

## ROMANCE NOVELS:

# WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE?

● Can't get past those Fabio covers? Plenty of romance novels are "well-written by smart, funny women," says Sarah Wendell, author (with Candy Tan) of *Beyond Heaving Bosoms*. Their faves:

**BET ME** by Jennifer Crusie **WENDELL:** It's like the best TV show. **TAN:** The universe conspires to get the couple together.

**THE SHADOW AND THE STAR** by Laura Kinsale **TAN:** A white ninja? It sounds horrible, but it's heartwrenching.

**LORD OF SCOUNDRELS** by Loretta Chase **TAN:** The banter is amazing.

**MAGNATE'S MAKE-BELIEVE MISTRESS** by Bronwyn Jameson **WENDELL:** A total inversion of the Cinderella myth.

**THE IN DEATH SERIES** by J.D. Robb (a.k.a. Nora Roberts)

**WENDELL:** Scary, powerful, sexy. Nora's a freaking powerhouse.

—**THAILAN PHAM**

