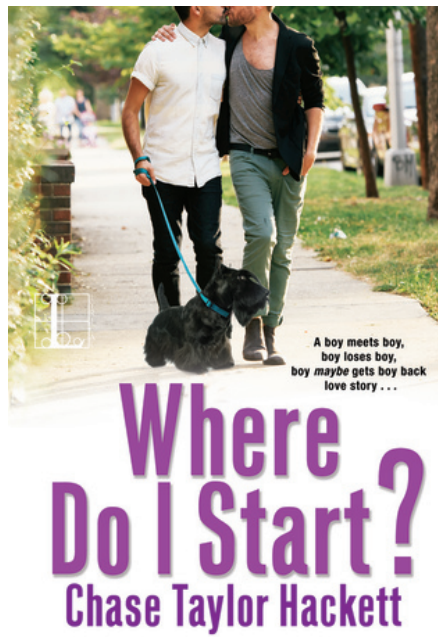




Where Do I Start?

Chase Taylor Hackett

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Where Do I Start?

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Where Do I Start? Chase Taylor Hackett

The ex best thing . . .

Fletcher Andrews never believed in promises. Or monogamy. Or love. When you're tall and gorgeous, New York City is one big all-you-can-eat buffet of hot young actors, models, and baristas. Even when living happily with Roger, his sweet, sexy violinist boyfriend, Fletch can't resist an occasional taste. Too bad you don't know what you've got until it's thrown you out for cheating with half the cast of Disney on Ice.

Two years and a chance meeting later, Fletch desperately wants Roger back. Roger's new boyfriend, Jeff, will do anything to stop that from happening. But Fletch has a plan to make amends. And with a little help from friends, colleagues—even Roger's Scottish terrier, Haggis—they might find that the love you don't believe in can sweep you right off your feet . . .

Where Do I Start? Details

Date : Published October 17th 2017 by Lyrical Press

ISBN :

Author : Chase Taylor Hackett

Format : Kindle Edition 266 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Contemporary, Humor

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From Reader Review Where Do I Start? for online ebook

Aerin says

Where do I start??? Well I'll start by saying this book was fucking boring as hell and 3X longer than it needed to be. By the time I was 30% through, I was literally thinking I was close to the end.... and then I made the mistake of checking the page number. *facepalm*

Aside from the characters talking and thinking like they were living in the 60's, the dialogue was plain, flat and full of orchestra terms that bore me to tears. I hated Fletcher and his immature nature. He seemed more like a jealous puppy whose bone was stolen by a bigger better dog. He even reminded me of a dog with all the ass kissing he did trying to win Roger back, like showing off his knowledge of orchestra language *yawn!*, stalking Roger's place of work and showing up uninvited at his house, paying off Roger's dog-walker in order to quit so that he can forcefully squeeze himself back in Roger's life. Actually, calling Fletcher a dog is an insult to all dogs; he makes me think of a nasty weasel and that's about it. This guy was a creep!

Roger was a spineless adult and I never could stomach those kind of characters, and his personality was so flat! There was NOTHING standing out about him, he's an utterly forgettable character.

So I gave up by the time I got to the 40% mark, because NOTHING happened other than Fletcher and Roger's current boyfriend constantly whipping out their dicks to see who's got the bigger one. OK, so not exactly, but you get my meaning. There isn't even any chemistry to speak of between the men (any of them!!!). There was more chemistry between the dog and Roger's violin!

Usually I can hate on a book as much as I want, but there's always something positive that I liked about it! I didn't like anything about this book, anything at all! I tried and wanted to like it because the blurb sounded so good, but alas, it happens. Nothing against the author, but this writing style isn't for me.

Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

Free at Kobo today, 2/11/18

Jenni Lea says

Kinda frenetic, in a charming way.

annob says

[ex-bf Fletcher and current-bf Jeff (hide spoiler)]

Truuss says

5 BIG stars and more. What a great read, it kept me in its spell The way of writing was so uplifting
It was warm, endearing, fluffy, emotional and witty.
The most lovely MC's in their own way...

The story tells from 'the here and now' and switches smoothly to what had happened and what they wished,
written in the most captivating way. Both MC's will give a view from their perspective...

Fletch has a 'terrible' attitude but...you will love him...he is just soimmature ...and more
Roger has a 'terrible' attitude but...you will love him...he is just somature.... and more
Together they are perfect and so not....

Roger a lawyer and a wonderful violinist. Shy and introvert....and....with a lovely dog Haggis
Fletch, a Haggis lover, was kind, sparkling, always good humoured and not monogamous, not before, during
and after his relationship with Roger....
Roger was angry when he finds out...threw Fletch out and was left devastated...

After two years they meet again....Fletch is struck and 'seen the light' and wants Roger back...
As sweet and easygoing Roger is, taking back Fletch is not an option...
Roger has a boyfriend Jeff-rey.....Fletch is determined and has a creative mind...

"Was there suddenly a part of my miserable, undereducated, oversexed, juvenile-delinquent brain that was
actually entertaining monogamy as a possibility?"

The constant self reflections, the clarifying thoughts were just fabulous...

"How good in bed could I possibly be that somebody would risk their life to chase me across Broadway
against traffic"

Dear wise best friend Tommy realized some true things about how Roger and Fletch feel about each other
and the reason why they don't say things!
I love Tommy and so hope there will be a story for him <3

And then.... some shit happened.....I cried...it broke my heart...

Fletch....o..Fletch..he is just wonderful...and flawed...and honest...yes honest...and Roger was such a fantastic
flawed emotional cry guy....I loved them both hard

It's amazingly dynamic and very very lovable, not one line was boring. There were so many lines playing
with... my heart...my laugh... and my (blurred) eyes
The developing was tremendously good done....it was so good!

An absolute mustread!! Highly recommended!

Kindly received an ARC from publisher through Netgalley

R * A Reader Obsessed * says

3.5 Hearts

I admit that the premise of this book might not appeal to everyone, and I'm kinda surprised myself that I chose to read this. For unknown reasons, I was apparently intrigued by how a guy, who has made some unforgivable mistakes, wins back the love of his life.

Now to put it out there, Fletch is definitely a piece of work. He knows he's very good looking and is not shy, nor above using said looks, to skew things in his favor. However, I want to clarify that there's not really a malicious bone in his body. Fletch is fun, spontaneous, very carefree, and at the same time, when he was with Roger, he was kind and thoughtful and they just clicked. So why the cheating?? It really is quite the conundrum, but things slowly come to light as this story unravels, and though I don't excuse his behavior at all, I can totally see why Fletch is the type of person he was and is. When he meets up with Roger a couple years later, harsh reality smacks him in the face, making Fletch realize his mistake and just how much he wants to win Roger back.

Roger is understandably still hurt. In his ignorant bliss, his time with Fletch stands out as his happiest, but he can't fathom ever forgiving him, let alone taking him back. Regardless, it's a moot issue since he's perfectly content with his boyfriend Jeff, and in comparison to Fletch, Jeff's stable, responsible, and trustworthy. Little does poor Roger know that Jeff is far from the polished, put together person that he presents. As Fletch wheedles his way back into Roger's life, it produces some interesting revelations, and Roger has to wonder if his planned life trajectory is really something that he wants, including what he currently has.

Was this perfect? No. At times this was quite verbose and there was an overuse of nicknames that drove me a bit bonkers... but it grew on me. *Fletch* grew on me...

I will say 99.9% of the time, cheating is a hard limit for me, but somehow Hackett made me change my mind, and I found myself actually rooting for Fletch to win. One slowly comes to see the complexity of the man with plenty of faults and baggage, who wants desperately to move beyond his origins and grab onto the one exceptional person who made him the happiest he'd ever been in his entire life. Fletch's charm is just that - charming. One can't not like him despite his past deplorable behavior. I think that says something about Hackett's ability to successfully change the reader's, and Roger's, mind.

So, this is technically a story about redeeming a cheating cad. It's a story about opposites attract and second chances. I implore you to not give up on the rough beginning. As things are revealed, and how Fletch and Roger slowly re-enter each other's lives more and more, this really turned into a sweet, fun, funny (sadly, no smex) romance that had me speeding on through and ultimately, cheering Fletch on to get his guy. I had my reservations, thinking I had temporary insanity choosing this trope, but as the sequel is about Roger's dumped assbat of a boyfriend Jeff, I really don't have any more doubts that Hackett can change my mind for that as well.

An impressive debut for a tough topic.

Thank you to the author/publisher for a copy in exchange for an honest review

~Mindy Lynn~ says

3 Stars!

There are quite a few people shying away from this story because the subject of cheating this book has. But I want to make it clear that there is no cheating present in this book. It happened. As in past tense. These men are not together in the beginning nor in the middle of this book. This story is about a guy realizing what he had and accepting the responsibility of hurting someone he cared for more than he was willing to admit. He has this epiphany when he sees his ex after 2 years. He spends the entire book, and I do mean the entire book, trying to make amends and in the end, win him back.

This is a new to me author. At the beginning the writing threw me off a bit but eventually it worked itself out. I struggled a bit but once I hit about the 25-30% mark things picked up and I became interested in how Fletcher would redeem himself and win Roger back.

Fletcher has a pretty sad past. He doesn't dwell on it. He doesn't particularly like talking about it either. He's fine. He's always fine. And you would believe it because he's such an upbeat happy person. I found him to be a pretty lonely character though. Fletcher doesn't have many people in his life besides his best friend Marco. A friend who saved him from the streets as a teenager. They've also shared lovers and a bed on occasion. But Fletcher has shared a bed with many and that is the problem and what cost him his relationship with Roger.

Roger is the complete opposite of Fletcher. He comes from a wealthy family, went to a prestigious college, is a lawyer, and is shy. He was completely thrown off by Fletcher being attracted to him. Things moved fast between them. There was no talk of love though. This isn't an insatiable love tale. No, it took both of these men the entire book to come to that conclusion.

I liked both characters. I loved Roger's best friend, Tommy. Roger's dog, Haggis was cute. Fletcher was hard to not like. He was funny and charming. He did some extreme things to get Roger back and it was sweet. BUT the men didn't have that great of chemistry. I think this falls on the fact that there were few intimate moments between them. Oh, and that there was zero sex which is ironic considering Fletcher was made out to be such a man-whore. I don't mind books that have no sex in them but I felt like this book needed it. That it would have helped make these men feel more believable as a couple. There were some really sweet moments between them, just not enough.

In the end I did enjoy the book. I am hoping both Marco and Tommy get a book. I would definitely read them. But I see it's going to be about Roger's horrible ex Jeffrey and I am not sure about that..

Happy reading dolls! xx

****I was given an ARC from the publisher and Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.****

Isaiah says

I got an ARC in return for an honest review on NetGalley.

What could be better than a hurt/comfort story that has a dog as a main character? Exactly. I had to read this book. I was pretty impressed with the characters of this book. Fletcher is a total loser. All he has going for him is his body. He has no prospects, only wants sex, and has no real drive. Pretty typical gay man character (and

grindr user). His love interest, Roger, is more the type of guy I would go for and much more rare. He is intelligent, nerdy, and insecure. Exactly the type of guy that doesn't expect a relationship, because he doesn't see himself as good enough for one. They are fleshed out and feel real. They feel like guys I would meet in the real gay male world. My issue is that Fletch's character doesn't feel realistic by the end. Guys like Fletch don't just give up their wild ways. There is too much benefit to staying wild, why would they change?

Roger is by far the more interesting character. He isn't all about sleeping around, he has real hobbies, he has real drive. That is something that I wish I saw more of. I didn't like that he was such a pushover, because I wanted to protect him so badly. I was getting mad at Fletch by the end because he was just bombarding Roger in a way that I found borderline creepy. Though that is my main issue with most romance novels. The love is always portrayed in a way that can be really creepy.

Despite my issues with Fletch (and the gay male community in general) and romance novels in general (Fletch respected no, so a lot less issues than normal), I loved this book. I look forward to the sequel, though the choice of lead character in that one makes me hesitant. There better be another cute dog!

To read more reviews check out mibookreviews.wordpress.com

? Todd says

Okay, **confession time**.

After reading the blurb way back when, I had **sworn off** reading this book. As in, "***fuck cheaters, rot in hell, good riddance, poof be gone, Bye, Felicia***" sworn off.

Then I read book 2 and had to re-evaluate that stance.

Mainly because of **Tommy**, who was hilarious in book 2 and best friends with the MC in this story, sooooo...

Yay, more Tommy time, right? His flirting attempts to get a certain hot, Latin Starbucks barista to notice him in this book were **just too cute for words**.

(*Much like this shameless Scottish terrier "Haggis" gif. #SorryNotSorry*) ;-)

Well, I got the Tommy fix that I'd hoped for, but also got a **very sweet, touching story** about learning from your mistakes and living with the sincerest regret that you'd hurt a very special person. An important person. Possibly "**the**" **most important person** you've ever had the amazing good fortune to meet.

I really loved this book, just not quite as much as book 2, mainly because both of the MC's in book 2 could teach a damn **Master Class on Snark and Banter**. And those two things are my freaking **crack cocaine wrapped in a chocolate-glazed cronut**. No exaggeration there, guys, hand to God.

Don't get me wrong, though. This story was still especially funny, but it also **felt a bit more serious**. After all, you don't just laugh your way past **the love of your life sleeping his way through all of Manhattan and half of the outlying boroughs**. And you're likely to hold those he slept with **after** you tossed him to the curb against him, too. Infidelity leaves a taste in your mouth worse than black licorice. PS, nasty, gross, ick, eww, and no. Same thing here.

As with the second book, this one also **contains zero sexy times**, which was fine with me. I didn't feel that anything was missing sans smut.

However, what I did feel in conspicuous absence was the **underlying reason** as to *why* Fletch felt the overwhelming need to cheat behind Roger's back. Repeatedly. Ad nauseam.

They were otherwise happy together, so I would have truly liked a full, detailed reasoning as to **why the man-whoring was such a pressing need** for Fletch. Because the man seriously had zero will power.

If dick was chocolate cake, dude would've weighed 800 pounds if he weighed an ounce by the time Roger rightfully fast tracked his ass to the curb.

Yet right from the beginning, **I found myself rooting for Fletch**, because sluttiness aside, he was a great guy and I wanted he and Roger to work beyond their past history. To be happy together, again.

I liked that this story didn't pull any punches. It called a spade a spade and moved on to sift through the big, ugly wreckage, with the MC's (*cough-Fletch-cough*) admitting their faults and working to be better.

My favorite part of the story was toward the end, where "**Jeffrey**" from book 2, Roger's current boyfriend (*and fuckwit extraordinaire*), did a truly dick hole thing, at which point **Roger was steadfast in his defense of Fletch**. That simple act forced him to re-evaluate all of his past hurt and current assumptions about Fletch. Then truly decide what he wanted from his life. And who he wanted to spend it with. And I loved that.

I'd highly recommend this book for any fans of **second chance** romances and rate it at **around 4.5 stars**.

*** PS: I NEED Tommy's book like freaking crack cocaine wrapped in a chocolate-glazed cronut.**

Just sayin'... :- P

Tess says

Second time around, still funny and with all the feels.

4.75 stars

I'm loving this author! Lots and lots of emotion in this second chance love story.

Sandra says

I'm super late with this review - my apologies to the author and publisher.

Where Do I Start, indeed.

Fletcher, immature and possibly a sex addict, is a serial cheater. Two years ago or so, he and his then-boyfriend Roger broke up, because Roger found out about Fletcher treating the gay scene in NYC as his personal buffet and Roger wasn't putting up with that.

Personality-wise, it was clear from the start that Fletch and Roger are two very different people - Fletch is immature, happy-go-lucky, spontaneous, whereas Roger is much more mature, set in his ways and a bit staid. Not that those are bad things, but at the time they were together, perhaps Fletch felt a bit... stifled.

Now two years have passed, Fletch is still sampling the buffet whenever he can, and Roger has a new boyfriend named Jeffrey. And Fletch just ran into Roger and might have realized what he lost.

Some folks have perhaps shied away from this book because of the cheating mentioned in the blurb - none of that happens on page, and none of it happens once Fletch decides to win Roger back.

One might think that Fletcher attempting to break up Roger and Jeffrey is selfish and speaks to his maturity level, and one would be right in as much as Fletch at first only sees his own desire to get back with Roger. But then, as I watched Fletcher grow throughout the book, I could also see that Roger, mature, staid, reliable Roger, really needed Fletcher in his life, and that the two of them, as opposite as they are, really complement each other, and bring out the best in each other.

Of course, Fletcher's scheming is not without its up and downs, and there are plenty of hurt feelings in the way at first, as well as a lack of trust, and obviously Jeffrey.

I loved Fletcher snarky inner voice, his nearly child-like optimism, and his strength of conviction - once he made up his mind that Roger was it for him, he went full on ahead with the seduction, until... well, you read this for yourself.

I rather enjoyed this tale of one very flawed almost anti-hero who grew up and became a real boy when he realized whom he had, through his own actions, hurt. Making amends isn't easy, but he didn't give up, not even when the odds of success were minimal, and when it seemed like the rest of the world was conspiring against him.

This was an excellent debut novel from a new author telling an awesome tale of an immature boy who became a man, almost on his own.

I look forward to Jeffrey's book which will come early next year. Cannot wait!

** I received a free copy of this book from its publisher via Netgalley. A positive review was not promised in return. **

Jess says

Out of the hundreds of LGBT romances I've read over the past few years, this one was the most refreshing by far. I only picked it up for a buck because I requested the sequel on NetGalley before realizing it was a sequel, and I didn't want to miss the backstory. It was one of the best chances I've taken all year with my reading list!

Fletch and Roger are two of the most flawed, human-disaster characters I've read in a romance in a long time, and I absolutely love them. And they have *real* flaws, not just cutesy romance flaws. Fletch might be male-model hot and charming and sweet, but he's also a big fat cheater, and a mooch, and an instigator. And Roger is adorable, angelic, and patient, but he's also terrible at his job, can't stick up for himself, and can't make a decision to save his life. On paper, they're terrible together. They won't work. But in reality, sometimes people like this get together and they make each other miserable, and then they fall hopelessly in love.

Everything about this book is easy and accessible and sharp and tight. It's practically PG save for some innuendo. Not even a fade-to-black. Yet the romantic tension between Fletch and Roger is off the charts. The ending is spot-on. Even the minor characters are pitch-perfect.

If I had a friend who read exclusively M/F romances and wanted to break into M/M, this would be my go-to transitional pick. It's a criminally overlooked modern M/M romance.

Angelique says

Where Do I start,indeed where do I start.

I loved this book by Chase Taylor Hackett and that surprised me.

Overall I do not really enjoy cheating in romance novels by one off the main characters.but this book is written in such a way.

that it is the cheater who you rooting for.

Fletcher is a loveable manwhore,who is outspoken,ballsy, sweet and simply fun and funny.

He cheats on his boyfriend Roger,who is sweet and lovely.

Roger dumps him and they meet each other one night at the opera two years later.

that meeting opens Fletchers eyes,about his manwhore ways.

And he goes out off his way to meet Roger again.

Roger in the mean time,is trying to move on,with a new boyfriend. who is not giving up on Roger so easy.

Fletcher has a real fight on his hands,not with Jeff but also with his own feelings.Roger is torn between feeling "safe"and secure with his now boyfriend and his lawyer job.

or maybe to try to find out what he feels for fletcher and his passion for music.how unpredictable that future can be.

With the help and support from their friends and the formidable Haggis. Fletcher and Roger fighting for their happiness.

it is really fun and sweet,very well written,and I love to read the next one. one minor little thing,I missed steamy scene`s between the two.

there is a lot off talk about seks and so on.but not much showing.

Arc was provide by netgalley in exchange for an honest review

J1B says

A lot of reviewers won't like this one, but THEY ARE WRONG! IT'S GREAT!!!

I hate books about cheating because they make me feel sick, but I love books about cheating because they make me feel sick. A lot of romance readers immediately write off any book with even a hint of cheating, so it's a ballsy move to even mention the "c" word in contemporary romance. **This book actually made me fall in love with the cheater, a character that I'm genetically predisposed to hate on principle** (how many of us can say we *love* Jake Riordan, even after the fifth book? we might have forgiven him, but love? not so with my darling Fletcher! he took his punishment with an appropriate amount of shame and dignity, and I had completely forgiven him long before the end). This book was also gay, not MM Romance BWFW gay, but gay gay, and further, it was gay done great. The characters were totally likable and **believable**, and, especially with Fletcher and Tommy, they were FUNNY. I would absolutely love to hang around such a snappy and sassy group of guys, and add on to that all the drama flying around and I think I've found my heaven. Author, don't let the negative reviews get you down, I loved this book and I will for sure buy the next one.

Aeren says

Estoy dudosa entre 3 y 4, me ha gustado bastante la historia y el autor consigue que desee un final feliz para los chicos y que empatizara mucho con Feltch pero el otro MC es plano y no me acaba de convencer el modo en que está narrado. Sin embargo, espero poder leer el segundo y los que vendrán.
