



Riverbend Road

RaeAnne Thayne

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Return to Haven Point, where *New York Times* bestselling author RaeAnne Thayne proves there's no sweeter place to fall in love

Protecting the streets of Haven Point isn't just a job for police officer Wyn Bailey, it's a family tradition. But lately she's found herself wanting more, especially from her boss—and overprotective brother's best friend—sexy chief of police, Cade Emmett. The only problem is getting Cade to view her as more than just a little sister.

Cade's hands-off approach with Wyn isn't from lack of attraction. But his complicated past has forced him to conceal his desire. When Wyn is harmed in the line of duty, Cade realizes the depth of his feelings, but can he let his guard down long enough to embrace the love he secretly craves?

Riverbend Road Details

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From Reader Review Riverbend Road for online ebook

Bree Hill says

If you're going into a Raeanne Thayne novel wanting or expecting some hot steamy sex scenes and an immediate romance to bloom you're probably not going to get it (but I'm no expert and have only read a few of her novels) BUT what she does provide is equally amazing.

I've been making my way through the Haven Point series pretty quickly. I literally finish one novel and jump right into the next if possible.

Each new story follows a strong, relatable woman who I honestly read and want to be friends with. This far they've all been just very real women. The love interest's have been people already in their lives in some fashion.

What I like about her way of writing romance is she captures the heart of emotions. Her main characters have their own baggage, they're not perfect. Their love interest usually has some demons from their past they carry around with them and have allowed to spew so many negative thoughts into their mind, they don't think they deserve love.

In Riverbend Road the main character is Wyn who is a police officer. She saves two boys from a burning barn and is put on suspension by her boss Cade. Cade is basically part of the family. His mentor was Wyn's father before he passed and he grew up being best friends with her brother. The two are secretly attracted to each other but Cade is the Chief of Police and Wyn is one of his officers.

I love the town of Haven Point that Raeanne Thayne has created. Love the friendships, the way people are there for each other, beautiful descriptions of the mountains and flowing river, and I enjoy her slow moving romances. Love takes time. And her characters really go through the motions of calling it what it is. Onto book 5 for me!

Darcy says

This one was really sweet. I liked the secret crush that both Wyn and Cade had for each other. Things got interesting when they started to acknowledge their feelings. Part of me liked the high road that Cade tried to take, but another part of me didn't like how by taking that stance Cade hurt Wyn.

Wyn's instincts about people were great, making her a really good police officer. I loved how Wyn helped people, especially her prickly neighbor. The way that that relationship developed highlights what this series is about.

While I hate drama I was glad that the drama at the end made both Wyn and Cade do something about their crush.

Susan says

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ARC received from NetGalley for an honest review

What a wonderful addition to the Haven Point series. RIVERBEND ROAD is exactly why I love RaeAnne Thayne's books and devour them rather quickly. The secondary characters are from the previous books and it was great catching up with everyone!

Wyn Bailey is a police officer in Haven Point and her boss is Chief Cade Emmett, who has been the chief since Wyn's dad was shot. Cade also happens to be Wyn's brother's best friend. She has had a crush on him since she was a kid but never let him know. Now they are older and she is having a hard time hiding her feelings from Cade. Not to mention the fact that he is her boss and there could be career ending problems if anyone finds out. Oh did I forget to tell you that Cade's boss is the mayor of Haven Point, Wyn's best friend Mackenzie? Oh yeah you can't make this stuff up!

As with all of RaeAnne Thayne's stories, you will be instantly drawn to these real life characters and feel the emotions they feel. I could not put this book down. I had to see what was going to happen. The plot is just perfect and the little twists that RaeAnne throws in captures your heart and your head. Amazingly written and totally believable, this is my favorite book in the series, but I always say that with each and every new story!

RIVERBEND ROAD was a quick read for me. I was instantly captivated in their lives and was flipping the pages like crazy to see how RaeAnne Thayne was going to wrap up all the storylines. I never skipped a single word, I was that engrossed in all their lives. The secondary characters in this story will have you cheering. Wyn and Cade have some major hurdles to get over and problems to overcome, but if anyone deserves to be happy, it is these two. Even though this is book four of the series, it can easily be read as a stand alone. I didn't realize I was holding my breath near the last page until I let it out to let the tears flow. RIVERBEND ROAD is filled with heart-tugging moments and will have you laughing and crying all at once.

Gail says

What an AWESOME Book! I think this is my new favorite in the series. The characters in this series just seem to draw you in and you feel like you are right there with them. Great cast of characters and very well written.

Wyn and Cade have had a secret crush on each other for years but have never done anything about it. Cade is Wyn's brother's best friend and now he is her boss. Cade feels if he acts on it they will both lose their jobs. I also loved the extra bonus story line of Wyn's new neighbor.

A very heartwarming story you will hate to see it end.

Read the book today to see how it all turns out.

I received a copy of the book from the author for my honest review. Which I did give my honest review.

Thanks for the copy of the book. I really loved it!

Ami says

It feels good returning to Haven Point, the fictional small town from the pen of RaeAnne Thayne, which started with Snow Angel Cove back in 2014. In **Riverbend Road**, readers are going to meet police officer Wynona "Wyn" Bailey and the Chief of Police, Cade Emmett.

I loved Wyn so much!! I thought she was totally awesome. She stole my heart early on when she walked into an old barn on fire to save two teenage boys. Then Wyn continued to charm me as the story went along, with her befriending a skittish woman and her kids, teaching self-defense class, and of course dealing with her feeling for Cade. I loved that she made the first move and later on, she didn't back down when she told Cade what she wanted out of him.

"I don't *want* to be vital to the department. I only want to be vital to *you*. I'm in love with you, Cade. Don't you get it?"

There wasn't a lot that I could complaint about when it comes to Wyn. I adored her; she was kind, friendly, resourceful, and strong. On top of that she was also a survivor. I think Wyn is definitely my favorite heroine so far from this series.

Cade on the other hand -- urgh, I could knock some sense into him. Being the best friend of Wyn's older brother, Cade suffered from the typical attitude in romance, as in not wanting to make a move towards his best friend's sister. It also didn't help that Cade was practically Wyn's *boss*, which could complicate their professional relationship if people found out. Especially since one of Wyn's friends was none other than Haven Point's mayor, a.k.a. Cade's boss.

Despite this, I thought the story was lovely; there was definitely a chemistry between Wyn and Cade considering they were also good friends. There was douse of humor too, one of the most precious moments was when Wyn asked Cade to help with her self-defense class. Not going to spoil much but there was a good amount of drama and action near the end, which resulted in a satisfying conclusion for Wyn and Cade's romance.

It was a wonderful read and I look forward to more stories from Haven Point...

The ARC is provided by the publisher via Netgalley for an exchange of fair and honest review. No high rating is required for any ARC received.

Dorine says

Rated 3.5 - RIVERBEND ROAD by RaeAnne Thayne brings us back to Haven Point and its small town niceties. A welcoming community, Haven Point is a great place for newcomers. The main characters outdo themselves this time by helping a woman and her children find a place to belong after they've been living in fear. Easily read as a standalone, RIVERBEND ROAD will entice you to read the next couple's story.

For more reviews, plus travel, garden and food topics with photos, visit [The Zest Quest](#), my pursuit of a zestful life.

Police officer Wynona "Wyn" Bailey rushes to the scene of an emergency called in by her great aunt, only to realize the woman is in a stand-off in her driveway with a baby moose and the mother protecting him. Great Aunt Jenny isn't in any immediate danger, as long as she stays in her convertible, which isn't likely to happen if that moose keeps eating her prized flowers.

Such is life in a small town for a police officer most of the time. That is until Chief Cade Emmett orders Wyn to stand down in a fire situation to await the fire department and she ignores him in order to save two little boys. The chief suspends Wyn for seven days for disobeying an order, even though the town feels that's a bit harsh. Wyn tries to convince Cade to lessen her punishment. He resists, but neither of them can resist the kiss that has been burning unrequited for some time.

Wyn loves her town but she's unsure if she still loves being a cop. Wyn is from a family of law enforcement with the on-duty death of her twin brother and father always reminding her and her mother of the dangers on the job. Now Wyn has the attraction to her chief to deal with and she's beginning to think she will be better off doing something else in another town.

Fans will recognize author RaeAnne Thayne's signature small town sense of humor within the first few chapters. I always love those moments that make me laugh-out-loud and the Haven Point "rumor mill" is worth a good chuckle.

Wyn has a heart of gold and seems to get herself into one situation after another because of her passion. Her dog is a great side-kick and adds some fun. Wyn's relationship with her mother is unbalanced and overbearing, adding frustration, until Wyn begins to understand her mother's side.

It took me a long time to warm up to Cade. He seemed emotionally removed from Wyn and unable to commit for various reasons. He finally got his act together, but his reasoning frustrated me. Once I understood his backstory, his actions made more sense.

I'm a huge fan of author RaeAnne Thayne's HOPE'S CROSSING and HAVEN POINT series, but this novel moved a little slow for me. The only thing that I can pinpoint is that there seems to be an overage of internal dialogue with Wyn and Cade each hashing out within themselves why they should or shouldn't be together. I felt there was too much thinking going on instead of moving the story forward with action.

I related easily with Wyn's love of hiking through the mountains near Haven Point. I could easily see myself hiking those same paths. RaeAnne Thayne's descriptive clauses are always spot-on, increasing my ability to

enjoyably visualize her world.

There's also an excellently portrayed, creepy villain who is as slimy as I expected. Wyn is pretty clever in the way she reacts to him. It's one of my favorite scenes.

If you haven't read the rest of the HAVEN POINT series yet, be sure to read my reviews of SNOW ANGEL COVE, REDEMPTION BAY and EVERGREEN SPRINGS.

I'm especially excited about reading SNOWFALL ON HAVEN POINT, book 5, due to release September 27, 2016. You'll meet Andrea and Marshall in RIVERBEND ROAD and know why I'm anxious for their story. I have my advanced review copy of the next story in hand, so it won't be long before I immerse myself back into the world that speaks to my heart.

Review by Dorine, courtesy of Romance Junkies and The Zest Quest. Digital ARC provided by the publisher through NetGalley.

Julie says

Riverbend Road by RaeAnne Thayne is a 2016 HQN publication.

RaeAnne Thayne is one of my favorite contemporary fiction/women's fiction authors. Her stories are filled with warmth and genuine emotion, with well drawn, mature characters, I can relate to.

This fourth installment in the Haven Point series, centers around Wyn Bailey, a police officer working for Cade Emmett, her brother's best friend, and the man her father mentored, who also happens to be the man she is in love with.

It is an unrequited love, since Cade has never thought of Wyn in that way... or has he?

A risky, but heroic judgment call by Wyn gets her suspended, when she frightens Cade to death, because he thought she might be dead. He refuses to budge on the week long disciplinary action, but finds the incident brought some long buried emotions to the surface, some he may not have even realized he had, and has him fighting his attraction to Wyn, tooth and nail.

In the meantime, Wyn makes a new friend in Haven Point and discovers she has a dark secret and is running from a troubled past, while Cade finally comes to terms with the events that lead to the death of Wyn's beloved father, and his role in it.

Although this book is absorbing and deals with some very emotional issues, such as sexual assault and stalking, it isn't strongest addition to the series, but is still a compelling read.

I liked Wyn, and I thought she set an example for others to follow, with her friendliness, her love for helping people, and her ability to be honest with herself. She knows she is not totally satisfied with her life and has the courage to shake things up, which is not always easy to do, when sticking with what is comfortable is so

much easier.

Although, at times Wyn is perhaps just a tiny bit too perfect, overall, she's the type of person you would want as a friend and I admired her tenacity.

Cade... well, not sure, even now. I understood his reservations, but he was a bit too stiff, too burdened with guilt, and seemed too squeamish about risk taking, not just on the job, but in his personal life as well.

He finally comes around, making a few romantic gestures that prove to Wyn that he no longer holds any reservations about starting a romantic relationship with her, and that he is all in, for better or worse, so I gave him the benefit of the doubt.

For me, the side story involving the new neighbors in Haven Point, which centered around a woman named Andrea, and her two children, was the best part of the story, and was pretty tense.

The revelations regarding the death of Wyn's father, is a very sad and emotional, which explains some of Cade's reticence and why he carries so much guilt.

The romance is clean with only a few passionate kisses exchanged, and only a very brief hint of sexual innuendo. This is not a deal breaker for me, and I have come to expect stories with more emotional depth, and less sensuality, from this author, and that's fine. I actually like having a couple work through their issues before they take such an important step, but the author decided not allow the reader inside the bedroom when that day finally came.

The quality of the story made up for the lack of graphic sensuality and as always, I closed the book with a smile on my face, which is what it's all about, in the end.

Although I can't say this was my favorite or the best in this series thus far, it is still an enjoyable read, and it is always a pleasure to check in with the residents of Haven Point. I always enjoy this author's style of writing, so I am eagerly anticipating the opportunity to spend another heartwarming Christmas at Haven Point, finding out what Santa might bring for Andrea and her kids.

3.5 rounded to 4

KAS says

3.5 Stars. A good beach read I had the pleasure of reading on the beach. Nice story about two of Haven Point's finest in blue who are attracted to each other but afraid to admit it. Great flow and conversation, but unfortunately, the romance was lacking.

Aly says

Living in a small town mean there's no traffic but it's wildlife that can create problem ;p

Police officer Wynona Bailey doesn't date because for her, there's only one man who makes her heart beat faster. Too bad it's her boss, the chief of police and that he still see her as his friend's little sister. But the day Wyn answer a call about a possible trespasser and find a barn in fire instead and two children trapped by the flames, it's the beginning of several changes to come for her and Cade. But despite his attraction for Wyn, Cade still have reservations. Could he be hiding something ? And what about her wary new neighbor ?

I like that there was no power play with the boss/employee thing. They were friends and more like coworkers. While I enjoyed this book, I must say I expected more from it. The characters were lovable and I don't mind the slowburn romance but I guess it just lacked the little something extra that make it special for me.

Jacob Proffitt says

As the fourth in the series, you really should know what you're getting. And yes, the friend circle of happily engaged people floating around would be frustrating if you didn't know these people already. Sadly, this is the most disappointing in the series so far.

That's not Wyn's fault. She's made of . . . Wyn. Heh. She's compassionate and tough and does her best to infuse kindness into being a cop. From befriending a skittish neighbor to dealing with rambunctious children to wrangling with the infuriating Cade, I just liked spending time with her. I particularly enjoyed her character arc as she considers her future and how she has lived her life to the expectation of others. Figuring out what she was going to become even as she struggled with her feelings for Cade was endearing.

Cade, on the other had, was not full of Wyn. He's kind of an emotionally constipated jackwagon, really. He takes way, *way* too long to figure out things he should have known starting out and his self hate was as tiring as it was stupidly inconsistent. I kept waiting for the key piece that would tell me which of his many mercurial moods was the real him, but it never really happened.

So yeah, it was solidly three, maybe 3.5 stars, but Cade kept this from going any higher. And a pet peeve near the end about had me introducing the book to the wall at velocity. (view spoiler)

A note about Chaste/Steamy: There's no explicit sex, but some of the playing gets far enough I'm reluctant to label this one "chaste". It's not steamy, really, either. Lukewarm?

Danielle says

This is only the fourth book in the series by Thayne but the more this series continues the more I love it. Not only does each book have a storyline that draws you in but the characters and the town just make you believe that you are right there with them.

If you haven't started this series you're in luck because each and every book could be read as a standalone but

it's more fun when you start from the beginning of course.

This story is about the sexy Cade who just so happens to be the Chief of police in Haven Point. He not only takes his job seriously but he's well liked by the citizens he has sworn to protect. Cade also has a thing for his best friend's little sister Wyn who also happens to be one of his deputies. Yikes! After Wyn risks her life to save two boys from a fire Cade suspends her for not listening to orders but Wyn is bringing out feelings he didn't know or shouldn't have about her and with being her boss this could be trouble.

Wyn became a police officer after her twin brother and father were killed in the line of duty. She only wants to do what is right. Wyn has kept her feelings for Cade a secret but after one kiss she doesn't know if and how they can go back to being friends. With the pull of their feelings and her almost dying Wyn had decided that she needs a change in her life and if that means leaving the police department she will do it. Only one person can change her mind but he's a bit stubborn to try.

This story is all about the road to romance and that's what I love about this series. I even forget there are no hot sex scenes because I'm too involved in what's happening with their relationship and watching it grow. This is a total plus for me. If an author can make me forget that I know the writing is good but don't get me wrong I do wish there were some. *wink*

I loved each and every character. Of course some secrets come to light and some bad guys enter Haven Point but I love how these people in this town are close and stick together. They help each other out no matter what the circumstances are. If I could live here I totally would!

Wyn's brothers and sister are in this story and from what I have read in this book they are all single! Hopefully in the future Thayne will have each of them find their HEA.

I really thought this book was a sweet read. I love the falling in love with best friend's sister stories and this one a great one. Hopefully everyone will enjoy this story as much as I did.

Jonel Boyko says

Thayne had me laughing from the 1st page and near tears before the end of the first chapter. Her world and scene development made the story extremely enjoyable for me and I loved how each aspect came together fully. The plot was seamlessly crafted, which allowed me to experience the tale while becoming wrapped up in the lives of the characters. I loved the slight suspense that ran through the story as well. It didn't overshadow the current events but definitely did create an extra level within the story.

This was definitely a very character driven novel. The main characters both captured my heart in different ways. I loved her sass and belief in herself. His battle with what he believes are dishonourable thoughts and the secrets he keeps added an air of vulnerability to an otherwise strong and indestructible individual. And the supporting cast was a great deal of fun as well. I loved how much they all added to the tale and how much I liked them all.

Thayne has created a fun and heartfelt novel here. This one can easily be read on its own or as part of a memorable series.

Please note that I received a complimentary copy of this work in exchange for an honest review.

Jo says

2.5 Wishing for more romance Stars

This is my first book by this author, and although I did enjoy the small town aspect about this book, I must say the romance was way too light for me.

There was 2 kissing scenes and each time the hero pushed the heroine away, and the hero only manned up at 90%, which was way too late for me. Their romance felt too rushed at the end, and lacked depth.

CD {Boulder Blvd} says

I like the characters and town of Haven Point that Ms. Thayne has created. I also appreciate her writing style and voice.

The MC of this book is Wyn who is a police officer on the Haven Point department. She is in love with her brother's best friend who is also her boss which she has been able to hide for the last few years, but this is the book that brings her feelings to the surface. In addition to relationship issues, she feels that something is going on with the new neighbor next door. Her neighbor has relocated to avoid her dead husband's partner who has developed obsessive feelings about her.

The plot of this book is interesting however, it takes way too long to get to. The last 1/3 of the book was really good, the first 2/3 was slow and slightly boring. We get way too much day to day lifestyle that doesn't really add to the plot or the story. The relationship between Cade and Wyn really only shows up at the end of the book. We hardly see them together.

As I really like this small town setting and the characters, I'll definitely continue to read this series, but I hope there's a little "more" plot in the next one.

Dani C. (Paulette's Papers) says

I am a huge fan of Ms. Thayne's books so when I see a new one coming out, well, I have to get my hands on it ASAP!

There is so much going on in the small town of Haven Point! Police Officer Wyn Bailey should know. She grew up in this town and returned home to serve after her twin brother and her dad dies. Now she is carrying on the family tradition and she is keeping a special eye on her boss...

Chief of Police Cade Emmett is also a local boy. Unfortunately his mother died when he was young so he did not grow up in a happy household. That was until he met the then Police Chief Bailey. The Bailey family

helped him get passed his childhood. He has been hiding his feelings for Wyn for some time now but when she risks her life is scares him way too much...

All that plus apparently Wyn's new neighbor is hiding something and there seems to be a bit of mystery about what happened the day her father was shot. This makes for a very hard to put down book! I am definitely looking forward to the next installment of the Haven Point series!
