

'Bachelor in Paradise' Newcomer & Reality TV Star Chris Bukowski: "Paradise Wasn't Paradise For Me"



By [Sarah Batcheller](#)

We followed-up with *Bachelor in Paradise* contestant Chris Bukowski about his arrival to Tulum, Mexico and the stir he caused on his first night there. For those of you who haven't been watching, the four-time *Bachelor* franchise veteran went on what appeared to be a great date with Clare Crawley and ended the evening with a controversial ocean frolic and a lot of kissing with Elise Mosca. "After the whole makeout session, I don't think Clare and I spoke another word to each other,"

the reality TV star says in our [celebrity interview](#).

Related Link: [‘Bachelor in Paradise’ Star Chris Bukowski Says Dates with Elise Mosca Were “Spectacular”](#)

Reality TV Contestant Opens Up About Relationships and Love

Bukowski, a master at making a memorable first impression, arrived with a date card and asked Crawley to spend a day of pampering with him. The heartbreaker left her looking all giddy and happy, despite the warning about him that she got from the others. He confirms, “Clare and I had a great date, and I do regret not pursuing our relationship and love further, but at the time, it seemed like there was no romantic connection there.”

The real chemistry he felt on *Bachelor in Paradise* was with Mosca, who had already formed a connection with Dylan Petit. But when asked if it was love at first sight, he says, “I didn’t have an instant attraction to Elise. I barely knew who she was. The two girls I was initially considering taking on the date were Clare and Lacy Faddoul.”

We all know that there’s more to these love triangles than what reality TV reveals. And although the show paints Bukowski as the bad boy, he maintains that he’s better than that. “I don’t think anyone will ever be happy with editing, but at this point, it’s all pretty funny to me. Can’t take this stuff too seriously!”

At the end of the episode, he receives a default rose from Mosca (after she was rejected by Petit and gave an awkward speech about what women “deserve” in a partner), but he assures us that what we saw go down on *Bachelor of Paradise* wasn’t *that* dramatic. “Dylan and I squashed the whole thing at the rose ceremony, but that wasn’t shown,” the restaurant

owner shares in our celebrity interview.

Celebrity Interview with *Bachelor in Paradise* Star

You may have noticed on episode 2 that Bukowski wasn't hanging out with the rest of the cast while Petit took Sarah Herron on a one-on-one date. It turns out that he was further courting his new crush: "I definitely hung out with Elise more than what viewers saw. I actually setup a makeshift date on the beach that wasn't aired."

Related Link: ['Bachelorette' Contestant and Hopeless Romantic Chris Bukowski Wants His "Fairytale Ending"](#)

As much as we love Bukowski for adding some spice to the season, it doesn't look like a good start to "happily ever after" for the *Bachelor in Paradise* newcomer. Although he won't reveal any teasers about next week's episode, he does leave us with this closing thought: "I didn't feel the need to be there any more. Paradise wasn't paradise for me..." According to sources, he'll excuse himself next week and leave paradise.

Back home, Bukowski watched the show with former *Bachelor/Bachelorette* contestants Jaclyn Swartz, Christy Hansen (who will be arriving in paradise soon), and some other friends.

We can't wait to see what happens next Monday night!

Keep up with Chris on Twitter @ChrisJBukowski. Be sure to tune in to Bachelor in Paradise on Monday nights at 8/7c on ABC!

'Bachelor In Paradise' Star Chris Bukowski on Celebrity Romance with Elise Mosca: Dates Were "Spectacular"



Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#). Written by [Sarah Batcheller](#) and Shannon Seibert.

Bartlett, Illinois native Chris Bukowski was the fourth runner-up on Emily Maynard's season of *The Bachelorette* and was seen as a main competitor on season 3 of the *Bachelor Pad*. Since his initial reality TV appearance, he has molded himself into quite the entrepreneur as the owner of The Bracket Room, a sports bar and lounge in Arlington, Virginia. Earlier this summer though, Bukowski put his

business on the back burner and returned to the small screen with the hope of finding a celebrity romance on *Bachelor in Paradise* (fourth time's a charm, right?).

Chris Bukowski on Looking for Relationship and Love on Reality TV

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He recently created quite a media frenzy when he “crashed” the premiere episode of Andi Dorfman’s season of *The Bachelorette*. We saw on the *Men Tell All* episode that host Chris Harrison wouldn’t let Bukowski come to the stage and meet her. “I was totally thrown off-guard when Chris said something to me – I wasn’t miked or anything. He kind of bombarded me!” he shares in our exclusive celebrity interview. Still, he says that final pick Josh Murray “seems like a good guy for Andi.”

When he got the call for *Bachelor in Paradise*, it was no surprise that he was open to the experience. “The producers approached me about it, and I figured, ‘Why not?’ I was able to take time off from the restaurant, so it worked out really well in that sense. When you have an opportunity to be on reality TV, it’s hard to say no!”

Bukowski shows up on the island in tonight’s episode and is immediately surrounded by familiar faces, including AshLee Frazier. Although he and Frazier were friends prior to the show, he says she was too busy with Graham Bunn to spend any time with him. “I knew almost everyone there, which made it a little hard to find a relationship and love. Obviously, if something was going to happen, it would’ve already.”

Related Link: [‘Bachelor in Paradise’ Star AshLee Frazier: “My Goal Was to Know Graham Bunn”](#)

***Bachelor in Paradise* Celebrity Romance and Fling**

Still, that didn't stop him from having a celebrity fling. The restaurant owner had a brief "showmance" with castmate Elise Mosca and gushes that their dates were "simple but at the same time spectacular – not your normal, real world dates." He also states that their celebrity romance is "too good to spoil" for *Bachelor in Paradise* fans, refusing to share any of the hot details.

Evidently, a happy ending isn't in the cards for this entrepreneur, though. Sources close to us reveal that Bukowski only stays in paradise for two episodes, sending himself home next week. Still, he doesn't blame the show's format for his failure to meet someone special. "I've seen it work on reality TV before, so it was worth a shot. Plus, it's really hard to find a relationship and love in the real world! At the end of the day, I just wanted to have a good time – and I did."

In regard to the Jesse Kovacs drama that audiences are wildly anticipating later this season, the blue-eyed contestant admits, "I'm definitely caught up in some of my own controversy on tonight's episode, but I'm not around when Jesse gets there, so I'm not sure what kind of trouble he got into." Well, now we're awaiting two scandals! Make that three gossip-worthy moments as we watch ousted Michelle Kujawa's love life unravel...

Another source shares that Bukowski and fellow *Bachelor in Paradise* contestant Christy Hansen (who hasn't shown up in Tulum, Mexico yet) became good friends prior to the show after meeting in Chicago. Unfortunately, Hansen arrives in paradise *after* Bukowski is gone, so audiences won't get to see them together. While the hopeless romantic clarifies that they're not dating, he won't confirm whether or not he's

single.

Related Link: [New Beginnings for Old Flames on 'Bachelor in Paradise'](#)

Back in the real world, Bukowski maintains his determination to find love, as many of his fans witnessed during his recent search for “Deerfield Abby.” The *Bachelorette* veteran describes how he and fashion blogger Dana Weiss of *Possessionista* tracked her down: “Dana saw that I posted on Facebook that I was looking for someone in Deerfield, Illinois. Once Dana and I connected, it turned into quite the extensive search and got way bigger than I thought it would. Dana is amazing, and she definitely helped find the Abby I was looking for, but it turns out that Abby has a boyfriend, which is why her friend was so mad about Dana’s post. At the end of the day, it was settling to be able to find her even though nothing happened from it – except for now I have about 15 new friends named Abby.”

As his time on *Bachelor in Paradise* comes to an end (for now, at least), his business continues to flourish. “We just signed a deal that will open two more Bracket Room’s,” he says enthusiastically. “We’ll have one at Reagan National Airport and Dulles International Airport, both in Washington, DC.” He’s also launching a cold-pressed juice brand this December in Chicago. “I’m not releasing the name for another couple of weeks though.”

Keep up with Chris on Twitter @ChrisJBukowski. Be sure to tune in to Bachelor in Paradise on Monday nights at 8/7c on ABC!

'Bachelor in Paradise' Reality TV Star AshLee Frazier: "My Goal Was to Know Graham Bunn"



Interview by [Lori Bizzoco](#). Written by [Sarah Batcheller](#).

AshLee Frazier is the poised, pure-hearted beauty that viewers first met on season 17 of *The Bachelor* with Sean Lowe. Although she left the [reality TV](#) show as the second-runner up, not as the woman on his arm, she has since made a name for herself as a savvy style entrepreneur. Of course, the fashion blogger hasn't given up on her dream of finding a strong relationship and love, and with that thought in mind, she returns to the small screen Monday nights on the ABC spin-

off *Bachelor in Paradise*. Audiences everywhere (us included!) are crossing their fingers that this Texas girl will finally have her happy ending.

Related Link: [New Beginnings for Old Flames on 'Bachelor in Paradise'](#)

AshLee Frazier Talks About Looking for a Relationship and Love on Reality TV

We had the chance to chat with Frazier about her time on the show, one in which she describes as being less about competition and more about love. "It's a very romantic environment," she gushes of Tulum, Mexico.

It's been no secret that her sights were set on Graham Bunn before filming began. "My point of going on the show was actually to meet him – there was no ulterior motive," Frazier says in our exclusive celebrity interview. "My goal was to get to know him and see what could come out of that." Sources close to us say that, while she stays in paradise until the end, going home in love was not in the cards for the DIY guru.

Of course, fans know that Bunn had a serious celebrity relationship with *Bachelor* alum Michelle Money, who also appears on *Bachelor in Paradise*. Ever the lady, Frazier talked to Money before meeting face-to-face in Mexico, and she explained her interest in pursuing Bunn. "Michelle was very supportive of me going after Graham," the reality TV star tell us. Interestingly, the two ladies became good friends during the taping. "I was actually looking forward to meeting Michelle, and once I did, I *really* enjoyed my time with her. I know she had a hard time being there and looking for love, so I tried my best to be there for her."

Related Link: [‘Bachelor Pad 2’ Couple Michelle and Graham Are Still Talking Everyday](#)

Dating Advice from *Bachelor in Paradise* Contestant

Frazier shares her best dating advice and says that, when you go after someone you like, it's best to be prepared and know what you want in a partner. "I knew a little bit about Graham going into the show," she says. "I knew Graham and I were compatible in quite a few areas, and I knew some personal interests we shared, one being on a spiritual level."

As someone who's looked for a relationship and love twice on reality TV, she says being vulnerable is the most important part of the process. "If you're not open and honest about who you really are and what you need and want in life, then you're setting yourself up to find people who aren't necessarily right for you." She admits that she wears her heart on her sleeve during the show – maybe "a little too hard," as she says viewers will see on the premiere episode.

Last time we spoke with the Love it! Organized founder, she mentioned that she wanted to be more well-rounded before falling in love – and for her, appearing on *Bachelor in Paradise* was part of reaching that goal. "I think this experience has taught me a lot about myself and has opened my eyes to what I really need and want in someone – more so than it did on *The Bachelor*," she candidly shares. "With every experience in life, you learn something new, and after the show, I can definitely say I'm a lot closer to figuring out what I want."

Related Link: [AshLee Frazier Says, "I Want to Be Well-Rounded Before I Fall in Love"](#)

When it comes to other potential love interests, Marquel

Martin, from *The Bachelorette* season 10 would have been Frazier's pick had she not focused on Bunn. "I think Marquel's such a great guy. I love his energy and personality, and he's good looking, of course. But we're just friends, and when someone's in that friend zone, it's kind of hard to get them out."

The fierce side of Frazier we all know and love will show it's fangs again this summer. Audiences may remember her stone-faced exit from Lowe's season, and they'll apparently get to see the same this time around, as the veteran reveals that there's one moment she regrets in paradise. "There's a little quarrel that happens with me and another cast member. Unfortunately, I wish it didn't happen, but it did. I wish I could take that part back, for sure." It looks as though either a cat fight or a battle of the sexes is going down!

You can keep up with AshLee (and Bachelor in Paradise fashion!) on her fashion blog and Twitter. Don't forget to catch her and the rest of the dynamic cast on Mondays at 8/7c on ABC!

New Beginnings for Old Flames on 'Bachelor in Paradise'





By Shannon Seibert

We've seen them fight for love, fall in love, and lose love. But the game has changed again! A number of beloved alumni from *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette* shows returning to reality television to give finding The One another shot. ABC is launching a new series called *Bachelor in Paradise* and sending a group of former contestants to Tulum, Mexico, to see if the romantic sparks fly as old flames are reunited and new couples are introduced.

Related Link: [AshLee Frazier Says, "I Want to be Well-Rounded Before I Fall in Love"](#)

On Monday, August 4th, the show will premiere with 14 previous *Bachelor* and *Bachelorette* contestants. On the first episode, two of the women will fail to receive roses and be sent packing; the following week, the men will face the same elimination. This pattern of goodbyes will continue throughout the show. Of course, there's a twist: In addition to two people heading home each week, two more alum will join the cast.

Fan favorites, including Chris Bukowski, AshLee Frazier, Jesse Kovacs, and Michelle Money, will be heading to paradise. Additionally, three of the current *Bachelorette* Andi Dorfman's cast-off are returning to the small screen: Marcus Grodd, Dylan Petit, and Cody Sattler. Not only is the cast attractive, but there is bound to be fun, flirting, and tons of drama!

Related Link: [Former 'Bachelorette' Star Chris Bukowski Wants His "Fairytale Ending"](#)

During the show's seven-week run, we'll watch our favorite contestants face competition and avoid obstacles on their mission to find love. Be sure to tune in for the tantalizing moments, shocking surprises, and epic love stories, all unfolding in a tropical paradise!

Do you have any predictions for the show? Share them with us in the comments below!