



The Wedding Bees: A Novel of Honey, Love, and Manners

Sarah-Kate Lynch

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The Wedding Bees by Sarah-Kate Lynch, the author of the bestselling *Dolci Di Love*, is a delightful novel about love and loss, heartbreak and hope, and the magic of honey, in the vein of *Amélie* and *Chocolat*.

When Sugar Wallace arrives in Manhattan with nothing but a beehive, a secret past and a taste for good manners, life starts to change for the dispirited occupants of 33 Flores Street.

But as love wings its way into their hearts and homes, it flies away from Sugar herself. That is, until a doorman without a door and a certain busy queen join forces in a sting to end all stings. It looks like love might be in the air once more ... but for how long?

The Wedding Bees: A Novel of Honey, Love, and Manners Details

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Author : Sarah-Kate Lynch

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From Reader Review The Wedding Bees: A Novel of Honey, Love, and Manners for online ebook

Gina says

Adorable! Made the reader feel good inside and wrapped up everything in a pretty box which is exactly the way I like it.

joyce g says

Beautifully written story of love, all kinds. Sweet with characters you adore.

Sophie says

Ik moest even in het verhaal komen in het begin maar het einde van het boek maakt dat meer dan goed!

Nynke-Boudien says

Honingzoete dagen vond ik een heel erg leuk en verrassend boek! Geen typische chicklit, maar een fijn verhaal dat je soms het gevoel van een sprookje geeft. Kan niet anders dan dat je hoofdpersoon Sugar en haar bijen in je hart sluit na het lezen van dit boek.

Anna says

As women, I feel that too often we care for and nurture others, but hide the places within ourselves that need soothed. That describes Cheri-Lynn "Sugar" Wallace. Following her departure from Charleston, SC, she and her bees have followed the whim of the queen bee and moved to somewhere new each year. Her latest address is in "Alphabet City", a diverse cultural section of New York City. Filled with personalities, Sugar befriends and guides her neighbors. She blesses them with fellowship and balms. When she comes to the aid of George, a retired doorman, sparks fly between her and handsome lawyer Theo. But Sugar is reluctant to share her heart and does her best to avoid Theo. With a little magic and help from George, her neighbors and the queen bee, Sarah is able to open her heart to the possibilities of love and a place to call home.

Sally906 says

THE WEDDING BEES was a wonderful Sunday afternoon read along with a glass or two of New Zealand Pinot Noir – author Sarah-Kate Lynch is from NZ after all.

I really related to the subject of bee keeping because we had a hive in our back yard – not ours we were just minding it as we had a particular flowering tree in our yard. I asked the bee keeper if there was anything I needed to do (other than let them run free in my trees) and he said all I had to do was go down to the hive and chat to them every day. Which I did – felt stupid the first couple of times but by the time they left six months later I missed our chats.

THE WEDDING BEES is a sweet old fashioned feel good romance, one that the bees are determined to make happen. Sugar resists the growing attraction to Theo because of an traumatic event in the past, which she gradually reveals and is the reason she has been moving every year for years. Sugar is very good at helping others, just not so good at taking advice herself, so her bees have to take drastic action! It is not all sweetness and happiness in the book – there are mental issues, bad tempers, hopelessness and a very nasty man. Watching how it all pans out and people's needs are met was very satisfying. Sarah-Kate Lynch doesn't fall into the trap of giving everyone in the story a happy ending either, although everyone is in a much better position at the end of the book than the start – it is just that some of the characters are still working through issues as the story ends, but the reader is left in no doubt that things will turn out just fine. The writing was really good with the author transporting me to a New York apartment balcony teeming with flowers, busy with bees and the smells from the chef cooking next door with his balcony full of herbs and vegetable. I really loved the story, and under the easy read there was depth and drama. Oh, and I also really liked the occasional Point of View from Queen Bee Elizabeth the 6th, it was just so different and fitted the magic of the story.

Katie/Doing Dewey says

As Leah at Books Speak Volumes once described a book, starting The Wedding Bees was like sinking into a warm bath. The writing is just so beautiful! It's lovely, warm, vivid, charming – perfect for the story of a Southern girl like Sugar. When I first read a post by Kayla at The Thousand Lives, I didn't get what she meant about wanting authors to write with more color. Since then, I've read several books, including this one, where the author describes things using more color. And I love it! The addition of more colors to the descriptions gave the places she described a vibrancy that brought them to life. I also loved the dialogue, which was cute and funny, but not unbelievable. Sugar is almost unbelievably sweet and positive, but I couldn't help falling in love with her right away.

While the other characters the author created weren't as sweet as Sugar, they were easy to fall in love with too. They're very real and they all have their flaws, but the author puts you right into their heads and into their lives. By sharing the bits of their past that got them where they are, she makes you understand each and every character she introduces. Even though all of the characters have their flaws, this is not a book that makes you wonder if everything is going to work out. The saddest of back stories still seems optimistic in this book, because you just know that everything is going to work out. For the most part, everything does. I would like to mention though that one of the characters is anorexic, and while things get going in the right direction for her, they don't just magically work out. While this isn't a topic I know much about, I thought this was a far better way to end her story than with an unrealistic instantaneous cure.

I've been a bit overwhelmed by my blog this week so this sweet, beautiful, happy little confection of a book was just what I needed. If you love Southern lit or NYC or sweet romances or are just looking for a book that will put a smile on your face, I highly recommend you pick this one up.

This review first published on Doing Dewey.

Sezza says

I loved this book. Started at 7am and stayed in bed reading till I finished at 1pm, which is pretty much unheard of for me. Such loveable characters, I laughed and I cried. And I am left wanting more.

Carole says

Loved this sweet story of Sugar, her bees, and the quirky occupants of the apartment building she moved into. A light, fun read, I didn't want to end. Loved the characters. Fans of Sarah Addison Allen and Barbara O'Neal will enjoy this story with a bit of magical realism.

Penny McGill says

Going to have to put this one in the category of 'all-time-favourites' because the author strikes an incredible balance between too quirky and just quirky enough. The bees in this story are actual bees as the main character makes her living by being a bee keeper and selling the things she makes from honey and pollen. That should attract all of the slow food folks, I hope.. because this book is the kind of vacation from everyday that all people deserve.

I always like a book where the author is able to successfully bring together 3 or 4 overlapping storylines and I was gobsmacked that she could write a few very different stories and bring them into one. The main character is a beautiful bee keeper from the southern U.S. but she becomes friends with a large variety of people who share the same apartment in New York city - crotchety old people, a agoraphobic pastry chef, a young mother who seems like a prostitute, an elderly man she first thinks is homeless because of his eccentric dress and a few others. How Sarah-Kate Lynch makes this all weave together and still seem like it could ever possibly happen simply astounds me. I am usually frustrated by books like this but found myself flipping the pages with as much happiness as I had when I was a kid. It was such a great feeling.

I'm now hunting down a previous book by the same author to see if I can get the same, or close to the same feeling again. She reminded me a bit of Maeve Binchy but there were so many strange things going on in the characters lives that it was more odd than Maeve ever was. Maybe Julia Stuart?

One final comment. In this book, the bees - particularly the Queen Bee - play a part and have a voice. So, if you can get past that this book will woo you.

Lela says

This book is a light, fun, easy read. I needed that after finishing "The Sellout!" It is about bad love, lost family, good friends, bees, honey, self-esteem, strength, manners, compassion, & really good love. I think it deserves a 3.5 but not really a 4.

Katherine says

What a delightful book! I picked this up at a time when I needed something sweet and uplifting to read?this turned out to be the perfect thing, The characters are wonderfully drawn, quirky though still realistic enough to make you feel they could be people you might know and the writing is witty but wise, a difficult combination to achieve in my opinion. Ms. Lynch also has a true gift for atmosphere, I felt as though I were there in Manhattan's bohemian Alphabet City or in Charleston, breathing in the warm jasmine-scented breeze. Well-written and a joy to read. Definitely a keeper.

Highly recommended.

Kathryn says

Such a fun read. A little bit of magic with the bees along with friendship and love. A light read perfect for hot summer days.

DeB MaRtEnS says

I could pun myself through this review...but that would be in bad taste. Ouch! It's difficult not to have a little fun with a novel so imbued with honey, the power of the substance and its by-products and the bees themselves - Oh - and a main character called "Sugar".

Where I came upon this title I cannot recall - likely when I was in my "cooking in the books" phase- and I guess I long ago requested it from the library and forgot about it. Well, the copy I have is brand new, so I guess the library is restocking and I felt obliged to give this gorgeous cover "a go".

Sugar has been wandering annually with her bees for fifteen years. Now she is in New York, in an apartment block with disgruntled and emotionally broken neighbours. Predictably, Sugar sweetens everyone up and meets a nice fellow who she herself is resisting. She sells honey at the farmer's market, and tends to her bees on her terrace. The Queen Bee is gifted with knowing things, and she and her hive influence the plot.

It is a kind of corny story, and the best description of the characters would be "folksy". Light, bright but not really impressive.

Eileen Goudge says

A Sweet Read

I really enjoyed this novel about a beekeeper. The perfect bedtime reading, guaranteed to give sweet dreams. It has a lot of heart with quirky, well-drawn characters and a satisfying ending.

