



# Icing on the Cake

*Shayla Kersten*

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## **Icing on the Cake** Shayla Kersten

Jeff Morgan's life is all about career. Relationships aren't on his radar. His friendships are limited to a very few and his sex life consists of wham-bam-thank-you-man sexual encounters. He doesn't do long term. He doesn't even do breakfast.

Then the fate of a cake brings Ollie Cranford into his life. Shaved head, tats and piercings, the baker is far from Jeff's type, but Ollie is as luscious as the treats he whips up in his bakery.

Now if only Jeff can relax long enough to enjoy the icing on the beefcake.

## **Icing on the Cake Details**

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Author : Shayla Kersten

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## From Reader Review Icing on the Cake for online ebook

### Tonileg says

Contemporary M/M romance with an opposites attract plot between a tattooed pierced baker and a controlling stressed ambitious lawyer. Jeff Morgan's life is his job, luckily he works in the same lawyer's office as his best friend who is getting married in a few days so as the 'manly maid of honor' he goes to the bakery to order a wedding cake for her and meets a sexy (but so not his type) baker, Ollie Cranford. So the chemistry burns hot when they almost immediately start making out in the walk-in fridge so they take it upstairs to Ollie's private rooms. So with some stop and go with Jeff because he just wants it quick and meaningless, but Ollie is over that kind of thing and is looking for a lifetime commitment, but it willing to take it slow with the uptight Jeff.

This all happens in about three days like Shayla Kersten other short stories. This is a fun read but I felt like there was a missing HEA because although the couple is hot for each other there is no promise for the future or even how they will work out their very different lifestyles.

74 pages and AllRomance purchase for \$5.60

2 stars

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### Book Utopia says

I'm only labeling this an erotic romance because of the HFN that gets tacked onto the end of this novella. For the vast majority of the story, it's just plain erotica. Hot erotica.

Jeff is an uptight businessman who is playing maid of honor for his best friend's whirlwind wedding. She gets called out of town at the last minute and asks him to get the cake sorted out, citing a specific bakery she wants him to use. He goes down and is greeted by the bald, tattooed, biker-type baker, a man that throws his libido into overdrive. It's obvious very quickly that Ollie, the baker, is interested, too, and their flirtation expands into a consensus of sex, at least until Jeff sees the dungeon set-up the man has in his bedroom. Ollie is determined to make Jeff lose control, however, and Jeff, for all his anxiety about doing so, can't seem to walk away.

There's not much more to describe. The men have a lot of sex, with Ollie admitting first to himself and then to Jeff that maybe it's time for him to start think about serious dating again. Jeff is a fly-by-night kind of guy, though, and all the talk about "substantial" freaks him out. Not enough to say no to a second night, though. The novella benefits from the fact that the sex is mostly hot. It reads swiftly, and except for the occasional snort-worthy phrasing (like ...his come rushed to freedom), succeeds at what it intends. If this was sold as straight erotica, it would likely rate higher, because my expectations for characters and the ending wouldn't be quite as stringent. As it is, though, the author clearly strives for the HFN, but can't get there for me, mostly because her two heroes are more archetypes than fully-fleshed characters and little time is spent doing much of anything but having sex.

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### Lily says

3.5 stars

Uptight businessman Jeff needs to pick out a wedding cake for his best friend. When he gets to the bakery what he picks up is the baker instead. Ollie is to die for sexy, tattooed, pierced, shaved head and with a killer body. Jeff, always the *wham-bam thank you man* type and the sexy baker with a dungeon, who just happens to be looking for a committed relationship, seem like total opposites. Ollie slowly and patiently shows Jeff that taking a chance with him might just be exactly what Jeff needs. I really enjoyed this sexy short story. I liked both of the guys, they were super hot together yet also quite sweet at times. It's a nice HFN ending and I'd love to read more about them. I can definitely see them getting a real HEA.

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### **Janna says**

Although this is only 48 pages I really enjoyed this story! Okay, I wouldn't mind if it had been twice or three times as long, because that had probably satisfied my curiosity about this deliciously sexy couple. Jeff and Ollie are such interesting characters that I want to know more about them. Together they are incredibly hot. Jeff is a closeted, conservative, big shot business man and Ollie is a bold, tattooed and pierced biker kind of guy who bakes cakes for a living, and is very successful at that. Their attraction is an unlikely one but made very believable and tangible. They do a lot of hot stuff with icing and other food. And they rock each other's world very convincingly!

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### **Kassa says**

This is a fun story with some hot, sexy men but a bit of a non-resolution at the end. It only covers a few days so there isn't a happy ending, more of a hope for a happy ending or the possibility of one. However, there's a lot of sex, good tension, and a touch of angst thrown in. I'd recommend this for those looking for some sexy men, delicious uses of icing, and those who like an opposites attract themed encounter.

The story is told in alternating third person point of view and describes the control obsessed Jeff as he encounters a man he's incredibly attracted to but can't quite put a label on, Ollie. Jeff and Ollie meet at Ollie's bakery while Jeff is picking out the wedding cake for his best friend's wedding. Sparks fly and the two spend the next three days having inventive, hot sex while dealing with their issues during internal monologues.

The characters are decently developed and come across as unique, interesting individuals for the most part. Ollie is the most intriguing of the two as a big, rough, tattooed baker with a bedroom filled with kinky sex toys. He's far from a stereotype though and his down to earth, laid back style makes for an entertaining and interesting man. His creativity with icing is just one of his many attractions and his low-key desire for something substantial in a relationship makes for an undemanding, yet attractive detail thrown into the mix.

Jeff is a bit more difficult to engage with his absolute obsessive control freak personality. He seems to freak out over the smallest things and spends a good deal of the story internally angsty over his control issues. Frequently I wanted to slap him over the head as his silent angst would get in the way of a hot sex scene. Also his final "change" at the end seems way too fast and artificial, yet it's one everyone wants to see so I doubt there will be much disappointment.

While Jeff can be somewhat annoying with extended navel grazing about his control issues, the sex scenes here are what caught my attention and kept me reading. Ollie is pretty sexy and his use of food, tension,

buildup, and sex just work incredibly well. In fact I wish there had been more scenes and the story had been lengthened to full length, allowing Jeff to grow more naturally. This isn't a huge complaint and really the story is enjoyable enough to read as it stands. This is not really one I'd read again but it is one I'd recommend based on some great sex scenes and Ollie is a charming character.

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### **Ami says**

It is oookay, I guess. A story about two people on the opposite spectrum. The more serious Jeff, who is not for commitment, or being relaxed, or to give up control. And the more laid-back Ollie, who despises his tattoo and his shaved head, is looking for long-term commitment. The thing is, this book is basically a loooong sex scene with just a story inserted in the middle. Sure, it's nice, but also not having anything stand out for me to care more.

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### **Mandy\*reads obsessively\* says**

This is one of those stories that had the makings of great but the length and the sex to plot ratio kept it from getting there.

Both Ollie, the big, brawny, tattooed and pierced Baker and Jeff, the straight laced control freak have interesting back grounds, but they are just barely touched on and then the story is easily 75% sex.

The 'dungeon' and sub/dom thing sort of threw me and almost had me DNFing this one, but like the histories of the guys, it was more just a small tidbit thrown in.

It's a very short, sex heavy story with a HFNish ending. Not bad, but nothing really memorable either.

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### **Tam says**

3.5 stars

Jeff is convinced to get the wedding cake for his best friend's wedding in 3 days. She sends him to Ollie, he can hardly focus on cake he's so enamoured with tattooed pierced Ollie. They end up together but Jeff is a bit freaked as Ollie's bedroom is a "dungeon" and Jeff NEVER gives up control. He's all about his career and staying in control. However Ollie convinces him that maybe he needs to try a different way, rather than never being with the same guy twice. It's a cute little story, only takes place over 3 days so they both admit it's just starting, not true love. I could understand Jeff's need for control given his past and he needed someone equally strong to get him to relax for a minute. Definitely worth a read.

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### **Ann says**

A Very Strong 3.5 Stars

Well hellllllllo hot alpha baker man Ollie with the shaved head, tats and nipple piercings.

This is a story about an incredibly uptight career man Jeff, who is the Maid of Honor at his best friend's wedding and in this short story he learns to give up control. Or, more accurately, he is at least open to the idea of giving up control. He grumbles about his Maid of Honor title, but is sincerely flattered and a little clueless as to how to perform his duties. His current task is to order the wedding cake and off he is sent to the bakery owned by Ollie. Oh Ollie, oh my Ollie. He looks like a bad boy on the surface, but he has learned how to appreciate what's important in life and he decided he wants to show Jeff. These guys know each other for all of about 15 minutes before the steaminess begins and the entire first half of the book is a REALLY steamy sex scene and it is where the "learning to give up control" happens. It was really very sweet and sexy as hell. I could even forgive the use of "suckle" and "pucker" used as a noun. When you have an extended sex scene such as this, you do have to reach into the bag of tricks pretty deeply.

The story finished up with an open ended HFN. A very positive one for sure and I left with lots of hope for Jeff and Ollie. If you need a break between one angst-fest and another, this is a great guilty pleasure read.

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### **Kimberly says**

Jeff Morgan doesn't do relationships. He doesn't even do whole nights in one night stands. Then his closest friend asks him to go to Cranford Designs and pick out her wedding cake and Jeff is thrown straight into the path of Ollie Cranford. Ollie isn't your average baker. He's got a shaved head, gauged ears, piercings, tattoos, and a body that makes Jeff drool. But Ollie wants more than just one night. Are his sensual powers of persuasion enough to convince Jeff to give a real relationship a try?

Icing on the Cake is as delicious as the culinary confection the title references. It's decadent good fun with two sinfully sexy heroes. I loved Ollie's ease and confidence and the way he handled Jeff, easing him into trying out being in a relationship. The two fit well together, which kept me invested in the story. What would have transformed Icing on the Cake from a simply a good story to a great one would be a bit more expansion. If there had even been an epilogue to the tale it would have felt a bit more complete. Still, I adore Shayla Kersten's work and Icing on the Cake is no exception – it's a definite treat.

*Reviewed for Joyfully Reviewed.*

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### **Lenore says**

Not half bad short story about two totally different men hooking up.

I wouldn't mind me some Ollie.

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### **??Trea says**

I was very conflicted about this book. It's M/M romance, which normally doesn't bother me, but something about this one did. It's like they could never really settle in and enjoy one another, because they were too worried about what the other one wanted to do. Their relationship was clearly all about sex, but one wanted more than that and the other just wanted to run from commitment. It was a quick read, very short, and while nothing is resolved by the end of the book, I really wasn't dying to know what happened either. Not a good

sign for the book.

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### **Prangon says**

Jeff is carrier driven stressful and controlling before he meets Ollie. Ollie likes to have control in the bedroom and his tats leather clads piercing and handcuffs in bed sure screams like it.

As we start up our story Jeff starts to loss some of his uprightness to the baker.

50 something pages. Hawt steamy scenes without a serious plot bunny, I wouldn't mind reading something like that at 4 in the morning. \*I hope I am not the only one who read at 4 a.m.\*

I loved the part that author didn't make her characters declare their undying love for each other by the end of the book. They were practical about the situation and wanting a relationship with each other.

I had hard time connecting with the Jeff. He seemed too upright for his own good, but I guess that was needed for the story to grow and to get Ollie into Jeff's pants.

Ollie - don't judge a book by its cover, and I mean it one hundred percent when its Ollie. Bald tats pierce, never seen any baker looking like that. And yet he was the one pursuing their relation.

It was mostly fluffy nothing extreme.

So I'll recommend this before bed when you want to get your freak on.

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### **Serena Yates says**

This is a short, hot read with great characters. I really, really hope there will be a longer sequel!

Jeff is way too stressed for his own good. Luckily, when the much more laid back Ollie starts to teach him to relax, he begins to see the advantages of a different lifestyle. I liked the realism of the two characters, how they approached their budding relationship carefully. Well, not in terms of holding back physically, but in terms of Jeff's readiness to make a commitment. The only thing wrong with this book was that it was too short!

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### **Wendy Ann says**

This book presented an interesting mix of contrasts. For example, you probably wouldn't expect a big, burly, tattooed and pierced, Dom type to be baking beautiful classy wedding cakes, but that's the beauty of fiction! This one had lots of potential, but the relationship came about very quickly and then never had a chance to fully develop between Jeff and Ollie before it was time to say goodbye. Good thing there's a sequel because I'd love to see a little more creative use of frosting and toys! :)

