



Wander and Roam

Anna Kyss

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In the last year, Abby Bentley has failed out of college and lost her high school sweetheart. Unwilling to return home, Abby signs up to volunteer on an Australian farm, where she can hide away from her family and isolate to her heart's desire. Best of all, no one will care about her past. Abby soon discovers she'll be sharing most of her daylight hours--as well as a very small yurt--with the farm's other volunteer: sexy, flirtatious Sage.

The more hours they spend together, the more conflicted Abby becomes. Torn between a growing attraction to Sage and faltering loyalty to her old boyfriend, Abby escapes to her refuge of writing letters she will never send. When Abby finally reveals her past, Sage's secret about his future threatens their bond. With Abby running from her past and Sage trying to escape his future, can they build a relationship in the here and now?

Wander and Roam Details

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From Reader Review Wander and Roam for online ebook

Sara► Ink Is My Sword says

1.5 “It had potential but ugh nop” Stars

Me throughout the whole book:

This book was so boring, predictable and just had terrible writing and plot development.

Do you know how you usually think a boring book is incredibly slow and nothing happens? Well, this book is the total opposite. Uh? Yes, is fast, too fast for my taste, nothing happened and yet at the same time, everything did in a millisecond. One minute I was reading about her thoughts on her ex and the next minute she would be kissing the other guy. She would be talking with somebody and in the next line she would have hiked 3km, everything moved so fast and there wasn't a flow. Did I already mention that her mind worked like that as well? If you are explaining why a certain person has been your forever and everything you love and all that, but the next line you start saying “that guy makes me so hot, something I never did before, makes me tingle in places...” UGHHHHH. Just please no. Our main character is the most inconsistent character I have ever read in my life.

This book has something I have never experienced and I hope I never experience in my life, it was something like insta love but not really. Our main character sees this shirtless guy across the lake and says how hot he is and a minute later she is meeting him and already mentioning how her body feels tingly and blah blah blah, for fork's sake you meet him a minute ago. Another thing that was screaming how much I didn't like this story was how much I was aching for more characters. I am the type of reader who likes to get deep with 1 one character, but because the author has so many of them it never happens. Well, in this book I was pleading for more characters because it was BORING. Oh and just if you haven't caught the fact I didn't like this book, I guessed all the plot 10% into the story.

I thought about another thing that bothers me, actually, it has become my most recent pet peeve in books. I hate when sexual intimacy takes place in moments where they are so out of place. For example imagine talking about death or rape and then the next second you are having sex, personally, I feel I would never have a turn on after something like that. This book has a similar scene, not exactly with the topics I already mentioned but it was the worst timing and reasoning behind it.

Look this book is not what I call trash, because it did had potential if it was well crafted and better written. I just didn't feel anything. Whenever I should have felt butterflies in my stomach I felt nothing. Whenever I should have been crying or feeling sad, I felt nothing. Whenever I should have been mad, I felt nothing. Maybe I am just a cold-hearted person, but nop I am sure this isn't because other NA book has made me feel all of the above in the correct places.

I don't recommend it.

Holly (epiloguebookblog) says

4.5 stars

If I had to sum up *Wander & Roam* using one word, that word would be **refreshing!**

Sure, there are many other terms I could have gone with to describe this work: suspenseful or sweet or thought-provoking, just to name a few. But in my opinion, this novel presents readers with so many fresh elements, that uniqueness supersedes its other auspicious qualities.

Lately I've read in the NA genre almost exclusively. It's hard not to notice that novels within it often follow very predictable patterns or formulas. Regarding *Wander & Roam*, however, Anna Kyss gives us some new material to consider:

1. Readers are given a very different type of hero to swoon over; he's not a brooding, tattooed, damaged alpha or a commitment-phobe famous musician/athlete. Instead, Sage (love the name, by the way) is introspective, philosophical, and unselfish--almost to a fault. He meditates and studies Buddhism, and his plans for the future involve volunteering and starting a family.
2. The setting and the context of the storyline are unique; I've never read anything else like it. Sage and Abby serve as volunteers for a WWOOFing program, in which they assist their host (Susan) in tending her farm based near Sydney, Australia. The existence of such a program was entirely new to me, and I enjoyed what description there was about sustaining that particular lifestyle and preserving/selling the farm's produce.
3. The author has chosen to imply sex scenes rather than to provide readers with explicit play-by-plays. I think this choice is a wise one, considering the novel's profound, emotion-laden subject matter. This way, the couple's physical relationship doesn't overshadow the deeper issues at hand.

Overall, *Wander & Roam* is an enjoyable read featuring two likable and deserving main characters. Be prepared, though, because this one ends in a cliffhanger! I'm already itching to get my hands on the next installment.

Copy generously provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Unofficial Book Club says

When attending a book signing, I always look forward to being exposed to new-to-me authors. One such writer I had the pleasure of meeting at UtopYA2015 was Anna Kyss, an author of YA and NA romance, fantasy and dystopian novels. The gorgeous cover for *Wander and Roam* caught my eye and as soon as I found out it was the first in her NA romance series, my interest was piqued as these types of stories are right up my alley. Little did I know what a hidden gem this book would turn out to be!

The story centers around Abby, a college dropout trying to escape her past, and Sage, a philosophical adventurer with an aversion to discussing his future. The two meet as volunteers on an Australian farm. Working side by side, they form a fast friendship based on their mutual agreement that speaking of the past and present is off limits. As they focus on being in the "now," friendship evolves into deeper feelings;

however, their blossoming romance is threatened by secrets they are unwilling to divulge.

Wander and Roam is a breath of fresh air in the New Adult genre. Sage is far from your typical NA hero. He's a thinker, a free spirit, a man who notices the magic held in quiet moments. He urges Abby to venture outside of her comfort zone and she, in turn, does the same for him. Kyss does a remarkable job of capturing the resulting self-discovery for both of these characters, a key element to this genre. The changes the two undergo aren't just superficial. They are deeply felt and change the fabric of their lives as individuals and as a couple.

Kyss has a talent for evocative writing and infuses the book with descriptions of scenery and food that leave you feeling as though you've been transported right into the story. Putting all of this together, it would be incredibly difficult to read this book and not feel completely invested in Abby and Sage's heartfelt journey. The book does end on a cliffhanger; however, their story will continue in the third installment in the series. I, for one, cannot wait to see what Kyss has in store for these two characters who now hold a special place in my bookworm heart.

Cassey says

A fairly enjoyable read, but it was predictable.

Paige says

3.5 "Radical Honesty" Stars

Wander and Roam is a very emotional story of two people running from their reality. Both find themselves on a remote farm in Australia as a way to cope. Abby, running from her past, and Sage, running from his future, eventually run toward each other.

Told in Abby's point of view, we first meet Abby as she's being kicked out of college for poor attendance and lack of participation. Really for the last six months she hasn't been participating in much in the way of life except for writing her letters to Robbie. When she realizes that she will need to vacate her dorm room, she refuses to go back home so she looks for another place to stay and sees a chance to live in Australia and help on a farm with food and lodging being provided. There she meets Sage, an American working on the same farm. After hiding away for so long it takes her a bit to get used to being around other people, but there is just something about Sage that calls to her. They grow closer together until a weekend trip to Sydney means Abby has to let go of the past and Sage needs to face the future.

I really enjoyed Abby and Sage's story. The suspense about what Abby was running from in her past and what Sage was keeping from thinking about his future kept me on the edge of my seat. Watching Sage be so gentle with Abby was also so endearing. Even though all the love scenes were faded to black with no real steam, I could feel the tension between the two. Watching these two find their breaking points broke my heart. I wanted so badly for them to find happiness. I guess in a way they both grew and found a way to be content, but with the way the book ends, both are pretty far from what they want out of life.

I was shocked when I got to the end of this book. I'm glad there was an author's note at the end explaining

that this will in fact be the first in a series. Thank goodness because I could not have survived that being the ending. It seemed so unfinished. Now I get that it was probably for the best so that Abby and Sage's story can be fully felt and realized, but I was still really bummed. I am going to be anxiously awaiting the continuation of their story and I'm praying for good things for two people who have been dealt a really sad hand of cards so early in life.

Arc provided by publisher via Netgalley for honest review.

Steph says

What do you do when the world as you know it comes crashing down around you? If you are Abby, you run as far and as fast as possible. All the way to Australia and an isolated farm. Abby knows she is completely broken, but doesn't see a way out other than to withdraw from everything and everyone. The last thing she expects to find on the farm is a boy who makes her feel things she didn't think she would ever feel again.

Abby doesn't talk about her past, Sage refuses to discuss his future so they spend a few blissful weeks living in the now. But as Abby starts to come to terms with all she has lost and allow herself to feel again, Sage begins to pull away. At first Abby doesn't understand but once she learns Sage's secret she will have to make a huge decision about where she goes from here.

This book...OMG...I feel like I totally had my heart ripped out of my chest, stomped on and shoved back in. At first, I was confused, not exactly sure what the deal was with Abby and her ex. It takes almost half of the book before you learn what happened and then it all starts to make sense...and then you start to notice the clues and see things Sage is hiding...and you can see the train coming but so hope you are wrong. Now I don't want to say anymore because I don't want to give anything away but allow me to go off on a tangent for a moment...

...those of you who follow my reviews know that there is really only one thing that I hate in a book, it is my ultimate pet peeve...while this one doesn't go there (yet) it is on that path. Grrrrr...this is a huge cliffhanger so you don't know where the story goes, and I am hoping with my fingers and toes crossed that it goes down the good path, not the bad one.

Ok, enough of my tangent...this started a little slow, like I said I was a little confused at first, but it eventually pulled me in and I couldn't put it down.

My thoughts:

POV first, from Abby

Quick hook or slow starter? 4 (it took a little while to hook me)

Character development: 4

Level of Romance between characters: 4

Passion/Heat level: 3(just a little kissing, there are no sex scenes in the book, they are just implied)

Angst/Heartbreak: 5 (so sad and heartbreaking once everything comes out)

Cliffhanger?: Huge!! Can't wait to see what happens next.

Overall, I really liked it and can't wait for the next book to see where this story goes!

I received a free copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Tina V says

This was such a beautiful story! We all grieve and handle life in different ways and I loved how Abby and Sage were able to help each other just by being themselves. This a wonderfully written story about Abby running from her past by just existing and not really living and Sage who is so scared to think of the future. This story and characters will draw you in and make you feel. I fell in love with Abby and Sage and I absolutely can not wait to see what happens next!

Kathy says

I received an ARC eBook in exchange for an honest review. This is the first book I have read by Anna Kyss and it most definitely will not be my last! This was by far HONESTLY the most beautiful, heart-wrenching and sweetest books I have ever read! I couldn't put it down and even though I have finished reading it, I know it is one of those books that will stay with me forever! I loved Sage and Abby's story! Abby running away from her past and Sage avoiding his future, find each other in the beautiful Australian farm! Anna's descriptions of local sites transported me to this beautiful land and I felt like I was right there with them! I ran the full gamut of emotions reading this book! No vulgar profanity or overly descriptive sex scenes were needed or even missed! I can't wait to read more of their story as the series continues! No cliffhanger ending - you are just left knowing there will be more to this story! Hauntingly beautiful and surprisingly sweet and satisfying read! A book you will want to revisit again and again! Anna Kyss has been added to the top of my MUST-READ authors!! Buy this book! You will not regret it!!

Jenny Brightman Harris says

wow is this book ever amazing. I do not give many 5 star reviews but this one deserves it. The way the author writes the characters of Sage and Abby is absolutely amazing. Abby has lost a boyfriend and has not learned how to deal with the loss of this person. She hides out in her dorm room and eventually gets kicked out for not going to class or turning in assignments. To avoid the inevitable issues with her family as a result of this she sees an ad and takes off to work in Australia. When she gets to this farm she is going to work on she meets Sage. Now you can tell right off the bat that Sage has his own secrets but you will see what they are later in the book I won't ruin that surprise. What he does do is find the right way to get Abby to see that she isn't living she is just merely existing and there is more to life than that.

This book will touch anyone and everyone if you have lost someone close or just as a casual acquaintance. This book will touch your heart it will help you see yourself in that place and if you have been there for awhile maybe even a place out. This book does have an open ending but it is not a cliffhanger. This author left it open for more books in this series. I will recommend this book to anyone and everyone. Please read this book it is an amazing story.

Beyond the Pages says

Sweet, haunting, and beautiful.

Lisa says

This is a beautiful heartfelt story. Sage and Abby will have you on an emotional roller coaster. The details of this book are so well written that you feel like you are right there with them. This is the first book I've read by Anna Kyss but I will definitely be watching for the next book in this series to see where Sage and Abby go from here.

BookHookup says

Here's what I learned from this story...you can't run from reality but, sometimes, when you do, good things happen. This book was filled with heartbreak and joy at the same time. Both Abby and Sage are facing difficult challenges in their lives and neither wants to deal with it at the moment. In their attempts to run away from the pain they're feeling, they meet each other and discover that having someone to share your load is better than facing it alone.

Abby's past overwhelms her and she's not ready to move forward. Sage wants to live in the present to avoid what's coming in his future. And, as they try to live in the here and now they begin to realize that although you can hide from reality, it has a way of tracking you down. I loved both of these characters and my heart hurt for them. It takes a while to get Abby's complete story and, because of that, it feels a bit slow at times. However, once you understand, you begin to see the connection to Sage's...and then your heart shatters, and you hope that you're wrong, and you try to run away from the reality just like they do. But, as I said in the first sentence of this review, you can't.

In this book we're treated to characters who are mature beyond their years and who have faced situations that many of us cannot understand. Sage is introspective, intelligent and sweet. Abby is strong, smart and sensitive. And together they're able to face fears and overcome sorrow. I would have loved to have seen some of this through Sage's POV because he was a bit of a mystery at certain points in the story and it would have been great to hear his thoughts as well. Overall, this is a very good book with great characters and wonderful writing. It definitely brings all the feels so be ready to get misty and maybe even shed a few tears! I definitely recommend it!

Jennifer says

This had potential but I couldn't connect with any of it.

Amber says

This story crawled inside me, split my heart open, and laid it bare for the entire world to see. I have discovered aspects of my own personal journey of grief throughout these pages, and it really made everything burst to life before my eyes. I wasn't just deeply touched by this soul searing experience; my heart was broken and then surprisingly nurtured and tended back to life. I was given a precious and priceless gift of learning how to balance and live life without fear or regret. No value can be put on such a treasure!

Abby is lost in a world of emptiness, pain, and longing. No matter how far the waves of regret pull her under, she never fights against them. She has given up to the notion of living because she no longer has a reason or a purpose to go on. Isolation has become her world and loneliness her only companion. With nothing left to lose, Abby drags herself halfway around the world to continue hiding, but this time, life has other plans for her in the form of Sage. Sage is unlike anyone that Abby has ever met before, and the harder she tries to avoid him, the more relentless he becomes in trying to break down her walls of pain and despair. Will her strength give out and cause her to open up to him, or will she push him away and pull even deeper into herself and become completely lost in her all-encompassing grief?

I am completely in love with both Abby and Sage. They are as different as night and day, and yet they are exactly what the other needs. They are drawn by an unknown force to grow closer and dig deeper to find out all they can. As they get to know each other, they begin to realize that they have found the missing piece to their own soul. They provide a balance for each other; one's yin to the other's yang. While Sage breathes life back into Abby, she fills in the empty pieces of the puzzle that is Sage. Together life makes sense and has a purpose. Together, they can conquer the world.

Each beautiful character represented a unique and essential piece of the exquisite tapestry that is this story. Their own trials and pain served as a guidepost to both warn and encourage Abby and Sage not to give up, but to fight for their balance and their heart's greatest desire. Giving up is easy, but fighting for what we want takes courage and ferocity. I challenge you to not take the easy road and just give up, but dare to push onward and fight for what you want. Grab onto your dream and never let go.

This is the first book that I have ever read by Anna Kyss, and she literally blew me away. I couldn't read fast enough to find out what happened next, and yet I was trying to savor each and every word in order to get the full impact of her incredible story! I am beyond anxious to find out what happens to Abby and Sage as I hated to say goodbye to them. They are truly amazing and unforgettable!

S. J. Y. C. says

4 STARS!

Wander & Roam is the first book in the Wander series by Anna Kyss.

This book was amazing and incredible! I loved reading this book. It focused a lot on facing your fears and embracing life: the here and now. Wander & Roam focuses on two characters: Abby and Sage.

When Abby loses her boyfriend and is forced out of her school, she flees to an Australian farm to run away from her past and her family's disappointment. There, she meets sexy and handsome Sage...

Anna's character development for Abby was absolutely stupendous! I could feel Abby's sorrow throughout the story and I wish I could have jumped inside the book and given her one of my ultra-fine hugs! Abby goes

through a difficult stage of sorrow and despair, until she meets Sage who helps her to gradually heal.

Sage is the perfect example of a friend, brother, and lover combined into one person. He helps Abby move on and embrace her past rather than hide from it. Anna creates the perfect character Abby needs to come out of the darkness and into the light of life. Yet, along with his compassion, Sage has a secret of his own that could tear the two apart. Abby runs from her past, he runs from his future.

The chemistry between the two characters was really good. It wasn't too little nor over the top either. It was a good blend of both. Anna perfectly illustrates Abby's internal conflict between embracing the man who can help her forget or staying loyal to her first love and high school sweetheart.

The one thing that did disappoint me was the ending. I WANT TO KNOW MORE! I absolutely hate how Anna left the story! When I got to the ending, I almost threw my kindle at the wall. In my opinion, Anna left the story unresolved and basically at a cliff hanger. Since the sequel focuses on two different characters, I basically have no clue as to how Abby and Sage's story will end! Let's just say it wasn't a happily ever after.

Overall, Anna's writing definitely pulled me in and I hope that other readers will feel attached to this wonderful story. I hope Anna will write another book that focuses on Abby and Sage again and, hopefully, they will get the happily ever after they deserve.
