



## Unfinished Business

*Mia Kerick*

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After struggling through dishonesty, betrayal, and the kind of pasts they'd like to leave behind them, Brett Taylor and Cory Butana are back together and starting to build a new life. Brett has a good job. Cory has started college. But not everything goes the way they planned.

Still recovering from the emotional and physical repercussions of a brutal assault, Cory finds himself trapped by his own insecurity and fear, unable to believe that his heart is safe with Brett or that his body is safe without him. On the other hand, Brett has total faith in Cory's love and commitment, even though he still struggles with his own ghosts.

With girls flocking to Brett's side and a wannabe-lover lab partner feeding his doubts, Cory can't find a way to tell Brett about the unfinished business that haunts him. If Brett wants to save him, he'll have to see through Cory's deception in time.

## Unfinished Business Details

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Author : Mia Kerick

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## From Reader Review Unfinished Business for online ebook

### Trisha Harrington says

Unfinished Business was a beautiful sequel to Mia Kerick's Beggars and Choosers. Cory and Brett are back and there was a lot of beautiful moments in this book. I enjoyed reading this and am being bold in saying it was better than the first book. Mia Kerick has done a wonderful job with this story and I was so glad we got the sequel.

Cory and Brett had some issues in this book. I loved the way it was all dealt with though. There was no break up or cheating, when I picked this up in my heart I worried about cheating. But it was perfect. There was nothing that left me with a very bad feeling, even though I hated one of the new characters.

Brett's explanation to Corey about how he felt about him was just so romantic and sweet. I knew he had it in him somewhere and that scene was funny my favourite in this book and the fact we had some wonderful scenes in this book, nothing could take from reading that. It was just so pure and honest.

I hated Ian. Even after he redeemed himself I could not like him. I wanted to punch him in the face. He was an ass. A class A ass and that was all I could concentrate on when I was reading him in a scene. I hooted for joy when he figured out he had no chance with Corey. Yes, he had his own POV in this. I am sensing a sequel with him in it for some reason.

I loved this book. It felt me with a mushy feeling inside and the ending was perfect. The fact it ended on such a high was what allowed me to give this five starts. I am daring to say they got their HEA and I am happy about that.

### I highly recommend this book!

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### Shauna Yanke says

#### A waste of time and money

I was more than disappointed in this book...I was angry at the message that was continued from the first book. The message? It's all right to be sexually assaulted and not report it. In this day and age, when so much has been done to try and educate people about ways to protect themselves and the avenues of recourse that can be used to stop predators, we have an author who seems to think doing nothing is the best course of action to take when a sexual assault occurs. Kudos! You have just set us back decades in trying to protect the vulnerable and young.

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### Vio says

#### 3.5 stars

I was looking forward to this sequel, It started off nicely and I was hopeful, sadly as the story progressed it soured pretty quickly. I had a lot of trouble with the constant use of "my baby and my boy" it was annoying

and said so many times, I hated it. Funnily enough in Beggars and Choosers it wasn't such a big issue. Cory and Brett's relationship hasn't changed a great deal Cory is still being coddled by Brett, his protective crutch. In the beginning I didn't mind his caring over-protective nature, later it began to feel stifling and unhealthy for both of them. Cory has friends and they are a breath of fresh air, too bad they didn't bring about the balance I expected, bodyguards.

The introduction of self defence classes came in handy and I am so glad this happened it's a start in Cory's recovery. Disappointingly it didn't help him out much, not enough time was spent on any in depth training. Cory still suffers when a blast from the past arrives to cause pain and angst. I wish the author had focused more on Cory slowly making his way back from the hell he experienced. (view spoiler) I missed the Cory I came to love in the first story, he never gets the opportunity to be his own man. A real let down unfortunately.

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### **Calila says**

Bleh. This book is a giant NOPE.

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### **GayListBookReviews says**

I enjoyed these books. I say books because this is the sequel to Beggars and Choosers and you really do have to read that book first. Unfinished Business begins with the boys living their new life as a couple and too much of the story would be confusing or have much less meaning without seeing their beginning.

Brett and Cory are very sweet and loving together. They appreciate what they have and genuinely enjoy each other. They have their misunderstandings and angsty moments, but they highly value their relationship. Not that they didn't have their detractors and people trying to break them up.

These boys are hot! The sex is intense and adds to the storyline. It's fun to watch the boys explore the pleasure and fun to be found in lovemaking. Their limited experience doesn't hold them back from trying new things with each other.

How do I say this? Brett talks funny. He has his own special spelling and I never did figure out what kind of accent he has. I adjusted after a while and found that it gave each character a distinct voice. There was no confusing him with anyone else, with the narrative alternating between Brett and Cory, that became important.

These boys are survivors. They have been through so much, both together and individually. The maturing that occurs for both as they enter into this adult stage of life is very fulfilling for those who have taken the journey from their first meeting as young adults to the happiness they achieve as adults. It's not without its bumps but their love and commitment to each other is a sweet and beautiful thing to see.

For those sensitive souls I must warn you: this story deals with assault and the effects and recovery of being assaulted. It plays a part throughout the book and while there are many other themes, it is a thread that weaves through the daily lives of these sweet boys. Both young men had hard childhoods and dealt with different kinds of abuse. I felt it was told well and was an integral part of both the characters and storyline.

Reviewed by Nina

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### **Lisa ~ Books Are My Drugs ~ says**

★★½

This picks up where *Beggars* and *Choosers* left off, with Cory & Brett moving to University. Brett is managing the bar near campus while Cory attends classes & makes sure to be available to escort Cory home when classes are finished. Cory starts to make new friends & become more comfortable around other people until he begins getting threatening emails which he keeps from Brett because he believes it will keep Brett safe. This mistaken belief gets Cory put in danger again, hence the "unfinished business".

Issues I had: Brett's constant use of "boy" when referring to Cory. I find it extremely creepy since Cory is 19 & now an adult. Ian's insistence that there's no possible way Brett could be gay since he doesn't fit any of the gay stereotypes. What kind of bigoted ignorance is that? People don't fit all nicely in stereotypical boxes. Whether they are gay or het or bisexual or whatever. What a douchebag. If Brett had to be labeled, I would describe him as demisexual. Cory acting TSTL about the emails. He's already been attacked once & he refused to pursue legal actions against the man; I don't understand why he wouldn't make sure people knew he was being threatened again. He wanted Brett to spill his guts about his trauma, it should definitely be a two-way street.

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### **Pixie Mmgoodbookreviews says**

4 1/2 Hearts

Review written for MM Good Book Reviews

<http://mmgoodbookreviews.wordpress.com/>

This story is part of a series and must be read in order. Brett and Cory are starting their new life together, Cory is in college and Brett is the manager of a bar, they have their little apartment and their love for each other. But not everything is perfect, Cory lets his doubts about Brett get the better of him, with his 'not so' secret admirer feeding Cory doubts; can Brett really know what he wants when he has never been with a man before? Brett can see that Cory is hiding something, but it is much worse than he feared, can Brett help Cory protect himself before it's too late or will Cory's past catch up with him.

It isn't very often that I read a book and I fall madly in love with a character, but Brett stole my heart with his incredible love for Cory. Cory and Brett have already been through hell together in *Beggars and Choosers* and in this story they are starting their new life together, Brett is settling into his new job and Cory is starting college, they both have a security in the other and want nothing more than the other. But Cory begins to have doubts about Brett's gayness when Ian, his lab partner and wannabe-lover, tries to drive a wedge between them. Brett does his best to prove his love for Cory with his every breath, he does his best to protect him and knowing that Cory needs it, he encourages Cory to learn to protect himself.

*Mia Kerick* has written a wonderful story of true love, haunting danger and trying to protect those you love,

while adding in finding confidence in yourself and trusting those you love. Cory is a character that needs protection, but feels that he has to protect others, with Brett's encouragement he discovers a part of himself that he thought he had lost. Brett never wanted anyone but Cory and feels like he has failed when Cory has doubts about him; he also has to deal with his jealousy when Cory is pursued by another student. All the characters we meet are great with some of them standing out more than others, but they all make this story interesting.

I loved how this story was laid out, with the POV changing between Cory, Brett and at one point to Ian, there is no mistaking when the POV changes and how well we can connect with each character, in fact even without the headers the personality of each character shines through. I adored how even their new friends came together for them and I really liked that Cory's dad came through for him. Cory's fear is described beautifully and his realisation of his inner strength as he confronts his monster is wonderful, Brett's confidence in Cory is well founded.

I recommend this to those who love destroying the monsters of the past, unwavering love, wonderful lovemaking, two men who are made for each other, new friends, danger, fear, happiness and forgiveness and a very lovely happy ending.

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### **Kobie says**

Brett's narrative style is so distracting that I don't think I'll make it through this. And at 17%, I think I know where this is going and I'm opting out. DNF. Dang, I'm on a bad roll here... third book in a row that stinks.

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### **Jessica Kurvers says**

What a great follow up to Beggars and Choosers! Mia beautifully tells the next chapter in Corey and Brett's story. As the boys mature and grow so does their relationship. You could feel their fear and insucrity coming off the pages, but also the love! A deep intense love that WILL find a way. If you enjoyed Beggars and Choosers you will definitely want to read Unfinished Business

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### **M.C. says**

Mia Kerick's Unfinished Business is a good blending of romantic fairy tale and the realities of being in a relationship. The story gave the reader a good picture of how ideal love would try to stay authentic in the real world. The title is a clue to the reader about past events in a previous book, as this is the sequel to Beggars and Choosers, but Ms. Kerick offered quick background explanations for first-timers meeting Brett Taylor and Cory Butana so the newbies could get into this part of their life with just short references to their old one.

Cory and Brett were very optimistic about their future together - Brett was doing very well in his new job, and Cory was making staunch friendships in college. Their relationship was deepening, and they grew to understand each other even more. But like any relationship, there were a few snags along the way - pretty much most of the female student body couldn't take their eyes (and for some of them, their hands) off Brett, and there was a contingent of Cory admirers determinedly trying to put a wedge between them that were

putting doubts in Cory's mind. More perilous however was a trauma from the past that Cory would rather forget, and that inattention compounded the danger. Try as he might to ignore it, it threatened their idyllic setup, causing the lovers to keep secrets from each other and to misunderstand their intentions. If they didn't find a way to meet it head-on, Cory might be taken from Brett permanently.

My first impression as I read was, "this is too ideal a relationship". The author made it work however - readers like me were helped to suspend their disbelief by the emphasis on how the damaged psyches of the protagonists interacted with the 'perfect' romance. Sure, Brett and Cory were dedicated to each other in ways almost unheard of in the real world, but a lot of that dedication was fueled by the damage wrought by formerly messed-up lives, giving their relationship a flavor of co-dependency. Brett's lingering nightmares from having such a terrible childhood and Cory's intense fear of being left alone gave depth and logical explanation to the veneer of a perfect romance, and made its existence easier to swallow. But after using such damaged psyches to explain the perfect relationship, Ms. Kerick surprised me by using the same personalities forged by such messed-up lives to transcend a likely outcome like co-dependency and return the relationship to the romantic ideal I realistically scoff at but secretly hope exists for a happy couple somewhere in the world. That was a good trick - it kept me consistently engaged and reading till the end, and yet preserved the fairy tale quality that would have made me lose interest in the beginning!

For readers of gay fiction and readers fond of romance, this is a recommended read - but they would already know that, especially if they had read the first book. For readers looking for a good story and those interested in seeing how a fairy tale can be incorporated into an engaging, suspenseful, heartstring-tugging contemporary romance, Mia Kerick's *Unfinished Business* is a very good read.

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### **LiveYourLife BuyTheBook says**

#### **4.5 Stars**

This is the second book in a series that must be read in order to gain a full understanding of Brett and Cory and what they mean to each other . The story continues immediately after the events of "Beggars and Choosers", and is a wonderfully satisfying continuation of the beautiful and deeply committed relationship between Cory and Brett.

My biggest overall impression of this book was that I loved how it focused so much on the relationship. And it did so without stalling out, getting sappy, or involving over-the-top emotional drama. It is a story about two young men discovering their own separate strengths while cementing their bond.

The story is told using the alternating POVs of Brett and Cory (and occasionally some of the secondary characters). I've read plenty of books where alternating POVs are utilized and do not work at all, however that is definitely not the case here! Same goes for literal use of dialect/accent. The author in this instance utilizes alternating POVs and a strong dialect (Brett) with absolute sterling results. Each character has a distinct voice and with Brett especially, I felt as though they were sitting right in front of me telling their story. Brett's voice, and, – let's face it – Brett overall, won my heart in *Beggars and Choosers* and that feeling was definitively solidified in this sequel.

This story begins with Brett and Cory moving into a cozy studio apartment together near the campus where Cory will be attending college. They have an awesome purple comforter on their bed. Brett has secured a job managing a bar/restaurant on campus. Due to the assault on Cory the previous summer, Brett is protective of

Cory and always walks him to and from each class, to the library, and to the apartment, even scheduling time away from the bar to do so. Cory absolutely consents to this and doesn't consider it as controlling at all. In fact, it really touched my soul to hear their inner dialogues about what this level of care and concern meant to each of them.

New people that meet Cory and Brett don't necessarily see this behavior as loving, nor do they know the history behind it. Ian – an attractive, spiky haired, dressed all-in-black dude, who takes an immediate interest in getting to know Cory better – sees Brett's constant “bodyguard” routine as smothering, controlling, and possibly bullying....

Read Dianne's full review at [Live Your Life, Buy The Book](#)

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### **Tess says**

#### **3.5 stars**

I loved the first book but was a little disappointed by this. The ending was perfect but a few of the plot points had me rolling my eyes.

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### **Serena Yates says**

This is a great sequel to 'Beggars and Choosers', and just as much of an emotional roller coaster as the first part of Cory and Brett's story. Although both men have already grown a lot, overcoming their abusive pasts just to be able to be together, now that they are in a committed relationship, there is a lot more to come. Some of it are new issues - like dealing with jealousy and aggressive would-be girlfriends for Brett and hopeful boyfriends for Cory. Some of it is dealing with what happened to Cory before, since the villain was never caught. But all of it is told in Cory and Brett's unmistakable voices, and I loved that.

If you want to know what's next for Cory and Brett, if you like emotional roller coasters, and if you enjoy seeing two men grow more than they ever thought possible, then you will probably like this novel. It's a worthy successor to the first volume and left me with a happy smile on my face.

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### **Nik says**

[ The fact that Steven Percy almost raped Corey and then he starts getting emails etc and doesn't say shit??? I understand that he SAID he was doing it to protect everyone but guess the fuck what Corey your a dumbass and you should have said something t

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### **Dianne says**

4.5 stars, I Really loved this sequel.

This is the second book in a series that must be read in order to gain a full understanding of Brett and Cory and what they mean to each other . The story continues immediately after the events of Beggars and Choosers, and is a wonderfully satisfying continuation of the beautiful and deeply committed relationship between Cory and Brett.

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Please see my full review here (note that it does contain spoilers): <http://liveyourlifebuythebook.wordpress.com/2013/07/10/review-of-beggars-and-choosers/>

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