



Finnegan's Promise

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During the off-season, professional football player Calder Finnegan returns to Boston to help run his estranged father's pub. Little did he know he'd find the love of his life in the pub's bartender, Mick Sullivan.

Fin soon discovers his father has only weeks to live. All his hopes of getting to know the man who always seemed too busy to be a father are dashed. With Mick's help, Fin begins the healing process between father and son and through this some of Mick's wounds are healed as well.

When Fin makes a deathbed promise to his father, he'll do anything to keep that promise. Even if it costs him his lover and his career.

Finnegan's Promise Details

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Author : Carol Lynne

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From Reader Review Finnegan's Promise for online ebook

Debbie says

Calder Finnegan goes home to his father's pub to help while Sean goes on holiday to Ireland. But Sean is ill and he keeps that from Fin. Bar man Mick knows, but is sworn to secrecy by Sean. As Mick and Fin grow closer, Mick is torn between his growing love for Fin, and his utmost respect for Sean. When Fin finds out, he is devastated that he can't have the relationship with his father he always wanted.

Finding it hard to word what I want to say about this book, I did mostly enjoy it, but it didn't blow me away.

It is well written, from both Mick and Fin's point of view and I didn't spot any editing or spelling errors.

It was just a nice book! I'm sorry, I really am, that i can't find a better word for it. It passed a plane trip quite . . . nicely!

I think more could have been made of Fin coming out to his football teammates, because that doesn't happen here and I think it should have.

I'm not usually one for professions of love so very early on, but it felt right here. Given they knew this time together was limited, they went all in.

I've read one other book by Lynne and I said the heat level in that book was low. But here, it seems to have gone to the opposite extreme. Oh, don't get me wrong, I'm all for high heat level books, IF it fits in the story. But I think the story suffered a bit here.

So, for a nice easy read,

3 stars

****same worded review will appear elsewhere****

Karen says

This one's a re-release...

'Finnegan's Promise' was originally released in 2007 and has found a new home with Pride Publishing who are re-releasing it on July 18th and while I've read a lot of Carol Lynne books over the years I've managed to have missed this one. So when I was given the opportunity to review it...how could I resist.

I felt like this was a story with a lot of potential. Calder Finnegan is a pro-football player whose father owns Finnegan's a neighborhood pub in Calder's hometown. When Calder's father Sean ask him to come home and help out with the pub during the off-season so he can take a much needed vacation and return to Ireland to see family... Calder's torn he hasn't been home since his ma passed, but while he's not happy about it, Calder shows up thinking maybe it's time to confront his dad and put their past to rest. What Calder isn't expecting is the sexy and talented as hell bartender named Mick that he finds tending bar when he arrives unannounced

at Finnegan's Pub.

Sean vacation is cut short when gets worse and doctors advise him to return home while he still can. While Sean and Calder (or Fin as he's usually called). As Sean and Fin begin to work on healing the rift between them, Mick finds that he's also able to confront and deal with his own issues.

I have to admit I was surprised that this didn't end up being a 4 maybe even 5 star read for me, unfortunately it just didn't happen. This one just didn't give me the depth and emotion that I felt the circumstances warranted.

There were pieces missing that would have helped me to become more invested in the story line. For example the books starts with Calder showing up unexpectedly at the pub and from there it basically jumps ahead 10 days to Calder and Mick jumping each other's bones after the pub closes one night. There's very little story covering that 10 day span of time and most of what there is relates more to Calder and his da than Calder and Mick and most of the relationship development between Calder and Mick either revolves around sex. Either they're having it or the conversation occurs before, during or after sex. While I'm not prudish about sex what really makes it work for me is when I feel the connection between the MCs is based on more than sex. I need to feel something that's emotional and intellectual and doesn't necessarily have it's origins in sex and when this doesn't happen for me neither does an emotional connection with the MCs or the story in general and for me this means it's going to be an ok or a good read but not a 'melt my heart leave me in a puddle of happy goo on the floor' amazing read that can happen.

While 'Finnegan's Promise' turned out to be a good read instead of the awesome one I'd hoped I'm still a fan of this author and her stories many of which have an underlying theme that 'love is love and we should all be free to love who we want' and that's an idea that I totally support being put out into the world at every opportunity.

A copy of 'Finnegan's Promise' was graciously provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Ali says

A Scattered Thoughts and Rogue Words Review An Alisa Review:

Rating: 3 stars out of 5

This was a nice story in which I liked the concept. Both Fin and Mick have essentially been hiding for years; Fin from others finding out he was gay and Mick from his fame. They both quickly fall for each other but it's the logistics and the real world that they need to learn how to deal with.

While I liked this story I had a bit of a hard time connecting with the characters. We see both of the characters' points of views so we can see what they are thinking. There was definitely insta-love in this story, which isn't usually a problem for me but I didn't see them really building a deep relationship and future throughout the story like I thought I would.

The cover art by Posh Gosh is nice and understated.

Heather C says

Dane said it is too sad for me

Lost in a Book says

I tried...like REALLY tried. I was like The Little Engine That Could saying "I think I can. I think I can."
Until I couldn't.

Time of death: 50%

If you're a Carol Lynne fan, this review may be a moot point and you can continue on in your love affair.
This is my first Carol Lynne read and most likely will be my last. We just don't click. At. All.

I knew at 3% that it wasn't going to go my way. With zero character development or MC interaction, Fin already had a hard cock by just peering over at the bartender. I suppose it could happen. *shrug* I just like to have a little more character development, world building, ANYTHING before "**staring at Mr. Gorgeous with a stiff cock in his jeans.**" takes place. Throw me a bone here... not that one.

Once the pole in Fin's pants deflates, we are introduced to Dominic (Mick) Sullivan AKA Mr. Gorgeous and Calder (Fin)negan. Fin is a professional football player and came home for a month to take over the bar for his dying father even though he doesn't know his "da" is dying. At the bar he meets Mick. All of that sounds reasonable, right? The execution, not so much.

The dislikes and cringe worthy moments were adding up faster than my one-click book purchases on Amazon. Based on my bank account, that's at an alarming rate.

What didn't click, you ask?

Exhibit A:

"He could swear that Mick had come on to him on several occasions over the last ten days."

Then on the very next page. Wait for it...

"Mick deposited the drinks on the tray and straightened again. He glanced over his shoulder at Fin and subtly stepped back into Fin's rock-hard cock. He moved his ass from side to side, rubbing himself against Fin's erection."

This is at 11%... mind you, no conversations have happened about attraction or interest or anything. Nada. Zilch. They didn't even talk on page prior to this grind session.

Exhibit B:

After working together 10 days which is also the first night they hook up, they are making "love."

“Would you make love to me once before we go to sleep? I don’t have any lube but I’ve got hand lotion on the table beside the bed.” Also, this “making love” takes place directly after two other mutual orgasm sessions on the couch and in the shower.

Exhibit C:

Condoms schmondoms *smh* But that’s ok because **“I’ve got paperwork in the other room.”** This was probably for the best because I don’t know how condoms would work with shampoo, gel, lotion and olive oil as lube? *eye roll*

Exhibit D to Exhibit Whatever:

There was jealousy on the night of their first hook-up over a pair of pajama pants Fin borrowed which led to a hidden identity revelation.

They fell in love before two weeks and from there couldn’t live without each other.

“I was trying my best to imprint you into my mind and heart and the emotions were so true, so...beautiful...that I felt...” *gag*

Exhibit I-lost-count:

If you’re a football fan, you’ll probably understand the ridiculousness of this next gem which is in response to Fin having to go back when football season begins again and be separated from Mick by distance.

”Hell, I’ve never tried a relationship, but maybe I could talk to my agent about getting traded to the Patriots?”

I’m sure agents are all on board for looking in to a trade option to save a two week relationship? But even if they were, slow your roll, that’s not how trades work anyway. *bangs head*

Exhibit does-it-really-matter-at-this-point:

This book was full of sex. I would normally say *sign me up*, but this read like a bad porno. There was like a 4 to 1 ratio of orgasms to actual plot development. If I’m going to read a book full of sex and smut, I at least want it to be good smut. Maybe include some actual lube? *sigh*

By now, I hope you can see that this book was on life support from the very beginning. Unfortunately, I can’t recommend this at all.

Copy provided for honest review.

Barb ~rede-2-read~ says

Nice story about a football pro who comes home to help his dad out by working in his bar while he's on vacation in Ireland. He doesn't know that his dad has terminal cancer. Mick is the sexy bartender who is managing the bar while Fin's dad is away and the two fall in love rather quickly. There's lots of sex in this story. LOTS of sex.

I did enjoy the story premise and liked the way the author ended Fin's football season and gave the guys a HEA. This is one of those books that would make a good beach read.

Betryal says

I'd like to give my review on this one... but I am unable to at this time. If you're in the mood for a tear-jerker than this is definitely it. :sniffs: This is the best you'll get from me right now.

Sid over and out.

Stacey Jo says

Calder "Fin" Finnegan goes home to Boston to help manage his estranged father's pub between football seasons. When he gets there, he meets sexy bartender, Dominick "Mick" Sullivan, who turns out to be the love of his life. He also discovers that his father is very sick, with only a very short time to live and they have to come to terms with decades of past hurts in order to move on. Mick has his own hurts to deal with and he and Fin lean on each other to get through it. Fin won't give up football for certain reasons and he can't come out because it's football and Mick won't be kept a secret so they have to figure out how to deal with that, or if they can deal with that, in order to stay together.

This one very well may make you cry, or at least tear up. Fin and Mick, both very likable guys, are extremely hot together and are a very physical couple. This one is loaded with really hot sex. Overall a very sweet story. Definitely a favorite of mine.

Serena Yates says

Emotional devastation comes in many forms – but I never really considered what it would look like in the shape of a promise. Keeping promises is usually considered to be a good thing, but as this story shows, there are exceptions. Not because it is right to break a promise, but because some of them should never be made. ‘Finnegan’s Promise’ is the story of an estranged father and son reconciling just before the father dies – and what the son promised in their last moments together coming back to haunt him.

Fin is a professional football player and only comes home to help out in his estranged father’s pub while his dad takes a trip to see his family in Ireland. Fin has no idea why, and he is very angry when he finds out that his dad has been keeping the illness from him. This family is full of secrets! Fin isn’t exactly innocent – he keeps it a secret that he is gay and stays away because he thinks his father loves the pub more than him. His father has realized his mistake in neglecting Fin, but has no idea how to reconcile. Oh boy!

Mick has a few secrets of his own, but nothing comparable to Fin and Fin’s father’s issues. Mick is right in the middle of the conflict and can see both sides. And as much as he is beginning to love Fin, Mick doesn’t want to have a secret relationship. Fin and Mick fall for each other with lightning speed – and there is enough chemistry between them to keep going. But Fin doesn’t want to come out, and Mick doesn’t want to stay in the closet.

Between the complications around Fin and Mick and Fin being desperate to spend as much time with his father as possible, things get intensely emotional. Then there is Fin’s determination to keep his well-meant

promise even though it causes him so much pain... What a train wreck! It took some doing to get that sorted out, and Carol did a great job. Made me sigh with relief – at least on Fin and Mick’s behalf - eventually!

If you like love stories with complications, if you think it should never be too late to admit a mistake and apologize so you can move on, and if you’re looking for a read full of secrets, revelations, desperation, and a surprisingly happy ending, then you will probably like this novella.

NOTE: This book was provided by Pride Publishing for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Karen says

DNF

Bad case of insta love and I did not like the writing.

After having barely spoken to each other, they are having sex without condoms by page 20, then talking about their insecurities and falling in love by page 23 and there is jealousy and a hidden identity by page 28. All within the first 20 percent of the book.

At one point one of the MC's breaks down because *"I was trying my best to imprint you into my mind and the emotions were so true, so... beautiful... that I felt overwhelmed with love for you"*. They have known each other for almost two weeks.

Then there are lines during/about sex like *"gonna shoot myself in the eye"* and *"ride your little pony"* and *"..he pumped his seed between them. Hopefully it would be the only thing that ever came between them."*

Angelica says

This story didn't work for me. I'm not a fan of insta-love and these MCs meet, have sex and in a couple of days are madly in love and can't live without the other. Also, the characters were so perfect, understanding, supportive, considerate and communicative that didn't feel realistic. I just couldn't connect with them or the story.

Bubbles Huntly Honest & Direct Opinions says

i liked both of these guys but way too much sex in this book for me

Ruthie Taylor says

~~I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads ~~

This is a really good, emotional and hot romance between a closeted Football star and a barman that has a big secret.

I do warn you that you may need tissues; I certainly did! But such a lovely story, with plenty of sweetness, a

dash of drama and some nostalgia. These two men are super hot together, and as they work through their issues, get closer and closer physically and emotionally.

Thank you Ms Lynne for another fabulous read.

Les Joseph says

Much like the title, Finnegan's Promise, author Carol Lynne wrote a book with a lot of promise. A pro football player who lives in the closet and has a strained relationship with his father. A bartender with his own secrets. A dying father who only wants to make amends with his son ... this book had a lot of potential. This is a re-release of a book originally from 2007 and I didn't read that edition so I don't know if any changes have been made in regards to content and such--there is a new, much better cover though. Unfortunately, I found that Finnegan's Promise didn't quite deliver what had the potential to be a really great book.

From the beginning chapter, both Calder 'Fin' and Mick fell sort of flat as characters. There was next to no character development so there was hardly anything to go on to let me know who these two were as people. And as such, there was little emotional depth to either of them...and other than having sex almost from their first meeting, and having it constantly, I didn't believe in their connection. Insta-love is hard to pull off, and I don't think it worked here. Now for a couple of good things. I really liked the fact that Fin and his father, Sean, were able to reconcile. Yeah, it was predictable, but it still made me sniffle and packed an emotional punch. The ending, while it was definitely like one of those feel good sports movies, was still lovely.

I wish there had been more story instead of so much sex, especially since this is a short book. I wish the characters would have been fleshed out better so I would have been invested in their HEA. This might be a case of it's me not the book so for sure give this one a try and see what you think. I hope you'll like it even though it wasn't really for me.

this review will also be posted on www.diversereader.blogspot.com

Shelby says

sigh I don't know why I keep reading Carol Lynne's books, as each book get progressively more painful to get through. This one is no exception. The characters are vapid. The quality of the smut just isn't there and as for the quantity, there is just too much -- you know it's bad when you find yourself just skimming over the smut. If she wasn't so busy inserting multiple sex scenes into every chapter, she could actual spend some time on character development, plot, conflict and resolution (instead of having a conflict that lasts one paragraph and gets resolved by the power of sex).
