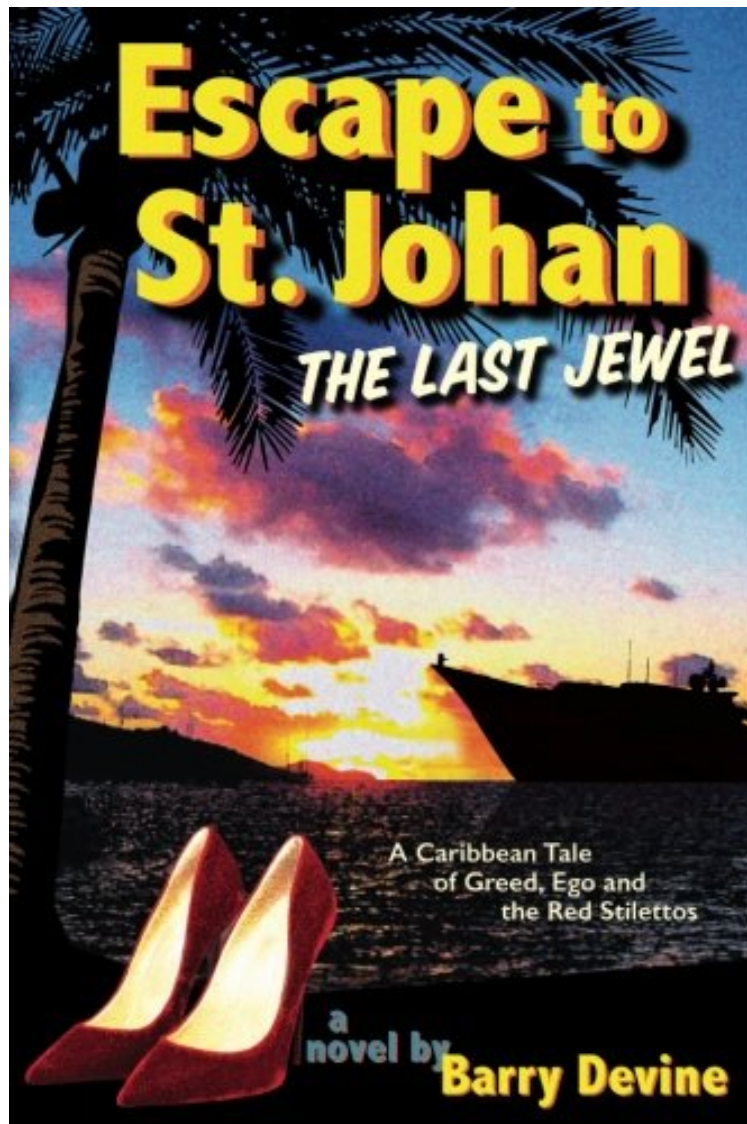


Escape to St. Johan: The Last Jewel

Barry Edward Devine

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Barry Edward Devine : Escape to St. Johan: The Last Jewel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Escape to St. Johan: The Last Jewel:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. By Caroline FortbergBy CustomerThis is a raucous, hilarious novel, written by a scientist with an intimate knowledge of the marine life, flora, and fauna (including homo sapiens) of the US Virgin Islands. Barry Divine's local characters, Conch, Coot and the Pirate, set out to save their environmental and cultural paradise from unscrupulous (indeed, criminal) off-shore developers. There are moments when you will laugh

out loud—more than moments: pages. Devine has created a diverse community of idiosyncratic inhabitants, pitting some deliciously evil and stupid villains against fabulous, clever heroes. Sailors will relish Devine's keen knowledge of things nautical, and all readers will come away with new understanding of Caribbean ecology, woven subtly, yet powerfully, into the fabric of the narrative. This rollicking tale can do more for conserving the land and water of America's Paradise than any scientific tract, all the while raising your spirits with humor, slapstick and sophisticated. And the good guys win!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Fun By Ann M. Escape to St. John is a most entertaining read. It is a rollicking, robust, bawdy tale of a Ponzi scheme planned by two very slick and charming scoundrels that was sabotaged by the local residents of this tropical paradise. The author certainly is well informed about the flora and fauna of the island and he describes in interesting detail the environment in which this exciting tale takes place. I was reminded of Tom Wolfe's Back to Blood because of the hyperbolic, over the top prose. Treat yourself--read this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great read for the beach or apres ski! By Jeff Kaelin Carl Hiaasen meets Rachel Carson in this seriously funny tale of real life, failed, plans to forever transform Coral Bay into a mega-resort for the rich and infamous. Mr. Devine, a professional naturalist who has studied and holds dear the environmental elements that make St. John a place we all want to return to, comes down from Bordeaux Mountain to deliciously skewer those who would recast this paradise into their own self-serving image, locals be damned. All in good fun and leaving no doubt who the Island's villains are, you will never look at a pair of red stilettos in the same way again! A great read for the beach or après ski!

A zany Caribbean farce of boundless greed, schemers, dreamers, fools, and a beautiful con artist in red stilettos seeking to sell paradise. A roller coaster story of a handsome pair of narcissists; Slick and Char, who bankrupt a small Caribbean island, throw it into an economic tailspin and then disappear. Only the red shoes mark their trail. The pair are shipwrecked on a beautiful island and plot their next con; a Mega Yacht marina in paradise. A crew of local backwater characters catch on and the community sabotages every step. Humorous plot twists ensue as the battle between the community and the grifters goes digital and dangerous and ends with a catastrophic storm that brings the mountain down along with the scheme. It's a story full of surprises about love of money and love of place and what folks are willing to do for each.

About the Author Barry Devine is a scientist and naturalist who has lived in the Caribbean for 17 years doing research and resource stewardship.