



If Only

Louise J.

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Callie

What's a girl to do when she meets a man who claims the heart that she's already given to someone else? My boyfriend is everything I've ever wanted, he's perfect, but when I met Joe ... I can't even describe the intensity of my attraction to him. I'd never experienced anything like it before. Since then, it's become something so much deeper and I'm finding it impossible to ignore what I feel for him. I know I'm already with the man I should be with, yet I want Joe. I can't seem to get my head and my heart to agree on this. I'm not about to cheat and I won't just drop the man I love. But what do I do about Joe?

Joe

Tattoos, bikes, and women—that's been my life for the last two years and it suited me just fine. Until the day I swerved to avoid a raggedy old VW bug heading my way, hit the sidewalk, and ended up sprawled on my back. I came around to a pounding headache and the most gorgeous girl I've ever seen. Don't know if it was the effect she had on me, or the accident, but I somehow managed to let her go without exchanging information, more importantly—numbers. Maybe it would've been better if things had stayed that way. Maybe then I wouldn't be caught up in this dilemma. I should do what most guys would do and pursue her, regardless of her being in a relationship. Trust me, it's tempting. The problem is, I've been on the receiving end of a situation similar to this, so I know the hurt I could cause and I don't think I can do that. But I want Callie. I want her bad.

When Callie and Joe met, neither were prepared for the sequence of events that would follow, or the impact of the choices they would go on to make.

*Adult Contemporary Romance. Can be read as a stand-alone.

If Only Details

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From Reader Review If Only for online ebook

Liz says

Incredible! Sweet, Edgy, slightly Predictable at times, HAWT Chemistry, and wonderful! Your heart pounds throughout the book! Great Main Characters and turn of events. Written so well, and holds your interest throughout! Cannot wait for more of Ms. Louise J's work!

Definite MUST READ!

Quotes that made an impression on my heart and mind:

"Those rich coffee beans have been imprinted on my memory since I first saw them. Sitting this near to reality is almost deliberating"

"For that funky little angel I would break the rules"

"That smile sent a wave of heat up my spine and tingling sensations somewhere I refuse to acknowledge"

"My heart has officially just been yanked out of my fucking chest"

"I chose to protect the heart that wanted you"

Bayli says

5 Phenomenal, Sexy, Tear inducing, Laughter will be had STARS

Finally, a book I couldn't put down!!!!

Sorry had to get my dance on there for a second because I just love love loved this book!

My Joe is Marco Dapper

I really couldnt picture Callie any other way than this: :)

Imagine meeting your soulmate purely by accident. Literally an accident... A car/motorcycle accident to be exact.

That's what happened with Callie and Joe. After that meet, both regretted not getting the others name or information. But Joe wasn't really interested in having a serious relationship, so why couldn't he get this girl outa his head? And Callie already had a serious boyfriend that she not only loved but was really very attracted too. She thought her boyfriend was the guy she was supposed to marry. But if that's the case why does Joe's coffee bean brown eyes keep showing up in her thoughts?

Fast forward about a month later.

Callie wants a tattoo and her nipples pierced. Guess who just so happens to be her tattoo artist? You guessed right, Joe. Joe the guy she can't seem to get off of her mind. Joe is just as shocked by seeing Callie and can't seem to keep his mind on the job. He's constantly thinking of getting her in bed (but shocking himself, he realizes he would want more than that with Callie).

So what do you do when your soulmate already has a boyfriend?

Well, Joe decides to wait. He will wait until she's single before he ever makes a move.

The problem with that? Well Callie just assumes Joe doesn't have any feelings for her, so she stays with her boyfriend.

What comes from this?

Well the two become best friends. Both still have feelings for one another- However both refuse to act. Neither one knows how the other feels.

Again fast forward 7 years later....

Well how can I do this will it be giving to much away?

Let's see... Imagine you finally have a chance with your soulmate. You take it and it's just as beautiful as you ever imagined. So you want everything and you want it quickly. What's the use in waiting when you know what you want?

But it just as quickly comes to stop... With something as simple as a knock on the door?

Well it shocked me. It shocked Callie and it sure as hell shocked Joe.

My heart broke with Callie and Joe's. I literally felt the ache and I wanted to cry. God, it was horrible.

And it was horrible for about 3 more years :(Can you imagine having your heart feel completely shattered for 3 freakin years? I can and that would just be torturous. And let me tell you, it certainly was to read it.

This book was definitely bittersweet to me. My heart still aches for the time they lost and the tribulations they had to face in their lives... But I also adored how very powerful their love was!

This novel is Steamy. Funny. Heart Breaking. I devoured it. I literally could not put this book down and now all I can do is anxiously wait for the next in the series!!!!

There is not a major cliffhanger but you will be left wondering "well what happens next"

Elizabeth (Liz) says

4.5 Stars....A lot of wasted time, and Callie made me super cranky for a while, but still...I couldn't stop reading! Well written, sexy, fun...very enjoyable....FULL REVIEW TO COME...

Linda Sims says

EMOTIONAL STORYTELLING

The first time Callie Meets Joe is when she runs him off the road with her car. She's 18 and he's 22. After that first meeting neither can quite get the other out of their head. Then Callie walks into the tattoo parlour

where Joe works with his brother Adam. Joe is ecstatic to see Callie again, he's determined to pursue her but she has a steady boyfriend. She's not a cheater, and he doesn't steal other mens women. Neither realise how the other one feels so it's friendship.

This is a first read for me by this author. I initially thought that this was going to be just another tattooed bad boy story, but it's much more than that. The story spans a 10 year time period. I have to say right off that there were times that this story got me very frustrated, particularly with Callie. Although I did like her as a character it was just that she was a bit of a ditherer at times. Joe was a great character as well but again he had his annoying moments. This story is quite emotional at times. I liked the way the author kept Callie's boyfriend Nick in the background much of the time this helped me not to feel too conflicted about him. There are a whole cast of side characters who were very well fleshed out and not just there to make up the numbers. I did feel the ending need more, perhaps an epilogue. I believe that this is the authors debut. It's a fine first effort.

JoJo - JJJ (Jo Anna) Janesko says

I loved it!!! Absolutely and excellent book. A must read!!!!

Natalie says

*I freaking LOVE these kinds of books,
and I totally hate them too.*

Because they leave me absolutely emotinally exhausted. Reading this book is like riding a rollercoaster, with ups, downs, and turns. When you're done you feel slightly dizzy by the ride.

This book was like *Thoughtless* all over again, with a small touch of *Fallen too Far* . But instead of cursing Kiera the intire time, you're cursing all the *IF ONLY'S* .

And don't let the cover fool you when you're starting this. *If Only* IS NOT, let me tell you, a light hearted romance or whatever. It is seriously emotional and angsty but oh, SO WORTH IT!! Let me tell yo a bit about the hero and heroine:

CALLIE

She has pink hair. SHE HAS PINK HAIR. That was enough to capture my attention. She is 18 years old. Has a boyfriend since 4 months that she consider's the love of her life. She has a GREAT personality. I instantly liked her. She does what she wants, without caring what other people says. She lives life to fhe fullest. She has a AWSOME best friend in Su.

JOE

22 years old. Totally a badboy who wants a relationship but avoids them. Screws everything with a skirt. Covered in tattoo's. Is a tattoo artist, oh and did I mention thst he is *sex on legs*?(I'd love to see his back tattoo, the one at the people almost kissing...it sound so beautiful...)

When *Callie and Joe* meet with a BOOM the attraction is there immediately. But they are too chicken shit to take eachother's name and number so they walk away, thinking they will never see eachother again.

Plus, Callie has a boyfriend that she is certain is her soulmate.

But fate has other plans... and when Callie and Joe meet again, THEIR LIFE WILL NEVER BE THE SAME, granted, it takes TIME. But any other life they're trying to have is doomed from the start, because it's not with eachother....

This book starts with a BOOM and then we get to know the characters (I really liked that the book was from both Callie's and Joe's POV, btw) and then another BOOM and everytime the book started to get a bit boring and predictable, there was a BOOM and you couldn't read fast enough to see what happens, you curse the turn of events, your palms starts to sweat, your heart's racing. I freaking LOVED it. And hated it. But mostly I loved it. A bit of *Avoiding Commitment* feeling over this book. It was like crack.

If you don't like to read about the hero/heroine having sex with others then just.....skip those parts, because YOU HAVE TO READ THIS BOOK. A little warning though...

And don't read this book right before you're gonna sleep, especially not the last part of it...

I wanna shout from the rooftop how much I love Joe and Callie and make everyone read this EXCELLENT book!!>/i>

I NEED THE SEQUEL NOW!BADLY!!

I recommend this book to EVERYONE.

IF YOU LOVE KELLAN KYLE, YOU WILL LOVE JOE!!

Ash Ash says

[Good God two people in love with each other for 7 years and get together after the heroine breaks up with her boyfriend and finally when they plan a quickie wedding to a happily ever after another shock comes in the form of a ex-girlfriend of the hero who is turns out to be pregnant because of one time mistake.. heroine like a fool tells the hero she cant accept the kid and runs away and again contacts him after a year only to find out he has moved on

Karen says

3.5 Stars

If Only is the perfect title for this book. The crux of the story is based on choices and regrets of said choices. I blitzed through this book very quickly because I wanted to know where it was headed and quickly grew to love the characters. I definitely didn't see several twists coming and was taken by surprise a few times. Along with those surprises were heartbreaking revelations.

This book could easily be considered a 5 star read by others; I wanted it to be for me. I enjoyed the author's writing, the world she created and loved all of the characters. My rating is completely personal and based on my own frustrations with the way the story unfolded. Trust me; there were parts I loved and savored. The story kept me pulled in and I wanted to root for the characters. But, the last 40% had me feeling extremely

frustrated, sad and angry by the constant obstacles being thrown at our hero and heroine. There were several points where I had to put my kindle down and take a break because it was simply too much angst. But, honestly it was the poor choices and lack of communication that was a killer for me. I have said in many of my reviews that "time wasted" (we're talking LOTS of time) story themes are not a favorite of mine. I get so focused on the "what if" and "what could have been" that it takes away from the present/future happiness for me - add in miscommunications and I start to get angry.

I am not opposed to angst; in fact, some of my favorite reads have been full of it. And, possibly I am looking at this all wrong; maybe I should focus on the fact that I must have been overly invested in the characters and storyline which means it was great read. In the end, the angst overshadowed any form of happiness I could feel about the final scenes.

Bottom line: There will be more books in the series and I will definitely read the next one when it is released.

Sanny says

What I can I say?

The first chapter was awesome and from there on it went extremely downhill. Around 40% I had to talk myself into reading on and that shouldn't be. I'm not sure I can actually pinpoint what annoyed me so much but I'll try.

I've got no issues with love triangles themselves but really over 10 damn years? Had I been in Joe's place, I would've told Callie "Fuck you." a long time ago. She's the kind of woman that I try to stay far, far away from in real life. And women like her are the reason why I have more male friends than female ones.

She is whiny, bitchy, insecure (even if the author tries to portray her differently) and downright immature and that throughout the WHOLE book. I absolutely can't stand her whiny ass.

From here on out there'll be spoilers - so only read on if you don't care about that:

The way she keeps stringing guys along even though she knows that she loves Joe the most is just wrong. And the reason why she stringed others along instead of going for Joe whom she really wants is even worse. She strings one guy along for seven years just because she thinks that Joe doesn't want a commitment. Reasoning that she loves Nick as well is no goddamn excuse when she keeps repeating that Joe is her soul mate.

Oh and really, even after being friends for 7 years, they actually seem to think that an engagement one day after they FINALLY talk about their feelings is an good idea. And obviously a wedding 6 days later is an even better idea. Meh...

And wouldn't you guess it? At the first sign of trouble (after not even dating for a whole week) Callie runs away as fast as possible - Smart move, really. Woman, you claim the guy is your soul mate and you freak at the FIRST FUCKING sign of trouble and run?! For 3 goddamn years? What the hell is wrong with you?

This didn't work for me, not at all. Not the characters, not the plot, not the writing.

Sorry for the rant.

Angelyn says

I have 7 words to say after all that...

* Deep Breath *

I NEED THE NEXT FUCKING BOOK NOW!!!

Excuse my use of colourful words but THIS BOOK IS AWESOME!

I saw the book and decided to give it a chance and boy am I glad I did!!!

I absolutely LOVE LOVE LOVEEE this book!

Basically, the story is that Callie and Joe met when a traffic accident happened and they practically want to know each other, but neither of them got the other's name or phone number. So one day, when Callie entered a tattoo parlour to get a tattoo, she saw Joe because he's the owner and they had loads of sparks going off!! Problem? Callie has a boyfriend, Nick. And the story goes on.

Firstly, I know what you're thinking, It's another lame ass love triangle where the person would probably cheat and what not. BUT IT'S NOT!! It's not really about the love triangle, more about two people falling in love with each other and giving each other a chance. I didn't know what to expect, but this book probably went past my expectations. And when THAT part came, it was like my heart got torn out of my chest and was being squeezed like crazy! And just when I thought I knew what was gonna happen, BOOM! CHANGE! And THAT made my heart beat freaking fast, clench like it's trying to fit in a microscopic box and was being blended into heart juice!! And trust me, after this you'd probably have yourself thinking

"Huh.. Maybe love does always win in the end,"

I loved the characters and I LOVEEE Roman!! GO KING OF AWESOME!!

And Callie? How often do you get a heroine with cotton candy hair!?! Joe was sweeeetttt and was that bad boy next door!! Dane and Su are just awesome in the best way!! Protective, understanding like the big brothers and sisters I wish I had but can't have because they don't exist :P they're just really awesome friends.

And there I was, happily reading then without realising it..

"This is so not the end! This is our brand new beginning. x"

THAATTTT came up :| needless to say, I need the next book soon. Err.. Sooner than later :B

It's just a really amazing book about two people finding each other, falling in love and overcoming obstacles to be together even if it's hard and causes the person who's reading their story to try and breathe with liquid heart juice. And proving that maybe, MAYBE love overcomes everything :P

Tania Godoy says

Luego de pensarlo por días, literal días, acá estoy. Este fue un libro diría yo muy largo, y lo leí ya que leí la sinopsis y me llamó la atención, luego seguí con mis asuntos y la cuestión vino a mi mente de la nada, y fue un esfuerzo tremendo recordar el nombre del libro. Y por alguna extraña razón tenía que leerlo. Además la portada es hermosa!

Joe y Callie se conocen en circunstancias bien especiales, y ella tiene novio, él enseguida cae por ella, pero ella, piensa en su novio, poco a poco, va surgiendo algo, que comienza como amistad y sigue así por bastante, hasta conseguir lo que merecían ambos.

Me gusto Joe para mi fue el personaje del libro, él es leal, buen amigo, y respetuoso. El sabe lo que es esperar y no dañar a alguien más. Es trabajador y un mujeriego, pero la verdad me gustan esos personajes disolutos, que luego cambian, o no necesariamente que cambien. LOL.

Callie es agradable e inteligente, pero ella fue difícil, fue ambigua, dudosa, y creo que fue quien más equivocaciones cometió, y por puro placer creo yo. Sin embargo madura a través de la historia.

Todo el grupo de amigos me encanto, cada uno aportó algo y se que hay libros de los demás, pero aún no es para mí. Me gustaron las escenas de sexo, los diálogos entre Joe y Callie esa dinamica, de amigos y ese amor a fuego lento, literal, es libro es bien extenso.

El puntaje la verdad es por Joe, su alegría y su fe en todo momento, por esa capacidad de amar sin medida, y no niego que la narración estuvo muy linda. Es una historia cuya pretensión posiblemente es dejar la lección de que el amor, esta donde menos lo esperas, que cambias a través del tiempo, y que los amigos son para siempre a pesar de cualquier cosa. Aun no comprendo mi razón para leer la historia, algun día lo sabre, pero sin duda lo disfrute.

mejmi says

I had to wait a few days to write this review because my thoughts after reading the book were all over the place.

First off, let me just say I wasn't sure if I should read the book, because I don't really like books about cheating and love triangles (it just hits too close to home, if you know what I mean). BUT this is not one of those books. The story is actually pretty deep and quite sad.

I really liked ALL the characters, especially Callie. I loved that she had pink hair, pierced nipples and tattoos, which isn't at all common in YA/NA books. I loved Joe also, but this isn't what I want to talk about in this review.

Let me just say that even though I love to read romance, I don't really see myself in going through the same things as the characters in the books. I have no problem in connecting to the characters if the writing is good, but this book... wow... I actually see myself in feeling like this...

Loving someone, but not being able to be with them because the timing is wrong or something's always getting in the way or not being able to tell the person you love that you love them, because you're just afraid of rejection. Ring a bell? I'm pretty sure everyone goes through at least one of those things.

This book contains ALL of them. My heart was aching the entire time throughout reading the book. I was so mad at the author at times, because I kept thinking haven't they been through enough already? Hasn't enough time passed and they should be together already?! I kept counting the years and hoping that this would be the year that they would get together. But NO. Time just kept passing and life kept getting in the way of love.

Finishing the book, I was left with bittersweet emotions.

I guess everything worked out in the end, but for so many people in the world it doesn't... and that just breaks my heart. Life just isn't fair. How can someone you love be so close, yet so far away at the same time?

So, yeah. Read the book, dunno what else to say. I loved it and I'll definitely never forget it, no matter how many books I read.

Akanksha♥ Søren? says

4.5?

Loved Callie and Joe's journey from the start bang to their end bang!! ;)

This book starts of with a **BANG!!** Like really a bang, no pun intended.

OK That maybe exaggerating it a bit too much.. btw.. Callie and Joe did **BANG** into each other.. and hence they meet.. He thinks he is dead and a pink haired funky angel is greeting him.. :P

The story picks up from there how one event leads to any other, A bit in the middle-start part I did feel the story a bit dragged but yet totally loved the book overall..

LOVED each and every character to the core, like seriously **ALL** of them..

The all were so refreshing and sweet, accepting and open!

Callie

In my head, she is so the chick on the cover.. in every sense as pretty as her!

I **REALLY** liked/loved Callie.. I usually don't like the main female character of the books mostly ever because they usually piss the shit out of me because I would never like to see a girl being that way, spineless or selfish or crap but Callie.. I just couldn't not love her.. She was pretty, thriving on live and just simply amazing, so selfless loving thoughtful would never hurt anyone and rather hurt herself!!

But at the same time I was angry at her good qualities too! I mean **YOU CAN BE SELFISH** once in a while, especially for true love you **STUPID GIRL!**

Joe

Thats his face in my head, with **WAYH** more tats and a nipple piercing ;)

He is hot, caring, considerate, stupid, loving and fucking sexy!!

Gosh, I fell in love with him.. but hell boy! you should open your fucking mouth and **SPEAK THE FUCK UP & FIGHT FOR YOUR LOVE!!**

Dane

I loveddddd him! Could totally fall in love with him if it weren't for Joe :P

Would so want an adoptive brother like him! ;)) hehe And a bestfriend or a boyfriend like him! :P

Su

Asian, funky and totally **SWEET!** A best friend one would always want!

Loved Saff, Adam and Gerade too!

Tattoos + Bikes + Nipple piercing + Leather + Ripped body = Me jumping someone's bones

Loved the book, there is more to come.. but I think it will continue on one of the other guy's story with their story mixed into it..

Btw, I donno.. got no clue! Lets wait and see! :P

Heather says

WARNING: MINOR SPOILERS

This book seriously got on my nerves. How many ways can one screw up a relationship? Let us count the ways...

- 1) Staying in a relationship with a someone who is not "the right one".
- 2) Making assumptions about what others want and not asking.
- 3) Not sharing your feelings or communicating in any way about said feelings.
- 4) Running from your fears.
- 5) Settling for less than because being with the right person is too hard.
- 6) Not accepting that other peoples lives change and sometimes they have no choice in that matter.
- 7) NOT COMMUNICATING...AGAIN!

Oh the angst!

Ok, so this was one big cluster fu*k of mistakes. **If Only** is an apt title. It drove me insane. I know some people liked it but I just couldn't buy into it and I kept waiting for this angst to work itself out only to be frustrated again.

Callie:

Callie was so cute and sweet and I loved her. She had it all a hot motocross boyfriend and wonderful relationship and love. But she had no idea what "love" really was. Not until a fateful day when she crossed paths with Joe.

Joe:

Joe is a an enigma. He is a super-sweet good boy in a bad boy persona. Yes, he loves women. No, he doesn't want a relationship. But...if the right girl came along, *maybe, just maybe* he would change his mind. I wanted to like Joe. He was HOT and he was a tattoo artist. I just wanted to smack him upside the head.

This book made me want to pull my hair out!

I found myself skimming past seemingly unrelated and unimportant parts to get to the good parts. They were few and far between for me. I am so sorry to those of you who loved this book. It was just ok for me. There were LOTS of details that could have been skipped, they did not add to the story, only detracted from it. The lack of communication and naivete of both main characters made me feel like they were thirteen and not twenty-somethings.

I got that they grew and grew up but still...come on.
3 stars for me.

Starla85 says

What an amazing story about genuine love, but it's not just any old love story.

Just when you feel it's coming to its conclusion, it takes an unexpected twist which I injects even more excitement and suspension into it.

This book really arouses, yes and I really mean AROUSES all sorts of emotions, humour, fun, longing, anger, horny....yes I said it. The author did a great job of really evoking these emotions in me. I found myself laughing out loud then shouting abuse the next minute.

I was very engaged all the way through and felt every event had its place and was necessary to make to story the masterpiece that it is.

I particularly found the diversity of the characters very refreshing. They are all very likeable & entertaining.

Overall I think Lousie J is an amazing writer that has the ability to pull you into the of the story, so that you actually live the emotions out whilst your reading, PURE TALENT.

"It's a little package of dynamite"lol sorry I loved that bit!

xxx
