



Path of Destruction

Cara Dee

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The first time Adeline Ivey danced into my life, high on ecstasy instead of life, was at the party before the kickoff of our seventh tour. I spotted her out on the lawn, a gorgeous girl spinning around in circles with her arms wide and a big smile directed at the Los Angeles sky.

We shared an insane summer on the road, surrounded by sex, drugs, and rock n' roll—a combination that could only end in disaster.

That was ten years ago. The world has forgotten Lincoln Hayes, rock god and guitarist in Path of Destruction. As the date of my parole hearing approaches, I'm nothing but a number in the system of the Michigan Department of Corrections. And as much as I want to forget the events of that summer and move on, the girl I can't get out of my head is trying to make an encore appearance in my life.

Path of Destruction Details

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From Reader Review Path of Destruction for online ebook

Michaelene says

Got me right in the feels.

Path of Destruction is book three in Cara Dee's Camassia Cove series. This is probably one of her longer books, and damn, is it going to bring you up and down. This series keeps getting better and better.

This is the story of Lincoln Hayes and Adeline Ivey, and does this one wring out every single emotion. Lincoln is nearing the time for his parole hearing. It's been over nine long years, and the notion that it might be coming to an end, sends anxiety through him. His past love ended in a tragic way, and Lincoln has had to shut himself off from everything. Ade's visit brings back everything Lincoln was trying to forget--making every thing real again--but there's plenty that Lincoln still doesn't know.

Adeline had a hard past and going on tour with Lincoln's rock band was the opportunity she was looking for. But her and Lincoln's relationship kind of self-destructed. She's got to get back up on her feet again and Lincoln's up-and-coming release from prison sends her world into chaos again.

There is so much passion in this installment, and I think that's what separates this one apart from others in the series. The longing and destruction, the acceptance and the guilt. Lincoln and Adeline meet when they are both in a bad place—mentally or physically. Falling in love is as scary as living, before one night changes everything.

Cara Dee just writes from the soul, and there's some dark depths, some soul searching, and some fantastic heights and tragic lows coming the reader's way. You never know what's going to happen. You'll meet old friends and new ones, and I love how all of these installments can be read as standalones, but no matter what order you read her work, you're guaranteed to meet someone again.

I will re-read this one just like I'll re-read Cara Dee's others. If you're looking for an emotional ride that's as hard as it is uplifting, you're going to find a story that settles firmly in your heart.

5 stars!

Reviewed by Michaelene from Alpha Book Club

Tami says

4.5 stars

I'm addicted to Cara Dee and this series now!

Lisa (Two Bookish Brits) says

I'm very happy to say I enjoyed The Path of Destruction. Not only was it a sad story but an absolutely beautiful one too!

Ade and Lincoln's relationship is anything but easy. They're dealt with a whole bunch of shit that one couple should never have to go through. Abuse, death, drugs, alcohol, love, sex and murder, it's all thrown into this story and makes it the greatest storyline. It leaves you wondering what's going to happen next and when things are going to get better for the couple you're rooting for from the beginning.

I loved each characters that appears in this story, Ade is feisty and a little bad ass, Lincoln is closed off at times but loves fiercely. Jesse is protective and loved hard, Abel is adorable and I just wanna squish him, Madigan is just fun to read about, Kid he's such a young and adorable lad that makes you feel for him and even Lincoln's pop, he's such a sweetheart. They were all such a perfect edition to this book.

I've enjoyed reading this one and I'd love to read the other characters stories.

Shirley says

5 Stars

I think this may be my favourite of the series so far. At first I wasn't sure how it would go as the first part of the book jumps from past to present frequently and I'm NOT a flashback fan. However I think this was done really well and there was just enough of the past to slowly drip feed you the whole story. In the past there was a lot of partying and drug taking so I'm glad we didn't stay there for long periods.

I loved Lincoln in both the past and present I totally fell in love with him, he really did try his best to protect Adeline. As for Adeline I liked her much more in the present she was strong, independent and fiercely protective of those she loved. Whereas in the past she was just a young girl (only 18) and although she was street wise at times she also came over as naive and used drugs to run from her past (can't say I blame her for that mind). I don't want to say much more as this would give away the story.

I really hope to see more from Lincoln and Adeline further in the series and I can't wait to get to Casey's book ♥

Jewel says

4.5 Stars

I am happy to say, I enjoyed *Path of Destruction* a lot more than I thought I would. I love Cara Dee's writing, but I read very little M/F these days, so I'll freely admit that I only read this to get background on some of the characters from *Uncomplicated Choices*, namely Lincoln. I didn't expect to get to completely sucked into the story, but I totally did. It's told in both Ade's and Lincoln's POV and in part 1, we go back and forth in time from 2007/8 and flashing back to 1998, before Lincoln went to prison. Part 2 is completely in the present (well, "present" in this story is 2008 and 2009).

As I mentioned, I initially wanted to read *Path of Destruction* just to fill in some blanks after reading *Uncomplicated Choices* and to see how much this story added to that one. Well, after reading *Path of Destruction* I can say that while it is certainly not necessary to read this book before *Uncomplicated Choices*, it does add to the depth of some of the secondary characters that we meet in *Uncomplicated Choices*, and

even a little bit where Casey is concerned. But I've got to say that Casey is a very different man by the time we meet him in *Uncomplicated Choices*. Several years have passed and he's gotten an education, gotten his life together and is raising a daughter. In *Path of Destruction* he is a scared kid. Full stop.

So, if you skipped *Path of Destruction* because, like me, you pretty much only read M/M, but you are curious about Lincoln after reading *Uncomplicated Choices*, and you're open to reading M/F, I'd encourage you to give *Path of Destruction* a shot. If the secondary characters in *Uncomplicated Choices* didn't interest you much, then you won't get much out of this one, so rest easy in your decision to skip it.

Path of Destruction tells the story of how Lincoln Hayes meets and falls for Adeline Ivey and how both of those events brought about his downfall. That's not to say it was all her fault, though. Lincoln made his own bad choices. I'm not going to spoil it and tell you what I learned about Lincoln and what happened, but the whole situation was pretty screwed up, from beginning to end. Lincoln and Adeline were toxic for each other back then. A complete train wreck.

Lincoln is a man who has been in prison for a decade. He's not just locked up, he's closed off. The only person from the outside he even allowed to visit him was his dad, Keith. And that's only a few times a year. Shutting down is the only thing that kept Lincoln sane for those ten years. During his last two, his cell mate was a kid named Casey, who was 19 or 20 when he got sent up. Lincoln looked out for him and even with Lincoln allowing himself that small amount of humanity, he was not at all prepared for life to continue, and he would scarcely even allow himself to think about "after".

Ade has struggled, too, since Lincoln's trial. She was self-destructive before Lincoln got sent to prison, and she doubled down after that. It's only through a friend she made while touring with the band, Morgan, that Ade was able to pull her life together and get some help. But she has so many struggles and has responsibilities that I shudder to even contemplate.

In *Path of Destruction*, through the eyes of memory and flashbacks, I got to know, not just Lincoln and Ade, but Madigan, Morgan and Jesse & Abel, some of whom we hear more about, in *Uncomplicated Choices*. The only one we meet in *Uncomplicated Choices*, though, is Madigan. And, of course, Casey, but as I mentioned, he's come a long way by the time he gets his book.

While I know that *Path of Destruction* isn't going to be for my close friends here, because it is M/F, I'm glad I read it. It's angsty as fuck and it pulverized my poor heart before restoring it (covered in band-aids and duct tape). Part 1 was especially hard to read, watching Ade and Lincoln self destruct with drugs and then later, even worse choices. It does give another layer of depth to what I learned about the folks I met in *Uncomplicated Choices*, but as I mentioned previously, now that I've read this one, I can definitely say you don't need to read it before reading *Uncomplicated Choices*. My entire read through of this series, this time, was specifically to see how well the books really stood on their own. And they do pretty damn well, actually.

Mitchell says

Holy crap. Sexiest of the sexy rockstars. Lincoln Hayes. Wow. A second chance love story that literally made me understand the definition of "book boyfriend" for the first time. It felt like I was pulling my hair out waiting to see how the MCs would come together. Thank goodness I can count on a HEA from Cara Dee. Just like all of her books, she made them work for it, but wow when they finally get there. Smokin' hot.

Caryn says

SO DIFFERENT!

I didn't expect to love this book after reading a few reviews but, again, we are all different and have our own opinions.

So very many topics are covered in this book. It is not just a typical rock star story. In fact, there is not a lot of rock star related story in the book. But life in prison after having rock star status is. It is a very emotionally charged story and the journey to happiness, for all of these awesome characters, is long and painful. Not one of them get there easily.

I recommend this story and hope you love it too!

Pam says

Cara Dee writes like no other. She knows how to get her characters wrap themselves around your heart and once they do, they never let you go. This book was no different.

Lincoln is a famous rock star. Adelaide is a "groupie" with a lot of baggage or is she? These two intricate characters start a relationship that only leads them down a Path of Destruction. Perfect title for this perfect love story.

Adelaide slowly opens up about her tragic past and this past leaves Lincoln no choice but to act. His actions lead to a long separation from Ade.

After a great deal of time passes these two are reunited. Both have grown and matured and their second chance is so beautiful.

Loved this so much and I cannot wait for more words from Cara.

Renee says

4.5 Stars

Cara Dee takes realism to another level. She'll tackle subjects I don't often see in romance books whether it's drugs, mental health, prison or anything that is gritty. The story unfolds in a way that is so absolutely heartbreaking but so perfect because it's a reminder that life and love takes an imperfect journey.

For the most part, the beginning with the two POVs and switching between past/present didn't work well for me. It took me a little while to truly connect with the characters. It was a necessary part of the book but to some degree it felt like the character development was a bit slow to develop. The world building also struggled with the past/present and two POVs. That being said it did lay necessary groundwork but I took away half a point for this part.

The present part of the book blew me away. There is so much angst in this book, it reached out to my heart and soul. At times I didn't know what to hope for and what to think. One of the main aspects I enjoyed was in this part there's extreme character development, not just in the hero and heroine but secondary characters. That is part of the realism Cara Dee creates that I so thoroughly enjoy. The world building in this section presented a more detailed and intense picture that kept me entirely engaged.

This is not the typical love story I'm used to reading but then again Cara Dee never gives me the expected, which is why I love her books. While I put it as a 4.5 star book I still consider it an amazing romance, sure to elicit strong emotions and a must read.

Highly recommend!

Martyk says

I've read most of Cara's books and I've loved all that I've read. But this one is by far my favorite to date. If I could give it more than 5 stars I would. Loved it so much! I was sad for it to be over.

Kathy Aronoff says

This is a Rock story like no other and that is solely based on the brilliant writing of Cara Dee. The book is split into two parts and the first part is all about the Sex & Drugs part of rock and roll, but again, it's not your cookie cutter bad boy rock book, it is soo much more. The second part is all about coming to terms with doing bad things for the right reasons but what are the consequences ? I will not be able to do this story justice by this review and I do not want to give anything away I will say that I can count on one hand how many books in the hundreds I have read had me crying over secondary characters, holding my breath on what may happen next and riveted to where I bought 4 more books by this Author. If you want different, give this a try.

Lyn says

So this book is broken in two parts. Part I is a combination of flashbacks and the present. I'm not a fan of stories with flashbacks, and in my opinion, the flashbacks in part I were excessive.

Part II is the present. I loved both the H and h and the way they are with one another but there wasn't enough focus on the relationship building. Yeah they had a past that I got a glimpse of through all those flashbacks, but it was toxic and lasted only 3 months. I wasn't feeling them as a couple until almost the end. Nine years later, they reconnect but it's not just about them. Now there are a bunch of secondary characters, and they are always present. They weren't annoying, I actually really liked them, but I was hoping for more couple time between the MCs. The story as a whole is an interesting one but romance takes a back seat during most of it.

I was so ready to rate this book 3 stars, but in true Cara Dee fashion, the epilogues (yeah we get two..woot!) are so freaking awesome! I just had to add another star to my rating. I'm so glad to know that there will be other stories for the secondary characters that were part of this story. I'm hoping that also means there will be more of Adeline and Lincoln.

Lyn says

It's now a few days since I've completed the book and I still can't decide whether or not I've enjoyed the read! I had to push myself to keep going through the first part, but it got easier at part 2.

There were a lot of flashbacks to the past as the story unfolded in part one. I'm not really a fan of a story jumping about in this way, but it seemed to work for this book. This is an interesting read in terms of the reactions it inspires in the reader, when trying to imagine being in the place of the main characters.

I didn't develop any real attachment to the characters in this story, unfortunately. I understood why they made their choices, but I didn't feel invested in the outcome. The issues handled in the story were very well presented and handled extremely sensitively. It did make me think about the situations the characters faced and the thoughts and emotions that they were experiencing.

Overall I'm pleased that I've read the book and experienced the story. I did feel that the ending was a bit disjointed and not enough attention was given to a few things that had been built up throughout the story. The reason may be because of spoilers for other books by this author, but it made this book seem a bit rushed towards the end.

Sarah1983 says

This was chosen as this month's read by a book club I'm part of. I'd never heard of it, never read anything by the author before and to be honest, am a bit burned out of romancey types as it's all starting to seem a bit samey. But I have to say I'm glad I decided to read it anyway. Because this was about as far from "oh here we go again" as I've seen in a long time.

The book is split into two parts, the first part being a hell of a lot of flashbacks and history, something I'm not generally a fan of. But the history was necessary and a huge part of the plot and while the flashbacks seemed a bit excessive and the history could probably have been thrown in in another way it wasn't awful and didn't feel like an info dump. We got a good look at who Lincoln and Ade were 10 years ago. Perhaps a better look than we get of who they are present day to be honest.

This was not a happy, uplifting romance. Far from it. If that's what you like then this probably isn't the book for you. I wouldn't go so far as to say it's dark but it's definitely not that sweet, escape from reality sort of book you'd generally expect in the romance genre. Abuse, violence, drugs, prison, they're all in there. I was hooked from the start but then I like that sort of thing in other genres so why not in romance?

I liked the characters from the start. They're flawed. More than flawed really I guess. But I wanted to know why, wanted to know what happened to them and whether they'd eventually get their happy ever after or not. I think there could have been more relationship building in the second part though. I mean yeah, they were together years ago but for such a short time and then such a long separation with so much happening, they're not the same people any more.

Will be reading others by the author. Really, really enjoyed this one and it made a nice change from sweet and fluffy.

Pianisuparse says

4.5 'I really enjoyed this book. There was enough little tastes of man love in here, a nice little hot threesome and Lincoln's relationship with Casey was adorable, so it made the fact that this is a MF book between Lincoln and Adeline much more palatable and enjoyable. As always amazing writing. So looking foward to Kid finding his HEA' stars.
