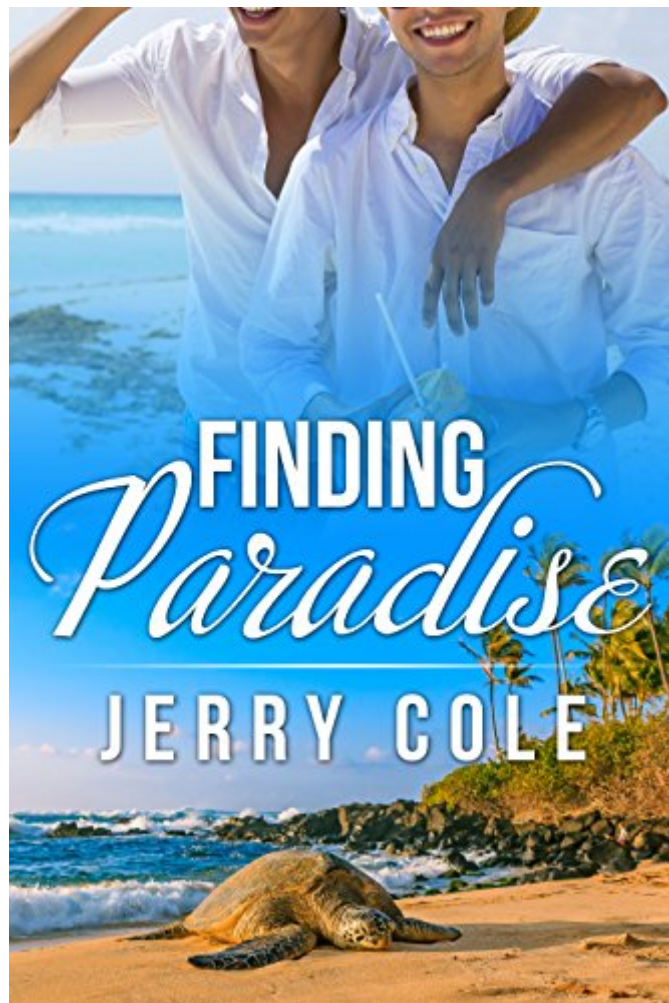


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Finding Paradise



Synopsis

Chris Berry has already realized many of his dreams by the age of thirty. He's a qualified marine biologist living in New Jersey and working in New York with a great team of colleagues who feel just as passionately about their conservation work and research as he does. He's close to his parents, he's a staunch vegetarian, and he's been with his boyfriend, Haydn, for nine years. Haydn is everything Chris isn't. He's spoiled, lazy and dishonest. When Chris discovers that his long-term partner has once again cheated on him, Chris decided that enough is finally enough. He's dreamed of visiting the Hawaiian island of Makame for as long as he can remember, thanks to it being the home of the rarest turtle on the planet: the Calvert. Chris and his team have researched this elusive creature for many years and are desperately trying to raise funds to head there on a research boat when news breaks that the building of a luxury golf course in Hawaii could destroy the Calvert's habitat. Spurred on by his recent breakup and knowing time is of the essence, Chris self-funds the trip of a lifetime to Hawaii alone, hoping to find someone who'll take him out to Makame, where he might just see the creature he's spent years dreaming about. What he never factored into his plans is meeting the gorgeous Elliott Sheaffer, who offers to personally escort Chris to the island of Makame after a chance meeting at the airport. But Chris is suspicious. He knows there's more to Elliott than the handsome pilot is letting on, but Chris decides he's lived safely for too long, and decides to take Elliott up on his offer. But when a storm hits during their journey to Makame, they're instead pushed so far south that they end up on a tiny island in the middle of the Pacific. Nobody knows they're there, and supplies quickly run low. Chris isn't sure whether he'll survive the experience, let alone see the Calvert turtle, or eventually get to know Elliott's secret. The only thing he knows is that he's stranded on a desert island with the hottest guy he's ever known, and that danger doesn't always come from the places you'd most expect. |Please Note: This book contains adult language & steamy adult activities, it is intended for 18+ Adults Only. Novel, approx. 70,000 words in length. HEA (happy ever after ending). Does not end with a "cliffhanger".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Really enjoyed the storyline. Jerry Cole has talent. I look forward to reading more books by him.

This is a good story with a good ending. I read it in one sitting because I just wanted to know what would happen next. Lovely.

Marine Biologist and conservationist, Chris, is the consummate nice guy, brought up to be thoughtful, loving, and a gentleman. Unfortunately, he's struggling through a long-term relationship where he's constantly giving financially and emotionally but doesn't realize it's one-sided. Elliott is a mysterious, intriguing, and, yeah, good-looking stranger who could be the perfect addition to a tropical paradise. But he has a secret side that poses no small threat to everything Chris most values in his life as well as his heart. This novel has a unique storyline that realistically paints a setting in a Hawaiian small town. No leis, hulas or surfers, this is real Hawaii, both beautiful and sometimes heartbreaking. Jerry Cole once again details a very accurate picture of city and rural life in both N.Y. City where the story begins and the Hawaiian islands. From the little I've learned about N.Y. art galleries, scientists, and even small town Hawaii, the people and places are so well described, I always wonder how the author does it. Just glad he does because the settings and characters are always fresh and compelling. The romance isn't sappy, but it tugs at the heart strings and I found myself mad, sad, happy, and well, it's got some heat that kicks in, too. The humor is so

dry, it could be easily missed, but I like the subtlety. This is not a long read, but it's worth savoring. No words are wasted. I always feel like I'm right wherever the author leads his characters. I read a complimentary Advanced Reader Copy of this book & am voluntarily leaving an honest and unbiased review."

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book: a book about love, betrayal and forgiveness. Chris Berry marine biologist living in New Jersey worked with a great team of colleagues who were as passionate about conservation work and research as he did. His parents have continued to encourage their son to go after the dreams he's had since college and still has instead of staying with a deadbeat boyfriend, Haydn, he's been with for nine years. Haydn's always been a selfish, self-important person and had disappointed Chris many times with being unfaithful to him, but he forgave him every time. When Hayden wanted to do something he'd cried to Chris until he got what he wanted, usually money was involved to do something with his art, which by the way wasn't that great. Chris had put most of his money into an art exhibition for Haydn which didn't bother Chris because he loved his boyfriend. But when Chris came home from a weekend with his parents, suspicion began to arise again. Their downstairs roommate came down the stairs from his and Haydn's apartment in just his underwear. When he went into his and Haydn's bedroom, Haydn was still in bed naked. Alarms went off in Chris's head, but Haydn once again smoothed things out between them. The night of Haydn's art exhibition he did not receive the overflowing of friends to pet his ego. The show was a royal flop, partially due to the art but mostly Haydn had given up at the beginning of the show when he wasn't flooded with well doers. Chris, the unselfish, caring person he was tried to cheer Haydn up, but as time went by he discovered through a text through Haydn's phone about his affair. For nine years Chris has sacrificed his own dreams to fulfill Haydn's and after catching Haydn again having another affair with whom else but their downstairs roommate. Chris was brave enough to finally call it quits for good! Thank goodness because I didn't like Haydn one bit. Chris has dreamed of going to the Hawaiian Island of Makame since forever to study the Calvert turtle. Makame is supposed to be the home for this rarest turtle on the planet. And with the publicity about a golf course to be built on the Island his team went into overdrive in meetings to figure what to do. It seemed wise to send someone down to hopefully find and study the turtle before construction started next year and their habitat was destroyed. They couldn't change the President of the USA's mind that was for sure. So it was decided for Chris to go. First, Chris needed to get away for awhile after his breakup with Haydn and because

he was self funding the trip. This was the real exciting part of the book. A stranger offered Chris a ride to his rented house because there were no taxis to be found. The stranger, Elliott bought Chris breakfast and got along great conversation Chris poured his heart out about his love for the Calvert turtle and why he was there. It wasn't until they reached Chris's rental that Elliott offered to take Chris to the island, all he had to do was pay for the gas. So, Chris would call Elliott when the time was right. Later Chris and Elliott made their arrangements then packed up everything needed for the trip in the plane. Even though there was a storm brewing it was way above where they would be flying and Elliott determined it would be safe. They headed out, but unexpectedly the storm was closer than originally thought and the wind pushed the small plane to the south away from Makame Island. Lightning struck one wing and the plane went down. Elliott did a great landing and hurried to set up the tent on the beach for the night and get their supplies and them inside. The next day Elliott had them move the tent under the trees to protect the tent from the wind and rain. They were stranded on an unknown island alone. I loved the writing that built of Chris's and Elliott's relationship and trust. Hmm, the sex scenes were perfect and Elliott was the perfect gentleman. Elliott was everything Chris had wanted in a man to be in a relationship as Chris was to Elliott. The excitement and enthusiasm from Chris was contagious. In the beginning Chris had reservations about Elliott's character when he discovered a gun in the glove compartment after the police stopped them when Chris had first met Elliott, plus the police knew him by name. All of that went out of his head when he started to trust the man and was falling for him. Then there was betrayal Chris discovered in the plane that led to Chris hating Elliott. They were rescued shortly after that and were big in the news for a long time. Chris stopped giving any public appearances and wanted to be left alone. He missed Elliott deeply. Had he made a mistake? Well, Elliott comes through for Chris and the love he had for the man and what he did for Chris's passion publicly set him off to Hawaii to find Elliott. It's a beautiful ending. I loved the book and I'm sure others would too. I read a complimentary Advanced Reader Copy of the book and I am voluntarily leaving an honest and unbiased review.

This was an enjoyable read. Chris Berry is a 30 year old marine biologist who lives in New Jersey. He broke up with his cheating boyfriend Hadyn of 9 years. After sacrificing his own dreams for so long, he finally gets a chance to go to Hawaii, and visit the island of Makame to study the Calvert turtle. Makame is the home for this rare turtle on the planet. Once Chris arrives in Hawaii he can't find a taxi to take him to where he will be staying. But fortunately, he meets this guy named Elliot Sheaffer who offers him a ride to his rental. They end up having breakfast together and Chris tells

Elliot the reason why he is there on the island and Elliot offers to fly him to the island since he is a pilot. They pack up the necessary equipment and supplies they will need and head out on the plane but they get caught in a nasty storm that forces them to crash on an unknown island opposite of the Makame island. Through this adventure Chris starts to have feelings for Elliot but he can't help this nagging feeling telling him he can't be trusted. Of course they become intimate while stranded on the island and Elliot begins to have feelings for Chris as well. They finally make it to the place where the Calvert turtle is but soon discovers that this is where they lay their eggs and hatch. Chris is so happy about this discovery but then he finds out that Elliot was hired to catch the turtles and sell them to smugglers for profit. They finally get rescued and Chris goes back home, trying to figure out what to do about this latest development. After Elliot saw the turtles for himself and how much this research means to Chris, he contacted the authorities in Hawaii, took pictures of the turtles and sent them to the Conservation Society of Hawaii. Now they can study them, learn their habits, track and protect them. This showed Chris how much Elliot cared and respected him and how important this meant to him and the world. They got a second chance, a do over to start the relationship fresh. I read a complimentary Advanced Reader Copy of this book and am voluntarily leaving an honest and biased review.

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