

**SOULFUL SEX VOLUME II:
EROTIC TALES OF FANTASY AND ROMANCE**

By Diana Laurence
Living Beyond Reality Press, 2006
Reviewed by :: Stacey Brutger
An erotica e-book

Diana Laurence has managed to compile six stories in an enjoyable collection. The first three stories are connected and bring the past alive with great characters and an even better setting. *The Vernal Nights* combines a little bit of history and the joy of first love. The cadence of the story made me feel as if I viewed a time long gone. Wonderful!

Tibolt was a merchant who found love but was afraid to reach out and grab hold. Raisi, an intelligent and strong woman, wanted to be loved for herself, not her family or money. They must decide if fate brought them together forever or for just one magical night?

Infatuated at an early age, Crissida spent years yearning for Frayn, but a young girl and a famous artist have little in common. Now years later, Frayn recognizes the awe inspired girl in a beautiful woman he desires. Together, they must decide if they are destined for each other or simply enjoy being together for one night of wonder.

Since they were children, Arjent and Lady Delinn always knew they were meant to be together. Until fate and their own fear ripped them apart. Together, after years of separation, will one Vernal night be enough to rekindle a passion that never died? Or will fear once again condemn them to a life of loneliness and longing?

Je t'adore, Etienne is a story of yearning and love spanning close to two decades. Two young adults met by chance and spent one unforgettable night together. A night that neither can or even want to forget. Now, years later, they are reunited. But is it for just another day or will they be able to overcome the fear and admit their love?

Although I found this story enjoyable, I couldn't help feel most of it was told in a view point of an older woman reminiscing about her past. *Je t'adore* was interesting to read, but I got the impression this took place in a more innocent time.

I found *As Common Place as Rain* contained an interesting combination of innocents and seduction to tempt any reader. This was an unusual but very enjoyable read.

A Novat has lost interest in her Uni religion to an illness called 'The Yearning'. More and more girls each year in the all woman community are suffering from this dilapidating disease. Desperate for answers, they apply for help from their religious brothers, a band of Uni Knights. Tristan was chosen because of his kind nature and his gentleness, for a community that has never seen a man, it could cause trouble. Together Tristan and the young Novat come to understand the problem. But once cured, will they part ways or come to recognize their love as unique?

The last story *Fantastic Toys* is a mix of sci-fi and romance. And though I found the piece entertaining, this story was too short for me to get a good grasp of the characters. Paulie Ross knew all was not as it should be at their neighbors place, but try as she might, she can't put her finger on what exactly was wrong. The more she snooped... er, investigated, the more she found herself attracted to Eric McQuestion, the mysterious neighbor. Eric has his own secrets, but the more he interacted with Paulie, the more he comes to love her. But is their love doomed before it starts? For Eric is not quite what he pretends. When the time comes for the truth, he must dare all for a once in a lifetime love.

4 Kisses