



Just Three Words

Melissa Brayden

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Sometimes the one you want is the one you least suspect...

Accountant Samantha Ennis craves order and structure. As the bookkeeper at the boutique advertising agency she owns with her three best friends, it's her job to apply logic to the chaos. When one of those best friends, laid back Hunter Blair, moves in to share her loft apartment, Sam's carefully organised world is thrown wildly askew.

Hunter Blair's been the coolest one in the room since elementary school. Until recently, her biggest worry in the world was which of the girls in her cell phone to call on a Saturday night. But it's not long before Samantha sparks a fire in Hunter that has her questioning her old habits and longing for new ones.

Isn't it a bad idea to fall for one of your best friends? Samantha and Hunter are about to find out.

Just Three Words Details

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From Reader Review Just Three Words for online ebook

Luce says

5+ STARS for the audiobook!

This is a reread but this time I listened to the audiobook. It's not often that you can say that the audiobook is better than reading the book yourself, but Felicity Monroe is now my favorite narrator. She doesn't read the book she performs and she doesn't "over act" it. At one point I read along with her, and that is when I really appreciated her performance. Her voices for the leads, especially Sam & Hunter are perfect. I listened to another narrator attempt to do a low sexy voice (such as Hunter's) for another book and it was annoying if not comical at times. Monroe's Hunter is sexy as all get out!

If you are thinking about reading or rereading this book, give the audiobook a try. On to book 3!

Jen says

Do I actually need to write this review? Seriously you are planning on reading this right? I mean if you are a lesbian and you love romance then you probably have Melissa Brayden on auto-read and I am just wasting time by writing an unnecessary review. I could be off reviewing that book I just read that I hated, but instead I am blathering on about another great Melissa Brayden novel.

And yes its great. (But you already knew that.) This story continues the lives of our favorite Soho Loft girls from Kiss the Girl. This time we have Hunter and Sam who keep attempting to run as far away from one another as possible before they are bungied back together and somehow land in bed. Its crazy how that just keeps happening right?

Sam was very adorkable and I kind of loved her personality quirks. Hunter might be too perfect for words, but she still felt real to me.

I actually liked Kiss the Girl more than this one, but that doesn't make this any less of a great book. I suppose I just really connected with Brooklyn and found myself eating up any appearances she or Jessica had this time around lol. I think I'll have reread Just Three Words so I can give Sam/Hunter 100% of my attention.

I suppose the next book will be about Mallory. Actually it needs to be about Mallory. I have a crush on this fictional character that has had very little screen time thus far. I need more.

And thus the conclusion of my very pointless review for a book you will read and enjoy. Melissa Brayden is easily one of the best author's in lesbian fiction and is probably as close to a sure thing as you can get. 5/5

Natsu says

I finally got around to reading this. I was being really lazy and I think this is one of the best decisions I've made recently.

So... I've said that I've seen this ship sail since KTG. If there really was no indication there, you can just call me thirsty. Haha!

stops fangirling

clears throat

This has been a real joy to read. Great mix of fluff, friendship, angst, family, and romance. I was giggling, then I was crying but I was left with warm fuzzy feels in the pit of my stomach by the end of it all. I am one happy reader.

Telling the story from both POV's made it better.

thumbs up Ms Brayden! *braces self for Ready or Not*

I saw the Sam/Hunter ship coming while I was read KTG. Imagine my surprise when I saw this... °o°
excited

Bobbi says

* ARC received via NetGalley.

This was a lovely continuation of Kiss the Girl, but this time favorites Sam and Hunter take the reins. Hunter is a confident, laid-back, gorgeous flirt and Sam is a quirky, accountant nerd with self-image issues after a recent breakup. The two could not be more opposite which is half the fun. With a rent increase and Brooklyn moving out, Hunter decides to be Sam's new room mate. After a couple of awkward situations and a college crush confession the two inadvertently begin their bumpy ride towards each other.

As usual of a Melissa Brayden book the characters have great chemistry and their interactions are playful, sweet, and very cute and not just between Sam and Hunter, Mallory and Brook return with a couple cameos from Jess. The plot flows predictably but is done well and with Brayden's typical fun characters makes it feel refreshing. It's fun watching Sam struggle with her insecurities in her adorable way and Jess growing and wanting more from life than just sex and when they get together, watch out, sparks fly and leave me needing a cold shower. The drama with the Ex though was a bit too routine and 'done before' and could of been handled differently, but overall the book was great.

I heartily recommend this book.

Jem says

When I first heard that Sam the super-efficient accountant and Hunter the laid-back player was going to be paired in this book I was skeptical. Really? Whatever did they see in each other. No sparks or chemistry or

even any vibes at all in the first book. But...its a Melissa Brayden, so I'll read it, but maybe after I'm done with all the sci-fi, fantasy, mysteries, dramas and thrillers that are crying for my attention. :) Or maybe even skip it altogether, and just wait for Soho 3 - Mallory's story. Now she's the intriguing one. Except...who can resist so many 5 star reviews? ;)

Unlike the first book, the plot here is completely predictable and sometimes eye-rollingly cliché (secret teen crush, misunderstandings, family drama, ex-drama especially that perfectly-timed kiss, etc). The funny thing is, and this is a testament to the author's skill, I wasn't the least bit bored. Nothing is laugh-out-loud funny, but throughout most of the book, I couldn't keep a smile off my face. Much of it is surprisingly, due to the "boring accountant" Sam's characterization and her attempts to cope with life, Hunter and mice. Ms. Brayden has infused just the right mix of cuteness, weirdness, humor and earnestness into her. Hunter is a bit murkier. All the ladies fall for her, but then so do the guys. Is she supposed to be butch or femme in appearance? Or both at different times? Despite that, her interactions with Sam are the highlights of the book. Whether they're flirting, daring each other, romancing, fighting, serenading or just holding each other and staring into the night--just three words--I love them.

4.6 stars

Sprinkles says

Something special happened here. I'd started reading this back in April and somehow returned to it. This is a big deal! It feels like the few regulars in my 'currently reading' list would be there perpetually. So, on a whim, I reopened Melissa Brayden's 'Just Three Words' on a morning train ride to work.

I previously put this on hold because I wasn't connecting with the characters. That's actually been one of my 'things' about the Soho Loft series. While I enjoy the cast of ladies, I've yet to *really* relate to any of them, even though I'm of similar age and living in NYC. On top of that, I still think the four mains' comedic voices favor each other too much.

Anyways, I lucked out because I got to the hottest part of the relationship. Yes, yes the sneaking around was pretty damn sexy. I rooted for Samantha and Hunter and internally raged at them for just not GOING FOR IT earlier. I'm excited about the next book since Mallory sounds like a fun/difficult love interest!

Overall, this is a lovely, solid book. Once it started picking up, I zoomed through the rest. I had a pleasant, tingly heart feeling near the end, when the friends were all together, having gone through so much. For that, 'Just Three Words' gets four stars!

Penny says

Lovely. It's Melissa Brayden. You want a captivating romance? You go to her (:

Just a man's point of view says

Melissa Brayden is the best! As simple as that.

She doesn't focus on crime or on supernatural or tragedy or whatever. She writes romance and comedies. But in her field she is incredible! Dialogues are just perfect. Feelings are compelling. Humour is quiet but pervades all her novels.
Great author indeed. And she is only at the beginning.

Stephanie says

Reread. Was wondering if I would still love it as much as I thought I did the first time. The answer was absolutely!!

Megzz says

Oh my god.

Sigh.

Let me say this again.

Oh my God.

Sigh. Sigh. It's been a while since I felt this way at the end of a book.

Okay, I know it's Brayden, and she's a genius, and she writes delicious lesbian romance novels, but this one reaches new levels of awesomeness.

Oh lorrrd, the feels. My whole body is alive right now. My heart is beating fast and I'm ridiculously out of breath. I feel almost high. It's the first time I'm actually thinking about reading a book again right after finishing it.

There is something so powerful, intense, beautiful about best friends falling in love. The dynamics are so different than when it's two strangers meeting, aren't they? It's not so much about falling in love, but more about realising what's kind of always been there. This connection. This... potential. It's about realising that what you've been looking for your whole life is actually right in front of you. The universe just needs to give you a push for you to notice. It's such a sweet thing to read. The development from close, fiery friendship with supposedly platonic chemistry, to true love.

Brayden always writes about "forbidden" love, but this is really new. It's not so much a forbidden love as much as a.. surprising love. It's exciting. And hot.

Brayden's characters are usually likeable, but I have to say Hunter and Sam are by far the most endearing ones she created. Hunter is such a lovely woman who doesn't take herself too seriously despite being 1) irresistibly sexy 2) exotically beautiful 3) kind, generous and caring 4) and a very talented artist. She's not perfect, no. Almost though. She has the reputation of being a player but is really more of a flirt who hates to hurt people's feelings. She has a real heart of gold and is an amazing friend. I like that she is not the stereotypical lesbian player: butch and broody with a new bedmate every night. She's just beautiful, and people take notice. She's humble, and doesn't hesitate to change her life around, to go out of her comfort zone. It's very brave.

Sam... ahh, Sam. High-maintenance, dorky, kind of OCD Sam. She reminded me of myself a bit... hopelessly waiting for true love, drowning in romance novels because she's a dreamer, an idealist. And she needs to feel. She's smart, witty and beautiful. She's a romantic but not in a naive cheesy way. And she has absolutely no idea her friend Hunter is going to turn her world upside down... and vice versa.

And as it's always been, Sam and Hunter fit together like two pieces of a puzzle. Emotionally, and physically.

I don't want to spoil anything. But that last chapter (before the epilogue) made me swoon. Hunter is the SWEETEST. And to think she didn't believe in all that romance crap and happy endings in the beginning... pshh. She ends up being even more romantic than Sam.

The ending is perfect. Simply perfect.

I was so sad to read the epilogue. I wanted a little more time with Sam, Hunter, Mallory and Brook. Because they're just awesome together. Their friendship is real and their dynamics are a pleasure to witness. The interactions between the characters are really fun and cute and lovely.

What I like the most in Just Three Words is how real and organic all the relationships feel. And that Brayden does not indulge in extreme angst, like it's often the case in lesbian romances. She doesn't need to. Just Three Words is a feel good story that is not too corny or too unrealistic and that keeps you on edge the whole time.

Read it.

Diane says

Excellent read! emotional,romantic,intense,touching and the friendship storyline aspect was skillfully pen out..great writing to which i would encourage everyone to have a go at the series

~ * **K E L L I E** * ~ says

♥♥♥ LOVED IT! ♥♥♥

Another AMAZING novel by Melissa Brayden! Each book gets better and better!

Seriously, do yourself a favor and jump on board the Melissa Brayden Express.

Really looking forward to the last instalment of the Soho Loft Trilogy in November! Can. Not. Wait!

Agirlcandream says

This is Samantha and Hunter's story. Brayden has the romance trilogy formula down pat. Like the queen of

the romantic trilogy Nora Roberts, there are rules to be followed. Identify the women who will be central to the current book. Samantha and Hunter, check. Mention the couple from the previous book and have them on page for a short period of time. Brook and Jessica, check. Mention who will be the star of the final book in the trilogy and mention something about their personality but leave the readers guessing on a possible match. Mallory, check. Sit back and enjoy the ride. Lovely.

Samantha Ennis, on the heels of a nasty breakup (my favourite quote in the book: “Bitter, party of one?”) needs a room mate so she can afford to remain in her Soho apartment. Enter Hunter Blair, the graphic designer in the Soho Savvy group who is looking for a new place to live.

This new living arrangement starts off as an Odd Couple parody. Sam, meticulous, regimented and predictable vs live for the moment and love 'em and leave 'em Hunter. Brayden's easy writing style makes their interactions endearing and fun. Sam and Hunter both enter into this relationship skeptical of their own and each other's ability to make a lifetime commitment. It's a big step and of course there are bumps along the way. Like all good romance novels, the reader gets to come along for the ride. We are rooting for this couple to find their HEA.

The book isn't perfect but what book is? I was expecting Hunter to be much cooler and detached, the consummate player. Instead we get all kinds of cuteness with little conflict. Even her dog is adorable. The stereotypical seniors in the old age home where Sam volunteers were predictably loveable. At times the gosh golly sweetness and earnest niceness of most of the characters was overwhelming. Just as I was about to give up on the story the author introduced some drama which helped soften the sugar overload.

A light hearted read when you need to escape the harsh cold realities of life.

ARC received from publisher via NetGalley for review

Vic says

Well, Melissa did it again. This lady certainly knows how to write romance, so if that's not your thing (often sappy, sometimes sexy, always cute and adorable) then it's probably best you read something else. This book is all about the romance.

When I first read Kiss The Girl - which is the first book in the Soho Loft series - I wasn't really focusing on anything but the two main protagonists, so Sam and Hunter kind of passed me by. I actually didn't much care for Hunter at all in that book. All a plan to surprise me with how much I liked her in this book, probably.

Both Sam and Hunter were great characters, in fact. Sam's quirks and Hunter's hidden depths gave them new dimensions; they both had a kind of fragility to them that was endearing. I ended up liking them both even more than Brooklyn and Jessica (from the first book), which I didn't think was going to happen at all.

The story was well paced, well written, emotional where it needed to be, sweet when it had to be, and a bit steamy where you'd want it to be. Some of those heated scenes were perfectly tense (I'm thinking of the first kitchen scene specifically).

I had doubts that I would enjoy this as much as Kiss The Girl, and was dubious about reading it, but I'm so glad I did as I actually liked this even more. Definitely now a favorite of mine.

M says

To paraphrase Shakespeare in Love - "You see - comedy, love, and a bit with a dog. That's what they want."

I laughed, I cried and I fell in love.

Best book I have read this year.

Please Ms Brayden, please finish writing the last of the trilogy now (and I also should put in a word for at least a couple of spin offs...).
