



A Wish Upon Jasmine

Laura Florand

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From Reviewers' Choice Book of the Year nominee and bestselling author Laura Florand:

Ruthless. That was what they said about Damien Rosier. Handsome. Wealthy. Powerful. Merciless. No one messed with his family, because to do so they would have to get through him. No one thought he had a heart. Not even the woman he gave his to.

Cynical. That was what they said about Jasmin Bianchi. A top perfumer of her generation, Jess had achieved commercial success by growing a protective shell over a tender heart. The one time she cracked it open to let Damien in, he crushed it—after a night of unbelievable passion.

Lovers. That one magical night couldn't survive the harsh light of dawn. When Jess woke up to discover the man in bed beside her had stolen her company, she fled.

Enemies. Now she's come to the south of France with a threat to his family heritage. If he wants to reclaim both it and the woman who walked away from him, he's going to have to fight as dirty as only Damien can.

But Jess knows how to fight dirty, too. And these days, she has nothing left to lose.

Certainly not her heart.

Come explore the south of France, a world of heat and fragrance and tales as old as time, through the stories of the five powerful Rosier cousins and the women who win their hearts. A Wish Upon Jasmine, book two in Florand's addictive new series, La Vie en Roses. "Explosive, sensual, and utterly sweet" (Eloisa James).

A Wish Upon Jasmine Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : Laura Florand

Format :

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Adult, Cultural, France, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit

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From Reader Review A Wish Upon Jasmine for online ebook

♥Rachel♥ says

4.5 Stars

Jasmin and Damien met at a party and fell *hard*. A perfect, magical, dreamy night, where Jasmin thought her wish for a star came true. Until the next morning when she figures out exactly who she fell for: Damien *Rosier*. Ruthless businessman, and playboy, his reputation precedes him, and Jasmin takes in all the gossip and is shattered. This was at a very difficult time in Jasmin's life; her father was dying, and she was so overcome by grief. With that kind of situation, believing she was mistaken about their time together made more sense than to believe in happiness.

It was easier to believe I was an idiot than to believe something that felt so perfect could actually be true.

Jasmin is even more shattered when her perfume company is bought out from under her. All is lost until Jasmin inherits an old perfume shop in Grasse, France, from her adoptive grandmother: Colette Delatour. A shop that's been in the Rosier family for *generations!* Yes, Tante Colette is at it again!! I love all her skillful maneuvering of hearts and lives!

Of course, Damien, the family's ruthless warrior is sent to get the shop back, and maybe get a chunk of his heart back, as well. Their shared night was earth-shattering until he woke up and Jasmin was gone.

There was so much hurt between Jasmin and Damien, because when you've had a taste of something that feels so darn perfect and then have it ripped away, it's bound to leave a mark. Or gaping hole, as the case here would be. While there was a lot of anger, hurt and misconceptions to work through, I appreciated that once Damien and Jasmin met again in Grasse, there was no distance between them. They fought out the battles and didn't shut each other out, and I relished every minute! Best of all, the time spent circling and challenging shed light and insight onto each other's vulnerabilities and motivations. Their anger morphed into passion, understanding, relief, and hope. The transition was utterly HOT, vibrating with sexual tension, but it was also very emotional and moving.

Just the right amount of humor balances out these powerful emotions, and I was cracking up several times! And yes, that alien photo does make another appearance!! Tristan serves up some hilarious revenge:

Tristan sighed blistfully. *Remember that time all our favorite toys disappeared and we found ransom notes in their place? That's the beauty of family. Never too late for payback.*

Lol!

Laura Florand's gorgeous writing made me feel part of the jasmine harvest, part of the sights and scents of Grasse, from the fig tree and lavender growing in Tante Colette's back yard to the feel and smell of old stone paving the streets of the ancient town. Most important to me, though, is the thoughts and emotions expressed in such a way that I could completely sympathize and put myself into Jasmin and Damien's shoes. Rage, shatter, and lust with them. Feel the hope, love, and joy overwhelm them. I desperately yearned for their HEA; they were so *obviously* in love! I reveled in Jasmin and Damien's story, soaked up their romance, and read the final page with a satisfied smile. So beautiful!

A copy was kindly provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

This review is also posted at The Readers Den.

Jacob Proffitt says

This is the second in a series and I recommend reading them in order. The first introduces some of the family dynamic that isn't as explicit here and knowing the other couples enhanced my enjoyment of this one.

This story didn't hit the personal sweet spot that Once Upon a Rose did, but I enjoyed it very much even so. I kind of hate the cover copy on this one. It emphasizes all the trivial stuff and misses completely the heart of the story with Damien and Jess working so hard to understand and accept one another to get at the core of who they are together. This story relies rather heavily on buying their instant connection in the past and a one-night affair that features both falling in love (and Jess running away from it). While I had a hard time buying that, in effect it works out pretty well as the premise for their current situation.

So the story revolves around trust and forgiveness and vulnerability and love and I just loved how well Florand explores those themes. What I liked best, though, was that Florand avoided the obvious trope of Damien being all stoic and unable to admit Jess hurt him and instead went with him owning that hurt and not only being able to admit it, but having the courage to show it to Jess in ways that let her comprehend just how affected he had been.

Anyway, this was a very emotional story and I loved both the journey and the conclusion. The emotional payload on this was very powerful and I'm still in the midst of digesting that. It's heavy enough that I'm resisting a full five stars, but I can't really justify anything less for a story I enjoyed so much and the well-earned emotional catharsis at the end.

A note about Steamy: There are two explicit sex scenes, though the second actually pulls back once the action *really* starts. It's the upper end of my middle tolerance range, nevertheless, because those scenes *went on forever and some more*. That first one was chapters long and that was way more than the story actually needed or warranted. The second wasn't short either, but by then I felt free to skim a bit and I'm glad I did. It was clear very early that their relationship would live or die on the emotional and mental dynamics between Jess and Damien. The physical stuff just felt tacked on and unnecessary, really.

Ksenia says

Ten reasons I fell in love with A Wish Upon Jasmine by Laura Florand:

1. beautiful writing

It's funny that my only complaint about the first book in this series Once Upon a Rose was Laura Florand's flourish writing. Yet her gorgeous lush writing was exactly what I craved this time. I guess my enjoyment of a book is hugely influenced by my current mood. I was recently sick and my reading was very limited. I'm sure you are familiar with this fogginess and inability to comprehend and enjoy a book when you are ill. So when I was finally feeling better I was dying to read a beautifully written book with romance. A Wish Upon Jasmine was just this.

There is something magical in Laura Florand's writing. It's so rich and sensual. I wanted to savor every word. I highlighted so many passages, and I'm sure I'll be rereading this book in the future.

2. romance

I was swept off my feet with the romance. It's very different from the romance in Once Upon a Rose. While the first book was cute and sweet, A Wish Upon Jasmine was more serious and dark. There was so much hurt, tension and raw emotions between Damien and Jess, but their story was no less alluring. Their interactions were so sensual and their lovemaking on a riverbank was one of the most intense and raw erotic scenes in my reading life.

"They had the mad trust and hope and betrayal of two strangers in New York, and from today they had...he didn't know what they had. It felt raw everywhere, what they had. Like it might be something good, if it could grow, but right now the fresh exposed skin of it was sensitive to every touch."

3. kisses

I'm a romantic and I love kisses in books. So much so that I made a feature about my favorite kisses on my blog. And kisses in this book were utterly delicious.

"Kisses and kisses and kisses, in the dark against her door, with the scent of jasmine sneaking in among those kisses as if the flowers, too, wanted to touch. The night brushing cool silk around them after the heat of the day. Her hair under his fingers, her skin against his lips."

4. emotions

This book was so emotionally charged. There was of course the hurt between main couple. But there was also Jess' grieving about her father.

"She never knew what might come out of her heart, when she loosed that stopper on it. Sometimes still it was this great wail of grief. Sometimes it was something even crueler, like hope."

5. Damien

I loved Matt from Once Upon a Rose, but it was Damien who intrigued me the most. I was impatiently waiting for his story. I wanted to learn more about his mysterious man. I loved his complexity. I loved how vulnerable he was under his ruthless armor.

"Not a villain of a man. Not a superficial player. But a man who carried chests down from the attic for his old aunt and tried to catch the moon for his mother and who may not have understood how easily wounded she could be six months ago but who hadn't meant her any harm at all."

"Not a shark, not an assassin. A warrior. A hero."

6. Rosier family

I met Rosier family like old friends. The family became a living and breathing organism here, and it was fascinating to see different types of family relationships. I liked dynamic between Matt, Damien, Tristan and Raoul. Laura Florand continues to explore complex relationships between the cousins. They are very close. Under all competition and teasing they care deeply about each other. And of course Tante Colette with her shenanigans and matchmaking was very entertaining.

Damien was very devoted to his family. He took a role of ruthless and cold businessmen, who make money and support others, so they can dream and do what they love. He was "the mean one". He was tired of this role his family put on him, but he was willing to make sacrifices for them. He didn't realize that his relatives appreciated his sacrifices.

"He'd sacrifice himself, of course. I think he does that all the time... That's why we have a saying, in the family: Be careful what you wish for. Damien will get it for you... So that we remember, you know—not to take too much advantage of that."

One more quote that brings light on cousins' relationships:

"Over there by a stack of burlap sacks, Damien—the tough, impervious, cool, ruthless one—had lifted a hand and was letting jasmine blooms drift from his fingers all over Jess's upturned face, his expression so tender and so exposed that Tristan and Raoul immediately jerked around to put their backs to it. Then they abandoned the vat to find some excuse to stand between Damien and the factory doors, so that anyone who poked a head in wouldn't see Damien stark naked like that."

7. scents

This series is centered around perfume industry. Jess is a perfumer, so scents play a big role in this book. And thanks to Laura Florand's tactile and sensual writing it was such a delight to read. Also her descriptions of jasmine harvest were wonderful.

"It smelled...it made him think of impossible things. This clear, glimmering purity of hope, like the birth of a baby star. He loved it. It had this chest-tightening emotion packed into it, like standing beside a cradle in the dark, looking down at your firstborn child."

8. setting

The author created such a vivid picture of Grasse. I want to visit The South of France one day.

9. humor

As always Laura Florand found a perfect balance between sadness and humor. There were a lot of funny moments. And of course the alien photo appeared again.

"Remember that time all our favorite toys disappeared and we found ransom notes in their place? That's the beauty of family. Never too late for payback."

10. figs

"The figs were irresistible"

They definitely were. There were several scenes where figs were present, and I absolutely loved this theme. I'm a little biased here. Many years ago I spent holidays in Crimea with my husband (actually we weren't even engaged then). We rented a house near shore, and there was an old fig tree. So every day on our way to the beach we each plucked a fig and eat them. So, yes, I feel very nostalgic and romantic about fig trees. Though I've never heard that figs were male sex symbols. Lol.

"Silence. Peaceful and yet dangerous. The kind of protected space where anything could happen. And everything was so sensual. As if you could pick up time and caress it in your fingers. Sink your toes into it, curl them into its clinging grains. Take a bite of it, and it would burst sweet and lush on your tongue. Once upon that time, a young Roman soldier might have tempted his girl with a fig, as they curled up here, in peace and desire."

END

I irrevocably fell in love with Laura Florand's writing and the wonderful characters she'd created. I'm looking forward to the next book in this series. While I wait for it I'll probably read her Amour et Chocolat series.

You can find my reviews:

Katie says

I haven't read Florand for a year or two because the last few I read didn't work as well for me, but WOW WE'RE BACK TOGETHER NOW. When she works for me, I DIE. I could barely even read the last third because EMOTION AHHA HELP.

Jess not being able to believe that she gets to keep things! YES YES YES.

(So yes, read this one, Beth.)

Alienor ✕ French Frowner ✕ says

"And then his gut clenched around the reality. God knew what perfume she'd make to represent *him*. Something mean. Machiavellian. Some masculine variant of Spoiled Brat, maybe. Maybe she'd call it *Assassin*."

Sigh. I don't know what it is with these books that makes me smile so big *while* hiding my face in shame. Predictable. Instalov-well, *kind of*. Certainly cheesy... I'm not supposed to like this, dammit!

And yet... It works just fine. What am I saying? **It works damn great.**

As far as French male leads are concerned, I'll take these ones. **Not the romantic world fantasy but a great deal of flaws, a brush of adorable**, family members who can't mind their own business and the ability to say *fuck you* when they're upset, even if they blush and apologize immediately after because oh, *shit*, that's not how they've been raised, but come on, why did you ~~for the mother of god stop talking please~~. *You want to know a stereotype which is often true when it comes to French?*

We loooooooooooooooooove talking. Almost as much as we love arguing. And of course we're always right. Duh.

But moving on. In those French male leads I can believe. I may love them, even, because there's no such thing as a *prince* and *franchement*? I don't want one, and neither does Jasmin, in the end. Add an heroine I can root for (strong despite her insecurities - believably flawed, let's say) and you get a happy Anna. This being said, **I can see readers being annoyed by her lack of self-esteem concerning relationships** : it didn't bother me too much because Damien doesn't take advantage of them and has more than his fair share of insecurities too, but it did grit on my nerves at some point.

If I barely know Grasse, the city where the story takes place (and by barely I mean that I might have visited it 20 years ago, with my parents, but probably focused on ice-cream or something), I can safely say that **the way life is described is rather believable and I sympathized with Jasmin who arrives from New York and is quite unsettled by people's reactions.** Look, I'm a former Parisian who lives in the South. In the country. Did I fall in love with the calm and the beautiful landscapes? Of course. Do I enjoy living there? Yes. Do I start bouncing around people sometimes because *please can we get started for fuck sake?* Hmm-hmm. Do I want to shake people each time someone tells me *"that's the way things have always been"*? Hell yes. I can't even imagine how disturbing it must be to arrive from *New York*.

The Rosier's family can be upsetting at first but... **Strip off the growls, and you'll find such endearing characters!** I love them all.

Having said all that, **I loved that the plot was centered around the perfume business** because first of all that's not something I often see and moreover the issues dealt with were sadly realistic : it *is* difficult for these little cities to survive now that every company must be worldwide, and local handicraft like perfumery in Grasse suffers a lot from the lack of competitiveness. In that regard, Damien's struggles appeared authentic to me and allowed me a better understanding of his - sometimes ruthless - behavior.

? **GOOD.** Indeed it contains the right amount of cheesiness to stay on the adorable side of my scale and the interactions made me smile more often than not. I *do* have a soft spot for brotherly banter and old scheming grandparents (Pépé and Tante Colette are fantastic).

"And then, just like that, there were *four* male bodies wrestling. "If any of you end up needing the hospital, I expect you to drive yourself," Tata Véro said, flipping a page. "I'm retired." She winced a little at a particular thudding sound, peeked at her son in the mass, and then looked immediately back at the photo album."

? **What about my romance peeves?**

- ✗ No girl hate but women who are open to friendship
- ✗ No asshole as a male-lead but a believable flawed hero who can be a jerk but also damn sweet
- ✗ No instalove *in the book*, but our couple did suffer from this weird disease when they first met (they fought after. I forgive them)

So, all in all, what this book offered me were several hours of smiles and escape. Maybe it will be the same for you, but frankly? I can't say at this point. I guess you'll have to try it to know^^.

? **Book 1 : Once Upon a Rose ★★★**

For more of my reviews, please visit:

Catarina says

4 Jasmine Scented Stars.

Jess and Damien shared a life changing night for both of them a few months ago in NY, but things didn't end well the next morning.

Months later, after her father's death, Jess is now moving to France after having inherited a perfume shop. Decided to change her life she decide to give the shop a chance. What she didn't expect was for Damien, the guy she couldn't stop thinking about being her biggest rival.

Damien is used to have what he wants, no matter what way he has to have it, but when Jess s the girl between him and his business, and emotion starts to overcome rationality, what of them will eventually win?

This was my first Lauren Florand's book, but it will certainly not be the last. A slow-burn romance, in an ideal location and with an amazing set of characters. You will definitely be completely absorbed by the story and not drop this book until you've finished it. The writing style is flawless and almost musical, like you're hearing an amazing love song instead of "just" reading a book, and is definitely one of the best parts of this book.

If you're looking for a solid and sweet romance, this book is a good bet.

Rating: 4 Stars.

Characters Development: Damien, despite ruthless and his asshole behavior in the beginning of the book was a great hero. Towards the end, when he finally see the light, it's impossible not to fall in love with him. Jess was good and a nice enough heroine, but her stubbornness annoyed me a little. Tante Collete was freaking amazing, I could read an entire book about her and not get bored.

Steam: Some hot scenes.

Sensible Subjects: (view spoiler)

Love Triangle: (view spoiler)

Cheating: (view spoiler)

HEA: (view spoiler)

Beth says

This isn't a series about ridiculous external dramas that upend the plot for the sake of upending the plot, as if farfetched conflicts are the most important thing to work past, in order to create idealized reconciliations.

Instead, this is a careful, deliberate series about careful, deliberate people - people who are a little hurt, who catch glimpses of a different future, if only they're brave enough to reach for it. People who orbit each other, slowly and consideringly, and learn to talk to each other.

Of course, this is also a romance novel, so there's an inherent security to the idea that this is a person worth taking a risk on. But that *that's* the wish fulfillment aspect of the story is about ten times more nuanced - dare I say mature - than your run-of-the-mill example in the genre.

This is about the beginnings of trust, and it lays the framework for that trust to continue - and that strength in a book, that consideration in storytelling, that quiet and careful deliberation, is a startling thing.

This is delicate and dreamy in a way that's distant and hazy but oddly personal and real. The themes probably should read as heavy-handed and repetitive, but they don't, because they're tempered by that hazy, dreamy perspective. Sometimes you do look at life and patterns emerge. Sometimes personalities do tread expected paths. Sometimes people are exactly who you think they are, even if they don't know it yet.

Sometimes happy beginnings do exist. But it takes a special book to convince you of them.

PS: GIVE ME ANTOINE'S BOOK. AND LUCIEN'S. ASAP.

Jo says

"It would have been like believing in magic, to believe in you," she said suddenly.

"Yes." His breath released roughly. "I know exactly what you mean."

"In the morning. At night, it's easier to believe in dreams."

Damien Rosier is the ruthless money-maker of his family. He ensures that each member of this family is free to live their dreams in the security he provides. No one thinks he has a heart, they don't know that he wishes for someone soft and sweet in his life. And then six months ago when he met *her*, he thought he had found that someone, but after one magical night she left taking his heart with her. And he was left thinking that the perfect night was meaningful only to him...

Jasmin Bianchi's life has not been easy despite her commercial success as a top perfumer. For two years she had to watch her father dying, and six months ago he passed away. Two weeks after a night so magical it felt like a wish. A night that turned to dust when she found out that Damien was the Damien Rosier who had just bought her company right from under her. And because she thought he had used her as only the known heartless Damien Rosier could, she fled.

Now Jasmin has received an unexpected inheritance and she's come to the south of France to claim it. And when Damien discovers that Jasmin has claimed his family heritage, he's willing to fight dirty to reclaim it. But this time Jasmin is not suffering beneath a cloud of grief, and she has no problem fighting dirty back. This time she will not run away, because she has nothing left to lose.

Can the lovers turned enemies finally discover that both of them lost their hearts that night months ago, or will they be too stubborn, too blind to realise the truth?

I can't believe I was so hesitant to read this book. After loving the first book so much, I just couldn't see the author topping it. But I was so wrong. This book was FANTASTIC and I'm definitely a fan for life. I devoured this book, while simultaneously trying to savor each and every word.

It had felt as if he'd found his heart. That heart that he'd stashed away somewhere long ago, in the service of his family, suddenly, it was his again. As alive and beating as it once had been. Or maybe it had felt as if she'd found his heart. Dug it out of its secret evil sorcerer hiding place, only she wasn't on a quest to kill him with a dagger through it, she was holding it in gentle, wondering hands.

I absolutely loved Damien! He comes across as so merciless and cold, but underneath that titanium veneer beats a heart that longs for someone that can see his heart, that can fill his life with sweetness. I loved how he

cared for his family, doing everything he can to make sure they had good lives. He is so sexy and bossy and just swoon-worthy!

“I can reach for you,” she said. “If I’m lucky and I stretch far enough, I can actually touch you for a while. But it’s never even occurred to me that I can hold on. So many things have slipped through my fingers.”

Jasmin was very sweet. A woman who had lost everything. When she originally met Damien she believed the worst of him because she was too afraid to hope that she had found someone who could be hers. She was too afraid of losing another person she loved. But I liked that this time she fought with Damien, and she fought for him.

“Every breath you take is explode-my-head hot,” he said, nestling her hips against his. “When I’m around you, there’s this part of me that feels like an animal, all the time.”

The romance in this book was PERFECTION. I loved seeing these two circling each other, not knowing that what they felt was reciprocated, and watching them discover this was wonderful. The sexy times was sexy and so damn hot!!

I just loved Damien’s family. The grumpy old grandfather, the sneaky old aunt, the wonderful banter between the cousins. There is such beauty in this family, their closeness and love for each other.

“You make me feel whole,” he said. “I told you. You make my heart beat. It’s as if all that great empty spot inside me...you fill it up with something sweet, just for me.”

This is my kind of romance. A book so romantic and sweet and passionate that it transports you to a world you wished you lived in. I love that that one night they had six months ago meant so much to both of them that Damien wasn’t a manwhore who slept with a bunch of women after Jasmine.

I love this author’s beautiful writing, her books are the sweetest and most romantic books I have ever read. A definite must read for all romance lovers who likes their romance sweet and so very romantic!

Talltree says

Beautifully written second chance romance. In the beginning in h's POV we might get the feeling she is much put upon and the H is mean but eventually we do get the whole picture and the H is amazing - loyal to his family, alpha and badass but also very much a protector. The h seems an introverted wimp and not nearly good enough for him. But hopefully she'll improve and for the H's sake I'm glad he got who he wanted. Safe romance.

4 stars!

Maria Rose says

This second story in the La Vie en Roses series is the romance between Damien and Jasmin. Both involved in the perfume industry, they shared a passionate one night stand as strangers after a business event. But Jasmin was horrified to discover that her tender and passionate lover was none other than Damien Rosier, the ruthless businessman who bought out her company, destroying her plans to make niche perfumes and killing

her heart in the process. When her ill father passes away, Jasmin inherits a small perfume shop in the heart of Grasse, Rosier territory. When she encounters Damien again, months afterward, the wounds for both of them are still raw – Jasmin for what Damien did, and Damien for Jasmin's shutting him out and never letting him explain what happened. With mistrust and hurt on both sides, will they find the way back to the magic that bound them together in the first place?

If you haven't read a Laura Florand story before, you are in for a treat – both because this story is evocative and touching as all of her works are, but also because you have a lovely backlist to catch up on. This is the second story in the Rosier family perfumerie series, but there are also several featuring chocolatiers in Paris in the Amour et Chocolat series, all equally wonderful. Damien is the businessman in the family, the one who makes the money so that the rest of the Rosiers can go about making their perfumes. His reputation is of a ruthless, hard driving, supremely confident man. If you want something done, you go to Damien. It's a reputation he thrives upon, but is also one that masks his care and concern for his family and the families of those around him whose livelihoods depend on him. He feels the weight of that burden constantly, and it make him appear hard and stoic. There are few who see past that outward facade. When he met Jasmin back in New York she was like a balm for his soul. Meeting as strangers, she knew nothing of him except what he showed her – and what he showed her then was his true heart. They connected on an intimate level, both in and out of bed and he was devastated when she disappeared before he woke the next day, and even more so when they met next and he discovered that the company he was trying to save, to improve so that they would be successful was hers, and that she viewed it as the ultimate betrayal. It only reinforced to him that being open and caring was a mistake, one he wouldn't make again.

Jasmin comes across as a cynical woman hiding a sweet and tender heart, bearing the grief of the loss of her father who had been ill for some time but succumbed shortly after her one night stand with Damien, at which time she also lost her company. She is down, but not out. The inheritance of a small perfume shop in Grasse beckons her to this small town, though she is fully aware that this is Damien's territory. If anything this makes her determined to claim this small piece of it, of him, just like he claimed parts of her. When they meet again, the sparks fly – both the sexual attraction and the animosity they now have for each other. Slowly however the truth of their first encounter, the circumstances that Jasmin was under and the false beliefs they had of each other start to crumble the wall they've built between them. I loved how this was done slowly, brick by brick, revealing the hurt of the past and the means to mend it. They can't deny their attraction to each other, and as they start to reconnect, the passion and emotion of their feelings for each other shine through in their steamy love scenes.

His lips brushed her cheeks, the corner of her lips, his body rubbing subtly against hers. There and gone. His breath passed lightly over her lips as he shifted to her other cheek. A gentle, teasing test of skin to skin, lips brushing down to the corners of hers again.

She closed her eyes, lifting towards him, bringing her fingers to his shoulders. Broad, strong shoulders. Fine, pressed cotton.

His lips, closing over hers. Firm and sure and sweet and hungry.

But not pushy. Not demanding. Not taking her over. *Come. Come dream with me.*

He'd kissed her like this that night on the terrace in New York, only a little more certain, a little more wondering, a little less in check.

I'm sorry. She went up on tiptoe, into the kiss. *I'm sorry I made you afraid to believe in this again.*

All of Laura's stories involve the senses and this one is no exception, as we experience the scents and sounds of Grasse and Provence. I really enjoyed this glimpse into the world of perfumes, how they are made and especially Jasmin trying to make a personalized scent for Damien, to capture his essence in a bottle. The

thread of that weaves through the story as Jasmin's view of Damien changes when she comes to understand the man that he is and the mistake she made in not believing in what they had started together. The glimpses into the lives of the other characters who live in Grasse, Damien's family and their history show a deep love for their country. With every story we learn more of what has made this family who they are, and the women who get to hold onto these men are very lucky indeed. Which isn't to say that they aren't without their flaws, but at heart they are good, solid men with strong hearts. It's always a joy to read one of Laura's stories and I'm delighted with this latest endeavor. 5 stars.

Note: a copy of this story was provided by the author for review.

Note 2: this review can be read as a blog post at : <http://straightshootinbookreviews.com...>

Susana says

Loved it!

Full review to come.

It's amazing how Laura Florand's romances calm the Grinch that there is in me -_-

Honestly, I'm baffled.

"

There's one thing you guys should know about these series. And that thing is, that even if you ~~okay me~~ have reached the dreaded point in which romance novels leave you somewhat nauseated or just tired of the whole romance schumzle (Yeah, I made it up), you'll most likely end up gobbling this series straight up!

Don't believe it?

Well, I didn't either until I read them.

Yes, this a Grinch approved series! (Yes, I'm the Grinch. I'm the bookish Grinch -_-)

For someone who has started dreading reading romance novels, reading this series, takes me back to the old days in which I had so much fun and pleasure reading.

This story was intense, addictive and just plain sweet.

The author knows how to avoid tricky paths (well done) and in the end I loved this so much, that I could have given it a higher rating.

So, why didn't I?

-_-

You know those stories in which the words form a melody of their own?

Patricia Mckillip and...you know... Patricia Mckillip. Well, the five stars are for them. *cough*

Okay, moving on... this book: **The characters!**

I wish I could insert a thousand exclamation marks. That's how much I liked them and their dynamics.

Their characterization, the way Damien and Jess (Jasmine) meet _ capital R in the Romance department _, the way their relationship evolves, everything was so intense. So good.

Also, I think I've developed a fetiche -_-

Cuff Links, man, Damien, my God, this guy knows how to remove a simple cuff link making it "read" as if he's removing so much more. **Hot**.

Honestly, you have to read it!

Thing is, Damien and Jess couldn't be more perfect for each other. They are really an otp.

They're cute, and sweet _ and it never enters into the cheesy domain _ and their chemistry is of the charts. What more can a reader ask?

Oh, right, **the secondary characters...**

Well, you'll be happy to know that they're just as great, as the main couple.

You have characters whose stories you've already read. Others that you can't wait to sink your teeth into them _ for instance Tristan's story _ and when you reach the end of the book, you just feel like re-reading the whole thing over again.

Oh, and the aunt?

Amazing! **Tante Collete, you rock!** May you live many more years, because things will be extremely boring without your matchmaking schemes.

So, what are you waiting for to start reading this?

namericanwordcat says

So good. Lovely, sensual, moving. So very good.

Florand is one of my favorite writers. I am never disappointed and always made very very happy. Just writing this review makes me want to read the book again.

I put off reading this one a bit because I was crushed with work and because I am not a fan of reunion romances. Well, stupid me.

First of all it isn't really a reunion romance. The hero and heroine have met before but it wasn't a lengthy relationship that comes with lots of threads to sort out. There were enough knots to untangle but it never slipped into ugly crying and sorrow. I can't really do that right now or never. lol

The romance is fierce as is the exploitation of what happens if you fall in love and you have other serious life issues going on at the same time. There are wonderful scenes of family as well.

The details of being a perfume maker are amazing as is the setting.

You will love the romance. Go get it. Hurry. Make yourself happy.

I was given this book for my honest review so there you have it.

Keertana says

I've always read that love is supposed to be easy. If you have to fight for it, it's not true love. If they don't immediately, truly, deeply understand you then it just isn't meant to be. And, perhaps, in the world we live in where we try to rush through life, picking up fast-food and arranging family gatherings and signing up for online dating so we can meet someone *fast*, that *is* love. But in the world Laura Florand builds--re-creates, really--through her prose, love is filled with messy beginnings and misunderstandings. Yet, it's not *less* because of those road bumps--it's *more* because her characters are willing to open themselves up to that type of hurt and pain and failure and try again.

After *Once Upon a Rose* was utterly charming, what with happy-go-lucky rockstar Layla and soft-hearted (but growly) Matt, I didn't expect *A Wish Upon Jasmine* to be quite so series. Or alluring. Or lovely. Damien, the businessman hero of this novel and cousin to Matt, is hard, cold steel. While Matt grows the roses and guards the valley--a task that often feels like a burden to him in the face of his cousins who manage to travel and slip in and out of their responsibilities--Damien acquires the money that allows Matt to grow his roses and Tristan, their youngest cousin, to make his perfumes. Without Damien's ruthlessness, they wouldn't have the wealth--or much of the happiness--that they have today.

But Damien, who so desperately wants to be able to make everyone's wish come true--to support them so that they can pursue what they love--is so much *more* than that veneer of calculated business acumen. In New York City, on a business venture, with a soft, shy woman named Jess, the true side of himself truly comes out. Only, the next morning Jess leaves his bed without a word. And the next thing he knows, he's bought her company and she's not just Jess, she's Jasmin Bianchi, the woman who created "Spoiled Brat", the perfume that isn't the artistic perfume that critics adore but rather the type of commercial perfume that sells--that made the number two slot and only slipped to number three. And now, six months later, she's in the Rosier Valley, claiming that an old perfume shop that has been in his family for generations has recently come into her possession. And, for Damien, it's a second chance to finally get it right with the one woman who got away.

I never know what to expect with a Florand novel. Either they start out cold, with the hero and heroine having never met and creating a complex relationship from the start or they begin layered, with the reader sifting through both the memories and the emotions that already flavor every conversation. With Damien and Jess, there's so much that isn't being said--so much under the surface--and on the surface is all sexual tension and wanting that it's a heady combination. But I enjoyed it *so much*. Some of Florand's later *Chocolat et Amour* books, such as *The Chocolate Heart*, have been the type of romances I wanted to weep at. *A Wish Upon Jasmine*, though, strikes the perfect balance between heart-wrenching and sweet.

I've long since given up trying to hide my feelings for my favorite Florand heros (*ahem* Sylvain Marquis!), but Damien Rosier is seriously giving my heart a hard time. I adored him as a lover, as a cousin, as a grand-nephew, as a son, as a grandson and, most of all, despite his flaws. And the same goes with Jess, who doesn't believe herself to be worthy of love, let alone of the love of someone as intelligent, gorgeous, and successful as Damien. It broke my heart to see Jess, whose perfume rose to the top of the market when she was only twenty-four, repeatedly battle with herself to gain confidence and believe that she was worth it. But, again, that's what I love so much about Florand's novels; they're as much a love story as they are a coming-of-age story in which her characters experience a tremendous amount of emotional growth.

Reading *A Wish Upon Jasmine*, I was struck by how besotted I am with this new world Florand has created. While I certainly miss the streets of Paris and the taste of chocolate on my tongue, slowly but surely I am being converted to the perfumes and aromas that grace these pages. Moreover, the Rosier family--so intertwined that if one were to change, they all would--has my heart and soul. Florand's previous series had her heroines connected by blood and her heroes moving in the same professional circle but the blood ties

were never as strong or as poignant as they are here.

I've read nearly all of Florand's novels at this point, with the exception of her own fictionalized autobiography, and yet she never fails to surprise me with the characters she writes up or the depth of her novels. Moreover, her prose only grows more decadent by the novel; lush, fuller, and all the more realistic. It's all-too-easy to forget you're not actually in the South of France if one of her books is in your hands. As a self-proclaimed fan of her, of course I loved this--I *loved* this--and it's one of my new favorite Florand novels. What's more, this series is shaping up to be even better than her last and I am breathless with anticipation for the next installment. *A Wish Upon Jasmine* is the all-too-perfect response to a wish you didn't even know you made; simply magical.

Anna (Bobs Her Hair) says

A Heady Sensory Experience

"He's that star in the sky that you wish for but you know you can never catch."

Top Notes

Jasmin 'Jess' Bianchi learned from her father how cutthroat the perfume industry could be. During a somber time in her life she attempted to pave the path to her dream but she suffered loss. At one point, Jess experienced a radiant moment of happiness to have it wink out.

Middle Notes

Fear makes Jess protect her heart. Loss challenges her to reconnect with a reputedly ruthless man who seems so far beyond her reach. Feeling hurt creates a different challenge of overcoming one's pain to make oneself vulnerable.

Base Notes

Family, Love, Courage, History, and Cultural Pride... These assets provide the foundations for two perfectly matched people to find the love they've always wished for.

He checked a tiny second. Not too long, he didn't think. He just had to stop his heart beating, had to put that damn organ back away, buried under some great tree in an ancient forest,

where she couldn't get at it. It hurt, putting it back. The hole for it felt dark and damp.

A child being stuffed into a closet when all the other kids were opening their presents.

Head, heart, and foundation... *A Wish for Jasmine* book has it all! After reading *Once Upon a Rose I* immediately dove into Ms. Florand's *Amour de Chocolat* series, and while I enjoyed the books they just didn't have quite the same magic for me as the Rosier family in *La Vie en Roses*. There's something special within this series - this family, the heroines, and French setting – that emotionally resonates with me. The entire reading process is a sensual experience.

The writing overflows with texture, flavor, and color. Every aspect is living, breathing, and affective. Grasse, the world's perfume capital, is a relevant component to Jess and Damien. Its industry, history, and traditions are significant. The setting is powerful!

Ms. Florand's descriptive way of writing makes me feel transported, as if the perfume shop's iron key has been pressed into my hand and dusty rows of brown perfume bottles are waiting for me to discover their scents. When Jess leans down to Damien's neck to breathe his scent I feel as if I'm close enough to take a bite. This book came to life in my hands! And this gushing is coming from a reader who usually dives into fantasy, paranormal, and/or science-fiction romance!

I had thought *La Vie en Rose* book 2 was slated for Tristan Rosier. Even Tante Colette thought Jess was a good match for Tristan, but I am glad Damien found her first! They counterbalanced one another. She has the softness that Damien needs. Even though he seemed hard there's something sweet he doesn't want anyone to see, except it's essential to him that Jess see his core and distinguish all his 'notes.'

A few readers may want to know that the steam level is turned way up in *A Wish for Jasmine*. Damien has a 'dirty' side that was mesmerizing as he reveals a touch of sexual dominance. It may be jarring to readers unused to erotic situations. (It's only one scene; Jess is a willing and very happy participant.)

The Rosier family has won my heart again! Jess made mistakes usually made by romance novel heroes. The reversal was a nice change, although I'm curious how romance readers will react because it sometimes seems as though heroines are held to different standard. I appreciated how Jess' and Damien's main conflict was revealed and resolved. Their challenges had me crying a few times, but Tante Colette and the Rosier family were in attendance to lighten the mood without gratuitously appearing. The elder Rosier family members enriched the romance with their stories of courage along with their meddling. The writing was tighter than *Once Upon a Rose*. Assigned identities in the Rosier family were mentioned more than was required but never enough to impede my desperate need to devour this book.

There's a pressure when reading a book for review. Having purchased book one, loving it, and writing a glowing review was easy. Receiving a personal email from the author stating I won an advanced copy was exciting and a little nerve-wracking. I'm glad to say this contemporary romance exceeded my expectations. I'm eagerly anticipating the next book!

I won this arc from the author in exchange for an honest review. Please note that the quotes above may have changed or been deleted at final release.

And I stayed awake until the wee hours of the morning reading this! (view spoiler)

Laura Florand says

Damien is here! Ruthless. Wealthy. Powerful. And head over heels.

Tiny tidbit:

Just for a second, standing a few centimeters from his chest, Jess looked up at him, so vulnerable that Damien wanted to soften. (It's all right. Remember? Remember me?)

She went up onto her tiptoes and rested her hands on his chest to balance as she took a breath of the hollow of his throat.

And after that he didn't have a soft cell left in his body.

Everything about him went hard and hungry and determined to get what he wanted.

A WISH UPON JASMINE, book 2 in La Vie en Roses series. I hope you enjoy!
