



Kiss Cam

Kiara London

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In *Kiss Cam*, teen author Kiara London asks, what's a little harmless kissing between friends?

Juniper, Jasper, and Lenny have been friends forever and co-own a vlog channel called WereVloggingHere. Their fans are huge "shippers" who believe that Juniper and Jasper are perfect for each other, and, despite warnings from friends and family, a simple Truth-or-Dare inspired kiss soon spirals out of control into a whole new world of making out and surprise kisses.

Juniper and Jasper's relationship begins to shift. But as fan requests for different "Kiss Cam" segments keep pouring in, Juniper puts her worries aside and convinces herself that it doesn't mean anything. After all, it's just kissing... right?

Kiss Cam Details

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Author : Kiara London

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From Reader Review Kiss Cam for online ebook

Cynthia (Bingeing On Books) says

I received this ARC from NetGalley in exchange for my honest review.

This book is responsible for getting me out of an awful reading slump so for that reason alone, it has a special place in my heart. Very few books have the ability to make me laugh out loud, but this one did. I loved the friendship and the banter and the silliness and the weird situation all the friends put themselves in and the romance and the chemistry . . . and okay, I just loved all of it.

I know it's a weird premise: Juniper, Jasper and Lenny are running a Youtube channel and Juniper and Jasper decide to give the fans of their fake friendship what they want and they basically kiss on camera. It's a weird scenario and probably a bit unrealistic, but I still loved how fun and silly it was. Juniper had a crush on Jasper years ago, but got over that (or so she says) and now they (along with Lenny) are the best of friends. Juniper and Jasper are SUPER close, to the point where Juniper sleeps over at his house. Her dad even asks at one point if they are having sex and I laughed at the awkwardness of that conversation. (P.S. Juniper has the coolest parents since they just trust her with a boy like that in sleepover situations.)

You know how sometimes there is a slow burn where two people obviously like each other, but it takes them forever to admit their feelings and just kiss already? This is basically the story of two people kissing all the time, but refusing to admit their feelings for each other. At first, the kisses are silly. They try to one up each other by surprising them or pulling pranks that end with a kiss. There is also this one challenge where they have to deliberately give each other hickeys in the shape of a Christmas tree. Yeah, I just had to laugh. Their chemistry was so off the charts, but they were both too damn scared of ruining their friendship to give it a chance.

I loved all the characters in this book. Juniper overhangs everything, Jasper is so silly and never takes himself (or anything) too seriously and Lenny is the calm one who has a not so secret obsession with Eva Longoria and Desperate Housewives. I love the whole best friends turned romance thing and I was rooting for them the entire time. I also loved Juniper's family. Her parents worked a lot, but they weren't neglectful. They tried to spend as much time together as possible with her when they were home, which was great.

This book was such a cute and fun read and I highly recommend it.

Deanna (A Novel Glimpse) says

Note: I received this book from Fierce Reads via Goodreads in exchange for an unbiased review.

First, I have to say how much I love the cover of Kiss Cam. It, along with the title, is what originally drew me to the story. It's a cover that actually goes with what the book is about. How often does that happen?

Kiss Cam is about three best friends who run a vlog together. They do all sorts of fun stuff like play truth and dare with their followers. Acting on one of their follower's dares leads them to come up with a vlog game called "Kiss Cam." The game revolves around Juniper and Jasper kissing for the camera. Juniper agrees to play along with the game even though her friends and family warn her it could change her relationship with

her best friend Jasper.

If I had to pick one word to describe Kiss Cam I would pick cute. Everything about this story was cute. The characters, the plot, the vlog followers, the best friends to lovers trope: all cute. The cutest and my most favorite relationship of the book was Juniper's relationship with her dad. So cute. He was so down to Earth and gave the best advice ever. I kind of wanted him to be my dad. Like I said at the beginning, this book was just cute.

There were a couple of things that kept Kiss Cam from being a 4 or 5 star read for me, though. One was Juniper's narration of the story. It was hard to connect with her at times. She wasn't an unreliable narrator, but she wasn't an honest one either. Rather than reveal her true feelings and deepest thoughts, the author gave the reader Juniper's observations and what she wanted to project to the world. Not knowing how she truly felt put an emotional distance between us.

The other thing that I needed from Kiss Cam was Jasper and Lenny's points of view. They weren't exactly necessary, but they would have helped a lot. There were times in the story that I could tell each of them knew something Juniper didn't or they were in on something together. I would have liked to know what was going on in their brains at that moment. I wanted to know them better -- especially Lenny.

Overall, I had a fun time reading Kiss Cam. It was a simple, fast-paced story filled with a bunch of adorable moments. It's perfect if you're looking for a sweet young adult romance to escape with.

Brina says

Ich muss gestehen, dass ich bei "Kiss Online" von Anfang an etwas skeptisch war, da ich nicht unbedingt ein großer Fan von Vlogs bin, da ich mich bei der Art von Selbstdarstellung oftmals fremdschäme. Dementsprechend niedrig waren hierbei auch meine Erwartungen und das war auch gut so, denn leider konnte mich die Geschichte nicht überzeugen.

Der Schreibstil ist an sich ganz nett und sorgt dafür, dass sich die Geschichte leicht und flüssig lesen lässt. Die Dialoge sind mir zwar grundsätzlich zu aufgesetzt und auch die Figuren konnte mich nicht gänzlich überzeugen, allerdings kann man der Autorin nicht vorwerfen, sich keine Mühe gegeben zu haben. Vielmehr führt sie den Leser sehr gut an das Thema Vlogging heran, erklärt genau, was es damit auf sich hat und auch welche Möglichkeiten man dadurch erhalten kann. Problem ist jedoch, dass mir das alles viel zu gewollt und aufgesetzt war und ich somit mit dem Thema nicht warm wurde.

Die Geschichte ist dabei schnell erzählt: Juniper, Lenny und Jasper betreiben seit einiger Zeit einen gut laufenden Vlog, bei denen sie sich gegenseitig und ihren Mitschülern Streiche spielen, dazu gibt es einmal pro Woche ein Video, bei dem ihre Fans ihnen live Fragen und Aufgaben stellen dürfen. Da viele ihrer Fans Juniper gerne mit einem der Jungs zusammen sehen möchten, fordern sie Juniper und Jasper auf, sich zu küssen. Für Juniper ist dies zunächst nicht die beste Idee, allerdings lässt sie sich letztendlich doch darauf ein und schon ist die sogenannte "Kiss Cam" auf ihrem Vlog geboren. Dass dabei auch Gefühle in den Vordergrund rücken können, wurde vorher nicht bedacht...

Ich hätte die Geschichte trotz Skepsis wirklich gern gemocht, da mir hier viele Ideen an sich gut gefallen haben. Problem ist jedoch die Umsetzung, denn diese war mir oftmals viel zu oberflächlich, sodass ich mich weder großartig in die Figuren hineinversetzen, noch den großen Hype um ihren Vlog verstehen konnte.

Vielleicht bin ich auch einfach schon zu alt für die Geschichte.

Das Cover ist dagegen hübsch anzusehen und passt hervorragend zur Geschichte, sodass es da nichts zu bemängeln gibt. Gleiches gilt auch für die Kurzbeschreibung, die sich interessant liest, sodass ich "Kiss Online" trotz einiger Skepsis eine Chance geben wollte.

Kurz gesagt: Wer auf Vlogs steht und dabei auch kein Problem mit überdimensionaler Selbstdarstellung hat, der wird mit "Kiss Online" sicherlich seinen Spaß haben. Wer jedoch allgemein skeptisch bei der Thematik ist, der sollte eher nicht zu den Buch greifen. Ich bin für meinen Teil enttäuscht und kann von daher keine Leseempfehlung aussprechen.

Amber (bookstacksamber) says

I can be pretty picky about contemporary books, and this is the first one I've read in a bit that I really enjoyed. I'm a big YouTube watcher (the book's version is called VlogIt) and a sucker for best friend romances, so I couldn't wait to read Kiss Cam and I wasn't disappointed. I thought I'd like it, but it even exceeded my expectations. I really enjoyed how the romance played out between Juniper and Jasper, and it didn't feel cheesy or overly cringy like some high school romances do to me. Their relationship evolved organically and there was zero insta-love. I think that's a big part of the reason why I enjoy friends-to-lovers tropes so much. The characters already have strong relationships, so it never feels like their love for each other comes out of nowhere.

Full review: <https://bookstacksamber.wordpress.com...>

Kaitlin says

Review: <http://kaitbooktopia.blogspot.com/201...>

ILoveBooks says

<http://livetoread-krystal.blogspot.co...>

◆ Maica ◆ says

Do it for the vlog. - a totally (un)real excerpt from Kiss Cam

Kiss Cam is about three friends - Lenny, Juniper, & Jasper, who run a vlog channel together. One day as they were filming their Q&A: Dare edition, Juniper and Jasper were dared to kiss each other. After the initial kiss, more and more kissing requests are sent by Jasper shippers. Eventually, they decided to heed to their fans by

adding a new segment on their vlog: the Kiss Cam.

The beginning of this was really enjoyable but the middle and the end were the downfall of this book. I'm docking a lot of points for its lack of originality. I've seen and read a hundred different versions of this story. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy reading the bestfriends turns to lovers trope but this story didn't add anything new to it, except for the vlogging, which doesn't really get explained a lot. We just see them taking a lot of footage and reading comments and that's it. It seemed that the vlogging element was conveniently added to jump start the Kiss Cam. The middle part where all the drama started, became very frustrating to read. It was the typical and predictable. They were your cookie cutter YA romance characters who were scared of any change.

I couldn't connect with the characters. Here's some bullet points as to why:

- *They were very obnoxious. Just imagine how their schoolmates feel about them running around school and screaming all the damn time.

- *I felt like Lenny and Jasper pressured Juniper to do the kiss cam even though she wasn't completely comfortable with it.

- *I also couldn't fall in love with Jasper. (view spoiler)

- *Allison felt like a decoration character just so Juniper could have a female friend she could open up to.

- *I didn't feel the love between Jasper and Juniper. I felt that she was just obligated to fall in love with him because of their fans.

- *Juniper's dad is totally unrealistic. There is no dad in the world who will let their teenage daughter sleepover her guy bff's house especially after knowing that they have been locking lips and that Jasper even gave Juniper a hickey. Him asking her if he should buy her condoms is totally unrealistic. NO PARENT WILL BE OKAY WITH THAT (well maybe except the mean girls mom)

Unlikable characters, a cliché plot, and coupled with mediocre writing, this book just doesn't seem to be worth it.

P.S. There is an actual youtube channel who did a lip balm taste test!
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zE3la...>)

Sami says

RATING - 3.5 STARS

This was definitely a cute novel. I loved the references to YouTube and the Vlogging community. As someone who is familiar with that community it was so much fun to read about main characters that were immersed in it! The romance was cute enough and even though it was definitely cliché, I couldn't be bothered but it was such a quick read!

Laurence R. says

It's the perfect book to read between finals! :D

Rachel's Book Reviews says

BOOM.

I didn't expect to love this novel as much as I did.

Full review WYyyyyyy closer to the release date.

Long story short though:

Best Friends turned lovers = One of my favorite tropes.

Kiss Cam made me fall Truly, Madly, Deeply in love!

-Reread 07-09-16, because I have an arc, and I feel much more comfortable reviewing an arc than a completely unedited manuscript. They fixed the bit of drag at the end, but it seemed less magical than when I read the MS. Sooooo....still 4.5 stars for cuteness

Cassandra (Thebookishcrypt) says

ARC provided from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review

This was my first read by Kiara and I went in completely blind. It took me quite a while to get into it and, by a while, I mean almost 70% of it. I didn't start really getting into the plot line and the characters well into its last few chapters. But even then, it wasn't really enough.

This book follows a group of 3 friends, June, Jasper, and Lenny, who are vloggers. This is the first book I've read about vloggers and I really wish I had liked it more. I liked the friendship dynamic for the most part but I didn't like how unbelievably obvious/predictable the story line was.

I wasn't a fan of our main character, June, whatsoever and that made this story more than difficult to get through. I also thought that June's best friend was sort of a 'meh' character and I didn't really understand the importance of her character.

I found this story to be repetitive in some aspects and too far 'out there' with others that made me not believe anything that was going on. I didn't like how the character expressions were so easy to read and decipher. They basically told me the entire story from the very beginning and it wasn't fun. Also, even if the facial expression issue wasn't there, the chapter titles would have given the story away anyway. They kept making what was already obvious, even worse, and I had to ignore them in order to give myself a semblance of anticipation.

I also didn't like how it focused so much on a lot of superficial things when I really wanted an inside look to other aspects of their lives. Romance is my favorite part in any story, yes, but there is such a thing as focusing TOO much on it, which applies to this story.

And for the positives, I liked how easy it can be for any reader to relate to this story in one way or another; The reader can be the vlogger or the subscriber.

I also really liked how Kiara managed to showcase how crazy the internet world can really be. I found this story funny at times and it's perfect for anyone looking for a quick and light read.

Tweebs♥? says

ARC provided by NetGalley in exchange for an honest review

This book was just straight up cutesy !!

I've always been a sucker for the "Best Friend" romance concept. Probably, why I wanted to read this book. ANYWAY, The characters made the story hella interesting. The plot was easy to follow and MAY BE A LITTLE PREDICTABLE BUT I'M NOT COMPLAINING.

It's a fast and fun read! If you're into this type of stories then by all means...

HIT THIS BOOK UP!!

Olivia (The Candid Cover) says

DNF at 25%

Unfortunately this book just isn't for me. I was originally very intrigued by the concept of this book, but the manner in which it starts out without any character development really disappointed me.

Suze Lavender says

Juniper, Jasper and Lenny own a popular vlogging channel. They vlog about their lives and sometimes make silly videos. They also like dares. A lot of their fans are shippers who are either rooting for Juniper and Lenny or Juniper and Jasper. When someone suggests a kissing challenge Jasper and Juniper are up for it and they're calling it Kiss Cam. While the project is a huge success Juniper and Jasper will never be the same because of it.

When feelings start to play a part in their friendship Juniper keeps convincing herself it's just for fun and that she isn't actually in love with Jasper. He's her best friend and it wouldn't be right to become a couple. Will Kiss Cam ruin their friendship and what will happen when it ends, will Juniper and Jasper ever be the same again and will their friendship survive?

Juniper is a sweet girl. She likes to be in control and when things start snowballing into something chaotic she desperately tries to pretend they're not. My heart ached for her. Jasper is a fun and flirty guy, but he has a more sensitive and vulnerable side as well. He reacts impulsively and sometimes causes more hurt than he should because of it. Lenny is the calm and reasonable best friend. He knows what he wants and what he likes. He's stable, dependable and a little bit eccentric. They are a great group of friends, but friendships can shift and it was interesting to see what would happen. Sometimes I felt almost too close to the story and so involved that it was hard to keep reading, which is something I really love. It's amazing when an author makes me feel so many different things.

Kiss Cam begins with a goofy, happy and cheerful project. I laughed out loud several times because there are many funny dares and I loved the project Kiss Cam from the start. When things threatened to fall apart I kept having tears in my eyes. While some parts of Kiss Cam made me really happy others made me terribly sad. The story has many different layers and I loved how well Kiara London writes about emotions. She knows her topic well and that pays off. She's written a versatile, surprising, honest and moving story. Kiss Cam is a fantastic book.

Jacqueline says

3/5 stars

This was such a cute, fun, quick book to read! I feel like with school I have not really been able to read a lot but I'm thankful for this book because it got me out of the mini reading slump I was in. It was just what I needed!

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