

His Lucky Charm
By Chelle Cordero

What happens in Vegas doesn't always stay in Vegas... this time it follows Brandon and Caitlyn across the country and into a world of espionage and danger. The one thing that Brandon knows for sure is that he can't afford to lose his lucky charm, Caitlyn.

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Book Club Discussion Starters

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- Caitlyn seems to have an unwavering faith in Brandon even though he has no idea who she is and yet Brandon loses his trust in her as soon as Amanda speaks to him. Do you think Brandon might be pretending at any point? Do you think that Caitlyn was loyal or foolish? How do you think you would have reacted if you were Caitlyn? with Brandon? with the police?
- The police had "proof" of Caitlyn's identity. How often do you feel charges involving false identity cause the wrong person to go to jail? Do you think it was Amanda who provided erroneous information about Caitlyn's identity to the police? What penalty(ies) should be imposed on someone who provides false information to cause a person's arrest?
- Brandon learned of Amanda's duplicity and felt betrayed. Caitlyn learned of Brandon's duplicity and felt betrayed. What was the difference? Do you feel that Brandon was justified in pretending to be someone else? Do you think you could lie to someone you cared about if it meant protecting them?
- How did September 11, 2001 affect you? What do you think patriotism means? How easy would it be to get caught up in a subversive cause without realizing it? Can you think of skills and talents that can be used to help protect our country such as Brandon's computer programming knowledge?
- Brandon and Caitlyn learn about each other's backgrounds. Do you think you could love someone that you really knew very little about? Does it make it easier to confide in someone just because you care about them? Brandon is carrying a lot of emotional wounds from his childhood; do you think traumatic events growing up can really affect you as an adult?
- Brandon finds that his commitment to national security puts the people around him in danger; he finds that he has to rely on his own resources because the government won't "cut any bargains" with terrorists. Do you think that you would act on your own as Brandon did or would you play strictly by the rules?
- Caitlyn and Brandon find that life can change pretty quickly and they learn to focus on other things around them. Have you ever had your plans changed drastically because of things you couldn't control and then find the alternate road was much more appealing?
- Brandon's father tried to control Brandon's life - how much right does a parent have to control their child's life and make decisions for them? Caitlyn is worried about leaving Tom alone and finds that he is living his own life without her interference; how easy is it to let loved ones find their own way?
- Caitlyn's complaint about Brandon has been that he didn't know how to be "family" - do you think he finally "gets it" when he buys the property from Caitlyn's destroyed house and builds a tribute to her parents? How has Brandon grown emotionally through this story?
- Brandon refuses to cooperate with the government agents when they approach him on their wedding day. Do you think the government has the right to interfere in someone's life no matter what repercussions there may be?



Photo by Mark Engelman

Chelle has come a long way since first joining the Vanilla Heart Publishing queue of authors nearly two years ago with her first novel, *Bartlett's Rule*. Now with eight novels on the market, she has solidified her standing as a Romantic Suspense author (7 romantic suspense & 1 mystery.) She also has short stories in the VHP anthology *With Arms Wide Open*, Mandimam's Press anthology *Forever Friends*, the VHP anthology *Nature's Gifts*, VHP anthology *Passionate Hearts* and Mandimam Press anthology *Forever Travels*. She is currently working on her next murder mystery.

Bartlett's Rule was named one of Carolyn Howard-Johnson's Top Ten Reads for 2009; *Final Sin* was a 2009 Pushcart Nominee; and *Hostage Heart*, *Final Sin* and *A Chance of Riches* were nominated in the 2009 Predators' and Readers' poll and had top-ten finishes. Chelle Cordero was recently featured as one of the authors in "50 Great Writers You Should Be Reading" published by The Author's Show in 2010.

Chelle Cordero belongs to the VHP Authors Group and the Arts Alliance of Haverstraw Rockland Author's Series. Along with fellow VHP authors Charmaine Gordon and Janet Lane Walters, Chelle is part of TLC: Three Local Characters With Stories To Tell, an author book discussion and workshop seminar program. She maintains an author's blog at <http://chellecordero.blogspot.com/>, a promotional blog at <http://cce613.xanga.com/>, blogs frequently at Lindsay's Romantics <http://bit.ly/3rGJ7l>, and offers a weekly writing workshop for Kindle Blog subscribers at <http://bit.ly/pILcG>.

Chelle lives in the suburbs of Rockland County, NY with her husband, Mark, of 35-years and family. They have two adult offspring, Jenni (& Jason) and Marc (& Trish); they also have three mischievous and spoiled pussycats, one of whom has taken up permanent residence on Chelle's desk. Chelle is a full-time freelance journalist for multiple publications, her articles appear regularly throughout North America, and she writes a monthly column on NYS Emergency Medical Services issues (she is also a volunteer EMT and the current President of her local ambulance corps).

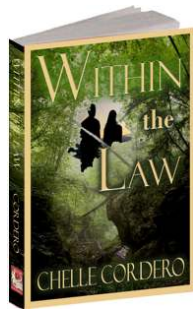
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More Books by Chelle Cordero



Bartlett's Rule *Bartlett's Rule* shares the story of Lon and Paige's love affair; a romance filled with hardship, emotion, danger and triumph. Falling in love was never the challenge; being there for each other, knowing just what to say and making it work is the real test. Paige and Lon are real; they are human, they cry and they laugh. Paige has to learn to trust. Lon has to learn to be patient.

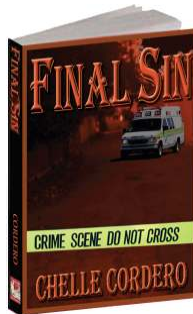


Within the Law Tom gave up on ever falling in love again the day that he buried his high school sweetheart and fiancé. He started a career in law enforcement just so that he could find her murderer and rapist. Just when he is about to see justice done, he meets Alli Davis-the defense attorney for the murdering rapist who took his love from him.

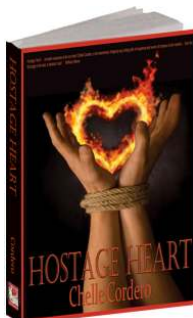
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Courage of the Heart *Courage of The Heart* shows us that sometimes love is the only cure for the very deepest of emotional wounds. The story of the two lovers takes a series of unexpected and fast paced turns where lives, sanity and love are put in jeopardy. Their commitment to one another results in a spirit that binds them together and helps them to overcome physical and emotional dangers.

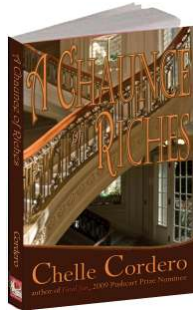


Final Sin Deputy Sherriff Commander Jake Carson has his hands full... investigation of a brutal multiple homicide, a troubled son and a vindictive ex-wife. He meets young, free-spirited paramedic Julie Jennings. When Julie becomes the subject of an obsession, it puts both of them in danger...

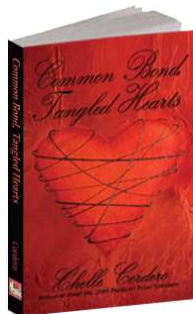


Hostage Heart Life was hard after the hurricanes swept through, destroying her parents' home and livelihood... An errand for her boss - a chance encounter with a crew of bank robbers - a kind man who tried to help her ... a man who isn't all he seems...no, he is so much more.

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A Chance of Riches The day that Ben Johnson was hired as a bodyguard for some rich widow and her kid, he never expected to be working for the woman who had abandoned him just when he had needed her the most so many years before. Damn it all, he still wanted her. Samantha Chaunce never thought she would see him again. She never thought she would have to explain why she married the rich man over the man she had sworn she once loved. And she certainly never expected to find out that her rich husband had been murdered and fingers were pointing to her former lover.



Common Bond, Tangled Hearts Layne Gillette's world is turned upside down when a man she has never met shows up to lay claim as the father of her 6-year old son. Justin, the victim of a fraternity prank, and Layne, the subject of a forced insemination, have produced a beautiful child that they are both willing to protect at all costs. The two parents realize they can love each other, but when Layne's abusive "ex-husband" shows up, they are torn apart by danger, kidnapping and lies. Justin won't give up until Layne is returned to him. Layne uses her newfound strength, courage and knowledge to defy Charlie's ugliest demands.

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