



Vanilla Clouds

Roe Horvat

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"I could spend days listening to you talk about chocolate."

Sex and chocolate are the two pleasures Micha? enjoys most in life.

His sex life has been nonexistent for some time, though. After a particularly bad hookup, he keeps mostly to himself. That leaves chocolate. Luckily, he works surrounded by the most delicious, extravagant produce in Gothenburg. Beside his job at the chocolaterie, his main source of excitement is his online friend, Magnus, whom he stubbornly refuses to meet in person.

A customer turns up at the chocolaterie one day—tall, shy, and charming. He could be just the right man. If Micha? can step out of his overly safe shell, there might be not only chocolate, but sex, too. Maybe chocolate-flavored sex. And if he's lucky, maybe even love.

Warning:

This book contains explicit scenes, adult language, and obscene amounts of chocolate.

Vanilla Clouds Details

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Author : Roe Horvat

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From Reader Review Vanilla Clouds for online ebook

~☆~Dāni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~☆~ says

I'm a big fan of Roe Horvat's work. Their voice is unique and true; something about their writing feels ... foreign, different, other. And that's great praise, not criticism. Why sound like everyone else when you can sound like you? I love Horvat's vision, the way pain and happiness mingle mere breaths apart.

Vanilla Clouds is the fluffiest story Horvat's written thus far, and it's beautiful.

I loved absolutely everything about this book:

- Swedish setting (Any time a M/M romance is set somewhere other than the States or UK is like the first day of a tropical vacation for me. I get so fucking excited, I want to scream and run around naked.)
- Polish MC with parents who aren't homophobic bigots (Yes, they exist, my parents being a prime example.)
- Swedish MC with a beard who falls head over heels for a man he's never met—not physically anyway, because Magnus knows Micha?'s heart and soul
- CHOCOLATE (Wild cherries dipped in white chocolate with a hint of dark, hot chocolate made the real way, chocolates with sea salt and pecans, chocolates with goat cheese, and chocolates with chili ... Micha? is a chocolatier and loves it all.)
- SEX (slow burn, longing ... until Micha? can't take it anymore and practically begs Magnus to fuck him)
- **Chocolate AND sex.**
- The most adorable (and forgivable) deception of all time
- Lena, Micha?'s roommate, a kickass (literally) woman who compassionately makes Micha? olive martinis. Because nothing says comfort like alcohol.
- Cutest damn HEA in the history of all HEAs

This is the sweetest morsel of a story. I read it twice because, much like chocolate, one taste wasn't nearly enough.

P.S. Micha? is pronounced Mee-how, with the accent on the first syllable and a rough H.

Karla says

3.5 stars!

A total sweetheart!

Enjoy this sweet read! Both MC Micha? and Magnus were perfect for each other, but I have to say I had a special spot for Magnus, he was the sweetest guy big physically with such an tender heart especially for Micha?. I loved that by meeting online they developed an emotional bond before meeting each other in person. This was a quick read but the authors writing as usual packs a punch of emotions and the bonus for me, all that chocolate! **I was in chocolate heaven! ♥?**

Shile says

4.25 chocolate stars

This one is soooooooo sweet and made me feel all gooey inside!

The scenery descriptions also made me feel like i should really visit Sweden, soonest.

The writing is poetic and engaging, the book is short but fully packed, i am starting to believe this is Roe's superpower. He has the ability to make you feel like you have read a 300 page book, when in reality it was less than 200 pages.

This is one of those feel good books that you want to read, curl up into a tiny ball and relive the sweet moments between Michal and Magnus. These two got maaaad chemistry and had the most erotic, sweet chocolate moments.

GAAHH! I just want chocolate now!

Highly recommended.

R * A Reader Obsessed * says

4.5 Stars!

Granted this is only the second book I've read by Horvat, but there's not one complaint about how this author goes about giving two MC's a well deserved happily ever after.

What one should know is that though this is overall angst lite, it never shirks on the emotions, the vulnerabilities, fears, and doubts that so far, all of this author's characters have. It brings a certain weight to the story, grounding it in realism, but how the rest unfolds is just a joyous unraveling to experience.

Like the blurb says, Michal is a lot hesitant to put himself out there again despite his overwhelming loneliness. His fears are understandable as they run over into his reluctance to meet up with Magnus, a guy he's fabulously connected with, if only over text messages. Magnus thinks they should take the next step and officially meet, to see if their technological chemistry pales in comparison to the potential of something

amazing. However, Michal in turn, is just too scared to contemplate ruining their friendship.

Later, when a gorgeous stranger steps into the chocolatier where Michal works, the gentle giant is almost too good to be true. Michal can't seem to reconcile his want for this flirtation to work out and his overwhelming desire to have Magnus in his life for real.

Again, this was sweet as the chocolate it generously features, a sensory overload that was sensual and delicious. Both Michal and Magnus were wonderful wonderful characters and my heart melted just like it was supposed to with all the warm feels and smexy. Like in *The Layover*, one has to take a leap of faith at a chance at the fairytale ending, and let me say, that ending??..... Perfection!

Meags says

4 chocolate covered stars

Vanilla Clouds is a deliciously heart-warming and deeply romantic story.

The synopsis sums it up perfectly, so I won't reiterate the plot here. I will say that I absolutely adored Michal and Magnus as leading men and I found great comfort and joy in witnessing the beginning of their epic love story.

I love, love, love book romances that begin online/with the written word, instead of face-to-face, so it's unsurprising that this story worked as well as it did for me. To me, there's just something romantic and pure about falling for someone through their words alone. It definitely worked well for Michal and Magnus.

Horvat certainly has a gifted way with words. The story just emanated hope, joy, and love. I couldn't help but fall in love with these characters and be captivated by their romance.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Chocolate lovers should be warned that reading this story will most definitely result in desperate hankerings for chocolate delicacies. Cravings cannot be avoided.

.Lili. says

ROE HORVAT, WHY HAVE I BEEN A DUMBASS AND NOT READ YOUR BOOKS YET?

Vanilla Clouds by Roe Horvat is my favorite novella of the year and one of my favorite stories of 2018. From the first few sentences, I was hooked. It's the stories of two friends who met online, Micha? and Magnus. For two years they have been each other's confidants and talked about anything and everything. They even watch tv shows together and text each other, from different countries. Did I also mention they've never met face to face? I deleted the next portion of my review because I want to give nothing away. You must experience the story for yourselves.

What I loved:

-CYBERLOVE. I'm a sucker for love stories that start online. I love texts, emails, Skype sessions in books. Something about them yanks my chain, and Vanilla Clouds delivered those for me.

-Fluffy with a sprinkle of angst.

-UST

-Adorable main characters. Both these men stole my heart; I'd love if they were real and we had a Sunday tradition of going out to brunch. lol

-The writing. It was exquisite. One moment I was smiling, next I was hurting, and then I'd be happy again. I love when authors can make me feel an array of emotions in a short time.

-The end- just lovely.

Vanilla Clouds was perfect. It had everything I look for in a romance: longing, chemistry, character development, excellent relationship development, all wrapped up with a happily ever after.

Now I'm off to buy the rest of their books.

5 Stars!

Ariana says

4,5 stars

It's called Vanilla Clouds. Poetic AND delicious.

And that's not the cloud formation we are talking about here.

In this book it refers to 'Magnus's' favourite vape flavour, but it also sums up its contents beautifully. Poetic and delicious, and so cute and romantic, I hardly got out of ooohing and aaahing.

Nothing makes me melt more than a gentle, blushing, shy mountain of a man. And Magnus is certainly that. He is so kind and sweet to Michal, so considerate, apart from his little deception. (And for me, the mention of a broad hairy chest was the icing on the cake!)

Michal is ultimately cute, with all his insecurities, his self-deprecating humour, and his enthusiasm for chocolate. Michal has had a bad experience with a hook up in the past, one that landed him in hospital. No wonder he wants to be careful around any stranger, but of course he can't live like a monk for the rest of his life either.

Torn between liking the guy he has met and his fear of abuse, gentle and thoughtful Magnus is exactly what he needs.

Roe Horvat just knows how to write utterly believable and lovable characters. And their romance is simply swoon-worthy. All those blushes and smiles, the hesitation and the want. Have I mentioned that these guys

are also hot together? They are, and their lovemaking is overflowing with feels, it's just ...

There's a tiny bit of drama and angst, but that is understandable considering the situation, and it is resolved in a realistic, adult manner, rather than draw out misunderstandings for the sake of the plot.

I also loved all the secondary characters: Lena, Suzanne and Michal's parents. And there is the chocolate, of course. Admittedly, I was in heaven and could virtually smell it. I am still dying to have that hot chocolate! (not even mentioning the original use of it!)

This is romance at it's best! Highly recommend it.

Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

****Kindle freebie 1/25/19!!****

This book was HEAVENLY! Like a perfect chocolate truffle- gooey and delicious and beautiful.

I've really enjoyed everything I've read from Roe Horvat, but *Vanilla Clouds* tops the rest.

I'm a jaded romance reader, and it takes a lot to win me over. I had just read a string of 2-3 star books, and I *really* needed a winner when I started *Vanilla Clouds*, and I was not disappointed in the slightest.

***Vanilla Clouds* is a romance-y romance book.** It is the kind of story that got me reading romance in the first place, and it made me feel that jolt, that rush of warm feelings that makes romance novels so addictive.

The story is a bit of a whirlwind, and, to be honest, I'm not sure how Roe Horvat pulled it off without it feeling rushed or too insta-lovey. Instead, it felt just right. The pacing, the plotline, just EVERYTHING came together at the right time.

From the moment I started, I couldn't put it down. *Vanilla Clouds* was the low-conflict, high cuteness book that I was searching for but didn't know I needed. It had everything: heat, tenderness, and an ending that made me grin for hours. ***Vanilla Clouds* is a book you need in your life.**

Copy provided in exchange for an honest review

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Dia says

4,5 stars rounded up because it really was super sweet!

It's no secret I adore this author's writing style. My favorite book would still be **A Love Song for the Sad**

Man in the White Coat. Maybe it's because I adore angst and broken characters are my favorites. About Vanilla Clouds I only knew that it contains "obscene amounts of chocolate". So of course I was intrigued.

The writing was excellent, as always! I loved all the Gothenburg descriptions, I enjoyed the character's inner struggles and I chuckled many times with the sweetest characters: Micha? and Magnus. Oh and the epilogue was amazing!!!

I received the audio from the author and I am super grateful because I've really enjoyed Vance Bastian's voice. Highly recommended!

monika says

The thing is I have a soft spot for Roe Horvat's books, but I'm also not a big fan of particularly sweet, lovey-dovey books. I only recently said to my friend Leyna, that a complete tearjerker, a book about grief, was for me too sweet, too ideal.

And Roe was all too clear, that Vanilla Clouds would be the fluffiest fluff, and about a Polish guy... I was scared to death I'm not going to love the upcoming book as much as the previous ones. But I shouldn't have :) Me and Roe, or rather Roe's writing style, are the best fit.

Just like Micha? and Magnus. <3

So, if you're looking for a truly sweet and funny aaaand steamy book with no angst, go for it. But don't be scared this is going to be just random, mediocre Romance. Roe's books are always something more, so vivid, full of emotions, but about real flesh and blood humans. And the writing, awww, it's like every word goes into my bloodstream by osmosis.

I loved everything about this book: Micha? and Magnus so perfect and so adorable together, Polish parents being the exact opposite of homophobic bigots (thank you Roe), Gothenburg and a ferry crossing (it's important to the story, but there is also so much Roe's real life in this pictures), online friendship and banter, hot sex (but first slow burn and longing), and finally the best, the perfect, the sweetest, the funniest ending... and a beautiful cover.

It's a right amount of fluff, fun, banter, romance and slow burn. Just the best mixture, like my favourite Lind's dark chocolate with chili, yummy...

Thank you Roe for the book and for the very remarkable, unforgettable journey... thank you for Misiu <3 (but Magnus was also to die for, actually I can't decide whom I adore more ;))
And thank you for Micha? with Polish „?” :-D

ARC received from the author in return for an honest and unbiased review

Renée says

4.5 stars!

I cannot hope to adequately explain what Horvat's writing does for me.

I live the writing. I breathe the writing. There are very few authors who truly make me **experience** a story like Horvat.

Micha? and Magnus. A Grindr date that wasn't. Until it became something else. Cyber friends for over two years, Micha? thinks Magnus is perfect for him. And that's why he can't meet him. He can't have his perfect Magnus shattered with reality.

So he pines.

Until a gentle giant walks in his store's door.

This is a less angsty read than some of Horvat's other stories. I didn't **FEEL** this story any less though. How this author manages to bring out the range of emotions in me, I can't explain. But he does.

From wide smiles to confusion to utter sadness, Horvat packed it all into this novella.

I needed it to be longer.

Cadiva says

So, it's official, Roe Horvat could write their monthly shopping list on a piece of paper and I'd be a sucker for it.

This book is as divine as the chocolate which makes up a large portion of the story narrative. It's sweet and rich in emotions and all the flavours of love.

Michal (can't do the proper letter character on my Kindle!) and Magnus were joyous, the story romps along at a perfect pace and its littered with humorous moments throughout.

This is definitely Roe at their most sweet but the story manages to stay on the right side of the line to never become vomit-inducing!

I loved everything about this novella, from the setting, which definitely feels like its set somewhere other than the US or UK, from the characters (two brilliant female friends in Lena and Suzanne) to the unashamedly romantic feel of it all.

The epilogue is pretty awesome too.

#ARC kindly received from the author in return for an honest and unbiased review.

Susan says

What a great comfort read. I loved the Swedish setting and with the mentions of the cold weather, the rain, and of course all the chocolate, I wanted to curl up on my couch with this book, a blanket and a cup of hot tea (and I would have done that if we didn't have a heatwave here).

Micha? doesn't have the best luck in the dating department. After some bad dates and one seriously awful one where he ended up in the hospital, he is very hesitant to try again. That's why he is so hesitant to meet Magnus. Magnus, with who he's been texting for 2 years, but who he's never met. It doesn't help that Magnus lives in Hamburg, while Micha? lives in Ghotenburg, Sweden.

One day when Micha? is at work at the chocolaterie, he gets a new customer. This customer immediately catches his eye and Micha? isn't even sure why. That customer introduces himself as Bernard while blushing and seems to like Micha? quite a lot.

When the two run into each other again the next day, Bernard asks Micha? out, and Micha? immediately says yes.

After a very sweet and wonderful date, the two end up kissing in front of Micha?'s apartment. But then Bernard seems to panic and kind of runs off....

Roe Horvat's books always seem to make me all warm inside. It's something about the setting (it's not the US, YAY!!!) and the way the characters interact. And of course don't forget all the chocolate. So much mention of chocolate in this, it was awesome.

I really liked this, even though you could see the 'angst' a mile away. It wasn't dragged out and I was fine with it, even though I didn't like the anticipation at first. But it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be.

A wonderful comfort read.

Oh, and can I say that I just LOVE the cover. It's perfect for this book.

An ARC of Vanilla Clouds was generously provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

This review has been cross-posted at Gay Book Reviews.

Judith says

Well, this was just perfect!

There's something about starting a new book by *Roe Horvat* that puts me in a happy place. The writing, the characters, the scene setting never disappoint.

Michal is a chocolatier and pretty damn adorable. He's been talking to **Magnus** online for two years....

A terrible encounter with another man has left Michal scared to date, scared to trust. Magnus is his *safe*

place...they talk about everything and anything for hours. Magnus has always been there for him.

Magnus wants them to meet but Michal is hesitant-what if the amazing connection they have doesn't live up to expectations if they meet in person?

One ordinary day at work for Michal is about to change his life when a stranger enters his shop.

I can't gush enough about how perfect these two are together,

-that first date was everything-holding hands on the ferry **had me swooning,**

-Magnus calling Michal *baby* **had me melting,**

-and the chocolate **had me salivating.**

SEX AND CHOCOLATE....trust me,you'll just have to read it...

Highly Recommended.

Review copy provided by the Author.

Moony Eliver says

4.5 stars. "Adorable" is not a book descriptor that I am drawn to. In fact, the opposite... if that's how it's characterized, it is probably not for me. Not that I don't appreciate the aww moments, but all too often, an Adorable Book means a shallow storyline, underdeveloped characters, and a lack of heat.

Not so much, here. Sensuality and humor are two of the most endearing qualities a romance can have, and *Vanilla Clouds* brings them. The depth of the story and characters felt exactly right for a short novella. And my foodie heart was absolutely in love with the descriptions...

It was a creamy, soft and mild, comforting sweetness. But when the cherry took over, the flavor turned decadent. Just like taking off your clothes in the evening, the softness broke away, and suddenly, it tasted raw, provocative...almost indecent. The cherry mingled with the hint of chili, but there was something missing, an unsatisfied desire. Damn, this thing was a blatant tease—aaand I was craving sparkling wine at eight in the morning. Wow.

What I was NOT anticipating from this read was serious, squirm-in-my-chair sexual tension. In retrospect I'm kind of disappointed in myself for not expecting that element, because the chances are good that someone who can write food with that kind of sensuality will be good here, as well. And yep. Yep yep yep. Sweaty palms, quickened breathing, the whole nine yards.

I hate ratings sometimes. I hate looking at other books I've rated and trying to find where one fits. How do

you factor it all in? Length, subject matter, writing skill, etc etc etc. It's an impossibility. So my ratings end up being a cross between 1) judging the book against itself / what it could have been, and 2) its ability to make me feel. Going off about any minor imperfections in Vanilla Clouds feels overly picky even for me, and I don't wish to focus on them any more than I wish to kick a puppy for having sand on its paws. Read it, love it, cherish it. Repeat ad infinitum.

My insides are gooey. (<— Roe would have said that so, so much better.)

Buddy read with Xia Xia, but I think she got sidetracked by something else velvety! ?
