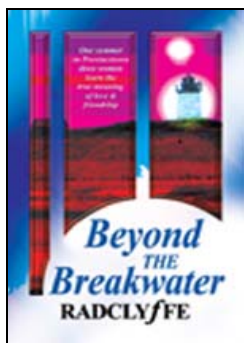


Book Review: July 2006

by Cheri Rosenberg (reviewer at [MBR](#))



Beyond the Breakwater

Radclyffe

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Lesbian Romance

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Beyond the Breakwater by Radclyffe is a memorable lesbian romance. It is evident that in each of her novels, Radclyffe displays excellent character development, strong plot lines, and satisfying conflict resolutions. Picking up where Safe Harbor, the beginning of the Provincetown Tales left off, the sequel is equally enthralling. Sheriff Reese Conlon and Dr. Tory King are more in love than ever and they are planning to take their relationship to the next level. About to become parents, it is refreshing to watch how Reese worries and protects Tory during her pregnancy. The love and intimacy they share is the highlight of the book. Reese is one of those characters you can't help but love completely and wish for ultimate happiness. She's one of a kind and a genuinely good person through and through. Tory is equally wonderful and you just know they will make wonderful parents.

As much as it is great to revisit Reese and Tory, Beyond the Breakwater is Bri Parker's story too. Bri and her girlfriend Carre, both twenty, deal with being young lesbians growing up in a less than tolerant world along with outside distractions and temptations. They are trying to find their way into adulthood, responsibility, and their respective careers. Bri makes choices out of love without consulting Carre and unexpectedly leaves her in Manhattan to go home to Provincetown. Can a long distance relationship survive? Are Bri and Carre committed enough to one another to weather any storm? Radclyffe gets into the minds of her characters and accurately portrays her character's hopes, dreams, growth, angst, and joys. The strengths and weaknesses of all her characters make them as real as they can be.

I highly recommend Beyond the Breakwater because Radclyffe gives readers exactly what they expect in a romance novel. To her credit, the author never bogs the story down with superfluous details. Even when the scene changes from Reese and Tory to Bri and Carre, it enriches the story since it's easy to care about more than one couple. I enjoy the way Radclyffe employs different techniques to convey the plot. Whether using the action as it unfolds or relaying past events through the eyes of her characters, Radclyffe knows how to make it interesting and how to hold the reader's attention. Don't miss Beyond the Breakwater. It has sizzling sex, terrific character growth, and a story you won't soon forget. The Lambda Literary Award winning sequel, Distant Shores, Silent Thunder, is also a finalist for a Golden Crown Literary Society award, and deservedly so. Radclyffe is one author you can count on to deliver a book you will enjoy because it is life affirming, romantic, and packs an emotional punch that will leave you invested in the characters, and wishing they were part of your life.

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