



SUSAN HATLER

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Librarian Note: Alternate Cover Edition for ASIN: B014LQ18CW.

Olivia Lane wants to become the premiere event planner for Blue Moon Bay's rich and famous. But first she has to impress Greta von Strand—millionaire and bestselling author of *Men: Who Needs Them?*—by pulling off a two-week luxury getaway for women. The retreat's all about getting women to embrace their independence by nurturing themselves and each other, and Olivia, who's never been lucky-in-love herself, is looking forward to it.

The retreat and Olivia's goals hit a roadblock, however, when sweet-talking firefighter, Brody Mitchell, and his smoking hot friends take up residence at the mansion next door. Now, she must successfully keep Greta and the other women away from their male neighbors, fight her attraction to Brody, and pull off the retreat of a lifetime in one fell swoop.

It's a battle of the sexes she's determined to win, otherwise she could lose everything—including her heart.

The Perfect Kiss Details

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From Reader Review The Perfect Kiss for online ebook

Cynthia says

This is a cute and funny read with a group of women who have been hurt by men who are learning to live without them. Bestselling author Greta von Strand is having a retreat on teaching women to embrace their independence by nurturing themselves and each other. Olivia's heart has been broken she is looking forward to not only running this retreat but learning how to stand on her own without leaning on a man. The kicker is she met a sexy bartender who gets her heart pumping and she knows she has to say no. With sinking heart she turns him down knowing she has to follow the guidelines given to get her business off the ground. Olivia cannot catch a break with Greta breathing down her neck and Brody showing up next door she can't win. Can these women live without a man for two weeks or will Brody and his friends break the goal of Men: Who Needs Them?

I enjoyed all these characters and the messes they get into. Olivia is a sweet lady, who has a lot on her plate from her parents marriage falling apart, as well as starting her own business, keeping her old job, keeping Brock at arms length seems to be a big challenge for her and keeping Greta happy why trying to control every other thing in her life. Things seem to get out of hand starting with a few hot firefighters. She needs to hold all this together just as she gets one thing fixed another issue pops up. Brock is a hot flirty mess who can resist a man after your own heart. He is strong, caring and loving who has his sights on Olivia. Each supporting character is wonderful as they bring a smile to your face. These women must learn they can be independent women as well as have a man to love. A few bad apples doesn't mean the whole bunch is bad.

This was a very humorous fun read that will keep you smiling. It does start out a little slow but soon heat up to some fast moves and a little action. It is a clean read that you will enjoy as the author puts a few twists in each of the characters way to make this a very entertaining read. In this book you will find a legend which brings two people together to make their own. The message is strong you can be your own person and be independent but still have the love of your life. You can be who and what you want to be and still be yourself. I have totally enjoyed this series and can't wait for the next one.

Mojca says

copy provided by publisher through NetGalley

Not so much "*a battle of the sexes*", but more a first-person POV study into an insecure woman's insecurities and inner musings. Luckily for me, this was a short story, because I couldn't stomach Olivia in a larger dose. She was all over the place, but instead of coming off as quirky and endearing, she ended up on the annoying side of the spectrum. I actually pitied the hero for falling for the woman, while also wondering just what he's fallen for the woman.

I liked the premise, the rest of the (supporting) cast was great, the pacing wasn't bad either, but unfortunately the heroine was.

Layna says

Review originally posted on Ctrl, Alt, Books!

The Perfect Kiss is my favorite in the Kissed by the Bay series! Olivia has to be the one I relate to the most in her group of friends. She is torn between working at a job she hates and trying to get her own business up and running. Brody is mysterious but as the story progresses, you get to know him better and find out more about his past. He's sweet, romantic, handsome and a firefighter (aka a hero). He's everything you could ever want in a book boyfriend!

I loved this story so much because it shows you how much Olivia grows as a person. She learns how to move on from her past heartbreak and how to become an independent woman, all while starting up her own business which has been her life long dream. The story doesn't really revolve around the Blue Moon Bay legend, like the other stories in the series that I've read. Although the legend is still there, it doesn't really influence or affect the plot of the story. Olivia's life might have been in turmoil when the story started, but she got the happy ending that she deserved.

Susan Hatler has a knack for writing stories that give you that warm fuzzy feeling. Her romance stories are always a delightful read and they have the happily ever after ending we all crave. There hasn't been a story of hers that I haven't enjoyed!

5/5

~Layna

Kristen says

This was a really fun book. Brody was awesome. Olivia was sweet and had her issues, but grew a lot over the book. Fun second book in the set. This can be a stand-alone but the characters from book 1 are mentioned a few times.

Moral Note: Some passionate kissing, talk of cheating, drinking & bar scenes

Alisa says

Olivia would love to get take her event planning to the next level so she can finally quit her job at the seafood market. She has read the best-selling book "Men: Who Needs Them?" by Greta von Strand and feels like she is on her way to becoming a strong, independent woman. She is hosting a 2-week retreat for Greta - and if this goes well then her future is set as the exclusive event planner for Greta.

Of course, everything that can go wrong, does. It all starts when she meets Brody Mitchell, a firefighter who is staying with a bunch of his firefighting buddies at his uncle's house NEXT DOOR to her retreat. And he is determined to get to know her better, and she's having a hard time resisting him! This was a fun read, and I am looking forward to the next book in the series!

As a strong, independent woman who has been happily married for 22 years, I loved the underlying message

that you don't have to be a man-hater to be strong and independent -- You just need to find the right guy who will support you and help you to be a better person!

Content: Clean

Source: Review copy (opinion is 100% my own)

Angie says

Olivia was trying to get her business off the ground doing the Date Escape retreat and heal her broken heart. She meets Brody and suddenly she can't decide if she wants to be single or date him cause they share such an attraction. Olivia has so much stuff happening around her she has a hard time deciding what to do first. This was a really good book and I am loving Blue Moon Bay!

Claire - The Coffeeholic Bookworm says

Olivia Lane was determined to show everyone that she wasn't just a girl who sells fish in the Market.. No. She's going to be a successful event planner and she would do everything to achieve that goal. And that meant sacrificing her love life. Not that she had any, though. After an ugly breakup with Hunter Cartwright, Olivia had sworn off men from her life. All she needed to do was to impress Greta Von Strand, author of Men: Who Needs Them? in their Date Escape event and her future is set.

Brody Mitchell was bartending at his uncle's bar when he met Olivia and was immediately attracted to her. Too bad though, this red head had clearly warned him she didn't want to get involved. But how far could Olivia resist temptation when her scheduled two-week retreat with single ladies was threatened by hot men and hunks vacationing next door?

Oh how I enjoyed this book! The Perfect Kiss is quite entertaining and definitely all sorts of romantic. Main issue here though was lack of communication from the characters which lead to lots of misunderstandings and breakups and broken hearts. Typical scenario but the fun and giggles in this book were a blast. I loved Brody the moment I met him, I can't say the same with Olivia though.. I thought she was too uptight. Great thing there was the Date Escape that helped her loosen up. Love how everything turned out in the end. That perfect kiss was sure worth the wait.

Heather says

This one was hard to put down to can't wait to carry on the journey

Bernadette Robinson says

I gave this a 3 star or 6/10. It's a well written contemporary story that can be read as a standalone, but is part of the Kissed by the Bay series by Susan Hatler.

The Perfect Kiss is a novella length story that features as a cosy romantic storyline.

Olivia Lane wants to run an Event Planning Business, she is tasked with running an event for an acclaimed author of a book, called Men: Who Needs Them? It's her job to run a retreat for women, where they can learn how to be independent and to realise that they don't need a man in their life in order to survive.

Olivia is keen to make a success of the retreat and hires a property on a beach. What she doesn't realise is that the occupants of the adjacent property are going to be a group of firefighters. Will this be to the detriment of her retreat or can she use them to her advantage? More over one of the occupants turns out to be none other than Brody, who she'd met when he was working behind the bar one night and who'd turned her eye in more ways than one.

I enjoyed the on/off relationship that began to develop between Olivia and Brody as their paths inevitably crossed.

Did Olivia manage to survive without Brody or was she acting against everything that she was trying to promote at the retreat? The answers can be found out for yourselves, if you grab a copy of this story.

This is not the first story by Susan Hatler that I've read and it probably won't be the last.

??Hannah?? says

This was a fun and cute read. I liked how there was more than one couple being in this. It helped keep things interesting. It was also nice that everybody got a happy ending. I'm just hoping the rest of the books will be just as good.

Irène Wadowski uliasz says

Où comment la peur , l'indécision et le manque de confiance en soi vous empêchent de vivre pleinement

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

Reading books by Susan Hatler is a bit like hanging out with an old friend. I've never actually met Susan, but her books are like friends to me; her writing style familiar. I love the moment of anticipation when I get to settle in with a new novel written by Susan just for me. ;)

This is the second book in the Kissed by the Bay series. The books are independent of each other but you will find characters from the first book in the second. They will be more familiar to you if you read the books in order, but you surely do not need to.

Men: Who Needs Them? This totally makes me laugh because all these women are at a retreat that revolves around a book titled Men: Who Needs Them and yet most all of them are all gooey eyed, weak kneed women who need those men in their lives. Said women are very, very good at finding reasons (or excuses) to have said men around while still maintaining they don't need them. It's so funny.

Olivia is trying so desperately to find success in her new business. She has so much riding on the retreat she has planned and things just keep going awry. Poor Olivia. But, you can't feel too bad for her for too long because one of her distractions is the smoking hot, all man next door who doesn't keep his attraction to her a secret. Yeah. Who needs that?!

I loved the sparks going every which way in this book. I loved coming full circle to the end. This was a fun book that gave me goosies and made me smile. I am loving this series! Can't wait to see what comes next!

Content: clean

Stories & Verse says

"The Perfect Kiss" is a story that gives advice and suggestions for therapy. It is also a love at first sight romance and a romantic comedy. It is reminiscent of a self-help book with a love story intermingled. It confronts the decision of pursuing your passion as a career or your passion for a relationship with another person. I liked that the chapters were not too long and I kept wanting to read more to find out what happened next.

There are three romances in the story, Olivia and Brody, Olivia's mom and dad, and Greta and Scotty. Each have a similar theme related to a break up because one person mistakenly thought the other was involved with another person. The only person who didn't have a story was Charlie, Olivia's friend from high school. As I anticipated, her story will be told in the next book in the series, "Just one Kiss."

Comedic romance is not my favorite genre, but I would highly recommend reading this book. It has advice and romance and the characters are easy to connect with.

Katie W says

I honestly couldn't read this one fast enough. Olivia is trying to branch out and become an event planner and has her chance to prove herself with a two week getaway for women. After a terrible breakup, Olivia read bestseller Men: Who Needs Them? and has convinced the author, Greta, to do a retreat for women in similar situations to learn to become independent of men. Things start off rocky when Brody and his friends are found staying in the mansion next door and seem to be everywhere the women are. Olivia will do whatever it takes to make a name for herself and get her business off the ground...even if it means losing a chance on love.

Olivia has struggled with making decisions in the past, but is now ready to move forward with her future and is making chances to get herself to where she wants to be. I like how determined and motivated she is. I really like her as a character, as well. She's fun, organized, creative, and human. Brody is a great guy! He's persistent and patient. I love their interactions, misunderstandings, and flirty banter. There are some great secondary characters too, some of which we've met before. The successes and mishaps really added to the fun.

I really look forward to each new book, wondering which characters will pop up and how their stories will be

told. This is a fun addition and I loved the way it all played out. I love the legend associated with this town. This one is a fun, clean, contemporary romance!

Content: mild romance (kissing); mild language. Clean!

I received a copy in exchange for an honest review

Ivy says

I had fun reading this. Pretty short but totally enjoyable.

The characters were totally authentic because of their flaws. I liked Brody a lot but had my difficulties with Olivia. I didn't like how obsessively she followed her counsel, written by Greta. Who also is another character I dislike. Seeming so filled with bitterness to appear vulnerable later, which makes her kind of likeable but is so predictable.

Though I get that this is what makes this story, I was constantly rolling my eyes because of these two. And because of a few soppy moments, which seem to be solely included to add drama.

I liked how things turned out in the end, even the soppy parts.

3,5 Stars overall
