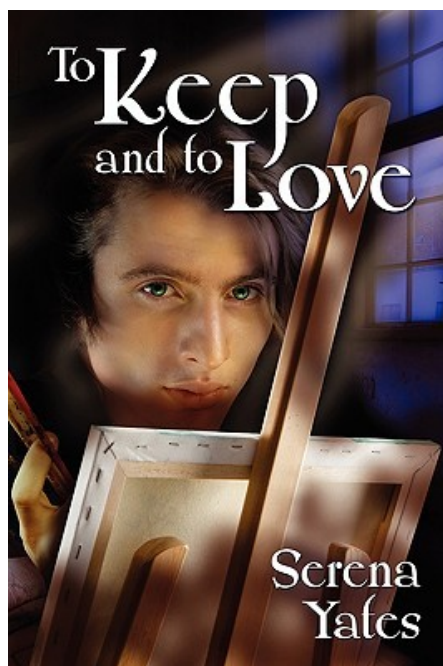




To Keep and to Love

Serena Yates

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Ryan Johnston and Daniel Miller, reunited at Ryan's twin sister's wedding after four years of forced separation, are hoping to build a happy life together. Ryan wants nothing more than to be an equal partner to his lover, but his self-confidence is very low and his biggest fear is that he has nothing to contribute to their future. Daniel, thinking all is well now that Ryan has accepted his marriage proposal, is unprepared when their relationship is threatened.

Ryan's homophobic parents plan to break up the couple, and they let nothing stand in their way as they attack Ryan, hoping to force him to end the engagement and leave town forever. It almost works-Ryan is ready to give in to protect his lover-but Daniel isn't willing to let him go. Ryan can fight the outside forces trying to tear them apart, but only if he realizes what his fears of unworthiness are doing to the man he loves. Daniel and Ryan will have to stand together to protect their right to keep each other and their love.

To Keep and to Love Details

Date : Published January 1st 2010 by Dreamspinner Press (first published December 31st 2009)

ISBN : 9781615813032

Author : Serena Yates

Format : Paperback 298 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review To Keep and to Love for online ebook

Bubbles Hunty Honest & Direct Opinions says

It was really nice seeing these guys again and I really enjoyed the story. The only thing I didn't like was that there was too much sex for me. The sex kind of interfered with the pacing of the story for me, I know most readers like sex in their stories but I just wanted to skip the sex and continue with the numerous other things going on.

I really loved the twins they were so cute and funny. I normally don't care for kids too much, if they're there ok they're there no big deal but these two kids I just loved, I could read a book about them.

Possible spoilers (view spoiler)

Lena Grey says

Have you ever wondered what happens when a love story ends? I certainly have. When you close a book, don't you wish to peek into the future and see if they really live happily after? Yes, they love each other and are together, but their success isn't automatically guaranteed. Good relationships don't just happen; they require a great deal of hard work and willingness to compromise. Daniel and Ryan, in 'To Find and To Keep' by Serena Yates, are standing at the door of their happily ever after, yet, as we who've been there know, this is not the end of the journey; it's merely the beginning.

Ryan may not appreciate me calling him Daniel's damsel in distress, but in the beginning, that's essentially what he is; I'm certain that Daniel will have no qualms about being Ryan's knight in shining armor who has come to rescue him. Ryan needs rescuing in the beginning. He is lost and vulnerable; he needs the protection that Daniel can offer him. However, when Daniel continues in the role of savior, long after Ryan has outgrown this need, inadvertently, Daniel does Ryan a great disservice. By keeping him in a cocoon of safety, he's also not giving him the opportunity to mature and to learn to protect himself. It may seem paradoxical, this idea of being together yet separate, but it lays a strong foundation in a relationship. Two whole persons coming together to form one are much stronger than two halves.

I enjoyed watching Ryan grow into his own, despite Daniel's misguided efforts to protect him. Daniel loves him so much and wants to protect him from further pain, but at the same time, part of moving past that pain is learning how to more effectively deal with it. I didn't think for a moment that Daniel was acting out of a need to control and dominate Ryan. He simply doesn't realize what he's doing by overprotecting him. I think for a while Ryan needs the protection, but as he recovers, he begins to feel uneasy. At first doesn't know why. When he finally realizes that it's his need for independence that's causing the rift between them, he rebels, leaving Daniel confused and at a loss as to what's wrong much less how to fix it. Even soul mates have to learn to work together, becoming better listeners and being more aware of each other's needs not just in bed, but out of it as well. Although painful to watch at times, their love for each other is so strong that I

always had faith that they would find a way through all the adversity, whether it be Ryan's hateful, homophobic parents or the misunderstandings between each other, and come out of it with their love shining brighter than ever.

'To Keep and To Love' is a wonderful story of love, hope, and redemption, which had me in tears more than once. Serena's characters are so real, so vivid that I can't help becoming emotionally invested in them. This is one of Serena's earliest books and, although technically speaking, her books are improving, her talent for excellent story telling here is as stronger as ever. Even though it's possible to read and enjoy this story alone, I'd like to strongly recommend reading 'To Find and To Keep' first. The second book picks up immediately after the first one ends and by reading volume one first, the experience you'll receive will be more intense and gratifying. Thank you, Serena, for sharing your outstanding gift with us. I'm looking forward to hearing more about Daniel and Ryan in the future.

Karen K says

Ah man - I knew I should have run over Ryan's parents with my truck in the first book. They are truly evil people. Ryan stole my heart in this just like in the first one - I love his compassion and emotion. Daniel's not so bad himself - yeah, I fell for him, too. I really enjoy the two of them together and the twin sister, Nicole, is a great secondary character, I'm glad the boys have her. And of course, the twins are freaking adorable. AND the ending... *wipes tear*. Great follow-up read - can't wait for the next one.

Janean says

I really enjoyed watching the relationship between Ryan and Daniel develop fully. Ryan is a sweetheart, Daniel as well. I liked the flow of the story and the development of the characters and the relationship dynamics of all the characters in the book. I look forward to reading more of this series.

Sara Bell says

Enjoyed this one as much as the first book in the series. I plan to add Serena Yates to my autobuy list.

Jennifer says

I loved the first book, and the second did not disappoint. While it would be easy to criticise the stories for being a little too sweet and for the evil parents being a bit over the top, there is something truly engaging about Ryan and Daniel's romance. I look

A.J. Llewellyn says

This is a very romantic story and Daniel is a compelling hero. His love for Ryan is inspirational. There were a few scenes that were a little over the top but that said, at heart there is a tender love story and I look forward to reading the next chapter in the Daniel-Ryan saga.

Jane (PS) says

This is really more 2 stars, mainly due to the volume of extraneous information; it detracted from the story. There are also an incredible number of sex scenes. But the ending is very satisfying and the author ties up a lot of loose ends.

Teresa says

So far, I have been touched, cried and bonded with the characters and can't wait to see what is in store next!

I just finished and this is one incredible story!!!

Ric says

Well being a true romantic here, I love nothing better than when the story has a happy ending, so I was not disappointed with this masterpiece, (although I felt the sex passages were a bit overdone at times, especially when the carcass of the story was so truly excellent without the amount of them in itself, if anything I felt it may have laboured the story slightly, as I was so engrossed with the behind the scenes events and feelings I felt they got in the way at times; but hey that's just my opinion).

Being a sad old single gay guy I find myself drawn to this type of book, and can lose myself in its pages quite happily (sad I know). Hence, I was certainly not disappointed in the quality of this book. From the very start it captures you and draws you in so effortlessly, that you can feel the pain and suffering the characters endure. I loved the characters, they seemed so alive and passionate, like two peas in a pod by the end.

For me personally I adored the whole book, and would highly recommend it to everyone, as I felt it touches your very soul in so many ways. The ending is so beautiful that I found myself sobbing like a baby, yes it is that good.

I certainly congratulate Serena, (and hope my negative comment early is not offending to her. I have to say though that her writing style is flawless, it's clear, warm, compassionate and easy to read, and riveting at the same time, her characters are totally believable and she can play on your emotions like a fine tuned piano. Will certainly be reading more of her work. Thank you for sharing this piece of excellence literature Serena.

Tory says

Loved this book – Great sequel to 'To Find & to Keep'

Winterjade's review said it more eloquently than I can.

Except for: If like me you had missy eyes during the first book, get the tissues ready.

The acceptance of Ryan by Daniel's parents was just one instance that had me reaching for them.

Andrew Grey says

This story picks up where To Have and to Keep leaves off. Daniel and Ryan have reunited and started to build a life. Their happiness is threatened by a number of factors. I'm not going to say anything more because I don't want to spoil the story, but this was an enjoyable read that I couldn't put down. The characters were full and rich with great supporting characters that added richness and depth. I expecially loved the twins.

I enjoyed Keeping You #1 and this follow up doesn't disappoint.

Mandy*reads obsessively* says

I enjoyed the story itself and read straight through but I did have a few niggels.

This is a sequel and much longer story, here we see Ryan and Daniel settling in together and moving forward.

Planning a wedding and Ryan getting back on his feet and gaining some well deserved self confidence.

The OTT baddies and the almost stereotypical opposite families (one family is hateful, destructive, delusional, dangerous and overly 'religious' and the other couldn't be more loving and supportive) the constant use of 'love' and my Ryan and my Daniel and Ryan's decision to do ' what was best and safest' for Daniel and Daniel's reaction were a little too much for me.

But, it was a sweet, heavy on the sex and love, that might actually be a good read for the right mood.

Raevyn says

3.5 stars

The book was decent and I really liked Ryan and Daniel. There were a lot of great scenes where you really go to know them. However, there was more sex scenes that necessary. I found myself just skipping over them because I felt like I was reading a recycled sex scene. I'm not saying the scenes weren't hot, but there was just too much.

Also, the dialog between Ryan and Daniel seemed stilted at some points. They were beyond mushy, to the point of over the top at times. I can say that I felt the love between them and the sorrow. I just felt that the conversations were forced.

Overall, I like them as characters and I will read the next book when it comes out.

Em Woods says

Just like in "To Find and to Keep", Ryan and Daniel stole my heart. I love the way Ryan finally came into his own, and they finally get their HEA.

If you loved the first, you'll love the second.
