



Blushing

Katie Delahanty

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My name is Olivia Bloom and I. Am. Engaged.

When Berkeley proposed I thought we'd live happily ever after—we'd plan our wedding and he'd tour with the Brightside while I continued designing lingerie. But instead he dropped a bombshell that turned my life upside down: he's set to star in a movie with, who else, his gorgeous ex, Christina Carlton. And what's more? I've been erased from the public eye. All anyone can talk about is #Berkstina.

Berkeley wants me to work on set as a costume designer—a dream come true—but there's a catch; we have to keep our relationship secret. I'm okay with not being photographed, but the sneaking around, the lies, the love scenes; it's not how I imagined our engagement. I know Berkeley is passionate and driven, but he has so much going on—I don't know if we can take it. I'm starting to wonder how well I know him.

I love him, but am I ready to drop everything and decide the rest of my life? To become Olivia Dalton?

Blushing Details

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From Reader Review Blushing for online ebook

Angie says

This is the 2nd book in the Brightside series and picks up from the first book after Berkeley proposed to Liv. I really don't believe you can read this one without reading the first as too much has been set up with the main and side characters.

I read the first one the night before and jumped at the chance to read this ARC. I have mixed feelings, but the positive 90% outweighs what I may not have enjoyed, so please don't misunderstand that I didn't like or would recommend this book.

Here's what I liked:

*What I really liked about the first book is still prevalent in this one. There is just something about the way the author has written Liv and Berkeley that makes me want more and more of them. Yes, they're an instalove couple. Eh, that doesn't bother me and it does happen in real life, too. Typically, I'm more of a fan of getting both points of view so I know exactly what my hero is thinking. Although this series has only been from Liv's POV, I never felt like I didn't know how taken and in love Berkeley was with Liv (although a few scenes from his POV would have cleared up some issues in this book). The chemistry between these two (beyond the obvious sexual one) comes off the pages and leaves me craving more and more of them.

*In the first book I got tired of the multiple scenes with Liv's friends and their Melrose Place courtyard. I never could get a feel for Parker and Blaire's real intentions and sincerity towards Liv. It surprised me how much I really liked the scenes with the friends in this book. I think part of that was how isolated Liv became in the book and I wanted to hug her and get her out of the drama.

1. Parker isn't in this one very much, but when he did appear he shined! I never doubted Parker's loyalty towards Liv. In fact, he served as the voice of reason a few times in this story and I cheered when he called someone out. #TeamParker
2. I started to put this one in the "frustrated" category, but realized the author got a reaction out of me and it worked even if I didn't like it. One word – Blaire. She plays a much bigger role in this book. Although it all comes out roses in the end, even I felt hurt by her lack of friendship and decency. Again, #TeamParker!!
3. Amanda/Boots. Again, the first book had too many friend scenes for my tastes, but I couldn't get enough of Parker and Boots in this one. She is sassy, quick, and I love her sense of humor. If I was only in like with her, I fell in love with her for her actions at the shower.
4. I even didn't mind Justin. I didn't always love him, but I liked him in the end. (view spoiler)

*Someone in this book gets their comeuppance. I know I wanted it, but figured nothing was going to happen. Total satisfaction this person got what was coming to him/her in the last few chapters.

*Go Pittsburgh! My parents lived there for many years and it was refreshing to read something other than the usual LA/NYC/etc.

*The first book educated me on the garment industry and how you go from a concept to production. This book gave me insight into costuming on movie set. The author did a great job weaving this into the story, making it unique to other stories, and never did I feel like it was a big info-dump.

*Oh! This book made me think about the 2nd Thor movie so that made me happy. At the end of Thor he flies in on Natalie Portman's patio and they immediately go into a scorching and swoon-worthy clench. I love that the woman was not Natalie, but actually Chris Hemsworth's real wife which explains the extra scorch. The

kissing scene where Liv has to step in as a body double? Totally made me think about Thor.

Here's what frustrated me:

*It all comes down to me needing more scenes with our couple together AND interacting. Similar to the first book, there's a quick resolution and then it's over which left me wanting a little more time with them.

*The book followed the same pattern as the first – just insert Christina in place of Lisa and ratchet up the drama and immaturity. Obviously, as soon as the arrangement is made for them to hide their relationship you know it's not going to go as planned (shocker). I'm not naïve and expect books to not have a conflict (kinda the whole point of a book), but there may have been a scene or two too many. A LOT of time was spent with them being separated due to other people's agendas and misunderstandings. I may have misunderstood, but it seemed like days and then weeks would go by where they "weren't allowed" to see each other and would minimally text or phone. It hurt my heart how Berkeley let a lot of it happen (ignoring and pushing her away, letting others dictate him) and although he has to maintain an image and/or reputation with the others (such as an Instagramming dresser), I think it went too far more me to say I walked away fully enjoying and feeling good in the end. Maybe a page or two more with them back to even seeing each would have soothed 90% of the drama from earlier in the book?

*There are 2 people out to sabotage our couple. One is bad and although they get their comeuppance, I wanted to read that confrontation rather than it quickly summarized on the last few pages. And I would have loved to see that scene for both people who went to toe with him/her. The other "sabotager" comes out at the end as well. Although the person's intentions were not evil, it annoyed me that it was the motivation and source of the conflict throughout the story. I would rather it not been manipulated by a single source and for the reasons revealed.

I'm left a little unsure about a few things. Maybe future books will address these?

1. Alison and Mark bring up how driven, single minded and a perfectionist Berkeley can be about his career. Without a doubt we see that in this book. Of course when the movie is completed he has time once again to focus on Liv, but how do I know she's not going to be pushed to the back again? Given her future career path, how will that work with his?

2. Mark. I loved him in the first book – such a polite young man! We don't see a lot of him here, but the last scene in the bar left me very confused. (view spoiler) Although Gemma interacts with Mark, I REALLY want to see Boots/Amanda and Mark together. I mean I really, really want that!

Overall, this book made me smile and only want to gently tear a few strands of my hair out. Fortunately, I stayed immersed (and up to 2am to finish) due to the author's excellent writing and ability to make me feel like I'm right there with Liv and Berkeley. I'm looking forward to the next book in the series... about Mark and Boots, right???

Thank you to NetGalley and the author/publisher for providing me with an ARC of this story for an honest review!

Lady Gabriella of Awesomeness (On Hiatus) says

Great series...Can't wait for book 3 !! Love these two !!

Michelle says

[image error]

Rebecca says

4 Angst filled stars!

This book was generously provided by the publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

This book is the second book in the bright side series. I would recommend reading the first book In Bloom before Blushing as this book is a continuation of the In Bloom.

Since this was a series I read the first book immediately before this starting Blushing. I enjoyed In Bloom. There are some unrealistic, sometimes outlandish parts (thought not many) in each, but hey.... that's what fiction is about! Despite those elements I thought In Bloom was a fun and entertaining book. Blushing was so much better for me.

I love the kind of story that has all your emotions involved. The kind that has you invested in the story and the characters. I found Blushing to be just that kind of book. I like angst filled books... and boy was Blushing angst filled. I felt like I was on an emotional roller coaster.

Blushing continues the story of Oliva bloom and Berkeley. It picks right up from the engagement. Olivia's life takes a wild turn as she goes to work as an assistant costume director on Berkeley's new film... to be close to him. What they don't count on is all the craziness involved in making a movie, keeping up appearances for the fans, meddling exes, new love interests, and a cast of people that seem completely set on destroying their would be happily ever after.

Because of the filming schedule and PR demands they end up never seeing each other and distance not just physically but emotionally is imminent. Doubts become prevalent and Olivia wonders if it is worth it all. Olivia is also trying to figure out who she really is and what she is meant to do.

This is one of those stories that feels like there is so much going on at once.... yet not what needs to happen. There is definitely some communication break down that had me wanting to shake both Olivia and Berkeley.

One thing I did not like, is that it is hard to feel connected to Berkeley in this book because we don't really get much from him. He is so non-existent through so much of this story that I was either really angry at him, my heart was breaking for him, or I was thinking "Berkeley who?". I missed his character!!

The same likeable characters from the first book are still present in Blushing, some seem different, and there are new characters to add to the mix.

Over all Blushing was a pleasant surprise, kept me on the edge of my seat, annoyed me some, made me

laugh some, and had me smiling at the end. A win win combination. On a side note, I would love Mark's story! Katie Delahanty this reader needs more Mark!!

Brittany says

Liv and Berkeley are BACK, baby! And they're engaged! I feel like I've waited forever for Blushing, and I was super excited to receive an early copy when the time came! I might have done a little happy dance when I got my greedy little hands on this sequel, since In Bloom was one of my favorite reads last year. While I wasn't as insanely obsessed with this book as I was with book one, it was still fantastic and I loved every bit of seeing Liv, Berkeley and all their friends again! I'm having trouble deciding how to go about this review, as I would hate to spoil anything, and you really need to read it for yourself to see just how their story played out this time around. But here goes...

We ended book one on a happy note. Liv and Berkeley got engaged! Book two starts off right where the last book ended, after that super adorable, achingly romantic proposal. Only it seems as if their happily-ever-after might be a little harder to attain than they thought. Because Berkeley is headed off to film a movie. A movie in which he stars alongside little miss trouble maker and Berkeley's ex, Christina. And here's the catch-- he has to keep Liv, and their relationship, a secret. Rather than embracing her new blushing bride-to-be status, Liv agrees to keep her lips sealed. She's all too eager to keep herself out of the spotlight, but she gets a bit more than she bargained for. Sneaking around and keeping their secret proves to be harder than either imagined, and quite a few problems pop up because of this.

We get to see a new side of Berkeley this time around. The sexy rock star is pushed aside to make room for a suave, charismatic movie star. I don't even know which Berkeley I prefer, they're both drool-worthy. As much as I understood Berkeley's reasons behind needing to keep Liv and their engagement a secret, I wished he would have fought for her more. Yes, Liv agreed to the demands of his "people," but it should have been clear to him that she was doing that mostly for him. And yes, he did try to stand up for her when ridiculous expectations were being placed on her, but he should have tried harder, I felt. Liv deserved better than to be treated like some dirty little secret. She deserved better than to have to hide her identity, alter information about herself, and become a mere observer in his crazy life. I know he tried, and I couldn't fault him much, but the whole situation made me feel dejected on Liv's behalf. After all, he was such a huge Liv advocate in In Bloom.

As for Liv, I wished she would have stood up for herself more. There were times in this book when she was lonely, discouraged, and basically just down in the dumps, and she should have spoken up! It's one thing to agree to keep your engagement a secret, but some of what they asked of her was ridiculous! It also seemed like a bit of a step back for her. She worked so hard in book one to become this confident, accomplished version of herself, and I wanted so much more of that. Luckily for us, Live comes through in the end, and I had so much fun with those parts of the story! She brings back that resilient woman we love and then some, and it was great to see. Really, they come through it together, and it made for a great moment in the story!

As for the supporting characters, this author is amazing at writing endearing, hilarious characters that compliment her hero and heroine perfectly. Psychic Mom was a riot, as usual, and Mark was extra dreamy this time around. I'm dying to know what will come of Mark as this series continues. There was a hint of something deeper there, and I can't wait to see where the author takes his story! He continues to be one of my favorite characters in this series. One character that surprised me this time around was Blair. And not in a good way. Blair gets an amazing job opportunity in Blushing, which makes it possible for her to support Liv during this hectic time in her life. But supportive she was not. I'm all for flawed characters, and Katie did an

excellent job with Blair in this book, but holy crap did I want to strangle her at times! She was so frustrating, and, as someone who absolutely loved her up until now, I was very disappointed in her behavior for a good portion of this book. Thankfully, Parker was able to knock some sense into her, because she was being a horrible friend. We didn't see as much of Parker this time around as I would have liked, but he still managed to steal the show with every appearance.

Overall, I think Blushing was definitely worth the wait! It was nearly impossible for me to put this one down. I will say it took me a little while to get into the story in the beginning, but I was completely hooked once I did. I'm still a huge fan of the whole concept of this story as a whole-- the tweets, the lingerie line, etc-- and it really does add an extra layer of authenticity to these books. As I've come to expect from this author, there was an abundance of silly, laugh-out-loud moments, frank, honest moments between friends, and heart-to-hearts with loved ones. It all blends together to create an fun, endearing story with characters that you'll want to be friends with, and that will stick with you long after you've turned the last page. I'm very much looking forward to reading more from this author, and this series, and I highly recommend this one!

Monique says

This book is brilliant. Full review up soon!

First off, let me say two things. One, I am kicking myself for not having read In Bloom before reading Blushing, but obviously I wasn't paying attention to good books a while back. And two, I did not expect this book to be so good. Blushing was refreshing, it's not everyday you start reading a romance novel where the couple is already pretty much established. Blushing was fabulous. I stayed up through the night to read it and when i was done, i immediately took to Twitter, because I had to gush about this book.

And that's exactly what this book is. It's gushy (is that even a word?), it's funny and it's a fantastic fun, feel-good read. I laughed through so many pages, I cried through a few parts and I admit, I had my doubts about the hero. Katie Delahanty managed to completely convince me that at one stage he was the bad guy. I was happy that this book did not essentially follow the "romance novel rules". It did it's best to keep the book funny and light, being essentially a chick-lit book, but it had an element of unpredictability, that I was happy to encounter.

I loved the "tweets" at the start of each chapter, it showed little tidbits of the heroine's life that the reader wouldn't have encountered any other way. It was a refreshing way to start each chapter and I started looking forward to reading them every time I got to the end of a chapter. Olivia's voice perfectly captured what I think an average NA female should act, speak, think and sound like.

This book was one of the more entertaining romance/chick-lit books I have read in a while, so much so that I struggled to read anything else for about three days after reading this book. I'll happy reread it (after reading In Bloom, of course) and I'm patiently (translation:consistently stalking Entangled Publishing and KatieDelahanty's websites) waiting for the next in The Brightside Series.

Geri Reads says

This is going to be a short one.

I don't think I'm the intended audience for this book. I requested this on NetGalley because the blurb sounded

really good, and the book delivered.

That said, I requested this thinking this was a standalone or at least the first book of a series. This was the second book, and I didn't get to read the first book. When I read the title on NG, I didn't find any indication it was part of a continuing series. That was my first mistake. I'm reading about these characters who have a history together, one that I didn't care about because I didn't read any of it. It's not the book's fault though, it's totally mine.

Second, the characters were really just too immature for my age. They created too many unnecessary drama for my liking. I found myself hating every character in this book at one point or another. The only character I liked was Boots. The rest of the cast annoyed me.

Still, I found the story oddly fascinating and engaging. Hence, the three stars! It's a quick one, too with mild steamy scenes.

ARC provided by the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Melissa Carpenter says

Katie Delahanty is so very talented! I loved In Bloom and couldn't wait for the chance to read more of Berkeley and Olivia's story. They, together with all of the supporting characters, are the kind of characters you wish you could hang out with and actually be around. They're wonderfully written to be realistic (Twitter accounts included - look up the @ names at the beginnings of each chapter and prepare yourself for a night of Twitter stalking). This blurring of the line between real and fictional makes the books and the characters even more enjoyable.

I'm also super impressed by Katie's ability to write a quick moving, thoroughly enjoyable romance that also proves to be inspirational - Liv's transformation from the beginning of In Bloom to the end of Blushing is beautiful.

The bottom line is that both In Bloom and Blushing should be bestsellers. Personally, I'm all in for whatever Katie writes in the future... Though I do really hope it will involve more Berkeley. ♥?

Alexis says

Three Girls and a Book Obsession @threegirlsbooks

Totally loved Blushing by @KTDelahanty. Hope we see more from The Brightside. #threegirlstoprec

I am going to be straight-up here and say that I literally did not know how to use Twitter until I read In Bloom (Katie's first book). So I feel my above tweet is completely necessary. Also, I am so beyond excited that we got more of Olivia and Berkeley. I thought the ending of In Bloom was a bit rushed and now I am completely satisfied.

Blushing begins where In Bloom ends. Olivia and Berkeley are engaged. Unbeknownst to Olivia, Berkeley has been cast in a movie and will be moving to Pittsburgh for a couple of months. Thankfully, with some finessing Olivia was able to get a job on-set (an assistant assistant wardrobe girl). But due to contracts,

Olivia and Berkeley have to keep their relationship under-wraps. Plus, his ex-girlfriend has been cast as the lead and also his love interest in the movie.

Olivia goes through a lot in this movie. Having to hide her identity and take on a new one (with a different name and hairstyle) messes with her a bit. I think what she goes through is completely normal and realistic. I wish we got to see a bit more of Berkeley. I wanted to know what he was going through. I spent a portion of the book a bit mad at him. I wish we would've gotten just a chapter in his POV. (Hint hint). I think I may have understood him a bit better. BUT...he totally redeemed himself by the end of the book. I actually teared up a bit-which is a hard fete.

I will say, there was a lot going on in the book. All the secrets, twists, and turns were perfect. Can we also talk about the secondary characters? Parker? Tux? Mark! I demand we get a book about Mark stat! I want him to find love...as well as find out what he was eluding to at the bar with Olivia. I also got a kick out of the ridiculousness that was Scarlett.

As you know, I love all things Hollywood, so this book was right up my alley. Ms. Delahanty painted such a realistic portrayal of what actually happens in the entertainment business. There is so much drama, half-truths, lies that is fed to the fans. I actually laughed at some of the ridiculousness but know without a doubt that it happens all the time.

I recommend this series if you are looking for a fun romantic series with a Hollywood backdrop. Plus...did I tell you that Berkeley is a rockstar?

Nicola says

I LOVED book 1 in this series - *In Bloom* - and I stalked Katie Delahanty's FB, twitter etc desperate for news on when the next book would come. The longer I waited the more desperate and excited I got. I couldn't wait to read more about the wonderful characters we met in *In Bloom* and to overload on the delicious feels that Berkeley and Olivia generate. So, you can imagine my super embarrassing fan-girl display when I granted an ARC by the author.

Blushing picks up pretty much immediately where *In Bloom* left off, so I wouldn't recommend reading it unless you've read *In Bloom*. Too much of who the characters are is invested there and thus I feel you'd lose too much of the connection and back story to truly appreciate *Blushing*.

Katie's writing is wonderful. She has a real gift at making the characters feel *alive*. It makes it so easy to lose yourself in the story as it doesn't feel like you are reading about fictional characters. It feels like you are reading about real people, people you know, friends, and it makes these books so addictive!

Blushing moves from music to movies - proper Hollywood - but most of it is spent on set in Pittsburgh so we get to see a lot more of Olivia's family! (Psychic mom! Legend.)

I loved the drama and tension, the ups and downs, the general ridiculousness of celebrity and PR that the book presents.

Olivia and Berkeley were all kinds of awesome. I wanted to smack 'em both upside the head a few times but they got themselves sorted in the end and provided loads of yummy feels throughout.

The secondary characters each have their own developments and I enjoyed catching up with the gang. I hope

to see more of them as the POV of the books moves from Olivia and Berkeley to Mark, the Brightside's Bassist.

Especially Boots - Olivia's cousin - she is so funny and weird, I'd love to read more of her!

My only complaint would be that the book is... I don't know how to phrase it. More clunky(?) than the first book in the series and, for me, lacks some of the sparkle, but I still enjoyed it immensely and will read it over and over again so I guess it's not much of an issue or a complaint. Just needed to be stated for the sake of honest reviewing.

100% recommended, and if you enjoy books from the likes of Sophie Kinsella and Lindsey Kelk then I think you'd definitely like Katie Delahanty's Brightside Series.

(ARC granted via Netgalley)

Shannon The Romance Addict! says

This one began where the other one left off. Olivia and Berkeley just got engaged. But Shar has told them they need to keep it on the down low till the whole Christina thing blows over. Olivia finds out that Berkeley has bought the rights to The Keystone Series (a popular book series about thieves)but Berkeley wants to step down from the lead character because he would have to star w his ex Christina. He tried to get her to leave or to get out of it himself but he locked in with her.Olivia pushing him to do it, but it being filmed in Pittsburgh. Olivia and Berkeley can't stand the thought of not being together so he get her a job in costume dept. This is when all the Drama starts at first it's good lots of sneaking around but good. Then Shar steps in and blocks them from seeing each other. With both Olivia / "Liv" and Berkeley having new and old people who are trying to get them....also there might have been a Kiss that not part of the movie.....Then you throw in Parker, boots,Blair,Gemma and new characters Justin and Tux. Its just Drama! loved the wedding shower games...and the gift her mom got her. I was LOL-ing.

I loved it but I do want to know more about Mark, and who he was talking or hinting about at the bar?!?!?!
Like I said pretty darn good. It had me on the edge of my seat wondering what was going to happen with Liv and Berkeley.(will they make it or break it)

Aur lie says

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah I can't wait :))

Edit: Yihouuuuuuuuuuu just got an ARC :))

Edit 2 : Review to come

Katie Delahanty is a very talented writer. I loved the first book in the serie and when I saw that the 2nd was available on NetGalley I did not hesitate for a minute.

I loved this book even though I preferred the 1st one. Here we find the same characters as the first except that Olivia and Berkeley are now engaged ... but it's not all happiness. Olivia leaves her work to work on set for the new movie of Berkeley. Berkeley took a break from his singing career and began as a producer and actor. The problem is that his co star is his ex girlfriend, with whom he had to pretend to have a relationship. Olivia and Berkeley are forced to hide their relationship, and that they're engaged which of course will make a lot of trouble and misunderstandings.

My problem with this book is Olivia. I don't understand her, She reacted like a teenager. So I struggled to appreciate her character. Some scenes have frustrated me. Even Berk is not that sweet in this book! I didn't find in this book what I loved so much in the 1st one.

This book is very well written, the characters are interesting, some parts are very funny. I still love the Twitter part.

big ++++ for the epilogue ^^

I can't wait for the next one

4/5

<http://lilisbooks.canalblog.com/archi...>

Chrissy (The Every Free Chance Reader) says

4.5 stars

Did I enjoy this book: I really did. It was a great read, just as good as the first book, In Bloom. I read it every free chance I had!

It was great to catch up with Olivia and Berkeley. We pick up where In Bloom lets off, with their engagement!!! It is so exciting. Olivia is still a bit naive and a bit shy, until a certain point in the movie. I don't want to give too much away, so I won't go into detail. But there were quite a few moments that left me a bit shocked. There were quite a few moments that left me worried. And many moments that left me with a smile. This book had so many swoon-worthy, giddy-worthy, smile-worthy, cringe-worthy moments. I loved that Berkeley's movie is filmed in Pittsburgh, and I loved that Olivia slipped into Pittsburghese easily. There were quite a few more Yinzer instances in this book . . . and I loved every one of them! I loved the supporting cast as well—Parker, Psychic Mom, Boots, and Dig. All great.

Even now, days after I finished this book, I still get this giddy feeling and I can't stop smiling. It was so good!

Would I recommend it: Definitely! Be sure to read book one of the Brightside series, In Bloom, first.

Disclosure: I received a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

<http://everyfreechance.com/2015/04/bl...>

Emma says

I absolutely adored the fairytale-esque style of In Bloom and jumped at the chance to read the second installment of Olivia and Berkley's relationship. Blushing picks up at the exact moment In Bloom ends providing amazing continuity of both the story and the emotions it invokes.

The continued use of twitter updates in Blushing adding visually dynamic interludes at the chapter headings. While the psychic predictions and use of new age 'therapies' often add humour to the plot while re-enforcing the idea of fate/destiny/serendipity within the narrative. Everything happens for a reason leading a person to where they should be even if they had never envisaged that place before :)

Olivia is a fabulous character, she really doesn't see herself clearly, beautiful both inside and out she draws people to her. Her inner monologues are utterly adorable and very relatable, often tugging at the heartstrings. Everyone has moments of self-doubt, add to that the situation Olivia finds herself in and you can't help but feel for her.

The stress and demands on a person with celebrity status is portrayed very well. Adding a great number of unnecessary obstacles to building a 'real' relationship add in the amount of 'spin' within the media and you have a recipe for disaster. My heart was literally dropping with elements of this plot :(

Olivia and Berkley's relationship moves extremely quickly adding to the feeling of unease within the story. Secrecy regarding their relationship added to the fact that Olivia doesn't know Berkeley all that well increases the sense of foreboding. I've got to be honest but I found myself liking Berkeley less and less as the story progressed. There are a number of sides to him, that Olivia points out, you have to question which one is real and what is his motivation. Revelations within the narrative, true or false, add to the sense of impending doom. You question what to believe and who to trust in a world where everyone has their own agenda.

I cannot imagine having to watch someone I loved kissing another person, even if it was only for fictional purposes; it has to play on your mind/emotions especially if they had a previous relationship with that person.

Alternative romantic interest are introduced, alongside old flames intent on stirring the pot. In all honesty, I adored Justin to the point I would have happily seen Olivia with him as opposed to Berkeley (I KNOW RIGHT) For me, Berkeley just didn't cut it, I don't feel as if I know him at all with all his secrets and differing personalities. He needs to be consistent with Olivia, which at this point he just isn't :(

While the romantic aspects of Blushing left me a little defeated, Olivia's character development more than made up for it. The friendships she has stood the strain of celebrity status while professionally Olivia has a whole new world open up to her. The stuff dreams are made of.

Blushing is most definitely an adult fairytale – one I hope continues with the other characters taking centre stage ♥

Jessica *The Lovely Books* says

"Sometimes you have to risk it all to make a dream come true. #BeBrave"

Here comes the bride...

Just kidding! Ms. Olivia Bloom is only engaged to the hottest man on the planet. Heheh. Yup, I'm talking about Berkeley. The rock god with an insanely sweet side to him that you can't help but swooooooon. I've

been waiting for this book for only about...oh, ever since I finished the first book, In Bloom. I remember the feels when I delved deep into the Hollywood life with Olivia. How lucky is it that she caught the eye of of a rock star? How many of us wish this could happen to us? There's a reason musician type books are my personal favorite. Blushing is a story of love, Hollywood, crazy mean bitches, and some insanely hot & steamy scenes from the newly engaged couple!

"I know it's him, recognize his clean scent, the tugging in my core, the buzzing at the base of my spine. Finding my mouth, he coaxes my lips open."

Berkeley is up for a role in an up and coming movie adaption of the Keystone series. He's actually up for the lead and all the while he's been trying to get out of it... But here's the thing, he can't. There's a been a contract signed and his leading lady is none other than Christina (dang I truly dislike her...okay, I hate her!). His contract won't let him get out of playing in the movie without losing millions. And of course Christina doesn't want to negotiate with him. It's all or nothing. Olivia being the sweet person and not over dramatic or jealous, pushes Berkeley to do the movie or else he may regret it for the rest of his life.

"The kiss is slow and sweet and grateful. I squeeze his face in my hands, slowly becoming aware of everyone else on the movie set, watching us."

Well, he decides to take the movie and make Liv an assistant costume designer. Bad news though, she has to change her name and appearance, all in the name of love. And losing out on lots of money of the media were to find out that she and Berkeley are engaged. This is cause for sneaking around like teenagers. Will the two be able to handle the pressure? How much can one take until it's too much and you start questioning the others motivations?

There is some serious angst and drama in Blushing. Berkeley and Olivia will be tested beyond belief. It has you wondering if their love is truly meant to be. If it's any consolation I think I fell more in love with ex story and characters. I'm sure it's not easy being linked to a mega star and I think it takes a special kind of someone to put up with it. I know for a fact I probably wouldn't be one of those specials ones. Which is precisely why I'd rather read about it instead. Boys in books ARE better, right?

Olivia. Liv. Whatever you call her, she's an awesome female lead. I love her innocence & purity in a world full of greed & assholery. (Yes, I just made up a word!) you can see the light shining from within her; no wonder Berkeley has fallen head over heels in love with her!

"I mean, I would prefer to make out with Tux Nicholas, but even I am in love with you. And men will fall in love with you every day for the rest of your life.-Parker"

Overall, I think that the book couldn't have been better and I fully recommend picking up anything & everything that involves the Brightside series. Liv, Berkeley, and gang feel like life long friends. I'll be sad when I have to say goodbye to them.

"Do you have any idea how much I love you?"

"I think so. And you know it was always only you," he says, those familiar blue eyes boring into mine. I will always hold out only for you."