



The Perfect Place

Kol Anderson

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When Liam Dailey arrives in his hometown of Flint Hill, Virginia because of a family tragedy, he has every intention of leaving with the first flight back. Unfortunately, when he encounters long time ex Jackson Brooks, things start taking a turn for the worse and Liam finds himself getting stuck in a spiral again. Will he ever be able to leave?

The Perfect Place Details

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Author : Kol Anderson

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From Reader Review The Perfect Place for online ebook

Truuss says

5 mind fucking stars.

Pffff I really have pains writing a review. In the beginning I was thinking (while reading a very entertaining book) I have so much expectations i so hope it will not be disappointing....

I mean this is my second book from this author whose writing skill was above average with Senseless

Maybe my expectation level was to high.

Whahahaha silly me I really should depend on my feelings and not overthink.

All the time I had a vague feeling. There were little heart attacks. Questions....why are some parts not deepen why is there in some parts no action. Well... all premeditated. That's why!!

What a mindfuck. A really enjoyed this one.

A perfect book with a perfect title

OMG and now I have to read it all over again with the knowledge I have now.

Mary Wallace (Madam Aus) says

This book has made me go through the emotional wringer. Although thats not new with Kol Anderson. The Perfect Place is a love story like I have never read. The characters are once again so multi faceted. Twists and turns in a plot that is character based but so very beautifully surprising.

It alternates for the most part so that we see the history of Lee and Jax and slowly builds in tension. It sheds light on a problem and shows it in a way that you might never have thought of before. There is two constants in Kol's stories, his beautiful writing and his ability to shock the crap out of you without sacrificing any of the story. OMG you have to read this

Bev says

WTF!! I was speechless at the end of this new one from Kol. 5 stars from me.

This is **completely** different to anything else Kol has done, and starts when Liam (Lee) returns home for his father's funeral. The story is divided into distinct sections and is sometimes in flashback...childhood, intermediate years and present day. I'm not going into great detail here but I will say that it seems to be part love story (honestly!!) featuring Lee and Jackson (Jax), friends when they were youngsters, their families polar opposites of each other...Lee's family nurturing and caring, Jax's father an drunken, abusive bastard who uses Jax as a punch bag. The boys relationship blossoms into love as they grow older, but Lee's temperament always seems to be fragile and Jax can't seem to do anything right. They're together and then they're not, other guys appear on the scene, shady characters make an appearance....or do they??

There are so many twists and turns in this one....is all as it seems?? I really *never* saw that ending coming at all, shocking!!

Smooches to my Dark Angel for the ARC. You keep writing babe, we'll keep reading.

Debra says

4.5 stars

It's no secret that I am a fan of Kol Anderson. Where his books are usually dark and gritty, it turns out that is not all he does. Emotionally intense, with the undercurrent a noir movie, *The Perfect Place* is a love story with a Kol Anderson twist, of course.

Jax and Liam have grown up together, but had very different family lives. They have been best friends and each other's first loves, but even that isn't always enough to keep a couple together. The story follows their relationship between past and present as, for the first time in years, 32 year old Liam returns to their Virginia hometown for his father's funeral and runs into Jax, who he hasn't seen for six years. It appears the two have a lot of unfinished business and obviously still have very strong feelings for each other, but Liam is looking to quickly return to New York and his boyfriend Ryan. Over the course of a few days spent together Liam tries to resist falling back into the same old pattern of their relationship as things between the two begin their usual downward spiral.

Their story is heartbreaking as the flashbacks show them trying to make their relationship work. While it is clear they love each other, it is also clear that there is a lot more going on than meets the eye. Even knowing the author's propensity for shocking twists, and picking up on hints that there are things we are not fully aware of happening, I was still shocked by the final turn of events in the story and was once again left thinking about it long after I read the final page.

An ARC of this book was kindly provided by the author.

Lila says

Well, I never read Kol Anderson before.

But look at this nice and positive sounding title "*The Perfect Place*"...

And look at that peaceful cover with snow that calms your soul....

Ha!

Ok, so this story is mindfuck. To reveal anything is to give away too much, but expect an unreliable narrator and a

Like *The Twilight Zone* episode.

Caroline Brand says

REVIEWED FOR PRISM BOOK ALLIANCE

4.5 Stars

If you have read anything by Kol Anderson before you know his books can be dark and gritty. The Perfect Place is not one of those books, well not in the usual way.

Sometimes you read a book that will leave you gobsmacked. Then you start asking yourself 'really? What was that all about'. You may try different scenarios in your head to try and work it out. You will wonder for a good while after 'so, what happened next?' This is that book!!

This story begins with 6 year old Liam and 10 year Jax and an innocent friendship. Liam comes from a loving and mostly supportive family, does well at school and is showing promising signs with his art. Jax skips school whenever he can, has a father that beats him frequently and a mother who doesn't seem to care. For all their differences these two boys strike up a friendship that will later see them become lovers and their lives will stay entwined for three decades.

Liam is 32 when he returns to his small hometown for his fathers funeral. Jax is living there after their relationship failed 6 years previously. Liam is hoping for a quick dash into town for the funeral avoiding his past but when he is snowed in for days he has to face his old friend and lover and things don't always go well.

Their story is told in flashbacks and some of it is not pretty. Liam is in another relationship now and at first glance I thought maybe this was a story of regret and Jax was out to win his old boyfriend back. Liam obviously has some mental health problems fuelled by things that Jax did when they were a couple.

With his medication and phone calls to his current boyfriend seeming to keep Liam grounded whilst he is visiting his past I was beginning to think that maybe he would resolve old issues with Jax and was trying to work out where this story was going. Well, then I got to the end of the book and bloody hell you have to hand it Kol, when the twist in this story comes it is brilliant, confusing and a true WTF moment!!

Marcie says

I will not get into the story line since I'm always afraid that I might spoil. So this is more of my feels than an actual "review".

There are two things that I've come to associate with Kol's writing: Dark and shock. Having read all his books and expecting such things, you would think it would diminish the shock value. I can tell you that's not the case with this author. I am still completely and utterly shocked! To be able to still feel those two things so strongly when clearly it was something I expected from the get-go, says something about the authors writing ability.

It's been hours since I've finished the story and I'm still analyzing words, situations, scenes, anything that would help me figure out if I would of seen this coming...Dammit Kol, you always do this to me! But it's a ride I would gladly jump into again in a heartbeat.

If you are looking for a book that will have you thinking way after your done, then look no further. Any of Kol's books will definitely deliver!

ARC was kindly provided by author. Thank you, Kol! And thank you for sharing this part of your world with us. I am so very proud of you for accomplishing all that you have. I love you, bro!

Sue bowdley says

Well....I don't know what to say...I finished this two days ago and I still don't think I've got my head around this book....To start I loved it...I loved Liam from the start although I wondered If he had a problem and turns out he did...Jax took me a bit longer and I didn't like how he treated Liam but really.....did we really find out if he did those things.....This book messes with your mind...It totally takes you to a place that not many books takes you...It twists your mind around and then tries to put it back.....I love Kol's books and this one is no different...In fact I think it damn near makes it to the top of my Kol list.....But.....and here's the but....That ending...I won't say anything about the ending but believe me It will have you screaming at your kindle and tears will be pouring down your face.....definitely a book to be read in a dark dark room...Well done Kol for an amazing book...but....I still haven't forgiven you yet for that ending....Kol Broke me x

Mantastic says

I finished this book days ago, but I am still unsure what to say.

On one hand, I see the story concept and style for what it is - easy, poetic, messy, sometimes beautiful, sometimes horrific - such a balance that is so hard to reach. I have not read any other books by Kol Anderson, but have it on good authority that each of his books are written similarly.

On the other hand, the problem I had with this book seems to be something other reviewers enjoyed. The ending completely negated so much of what I had originally thought. I love surprises, I love books that make me think and work for a clever payoff, and I love books that stray outside the lines and get a little dirty if they need to. Unfortunately, no matter which way I look at it, the only thing I'm left with at the end of The Perfect Place is anger.

A testament to Anderson's skill as a writer, I was pulled into the story almost immediately. I didn't mind the continual flip flop between present and past, assuming that there was a good reason for allowing things to unfold this way. And for a large portion of the book, I agreed; I was completely onboard. I wasn't looking for a conventional love story, anyway. But at some point, the typical resentment of a longtime love turning sour was replaced by something bone deep. It was cold and detached. Giving the benefit of the doubt to the author, maybe that is exactly what he meant to accomplish. For me though, I felt the tonal change and began looking for any excuse to put the book down.

I spent a lot of time wondering why we as readers would want these two together. After such a promising start as kids, their relationship just didn't seem to work as adults. And because Anderson clearly says he doesn't write romance, I was confused as to why that was exactly what we were getting. By the time clues began popping up, the pages were running out. I had a vague idea as to the ending, but no where near the degree that it ended up being. All I kept thinking was there wasn't enough time (page count) to right the cart without something big pulling it all together.

And this brings me back to my original point. It's the ending that causes the entire rest of the book to fall apart. Once the twist is revealed, everything pretty much fades to black to leave you in shock. Now, as other reviewers have said, this can be a very powerful moment the likes of M. Night Shyamalan. I happen to feel the opposite, though.

In a movie, a sudden and seemingly clever ending like this works because the director can hand pick clips to lead the viewer to "see" the clues in a new light after the reveal. As pure text, the author's job is much harder out of the gate. In this case, clever came across as too convenient or tacked on because it didn't have enough support on either side of the reveal. Too many holes, too many questions, too many things left up in the air, too many "if 'this' is true, then 'that' doesn't make sense" and so on, until you wind yourself into a circle contradicting yourself. At least that's what I and two other readers did.

Overall, while I appreciated the original concept and very interesting story idea, I didn't follow the execution.

Becky Condit says

Madam Aus reviews The Perfect Place by Kol Anderson.

<http://www.mrsconditreadsbooks.com/?p...>

REVIEW: Everyone is looking for that perfect place, that perfect relationship, and as many of us know or find out, sometimes the past can cloud the present and the future. Kol Anderson's books need to come with a warning label "Objects are not what they first appear to be". Kinda like that warning on mirrors. I always read his books with a buffer around me, because I know that I will be horny, happy, sad, stunned, decimated, and questioning everything I ever believed in by the end of the book.

As I have said in past reviews of Kol's work as Madam Aus or just Mary, he is NOT for the faint hearted. If reading light fluffy pieces or formulaic stories where the end is a forgone conclusion (and believe me I read both of those types of stories as well because I am a firm believer in choice and sometimes we need lots of light and fluffy in our life, but getting back to my point) then DO NOT read this. If you do, then remember what I have told you.

Lee and Jax have a happy place in reality. They went there to be together. Now meeting up after a while apart things seem to be slipping back into old patterns. The tension is slowly built by the alternation between the past and the present and the connection between the two. The back story and the current story is told beautifully combined, pushing towards the end whilst also shedding light and showing unseen or un-thought of sides to a problem that is too often hidden in the dark.

The twists and turns in this character based story take you through the emotional wringer AND back again, even though you don't always realize it until the end, making reading the Perfect Place a journey unto itself. It is so beautifully written, a love story like few can write. Kol's stories, at least for this little black duck, stay with me like memories indelibly inked onto my brain. They wring out emotions and feelings and make me reflect long and hard about things that I have never given any thought to. I love anyone or any book that can do that for, to, or with me.

I just highly recommend Kol Anderson's work, he has yet to disappoint me in any way (not that that is his job at all) and The Perfect Place is yet another book that I just adore and another reason that I am in awe of his talent. He makes the unfathomable recesses of the mind and the behaviours that we find morally reprehensible, just that little bit more understandable... Just experience it...

Sandi ♥'s way too many M/M books says

Thank you darlin. Can't wait to read it this week. Xoxo

Amanda Eisenthal says

Stunned, slightly at the WTF feeling....

Typical roller coaster of emotions. The switch between the psyche of both characters is amazing and well thought out. The end threw me for a loop but then again I wouldn't expect anything else from our Kol!

Loved the character development in the flashbacks. The depth of feeling between the 2 MC's was really established. Excellent read. Highly recommended.

Teri says

I don't consider this the mind fuck everyone else seems to. I didn't see some huge plot twist that changed everything. What I got was excellent writing, unease seeping into my bones almost immediately, characters that while I hated, I wanted to know more about. I knew I was missing something, I was uncomfortable-on edge, I knew there would be a moment where everything got turned on its head, and I didn't get this from reviews or readers, but from the ominous clues Liam himself left, this had to be leading to something right? (view spoiler) It didn't lead anywhere. At least, not to me. If the purpose was to leave the reader not knowing what to believe, the author succeeded. But it made for a rather miserable reading experience for me personally. Having been (as Julie says) "properly mind fucked" this isn't how it works. I was hoping that the fuckery or twist would have me seeing the clues from all along and how they line up, or a big, "oh shit!" moment. Nope. I got a bizarre and frankly unbelievable answer to a question I hadn't even asked. This could have been fantastic. If the author could have taken some time to connect some dots or fill in holes or anything to make it feel like I wasn't just tossed some line of BS and then-Done. Over. I guess, given the ratings, that there are plenty of people that like this kind of story, I am simply not one of them. I do think the author has talent. I do believe the writing to be excellent. But the let down at the end left me hollow and kind of angry and wishing I could get those precious reading hours back. Just overall unsatisfying.

Marte - Thunderella says

DNF

I had a hard time literally reading this book. Part to the writing and part to the format I was reading it. Also BR buddies hated the content, so I'm not wasting my time trying to read it.

No rating.

---- BR with Momo, Marco and Julie ----

Ed Davis says

I didn't like this book at all. I wasn't surprised in the end. I thought it was plain from the beginning what was going on. In fact I thought the ending was kind of silly.

I've read several books by Kol Anderson and I just don't think his stories work for me. At least this wasn't a serial.
