



Somewhere on Maui

Toby Neal

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Somewhere on Maui Toby Neal

Sometimes only an accidental matchmaker can make lightning strike the people who need it most.

Zoe moves to Maui to live her dream of being an independent journalist walking the beaches of paradise every day—but she never expected to be doing it with just her dog Sylvester. Divorced and heartbroken, and she ends up in therapy.

Adam's born and bred on Maui, a true “local” who surfs to stay in shape and deal with his many sources of stress: care of his mother, a busy contracting business, and a custody fight for his beloved stepkids. A workplace confrontation sends him to anger management counseling.

They happen to share a therapist who gives them the same advice: try Internet dating. And though their Crazy Blind Date match-up ignites sparks neither have felt since high school, finding love is complicated by car wrecks, heart attacks, dot.com millionaires, misunderstandings and fresh grief. Can Adam and Zoe find a way to live a deeper dream on Maui?

Somewhere on Maui Details

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Author : Toby Neal

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From Reader Review Somewhere on Maui for online ebook

Christine C says

Loved!

So apparently Toby Neal can do no wrong :) I've loved every single one of her Lei Crimes novels was thrilled to see this one in one of the kindle daily emails I receive. This is different, a romance and not a crime novel, but the depth of characters and the beautiful scenery is still present. I prefer romance novels to have characters that are "real" and dealing with realistic problems, and Adam & Zoe definitely are real. The growth, and the heart, are what really make this book special.

Anima says

I received this ARC from the author for an honest review.

After reading this wonderful story I need to read her crime novels, which are sitting on my kindle (I have all of them). This was a pleasant romance without all the angst and sexy talk that we think we need. I found it more enjoyable to read deeper into the characters lives. She's a divorced journalist doing a piece on internet dating. He's a contractor with an ex-wife and 2 step kids. They each have their own stressful lives and try to come together numerous times. It was a feel good story and seemed truly realistic. Normal people, normal circumstances and normal emotions.

Sandie says

I was offered this ebook by the author in exchange for an honest review.

I voraciously read my way through both the Lei Crime and Crime Companion series to date. When I spotted this on Toby's website, I had assumed that it was in either - but what a pleasant surprise to discover a modern romance where there is an actual storyline instead of tortured sex lives.

The two main characters (Zoe and Adam) have both been hurt in the past in relationships. They both attend a therapist without knowing that the other is a client. Zoe (a freelance journalist) decides to write an article on Internet dating - and the fun begins. The location of Maui is beautifully described, but does not overpower the actual story - the island is like a character itself.

It was easy to see where Toby's counselling background fitted into the story - her therapist delivering statements which actually rang true in dealing with a variety of situations. The author has demonstrated her competence amply with crime novels. Now that I have tasted a romantic novel from her pen (or computer) I am eager for more.

Laurie Hanan says

I am not a fan of formula romances, so I hesitated before reading this book. But I've enjoyed Toby Neal's

well written, taut, fast paced Lei Crime Series immensely, and knew I had to give her first romance a try. As always, she did not disappoint. First off, this is NOT a formula romance. It reads like literary fiction with a romantic bent. The local flavor of Maui comes through deliciously. The point of view moves back and forth between Zoe, a haole girl new to the island, and local boy Adam. The characters come across as so real, I'd almost swear I know them personally. I was completely drawn into the story, hoping something good would finally happen for both Zoe and Adam. The ending was satisfying. A thoroughly entertaining read that anyone should enjoy.

Cathy says

Somewhere on Maui, I received this book free in return for my review.

I don't normally read romance books and did not realize that this was a romance book. I loved it anyway. What a beautiful setting she describes, Hawaii wow and to be so fortunate to live there that is a dream for sure. I will never get to even visit let alone live there but I did love the book. I liked Zoe and Adam and was hooked from the beginning. I started the book last night and finished it this evening. Zoe moved to Hawaii after a divorce and being a writer is able to support herself there. She does an article on internet dating for a well-known magazine. At first she creates a fake profile and goes on a few dates, and later makes it honest and tells in her profile that she is doing it for an article. Her best friend since kindergarten recommends a therapist to help her get over the issues she has left over from the divorce. Adam grew up in Hawaii and is in construction. He has to go to anger management due to an issue with someone on his job. His therapist suggested internet dating. So of course that is how the main characters meet. I recommend this book, it was a fun read.

Linda says

Somewhere on Maui is Toby Neal's first attempt at writing a romance novel and my first attempt at reading one. I have to admit this genre is not for me, but Toby makes it so fun I couldn't put it down. The main character is a damaged divorcee new to the Islands. As in the Lei Crime series, her heroine has to choose between two "hunkie" guys who are clamoring for her attentions. One is carrying more baggage than a 747 and the other is a sweet playboy offering her all the toys. A therapist in real life, Toby provides insights into the human personality we can all benefit from in the telling. The internet conversations employed in the story sometimes reminded me of a Dear Abby column and that bogged things down for me. Toby's descriptive powers are engaging and her plot points surprising. It is always enchanting to be in the Islands with Toby (where she resides) whether it be in her mystery series, or a soul-searching romance novel

(wWai-Nani: High Chiefess of Hawai'i - Her Epic Journeyhere she resides),

Julie says

I haven't read a romance novel in years but since I really enjoy the Lei Crime Series novels and Crime Companion novels I thought I'd give it a read. I discovered my inner romantic isn't dead after all ... just slumbering.

This book held a nostalgia factor for me. It took me back to that 13 year old child reading her first Harlequin romance novel. Considering that was 35+ years ago I'd consider that in and of itself quite an accomplishment. It also awakened the nostalgia for Paia and Maui and the fond memories I have of my vacation there. It is truly fun to read about a place you've explored and be reminded of the magic of Maui.

I look forward to *Somewhere on Kaua'i* and future Accidental Matchmaker novels.

Celia Kennedy says

Somewhere on Maui is full of rich substance and tenderness. Author Toby Neal brings her knowledge of Hawaii and its culture to this sweet romance. Our two main characters are emotionally open and believable, which makes their encounters with each other alluring.

Both Zoe and Adam are patients of Dr. Suzuki, a therapist on a small island. Zoe is recovering from her divorce and Adam is dealing with anger issues. Ms. Neal writes these two characters who, though scarred, are not tragically wounded. If there is a scale for the pain of divorce, 1 being unaffected, 10 being irrevocably wounded, Zoe's character reads as a three - mostly recovered. Adam's story is more deeply explored and his pain is more palpable, which I liked.

Through a series of emails, conversations, and chance encounters Adam and Zoe become friends. I hate spoilers, so I will just say there is one scene that is absolutely charming and it was this passage that bumped this book from a three to a four for me.

I think this is a great read for anyone who wants a light romance, not Chicklit - more Women's Contemporary Romance.

Donald Williams says

A Romance Novel?

Full disclosure: I'm a guy with very eclectic reading tastes, ranging from historical novels set anywhere from the 12th to the 17th century, to mystery, fantasy, and crime thrillers, to non-fiction, especially science and math. Also, I like to read more than one book at a time, typically more like 5 or 6.

In light of that, it's noteworthy that when I picked up the first of Toby Neal's Lei crime series novels a little over a year ago, I didn't put it down until I had read the whole thing. I've read the entire series since then, and have thoroughly enjoyed the way Ms. Neal makes her characters come to life. They come across as real people, people I'd like to get to know. With most of her books, I've been able to slow down more or less to my usual reading pace, giving myself a chance to savor the characters and the story lines.

However, when I picked up *Somewhere on Maui*, that went out the window again, and I devoured it in two sittings, interrupted only by the need to get some sleep. Once again, as in her other novels, the characters spring off the page as real people: both Zoe and Adam are immediately likeable, as is the therapist, Dr. Suzuki, who plays a prominent enough role early in the book that I wasn't sure whether or not she was going to be the main character. While it lacks the element of drama common to the crime series novels, it packs

plenty of suspense, as we learn of the various relationships of the main characters to others in their lives, and their developing relationship to each other.

Told in the same scene-switching style as in her other books, Somewhere on Maui kept me totally engaged from start to finish. To me, it was a book about two fascinating people and the way their lives came to be intertwined. With the usual references to the landscape of the Hawaiian Islands, which serve to add richness to the stories, I found it to be most entertaining reading. I have to admit that I don't have any experience in reading "Romance" novels; seeing the illustrations and the one or two phrase plot summaries on the front covers, I've always passed them by. It wasn't until I started reading the reviews that I realized other readers were placing it in that genre. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it to anyone, man or woman, who likes reading an enjoyable and well-written tale about two delightful people they'd probably like to meet and get to know.

Jeanette says

Wow! Toby Neal has done it again...she's gone and read my mind. :) This was an awesome, well put-together storyline. If you've read any of her other books, you must also read this one and if you haven't read any of her other books, you must read this one!! I have an Adam in my life (sort of) and this opened my eyes to why he has done some of the things I've wondered about. Anxiously awaiting Somewhere on Kauai. Keep up the good work, this certainly shows your versatility!!

Shirley says

Toby Neal shows her diversity as a writer with "Somewhere on Maui," a romantic novel. Set on the island of Maui, Toby weaves the natural beauty of the island into this story. As a resident herself, she clearly paints a picture of the islands natural beauty and leaves the reader with a sense of life on the island.

In the first chapter, we meet the two main characters, Zoe and Adam. Neither knows each other but they have one thing in common, their therapist, Dr. Suzuki. As a psychologist herself, Neal is able to use the role of Dr. Suzuki as a way to include her personal knowledge and experiences into the novel.

Without any spoilers, this is a lovely story intertwined with beautiful descriptions of the island of Maui. Toby provides enough background and information about each of the characters so the reader can identify with them and their dreams. "Somewhere on Maui" reminds me of a Danielle Steel novel without the major tragedy. It's the type of novel that one doesn't want to see end as the characters feel like friends!

Suzanne DeVlieger says

Somewhere on Maui - Entertaining read

Absolutely love every Toby Neal I have read and this one came through. Zoe and Adam fit together beautifully, I liked that he was so open to therapy, not hiding behind a fear of opening up to possible

solutions for his anger and Zoe also realized therapy was necessary for her to start a new life. Great characters, close family ties for Adam, good support from best friend for Zoe, blending of families. Super read, as always, looking forward to next book.

Bette Crosby says

Good love story with lots of Maui magic.

Toby Neal says

My first attempt at genre-hopping! I couldn't help myself, I'm a hopeless romantic.

Nancy says

Another great read from Toby Neal

I know I should get tired of reading books set in Hawaii but it seems I never do and Toby Neal does it with style. Not only does she make you feel like you are sitting on a beach in Hawaii while reading but she gets all the little details just right. This time it was Maui with the wonderful beaches rich heady flower scents but by the time I finished the book I was needing it to be Lychee season. Toby writes real people into her books . Her characters feel like your long lost family or the family you wish you had. I hope you enjoy this wonderful romance as much as I did. Thanks Toby Neal now get back to work I am out of your books to read.
