Synopsis

Chris Stewart’s DRIVING OVER LEMONS told the story of his move to a remote mountain farm in Las Alpujarras -- an oddball region of Spain, south of Granada. Funny, insightful and real, the book became an international bestseller. A PARROT IN A PEPPER TREE, the sequel to Lemons, follows the lives of Chris, Ana and their daughter, Chloe, as they get to grips with a misanthropic parrot who joins their home, Spanish school life, neighbours in love, their amazement at Chris appearing on the bestseller lists . . and their shock at discovering that their beloved valley is once more under threat of a dam. A Parrot in the Pepper Tree also looks back on Chris Stewart's former life -- the hard times shearing in midwinter Sweden (and driving across the frozen sea to reach island farms); his first taste of Spain, learning flamenco guitar as a 20-year old; and his illustrious music career, drumming for his schl band Genesis (sacked at 17, he never quite became Phil Collins), and then for a circus.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Two years ago I read and enjoyed Driving Over Lemons, the memoir of a British ex-pat and his family’s life in Spain. A Parrot in the Pepper Tree is the follow up book, covering the time when Stewart was writing his first book along with some memories from his youth. While I felt the bits
about his attempt at being a rock star were rather dull, the rest of the book more than makes up for one skip-worthy chapter. The majority of his book takes place in the year when he was writing his first memoir. He describes all his different attempts at farming including a bleak winter drive into Sweden to shear sheep and a go at growing potatoes. Neither venture goes well but he takes the disasters with a good sense of humor. To his surprise, he succeeds as a writer even though his daughter insists that he can’t write (at least in Spanish). It took me longer to read than expected but I thoroughly enjoyed it. Chris Stewart is an enthusiastic ex-pat making a living in Spain with his wife and daughter. He tries his hand at sheep shearing, farming and flamenco but ultimately it is writing that he excels at.

Absolute delight! Having just spent time in Spain, I nestle down to read and be transported to the rural adventures of a Chris, Ana and Chloe with their crazy menagerie of animals! Chris’s skill in humour is incredible. Love every word...Driving over lemons, Parrot and now the third book ...I cannot put it down!

A real escape read. The author’s adventures in Spain are fascinating and funny. It took up after his book, Driving over Lemons, which was also hilarious. Chris Stewart writes about the things I think many of us would like to do but don’t have the energy or are afraid to try. I have his third book in the trilogy, The almond Blossom Appreciation Society on my Kindle which I’m greatly anticipating reading.

No big trips for me this summer. Not by plane or train anyway. Instead, I’ve traveled by book. A Parrot in the Pepper Tree carried me to Spain, to the mountain home of Chris Stewart and his family. With the Stewarts, life is always a degree or two west of normal, with all the odd Spaniards of the world apparently living within walking distance of the Stewarts’ home. Don’t expect a big rollercoaster adventure; Pepper Tree is more of a hike through a quirky human zoo.

The same style, more a part 2 to driving over lemons with the mismatch cultural gaffs and idiosyncrasies of the peasant farm way of life. Chris really brings it to life with his characters and locations.

I enjoyed this book found it a very easy read and very funny in parts. Looking forward to reading his next book. Have just seen Rick Stein in Spain and saw the I review with Chris Stewart which added
interest to his narrative!

I really enjoyed this book - I bought all 3 books in the trilogy and enjoyed them all. You really get a sense of living in Spain, the neighbours, the trials, the tribulations, the family - plus told with humour and interest.

I loved the first book in the trilogy and have been meaning to read the follow up for a couple of years. It didn't disappoint. More anecdotes about life in Spain with his "oddball" neighbours. This book makes me want to visit the Alpujarras region of Spain more than ever.

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