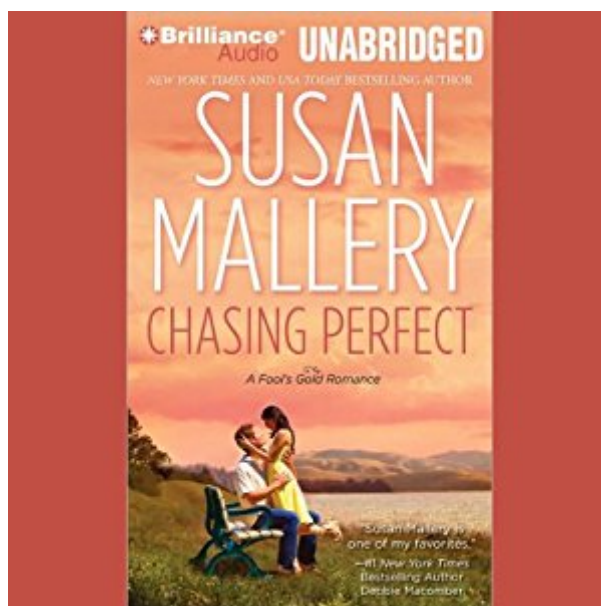


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# Chasing Perfect: A Fool's Gold Romance, Book 1



## Synopsis

Welcome to Fool's Gold, California, a charming community in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. There's lots to do and plenty of people to meet, especially women. Because there's just one tiny problem in Fool's Gold: the men don't seem to stick around. Maybe it's the lure of big-city life, or maybe it's plain old bad luck, but regardless of the reason, the problem has to be fixed, fast. And Charity Jones may be just the city planner to do it. Charity's nomadic childhood has left her itching to settle down, and she immediately falls in love with all the storybook town has to offer • everything, that is, except its sexiest and most famous resident, former world-class cyclist Josh Golden. With her long list of romantic disasters, she's not about to take a chance on another bad boy, even if everyone else thinks he's perfect just the way he is. But maybe that's just what he needs • someone who knows the value of his flaws. Someone who knows that he's just chasing perfect. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Chasing Perfect is the first book in Susan Mallery's Fool's Gold Series. This book centers around Charity Jones who has been hired to be the new city planner. She is dealing with some abandonment issues and moved frequently has a child so she desperately wants to put down roots and settle down. She hasn't had any successful love relationships and wants to concentrate on settling in not getting involved with anyone. Josh Golden is Fool's Gold's golden boy. He's a

professional cyclist who is a superstar, but he's retired after things went horribly wrong in the last race he was in. He has a reputation of being a real ladies man and all the women in town make no secret about wanting him. However, there is more to Josh than his persona as a famous cyclist. Charity is immediately attracted to Josh but wants nothing to do with his famous lifestyle. Josh is attracted to Charity but knows he's in no position to get involved with anyone until he can put his life back together. This is a sweet romance and is fairly predictable. The town is interesting and I enjoyed the side characters quite a bit. The romance is very slow moving and to be honest not a lot happens in this book. It wasn't particularly exciting and the connection between the two characters was just "meh". Not sure if I will read another one in this series or not.

4.5 stars I love the Fool's Gold series but I jumped in late and honestly have never gone back to read the first book in the series. Now I'm kicking myself for waiting so long because this book was the epitome of everything I love about this series. Though references are made to Charity and Josh in the later books I never really felt like I knew them and I'll admit a cyclist hero didn't really get my heart beating fast so I put off reading this one. However, I ended up really enjoying both of them and the chemistry between them. It was also interesting to see Mayor Marsha before she became the all knowing/seeing character she is in later books. Seeing her vulnerability made me love her even more. The story itself was a fun read and I devoured this book in one sitting. The only thing that knocked it from a 5 star to a 4.5 star is the resolution at the end was a little too pat for me. Charity's turn of heart came about way too suddenly for me and I honestly didn't really think she shouldn't have gotten as worked up as she did in the first place. Still it was nice seeing how everything started.

I've read several of Susan Mallery's books and some are really great while others are just all right. This one was pretty good. I had originally started the Fool's Gold series at about book 10 or so. I wasn't sure if these earlier ones would be any good. Josh and Charity's story was a good one. It was easy to get involved with the story from the beginning. Josh seemed like a pretty good guy and I really liked Charity. There were some parts of the story that weren't explained well which made me think there was a prequel? Or maybe those parts are to be explained in later books. The part about why Josh cut off his relationship with the Hendrix family seemed so odd. If I had taken a child in and raised him as my own, that would have broken my heart. It would take a while to rebuild the trust that had been broken. It was never explained which made the book seem as though parts were missing. But it's a good book worth a read. I have read the reviews on the second book in the series

about Ethan Hendrix and Liz Sutton. They are not good. I don't plan to read that book and have skipped over it. I'm now reading the fourth book although I think I will go back and read Pia's story.

I've had this book in my queue for a few months. I kept putting it off because although it sounded interesting, the first few pages (that I read on the teaser look in on ) seemed like it might be a little tedious or dull. I was very wrong. Although it didn't catch me right away, it wasn't very long from the first few pages that I began to get pulled in. Really hope that the rest of the series is just as interesting.

I am sooo glad that I came across this series on my Kindle. This has fast become of my all-time favorite book series, and Susan Mallery has become one of my very favorite authors. And this book is where it all started. I would recommend this series to anyone who enjoys romance novels. The characters in this series have a lot of depth. They're strong, driven, individuals who have personal issues they're dealing with as well. But they work through their issues to find and trust in love. Reading about the town and community of Fool's Gold makes me want to pack up and move to a town just like it!

I thought this was a nice, frothy read, and liked the two lead characters much more than I often do in these sort of stories. The challenge I had, however, is that it's come to the point where when I read a Susan Mallery story, I know one of two things is going to happen: the female lead had a child at some point prior to the start of the book, and didn't let the male lead know; anger, drama and frustration that lead to sexual tension commence. Or, the female lead is going to ("oops!") wind up pregnant unexpectedly pregnant, usually because the couple is swept away once and forget to use birth control. I won't say which of these formulas the book fit into, but I'm not even certain it's a spoiler to say that it's one of the two. That said, even though she sticks to a formula, Mallery does usually tell a really nice story, and that was the case with this book if you can overlook the cliches. There was genuine chemistry between the lead characters and as I said, both were very likable. I don't have anything terribly negative about this particular book to say, but it's the fact that it's getting too formulaic that prevents me from giving it more than 3-stars.

Good story about two lonely people looking for someone to love and be loved, because they didn't get it when they were children. But this wonderful town knows what needs to be done to heal them. You won't be disappointed with this book.

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