



## The Idea of You

*Darcy Burke*

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## **The Idea of You** Darcy Burke

Evan Archer has always preferred peace and solitude to the loud antics of his large, hard-to-navigate family. But when Archer Enterprises needs a new creative director, Evan jumps at the chance to claim the job he's always wanted. Moving home is easier than he expected, but Evan isn't prepared for the stunning A-list celebrity hiding out in his family's garage apartment.

Following a major tabloid scandal, movie star Alaina Pierce escapes to Ribbon Ridge. She's immediately drawn to the quiet, picturesque town and the incredibly sexy—if a little quirky—Evan. He may be built like a Greek god, but he's honest and straightforward... so different from the Hollywood types she normally dates.

Their attraction is undeniable, but Alaina can't elude the paparazzi forever, and Evan has no interest in being in the limelight. When the secret she's been keeping is exposed, the idea of Evan—of real love and a family like the Archers—could vanish in an instant.

An Avon Romance

## **The Idea of You Details**

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Author : Darcy Burke

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## From Reader Review The Idea of You for online ebook

### ??Trea says

This book was a complete turn around from the previous novel! I loved how the author tackled a difficult hero like Evan, and created a perfect match for him!

Evan is very much "on the spectrum", due to the fact that he has Asperger's Syndrome, as well as ADHD and sensory issues. This made him extremely easy for me to connect to him, as my son is also on the spectrum, with some of the same issues as well! I found it interesting to see his coping mechanisms, as well as how he moved beyond his illnesses and brother's death to become a successful graphic designer. I saw much of my husband and son in Evan, and was glad to read about him.

Alaina was different for a heroine, but I liked her for the most part. My biggest pet peeve when it came to her was that she didn't go in depth about her family, and yet her mother, whom I thought she hated, was at the wedding at the end of the book. It made no sense to me to have her there, and it wasn't well explained at all!

This is one story I want to get my husband to read, because I found it to be a story that he and I both could relate to!

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### Ruthie Taylor says

~~I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads ~~

What a very enjoyable read - do go back and read the earlier books in the series if you haven't already, as the background to the family is well worth reading and they are also good reads.

It must have been a real challenge to write Evan's story and do him justice, but Ms Burke has done an excellent job. Told from his and Alaina's pov, we get to understand how he thinks and how that affects her. It is very effective, as we slip into their mindsets and get deep into the story. I was utterly enchanted by their courtship and how difficulties were addressed and overcome. The attraction is undisputed, but how either of them could change their lives ... much more difficult. It made the story intense, as well as still being so delicious, and spicy hot too!

I really enjoyed this episode, and will be looking out for the next in the series for sure. Thank you Ms Burke.

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### Misty (Red's Romance Review's) says

Alaina Pierce has once again found herself in the spotlight, only this time the press has went a little too far, and taken something so personal to her and made her feel even more exposed than normal. It has her wanting to retreat, and find a place to hide out for a while, and get things right in her head and heart. She has properties of her own that she can escape to, but the paparazzi is probably already staked out at each place awaiting her arrival, so her friend Sean offers her a peaceful place to stay. His soon to be in-laws have a ultra private apartment on their estate that he thinks would be perfect for her to hide-out in for a while. She is

more than willing to take him up on his offer, so she packs her bags and leaves the city in hopes of getting the peace and tranquility she so desperately needs right now. She is thrilled to get to escape the limelight for a while, and have some semblance at a normal life for a while...never expecting this to be the place to hold the keys to her future...

Evan Archer has recently moved home to take a job within the family business, and once again submerge himself into the easy and quiet lifestyle only living at home in Ribbon Ridge can provide. Evan, unlike most people, prefers to be alone, which has sometimes proven to be quite difficult growing up in such a large family. Through the years though he's set parameters for his family to stay within, and they have learned ways to help him cope with his condition, and keep him comfortable when the world around him becomes too much to bare. While he tries not to let his condition get the better of him, it sometimes has an effect on even the most basic life skills, making him become somewhat numb to other's feelings. Sometimes his forward, and unfiltered approach to life makes people uncomfortable, and also makes it hard for him to have relationships with the opposite sex, so he has chose to swear off anything that involves feelings or long term. But, when he discovers the stunning beauty staying in his families rental apartment he begins to wonder if he his short term approach to things is all wrong...

I have to say that Evan has been my favorite Archer to read about thus far, I connected with his story much more than I have to any of the others. I think it is because he isn't your typical alpha male character, he had the domineering physical presence, but he also showed vulnerability, and a softer strength to him that spoke volumes. He captured my heart from the very beginning, and will have a lingering presence there for a while. I liked his unfiltered approach to everything and the honesty and sincerity behind everyone one of his words. He also gave me a little clearer picture of what life is like for people who struggle with Asperger's syndrome, and gave me sense of how hard it is for them to maneuver through some of the most basic daily tasks. Ms. Burke definitely did her homework with this one and has cemented herself a place on my favorite authors list with this one!! If you like small town romance, this is DEFINITELY a series you need to add to the top of your list, it is sure to satisfy all of your reading needs and then some!!

ARC requested through Edelweiss, and kindly provided by Avon Impulse Publishing in exchange for a hones and unbiased review.

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## **Sultry Steamy Reading says**

I received an ARC of this book from the publisher via Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

I've always known Darcy Burke as a historical romance author. That's probably because the only books I've read from her are HR novels. Anyway, when I realized she actually has the Ribbon Ridge series, I took a chance and requested for an ARC of this book. Now, I wasn't able to read the first three books; however, I didn't feel like I was missing out on something. It would have been nice to have known the secondary characters better, but it didn't affect my overall enjoyment of the book.

I'm just not sure I still like the dual POV trend that I seem to keep seeing these days. When I fell in love with romance, I fell in love because of Nora Roberts, Judith McNaught, and Jane Austen. And they all consistently wrote on the third person POV, which, I believe, is more difficult for a writer. Then, the the first person POV started becoming popular, and before long, the dual POVs and alternating POVs came after. My point is that, one of the main characters in this book was a bit difficult to connect with. I'm not sure why, but I find that I was leaning towards the hero more. The heroine was okay, but she just didn't blow me away. I think, if I had free time, I will try going back to the first books in the series because this book kind of got me intrigued enough to want to read more.

## Marissa Chavez says

What can I say I love the Archer family! I love that every time read about one of them I also read to see what the others are up to! Evan's story was so great! I love that he met Alania and that they got along so well! I'm so glad how everything worked out for them!

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## Nate Brightman says

I'll confess that for much of this book I had a difficult time buying into the premise that an A-List star of the magnitude of say Jennifer Lawrence could fall in love with someone with as many abnormalities as Evan Archer (Aspergers, A.D.H.D. S.P.D.). Why would one of the most famous, desirable woman in the world be emotionally attracted to a man who had difficulty making eye contact during a conversation, who struggled to deal with over stimulation in a room full of family, even if he was in her eyes the most physically attractive man she'd ever laid eyes on? Either Ms. Burke is a heck of a writer or I'm just a total sucker for the H.E.A. because by the end of the book she'd made a believer out of me.

Now that I've completed Book 4 I can say this has been a truly enjoyable series. While each book can be read as a standalone I'd truly encourage you to start at the beginning with Derek and Chloe's novella and read each book in order to fully grasp each of the character's personalities and relationships. Because ultimately this series is as much about the Archer family and their relationships with one another as it is about the couple each book is focused upon. I love that while each new couples story is the basis for each the book, the rest of the Archers and their significant others are never far off and are parts of each story. I'm pretty certain I'll be sad when I finish the final book and have to say goodbye to them.

The idea that a superstar, A-list, Oscar winning actress can be driven into hiding from the paparazzi and fall in love with a guy with Aspergers etc. is the stuff romance novels are made of. To her credit Ms. Burke does a beautiful job of pacing the story. Okay the sex ramps up to volcanic pretty quickly and often as Ms. Pierce is obviously very sexually experienced and not shy about acting upon her attraction to Evan. But the relationship itself develops at a more realistic pace. Well at least for a modern romance novel. She puts many obstacles before Evan and Alaina to overcome in order for them to find their happily ever after. But they all feel realistic, not contrived considering his issues and her lifestyle. I don't know anything other than what I've seen portrayed on television about Aspergers or Sensory Processing Disorder so I can't speak to how accurately Ms. Burke portrays Evan and his ability to function with them. But she certainly makes his character feel realistic as she lets us inside his head to understand what he is thinking and how he is feeling as he deals with his budding relationship with Alaina as well as the rest of his world. He may struggle to deal with the everyday social situations most of us take for granted but he is super intelligent, thoughtful and kind. Alaina is just too good to be true. She's not afraid to enjoy the perks of her fame and fortune (like \$2,000 boots and a personal chef) but she's also well aware of where she came from and is at heart a very humble and caring woman. I loved her BFF/personal assistant Crystal and the way they related to one another. I'm wondering if at some point Crystal gets her own book or at least gets to remain a secondary character with her own romance in future books? I loved the way the Archer sextuplets (even Liam) their significant others and their parents all remain true to character as they come to support Evan and embrace Alaina. I had trouble putting this book down and when I was done I sort of felt warm all over. Isn't that what defines a great romance novel?

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## Catherine (The Sassy Bookster) says

What's not to love about this book? With great characters, a sweet romance and a close-knit family, **THE IDEA OF YOU** is a really beautiful story about a couple's decision to make their relationship a success in the face of her fame and his limitations.

Alaina Pierce needs a place to lay low and avoid the media and the idyllic town of Ribbon Ridge, Oregon is just the place to do so. Alaina finds herself loving the charm and beauty of the town but the most attractive thing about Ribbon Ridge is Evan Archer. With his gorgeous movie-star looks and his lack of guile, Evan is definitely different from the men Alaina is used to and very appealing. Add in the fact that he comes with a large and loving family and leaving Ribbon Ridge might be harder than she thought.

Evan's whole life has been defined by his disorder but somehow Alaina does not consider that to be a deal breaker and enjoys his company. For a man who always prefers peace and quiet, Evan finds himself spending a lot of time with her and wanting to know her more.

I love everything about this book: how Ms. Burke was able to portray Evan's Asperger's Syndrome, his sensory issues and his inability to read social cues; and how she captures Alaina and Evan's relationship challenges and how they navigate them so well. They were not looking for a relationship but I love how they adapted to things changing between them and how those issues that should have divided them instead brought them together and forged a very tight bond between them. From the first page I loved both Evan and Alaina, their honesty with each other, the ease of their relationship and I really loved how down-to-earth and easygoing Alaina was for a famous actress.

I have loved this series from the very first book. I think that Ms. Burke has done an amazing job with the characters and all the issues they face and I look forward to the upcoming stories. If you love family-themed romances, this is one book you should add to your reading list.

Disclaimer: I received this book for free from the Publisher in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.

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## Karen says

I haven't read books 5 and 6 yet but I am going to say it now: Evan is my favourite Archer!! I felt all of his emotions from the words, I can picture his reactions. I am not that familiar with Asperger's or the autism spectrum but more than enough details were given to make me understand Evan's challenges. Evan has had to deal with his challenges on a daily basis and coupled with a recent family tragedy, his emotions are muddled. Add the sexy and very forward movie star, Alaina Pierce and you have this delicious, sweet yet steamy story.

And who can forget the dynamics of the Archer family. If Ribbon Ridge were real, I'd visit just to meet them..that's how much I love this family.

You can read this as a stand alone but I'd recommend starting with the prequel or Book 1 like I did only because the dynamics of the Archer family are so warm, their love and support for each other so enduring.

I gave this 4 and 1/2 stars only because I am on the fence with the idea that someone as famous as Alaina Pierce (one who's won an Oscar and Golden Globe) could be invested in someone like Evan Archer. Or maybe because he's my favourite that I am so protective of him! Oh, Ms. Burke, you've got me debating this long after I finished reading the book..lol.

On to Book 5 for me.

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### **Marilyn says**

I really enjoyed this book because of Evan's disabilities but it does show how an individual with unique disabilities is capable to live life fully especially handling a relationship. Once Alaina was able to learn and understand Evan's needs she dealt with him better and managed to address the issues at the same time making sure Evan was comfortable.

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### **Stacee says**

I really liked Alaina and Evan together. Their backgrounds are completely different, but it works. I enjoyed being in their heads.

This was the first one that I thought there was a slight chance a HEA wouldn't be happening. The tension towards the end was just enough to keep it interesting. And of course I'm thrilled about the epilogue we got.

Loved the characters and the plot line. I can't wait to see who is getting a story next.

**\*\*Huge thanks to Avon Impulse and Edelweiss for providing the arc in exchange for an honest review\*\***

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### **Evelyn says**

Originally reviewed for [www.buriedunderromance.com](http://www.buriedunderromance.com)

THE IDEA OF YOU, the fourth novel in the Ribbon Ridge series by Darcy Burke, continues the story of the Archer sextuplets. This time the spotlight is on autistic brother Evan. He is artistic and has a passion for Star Trek and The Lord of the Rings, but he is socially very awkward. When he meets famous actress Alaina Pierce, it seems a bit like Reece Witherspoon meets Sheldon Cooper from The Big Bang Theory.

Alaina, who desperately wants to have children but feels her biological clock ticking away, is considering in-vitro fertilization. She is the victim of viscous gossip after she is photographed leaving the clinic. She sneaks away to the small town home of a friend's in-laws where she can relax for a few days without being bothered by the paparazzi. She is intrigued by their son, Evan, who is not only model-handsome, but seems totally unaffected by her stardom. They quickly give in to their sexual attraction and become lovers, but coming together emotionally proves to be far more challenging given their special circumstances.

The characters of Alaina and Evan are very well written. As they get to know each other, the initial superficial Reece and Sheldon comparison is chipped away and we find very complex people underneath.

Evan, given that he is on the autism spectrum, has far more layers for Alaina to understand. Alaina is more of

an open book, but Evan has to get passed his own aversion to touching and emotional relationships in order to arrive at a place where he can open up to her.

Secondary to Alaina and Evan's storyline, we also get to meet the entire Archer family who gives us a peek into their family business and life in a large family. We also get a peek into Alaina's life as a Hollywood A-lister and her almost non-existent family life.

I applaud the author's choice to create a unique main character with an often mis-understood disability. Not only does it make the story more interesting to readers, but it also subtly educates them on the complexities of autism. And while I'm not sure that, in real life, Alaina would have come to understand Evan's quirks so quickly, it was nice to see her work with him instead of walking away from him as happens so often in these situations.

The steamy plot is written with a steady pace that builds up to a satisfying conclusion, and there are enough unanswered questions to explore to keep readers interested. The only thing that I might have changed would have been to sacrifice some of the many explicit sex scenes in favor of a more in-depth exploration of the emotional side of their relationship. Given all of the unusual challenges that this couple faced with his autism and her stardom, I feel that this should have been the main focus of the book and not sex.

I'm giving THE IDEA OF YOU four stars.

I received a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

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## ? Jeri's Book Attic ? I like says

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### **Karen says**

reviewed soon

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### **Sandy S says**

About the book: Release Date November 17, 2015

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Their attraction is undeniable, but Alaina can't elude the paparazzi forever, and Evan has no interest in being in the limelight. When the secret she's been keeping is exposed, the idea of Evan—of real love and a family like the Archers—could vanish in an instant.

REVIEW: THE IDEA OF YOU is the fourth full length installment in Darcy Burke's contemporary adult Ribbon Ridge romance series focusing on the Archer family sextuplets (Evan, Sara, Alex, Tori, Kyle & Liam) of Ribbon Ridge and their younger brother Hayden. The Archer family owns several successful breweries and pubs, and most of the siblings currently play a role in the daily business operations at the request of Alex Archer, who took his own life after suffering years of physical and emotional disabilities. The Archer's are a close knit family but due to the inherent and potential issues with multiple births-and in this case 6 babies at once-the now adult sextuplets are not without some emotional, mental and physical problems including OCD, Asperger's syndrome, SPD (Sensory Processing Disorder), chronic lung disease, addiction and depression. This is IT specialist Evan Archer, and actress Alaina Pierce's storyline. The series should be read in order as each timeline follows on the events of the previous book.

Told from alternating third person points of view THE IDEA OF YOU follows academy award winning actress Alaina Pierce as she escapes the Hollywood paparazzi and a major scandal, for the peace and solitude of Ribbon Ridge. Alaina, on the advice of friend and producer Sean Hennessey (When Love Happens #3) heads to the quiet town of Ribbon Ridge to take stock of her personal life and what it is she wants for the future. Alaina's arrival at the Archer homestead finds our heroine falling for the shy, quiet and withdrawn Evan Archer-a man whose emotional and mental fragility takes the guise of Asperger's syndrome. Asperger syndrome (AS) is an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), one of a distinct group of complex neurodevelopment disorders characterized by social impairment, communication difficulties, and restrictive, repetitive, and stereotyped patterns of behavior. (<http://www.ninds.nih.gov/disorders/as...>). What ensues is a building relationship between Alaina – a woman who thrives on the stage and in the spotlight; and Evan –a man who becomes overwhelmed in social and crowded situations. The sex scenes are intimate, seductive and hot.

Addressing Asperger's Syndrome, Darcy Burke touches upon Evan's sensory overload-the noise, the crowds, his inability to read social cues, as well as his issues with touch. THE IDEA OF YOU looks at the struggles of one couple as they navigate the potential minefield of a personal and sexual relationship. It is never easy entering into a new relationship, but for someone like Evan, the experience can set off a whole new level of difficulties and negative behavior.

THE IDEA OF YOU is an interesting and entertaining storyline about family; the characters are real; the romance is seductive; the happily ever after, although not unexpected, felt a little rushed.

Copy supplied by Edelweiss

[www.thereadingcafe.com](http://www.thereadingcafe.com)

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## April says

This is by far my favorite in the series. I love the Archer family. I was curious as to how this book would play out considering Evan's Aspergers diagnosis. This book was well written with excellent consideration and knowledge of the Autism Spectrum. This novel is an excellent love story that overcomes some extraordinary hurdles. I continue to enjoy the backdrop of Ribbon Ridge and the emotional and often witty dialogue between the amazingly "real" characters. This is a winner. I do not often re-read books, but I will read this one again.