



Foundation of Love

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Years ago, Wes Stanhope fled his hometown of Charleston to escape the constraints of society and his controlling father, Colonel Robert Lee Stanhope IV. After completing medical school and building a successful practice in pediatric oncology in Seattle, Wes is called home for his mother's funeral and presented with an opportunity to build and run a children's hospital—his mother's legacy—a choice he ultimately makes despite his misgivings about his father's role as chairman of the hospital's board of directors.

When Wes begins to build his team, he is introduced to a young, handsome black architect named Tyler Williams. Sparks begin to fly between the two men, and although Wes doesn't identify as gay, denying his attraction to Ty becomes impossible. But Ty won't be a dirty secret: if Wes wants to build a relationship, he'll have to come out, brave his father's racism and homophobia, and risk his chance to continue as the hospital's CEO and realize his mother's dream.

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From Reader Review Foundation of Love for online ebook

Eva says

3.5 stars

I liked the story overall but some of the characters were a bit iffy.

Wes is offered a great opportunity to set up and run a children's hospital center, but in order to do that he'd have to quit his current job and move back home. Despite his strained relationship with his father he chooses to do so, mainly since apparently the whole thing was his mother's idea and he wants to honor her memory.

A friend of his recommends he talk to Ty and consider him for the architect in the project. And so the two MC meet and Ty, who's gay and out is drawn to Wes, but of course says nothing since Wes is, well I don't know what Wes is. Apparently he's straight, but by his own admission while he's gone out and slept with his fair share of women he's never had anything resembling a relationship with any of them. We also find out there was that one time in college with his roommate, but he ran away before anything more than a kiss happened. And he buried that memory extra deep.

Anyway Wes develops feelings for Ty, some things happen and there's a HEA.

I did like the fact that considering Wes's history the relationship with Ty was slow burning even though they did get together in a relatively short time frame.

Also, I liked the fact that Ty's plans for the hospital were given some space. It wasn't just in the background but we were painted a picture of how the hospital and the grounds should look and be organized. Seeing as the whole building the hospital and running it was what prompted the story and Wes and Ty meeting in the first place it seemed fitting that this should be mentioned later on.

I didn't much care for Ty pressuring Wes into coming out, nor for Wes denying their relationship the first chance he got. But we were shown where both were coming from so it wasn't a deal breaker.

Alicia was to me a strange character and I'm still not sure what purpose she served in the book. Nor do I get where her fixation with Wes came from, or how come she then calmed down fast enough, that she was willing to stand up for Wes at the board meeting.

JD Crittendon says

A Good Yarn!

An interesting, sweet and romantic love story between Wes & Tyler. I liked the premise, the MCs, co-characters and rich description of Charleston, SC.

Jacq says

Scotty is gifted with words that is all there is to it!

Scotty Cade is after all my shinning star, as he has gifted me with so many of his 5 Star books!

Scotty uses words like Ty's latte-colored skin or warm mahogany skin. Let me explain why this is sooooo important.

I went to a formal Army thing this week. The Colonel gets up to speak, (yes much like the Colonel you will come to know in this wonderful story) Any way the one at the celebration states, "we have come to accept blacks in todays Army, So we can handle what ever change brings." Ok , I know he was talking about dont ask dont tell. I know what he wanted to say but the word he chose just, man oh man...

I put my salad fork down and thought jeez really!

When I read I like to move forward in time and propel with a positive force. Scotty reminds me that this can be done, he has such a great insight into life. I love him for that!

I Also Loved his Fabulous HEA, this book has that.

Ps. Ty is for Tyler yes Tyler not Tyrone for those out there ready to bounce.

Believe me when I say Scotty, is full of class in ALL of his works, that I have read.

Penny says

I very rarely give out one stars. I just didn't connect to the characters. The storyline felt very contrived. It was slow, drawn out, and ultimately unfulfilling. I so wanted to like it, but in the end it's just not for me. 1.5 stars.

Meggie says

This writing style was so cold and impersonal I was glad this story ended at last. I couldn't connect to "In love" feeling at all. The story at self was plotted in an emotionless way. And God, I simply won't start about Alicia. I'm sure this is not an author for my taste.

Portia says

It probably seems like I sneak my little pet peeves into my reviews...*smile* cuz, I do. One of my pet peeves are interracial romances, gay or straight, that show little or no respect for the cultural differences of the characters or resort to using cultural clichés. Newsflash: Not all black folk are on welfare and not all white folk are bigots. Neither do I believe that the average person chooses a lover only based on their race.

Foundation of Love doesn't fall into either of those literary traps and I loved it. For the most part, race is not even an issue, and in this day and age, I find that much more believable than the alternative.

Rant over...back to the review. Wes spends most of this book torn. He wants to honor his late mother's legacy, but really doesn't want to deal with the issues he has with his father. (A man who, by the way, I think Cade crafted very well. He's not all bad, but he's stuck in the time warp. Allowing the norms of his own history to interfere with the relationship he desperately wants to foster with his adult son.) I loved how Wes looked on his friends, mentor and lover for guidance and support. Any yes, a few of the guys from the other Love series books to make guest appearances in Foundation of Love. The affection and respect among the men is evident on every level.

The romance between Wes and Ty is very sweet. Neither man was looking for anything long-term, but neither are they running from the possibilities. I felt like I was watching a romance unfold between grown-ass men. And by that I mean, they were past the age where they felt the need to play head games. They brought a level of maturity that is refreshing to see in a genre that too often churns out angst filled stories that seem contrived in their plot structure. Secondary rant: Every character does not have to be emotionally crippled. Some people actually like the idea of being in a stable monogamous relationship. End of secondary rant.

I would recommend Foundation of Love to anyone who is interested in an interracial romance that doesn't dwell on race; main characters that actually communicate, rather than rely on guess-work and a happy ever after that involves letting go and moving on. Highly recommended.

Secretly Reading says

Originally reviewed for The Book Vixen

In a Nutshell: Enjoyable MM romance with good leads and a nice plot.

Why I Read this Book: I've enjoyed this series greatly and will continue it.

What I Liked: The best thing about Cade's books, and it holds true here, is that the men are honest with each other. Wes and Ty don't have any big misunderstandings or feelings they refuse to share. Instead, the romantic tension comes from how these two men will make a relationship work with all these obstacles in their way. I enjoyed this romance as Wes and Ty communicate in and out of bed with a maturity and openness that isn't the norm in romance.

I have to also say how much I enjoyed the low-key interracial component to the romance. That Wes and Ty are a biracial couple is mentioned but it isn't a huge hang up nor was it a sticking point for either man and I liked this, especially since the primary setting was deep South.

What I Also Liked: The secondary characters are good here with Brad and Mac, leads from stellar book one in the series, returning for a bit. I love the glimpses into their life and relationship together and they continue to be my favorite series couple. I also was pleasantly surprised with Alicia, Wes's childhood friend who is in love with him. I was worried that she'd be the classic stereotype in MM romance but she was more nuanced than that and her characterization elevated the quality of the book for me.

The plot involving the hospital being built is interesting and provides the backbone for Ty and Wes's relationship. Wes's relationship with his controlling father is tied into the hospital construction and it was important for that reason too. The epilogue was super sweet and wrapped up this very good novel well.

What I Didn't Like: Again, this is romance so I shouldn't nitpick, but all the men in this series are super rich, super successful and this is true for Wes and Ty as well. They buy each other expensive art and Cartier cufflinks and drink chilled Dom Perignon out of cut crystal. The feminist in me harrumphs that a relationship with two men will always have more earning power than a relationship with a woman who statistically makes less than her male counterpart. Still, this glitzy lifestyle isn't enough to ruin the book, just something that bugs me a bit. This hater's gonna hate, I guess!

IMO: Other than book one in the series, this is my next favorite. I loved Wes's exploration of his sexuality and Ty's compassion but refusal to settle. I enjoyed this book and recommend it and the entire series to MM readers.

T.A. Webb says

"Make a choice to live an authentic life."

Wes Stanhope left Charleston, his family and friends years before to escape his father's control. The Colonel insisted Wes attend The Citadel and join the family business. Instead, Wes went to medical school, became a pediatric oncologist and settled down in the Pacific Northwest to practice. His practice and the demanding life of a doctor makes relationships difficult, and he never really connects with the women he dates. No big loss, right? Then his mother dies, and he is forced to return to Charleston for the funeral. And to a new opportunity.

It seems his father wants to leave a legacy for his mother's memory - a children's hospital to be funded with family money. To be designed, built and overseen by Wes. While the idea excites him, he is unsure he wants to be back home again, and under the eye of The Colonel. But the more he considers it, the better it sounds, and as he explores it, he discovers he wants to honor his mother. So he accepts the job and calls in his old friend and colleague Brad, who now lives in Alaska with his partner Mac, to ask advise and to consult. Brad introduces him to Tyler Williams, up and coming architect, who agrees to consult on the project also. So the four head to Charleston to check out the site.

"I deserve the same opportunity for happiness as anyone else."

During the week the four stay in Charleston, Wes reconnects with friends and family, particularly old friend Alicia and her father, The Colonel's best friend. Alicia has always had a crush on Wes, and welcomes the opportunity to see if it is reciprocated. But Wes finds himself oddly attracted to the openly gay Ty. So attracted that he imagines the two of them together. And when he discovers the attraction is mutual, he decides to see if Ty will date him. But Ty won't be an experiment, or go back in the closet. For anyone. As they explore their feelings, will Wes be able to find the strength to come out? Or will he let this opportunity for happiness pass him by?

"How could I have spent half my life without this, without you? How could I have not known?"

This is a gently written, solid and meaningful exploration of how one man can discover an attraction to another man later in life. Wes was so clearly drawn - all of his strengths and flaws so slowly and lovingly uncovered, his awakening attraction so very sweet and realistic. And Ty struck just the right notes. Solid, strong yet sure of himself without arrogance. The two of them make a very good pair, and I appreciated the bond that was allowed to grow between the two of them before they became physical. A very nice foundation of support, attraction and friendship.

The supporting characters in this fourth chapter of Scotty Cade's "Love" were well written - seeing Mac and Brad from "Wings of Love" is always nice, and Mac's support as a man who was married before his relationship with Brad happened was a great touch. Alicia was a difficult character to portray sympathetically, I am sure. She could have easily been a shrill caricature, but her forgiveness and care came through. The Charleston characters were so very true to the city. A native Southerner and frequent traveler to

the city, I can personally attest to the "Old South" feel and ways.

This is a fine, fine addition to Mr. Cade's collection, and I can see the touches Z.B. Marshall brought with her. Good collaboration and good job.

Tom

Sarah says

?preachy

Kind of preachy. Otherwise, good story. Needed an editor to check spelling and use... Then and than seemed to be interchangeable along with other items an editor should have caught.

Sandra says

Foundation of Love is the story of Wes Stanhope, born and bred in Charleston, SC, son of a powerful white, rich family of military men. After running from his family legacy and going to Medical School in faraway Chicago, he has settled into a life as a rather brilliant pediatric oncologist.

The book opens with the funeral of Wes' mother. Having returned to Charleston to attend her service, we find him sitting in his father's office. His father, the Colonel, offers him an opportunity to open a children's hospital in Charleston and to run the hospital as its CEO. Wes thinks about this and then agrees, mostly to honor his mother's memory.

During the initial planning stages, Wes is introduced to Ty, an African-American, who is going to be the architect. Oh, and Ty is gay and out. Wes is...confused. That's probably the best way to describe his sexuality. He had an encounter in college with another boy from which he ran, and none of the many women in his life have ever really interested him. He's never felt a connection to anyone. *cue head scratch*

The scene being Charleston, SC, one expects and receives the typical homophobia and hoity-toity atmosphere. Assumptions are made and after a huge OOPS-what-just-happened plus some cruel and utterly mean shenanigans by the Colonel (father of the year, he's not), Wes is out and they get the HEA.

The whole characterization, from Wes to the Colonel to Alicia (his childhood friend whom he was apparently expected to marry) to Ty all falls rather flat and one-dimensional. The Colonel is a stereo-typical southern man, the requisite gay friends are either flamboyant or gay-for-you, and Wes, at THIRTY-SEVEN, has no clue that he's gay.

I couldn't decide if this was a story about a man repressing his true sexuality or a man utterly void of emotion. Considering the speed with which Wes falls for Ty, I'm going with the former.

I didn't much like Ty for giving Wes pressure to come out, nor did I care for Alicia and her delusional idea that Wes was going to marry her, though I must applaud her for the rapid 180 that let her stand up for him at the board meeting.

Brad and Mac - their purpose was apparently to show Wes that a straight man can fall in love with a gay man and live happily ever after, and perhaps to give advice on what to do with his sudden feelings for Ty.

There's the stereo-typical southern busybodies who are the Charleston version of a telegraph, the African-American family servants (!!) and the family friend/Uncle who's suddenly very sick.

And of course, the very strained (for what reason, I do not know) relationship between father and son.

Yeah - this one didn't do it for me. The only saving grace was the writing. It's actually quite descriptive and flows well and none of them men ever sound like woman. Or vice versa. That is what saved this book from being 2 stars.

Scotty Cade can write. Just plot and characterizations need a little bit of work to make them more realistic and less of a cliched stereotype.

I received an ARC from the publisher via NetGalley.

Mel says

I have read every book in the series and this one was by far the worse. I did not connect with the two main characters. I enjoyed the supporting cast of characters just barely a little bit more than the mc's. The main character was cold and his love interest even colder. The relationship was not developed properly. It seemed a bit forced and the ending a bit rushed. The so called adversity that the mc's had to overcome was namely of the doctor's own making and then poorly summed up with a rather anticlimatic ending. Let's put it this way if the storyline ending was actual sex well then the one or both of the mc's would have walked away very disappointed. I know I did. The love scene was so bad I had to stop and walk away from it. I am so disappointed.... I have given this author several chances after his initial foray into this series of "love" (which I loved). But after Treasure of Love, and Zander's story which was so bad I have forgotten the title, and now this latest miss I would be remiss to buy anything else from this author who to me started out so promising.

Nikko says

I love this one too!! It started quite slow but after that it gets better and i loved it!!

Faye Kennedy says

4.5 stars.? This was a beautiful gay-for-me story. Written well and includes some beautiful scenes with Weston and Tyler. Brad and Mac from previous books are included in this one as well as some new characters, I especially loved Riley.. Wes and Ty are great in together as Wes sorts out his feelings for Ty. I absolutely loved the ending, it was gorgeous.

Dr Weston 37 yrs was in his home town attending his mother funeral. He was a pediatric oncology doctor. His mothers dream was to build a children's hospital in there town and Wes was asked to build it. Wes was

straight and had never meet the right lady.

Tyler was a friend of Brad's and was the best architect around.

Tyler and Wes met got along really well discussing the hospital project. Ty was out and proud and had made a vow never to go back in the closet.

Angela says

I just didn't feel this one which is a shame cause I really liked the others in this series. I thought this story started so slow, I mean I understand the authors were just trying to establish the way Wes lived his life, but it was kinda boring. Even though we met Ty fairly early in the story and he's the main love interest, he doesn't really play that big a part in the story. Only one chapter is in his POV and it was about the scenery. The majority of the story is about Alicia, who is in love with Wes and is very annoying. The story seemed rushed on the romance and fell flat. I did like seeing Brad and Mac (Wings of Love) again.

Jordan says

This one was also really good! I liked Wes and Ty and I appreciated that the conflict in this book was minor and more centered around the two MC's instead of focusing so much on the adventure in the story. This book also had a strong backstory, but it didn't leave me feeling emotionally raw like Bounty of Love did.

I liked the spirit of these characters. Wes, in particular. He was confused and not quite sure of himself, still floating around in the world, trying to figure out who he is as a person now that his mother is gone (which is a shocking and difficult thing for anyone to work through), and even though he's attracted to Ty and he knows deep down that he could have something great with him, he's scared. But instead of letting that fear control him, he overcomes it. He pushes it down and learns to stand up for himself and be his own biggest fan.

I love books where characters are learning to find themselves and somehow find love along the way. This was one of those books. Even though I think this book was written the best, I still liked Bounty of Love more because of the strong backstory.
