



Everlasting

Lori Ryan

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A perilous homecoming...

It's been years since Katelyn Bowden last set foot in Evers, Texas. Sent away at age four by her father, the town sheriff, after her mother was murdered, Katelyn thrived under the loving care of her aunt in Austin. Now that Alan Bowden is suffering from dementia and dying, it's time for his daughter to finally come home. But that means having to face the new sheriff, John Davies, the handsome ex-New York cop whom her father has always loved as a son, a fact that Katelyn has long resented.

When John Davies realizes his mentor's daughter may be hiding the key to a decades-old mystery, he fears that her repressed memories of her mother's death could make her the target of a killer who's still at large. He's also finding it more and more difficult to resist his powerful attraction to the beautiful, talented artist. Then, as shocking revelations about local murders, past and present, slowly come to light, the threats against Katelyn's life become all-too real—and only John Davies can protect the lady his heart commands him passionately to love from the peril that surrounds them both.

Everlasting Details

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From Reader Review Everlasting for online ebook

Jeanie Jackson says

The second book in the Evers, Texas series is great. I liked the extended interaction with more characters in Ever Hopeful, but the great people from the first book are still around and contributing to the warmth that is Evers. I loved John in the first book and love him even more in this one as we get to see where his pain comes from and watch his strength and heart win over Katelyn. Katelyn's dad has kept her away from Evers for over 20 years since her mother was murdered. Katelyn doesn't understand and is hurt by her dad decision and is jealous of his relationship with John. Once Katelyn's learns that her dad doesn't have long to live she determines to move to Evers, and we see her love of the town and its people, especially John, grow.

John believes that her dad kept "Kate" away because she witnessed the murder whether she remembers it or not. Apparently he isn't the only one who believes that since someone seems determined to drive her away and bodies start showing up.

I look forward to the release of the next Evers, Texas book. I think it will be Shane's turn, but it could be Justin's. Only time and Lori Ryan can tell.

Nikki Brooks says

Katelyn was sent away after her mothers murder. She never understood why her father did not want her. He never missed a visit with her but she never returned home for more than an overnight stay in 20 years. When his health deteriorates rapidly, his successor as sheriff and her nemesis, contacts her and she rapidly returns home.

John is running from a tortured past as a fast rising detective in NY. When Katelyn's father took a chance on him, he came to love the man as a father. But when Allan lets slip some important information during a less lucid episode, new light is shed on Katelyn mothers murder. They must now work together to try and solve this decades old murder before Allan dies never knowing what happened to his wife.

It's not long before someone with a malevolent streak lets Katelyn know that she is not welcome back in town!!! Someone is out to get her but who and why?

Set in a small town with a cast of great secondary characters, who quickly adopt Katelyn as their own. There were many twists and turns and I was agog when the baddie was revealed!!!

Bette Hansen says

After being banished by her father shortly after her mothers death Katelyn returns to Evers, TX to care for her ailing father. To make matters worse, she must deal with John Davies, the man she resents for taking her father's affections. Too bad she is wildly attracted to the town sheriff and must come to terms with the hurts suffered over the years. This is a very emotional story as Katelyn deals with the loss of her father as well as

uncovering the events that lead to her mother's death. During all this John stands by her, providing much needed support. But can she let go of the past and accept John. A wonderfully written story that is a great addition to the Evers series. Highly recommend this one to everyone.

Jane says

John Davies and Katelyn Maxwell join together when her father is dying and she returns to Evers, Texas and decides to stay. When she was four her mother was murdered and her father sent her to live with her Aunt in Austin, Texas to keep her safe. When she returns, she becomes a threat to the men that murdered her mother.

She is run off the road while out jogging, attacked from behind when she left her new studio, which was under construction and became target practice while out in the country for a picnic. John is the Sheriff and works to protect her and thinks the case is solved with the death of one of the murders but the suspense builds to another attack.

In the end John and Katelyn find their personal *Everlasting* the hero and his strong lady deserve living in Evers, Texas.

Shari says

This is the second book in the Evers, Texas series but can be read as a stand alone. A small town contemporary romance with an added element of suspense/ mystery. Just the perfect mixture of both. This book had me captivated from the first page, I read it one evening.

Katelyn returns home after being gone from the age of four when her mother was murdered. Her father is on his death bed, and still wishes for the murder to be solved of his wife. The new sheriff, John comes to the rescue when Katelyn life becomes in jeopardy. Sparks begin to fly between the two of them.

I received this book from the author as a gift for an honest review.

Renee Entress says

My Review

4.6 Star Review – Everlasting

I recommend this book.

When Katelyn was sent away from Evers when she was small she was not told why and hardly ever returned. Now she is back to take care of her father.

Will the mystery of the reason she was sent away when she was small come out?

As she makes her home in Evers small accidents keep happening but what does it mean and could it have to do with the past.

John and Katelyn have not gotten a long since he came to town as she believes her father needs and wants him more then her.

As John and Katelyn are pulled together with the accidents and the investigation into her mothers death 24 years ago they grow closer.

Will the killer hunt Katelyn down before John can save her and claim her?

Can't wait for book 3.

Cynthia says

You have a mystery that goes back 20 some years all around a little girl who was sent away by her father in hopes to protect her. A father giving up years missed to keep his little girl safe for reason that surprised most. This was a very emotional touching read so many people lost so much that can't be given back. One little girl not understanding why her father didn't want her, wasn't she good enough or maybe he just wanted a son. All she knows is the day her mother was killed she lost everything her family, her home and the love she thought she had. So many years she can't get back nor could she forgive. The jealousy she holds for one man who took her place in her father's heart. Things are never as we see them sometimes a much deeper look must be taken as Katelyn will come to find as she comes home to make her father's last day the best she can.

Katelyn is a wonderful character with so much pain and misunderstanding. So much she doesn't understand. Someone is out to get her but who and why, why did her father send her away all those years. Why doesn't he love her, can she make things right before he dies? So many questions with so few answers that no one is willing to give up. You could feel her pain as the author takes you though her life and brings her home to a father who is dying. She is confused why would someone be out to hurt her when she has never been around town.

John is running from a past he has tried to put behind him, only one man believed in him all those years ago. Katelyn's father was like his own father he grown to love and respect him. There is so much he doesn't understand, he will find the answers to help his friend, mentor and father as he tries to bring them close again before her father dies. Maybe some answers can be given to put some peace into an old man's last breath. I thought he was a wonderful outstanding character he had such compassion and is so giving. With things turning from bad to worse he is falling for Kate and must keep her safe.

The author gives you a wonderful small town with great characters who are so loving and giving. The story is full of mystery, suspense, love, pain and sorrow. This was a very touching read as the author gives you a story that will touch your heart. I did listen to this on audio and found the narrator to be very good as I lost myself in her smooth easy flowing voice. The plot was outstanding as the author takes you on a fast pace read of who, what and why. Two people brought together who need to heal from a past that holds them. Can they get over their past, and help each other work out the mystery of a town going crazy. You might be surprise at the outcome, you will change your mind on the killer as the author gives you a few twist to keep you guessing. I totally loved this story from a very talented author.

Ashley Hampton says

I thought this was a perfect mix of romance and mystery/thriller!

Lori Ryan's *Everlasting* was an easy and captivating read! I read this book in one sitting; it is that well-written and captivating. I felt like I was in the world with Katelyn and John. She is a great main character (easy to relate to and one that can elicit emotions from the reader), and he is made of all of the qualities one wants in a book boyfriend - hot and sexy, sweet, thoughtful, and heroic.

My favorite genre is mystery/thriller, and it is really hard for me to be surprised by the ending. This one was completely unexpected!

Overall, I recommend the Evers series, and *Everlasting* in particular, if you want a mysterious plot with a romantic pairing that is sweet, believable, and will evoke emotions from you at every twist and turn.

Sue says

In *Everlasting* (Evers, Texas #2) by Lori Ryan, Katelyn is back in Evers, Texas. With her father Alan ill and her personal life in Austin in humiliating tatters, this time Katelyn is staying in Evers. The place she hasn't lived in since her mother was killed and her father sent her to live with her aunt when Katelyn was 4 years old. "Katelyn had learned at an early age: she wasn't ever going to be allowed to come home." She didn't understand why, she just knows her father doesn't want her there in his world. Now, despite the hurt of knowing he doesn't want her there, Katelyn is not going anywhere.

John is the Sheriff of Evers. He is also like a son to Alan after Alan saved John. He "brought him back to life". Katelyn has always resented this about John, and that grudge and resentment has never allowed her to warm up to John. Even if she does take notice of everything about him. John is a big part of Alan's life though and he's not going to be pushed away by Katelyn. As they spend more time together, Katelyn's walls slowly start to crumble. There is an attraction on both sides, even if they are slow to admit it.

As things start to heat up between Alan and Katelyn, there is another type of heat swirling. Katelyn is unknowingly stirring up the dust from the past, a past she doesn't even remember. A past no one really has answers to. And someone is getting nervous. As the threats towards Katelyn become more serious and dangerous, so does the passion between Katelyn and Alan. Can they finally put the past to rest, or is it too late for them to have a future together?

Lori gives us some great characters, a lot of emotion, and a well blended mix of suspense, love, and loss in *Everlasting*. Her descriptive of the town of Evers was realistic and I felt like I could be walking through the center of town with Katelyn. Katelyn starts off giving off a bit of a lost feeling, with a chip on her shoulder. As Lori delves deeper into her character, it is easy to understand and relate to Katelyn's feelings. Katelyn's character goes through great growth, and the maturity and character development are a great part of *Everlasting*. I loved how Lori brought John and Katelyn together. The sparks were definitely there, but the relationship required some work on both their sides. I also liked the way Lori took the time in *Everlasting* to explore the relationship between Katelyn and her father. After all this time, and as ill as Alan is, this was one relationship that was very heartwarming to see grow.

The mystery in Everlasting will keep you intrigued, and Lori writes the suspense with great flow, and it's easy to get swept up in Katelyn and John's world.

Everlasting is a small town romantic suspense. In Evers, everyone thinks they know everyone else's business, but there are unexpected secrets and dangers lurking. The small town feel was perfect, and made the mystery all the more consuming!

Everlasting is book #2 in the Evers, Texas series by Lori Ryan, but it can certainly be read as a stand alone. I'd recommend this to romance readers who particularly enjoy small town romantic suspense.

Evette says

3.5 stars

What happens when secrets can no longer be kept?

Katelyn is returning to Evers after twenty-four years. With her father dying she wants to come home-mainly to take care of him, but also to find some answers.

She knows John and is surprised and honestly confused by the intense attraction between them. He's holding out on her, has no idea how stubborn she is though. She's determined and hardheaded-maybe not the best combination???

The romance and suspense draw the reader in, the characters are well developed. The story is well-written and engaging. Perhaps a bit predictable though. The mystery and suspense felt very easy to solve, figured out the bad guys too early.

All in all an easy and romantic read, second book in a series that I look forward to reading more.

Cindy ~ says

Small town murder mystery. At 4 years old Katelyn Bowden's father sent her to live with her Aunt after her mother's death. She never totally understood why her father did that and even though she loved him she held some resentment toward a man she felt replaced her.

Now that her father is dying Katelyn decides it time to move back to Evers, Texas for good to take care of him before he dies. What she doesn't realize is a killer got away with his crime for over 20 years and doesn't want her back in town.

Alan Bowden had been the Sheriff and the one thing he wanted more than any was to find out who killed his wife. But the stress of losing her and not being able to find her killer had him drinking to much which killed his kidneys. He passed his job as Sheriff onto John Davies – a man he took under his wing when he came to Evers from New York with a haunted past that Alan helped him through. Katelyn isn't very nice to John when she first gets to town due to her jealousy over his relationship with her father but once she finds out the real reason her father sent her away and that John is genuinely a nice guy she starts to open her heart to him. But its at this time also that she is violently threatened more than once to leave town.

The mystery of the who and why her mother was killed is slowly revealed and it leaves the town in shock. I liked both aspects of this story – the mystery and the romance.

Catarina Swartz says

Everlasting is a beautiful love story with a murder mystery in the twist. Lori Ryan has managed to keep me interested not only in the lives of the two main Characters John the gorgeous good looking town sheriff but also Katelyn who was sent away from Evers County after her mother was killed. But in the Mystery of Katelyn's mothers death.

You will feel for Katelyn because she is trying to put her life back together again after a disaster ions love affair, trying to coop with her fathers illness and not having anyone to lean on. John wants to be the shoulder for her but he is trying to coop with his own demons from his past and he fears he'll make the same mistake.

This book is easy to read, I read in a day because I need to know how it ended. How the mystery was going to be solved.

You will be shocked and wonder why you never saw that coming, you will find the secondary characters such as Ashley and Cora a hoot. You love the family feeling you get when the town just comes together to help. I give this book 4 star rating, and I look forward to reading more of Lori Ryan's books

Kerri Mirabella says

Everlasting is book 2 in the Evers, Texas series by Lori Ryan. While part of a series, it can easily be read as a standalone. Everlasting is a romantic suspense that I read from cover to cover in one sitting. This is the first book i've read by Lori Ryan and man am I glad I found her! The story is incredibly well written and grips you right from the start.

Katelyn Bowden left Evers, Texas at the age of 4, after the murder of her mother. Her father was sheriff at the time and he feared for her safety, so he sent her to live with her aunt in Austin. Now 24 years later, Katelyn receives a phone call from the new sheriff in town, John Davies, that her father is terribly ill. After a devastating breakup, the escape to Evers is just what Katelyn needed. So she packs her bags and leaves Austin and its bad memories behind to spend time with her dying father. Katelyn has mixed feelings towards John. He has been able to spend a great deal of time with Katelyn's father and she resents him because of that. She can't help but wonder why her father chose to send her away all those years ago, yet he took on the

father figure role with John. Even though she resents John, she is attracted to him and he becomes her source of comfort while dealing with her father.

John Davies lives a good life as the town sheriff. He is a native New Yorker but exemplifies a true southern gentleman. He is caring, protective, supportive and understanding of Katelyn's feelings. Being strong and sexy is just an added bonus. But he didn't always have it easy. He came to Texas to escape his past, forget about his life in New York, and start over. Alan Bowden showed him that there was reason to live again and gave him hope for a new life. There was no way that Katelyn was coming to town and pushing him out of the picture.

Soon after Katelyn's arrival in Evers, things begin to heat up between the two of them. So do events that indicate Katelyn's life may be in danger. John is desperate to find the answers to who is trying to hurt Katelyn and why they may want her gone, and all the clues lead back to her mother's mysterious death. But with Alan on his death bed will they be able to get the answers they are longing for before time runs out? Does Katelyn know more about her mom's murder than she realizes? Will John be able to keep Katelyn safe and give them the happy ever after that they both deserve?

If you are looking for a suspenseful page turner with the perfect amount of romance then this is the book for you! Evers Texas is a quiet, family oriented town where everyone knows one another. The characters are all great and easy to relate to. I can't wait to see whose book will be next in the series!

Brianna at Renee Entress's Blog says

In book 2 of this series, we have Katelyn and John's story! Like book one, this book is full of mystery, suspense, love, compassion, and one sexy as sin man who would do anything to protect the woman he loves.

Katelyn left Evers twenty four years ago when her mother was brutally murdered. Now, twenty four years later, she is headed back there and it couldn't be more perfect timing for her. After a recent and sudden break up, Katelyn packs herself up and goes back to Evers after receiving a phone call from the town sheriff, John, letting her know that her father is dying. When Katelyn arrives in Evers, it is not the welcome homecoming she wanted nor expected. Tensions are high between the pair at first because she is angry at her father for sending her away despite him being ill and resentful at John for getting her father's time and admiration when she felt she was pushed aside. As her resentfulness towards John comes to an all time high, so do her feelings of want and attraction towards him. As things heat up, it is obvious someone is after Katelyn and her life is in danger.

What will John do to protect Katelyn? Who is after Katelyn and why? What does it have to do with her mother's death? Will her father, Alan, be able to help them before it is too late? Will John and Katelyn get the HEA together that they both deserve?

I really like John. He had his own skeletons from his past but became a better man. I really admired the way Alan, Katelyn's dad, took him under his wing. John was also very sweet, caring, compassionate, and made sure to protect the ones around him. He was a great hero and quite frankly, a breathe of fresh air from the typical cocky heroes today.

I cant wait for the next book in the series and to see who is up next!

****As with the last book, if you love movies from Lifetime and the Hallmark Channel, this series (books 1 & 2) are for you!****

Mandie Foxylutely says

**Copy provided by the author in exchange for an honest review*

This is the second book in the Evers, Texas series but can be read as a standalone. It's a great mix of romance, mystery and suspense.

Katelyn has returned home to Evers after being sent away to live with her aunt after her mother's murder. She is back to see her father who is now seriously ill. Her father never wanted her to be in Evers yet Katelyn has never understood why. When she finds that her father treats the new sheriff John Davies as the son he never had, it sets her hackles rising to think her father had all these years been acting as a father to somebody other than herself. What further sets her on edge is the growing sparks of attraction between her and John.

It is whilst Katelyn and John are working through what 'it' is between them, that further threats from the past come to light and become ever more dangerous and life threatening to Katelyn.

I really enjoyed this mix of romance and mystery, it had a natural flow and steady pace to keep the reader involved with the storyline. It isn't an overtly sexual read but if you enjoy a nice small town romance with a dash of suspense then this is certainly ideal for you. Four stars.
