



Chasing Rainbows

Linda Oaks

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At the start of her freshman year, Addison Hayes's world is tragically turned upside down and she finds herself spiraling into the darkness of destructive habits. Now three years later, she's still battling the ghosts of her past.

With the start of her senior year, Addie finds herself entangled in a twisted game between twin brothers, Chase and Chance Logan. Their path of destruction leaves an already tormented girl feeling even more lost and confused. But sometimes out of complete chaos can arise a blindingly blessed insight whose name is Jake Riley.

Jake is like no other guy that Addie has ever met before. He doesn't scare easily. Unfortunately for Addie, Jake wants her; darkness and all.

Will Addie lose herself in the darkness or will she be brave enough to finally set herself free?

Chasing Rainbows Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : Linda Oaks

Format :

Genre : Romance, Fiction

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From Reader Review Chasing Rainbows for online ebook

Shaunna Armstrong says

When Addie starts her senior year everything might seem fine on the outside but on the inside she's dying. After losing her sister, it isn't easy to move on, especially with absent parents. When Addie thinks she could be happy she gets caught up in a twisted game with the twins, Chase and Chance. When she's left without any answers from them she finds comfort in Jake. Jake has liked Addie for awhile now but will her darkest secret having him running away too?

Cassandra (Thebookishcrypt) says

Copy provided in exchange for an honest review

This was the first book I have read by Linda and it pains me to say this story wasn't for me. It was difficult to get through, hence the month it took for me to read it. This story follows a girl in her Senior year of high school. This starts on the first day of school and cue in new twin students... which I have no idea why the author decided to go with this. The beginning of the year brings in a lot of new students so I don't know why the story focused on these two guys. They were supposed to be these two dangerous, brooding, sexy guys but to me they were just creepy and immature. By the end of the book, I don't think they added anything to the plot but unnecessary drama. I honestly can't tell you why the story mentioned them at all... the story would've been just fine without them.

The main character has too many love interests that are all basically insta-love and nope. That is not my cup of tea. She also cries over multiple guys that she hasn't even known for at least a week and it, honestly, irritated me to no end. She acted like she was an expert on these guys but again, she didn't even know them enough to be one. She cried over just about everything to be exact, and I found myself rolling my eyes a lot. I didn't enjoy her story at all. There was too much childish drama in these pages that I couldn't wait to finish the last page. She also second guessed herself sooo much that it got old, really fast.

Overall, this book was TOO much TOO soon. Pacing matters when writing about a relationship and this story could've been executed better. It was so bad that I didn't believe anything the characters said or did. I couldn't form a connection to any of the characters and I don't think I liked any of them.

Thank you so much Linda for the copy but it wasn't for me.

Red Cheeks Reads says

Addison, or Addie as she is known by her friends, is hiding a secret...a secret that she is still suffering badly from the loss of her sister and the subsequent behaviour of her mum and dad. No one knows, not her family or friends, the extent of the darkness within her and what she does to release it. And when Chance and Chase move into town they throw her already turbulent life into a spin. Are both the brothers just going to make her darkness worse? Or is one right for her? Or is the best friend of her best friends boyfriend actually the guy for her? Will Jake stick by her no matter what is revealed?

"If I hurt myself, I'd be hurting him. I didn't want to hurt him. I didn't want to see that look of sadness in his eyes ever again. He made me want to be strong... stronger, than I'd ever been before."

I really really loved this story!! It was such a unique and interesting story line that is captivating, enticing and thrilling. Worrying for Addie, trying to figure out just what in the hell the brothers were up to and wondering if Jake really would stick by her; it's one hell of a ride!

“I’d closed myself off for so long, I’d become afraid to live; afraid to feel anything because it hurt too much when things went to hell. Just maybe, this time it would be different. I needed to be brave.”

I felt deeply for Addie. I was devastated for her. The grief over losing her sister that she never recovered from and the way she feels her parents are ignoring her and never loved her as much as her sister. She was feeling so much darkness and sadness and I wanted her to find some light in her life.

“How could I love someone when I couldn’t even love myself? And how could I completely let go of all of the guilt I’d held on to for the past three years and live a life without Natalie’s ghost haunting me?”

Chance and Chase were definitely interesting characters. I can’t say much about them because it will give away too much of the story but I will say they were a surprise. I didn’t see the way they acted or their personalities coming and they added a lot to the story line.

“With Chase, I sensed a danger lurking underneath, but it wasn’t completely overwhelming or one that threatened to consume me whole until there was nothing left but a quivering mass of insecurities and need. Chance would destroy me and strip my soul bare then leave me more broken than I’d ever thought imaginable.”

Jake was another great character. He was funny, strong, kind and wants to be strong for Addie. He wants to be the one who looks after her and helps her. I was on tender hooks when her secret is revealed, praying that he would stick by her and help her.

“Addie, there’s usually always a rainbow after a storm. The sun’s still shining even though it hides once in a while. It’s just a little gray right now.”

The plot was so captivating and different. It’s always so refreshing to read a plot line that you haven’t read before. There was a lot of sadness, I definitely shed a tear or two but there was also happiness and laughter. It was tense, intriguing and a roller-coaster of emotion that will keep you hooked to the last line.

~Bethany

Shera Layn ~ Book Lovers Obsession says

Chasing Rainbows follows a girl named Addie who is suffering the loss of her sister and hiding a secret. Addie struggles every day but thank god she has two fantastic friends that are there for her constantly.

No one knows the turmoil Addie is really feeling over the loss of her sister. Her secret is well hidden from her family and her friends. At school she pretty much is a quiet girl until one day Chase and Chance stumble into her life. Boy when they do things start spinning way out of control. These brothers are double trouble to put it mildly. Just when you think you start actually liking one of them or both for that matter, things get shady. Addie really has feelings for both of them, but are either of them the right person for her?

“I’d closed myself off for so long, I’d become afraid to live; afraid to feel anything because it hurt too much when things went to hell. Just maybe, this time it would be different. I needed to be brave.”

Insert Jake- Addie’s best friends boyfriends - friend and roommate. Jake shows Addie that she is worth more than she thinks. But is Addie too hung up on Chase and Chance? Could Jake be just what she needs and does he hang tight when her secrets come to life?

I really loved Addie. She was broken, hurt and very sad. But inside that broken was a very strong girl who wanted to overcome. Chance and Chase, while they seemed sexy, very alpha males and interesting, at the end of the day I wanted to smack both upside the head. Jake was a shining light for me. He was so gentle and caring.

I enjoyed this book, the overall plot was good. The story of a very sad girl, cocky guys, good friends and at the end of the day..... A Rainbow. 4 Stars for Chasing Rainbows!

?°•..°?Leigh?°•..°? says

4.5* Review to follow

Danielle ?? (Danielle's Escape) says

4.5 Rainbow Stars

Losing a family member is never easy but when it haunts you in your everyday life how do you continue to go on? We meet Addie with all the emotions she tries to cover up some things are hard to leave in the past. She has a good way of hiding her past from her present and dealing with the now.

We meet the very handsome yet annoying twins along the way (there were times I wanted to book slap them silly)but then other times I was a big cheerleader on the sidelines.

Then Jake enters HELLO *Swoon*....

“Jake, I have to go,” I whispered and he growled out a muffled no, continuing to nibble on me as if I were his favorite bedtime snack.”

Be prepared to flip these pages and be sucked in! I was very excited to be in an escape with his book and I hope you will too. I totally recommend this and I will definitely be picking up more of this authors books!

C.C. Ravanera says

When you find yourself a good book, you just consume it in a matter of hours. That was what happened with me reading Chasing Rainbows by Linda Oaks.

It told of a troubled girl named Addie who was struggling to deal with traumatic events which happened in her life and the coping mechanisms she stumbled into to prevent herself from completely losing it. Mental health issues are such a touchy subject to tackle since most people are just not that well-informed so they react negatively towards it.

I applaud Linda Oaks for managing to convey an honest view about mental health and also by giving an accurate description of a troubled young woman. The emotions in the story were so raw that I felt like I was sharing them with the characters rather than being a mere spectator. Addie's pain was so real I ached for her throughout the book.

Thankfully though, it's not all about hardship. We see love and support from true friends...and we see Jake. I am more than a little in love with Jake. He's just...divine. I'll stop there :) Side note to Linda: Don't forget to send me the deleted scenes for *cough* research *cough* ?

My only issue with the book was that I wanted to see more of the twins. I feel like there's more to them than meets the eye: another pair of troubled teens. Hopefully, Miss Oaks will give us another peek into their lives.

All in all a very good read, I finished the book with a contented smile on my face and a light-hearted feeling one only gets from reading a well-written book. I've stopped following romance for a while now...I think I've just been converted back.

Amy Neighbors Senethavilay says

Linda Oaks is to be congratulated for creating a story that captures the struggles of a young adult who is dealing with loss, finding her identity, and questioning her self-worth, all while trying to maintain hope and navigate the intricacies of relationships. Her ability to write vividly in order to appeal to the emotional side of the reader is excellent, and she harnesses the adolescent thinking of the characters well. I loved Addie and the strength she possessed, even when she felt weak. And Jake? Well, he captured my heart!

I was given an ARC for my honest review.

Kristen Luciani says

I can't get my arms around the fact that this is a DEBUT. Seriously, it is that well-written and heartfelt. It's a young adult, which you know is not my go-to genre, but the characters were so well-developed, mature and multi-dimensional, it didn't feel like a young adult story. It was such an emotional read. I experienced the angst and anguish of Addie - the horrors of her past haunt her throughout the story and I felt her emotional struggle with the flip of each page. And Jake...talk about a swoon-worthy hero. His past experiences give him strength to follow his heart and pursue the girl who's captured his heart. You can't help but fall in love with him and everything he has to offer Addie's wounded soul.

Riley K. says

I was given a copy of this book in exchange for a fair and honest review. Chasing Rainbows by Linda Oaks, is a fantastic read. Addison is dealing with the aftermath of her sister's death. She is easily one of the most relatable characters in this story. There were times where I wanted to hug her and comfort her.

Linda Oaks created a story that has relatable characters and real life issues that should be talked about in households. I started the story late Sunday night and stayed up until early Monday morning to finish it. The dialogue was realistic as was the situations that Addison had to face.

The storyline flowed very easily. Like I said I was drawn into the story from the first page. There are a couple of characters that I just wanted to slap but that is due to the beautiful storytelling of Linda Oaks. There were times where I cried during the story, so definitely have tissues on standby.

I will definitely recommend Chasing Rainbows to others. I give it 5/5 Platypires.

Michelle says

So damn good!! Definitely 5 star plus material!!

So at first I thought Chase was going to be the good twin, considering how Chance came off first. Then I started to really like Chance he seemed sweet but also dirty. But honestly he's not a bad guy, after what happened to his mom I can completely understand where he is coming from. He's had it hard and Addie may make it even harder on him. Saying that I don't agree with how he treated her he was damn right. Cold. If he really cared about her he would have been nicer. She's also been through a lot. And thank God for Jake coming into the picture. He seems like a perfect bad boy but also the sweetest guy. I can't wait for more!!

Annelise Lestrangle says

Review originally posted on The Book Adventures of Annelise Lestrangle :)

I received this book in exchange for an honest review. Thanks again, Linda! The moment is here, so here we go :D

Chasing Rainbows tells us the story of Addison Hayes, a seventeen-year-old girl that lost her older sister,

Natalie, in a car accident three years ago. Addie is somewhat stable in the beginning of the book, but still suffers a lot with depression, even after lots of therapy and counseling, and keeps a secret that no one ever knew: she auto-mutilates herself.

The story officially begins at the start of her freshman year and two new students threaten the little piece of mind that Addie has: Chase and Chance Logan, identical twins that shake her up, each one in a way. Both start a sick competition for Addie's attention, making her doubt everything that is happening around her and go even further on her depression hole. Addie doesn't want this for her life, but she also can't deny the twins. Chance was her bad boy prince and Chase was the needing attention whore one; and none was ready for Addie's secret.

After a night in Addie's place, Chance simply stops talking to her, without further announcements or explanations, showing an awful behavior – and they didn't even had sex. That was too much for Addie, already so tired of unstable affective grounds to rely on, as Chance just pushed her from his heart and her parents were too trapped on their own grief to remember they still had a living daughter.

Just when everything seemed to be over at Addie's life, she meets Jake, her best friend Kara's boyfriend roommate. Their connection is instantly and strong, but will Addie have the courage to move on and be happy?

Few, explosive book! Now let's go to my favorite part: analysis! Just remembering that this were my impressions and opinion during reading, ok? :)

I really loved the book, much more than I expected to. I connected with Addie in an unbelievable level, as it had never happened with another book character before. The book narrator is Addie herself, so there were many things written that I had said myself during life, that I had already thought. This book was too close to home, in a way that made me loose it while I read – I cried, laughed, screamed, replied Addie's questions out loud. Those are things that I usually don't do. I'm a laughing person, I think a lot about the story of the book, but I'm never extreme, you know? And, this time, I was. The title may sound a bit abstract, but, on the last chapter and in this post from Oaks, we understand why *Chasing Rainbows* and I can say that Oaks is totally right. Being addicted to something is just like chasing a rainbow, chasing a fleeting and unique moment, that disappears right in front of our eyes, but you need to have that again.

In narrative matters, the book is good. As I said, Addie herself tells us her story, so it's possible to dive in her emotions and on the events easily. You understand why she commits the mistakes that she does, her frustration at herself for not being able to control her emotions. Of course, first person narratives have this problem of leaving gaps on the plot without the purpose of doing so, and I'll talk more about this when I go through the plot itself, but they weren't serious business.

But let's go to the characters: Addie is that kind of person that you love, but want to kill at the same time, haha! I loved her deeply as a protagonist and she will always have a special place on my heart. My other favorite ones were: Brandon, the strongest and loyal friend ever; and Jake, the magic boy that I won't tell a thing about to not spoiler you guys, haha! Ok, I'll tell you what I wrote on one of my Goodreads statuses: "Jake reminds me of the first fresh breath we take as soon as we exit a very dark and closed place <3". In the other hand, I thought Kara, Addie's best friend, too fake. I can't picture her like a real teen, you know? She's a nice character, but completely unrealistic. And it's not different with Devon, her boyfriend and Jake's roommate. I have to agree with Addie, those two were so sweet on each other all the time that I felt diabetic, haha! I started the book really digging the twins. Then I hated them, went back to loving them and wanted to them to just drop dead, haha! I have a thing for bad guys, but you don't cross some barriers and they did it,

hard.

Now, the plot. It was well constructed and fluid; the scene transition is smooth and the reader doesn't get tired of the story, even with the strong theme behind the book or with the thousand problems of Addie, as we have the sensation that she only gets fucked up for more than half of the story. Overall, Chasing Rainbows had a good closure and few loose ends – but they do exist and bother me. For example, we don't know what happened to the twins, nor how Brandon and Cal's relationship works, why did Miley decided to be "nice" with Addie on her birthday. Oaks presents us to several small stories in the plot, but they are just as fleeting as the rainbows that Addie seek; only glimpses of the reality of the book. But that's how it goes with first person narratives: no one knows everything about everything that goes on in the world, haha! However, I admit that I'm still let down by not knowing those answers.

In describing matters, Addie is a queen. She always notices people's appearances, what they are dressing, how they wear their hair and their cologne. She also is very good at body language reading, it's awesome. She doesn't always react on time, but always knows what's going on there, which feelings are involved. Her sensations are also a strong point, you can feel with her, haha!

I really liked how the book ended. Calm down, no spoilers, haha! Promise :) The thing is, I usually end a book and think "O.M.G., I need another, give me a sequel, dear author, do a sequel NOW!". I didn't feel this way. I mean, I would gladly read a sequel if there's one, but I felt the story so complete, the end of a cycle, you know? Battles like Addie's will only truly finish in the day that the person dies, it's true. The shadows are always lurking on our minds, waiting for the right moment to come. The difference is on whether you have the courage to fight this feeling and keep living or not. Death is the easiest way, very comfortable and controlling, so different of life. I know Addie will keep fighting because she finally understood that the past can't hurt her, that she's the one controlling her life and has the inner strength to go on. And this is the key to freedom.

Oaks gave voice to many people that suffer with self-mutilation through Addie and I honestly think that everyone should read this book, to understand how a person with this problem thinks and how, sometimes, the sadness just wins. I wish 15-year-old me had read this and learned some lessons.

That's it, guys! Thanks for reading this and I'm sorry if I was a bit too carried away, but, sometimes, it's impossible to put the book under the microscope and not hug it afterwards, haha! Linda, thanks again for the book, it was life changing.

Megan Bailey says

I really had plans to savor this one and take my time reading it.

But I ended up devouring it in one sitting.

Addie, the main character, was beautifully developed and interesting. The author handles the twists and turns of a emotionally troubled teenage girl in a way that is both believable and arresting. I loved Addie- her quiet strength, her devotion to her friends, the bits of humor that peek through. I felt her pain and her loneliness vividly. This is a story that touches on mental health issues with both sensitivity and a rawness. The emotional roller coaster of high school, relationships, love, and loss, Linda Oaks captured it perfectly.

And speaking of perfect...I feel like there should be more Jakes in the world. <3

Gina Sevani says

WOW!!! Honestly, I loved this book and I can't say everything that I want to. I will be giving away too much. The story is about a young girl named Addie who loses a very close member of her family. She keeps all of her emotions bottled up inside, and it's just heart breaking. Addie is a senior in high school who works at a local diner. Her best friend is HILARIOUS! I laughed out loud many times because of her. Addie meets some very HOT twins (Chase and Chance) I fell in love with Chance immediately. Even though, I don't agree with the way he handled certain situations, there's a darkness that consumes him as well. When you read the story, you will know exactly what I'm talking about. I think Chance needs his own novel. :) The dialogue between all of the characters was very well written. The author did an amazing job tackling certain issues... again can't give too much away!

Then there's this guy, a little older who has had his eyes set on Addie for a while. JAKE! Jake is mature, sexy, and loyal. (He's not afraid to get his hands dirty) which I love very much! Who wants a prissy guy? Anyway, moving on...

Chasing Rainbows sucked me right in and I finished reading it within 5 hours. I didn't stop!

Do you want to know her huge secret?

Do you want to know which guy holds her heart?

You'll have to read and find out! You'll laugh, cry, and then laugh some more! The books I love the most are ones that make me feel something. You don't have to personally relate to certain topics in a book in order to feel a strong connection, but what makes a great author is when he/she can make you feel the characters pain and emotion anyway. Linda Oaks certainly did that!

Bookbuster says

There was not a single thing that I didn't love about this book. Starting from the writing, the plot, the twist, main characters and ending on the secondary ones. I loved all of it!

"Proceed with Caution."

"What do you mean?"

It was a beautiful, sometimes heartbreaking and sometimes funny, love story. It was a story about a girl, who wanted so much but couldn't let go of the past and about a boy who was looking for love and once he found it, he fought for it.

"If I hurt myself, I'd be hurting him. I didn't want to hurt him.

I didn't want to see that look of sadness in his eyes ever again.

He made me want to be strong... stronger, than I'd ever been before."

Addie does not have an easy life. She has her own demons, suffering badly from the loss of her sister and absent parents. When she thinks she could be happy she gets caught up in a twisted game with the twins, Chase and Chance. They are nothing but trouble.

"Why would I chase after something as fleeting as a rainbow when I've already found my heart's desire?"

Jake is mature, strong, kind, sexy, and loyal. He wants to be the one who looks after her and helps her to fight her demon.

“Addie, there’s usually always a rainbow after a storm. The sun’s still shining even though it hides once in a while. It’s just a little gray right now.”
