



A Change of Pace

J.M. Cartwright

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Andrew Cunningham is ticked off. He's taken the fall for his old boss, the mayor of Chicago, and is forced to head to Asheville, North Carolina to avoid the press. He's not in the mood to be nice. Once he meets sexy cabinet-maker Ridge Huntington, though, he unbends enough to get up close and personal.

Ridge isn't sure that Mr. Right Now is worth the aggravation. They argue, Drew curses a lot, and Ridge rolls his eyes.

Drew manages to step on a few toes as he adjusts to life in the south, and Ridge finds himself entertained in more ways than one. Can an uppity Yankee and a laid-back Southerner meet in the middle?

A Change of Pace Details

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From Reader Review A Change of Pace for online ebook

Phaney says

This author certainly does not go for blank, perfect characters.

Drew's attitude at the start was grating horribly. Such arrogance and prejudice. Meh.

I don't like jerks, I really don't. So reading about one usually is not making me very happy. This is how it went here for a long while concerning Drew.

What really saved this story for me is that Ridge acknowledges every single one of Drew's jerkish bits and forces Drew to do the same.

I am a bit confused about the epilogue. If this is taking place at least two and a half years later, how come the hinted-at Shelby and Jones situation (hello, sequel?) has not developed yet?

So, to be honest, I was a little dissatisfied for a while with this, but it picked up when Ridge managed to poke Drew into shape. I still paused several days (a week? two?) before finishing the book, but in the end it felt nice.

Tam says

I've kind of taken a liking to these "Changes" books. In this case, Drew is forced to leave his job as the assistant to the mayor of Chicago (his Dad) and takes the fall for a political scandal. He's annoyed that he has to move to Asheville (fool, I totally fell in love with Asheville and would move there in a minute), and is rather surly about the whole thing. He meets Ridge, one of the co-owners of the inn he's staying at and is instantly attracted. They can't seem to keep their hands off each other, although Drew can be a total ass when he wants to be but Ridge doesn't take it to heart and deals with it in a straight-forward manner. Drew was adopted by his parents when he was 14 and has commitment issues, however Ridge doesn't let him run. Each chapter starts with some quirky little saying by one of the guys and I quite liked it. I really liked Ridge, who was a bit younger and less experienced, but he wasn't afraid to see where it would go, despite his sister's overbearing attitude. On the whole there is not a lot of angst, besides Drew being a jerk on occasion and the attraction and sex between the men is hot and sexy. A nice read when you're in the mood for something light and enjoyable.

Simsala says

I liked the guys but with one (or two) gratuitous sex scenes and the MC's stereotype inability to talk to each other, the story lacked "pace" and the special touch of spice.

Smith Barney says

One of those..you keep reading because at the beginning something about the sexual fornication is just kind of f'ing hot..and really that's all you got.

Ami says

I think I might not be in the mood when I'm reading this because I mostly skimmed it. While I find Ridge to be likeable, Drew comes to me as a prick. Not sure about the pace of the story, as well. I do find Drew's parents to be adorable though, and I pay attention to them more than the two MCs. It's not a bad story, it just doesn't grip me much.

Mandi says

4 stars. I really enjoyed this one. I have to agree with another reviewer though, I would of loved this to be a bit longer. I felt like the ending was a bit rushed.

Tracy says

Seriously? Shelby and Seacrest? Please say that Shelby will be getting a story! (And for some reason I'm interested in Bobby, too. Surely he has some scars that need to be worked through, and is in need of some good lovin' by a good man. Or is that just wishful thinking?)

I loved the twist about *why* Drew is the Mayor's aide, and I'm glad that he's not actually covering up dirty dealings. That would just be depressing. He's been looking for something in himself that he seems to have found, although I'm not sure if it was the love or the place or a combination of the two. Whichever, I'm glad he's happy. And I'm also kind of glad that, even in the epilogue, he still kind of has issues with Ryan's friend Shelby. I've never really understood those stories where, once the protags get together for good and real, everybody just all of a sudden magically becomes best buddies, just as if personality differences never come into play in interpersonal relations.

And I really love that, although Drew is bigger and more experienced, and has more power in a fiscal/societal sense, Ryan is the one who's really in charge. He's the one who can see the emotional turmoil that they're both going through, and is wise and brave enough to confront it.

Love the fur-babies, and since Drew is adopted himself, I think it would be amazing if one day, he and Ryan were to pay that forward by adopting themselves.

Frances McNeal says

Great story!

You can read my review on Mrs. Condit Reads Books...

Karen says

Just what the stars say, it was ok. I was a bit disappointed really because it was on the allromancebooks best seller list for weeks, I really don't know why. I was an ok book nothing really that special.

Pam says

There's a lot about this well written story that I enjoyed. Let's start with Drew who threw himself under the bus of Chicago politics for his father. Knowing he wasn't corrupt put him in a good position immediately for being a 'good guy' and despite acting like an ass from time to time with Ridge that didn't change. Ridge is younger and less experienced but he quickly knows that he wants and is willing to stand up to his sister...that took strength of will and I admire that. Yes, these two have problems and the story is filled with more than its fair share of angst as they try to figure out what they want but life is always easy and relationships aren't smooth sailing so in that regard I found it pretty realistic.

I loved including the dogs. They really lightened the scenes and put a smile on my face on more than one occasion.

The quirky sayings at the beginning of each chapter was a nice touch I enjoyed.

There are a few secondary characters. Ridge's sister is fairly prominent and then there's his friend Shelby who has an admirer in a local attorney...Seacrest (great name by the way. I'd love to see a story about them in the future.

Anyway...If you like reading about two hot, sexy guys then you'll want to read this fun and entertaining story.

Chris says

Very good m/m romance about a guy who moves to North Carolina from Chicago with a chip on his shoulder about the whole thing and then meets a local carpenter he develops confusing feelings for.

Anne says

Another good Change book. An enjoyable story. The characters were well written. I even liked the very minor characters. I loved the dogs and the horse. I would love to see Bobby get a story and would really love for Shelby and Seacrest {I loved both of them} to get their own story. It would be great to see more of Ridge and Drew, too. I loved the funny sayings at the beginning of each chapter. I also loved the author's descriptions; whether of the characters, the horse, the buildings, or the surroundings, they were very well done and helped me see the story.

Normally when one character has such a problem with talking, I'd worry about the relationship, but Ridge seems quite capable of understanding Drew. Still, I would have loved for the story to have been longer and for it to show Drew making more progress with being open.

The ending was realistic and lovely. Great story with a HEA.

I don't think the series needs to be read in order. This story stands on its own.

Jenre says

DNF at page 82. I may come back to this again but as I said in my status updates, it wasn't holding my interest and I didn't like one of the characters.

Arzu says

3,5 stars

Bella Leone says

This was adorable!!! Review tomorrow on my blog!
