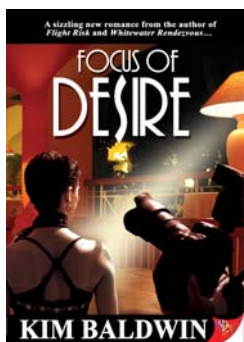


## Book Review: February 2008

by RLYnne (reviewer at JAW)



### Focus of Desire

Kim Baldwin

ISBN: 978-1-933110-92-9

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Lesbian Romance

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In a change of pace from her previous novels of suspense, Kim Baldwin has given her fans an intelligent romance, filled with delightful peeks at the lives of the rich and famous. Isabel Sterling is living a quiet life in Madison, WI, when her best friend enters her into the "Sophisticated Women Watch Your Dreams Come True" contest. The winner will get a make-over, as well as an all-paid trip for two to four wonderful locales. When Isabel wins the contest, it is only the idea of actually getting to travel to Paris, Rome, etc., that persuades her to accept. Naturally, her travel companion will be her best friend, Gillian.

Natasha Kashnikova is a world-famous photographer whose camera can make or break a model. Her success has given her a jaded reaction to women; she knows they all want to be on the cover of a magazine and they will willingly perform to get there. Nearing her fortieth birthday, she's sure she has seen and done it all. Now Kash must pay back a favor by traveling with some Wisconsin innocent and capturing her make-over on film.

Baldwin has done a wonderful job of delving into her two protagonists and showing how this seemingly simple trip creates life-changing experiences for both women. Isabel realizes that she has been "settling all this time. Settling for what and who was offered." Kash also takes a second look at her life and realizes that she, too, has settled for less than her dreams.

As both women grow and change, the reader journeys into some of the hot dance clubs in Paris and Rome, and gets a front row seat to some very powerful sex scenes. Baldwin definitely proves that lust has gotten a bad rap. *Focus of Desire* is a great read, with humor, strong dialogue and heat.

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