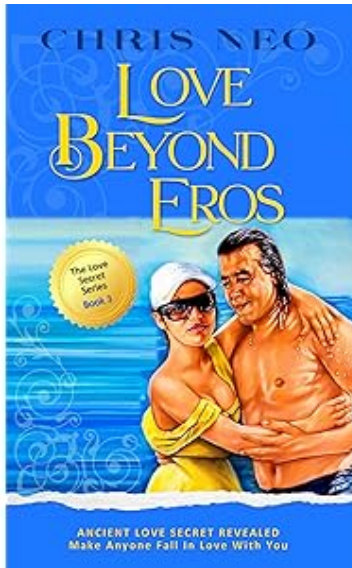




Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



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These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Love Beyond Eros
Subtitle: The Love Secret Book 3
Author: Chris Neo
Genre: Christian - Romance - Contemporary



Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

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Review:

Reviewed by Jamie Michele for Readers' Favorite

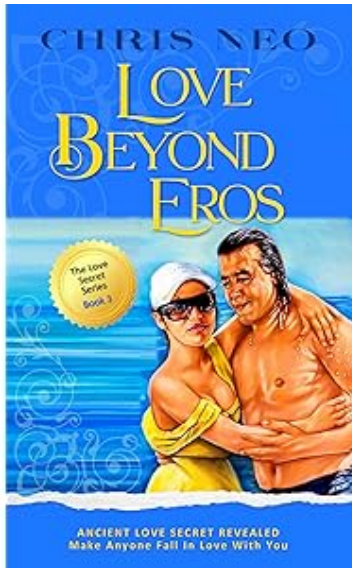
In Chris Neo's *Beyond Eros*, Aris, a business owner with a strained marriage to Gina, leaves his home to pursue a rumored "love secret," believed to influence human emotion. This decision pulls him into a search with no clear boundary. Accompanied by John and Uri, he follows a trail tied to earlier generations, where knowledge is scattered across distant regions, and every step demands direct contact to confirm what little remains. As he moves from one lead to the next, his actions begin to draw attention, and Varo Chase, a powerful executive, locks onto his movements, watching closely while working to bring him under her control. Encounters with criminal groups and military forces close in around Aris and his companions, placing them in immediate danger and forcing him to rely on instinct to keep moving. With pressure rising from both pursuit and personal obligation, Aris is driven toward a final decision that will determine how far he is willing to go to complete what he started.

Beyond Eros examines what happens when people say they value commitment yet keep stepping into situations that test it. In the marriage between Aris and Gina, behavior, not promises, drives the outcome. Gina doesn't sit on the sidelines; she pushes scenes in a direction that forces reactions, whether she is using Aris's allergy to create distance during an argument or confronting him in front of their sons and shifting the balance inside the home. Aris is put in positions where he has access to other relationships, and shows who he is by what he does when those doors open. He turns Varo away even when she presses him directly, and he ends things with Melany when she asks for more than he is willing to give. The settings keep everyone on display, from a house where conflict becomes public to formal gatherings where status shapes every interaction. If you're interested in how a marriage holds up when every decision is tested in real time, this book gives you that front-row seat.



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Reviewed by Romuald Dzemo for Readers' Favorite

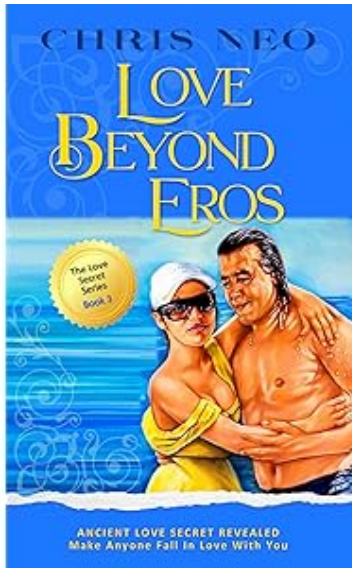
Chris Neo's *Love Beyond Eros* is the third book in the enthralling *Love Secret* series. The story continues with Aris, an American traveler in a remote Greek village, as he falls deeply in love with Angelica, a local woman who carries his child. The beautiful thing they have going is threatened when Aris is bitten by a "Dracula" snake, which turns out to be an assassination attempt. While he is in a coma, Angelica's grandmother, Granny, fights to keep him alive. Two unlikely saviors turn up: the wealthy, powerful, and manipulative Varo, who orders an antivenom to be delivered by fighter jets, and a dying Russian general, Dimitri, who makes what appears to be his last flight to meet his lost love, Granny. Can Aris be cured, and who, indeed, tried to kill him?

Having read the first two books in the series, I was expecting a lot in this third installment. *Love Beyond Eros* didn't disappoint me, and Chris Neo reintroduces characters I met in the second book. I particularly loved the fact that Angelica and Aris came back together after their adventures in the previous book. The developmental arc is superb, and what struck me most was the transformation in characters like Varo. I was glad to see his obsession soften and a genuine friendship start with Aris. The novel has a lot of adventure to keep any reader turning the pages. The drama never slackens, and it is bolstered by the well-crafted dialogues and the author's unique ability to capture details of the emotions of the characters.



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Reviewed by Ruffina Oserio for Readers' Favorite

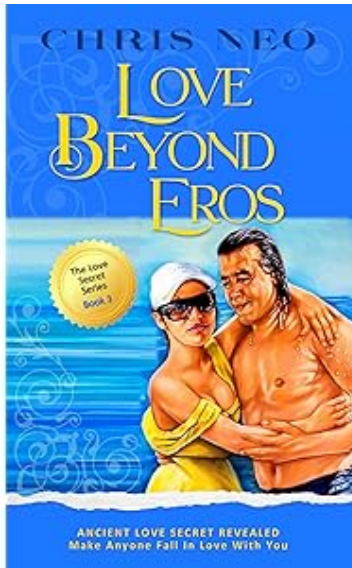
Aris is back in *Love Beyond Eros*, the third book in *The Love Secret* series by Chris Neo, and he is not alone. He is in a remote village in Greece, still looking for the legendary Love Secret. He reconnects with Angelica, who is now carrying his child, and he falls deeply in love with her despite the fact that she is engaged to another man. Angelica was left confused when Aris disappeared the last time. Now, they are together but are faced with a new problem: Aris is poisoned by a rare "Dracula Snake," and is in a coma. As Granny tends to him, hoping against all hope that he wakes up, help appears from unlikely people, especially a businesswoman named Varo, who still suffers from unrequited love. Revelations about the person who tried to kill Aris with the poison come with a new threat, and Aris must again make a difficult choice: the safety of the village or his forbidden love?

The plot in *Love Beyond Eros* is tangled, a web that was intriguing to navigate, and I just loved it. Relationships are complex, and it was fun watching the dynamics between Aris and Angelica, the desperation in Varo, who has been obsessed with Aris from the start. I never saw the twists coming, and Chris Neo knows how to keep readers guessing. Varo's bodyguard Victor turned out to be a new great player in the story, and his presence was what fueled most of the suspense in the plot. I adored the characters, especially the symbolically depicted female ones. Angelica is not just beautiful but also represents sacrificial devotion, and Varo is the perfect example of a resentful, jealous person turned ally. The scenes are ingeniously crafted, and they shift beautifully from the tender scenes in the village to military action. The same exquisite, delectable prose distinguishes this new book in the series, and the detailed, captivating descriptions made me feel as though I was part of the story.



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Review:

Reviewed by Christian Sia for Readers' Favorite

Love Beyond Eros is the third installment in Chris Neo's The Love Secret series, which continues the adventures of Aris, an American businessman who travels back to a remote Greek village in search of the mythical "Love Secret." This time, he falls deeply in love with the local beauty and pride of the village, Angelica, who is carrying his child and is currently engaged to another man. Aris is poisoned by a rare snake and falls into a coma, and while Granny struggles to keep him alive, his friends, Uri and John, rush abroad to seek help. An antivenom is delivered by the most unexpected person: Varo, the woman who has been obsessed with Aris and who commands military jets. In a showdown, revelations are made that not only unveil the person who poisoned Aris but also poses a threat to the village. What will Aris do when circumstances force him to choose between protecting his love and the village?

Chris Neo's third book was an absolute thrill. I loved the kaleidoscope of complex relationships, and they actually challenge conventional romance tropes. I loved Aris, just as I did in the two previous books, a man immersed in complex relationships and a web of competing loves. There is his fraught relationship with Gina, then there is Varo's obsessive pursuit of his attention, there is the innocent devotion of Zoe, and then there is Angelica, whom one instantly thinks will be the love of his life. Aris lives with emotional tension that pulls him in different directions. The worldbuilding in Love Beyond Eros was expertly achieved, and I enjoyed how the author successfully blended the rustic life of a Greek village with the thrill of corporate espionage. I enjoyed everything in this book, from the pulsating action to the drama, from the excellent storytelling to the brilliantly executed characterization.