant. I would say it's equivalent to coffee (or tea) in today's culture. You offer it to someone ("What about some coffee?") wherever you might be meeting up whether it be at home or out and about. Meeting up over coffee acts like a

crutch in awkward or unfamiliar situations, and just plain welcome in presence of pleasant company.

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### **Wilde Sky says**

A young woman, after years of abandonment by her selfish idiot artist father, goes to a small village to “look after” him. He abandons her again and she struggles on. Will her father come back at the end of the story and save her?

Some of the characters are believable, but the story is wafer thin and the dialogue in places is woeful. The cliché that all artists are selfish / smelly / dis-organised gets trotted out again.

Is the ending supposed to show that father’s knows best or that a woman can’t survive without the “love of a good man”? Either way it felt incredibly dated.

In the copy I read page 129 was in italics for no reason – which was annoying.

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### **Suzanne says**

Porthkerris seems to be the nicest little place to go, or second best, to read about as told by Rosamunde Pilcher! This the second novel of hers that I have read in as many days. So that is very telling. These stories are so rewarding; the seaside seems to compliment the simple family oriented stories. Emma is a strong willed young woman who has a famous and successful artist as a father. Ben is a difficult man whom Emma was separated from during her teens, she misses her dad more than she’d like to say and is finally reacquainted with him; only for him to take off again to America to fulfil some work obligations. He’s nowhere near conventional. Emma is searching for something within herself if not her family, and after supporting herself from a young age, she has also reconnected with her step brother whom she missed very much. The scenery comes to life again and again, this author has a knack for an interesting storyline and lovely surrounds. You want to step into the scenes she builds, to want to know the characters. You really like them and feel immersed into the story. Bohemian and arty, friends and family come together for a coming of age of sorts. This is another winner for me! This writer is divine.

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### **Claudia Cheyne says**

Happiness is finding a Rosamunde Pilcher book that I haven't read yet. This was a delightfully quick read about an artistic family and how they relate to one another. Thrown into the mix are two men who run the art gallery that deals with Ben Litton's paintings. Ben's daughter Emma has pretty much taken care of herself while growing up. She feels a need to reconnect with her father because that's what families are supposed to do. Pilcher draws pictures with words which make you feel like you are right in the middle of the action.

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### **Lorrie says**

This book tied in with "Shell Seekers". How wonderful! Ben Litton is a senior artist in this novel.

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## **MomToKippy says**

Welllll it was interesting to read this early work of Pilcher's from 1968 but it was not up to par with most of her other novels for me. I did not find the characters as endearing or interesting as I have with her other books. The plot is not as clever either. Her usual themes are all there - seaside England, quirky artists, a young woman struggling toward independence, strained family dynamics, cousins and relatives becoming romantically involved - (yea that's a bit odd), great imagery as always but not as good as subsequent books etc. These characters smoke and drink like fiends too! At least this one was short otherwise I might be a bit annoyed at wasting time reading it.

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## **Julie says**

This novel was written in 1968 and whilst that is only 50 years ago, the world has obviously moved on so much. Rosamund Pilcher wrote a number of short novels in her early career and this is the 2nd in a bind up of 3 that I have.

It has the descriptive qualities of her best novels, without more than a fluffy plot line. It is still an engaging read and takes me back to my childhood of pre decimalised sterling and a more simple way of life.

I wouldn't rush to read this if you are new to the author, but it is still an easy summer read for those days when you don't want to have to think too much about what you are reading.

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## **Sarah says**

Oh dear! Even with the best will in the world, and taking into account that Rosamunde Pilcher has given me many, many hours of pleasant reading-time, I cannot reasonably give "Another View" more than 2 stars.

The usual blurb says "When you read a novel by Rosamunde Pilcher you enter a special world where emotions sing from the heart." Well, I was left out in the cold this time! I couldn't relate to any of the characters, nor find any of them particularly endearing. The plot was extremely predictable, and the theatrical and artistic themes were poorly developed. I can only presume that this novel was published when Ms Pilcher was either strapped for cash or still searching for her writing style after a period with Mills & Boon. Thank heavens she found it in her later novels! I'll just forget about this one...

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## **Ann says**

Published in 1968 this book feels rather dated and it is also very short. It was an easy read but there seemed no great depth to the characters and the plot was pretty thin. Her later books such as *The Shell Seekers* and *Winter Solstice* are so much better.

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## **Mary says**

Emma knew only two men in her life - her absentee father, an artist who had left her in a boarding school and only visited her every few years and Christo - her stepbrother of a few months who now wanted to get to know her better. Emma needs to know where she stands with these two men before love can bloom. I gave this story an A!

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## **Carol says**

The author is really good, I liked her other book, but this story was just too slow. It's an okay book cause the only really good part is the end. There are 150 pages of God knows what, almost a babbling about trivial stuff. In the last 50 pages something finally happens and then the story becomes interesting.

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