



This Foreign Affair

Harper Bliss

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Can passion bridge ten thousand miles?

Television presenter Zoya Das is reeling from a painful breakup. When she's called to solve a problem at a rental flat she owns, sparks fly between her and her French guest Camille Rousseau. A short holiday fling before Camille flies back to Paris could be just the thing to help Zoya's recovery.

But what happens when Zoya and Camille develop deeper feelings for each other and are faced with the prospect of being in love on opposite sides of the world?

64,000 words

This Foreign Affair Details

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From Reader Review This Foreign Affair for online ebook

Ted says

Good book. Loved the French Kissing tie ins. Was really cool to see Steph and Dominique again. Some things detracted and others added back. All in all, good feels.

Marilyn says

This is another wonderful entry in the Pink Bean series. TV journalist Zoya Das is recovering from the break-up of a long-term relationship when she meets Camille, a french tourist. Sparks fly.

Jaie says

I didn't enjoy this as much as so many other reviewers did. I did like the characters, but I knew exactly where the story was going from the get-go.

Tara says

Zoya and Camille are my favourite couple that Harper Bliss has written so far (I almost said “ever” and then remembered that she’s still cranking out several books a year, so they may be dethroned soon). They’re both super sexy, accomplished women in their late 40s, and watching each of them make space for the other in their lives is so satisfying. I particularly appreciated seeing how vulnerable they got, because it made them feel so real. And given that the entire book is told in the first person from Zoya’s perspective, I’m also happy that I never felt like I didn’t understand Camille or her motivations. I loved Camille’s maturity, because it meant she had the confidence to be authentic with Zoya right from the get-go.

Full review: <http://www.thelesbianreview.com/forei...>

Amelia Faith says

Another Masterpiece

TFA is the fourth book in the Pink bean series. Each of the books are wonderful standalones featuring the different people who consider the Pink Bean a home away from home. This time the lovely and exotic Zoya is in the spotlight. Zoya first appears in the third book, Everything Between Us. In this book Zoya is trying to get her feet under her after her longtime partner leaves her for another woman.

Ms Bliss’ writing gets better and better with each book she writes. The way she can make her characters come to life is amazing. I truly feel like I am visiting old friends and am a part of each of the stories she pens. Her writing is brilliant and poignant. The dialog is so intense during the tender moments, (even better

than the love making and that's just...WOW!!) I actually felt the intensity of the love so much that I cried with the strength of her words.

This book is a true gift and not to be missed.

Elske says

Again a very nice romance. I've read books 1-4 and 8 now and liked them all. Great series.

Kara says

"This Foreign Affair (Pink Bean #4)" was written by Harper Bliss...at least, that's what it says on the cover. I now suspect that Harper Bliss is yet another alias for Bridget Essex. I challenge anyone familiar with Essex's works to read/listen to "Foreign Affair" and not recognize the plot, the characters, the inner thinking, the lush language, and of course, the instalove as classic Essex. Well, the challenge really won't work, because of the "Pink Bean" setting being used, and Caitlin being prominently featured, and Zoya having been introduced previously.

MC Zoya is still reeling with hurt and anger at her partner of some 15 years having left her after cheating on her for a year. MC Camille is on a multi-month foreign trip to find herself. Camille's children are now out of the house, and she is ready to leave her philandering husband and begin a new chapter of her life as the lesbian she realizes she is.

Over the course of five days, they each become convinced they've found true love. Harper herself used the five-day exposure to write of true love, in "Summer's End". In that book as well, one of the character's came out as lesbian. Despite the age differences, and therefore life experience differences, in "Summer's End", I believed in the love story. In "This Foreign Affair", I really didn't buy the love story, as often happens with Essex's stories.

With Camille, we have a woman who goes on a trip to prepare for life as a lesbian, and who initiates things with Zoya. After a multi-month trip she just now asks a woman out on a date? And then decides she is in love, and doesn't want to date anyone else? I like Camille, she's open, funny, she loves her children and loves sex (and porn!). She's best friends with the lesbian president of France. She's gorgeous. She's from a foreign land. She's the perfect, amazing woman that Essex writes of when she writes of Knights from other worlds, werewolves and an angel. We know she's perfect, because the book is in first person POV from Zoya's POV, and Zoya lets us know with every thought and breath that Camille is perfect.

Zoya herself is the human woman Essex usually presents us with. She's filled with self-doubt and frequently wonders if she can live up to the amazing Camille. After trusting former gf Rebecca and having her trust betrayed, one of the first things she does with Camille is decide to trust her completely and agrees to make a sex tape together. Say what? That agreement is made all the more surprising when they later discuss porn. Zoya is shocked (shocked!) to learn that Camille enjoys watching porn. Zoya, it turns out, really doesn't enjoy seeing herself on their video, while Camille can't wait to make more, and encourages Skype sex until they can be in bed together again, which Zoya is nervous about. So...instalove, lots of sex, but VERY different attitudes toward being comfortable with sex! It's interesting that it's Camille, the newly out lesbian,

who is much more aggressive than lifetime lesbian Zoya.

What Zoya determines from their different views toward sexual exploration and comfort is that she's a prude, and she decides that perhaps former gf Rebecca really did need to go elsewhere for gratification, so she forgives the cheating, lying bitch. Geez.

It's fun when we're allowed to join Zoya and Camille in bed; they do have fun sexy times together. It's Camille's first time with a woman, and long-time lesbian Zoya has the best sex of her life, of course. While there are several fun intimates scenes, for most of the book we are living inside Zoya's head. Inside that head we listen to her overthinking everything as much as Erin in Essex's "The Guardian Angel".

Zoya's trip to Paris is described so very similarly as Holly or Josie's trips to Agrotera in Essex's "The Knight's Legends Series". It's foreign, mysterious, intimidating and it draws her in like a poem.

For someone who has spent 10 years at the top of her game in a male dominated field, Zoya is remarkably insecure about herself. I don't remember her as being insecure in preview Pink Bean books, I remember her as being famous and successful, but I suppose she really didn't have a big role until now. Her friend Caitlin has an interesting role in "Foreign Affair". She pushes Zoya into accepting Camille's request for date. That makes sense, as Caitlin is renowned for her belief in multiple relationships and pushing Zoya into a one-night stand is consistent with her character.

Oddly, career-focused, monogamy-averse Caitlin then advises Zoya that a career is only a job, and she should embrace a relationship with far-away Camille. I would have thought Caitlin would tell Zoya that she was experiencing a rebound sex fling, and that she should date more women. Later, as Zoya tells Caitlin she's thinking of moving to Paris, Caitlin then says "no no no, I refuse to let you move to Paris". Consistency isn't Caitlin's strong point, it seems. But, it turns out that Caitlin wishes Josephine would spend more time with her, so she's having a relationship issue herself and is insecure in her own new monogamous relationship, so that may be less advice to Zoya than it is a hint of a plot to come in a future Pink Bean book.

Well, this has been a long review, and I've spent as much or more time talking about Essex and her books as I have about Harper and "This Foreign Affair". Hmm, odd that I say Essex not Bridget but I say Harper not Bliss. Ooops....distracted again.

I enjoyed "This Foreign Affair" on the strength of the language, and the fantastic narration by Angela Dawe. Once again I wish for half star ratings. "This Foreign Affair" wasn't so frustrating that I want to rate it 3*, but for me it's not the 5* book that many of my goodread friends enjoyed. I do recommend it, as part of the Pink Bean series, and overall I'm rounding up to 4*; not down to 4*.

ps - the drinking word for "This Foreign Affair" is "instinct" - be sure to tell your friends!

Cristina says

This is an amazing book, and one of my favorite ones. Harper Bliss tells us a simple story but at the same time very complex, as the feelings and decisions that the characters have to deal with. Both characters, Zoya and Camille, have to go through a long distance relationship and decide if it's worth taking a risk on the relationship. In my opinion, Bliss' merit is that she knows how to tell a story, and how to develop two amazing and intense characters.

Jane Shambler says

Let me get this out first. I love this author and never have I experienced a book that I did not like by her. I do not know how she does it but every time she seems to knock the proverbial nail on the head. Harper was one of the first lesbian authors I read and she really did set the bar very high.

Yet again she has hit another thoroughly enjoyable series. I'll admit French Kissing is my overall favorite but The Pink Bean series comes a very close second.

This book is number four but I would rate it as my least favorite but not by much. It took me longer to get immersed in to this one. I loved books 1 and 3, with 2 coming next. This one I feel started slower and was about Zoya a TV personality meeting Camille from France while holidaying in Australia. Zoya was present in previous Pink Bean books but never as a major character.

Well the basic story is they meet, fall in love and live happily ever after. But there is more to it than that. It's complicated. You need to read it to truly understand the romance and meaning of the book. It is a good book and you will not be wasting time reading it.

Harper mentioned at the end that a new season of French Kissing will be available in 2018 with Zoya and Camille joining it. I can't wait. Enjoy!

Andrea says

I think so far this one my least favorite from the Pink Bean Series.... It didn't really go with the whole Series, like the other ones did and felt more like a stand alone.

It was well written and the characters were well developed, like in the other books of tear series - however there was just something missing for me...

Sandra says

This is the fourth book in the Pink Bean series and I still like it. It's the story about Zoya and Camille with Zoya's POV.

I don't believe in instalove, and for that, this wasn't my favorite Pink Bean book. I wasn't convinced of them falling love that fast. But this is the only complaint about this story.

What I really liked, was how Zoya was dealing with the problems of a long-distance relationship. Her uncertainty about Camille's intentions, her thoughts about falling in love that fast and if Camille really feels the same way, what she should do and how much she should risk for the possibility of an HEA.

The characters from the previous books only have short appearances, except Caitlin. And another thing what makes this different to the other books is, they don't spend much time in the Pink Bean Café, some time not even in Sydney.

My rating 3.5 stars

Dee says

You know what the best thing about reading a book I love is? I don't feel the need to justify what I loved about it.

This is 4th in the Pink Bean series and probably my second favorite, book 1 holds first place in my heart.

If you're looking for a feel good story, devoid of convoluted BS, with some imaginative, smoking hot scenes, this is the book for you!!

I received an ARC of this story which did not factor into my rating, anyone who follows my reviews will know that.

UGH, did I just justify my rating? I think I kinda did, lol.

Julie says

This book was special to me because I spent 6 years in a long distance relationship. It reminded me of all horrors I experienced during that period. I say "I" because, unfortunately, I was the one who did all the trips and sacrifices.

"This Foreign Affair" is a light summer read, which is funny, well written and very erotic.

It made me also sad at times, knowing exactly what both main characters had to go through.

I was very glad to see Stephanie and Dominique from "French Kissing" series. Looking forward to reading "French Kissing, season 4" where also Zoya and Camille will appear and hope to learn more about their life in Paris.

Yoly says

This was a very nice story, different, but nice :)

Apparently I need go to read French Kissing now...

Rach (Les Rêveur) says

Book 4 in the Pink Bean Series by Harper Bliss

MY REVIEW

This book is sexy with a capital S! From the first time they meet, Zoya and Camille's sexual attraction was palpable I could almost touch it. Camille is my favourite character to date in the pink bean series! Every time she speaks in French I swoon and she's so honest and true to her heart when it comes to Zoya!

I was actually quite moved by the storyline itself and how both characters didn't create undue angst, they just worked at making their love a success. For me it's all in the writing and the way Harper Bliss is able to bring you into the story almost like you're also a friend and patron of the Pink Bean.

I have always had a soft spot for Mickey in the first book in the series however this book took over book one as my favourite and you could almost read it as a stand alone, although its a great series so I wouldn't recommend it.

Loved it. And can't wait to read it all over again.

5 stars
