



# Sweet Talk Me

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**Sweet Talk Me** Kieran Kramer

**He's sure got a way with words...**

The last person True Maybank expected to run into while picking up her wedding gown was country music superstar Harrison Gamble. Years ago, when they were small-town teens in Biscuit Creek, South Carolina, they shared a forbidden night of passion. Now that she's about to settle down, True's love affair with the handsome crooner is a thing of the past. Or is it? From the moment he says hello, she has to fight swooning like an adoring fan.

**Can she resist his charms?**

Today he's rich, famous, and on every woman's hot list. But back in the day, Harrison wasn't good enough for debutante True. Since then she's had her fair share of marital prospects, including the perfect Southern gentleman she's about to settle down with. Is Harrison the only one to realize the mistake True's about to make? Can the society girl and the sexy singer make music together—this time around?

<http://us.macmillan.com/sweettalkme/K...>

## Sweet Talk Me Details

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Author : Kieran Kramer

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## From Reader Review Sweet Talk Me for online ebook

**Dorine says**

**Rated 3.5 Stars. Also posted at TBR Mountain Range, along with reviews of other books I've read. Come for a visit!**

Can the magic of once being childhood best friends be recaptured and reunite in a romantic happy-ever-after, or will the memories they've made throughout the years be just that...sweet memories?

True Maybank struggled to make ends meet and hold on to her family's land after her parents died. Having attained her dream of attending college, she didn't regret returning home before graduating to help raise her sister Weezie. They're currently holding their own with their self-pick vegetable business but things will be much easier once True marries Dubose Waring, whose ambition is to become partner in a law firm.

Country music star Harrison Gamble escapes from his small town upbringing in Biscuit Creek, South Carolina, to realize his dream, but he never forgot the girl he left behind. When Harrison sees True again in Atlanta, he can't resist offering her a ride home in order to catch up on the ten years they've been apart. Can he resist the only woman he ever loved when he realizes she's engaged to the jerk Harrison remembers from high school?

True Maybank believes that Dubose Waring is the security that she and Weezie need after years of financial struggle. It's their way to continue to improve Maybank Hall, their family home. True thinks she loves Dubose, but does he love her enough to be who she needs forever? Their wedding is just weeks away when Dubose must leave town on business. All True's hopes for the joint planning of their wedding are tested with his absence. Can an absentee groom expect his soon-to-be-bride to plan their wedding around every obstacle and still live up to his and his mother's expectations?

SWEET TALK ME sweeps the reader up into southern small town charm, emphasizing their quaint world with their self-declared Lowcountry drawls and colloquialisms, spanning from childhood to present day, retracing the lives of two endearing families. Harrison's older brother, Gage, has always struggled socially but his keen sense of words becomes his savior as a crossword puzzle creator. Gage's eclectic mind is very well portrayed and I couldn't help but cheer him on when he meets the "right" girl for him. Weezie, True's sister, is another interesting character with personal challenges. As Weezie's older sister, True tries to prepare her for the world and the time when she'll finally be on her own, but truthfully, True has a hard time letting Weezie go.

SWEET TALK ME is a coming of age love story that moves backward through the characters' lives amongst the present, allowing the reader to better understand their motivations. All of them have hope and fear for themselves and each other but it's how they work together to resolve their problems and make the best of their situations that makes this story so sweet. I wasn't always okay with the engaged True hanging out with her old flame in the absence of her fiancé. That's a disaster waiting to happen. But, the characters are all so charming that I couldn't stop reading even when I didn't agree with their choices.

Quirky characters and southern charm enhance more than one romance within SWEET TALK ME. Author Kieran Kramer writes an engaging, contemporary happy-ever-after that is sure to be enjoyed by those who crave a diverse mix of characters and emotion.

**Reviewed by Dorine, courtesy of Romance Junkies.**

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### **Lynn Spencer says**

**C+ at AAR, so 3.5 stars here** Okay. I'm a sucker for "second chance at love" stories. They can be cute and humorous, dark and angsty, I like them either way. For that reason, I had high hopes for **Sweet Talk Me** but while it had its good points, it ended up being a little too twee for me to handle.

True Maybank has just picked up her wedding dress when she runs into the last person she expected to ever see again. Harrison Gamble was once her very best friend and they shared an unforgettable wild night together in high school, but he's a country superstar now and they haven't spoken since they were teens. Back in the day, Harrison lived in a trailer park and True's family didn't consider him good enough for her. Now, True is about to marry one of those acceptable suitors but she quickly finds herself caught between the future she expected and the idea of having a second chance with Harrison.

In a way, the plot intrigued me with the manner in which it played with the "wrong side of the tracks" idea. True started off living a life of privilege while Harrison lived in a trailer park, but as adults, their circumstances have changed. Harrison's superstardom affords him a very comfortable life, but True has fallen on very hard times. In fact, her impending marriage seems to be almost as much about security as anything else.

It's pretty easy to see why Harrison would be appealing. From the author's description, he's obviously gorgeous and a talented musician. He's also a decent human being and in contrast to some of the discussion of his earlier years, he now seems comfortable in his own skin. True, on the other hand, is no longer the wealthy debutante she once appeared to be. However, I liked that True didn't live too much in the past.

This is a partial review. You can find the complete text at All About Romance:  
<http://likesbooks.com/cgi-bin/bookRev...>

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### **TSN says**

Well - it was not outright bad and it was sweet and loving.

But through most of the book I was terrible bored, and it felt like an achievement that I managed to finish it. The cover is lovely though. :)

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### **Claire Hadleigh says**

Thoroughly enjoyed this romance set in South Carolina by Kramer, especially the hero -- yum! Delightful secondary characters as well, which I feel always makes for a stronger story. Looking forward to reading more by Kieran Kramer!

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## **Renny says**

This isn't quite a 4 star book for me but it is an above average contemporary romance, so I feel it deserves more than 3 stars - maybe 3.75.

This is a sweet small town romance. I loved the first part of this book. While I enjoy stories of old loves coming back together, I'm not usually a fan of plots where the hero or heroine is already engaged to someone else but the setup worked for me in this case. I was also glad that Ms. Kramer didn't fall into all the old cliches with "wrong side of the track" boy making good as a superstar. Harrison had a tough childhood but not impossible, he wasn't part of the in-crowd but he wasn't reviled by the town. Now that he has become a country music superstar, Harrison seems very comfortable in his own skin with no grudges against the town to fight against.

I found True, Weezie, Gage and Harrison to be interesting and engaging cast of characters. The plot started out at a nice pace and felt the atmosphere of the small southern town really come to life. I always really enjoyed the relationship between Harrison and True as they tried to find a balance in their friendship again. I thought they were a very likeable hero and heroine.

But then I got to the last 100 pages or so and the entire story began to drag a little for me. At that point I no longer found True's motivation for wanting to stay with her fiancé - Dubose - who was portrayed without any redeeming qualities - or her reasons for not attempting a relationship with Harrison believable. The entire plot just began to feel contrived to me. So I was just left a little disappointed in the end despite my initial love for True and Harrison. I think I will try Kieran Kramer's next contemporary romance though as there were some really fun moments in the book.

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## **Misty (Reds Romance Reviews) says**

Sweet Talk Me Is a touching second chance romance story full of small town charm and heartwarming emotion, that comes equipped with many well crafted characters that are sure to find a way into your heart!! Highly recommend!

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## **Irene says**

4 stars

I really enjoyed reading Sweet Talk Me.

This is a sweet and heartwarming second chance love story.

The last person True Maybank expected to run into while picking up her wedding gown was country music superstar Harrison Gamble. Years ago, when they were small-town teens in Biscuit Creek, South Carolina, they shared a forbidden night of passion. Now that she's about to settle down, True's love affair with the handsome crooner is a thing of the past. Or is it? From the moment he says hello, she has to fight swooning like an adoring fan.

It took me a little time to warm up to Harrison, I felt he was a little too sure of himself and I didn't like the I'm famous attitude he had going on in the beginning of the story.

I loved True from the very beginning, she was such a selfless person, she would do anything for the people she loved. She had been through so much and still she would put a smile on her face and not let anyone see the inner turmoil she was going through. Seeing her going through her panic attacks broke my heart =(

Harrison had a knack of seeing through all the walls True had up, one by one he would knock them down until he had finally exposed all her fears and wants.

Harrison was such a loving brother and friend, he touched my heart seeing him his brother Gage, loved their interactions. His relationship with True's sister Weezie was adorable and very sweet.

Yep I can admit I was wrong with my first thoughts about him, he was a wonderful brother, friend and lover. He was the perfect man for True.

If you're like me and enjoy second chance love stories then you will enjoy Sweet Talk Me.

Thank you Netgalley and St. Martin's Press for the advance copy in exchange for my honest thoughts.

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## **Susan Gorman says**

This is the **BEST** contemporary I have read!

**Sweet Talk Me** is the first novel by author Kieran Kramer which I have read. I enjoyed it immensely . I was so invested in the novel and the characters that I stayed up until 1am to finish it! Could not put it down!

The novel is a second chance at romance novel which features country singer Harrison Gamble and his childhood friend True Maybank. Harrison grew up in a trailer park while True grew up at Maybank Hall, her family's estate. Harrison and True meet by accident as True is departing from a bridal shop with her wedding gown. He drives her home and realizes that True's home is in disrepair and that True and her sister Weezie are running a U-Pick tomato farm on the family estate. Harrison is interested. Interested in True. Interested in True's wedding to the rich Dubose. Why is she marrying him, anyway? Harrison is charming and he is going to figure out why True is planning her wedding while her intended is away on business. Harrison oozes Southern charm and is a sweet talker. True is the epitome of a modern southern woman; pretty poised and practical.

The secondary characters in the novel are well written and so charming. Harrison's brother Gage is a famous crossword puzzle author living in a trailer decorated in Brady Bunch decor. Hmm.. Harrison needs to build Gage a new home. True's sister Weezie is a hoot, she says what is on her mind much to her sisters horror. Harrison needs to convince True to let Weezie live on campus when she attend college. I laughed out loud at the Weezie and Gage scenes. Their friendship was an awesome piece of the book and added to the book's charm.

Our hero and heroine have several obstacles to overcome during the course of their love story. Harrison needs to overcome his writer's block and write some new songs. True needs to decide if she should choose marrying for true love or marry someone that everyone thinks she should marry . Is Harrison inspired to

write another top 40 country best seller?. Does True follow her heart? Read and see.....you won't be disappointed.

I am looking forward to reading more contemporary novels by Kieran Kramer.  
Thank you for such an enjoyable book!

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### **Liz says**

Picked this up as I had liked her new series. Nice romance, a bit too Southern in tone but ok.

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### **Ki says**

Oh my gosh! It's Kieran Kramer! I just love her historical Regency romances and this jump into her first contemporary romance is just as fabulous! Wow. I'm feeling like every author these days are moving into another genre and are making super great hits with them. Way to go!

So, Sweet Talk Me is about two people getting a second chance at love in their small hometown in the country side. We have our heroine, True Maybank who's preparing for her wedding with her perfect and handsome Southerner gentleman fiancée. And our hero, Harrison Gamble who's a Country super star singer has come back home to help his brother and of course to find a new muse for his music. These two were childhood friends that had a one night fling in high school and then Harrison leaving their small town not soon after for ten years! So, you know there'll be lots of touching scenes and life searching moments for these two.

True is super sweet, independent and very passionate. Although she has a lot on her shoulders, like caring and always worrying about her younger sister who's a fantastic fun and loves to speak her mind; which drives True crazy with worry and all these parental warning signs. She's also dealing with the economic situation at home which then lead her to her upcoming marriage to her wealthy fiancée. Of course she's only marrying him out of obligation to her parents' wishes so, that also builds on her shoulders because that's what everyone expects her to do. But when Harrison shows back up, those fluttering butterflies starts to fly and she's denying that it's the doing of Harrison but because of her impending marriage. Of course all this has to happen when her fiancée just happens to be away..... Hea hea hea

And Harrison! Can I just say I adore this name. Harrison was just a plain smart ash. That's all I got to say about him. I truly loved him but he's just so.....such a know it all. Yes, they were friends once and of course he'll know about what True truly wants in life but man, he has to come back now? But man does he throw True off her course. Harrison's is truly a nice guy. Having been mocked on many occasions as a child in the small town for being not good enough and poor, he made it huge as a celebrity and that was a huge in your face move he did to his town and to some of its folks. And he loves his brother. His older and autistic brother. It was very sweet indeed.

Over all this was a super loveable story. There wasn't just one story but many short ones that inter connected to make a whole book in itself. The secondary characters made it for such a fun read and seeing how they complemented each other was great.

The relationship between True and Harrison came a long way from when they were children and it was super great to see how much they've grown and learned as changes and obstacles came their way.

This was a very charming, sweet, and heartwarming love story with every little thing to make it perfect and romantic. There's a lot of emotions and touching scenes that can be a bit.....sad but it's all worth it in getting to their HEA. This story really just got me thinking and wishing for a true and loving romance of my own. Of course I don't want to go through all of the drama and hardships but it really made me want to believe in love and it gave me a lot of hope.

Kieran Kramer has a knack for story telling and her writing was just as great in this story. As a fan of her Regencies I know I'll be looking forward to more of these contemporary small town romances from her.

Plus, thank you Kati for this opportunity to read this contemp by Kieran!

This ARC was provided by the publisher via NetGalley.

Rating: 4 out of 4

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### **Paula says**

I read a lot and like many genres and books. Rarely however, do I fall in love with a story and its endearing characters, which is what has happened with Kieran Kramer's Sweet Talk Me. In fact, I can't think of a southern gal or any other for that matter, not just loving this book. It is a little bit charming grit with True, some sexy country music with Harrison, a lot of unfinished romance coming full circle and a whole lot of storytelling at its best.

I was rooting for these characters to get past their vulnerabilities and desire to protect themselves so that they could trust each other again. Then added to the drama of Harrison coming to terms with his childhood in Biscuit Creek and True's current economic dilemmas at Maybank Hall, is plenty of supporting characters to round out this hilarious and heart wrenching story that I found delightful. I smiled, I laughed out loud and I shed a few tears. Wonderfully, wonderfully done!

This is my first book to read by Kieran Kramer but not my last. I do have one request for the author. I truly regretted not getting to meet Honey in person as they say, so could you perhaps go back in time to find her story. It's sure to be interesting.

Copy provided by NetGalley for an honest review.

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### **Meredith says**

This was fine. It hit on a bunch of topics I like to see in romance: mental health, infidelity, autism, hero who throws money around like it's nothing. But it didn't go deep enough into any of this for my tastes. Very surface, very cutesy. I just want more bite to my romance without it being an obnoxious Dark And Twisted



Erotica™. But hey, here we are.

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## **Moon Love says**

Kieran Kramer is no newbie to writing great love stories. In *Sweet Talk Me*, she's moved from a historical European setting to a contemporary American one. Her knack for writing strong characters hasn't changed and even those who are strict historical romance readers will enjoy this book. In fact, I can easily say this is my favorite book of hers by far.

True Maybank and Harrison Gamble may have been star-crossed friends growing up, but things have really changed in the ten years since Harrison left Biscuit Creek. True is still a Southern Belle but Harrison has gone from looked-down-upon by everyone to a bonafide celebrity. His coming home is unplanned but once his serendipitous True and brings her home, leaving suddenly doesn't seem so important. To be honest with you, this book really gave me the feels, both happy and sad. However, it's the scenes that brought tears to my eyes, that are making me tear up as I think of them. I will proudly admit to crying as I read this book.

Besides all the emotions this book evoked, it's the characters that make this book. True and Harrison have great chemistry and are great, however I believe Weezie and Gage, their siblings steal part of their spotlight. I love how Kieran made them such integral parts of not only True and Harrison's story, but also their individual ones. This book feels not like one single story, but four or five. Each is separate yet part of a whole and it's flawless. I hope Kieran will keep writing more books set in Biscuit Creek just so I can keep reading about True, Harrison, Weezie, Gage, and Carmela.

The strongest themes in this book are regarding the importance of family, coming home, and being true to ones self and they carry out through every aspect of the book. This book captivated me from the first page until I put it down. You will smile, laugh, cry, and fan yourself as True and Harrison figure things out. This charming book is certain to leave a lasting impression on you as it did me.

I'd like to thank Kieran for sending me a copy to review. Her doing so has no bearing on this review. If you don't believe me, all you have to do is pick up the book and you can see for yourself. This book is pure magic.

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## **Michelle Randall says**

Life hadn't been easy for True Maybank, but at this point she was hoping that things were looking up. She was going to finally marry the boy her family always thought she should since high school, after all these years, too bad none of them were going to be around to see it. She had managed to hold her family home together and get her younger sister through high school and Weezie would be off to college this fall. She was feeling pretty good. Then she had to see HIM when she went to pick up her wedding dress.

Harrison Gamble might be a famous country singer today, and everyone might fawn all over him, but there was a time when not everyone in Biscuit Creek was pleased to see him. He and True had been friends, then there had been that thing between them at prom, but she had set him straight, he wasn't good enough for her. Why then did the sight of her all these years later make him crazy? He wasn't sure but all he knew was that he had to find out what she was up to, no matter what his people were wanting.

As Harrison and True spend some time together, old feelings are rekindled. Not only that, but True learns more about herself and her fears, and why she has always been afraid to follow after what she wanted. It is a story of love and romance, of shallow southern boys, and good old southern boys. There is self discovery and reflection and peace of mind.

This is a wonderful little novel that is enjoyable to read. It is well written and you feel part of the family.

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### **Misty says**

Let me start by stating that I've been a fan of Kieran Kramer's since her debut historical romance *When Harry Met Molly*. Naturally when I discovered that Ms. Kramer was making the leap into the contemporary romance genre, I was completely on board. *Sweet Talk Me* is written in true Kieran Kramer style. It is a delightfully funny and sweet romance.

*Sweet Talk Me* is a small-town romance set in the south. Country music super star, Harrison Gamble and the down on her luck southern belle, True Maybank shared a secret night of passion while they were still in high school. So Harrison is the last person True expects to run into while she's picking up her wedding gown. Harrison is in town to help out his older autistic brother; True is determined to settle down and marry, but what happens when her childhood sweetheart comes back to town?

Kramer's writing talents excel in this sweet and charming small – town romance. She adds more than a small amount of realism to her writings and even the secondary characters steal your heart. The overall feel of the book is colorful and lush with layers upon layers of emotions. *Sweet Talk Me* is written in a way that the readers can feel why Harrison and True fell apart and what it will take to reunite this loving pair.

I loved *Sweet Talk Me* for all of its realism and emotion. If you are looking for a romance with a lot of steam factor then this is not the book for you; however if you love a charming romance that will touch your heart and soul then be sure to read *Sweet Talk Me*.

4 Stars

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