



Jules

Ellie Penn

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Kat likes her morning coffees extra sweet, popcorn dinners by the TV, and curling up with her sketchpad. She can also be bribed with donuts.

Her steady life of routines has no surprises around the corner, no landmines to step on, and that suits her just fine. But then comes Jules with his dark eyes and beckoning smile, wild and devastating as the sea. And she finds herself reaching forth, daring to drench in his aftermath.

Suddenly Kat is adding brown eyes and dimples to her favorites list.

But as Jules sweeps into Kat's life, she finds herself struggling to gain footing in the currents of their attraction. What does it mean to love in the face of self-doubts? And as her walls crumble in his wake, can she find steady ground in the storm that is him?

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Jules Details

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From Reader Review Jules for online ebook

Meggie says

4 stars ?? ??????

I don't normally agree to read ARCs, because I decide what to read based on my mood and, well, let's just say that my moods can be pretty volatile. Also, my goal for this year is to read books that I already own (the list is massive). However, I agreed to this one simply because it was written by a brand-new author and I think it's extremely important to support them.

At its core, this was a love story between two very different people. Jules is confident and self-assured, the kind of guy that doesn't hesitate to go after what he wants. He lives in the moment and takes chances. Kat, on the other hand, likes to blend in as she goes about the practiced routines that make up her life. She's an introvert through and through, but she's also insecure and a touch anxious. Since I'm someone that is definitely more like Jules, there were times that I found it tedious to be inside Kat's thoughts (the story is told through her POV only). That being said, it did help me not resent her for the times she doubted Jules and their relationship. He was pretty special, after all. Also, Kat loves cats and Corgi's, so that took her a long way in my book.

I really liked the pace of this story. I didn't freak out about frequent interruptions because it was easy to pick up and set back down without feeling like I had lost my groove. I also loved Jules. He was interesting, determined and smitten. The truth is that this story was a fairly simple and realistic one that was written well, especially considering she's a first-time author. Sure, there were typos and a few grammar mistakes, but I see those from established authors that pay an editor. It didn't detract from the simplistic beauty of Kat and Jules' story. There was no roaring climax, no big twist, but that was okay for me this time. I didn't need those things. The side characters we're great, especially Kat's roommate Nelly as well as her coworkers. The sex was hot, but it didn't fill every page. Their connection was center stage, and it was palpable, thus it didn't need the normal plot devices to keep the story going. Personally, I'm excited to see how Ellie Penn develops and grows as an author.

Side note: for those who care, this story is definitely safe.

♥Sana♥ says

4 Jules stars!

“I'm going to kiss you good and proper, unlike those boys you've been with in the past.”... “And every sunrise after, you'll be reminded of me.”

For a debut novel, Ellie Penn did an impressive work introducing Jules and Kat in a heartwarming way that captures the readers' hearts and makes them have all the feels.

“I collected cat videos and business cards from donut shops. This man collected posh restaurants. Our differences just kept growing.”

Jules and Kat were running in different circles but even though love found its way to their hearts.

I adored Jules because he was loving, passionate, thoughtful and so determined to penetrate Kat's shyness and get to her heart. Add their sizzling chemistry to the equation and you'll get an explosive story.

“Who’s making you wet, Katherine? Who’s making you drip like this?” He ground out. I moaned, shaking my head. “Answer me.” His touch grew fiercer. My body jerked as I cried out, “You, Jules. Only you.”

This book had everything I loved in a book. The chemistry, the characters and the story were fabulously put together making **Jules** an awesome read.

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

Redapple says

“You fret over the most inconsequential trifles, yet you’re fearless and passionate for the things you care about. That’s what I admire most about you.”

“But did it not occur to you that I would’ve tried, that I would do anything to make it work between us?”

I’m fangirling right now:

This took me by surprise. I went in not knowing what to expect, but the author managed to delight with the characters. I want to be Kat’s friend – she's adorable and kind natured. Jules is darkly sexy with smoldering eyes and their chemistry together is swoon worthy. He is so patient and protective of her and I sighed whenever he came into the scene. And those dimples ;)

The book was a bit fast paced though. Could have been longer.

4 swoon worthy stars

Dagger_femme says

The chemistry between Kat and Jules is amazing. I can’t get enough ****swoons****

I loved being in Kat’s head and seeing how her thoughts worked. She’s such a sweetheart and I think we could be besties since we both like donuts so much.

And Jules ****sighs**** he’s so good to Kat. His love and dedication to her and the fact that he adores her, faults

and all, makes him #1 in my books.

The side characters are great too. Nelly is a hoot, the duck scene had me laughing out loud. And Fluffy Jr, don't forget Fluffy Jr. This book was a hilarious, wonderfully delightful ride. I can't wait for Ellie's next book.

tara says

The last thing I would ever want to do is discourage a new author, especially one with a beautiful, unique way with words.

I'm leaving this unrated as I didn't finish this book. There was nothing wrong, more like something *missing* for me. It lacked a clear trope and it needed a **hook**. These days I need a slow-burn and this was just kind of nice and too good to be true from the beginning. Therefore, I never had a chance to get **invested**. And, in these cases I get bored easily.

Jules had many ingredients required for a steamy-romance. A beautiful man and an insecure, shy wallflower, falling in love. I'm sure many hopeless romantics will adore it!

I voluntarily read an early copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Meghanreads says

My god this book is just steamy and brilliant!

I laughed so much while devouring this.

Kat is hilarious. You seriously never know what's going to come out of her mouth. But I love her character.

Jules. Holy hotness. I just love him. He needs a trophy for putting up with Kat's antics.

I swooned, laughed and had fuzzy feelings in the end xo

Arc kindly provided for honest review

Sally says

I absolutely loved this!

"Because you're my mess. You're all that I've dreamed of and more, down to every donut-loving, coffee-obsessed inch."

Clever, witty, romantic, laugh out loud funny with original characters and an engaging story line.

Kat is rather unapologetically awkward. I want to be her best friend. Jules is the typical tall, dark protector, but I can't get enough of those

Their bedroom scenes are red hot.

Their romance is an absolute delight to read. This couple has fabulous chemistry and I even liked the secondary characters too...the scene with the ducks and donuts had me belly laughing.

This is a little short but sweet. Highly recommended.

4 STARS

Jennifer_boyle says

5 Stars *****

Received copy in exchange for an honest review.

I'm always on the lookout for funny and romantic reads. This was a winner for me, being fast paced and entertaining, with just enough heart to go with the humour.

"I would change if I could, but my fears and doubts were a maze that tangled together in my mind. I simply couldn't help living in my head. My insecurities taunted me to pick things apart from every angle, finding jagged edges in what should've been water smoothed rocks."

Kat is such a delightful, passionate character. She has her quirks and a weird obsession with food. She runs into Jules in a café and the sparks fly, but she chalks it up as a random encounter and leaves it be. They meet again weeks later and this time, Jules isn't letting her get away.

"I was used to the quiet order of my life, having mapped my routines until my days followed comforting, straight lines. But Jules toed those lines now, smearing them astray and lighting up the glooms of the rainy week until I knew I wouldn't think of blanket forts again without thinking of him."

I never thought I'd be reading a book about blanket forts and cat obsessions. Kat is delightful but the hero is the real highlight for me. He's sexy and thoughtful, and treats the heroine like she's the only woman in the room.

This novel has everything from crazy situations to laugh out loud moments, to really honest and beautiful writing. Plus an Alpha male and romance burning up the sheets. I highly recommend this one.

Christine says

What a fun read!

Kat is quite whimsical in her adorkable ways. All her little insecurities and idiosyncrasies make her such a wonderfully empathetic character. Although I think because of her doubts, I found it a little difficult to believe that Jules would fall for her so quickly. But fiction, right?

Filled with many laugh-out-loud moments ... I really enjoyed my time with this book.

Christy Bailey says

I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review! I can honestly say that for Ellie Penn being a new author you cannot tell. Her writing style was just beautiful and the little details added are what made this book! Jules was an amazing man who seemed like he had it all and Kat was the perfect match for him! I found her insecurities very refreshing considering the roles they both played. I felt that I could relate to her in so many ways. (I hate cheese as well! Crazy right!) I loved how Jules brought her out of her shell and how much she transformed during this story. I give this book 4 and a half stars! The only thing that would of made this better was to have the amazing proposal and her response added in! I can guess how it ended, but I am a sucker for the cheesy proposals! Definitely can't wait to see what else Ellie has in store in her future books!

OrlandoBlue says

Words.... I have no words for how moving this book is. I did not want it to end. Like at all. I wanted it to keep going on and on. Why did it have to be so short?

I haven't laughed this hard in a while. While I like me a tear-jerker or two, it's nice sometimes to sit back and read a light-hearted but beautifully written novel. This one suited me perfectly. Ellie Penn has a way with words, I hope she writes more soon! Kat and Jules are a wonderful couple, opposites in personalities, but similar in their devotion and love for each other.

"I remembered how I'd stumbled from my routine that morning, clutching that little rock like it was a treasure. Jules pushed me to take the leap with him, to abandon my lull of quiet safety, and in doing so, I found more treasures than I could hold."

Jess says

Great first book by Ellie Penn. A quick, passionate read. I was surprised by how lost I got in the characters. A commendable effort for a first time author. I look forward to seeing what Ellie has in store for us next.

ARC received in exchange for an honest review.

Kerry Leune says

4.5 STARS

“I want to hole up in blanket forts with you, to trek through the woods and watch the stars by your side, to ride off on your bike like we could outrun the wind. I want it all.”

What a fantastic debut novel by Ellie Penn! The author guides us through Kat’s inner growth, both emotionally, as an artist, and in her relationship with Jules. It is a sweet, heartfelt, and at times deeply moving, read. Written in first person, readers get to follow along as Kat learns to let down her guard (or venture out her garden as the book puts it) and fight for what she loves.

“Maybe creativity ran most vivid in the depths of loneliness and longing...The yearning soaked into my bones and bled out with every stroke of the pencil.”

Oh don’t get started on the hero, Jules. WHERE CAN I FIND A JULES OF MY OWN? He is my new BBF. Tall, dark, handsome and a total Alpha Male. He is so protective of Kat and adores her for all her idiosyncrasies. The sparks fly like fireworks between the two.

His lips traced along my pink skin like a brand. “After all that we’ve done, you’re still getting shy on me?”

My eyes fluttered shut when his hot mouth closed around my breast. “You’re always muddling my head. That probably isn’t going to change.”

He pushed me back down onto the bed. “I have every intention to keep you blushing.”

Jules won me over with how patient he is with Kat. He’s possessive without being overbearing, alpha without the asshole. He gives her the space she needs to work out the worries in her head, but is always there waiting for her. The two of them together is so sweet and their chemistry is off the charts ;)

The story was a solid 4.5 Star read. I only wish it was longer. The author did a nice job bringing the story to a full circle with the garden allusion in the climax. The epilogue in the end where we get Jules’ POV is a nice touch too.

“Walk away to magic, Katherine, and know that I’m with you every step of the way.”

**ARC courtesy of author in exchange for an honest review*

Amber says

Jules is an impressive debut novel by Ellie Penn. A heartwarming and sexy love story with a shy heroine Katherine, who always plays it safe and a sweet and sexy hero Jules, who kept surprising me throughout. Ellie Penn wrote the perfect book boyfriend with Jules. He had many layers and it was nice to see how he got Katherine out of her shell.

While there were a few minor editing issues, I was still charmed by this book and look forward to seeing how this author's work evolves.

Sadie says

Awkwardly Endearing Heroine + Intensely Protective Hero = Swooning Reader

4.5 STARS
