



The Rancher's Second Chance

Victoria James

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Widowed rancher Cole Forrester is all about running his family's ranch and guarding his heart. The last thing he's looking for is love, but when his little sister can't make it home to handle some of her wedding details, he's forced to entertain the event planner, Melanie Simms. Melanie is everything he's not even remotely interested in: she's high-society, complicated, and high maintenance. But when he's stranded with her at his remote cabin in the Colorado mountains, he realizes he's seriously underestimated her. She's hiding something about her past from him, but despite everything, he finds himself falling for the last woman he ever expected, and the first woman to make him want to give his heart and risk everything...

The Rancher's Second Chance Details

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From Reader Review *The Rancher's Second Chance* for online ebook

Monica Cardoza says

A man that lost his love of his life but he might have room for another woman if only he gives it a chance. A woman that can't trust anyone because of what happened with her father but a cowboy might just be the one to pass her test.

This was such a warm, emotional story. When I started reading this story I knew that it had to do with a cowboy that was going to get a second chance to love a wonderful, strong woman. But as I was reading and he told his story about how he met his wife and how she passed away so many memories came back to me of when my husband passed away. I know that both my husband always and I talked about what if one of us passed away would we ever be able to remarry or find someone to be with, both of us answered no. I love how he was able to move on but it wasn't that he knew he needed to he was still in mourning. He thought he moved on with his life but he never did, it seemed that he was waiting for her to come into his life so he could love again. He just didn't know that she also had her own demons and he was going to face them together with her.

Cole Forrester and Melanie Simms have been left to finish the last details of his sister's wedding which is also her bestfriend. She has had a major crush on him and well he hasn't really noticed her much. Now here is Gage, he is like a brother to Cole, putting the moves on Melanie and he is not going to have it. Ms. Harris, is the housekeeper and match maker and she has her own agenda so Cole can see how lovely Melanie is and how she would make him happy.

When it's time to go to the chapel she gets stubborn and she will not get on a horse. She is willing to walk in the freezing cold but she doesn't tell him why her reluctance in not mounting one. They end up walking to the chapel but when they are ready to leave a blizzard catches them and they have no choice but to walk to a small cabin that Cole has in the wooded area. It's nice and small and the most important thing they are alone, half naked and with a bottle of whiskey. He can no longer keep his hands to himself and he wants her and she wants him. Things get hot and heavy but Gage interrupts them.

Soon she finds out that he is closing a deal with her father's company and she had received a phone call from her sister saying that they were coming to Passion Creek. Cole has been coming to see her and he wants a relationship with her but she's afraid. He wants this business to go through for a long time and it was a dream that he and his late wife had. She couldn't tell him what her father did and why not to do business with him. Then the day comes that her sister, Meredith, shows up at her business but things don't go very well and they have another fight. Cole and Melanie go out to dinner and that where she sees her father. How can she continue being with Cole when he is going to be doing business with a monster? How could have Cole just let her walk away can he get her back when he realizes what he just did?

The Rancher's Second Chance is a great start to a new series. This is not my first read by Ms. James and I know that I will be waiting patiently for the next book in this series. I truly hope that the next story is about Gage and Meredith something not good was going through Gage's mind when he saw Meredith, I don't know if he knows her from the past or if it was just him being protective. The pace of this story was perfect and the characters were well developed. The storyline was intriguing and Ms. James writing is captivating. I love stories that I can get lost in and just sigh when they end. I can't wait for more from this author.

I highly recommend this read to all readers that love romance.

Received ARC from NetGalley in exchange for an Honest Review

Emily (Mrs B's Books) says

****ARC Provided by Netgalley and Entangled Publishing, LLC for an honest review****

A good ol' sweet romance with a sexy cowboy? IM IN!!

Cole Forrester is one gorgeous cowboy with a very large heart who has been hurt in the past simply because his wife died of cancer.

Melanie is alone in the world. She ran away from a rich nasty father leaving behind her mother and sister who would not leave with her and she has been coping on her own ever since. Her best friend Corri is getting married, but due to the fact she has to have emergency surgery, Mel has to take care of the remaining wedding plans at the family ranch.

Cole, who at the start seems somewhat cold at the start, has some awkward conversations with his family housekeeper and some sniffs out that she is trying to set him and Mel up together. It doesn't help that she has a body that tempts him.

Cole very quickly decides that he wants Mel, she is the first woman that he has even considered and he finds her easy to talk to as well as intriguing. He wants to know all about her.

This book had just the right amount of romance, trouble and witty banter that made me smile. I would love to hear more about Gage and Meredith....

Sapphyria says

Melanie Simms is an up and coming wedding planner based in Passion Creek. Her good friend Corrin (Cori) is getting married soon and Melanie wants the low key-high society wedding to go off without a hitch. The problem? Cori is out of town having emergency surgery and there are wedding details that still need to be worked out. Melanie now must go to The Tall Pines Ranch, owned by Cori's brother, and work with him to get the final wedding items needed.

Cole Forrester married his soul mate and, tragically, buried her five years later. He's content in the fact that he is alone and isn't looking to replace Sarah. Fate has a funny way about her though, and she sends Melanie across Cole's path. Except, Cole thinks Melanie is a spoiled brat and way too high maintenance and Melanie assumes Cole only views her as his little sister's friend. He cannot wait for the wedding planning to be finished and for Mel to be on her merry little way.

As they are forced to spend more time together, however, there is a definite shift in the plane. Feelings that have been buried or unrealized sprout forth and unite Mel and Cole in a way that neither expected or felt was

possible. Unbeknownst to either, both Cole and Melanie have serious issues related to their pasts that could either pull them together, or drag them completely apart. And when Cole fulfills a dream of his late wife's by making a business deal with a family restaurant chain, he learns just how family oriented the owners of the chain really are and what that venture may mean for his future.

Melanie is a very likable character. She comes from a wealthy family but harbors deep scars. She's worked hard to distance herself from the family name and make something of herself. Her business as a wedding planner is still in the growing stages but she's committed and determined to be successful. She's down-to-earth and genuine.

Cole is a man haunted by the memory of his late wife, Sarah. He is comfortable being single for the rest of his life, as no other woman could ever replace Sarah. Well, as is pointed out to him, you don't replace a loved one, ever. Living your life and finding someone else isn't to replace or forget. It's okay to move on when the time is right. And his friend, Gage, and housekeeper, Mrs. H., know it's time even if Cole doesn't.

The secondary characters fulfill their roles with purpose and likability. Each one has their own part to play and Ms. James has written them well. There are matchmakers, villains, friends, and family that each make an entrance into the Passion Creek novel.

The world that Victoria built brings the past up to date with the present without dragging it out or not providing enough detail. We are given the right amount of back story for both Mel and Cole to see the misconceptions, misunderstandings, and reasonings behind behaviors, attitudes, and life choices. I couldn't help but fall in love with both of them.

I've now had the chance to read two books written by Victoria James and she has moved her way up to the top of my "Favorite Authors" list. Victoria's books are powerful and full of emotion. Her ability to transform a story in the minds of a reader from nothing but words on a page to full blown reality is extraordinary.

Complimentary copy provided by author/publisher for an honest review.

Melody May (What I'm Reading) says

Posted on What I'm Reading

Yesterday, I finished *The Rancher's Second Chance* by Victoria James which is the second installment to Passion Creek books. However, you need not worry about reading the first book *Reforming the Playboy*, because both of these stories are standalone. Honestly, they are their own stories that take place in Passion Creek. Enough about that let me get on with my thoughts on *The Rancher's Second Chance*.

Melanie Simms has had a crush on her best friend's brother forever. She figure that she would just admire him from afar. Now Cole Forrester never thought he would love again, after all he had the love of his life and she passed away. He never thought he would have feelings for another woman, but Melanie seems to stir something deep inside him.

I love Victoria's writing, because you will always find some great lines. For example:

"Cole Forrester was more appetizing than a triple-layer chocolate cake infused with rum and dripping with icing."

Who doesn't want a hero that is better than a triple-layer chocolate cake. However, Cole is kind of set in his ways. He has no problem staying single. However, the rest of his family and friend's have other ideas. I love how Mrs. Harris kind of plays matchmaker for these two and I think she enlisted the help of Cole's best friend Gage. However, that was never proven.

Anyway, Cole has always seen Melanie as some rich socialite who wouldn't know how to handle hard work. Of course, his preconceive ideas slowly fly out the window when he starts to see Mel in a new light. Yes, Cole starts to realize he's attractive to Mel, but is afraid to move on. Plus, Mel brings family complication Cole doesn't realize they are there until more information is reveal. Cole is face with the challenge of building a life with Mel or expanding his company. I know tough choices ahead for Cole.

Seriously, Victoria seems to to be able make a story come to life with her words. I love her stories, because they make you feel so much more. I'm always anxiously waiting for her next book to come out. So, if you are looking for fantastic read, you might give *The Rancher's Second Chance* a try. After all the story is about second chance of love even after they had love once.

Copy provided by the publisher

Lydia says

"I'd risk it all for you. I'd go to hell and back for a day, a night, a lifetime with you if you'll have me. You make me want to believe in forever again. I want to grow old with you, sweetheart. I know how to feel and I'm a man who's not afraid to love. And if you'll let me, I'll spend the rest of our lives loving you." - Cole Forrester

Well, this one certainly had me thinking a lot about the rating and such... But I'm rushing and stepping out of my usual order here, so I'd better get back to it.

First, the main plot!

Melanie Simms always had a soft spot for her friend's brother, Cole Forrester. Now that she is forced to work with him in order to prepare his sister's wedding, she doesn't know if she should feel sorry for herself - or blessed. Meanwhile, Cole has issues of his own. He still hasn't moved on from his wife's death, no matter what everyone tells him. But being close to Melanie wreaks havoc to his senses, it makes him feel alive again - and he's not sure he's ready for that yet.

Don't we all love those stories that say that, no matter how many years pass, you CAN get the guy you fell in love with in a young age? (ok, not all of us, obviously - I'm not a particular fan of that idea, but the majority of readers find it satisfying)

Don't we all want to have a second chance in love? Whether it's with the guy we never had the guts to go after, or another woman after the one we thought was our soul mate has passed away?

The Rancher's Second Chance was an enjoyable, quick read, with lots of sweet romance and characters that

made you like them at first sight. It also had some suspense to spice things up - not some great mystery or anything, just a family drama, but Mrs. James played her cards just right to not let it get boring or out of the place.

Considering all that, I finished reading in almost one go. It's amazing what a decent plot idea can do, huh? But that didn't mean it came without some issues for me - personal issues, if you will.

For starters, it was way too abrupt in some points. Now, in certain parts of the story, I didn't really care much, because I was absorbed in what was going on and wanted to know the rest of the scene, so I just ignored it. But ignoring something doesn't make it go away, and there might be other readers who will not be as forgiving on the matter.

Next, we have some of the characters' reactions in certain, quite important parts of the story. At times they would overdo it - like Cole's way too irrational anger at every little thing Melanie did at first, even if it was due to his own personal judgement of her... "type" -, and at times they would act like the biggest bomb exploding was not a big deal - the whole "revealing certain secrets" thing was accepted way too easily and calmly.

Finally, there is this one pet peeve of mine - building up tension and leaving me unsatisfied. I don't care if Melanie got her all-wanted sexual climax in the story, since I didn't read about it, I'm not counting it as one. In other words, I had to endure all that sexual tension for nothing. Even if the main heroine got her sexy dose, I got none - I honestly hate when this happens, it reminds me of my mother's old romance novels where sex was always done behind closed doors. If you ask me, if the reader doesn't enjoy some sexy action, then the heroes don't deserve to experience any, too. But that's only a personal problem, so feel free to ignore it.

All in all, Melanie and Cole's story was fun, and easy to read through. But it's not one I'd re-read, mainly because this type of book is suited to be read only once. The glamour and intrigue is lost after that...

****I was given an ARC from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. The opinion stated in this review is solely mine, and no compensation was given or taken to alter it.****

Read this and other reviews at: <http://cupcakesandpopcorn.wordpress.com/>

Talking Books says

Meet wedding planner Melanie who happens to be the bride's (Cori) best friend. Cori can't make it home to finalise details for her nuptials so she leaves it to Melanie. Adding to the mix is Cori's hotter than hot rancher brother Cole, who is grieving over losing his wife of years past. Cole is forced to help Melanie with a few wedding details and ends up getting stranded at his cabin. Mel is hiding something from her past. Something that has the potential to rock her very foundation. Cole soon comes to realise he has underestimated Melanie and begins to really get to know her. Despite it all he finds himself attracted to her. But will he give his heart again?

Thoughts On The Book

This book was one epic read! From the first page I just knew this book would be one I couldn't put down. This story has so many struggles and emotions - loss, grieving, living, love and family. Strongly written

characters with equally strong stories that intertwine to form one incredible read!

Melanie and Cole's characters had so much chemistry and the additional characters - Gage, Mrs Harris and even Tim added to the mix splendidly. This book cannot be faulted. An absolute feel good read.

Five Stars!

*ARC received from Publisher for an honest review

Shirley Buchanan says

Losing your soul mate to death is devastating to anyone. Every person handles it in a different way. For Cole, the devastation was complete. No one would ever take her place. He would work his ranch, cherish his memories and strive to achieve their dreams, all while living his life alone. He had had his one chance at love and had no interest in finding another. Then Fate dropped a bombshell into his path.

When Cori, Cole's sister, was out of town, she was rushed into emergency surgery just a few days before her wedding. Appealing to her best friend and wedding planner to handle the last minute details, Melanie knew she was glad to help, but that meant dealing with her older brother, Cole. Although she had admired him from afar, he barely acknowledged her. She knew he thought she was a rich, spoiled, high maintenance socialite, but he couldn't be further from the truth. She had paid dearly for her independence, but those were her secrets. She knew he would never be interested in her. Only why did he have that scowl when his friend flirted with her and what about that look he gave her in the borrowed lingerie when the weather forced her to spend the night. Could she be mistaken? Was he as interested in her as she was in him? Could he be just better at hiding it? Was there a possibility of a future? Or would his late wife always be between them? And the most telling, would she be able to share her secrets with him and survive?

Protective, sexy and handsome, Cole was any woman's dream of the perfect man. A tough exterior hiding a warm center, he had loved his wife and never wanted or needed another woman. Surprised at his feelings when he observed his friend flirting with Melanie, his sister's friend, and flabbergasted at the sudden interest and desire that ran through him after he observed her in the sexy lingerie, he felt confused. She was nothing like the wife he had cherished, but the pull of long forgotten emotions were definitely there. He was definitely attracted, but was he ready to take the plunge into dating again? Would it be a betrayal of his love for his late wife? What could a high maintenance spoiled city girl give him in return? Should he risk it? Was there a possibility that he could have two great loves in his life?

An excellent story of a hot sexy cowboy with a broken heart and a society city girl with dark secrets finding their paths to an eternal love. Well written characters with a well developed plot provided a tale of the pitfalls in every new relationship. While they bare their secrets and hope for acceptance, they wonder if they have chosen wisely. The matchmaking antics of Mrs. Harris and Gage, were entertaining and provided many laughs as they steadily pushed them together. I laughed, cried and sympathized with the characters on their journey.

I would recommend this story to all romance readers. I was given a copy by the author for an honest review.

4/5 stars Did they have a chance for love?

Ellen says

I have read several of Victoria James' books in the past and really enjoyed them, so when I had the opportunity to read *The Rancher's Second Chance*, I couldn't wait to see what kind of story Victoria James would write that included a cowboy. Needless to say, she didn't disappoint and has written a romantic and entertaining story that readers will love.

Melanie Simms is a wedding planner and she just happens to be planning her best friend's wedding, which is being held at the family's ranch, a ranch which her friend's brother Cole Forrester runs. As fate would have it, when her friend falls ill while out of town, Melanie must handle things on her behalf, which includes going to the ranch for some final preparations. This also means she will be seeing Cole, who has always made her heart flutter. Cole lost his wife several years prior and has been alone ever since, just the way he wants it. In his mind, no one could ever replace her and he has no intentions of getting into a relationship now or ever, but there is something about Mel that causes a stirring inside he hasn't felt in a long time. Melanie has her own secrets centered around a painful past. When circumstances thrust these two together, the attraction they feel cannot be denied and the sparks begin to fly, but will the past and the hurts that still remain threaten to destroy any hope of a future for them before it even begins.

I loved the characters in the story. Cole is one super hot cowboy, and when he loosens up, he is a really fun guy to be around. He also has a very protective side, and he's determined to get what he wants. Melanie is a city girl, but she's also very strong-willed, and strong as a person. She can be a lot of fun to be around. One of my favorite characters in the book was Cole's friend Gage. I absolutely loved him and I really hope he is getting his own book.

Overall, *The Rancher's Second Chance* is romantic and has just the right amount of sizzle. I loved the story itself and found it to be romantic, sexy, and though it had its serious moments, it was also fun and enjoyable to read. Victoria James has done an excellent job with this contemporary romance - it's most definitely something contemporary romance fans will enjoy.

Kim Reads (Read Your Writes Book Reviews) says

Reviewed for Read Your Writes Book Reviews
by Kim

I will not deny that I'm a huge fan of Victoria James. Her books always seem to draw me in and tug at my heartstrings. *The Rancher's Second Chance* was no different.

When it comes to writing likeable characters who have been through the ringer, Victoria has the midas touch. Cole Forrester buried his wife five years ago and doesn't want to risk his heart getting broken again. Melanie Simms is courageous beyond belief. She's carrying around a secret that very few people know about. I hesitate to say that she's feisty, but she does stand up for herself and those she cares about.

Melanie is planning the wedding of Cole's sister, Cori. Melanie and Cori have been best friends, since they went to the same private school. With Cori stuck in the hospital, just days before her wedding, it's up to Melanie with the help of Cole, to get everything prepared. Cole isn't a fan of Melanie. In fact, he doesn't

even know her. He just assumes that because she went to a private boarding school, that she's a spoiled princess.

With a meddling housekeeper who's like a second mom, an outspoken best friend who loves to flirt, and a blizzard, you have the recipe for romance. But before these two can find the happiness in their lives that they crave, they're going to have to overcome their past and their fears. I was surprised by the secret Melanie has from her past. I think Victoria did a wonderful job of addressing it and showing the readers a small part of it.

I'm definitely looking forward to the next book in this series.

ARC courtesy of Entangled Publishing for an honest and unbiased opinion. Plus I purchased the book myself.

Nicola says

Cowboys. Give them the right story and I love them. And if we had them in the UK I would constantly be wandering the fields appreciating the view. Cole Forrester? He is a cowboy I would happily ride into the sunset with.

Mm mm *sighs*

I've read enough of Victoria James' books to know that when I pick one up, I'll be treated to a romantic captivating journey and a couple to fall in love with. And I was, as *The Ranchers Second Chance* is a beautifully written book with wonderful realistic characters, a mesmerising storyline and set in a descriptively beautiful location.

Wedding Planner Melanie Simms is arranging the wedding of her best friend, Cori, who, days before the big day, is in hospital. Mel is left to prepare under the watchful guard of Cori's big brother Cole. Brooding, quiet and very sexy, he was widowed young and is determined to fulfil his wife's final wishes for the ranch. Both have painful pasts, both have erected emotional barriers, but with a nudge in the right direction from the Ranch's matriarchal housekeeper, they can't fight their chemistry.

Whilst their intimate moments are mild and kept pretty much behind closed doors, it is still passionate, touching, heartfelt and sexy. Cole and Mel's journey is one of discovery and understanding and with some laugh-out-loud moments lifting it exactly when it needed it, was an absolute pleasure to read.

(This is the second book in the Passion Creek series; the first written by Inara Scott, but this can easily be read as a standalone)

I received a copy of this as an ARC courtesy of Entangled Publishing for an honest and unbiased opinion

Lu Bielefeld *read.laugh.love* says

A novel involving three people, one of which is his dead wife. Throughout the story she is present in his thoughts and his actions. I thought that the heroine is the second best and his dead wife will always be the love of his life.

I liked our heroine because she ran away from an abusive home and created a better life for her. She proved to be a strong woman despite all abuse she suffered and became a human being worthy.

"I had a good woman once. Not looking to replace her."

"She's not my type. Too high maintenance."

"Cole was more than content expanding the family business and fulfilling one of Sarah's dreams."

"I do smile, on occasion. It took me a while, after Sarah," he said gruffly.

"quick way for me to remember Sarah was gone. It was just me up here. Only needed one glass, one plate, one fork and knife,"

"When she died, I wanted to go with her. I remember standing there thinking I wanted to jump into that grave with her. I didn't want to leave her alone. I didn't want to be left alone,"

"I have learned how to live without Sarah, but that doesn't mean I want to be married again,"

"It'll be a good way to secure steady, long-term business. And it was one of Sarah's dreams,"

"Tall Pines has been in my family for generations, and now I'm the only one left and it's me on my own. I can't afford to gamble with that. And this isn't just a mediocre deal. It's something Sarah and I envisioned. I'd be responsible for making one of her dreams come true."

"Go ahead, do the deal. Fulfill your obligations. Do it for Sarah."

“I am serious. You’re an idiot. So you’re willing to give up Melanie for a business deal?”

"My late wife, Sarah, loved her like a sister. I know she’d be so proud of you today, Cori."

Desere says

The read tells of Cole, once he had been happy but then life had dealt him a harsh blow and since that day he vowed to never love again.

But with the arrival of Melanie comes the reality that he might just be able to let someone new in, however just as he starts to let Melanie into his heart he learns that Melanie has a secret and unless he can convince her to open up to him, there truly is no chance for them.

This was a wonderful read with the focus on the hero learning to love again and the heroine learning how to finally stand up against the demons of injustice that torment her.

The character of Cole was understandably distant and him not wanting anyone around to interfere with his space was perfectly understandable.

Everyone deals with hurt in their own way, and the author showed this perfectly as she let Cole go from this distant stay away from me man to opening up and letting Melanie in. Through this character the author showed that it takes a special kind of person to almost force us to let them in, and if we don't embrace it, we might never the chance again.

The character of Melanie was so, so, so sad. My heart truly broke for this woman and everything she had to go through before meeting Cole. But through her character the author let me remember that when bad things happen to us, they happen and there is nothing we can do to stop it. More importantly there is no reason to be ashamed of it.

Yes, sometimes people will say that you were asking for it because you stepped out of line, but that could not be further from the truth. No one deserves anything bad that happens to them, the best you can do is deal with it in the best way you know how, but if you keep it to yourself it will never go away and you will never find the real strength to deal with it.

I am taking away a message of if we have a past or a present issue we have to face up to, doing it alone is never the answer. Letting someone else in even if it is just sharing a fraction of your pain, the healing will come much easier.

I recommend this read for any romance reader looking for the stunning story of two people both finding a reason to open up and take a chance at happiness. And honestly being so beautifully played out by the author it will bring you to tears of joy.

4 star review

" Second chances are hard to come by, grab them with both hands

LLC says

More like 4.5*. Another great read by Victoria James. Two strong characters, both with painful baggage getting in the way of a relationship.

BookLover says

Cole and Melanie's story really tugged at my heartstrings. It was clear from the beginning that both had an attraction to one another but neither intended on acting on their feelings.

Cole, a widow of five years, hadn't quite let go, despite believing he had moved on. Melanie, his sister Cori's best friend since school, was a temptation he didn't want. At every turn, Melanie dispelled his misconceptions about the type of woman she was. His desire to steer clear of her quickly turned to a desire for her. Mrs. Harris, the housekeeper on the ranch, was brilliant as the not-so-subtle matchmaker, adding in humour to Cole and Melanie's interactions.

"It's his Tuesday pickup."

"Oh," she said, dread pitting in her stomach. She glanced at him from the corner of her eye. "That sounds so premeditated. You don't engage in these...Tuesday-night pickups, do you?"

"I'm trying to engage in one right now."

She burst out laughing.

"That wasn't supposed to elicit laughter."

Melanie was such a strong character, even with all of her distorted shame over her past. She found a surrogate family in the Forresters and Mrs. Harris. I loved the life she built for herself and the work she put into making a career and standing on her own two feet. Once Cole set his sights on Melanie, he was able to work past all of her defenses and even passed "the test".

"Are you a cattle rancher?"

"Yes. And you own a restaurant called the happy cow, so excuse me if I thought this might be a good business—"

"This is a vegan restaurant. The cows are happy because they're alive!"

Despite Cole's sister Cori not being in most of the story, Cole's protectiveness and love for her was so apparent. I thought it was heartwarming the way he was always testing Cori's fiancée, Adam and making sure he was up to the task of loving his sister.

“He’d better make sure Cori’s surgery goes well.”

“Damn straight.”

“Melanie rolled her eyes. She understood now. Cole was a notoriously overprotective older brother, and Gage was the surrogate overprotective brother. Melanie leaned forward. “Is Adam performing the surgery?”

Mrs. Harris let out a booming laugh.”

Gage was a fantastic secondary character. As soon as I started getting attached to him, I went to the description for the second book in this series and was excited to see it was his story.

“When the hell did you get to be an expert on this kind of thing?”

He took another swig from the bottle. “I know all about secrets and shit. Mrs. H and I watch Downton Abbey on Sunday nights.”

This was a very enjoyable read!!!

Sharon says

The Rancher's Second Chance written by Victoria James is second book in the Passion Creek Series. Cole Forrest runs his family ranch. Cole's sister is planning her wedding at the ranch and when she can't be there she asks Cole to handle the details. Melanie is her friend and wedding planner. She will be helping Cole handle the wedding plans. Cole lost his wife five ago and is not looking for love. Cole wants have the dream he and his wife had come true. Helping Melanie he is starting to fall for her.

I love the way Victoria James wrote the characters in this story. Cole is the strong, alpha man with that tender side. Melanie is the sweet, caring, and has a great strength. There is also Mrs. H Cole's housekeeper. She the caring motherly figure.

I felt so many different emotions with this storyline. You had sadness, love, happiness and hope. You could feel Cole's struggle and still hope for Melanie's happiness. I had a hard time putting the book down. Victoria James doesn't disappoint.

This a 5 star must read.
