



## Castaway Cove

*JoAnn Ross*

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They've never met. But they're destined for each other...

Single dad Mac Culhane has traveled to some of the world's most dangerous war zones, but now he and his young daughter have settled in Shelter Bay, where he's become the late-night DJ for the local radio station. The last thing he expects is to connect over the airwaves with a caller. . .

After a painful divorce, Annie Shepherd opened up a scrapbook store in town and started volunteering with local senior citizens. Although she loves her work, dreams of the family she longs for keep her up late, listening to Mac Culhane's voice on the radio.

When Mac and Annie finally meet in person, the attraction between them is instantaneous. But Annie isn't ready to lay her heart on the line, and neither is Mac. Fortunately, no one in Shelter Bay is about to let a perfect match escape the magic of true love. . .

## Castaway Cove Details

Date : Published August 6th 2013 by Signet

ISBN : 9780451240002

Author : JoAnn Ross

Format : Paperback 400 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Fiction

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## **From Reader Review Castaway Cove for online ebook**

### **Rachel Rogers says**

Continuing to really enjoy this series. Ross doesn't go completely in the expected direction which I appreciate.

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### **Linda Smatzny says**

A very enjoyable romance set in Shelter Bay. The main characters are Annie Shepherd and Mac Culhane. Annie owns the scrapbooking store in town and Mac works as a late night dj on a radio station. Mac is a single father of a five year old girl who loves pink. Annie had a bad marriage and doesn't want any man. However the sparks between the two grow as does Annie's love of Mac's grandfather. The book was a quick easy read.

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### **Debbie says**

3 1/2 star

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### **Book Reading Gals says**

Title: Castaway Cove

Series: Shelter Bay bk 6

Author: JoAnn Ross

Genre: Contemporary

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When Mac and Annie finally meet in person, the attraction between them is instantaneous. But Annie isn't

ready to lay her heart on the line, and neither is Mac. Fortunately, no one in Shelter Bay is about to let a perfect match escape the magic of true love.

Review: I love Shelter Bay and its residents. It reminds me of the town I grew up in.

This was the first time I'd read a book where the military hero was not Special Forces, and I really liked it.

One of the things I loved about this book was how Mac and Annie first start talking. From there we watch as these two wounded souls come together and fall in love and start to become a family.

One of the things that is talked about in this book is Alzheimer's. This peak into what it's like for not only the person but also the family of the one suffering from this horrible disease is one of the best parts of the story.

As always in Shelter Bay we catch up with characters we already know and love, which is part of being in a small town.

This is another great installment in a series that I have grown to love with each new book. If you haven't yet discovered this series then you need pick up this book. Each book can be read as a stand alone.

Grade B+

Review by: Heather

<http://www.thebookreadinggals.com>

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### **Janga says**

Mac and Annie are both likeable characters. Mac's biological father died when Mac was still a child, but Mac was loved by his mother and adoptive father who encouraged him to pursue his dreams. Professional success came early and easily. I think he must have been a bit spoiled, but by the time the reader meets him, his time in Afghanistan and his divorce have changed and matured him. He is a loving dad, a devoted son and grandson, a good friend, and a tender, sexy, romantic lover. The gift he gives Annie when he proposes is wonderful. Annie's life has been much tougher, but she survives with courage and a loving heart. Despite her reservations, she finds both Mac and Emma irresistible. Given her history, it makes sense that she is more cautious than Mac. I fell in love with Emma and with Charlie, and I can't wait to see Sedona meet her match.

Castaway Cove is the sixth book in Ross's Shelter Bay series, and like the other books, this one reinforces the warmth and beauty of the coastal community and enlarges the cast of characters whose stories engage the interest and touch the heart of the reader. If you like quieter stories with characters who feel like friends and a town where you feel at home, you can't do better than this series. I've been reading JoAnn Ross's books for many years, and her Shelter Bay books are my favorites of my Ross keepers. If you haven't visited Shelter Bay yet, you can start with Castaway Cove. You don't have to have read the other books to appreciate Mac and Annie's story, but be prepared. You may find the other characters so appealing that you will want to read their stories too.

See full review at The Romance Dish:

<http://www.theromancedish.com/2013/08...>

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## **Karen says**

3.5 stars

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## **Lyndi W. says**

I am *literally* the only one-star rating of this book. Everyone else obviously loved this book in a way I could not. I feel kinda bad about that, but not enough to change my rating.

For 90% of the book, Annie has not a lick of confidence. She always assumes the worst. She has zero self-awareness. She lives entirely in the past, which she allows to rule her present and future. She wants a family, but pushes away the family that wants her. She wants love, but doesn't think she's worthy of love. She tries to convince Mac - in the middle of his proclaiming his love for her - to go for somebody else. She hides the most important parts of herself. She just about fainted over the scandal of mentioning that she happened to be divorced. She's a slightly delusional wimp with the personality of a brick.

I made it 31% before I decided that Annie was not interesting or strong enough to keep me interested. I mean, at that point, I didn't care if she got her HEA because she obviously didn't want it or think she deserved it. Why should I invest my emotions in her story if she's so determined to screw herself over? So I skipped to 82% (random, I know, but it's where the scroll bar landed) to see where things were... still the same. Skimmed to the end, which was crammed with events that were supposed to be dramatic but really weren't because the problem was solved within a couple paragraphs. And then a total shocker at the end that made no sense because there was literally no build up to it. It was basically like, instead of "The End", the author wrote "And then they adopted a shitload of kids." Wut? O...kay.

I was looking for a light and fluffy romance, which this definitely is... but the main character was a total downer and, in her own mind, unworthy of a HEA.

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## **Cocktails and Books says**

When Mac Culhane is left by his wife following an injury in Afghanistan he moves with his young daughter back to his hometown of Shelter Bay, Oregon. His plan is to provide stability for his child as well as assist his father in caring for his ailing grandfather while working as the local late night radio DJ. Annie Sheperd moved to Shelter Bay following a divorce and runs a successful scrapbooking store while also volunteering her time at the home where Mac's grandfather lives. While the attraction is there from the moment the two run into each other they both have to decide whether they are willing to risk their hearts again.

I really liked both characters, who showed a vulnerability about them that made them hesitant to put their heart on the line. Annie's upbringing was one that would cause a lesser person to become bitter, but she maintained a sunny disposition and turned a childhood dream into an adult reality. Mac showed that family meant the world to him, displaying vulnerability when it came to his male role models as well as his daughter. He made no apologizes for the way he lived his life but always strived to improve things for both himself and his daughter. Their road is a rocky one, but it is made all the more interesting by the various

people that are rooting for a romantic ending. Set in small town Shelter Bay, everyone is interconnected in some way, and it was interesting to see the array of secondary characters that enhanced the storyline. This small town romance sizzled between the radio king and his scrapbooking queen, and left people wanting more.

Reviewed by Lucy for Cocktails and Books

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### **Janice says**

Castaway Cove is the sixth in JoAnn Ross' Shelter Bay Series. Set in scenic, coastal Oregon, Shelter Bay is a small town tourist mecca, where EVERY main character male is former US military. The sex is graphic, the storyline sometimes becomes unbelievable; romance leads to marriage and happily everafters. . .

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### **Cruth says**

**Author:** JoAnn Ross

**First published:** 2013

**Length:** 380 pages, 5002 kindle locations

**Setting:** Contemporary. Shelter Bay.

**Sex:** Explicit. Infrequent.

**Hero:** Single father, divorced, radio host

**Heroine:** Divorced, foster kid, owns a scrapbooking store

**Trigger:** Injured in suicide bombing in Afghanistan.

**Includes:** excerpt from Christmas in Shelter Bay

Nicely done. A good story of redemption and finding your One. Annie could have been tougher (she was a bit of a wuss) but it was enjoyable.

Takes on the role of supplementary roles in the military and their own risks and problems.

### **Shelter Bay:**

Book 1 The Homecoming - Sax Douchett and Kara Conway

Book 2 One Summer - Gabriel St. James and Charity Tiernan

Book 3 On Lavender Lane - Lucas Chaffee and Madeline Durand

Book 4 Moonshell Beach - J.T. Douchett and Mary Joyce

Book 5 Sea Glass Winter - Dillon Slater and Claire Templeton

Book 6 Castaway Cove - Mac Culhane and Annie Shepherd

Book 7 Christmas in Shelter Bay - Cole Douchett and Kelli Carpenter

Book 8 You Again - Meghann Quinn and Adam Wayne

Book 9 Beyond the Sea - Conn Brennan and Sedona Sullivan

Book 10 Sunset Point - Tess Lombardi and Nate Breslin

### **References:**

Author's website: <http://www.joannross.com>

Author on w'pedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JoAnn\\_Ross](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JoAnn_Ross)

(ISBN 9781101614075)

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### **Beth says**

Two people with baggage from their past escape to Castaway Cove for healing and both vow to never fall in love again. Mac has been to hell and back from his war trauma. His return home to his 6 year old daughter and the wife who abandons both of them forces Mac to make some hard decisions. Returning to his childhood home in Castaway Cove, Mac is back with family and is becoming noticed as the handsome night-time radio DJ on the local station. Struggling to raise his daughter and help his grandfather who has Alzheimer's Disease is quite a juggling act for him. No room for any further drama in his life. That is until he bumps into the lovely lady who runs a small business in town. She has a past of her own and her heart is hardened towards ever having a serious relationship. Every eye in town is watching the two of them as sparks fly and the passion heats up.

Can they ever truly heal and leave the past behind them.....

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### **Debbie West says**

story was great. but I only rated this book a 3 because it had too much sexual content. if MAC or Annie weren't HAVING sex, they were thinking of it. sex shoulld be private, not all over books! what if my 9 yr old granddaughter had picked it up to see what the story was about?!

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### **Susan says**

Terrific book. Mac has brought his daughter and returned to Shelter Bay after his divorce in order to have help from his family while raising his daughter. Annie has also come to Shelter Bay after her divorce, looking for a new start. Neither is looking for a new relationship until they connect over a late night call to the radio station.

I loved Mac. He was a terrific father, moving back to Shelter Bay so he could get the family support he needed. He was also wonderfully patient with his grandfather, who has Alzheimer's. I loved the way he showed that family was important to him. He was also a bit insecure about his abilities as a father but determined to do the best he could. I liked the way that he owned up to his part in the failure of his marriage though I'm sure his ex had a share of it too. I loved the way that he felt his job in Afghanistan had been important enough to keep doing it and how he didn't just stay in the relative safety of the base. The description of his personality and actions before the war show that he matured a lot during his time overseas and after he returned. I enjoyed seeing the way he connected with his listeners during the late night show. I loved seeing the way that he and Annie really related to each other during that first phone call. His interest in her was immediate. It was fun seeing how he used different songs to get her to call him again. It was a lot of fun seeing the way he figured out who she was and talked her into going out with him. It didn't take long for him to be interested in seeing where the relationship could go. He didn't get impatient with Annie's reluctance but kept up a gentle, but persistent pursuit. I really liked the way that he was understanding of her fears. I loved the present he gave her when he proposed.

Annie had a rough life growing up. She spent her entire childhood in foster homes, some good and some not so good. All she really wanted was a family of her own. She married a man older than she was that she thought she loved, but it ended with issues they couldn't agree on, especially her desire for children. She moved to Shelter Bay, where she had some happy memories from when she was a child, and opened a scrapbooking store. She quickly settles in, becoming part of the community. She loves volunteering with the senior citizens where she meets Mac's grandfather. She still wishes for a family but is now cautious about dating. One night, feeling particularly lonely, she calls in to Mac's radio show. The instant connection she feels to him spooks her and she doesn't identify herself. She is startled when she sees him in her store and feels an intense attraction to him. She's blown away by the kiss he sneaks and allows herself to be talked into having lunch with him. She's really drawn to him but there are things about her that she thinks will prevent her from having any kind of future with him. She keeps trying to push him away, but he won't go. I loved the way that his patience finally got her to open up with him and see that he really cares for her. I also loved seeing how good she was with Mac's daughter. Her understanding of his grandfather's memory issues and the way she helped him with his scrapbooks was really sweet. I loved the way it was something that his grandfather said to her that convinced her that she could have that happy ending.

I loved the parts that Emma and Charlie had in the book. Emma's attitude was a cute mixture of little girl and teenager. I loved her defense of her grandfather and how she had no problem standing up to the little boy on the playground. I really liked the way she told off her friend at the sleepover, though her actions afterward sure caused a lot of stress on her poor father. Charlie was a real sweetheart of a man. I felt so bad for his frustration in dealing with his Alzheimer's. He was wonderful with Emma and she seemed to be able to break through his memory problems. I really loved the parts where he talked about his wife and the memories he had of the war.

Once again the people of Shelter Bay have a big part in the romance between Mac and Annie. Annie's friends, especially Sedona, are the ones who convinced her to give Mac a chance. I also enjoyed seeing the various couples and catching up on how they are doing. There were also some pretty fun situations involving the interest the entire town took in their romance, including the betting pool on their first date. I really liked Kara's comment to Annie about what his reaction would be to seeing Annie in her red dress - "It's always fun to see a man swallow his tongue."

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### **Diane Houdehell says**

A quick, easy read. Nothing wrong with it, just rather run of the mill.

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### **Margaret Yelton says**

Good simple read.

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