



## **In Her Eyes**

*Wesley Banks*

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When Ben Wilder is given a second chance he focuses on the one thing he's always been good at: running. After walking on to the University of Florida Track and Field team he begins to quickly move up the national rankings, paving a path towards the NCAA Championships. Everything is going the way he planned, until the day he bumps into Casey Taylor.

New to Gainesville, and focused on her first year out of medical school, Casey is initially hesitant to let Ben into her life. But the truth is she's worried about letting a guy near the one thing she loves most: her daughter, Emma. After one fun and fateful night Casey can no longer bury her feelings behind these excuses, and takes a chance on a guy she is slowly falling for.

Casey's relationship with Ben starts to gradually build into a love that she has never felt before. But more importantly, Emma has taken a particular liking to Ben. As they all spend more time together Ben is forced to confront painful memories when he starts to notice something hauntingly familiar in Emma's eyes.

After a local journalist uncovers the secret of Ben's past their lives begin to converge on a single promise that Ben Wilder has long since made: to never give up...no matter what.

## **In Her Eyes Details**

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Author : Wesley Banks

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## From Reader Review In Her Eyes for online ebook

### Nicola says

Not the best but not the worst either. A bit wordy and too detailed in places. I like details, they help build the overall picture in my mind, but these details didn't add anything to the story, e.g. the muscle or bone names Casey went through in her head. I get that she's a doctor and everything but those details were a bit much. Whereas other details like his family or relationship with his daughter and wife were kind of glossed over but would have helped develop the character. Also the ending was a bit convenient. Again that doesn't make it bad just predictable.

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### Adriana Bonilla says

This was a really sweet read and honestly I feel happy for have read this book.

Ben and Casey have overcome some difficulties in their lives and those events changed them into what they are now.

He is one of the best runners and she is a doctor who's working really hard for what she wants and needs.

I found myself really excited for both's POV, Ben bc he was just a really sweet guy and Casey bc she was scared of letting someone in her organize-kind-of-messy-life and actually caring about the guy and that is something I can totally relate to. I love both characters and how they were trying to live they best way they could, somethings weren't ok, but once they found out they listen to people who truly loved them to actually solve the issue.

Their love story was so sweet and heart warming that I was constantly smiling about it. Ben was cocky, charming, sweet and kind to everyone, and when she was around all those awesome stuff just increase in him.

She on the other hand was in a really relatable situation, at least for me, and I could see myself in her fears and decisions.

Honestly I loved this book, was all I need it.

4.5 Cute and sweet Stars!

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### Michele says

As I said in my review of Faith in Every Footstep by Wesley Banks this is one author who can and does tug at your heartstrings. You can feel the emotions of the characters as life takes them on a sometimes bumpy ride. I needed my tissue box again with this one-sometimes from sadness--sometimes in happiness. I read it in one sitting--I just could not put it down.

Ben Wilder is literally running from his past--or to remember it. Casey is a single Mom afraid to date because of her daughter. They were made for each other and Emma (Casey's daughter)really likes Ben. He has no idea why there is something about Emma that seems familiar--you will have to read this book to find out why!

In Her Eyes

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## Lexxie (un)Conventional Bookworms says

### This review was originally posted on (un)Conventional Bookviews

Beautifully written, In Her Eyes is a different kind of NA story, with quite mature characters, a tender romance, and a lot of tender sadness.

It was so refreshing to read In Her Eyes because of the mature and very likeable characters! There was no unnecessary drama, and the story felt very realistic to me from start to finish. Ben was so focused, both when it came to his classes and his running, and when he noticed Casey for the first time, he became focused on her as well. His doubts weren't crippling, rather they were ordinary doubts that people have from time to time, but Ben had to deal with his past and what he wanted other people to know about him.

Casey was amazing, too, a single mom in her first year of residency, she had to be resilient. She also thought she had no time for dating or romance, but Ben was doing his best to prove her wrong. Another thing I really loved about In Her Eyes was that Ben was an athlete, he worked hard to be a good runner, but he was not trying to take advantage of his position as a star on campus. Very down to earth and earnest, he won me over immediately, and I wanted Casey to give him a chance much sooner than she did. Having said that, I could completely understand Casey's hesitation, with her daughter she just didn't want to introduce a man into her life just for him to disappear again.

The secondary characters are really well done, too, and I love Parker both for his strong friendship to Ben, and his comic relief. That guy sounded like a lot of guys I knew when I was younger. Casey's best friend, Nikki, was fleshed out, too, and even some other characters that only showed up a few times really made the story stronger, and needed to be a part of it.

Heart-warming is a good word to explain the story. I felt all the feels when learning more about Ben, but also from what I learned about Casey. In Her Eyes was a gem of a story, and has earned a place on my 2016 favorites shelf! If you want to read a slow, sweet, tender romance without any drama, you should hurry and get your hands on this!

*"Holy shit man, you sound like Nicholas Sparks." "Who?" Ben asked. "Nicholas Sparks. You know, The Notebook, The Last Song, The Longest Ride.." Parker stopped talking when he saw Ben laughing. "Do you like to get in your jammies with a bowl of ice cream and cuddle with your cat while you read love stories?"*

*"I don't know, man, but I think my eyeballs are going to actually fall out of my head. This whole school thing makes zero sense. Think about it, if a single teacher can't teach us every subject, then how can they expect us to learn them all?"*

Excerpt from In Her Eyes

Ben walked by several rooms that looked exactly how he remembered them. Eggshell colored hospital beds were covered with crisp white sheets, tucked neatly at every side. Teddy bears and other stuffed animals lined the beds, and colorful animal balloons floated in front of the health monitors. Most of them also had a navy couch with wood trim that folded into a bed just below the prison like windows. He hated those rooms.

Turning the corner he found the same tiled mural of butterflies, and birds, and dolphins on the wall. And then he heard a familiar voice. A voice he really didn't want to hear.

“Benson?” Dr. Sanchez called out.

The voice stopped Ben cold where he stood. For a moment he thought about just breaking into a run. That seemed to be the only solution he had lately. But something held him standing still where he was.

Dr. Sanchez walked up beside Ben. He had shaved his thick black mustache, and there were large bags under his eyes. He looked tired, Ben thought, possibly even sad.

“How are you?” Dr. Sanchez said, touching Ben’s shoulder lightly. “What brings you here?” Ben didn’t answer.

“I’ve been reading about your races in the paper. That’s really great,” he said with a smile. Ben’s eyes burned into the orange and green coral shaped designs on the floor, but he didn’t say a word.

“Well,” Dr. Sanchez said lightly, “I...I better get back to work. It was...good to see you.”

Ben wanted to nod, or at least acknowledge the man in some way, but what do you say to the man that killed your daughter?

a Rafflecopter giveaway

About the author:

Wesley Banks was born in 1983 and grew up on the west coast of Florida. He graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Civil Engineering. After spending over 7 years building movable bridges from Florida to Washington he decided to focus on his true passion: writing.

Wesley recently moved from Florida to Oregon to get back to the great outdoors that he loves so much. He lives with his wife Lindsey, and his two dogs Linkin and Story. Most of his time these days is spent writing, with as much rock climbing, hiking, or skiing as they can fit in.

Author Links:

[Website](#) | [FB Author Page](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Goodreads](#) | [Pinterest](#) | [Instagram](#)

Thanks for stopping by today, and good luck in the giveaway!

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## **Kerry Richardson says**

1.5? I was excited by the premise of this book but I find myself really disappointed with it. I didn't like the writing style, it felt disjointed and choppy and just didn't flow well at all. I didn't feel any strong connection between the lead characters but I did expect a much stronger connection between Ben and Casey's daughter Emma. Casey is a single Mom but there is no mention of the Dad or Casey's family and the ending was very abrupt and in my opinion it felt unfinished.

## Veronica of V's Reads says

This is a tender, innocent and mostly-sweet sports romance between an elite college distance runner and a first-year medical resident.

Ben is a 24 y/o walk-on to the track team at U of Florida. He'd had dozens of scholarship offers when he was in high school but forewent all of those to marry his high school sweetheart and be a father to their only daughter. Tragedy has struck Ben's short life—he has no family remaining, excepting his adoptive parents. Trying to rebuild after the loss of his wife and Grace, he contacts the track coach at Florida and becomes the oldest Gator on the team.

In the run-up to the end of season, he meets Casey, immediately drawn to her as he had been to his wife many years before. Casey's afraid to let any man close to her and her young daughter, though. It's a bit push-pull, but Ben overwhelms Casey with kindness and sincerity. I really enjoyed the sports-part of this romance. Ben is a dedicated athlete and takes care to do his best, fulfilling the promise he made to Grace not long before she died. There are many references to legendary distance runner Steve Prefontaine, and it's clear from the start that Ben is in a whole different class of runner—ranked second in the country in his event.

The romance is sweet and tender, with Ben being an excellent partner to Casey and her little Emma. I liked that we had solid working people in the book. I liked how Casey worked to find balance to be a parent, doctor, and girlfriend—that was described very well and realistically. The book is a sentimental read, made especially so because it soon becomes clear that Ben is struggling with some medical issues that may, or may not, be related to some of the tragedy he's endured.

There's a little bit of break-up-to-make-up, but the ending is positively HEA, and \*might\* cause a bit of leakage in the general eye area. The ending twist wasn't quite as flushed out as I'd have liked, but it was still rewarding. It took me a little bit of time to get used to the rapid POV switching-style of the book. Several characters tell this tale, but mostly it's Casey and Ben's story.

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## Kate's Corner says

3.5 Stars

I really enjoyed this book which for me was very much unexpected. The blurb is very promising and well I usually have bad luck, if there is a good blurb then I am usually really am disappointed with the book but with this book it isn't the case. I do have one complaint but I'll get to that later.

At 24 years of age Ben Wilder has experienced more than his share of heartbreak and pain. I personally wouldn't call it a second chance at life but more that he uses his heartache and pain to be one of the best runners that the University of Florida has ever seen. His concentration and focus leaves him very little time to be sociable that is until he meets Casey.

Casey Taylor is a doctor second and a single mum first. To a beautiful five year old daughter, Emma. Ben worked hard to get a date with Casey. I really liked them together. Casey is his second chance. And he knows how precious life can be.

The book is well written and the first 60% flew by it waned a bit in the middle and then it picked up again. Even the running jargon didn't bother me at all. There is a twist to the story that I really didn't expect and that was the icing on the cake.

There were some things that bothered me.

What happened to Emma's father?

What about a reconciliation with the doctor?

But I'm a bit peeved with the ending of the book. Although it stopped at 98% I felt as if there was something missing unless there will be a second book?

Book received by Patchwork Press - Cooperative? via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Review can also be found at <http://jerisbookattic-reviewblog.blog...>

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## **Cátia says**

For more reviews click [HERE](#)

After reading the blurb of this book I was expecting something heartbreaking and that's the reason why I requested this book from NetGalley. However this book wasn't what I expected and it wasn't that heartbreaking. There were a few moments that were sad but it wasn't that heartbreaking. I did enjoy the story and the characters but for some reason something was off to me. I liked Ben and Casey as characters but I didn't feel the chemistry between them and that really threw me off. One thing I really didn't like was the 3rd person POV. I had a lot of problems with that. I'm pretty sure a lot of people would like it but I'm a 1st POV girl :P . I also had a few problems with some timeline inconsistencies but in the end that was not a bigger problem to me. I still can't understand how old Casey is. I thought she was 25 years-old but a few things she said made me think that she might be younger. I think the end was too fast and left a few unanswered questions, things I would want to know.

Now let me just talk about something. You might know how much I love Nicholas Sparks. I've read all of his books except one. I thought it was funny that there was a Nicholas Sparks reference in the beginning of the book but by the end I saw at least two plotlines that were used in his books. I was reading it and thinking "This reminds me of a Nicholas Sparks book". I don't know if this was intentional or not but it's difficult to enjoy a book as much when the said book uses so many things from some of your favorite books.

It might look like I didn't like this book but in the end it was enjoyable. I think this book could be good for someone who wanted to start reading New Adult because I know that a lot of people have problems with the mature content in New Adult books. You wouldn't have that problem in this one because there is no mature content. So if you are in the mood of a New Adult romance you should give this one a try.

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## **Reader43 says**

**Eyes with secrets and hope**

A love story with mystery and unexpected hope. I could not put this book down as the mystery hovered in the background. Well written and poignant, creating tears of joy. Cannot recommend it enough, for anyone loving mystery, a love story, and an indomitable will to reach a sought out goal. This is an author I follow for the great reads he produces.

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### **Ralou by Collector Of Book Boyfriends says**

Review to come

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### **Cristina (My Tiny Obsessions) says**

Read full review [HERE](#)

You know when you read a blurb, and get all excited, expecting a great story, a lot of heartbreak, and twists that will make your heart bleed? Yeah, I thought this would be that kind of book, and I was so disappointed :(.

Let me start with the writing... I really didn't like it, it felt choppy. To make matters worse, this book is on the third person, which is fine, until near the end you realize that it's an omniscient 3rd person narrator... and was not a fan of that. I didn't get if it was like that throughout the whole book and I didn't catch it, or if it changed for some reason near the end... either way, it didn't work for me at all.

I felt like the characters had huge potential, and I liked them for most part, but I needed more from them. There were a lot of small things brought up that had no continuity or relevance, and other things that should have been mentioned and weren't – \*cof – where's Emma's dad – cof\*.

The plot was cute for a good bit, with Ben and Casey getting to know each other and beginning a relationship, and then it went to cliché and predictable and literal, and not the good kind of either of those things.

I had a huge problem with the timeline within the book, as well as the fact that neither character really acted their age. I mean, how old is Parker? He's not a freshman, but is he 19? How old is Casey's BFF? They went together to high school, right? So 25? So weird! And Emma... oh boy... I'm sorry, but the girl felt more like a filler and a good excuse for Casey than anything else. I didn't really feel her connection with her mom or Ben, and by the end I wasn't entirely sure if Ben really loved her, or if she was a substitute for what he had lost...

Either way, this book by all standards was OK, but it just wasn't for me. :(

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### **T. Rosado says**

4.5 STARS!

A thoroughly enjoyable read with a sweet romance and exciting plot twist.

This is the story of an exceptional track athlete, Benson Wilder and single parent/medical resident Casey Taylor. As Ben and Casey work on a developing relationship they also have to contend with the truth of Ben's past, Emma's (Casey's daughter) connection to Ben, a health scare, and Ben's near obsessive drive to conquer the NCAA championships.

Even while craving more details and a bit more story development, I can't give this story any less than 4.5 stars. The clean and concise writing is stellar and flows with ease throughout the numerous short chapters. I completely believed in Ben and Casey's romance and enjoyed their interaction. The intimate moments were clean, but ultimately swoon-worthy. I appreciate when I am not eye-rolling at cheesy dialogue or overly gratuitous sensuality. The story moves at a quick clip, but never feels rushed. This story has stuck with me and I look forward to reading more of Wesley Banks work in the future. So, if you like a quicker read with more story depth, a beautiful love story, and a moving plot twist, this is the perfect book.

I received an ARC of In Her Eyes in exchange for my honest review.

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### **Ted Tayler says**

"Running on empty"

I have to admit this one didn't grab me. I don't know if it was the writing style, the sparse plot line, or the main characters. It may have been a combination of all three. On the other hand, it could have been all my fault; but after the first few chapters I skipped through the rest of the book to discover how it ended. There were other stories that demanded to be read.

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### **books are love says**

Mixed here. This is a heartwarming book. Ben's love and memories of his daughter is so beautiful and all he does to keep the promise is so so amazing. Also the story of the donation is incredible and heartwarming. The story will touch your heart.

Ben is a caring, kind man who is given a second chance and taking it. He has had heartache in his life and he has a promise that keeps him going. His strength and kindness is seen throughout the book. this is a character that has character and a role model in some respects. He didn't have a easy life and he didn't take that as an excuse to become something bad. He used it to give him strength and become a kind, caring generous person.

Casey has overcome some obstacles and is now a doctor. she has a daughter who has undergone some struggles but is doing well. When she meets Ben she is afraid. Afraid to let anyone in her life that could hurt her daughter. Little does she know that Ben is the opposite. Casey is strong in her own way. Her protectiveness of her daughter is great to see. So is her slowly letting Ben in after they keep seeing each other.

The story is written like a diary of events. We see some of Casey's thoughts but mainly Ben's view. We see how his last semester of his first year at college goes. How he worked hard at school, was breaking records on track, his past, his finding Casey and falling in love with her and accepting her daughter, his promise to his daughter and him accepting things. It is poignant at times but what got me mixed is sometimes the story just stops and goes to the next thought. So at times it feels we aren't getting the whole picture. Take the moment on the roof with Casey where he tells his thoughts. Suddenly they are not there and helping his friend. but later in the story we get to see all his thoughts when asked again so it didn't feel complete but it was incomplete either it was just stopped by something else happening at some point. The time with the reporter and him telling his team his past we are in the office of his coach and it ends but we never know about the telling of his past to his team again so that thought ends abruptly and talking to the reporter isn't really told as well. We see that the story gets put out but not how it unfolds before that. We get snippets of things and are left to try to imagine how the end result comes.

That is where I get mixed on this. Sometimes the snippet is good but sometimes I want to know more to have that snippet be worked more. Like the issue with the dizziness that could have been fleshed a little more. We saw it abruptly end and that's okay and for some that is good but to me I wanted more given the past with his daughter that was told to the reader.

The story was good and riveting. It was a feel good warming story and uplifting. We see to people overcome many obstacles especially Ben to find each other and be there for one another. Ben is my favorite no actually his doofy roommate was because he was just sweet and doofy. He gave us brevity and helped to keep Ben balanced. The story of Ben is uplifting and heartwarming. You can't help but root for him and cheer him on. Those special once in a lifetime moments warm your heart after all he went through. The story of him and Casey was sweet and shows you second chances at love and happiness do occur. A wonderfully sweet and uplifting story that keeps you riveted with Ben's story and all he overcomes to be where he is and find love and happiness. A great read.

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## **Amber says**

Watch out Nicholas Sparks, I think Wesley Banks is about to give you a run for your money. In Her Eyes was a very light and sweet read, not full of too much drama but enough to keep you on your toes. I had a little bit of trouble getting into it at first but after a few chapters I couldn't put it down. Benson Wilder was an athlete that had it all til tragedy struck and took everything away from him. That is until Casey comes into his life making things feel a little bit better. I really enjoyed reading this book, it's the first I have read by this author and can't wait to see what else he has in store for us. Def a change from my normal paranormal and fantasy reads, which was def needed. I think if I had to pick a favorite character it would have to be either Nikki or Candy, they were hilarious, of course, Parker was too. They made the book a lot more interesting and I wouldn't mind hearing their stories as well.

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