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Jami Wagner

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He kissed me.

I slapped him.

That's the last time I thought about Ethan.

Now he's back, and screw him—he isn't allowed to break my heart and then show up years later looking like July in a fireman's calendar and ruining my chances at running the Black Alcove bar. Nope. I have plans and they don't include him.

I tried to forget her.

I failed.

The moment I saw Kelsey again I knew I was doomed.

I have one task while I'm here, and having her one breath away makes me forget how to be the responsible man I've worked so hard to become.

Just One Kiss Details

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From Reader Review Just One Kiss for online ebook

El says

REVIEW CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT WHAT EL READ

Disclaimer: This review is based on my own thoughts. I don't intend to discourage you from reading this book with my review.

Just One Kiss is NOT an okay read for me. I have to say that I had high expectations for this book because of the reviews that I read in Goodreads. This book started out good but the plot went downhill as the story goes on. I found this book too cliché. Chapter 1 was interesting, the succeeding chapters were okay.

Kelsey is the female protagonist, she's an accounting student but she really wants to become a writer (like me, you got me there, Kelsey, that's why I struggled to finish the book). **Ethan** is the male protagonist, he has already finished college and is taking over **Sara's**, Ethan's cousin and Kelsey's bestfriend, bar for a year. I guess you already see where this is going? Yep, they fell in love yada yada yada.

The characters annoy the poop out of me. Ethan is an asshole and Kelsey is stupid. Sure, I have already seen a man who likes a girl one minute and then the next minute he acts like he doesn't, but I haven't seen a girl who gives a man more than two chances when it comes to dating. Does love really makes you stupid? I mean no offense people because I haven't been in love before.

"I don't want to play games, Kelsey. I want you and only you."

Aw, that's so sweet of you, Ethan. Guess what happened next? Yep, they had SEX! The man just practically poured out his feelings and the next thing they did is to have sex. OH GOSH. I was so disappointed!

Ugh! I'm so done with this book. I don't want to write another paragraph about how this book disappointed the shite out of me.

It really saddens me that this book didn't work for me. I mean, I really thought I'd enjoy it but no. Just no.

Mary Billiter says

Jami Wagner's voice is undeniable. It pops off the page and instantly the reader hears the character and knows them. From Kelsey to Ethan we have a pulse on their voice and in turn their emotion. I look forward

to more from this emerging romance author.

Coco.V says

FREE on Amazon today (11/16/2017)!

The Romance Book Disciple (Samantha) says

Heat: 1 flame

Themes: 2nd chance romance, friends to lovers, family pressures

POV: Dual

What I loved: Kelsey and Ethan were both great characters. I enjoyed the fact that Ethan totally owned up to the mistakes he has made. Both of them struggle with trying to get their parents approval (even though Ethan's family is sinister!). I felt that Ethan's POV was really honest which was nice. He is certainly not a 'beat your chest' alpha. I found this refreshing too. Don't get me wrong-I love a good alpha but its nice to read a book with a Beta to switch it up. The writing is good, the plot moves at a good pace, and the dual POV was really well done in this book. I also liked that many months pass throughout the book. It makes the relationship seem more believable because it truly develops over time.

What I didn't love: Overall, the book is fairly predictable. Its not necessarily a bad thing because it is still a good book. But, if you are looking for something shockingly new and different, this isn't for you.

If you liked: Bella Andre and Melissa Foster Cape Cod Promises, Jill Shalvis, Jennifer Probst

Sanaa ? Sanaa's Book Blog ? says

I received an ARC of the book for an honest review!

Whoops. Forgot to write stuff here. I didn't finish @ 21%. I hate not finishing a book but I couldn't connect to the characters and the story was a bit too unrealistic.

Jackie (Jackie's Book World) says

*****Review can also be found at Jackie's Book World.*****

Rating: 4.5/5

Just One Kiss was such a sweet and hilarious book to read. It was just one of those books that I could not put down. From the cover to the intriguing synopsis, Jamie Wagner did a good job at bringing a story of two

individuals whose paths have crossed again after not seeing each other for a years.

From the very beginning we get to meet Kelsey Brian, an accounting student who is working at her friend's bar the Black Cove. Working for her friend has always been great for Kelsey, since she gets to get away with being late..etc. But now her friend is going away to Europe for a year and a new manager is coming to take over. Not knowing who is going to be the temporary boss, Kelsey goes to work one day only to find out that her old crush her friend's cousin, Ethan Connelly is going to be the new boss. Their first encounter is filled with surprises and the a few memorable moments that immediately set the tone for the rest of the story. Some are funny others are painful for at one of the characters, but that alone made me keep reading. As Kelsey is trying to decide what to do with her future, she quickly relies on Ethan as the two start to spend more time together at inside and outside of work. Soon the two are telling each other about their pasts and what is keeping them from moving forward.

For Ethan Connelly coming back to visit his cousin has been a bit stressful for him. Ever since his uncle inherited the bar, Ethan's father has been after it. Now he has sent Ethan back to town to do some dirty work for him. Though Ethan knows that what he is doing is wrong, it doesn't stop him from doing any favors for his father all to get his approval. But when he gets back to town, he sees Kelsey again and his plans completely change. Whether he decides to keep helping his dad now is all up in the air, especially when Kelsey is involved.

I really liked the overall story of *Just One Kiss*, it has the perfect mixture of drama and sweet moments between the characters that works. It is evident from the beginning that the two have an instant chemistry that slowly grows throughout the book. Although their love is not instant, we do get to that point in the end. Another thing that I love about the story was the secondary characters, they were a constant throughout the story and I am excited to read their own separate book in the future. All in all, if you are looking for a romantic story filled with hilarious scenes and a surprising ending at the end, then this is definitely a book worth checking out. :)

ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Jen says

Read the full review on Bookaholics Not-So-Anonymous.

Note: This ARC was provided by Inkslinger PR in exchange for an honest review.

Just One Kiss is the first novel in the Black Alcove new adult (NA) series from author Jami Wagner and introduces readers to a bar called the Black Alcove and the young people who work there. Here we have Kelsey Brian, an accounting student, and Ethan Connelly, nephew of the bar's owner. The blurb may sound as if it's a second chance romance but I don't think Kelsey and Ethan were ever truly in love with one another when they were in their teens. Yes, they exchanged one memorable kiss and they were probably enamored with each other, but Ethan was only in the area every summer and never returned after the summer that cemented that first kiss. When Ethan returns seven years later, Kelsey's wary of him because he had a girlfriend when they kissed and Ethan never understood Kelsey's reaction to the kiss afterward.

The first few encounters between Ethan and Kelsey are filled with embarrassingly awkward (for Kelsey) and physically painful (for Ethan) moments that had me laughing. There's also a fair amount of drama that goes

on because Ethan is keeping a secret from Kelsey for most of the book and then Kelsey ends up keeping her own secret from him later on. These two are in their early twenties so the immaturity and bad decision-making is understandable, though those can occur at any age. I did like them together, even though there was a great deal of one step forward, two steps back on the part of Ethan. I loved Logan and Sara, Ethan's and Kelsey's best friends, respectively, and after reading that epilogue, I'm excited to see what book two has in store for them. Just One Kiss was an overall charming read and it receives 4.5 stars, rounded off to five stars for Goodreads. ♥

Renita says

ARC received for an honest review as part of the books blog tour....

I love a book about second chances so I was definitely drawn in by the synopsis of this book. Kelsey is just trying to finish her last semester of college and doesn't plan on any romance interfering with her life. But as we know its when you have those set plans that the unexpected usually happens and so when her old crush and first kiss, Ethan, walks through the doors at her job... unexpected but still hot as ever... she knows that her plans are in danger of crumbling.

There was something about Kelsey that I found so fun and endearing that she quickly became my favorite character (followed closely by Logan). Her propensity for finding herself in awkward situations and her clumsy escapes brought my smiles throughout. She was pretty positive and extremely patient (I'll get into that in a minute) so my feelings for her stayed consistent from beginning to end.

Now...

Ethan. Gosh this boy. At times I loved him. At times I wanted to shake him.

Forgive me if the following sounds vague but I want to make sure there's no spoilers. Very quickly we realize Ethan's conflict that causes him to pause his feelings towards Kelsey... Of course I wasn't a fan of his initial intentions but when he starts to come into his own self realizations I cheered him on. The only problem with this was that there was a whole lot of I WILL! that was quickly eclipsed by I WON'T - this lends itself to the above comment about Kelsey's patience.

I wanted to love him so much that he frustrated me even more. This is a good testament to the emotional conflict that was going on in Ethan's life. I really enjoyed that both Kelsey and Ethan were faced with similar dilemmas... having the future plans influenced by outside sources, in their cases it was their fathers. But despite this, there were two very different stories with two different attitudes and reactions.

I thought it was a cute and fun story and it definitely left me with a smile. Since this is the first of the series, I'm curious to see whose stories we can look forward, especially since Logan is one of my favorites about this book.

I'm giving JUST ONE KISS... 3 STARS

Connected By Books says

As far as debut novels go, Just One Kiss is a pretty good one. I was intrigued by it from the get go – starting with the blurb and ending with the quality writing and the lovable characters.

The book is a fun, light and just 'happy-feel' read – it does have some heartbreaking moments, but mostly it made me just adore reading it.

Just One Kiss, follows Kelsey and Ethan – two very different individuals, with distinct upbringings and even more distinct future plans. While Kelsey strives to become a writer, while also studying accounting, to please her father, Ethan is only looking to get his father's acceptance. That's the reason he relocates and takes to running the Black Alcove also known as BA, from his cousin Sara, while she takes a year off and travels the world. He doesn't expect to find Kelsey there, the girl with whom he shared a kiss years ago, and whom he still has a crush on. Their chemistry is still there and it's hard for them to fight it off. They start off as frenemies, but that doesn't take long to transform into something more. Then the unexpected happens, add to this Ethan's father selfishness, and I was left wondering and hoping, that this couple will get their HEA.

I enjoyed that the author didn't go for the shocking plot twists, and even if it was a bit predictable in part, it still kept my interest and made me cheer for our heroine and hero, and all the other secondary characters. The funny parts were hilarious – from the fence jumping scene, to the 'accident prone' Ethan whenever he was near Kelsey, to Sara and Logan's interactions – this book was a hoot.

The one aspect I wish was a bit more developed is the ending – I wish the author would have taken more time in resolving the plot twist – it was a bit too rushed, and we were more so told what happened than showed – I always want this part to be expanded and make me feel for these characters than have it all solved in a flash.

All in all, Just One Kiss is worth reading- it's a fun, summery <<

ARC received from the author in exchange for an honest review

Dana Volney says

"Just One Kiss" is full of humor, characters I championed, and endearing situations. You will laugh your way through this fun story while falling in love.

The first book in Jami Wagner's Black Alcove series, "Just One Kiss", was so much fun! I loved how humorous the situations and characters were and they both had me laughing out loud throughout. Ethan and Kelsey are both dealing with their own inner demons and the resolution was endearing. "Just One Kiss" is rich with characters and I look forward to reading about all of them.

books are love says

Love Ethan and Logan but especially Ethan. Ethan's brother Lance makes a quick appearance but what he does is wonderful. He backs his brother and is proud of him for finally seeing that love shouldn't be earned and that you should live your life for you and not to please your dad.

Ethan is a good guy. He's kind, compassionate and sweet. His issue is his dad. He wants to please his dad and make him proud. He wants his father to finally love him and to do this he has to go against who he is and what he believes. This is a constant fight and struggle for Ethan especially since Kelsey is someone he has always cared for. When those two start to know each other and kiss that changes the game more for Ethan. He is trying to find a way around his dad without alienating him. Unfortunately Kelsey isn't a very trusting person due to her past with guys. she also doesn't have much self esteem in that area of her life.

Kelsey tries to please her dad too. Difference is her dad doesn't ask her to do immoral things and he does love her no matter what he just doesn't know how to really show it. She is a sweet girl just has a past with men that makes her wary of them. Ethan begins to shatter that and also gets to get her to start to open up. that is until ethan's dad comes into town.

This is a sweet, fun and sexy romance. the scene on the pool table wowza. A fun story where they banter back and forth, drive each other nuts and struggle with keeping who they are while letting someone in. In Ethan's case he is struggling with the idea that his family will walk away from him. That is a harder pill to swallow and one that is difficult to come to terms with so he deserves a little leeway and slack. Kelsey is trying to find herself and her way. Forge a new path and still make her parents proud. The two of them together are feisty, fun and adorable.

this is the story of how Ethan and Kelsey find themselves, forge a relationship based on love, support and strength and with this strength are able to conquer their demons.

Devyn says

On iBooks for 99 cents. Bought it. Cheesy romance, not the best but not the worst. Really not much else to say here. 4.0 stars

Once Upon a Twilight says

Ethan and Kelsey's story started off when they were young. Ethan is Kelsey's best friends cousin. Back then he was nerdy but she liked him. One day he kisses her, but she gets upset because he has a girlfriend. Well, that is the story of Kelsey's love life. She went on with her life having boyfriends who would cheated etc. So Kelsey didn't trust easily due to getting her heart broken many times. Years later, she is working with her best friend at her bar when she tells Kelsey that is is going to leave the bar in the hands of her cousin, while she is away and in walks Ethan. But now he is HOT and the best looking man she has ever seen.

What I enjoyed most about Just One Kiss is having Ethan and Kelsey getting to know each other once again. Definitely all the parts at the beginning when she keeps hurting him on accident (you will have to read to know what I am talking about) and there were many funny moments. But I liked the moments when like in real life, we are not sure if we can trust ourselves, to let go, and give love another try. Lucky for Ethan and Kelsey they did try, but of course he wasn't being honest with her and in turn he kept messing up. Again and again. Then she was finally done, finished getting hurt. But given some time and they both realized what was most important in life and that was each other!

This book is fantastic! I felt in love with this story and it was a fast and easy read. Such a very entertaining read! I would recommend this book to anyone who loves funny stories as well as romance. Some parts were sad but it mixed well with the story. If you like stories like this, then Just One Kiss is perfect for you! - Jamie

Dianne says

Do you remember your first kiss? Do you remember the person who shared it with you? Kelsey never forgot that first kiss or the boy who shared it. She always had a crush on her best friend's cousin, but kids grow up and move on, right? Kelsey did and her love life was less than stellar, one mistake after another, one cheater after another. Now she is done, or she was until Ethan walked back into her life, all grown up and hotter than a scorching sun.

Ethan never forgot Kelsey, her feisty attitude, or that kiss, but he is out to earn his father's approval for once in his life. How could he know he would be put in a position to choose Kelsey over his hard-hearted father? Just once, he wanted the old man to say "atta boy," but now he isn't so sure...

JUST ONE KISS by Jami Wagner is romantic comedy with a little dishonesty tossed in. To be honest, neither Kelsey nor Ethan are all that mature, but they are cute together. This light-hearted romance reads fast and easy, has some terrific characters, a couple of twists that had me a little worried, but all told, I was entertained from start to finish...and what a finish it was!

Series: Black Alcove - Book 1

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Print Length: 260 pages

Available from: Amazon | Barnes & Noble

For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Poulami says

Originally posted on Daydreaming Books.

****I received an eARC of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.****

This book was short and sweet. I liked it though I didn't fall in love with it, I think mainly because of the main character Ethan. But nonetheless there were some great and hilarious scenes which made me laugh so hard.

The story revolves around the life of Kelsey who is a college student and works part time in a bar run by her best friend, Sara. She is shocked to hear that Sara is going out for a world tour and leaving the bar in charge of her cousin Ethan. She and Ethan had a bit of history, they had kissed once while Ethan still had a girlfriend and she greatly dislikes cheaters because her best friend slash boyfriend cheated on her. She decides to focus fully on her work and college but it becomes hard when Ethan comes into the scene. They

finally confess they like each other but there's a bigger motif for Ethan's coming here and if it's revealed, it might destroy everything they had hoped to build.

The plot was pretty clichéd, this kind of plot is becoming so obvious everywhere but still the **execution greatly matters and here, it felt flat for me**. I was really hoping to enjoy this book very much but it didn't happen though I won't say I hated it, it was an okay read and I liked it. It came as a shock when I learnt about Ethan's actual reason of coming here and that he agreed to play by his father's plan just for his approval though deep down he knew that was never going to happen. **The plot twist was good** but after that everything just escalated a bit too quickly for my taste. Their attraction was also a bit too immediate but I did enjoy the romance between Kelsey and Ethan through the book.

The characters were okay. I couldn't relate with them much. Kelsey was a hard working person, caring and passionate about her writing. She hated cheaters and hoped that Ethan wouldn't turn out like the rest of them and she gave a fair chance to him. **I didn't like Ethan a bit**. He just kept blowing the chances that Kelsey gave him. If I were in her place, I wouldn't have given him that much chances. He knew what he was doing was wrong yet he kept doing that and hurting Kelsey in the process. And when everything blew up in his face, he didn't even fight for her. His excuse- she didn't want him. What even! Ethan was a perfect example of a coward, he definitely wasn't the swwon worthy guy I was expecting.

The writing was simple and easy to read. This book was short, so I finished it quite easily in two sittings. **The pace was even throughout the book**. I enjoyed the flow of the dialogues and the conversation between the friends.

Overall, *Just One Kiss* was an okay read for me. The plot was clichéd and the characters were somewhat okay. I couldn't connect with them. Though I enjoyed the romance and there were quite a few hilarious scenes which were awesome. The writing was smooth and the pace was even throughout the book.

Recommend it?

Maybe you could give it a try if you like NA books and see if you like it or not.
