



With Just One Kiss

Francis Ray

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Bestselling author Francis Ray chronicles the lives and loves of the Grayson family and their friends—and friends-of-friends who just might have a change of heart...

Cicely St. John is not impressed by her friend C.J. Callahan's so-called passion in life: running a New York City bar that he inherited from his uncle. So why can't Cicely stop thinking about the dance they shared at their mutual friends' wedding—or the mutual attraction she felt in C.J.'s arms?

As far as C.J. is concerned, Cicely is a snob whose "passion" in life—writing for fashion magazines—is as pretentious as she is. So why can't he keep his eyes off her? C.J. has a business to run. And Cicely has a job opportunity in Paris. Neither of them even has time to *think* about romance right now. But maybe, just once, the two could test their friendship...*with just one kiss.*

With Just One Kiss Details

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From Reader Review With Just One Kiss for online ebook

Tonya Lee says

Loved the story of C.J. and Cicely because I did not form the connection in the previous novel. A sidebar for me. However I understand the need to have someone to take care and the need to be loved by someone unconditionally.

Amore says

"With Just One Kiss" by Francis Ray, the second book in her Kiss Trilogy and as a feel good story, I was not disappointed. C. J. and Cicely, two of the most stubborn characters I have met in a long time, also bring an element of honesty that's refreshing in contemporary romance. Without the dance of denial being forefront in the story, Ms. Ray is able to focus on other aspects. The story does follow the contemporary romance format, but I still enjoyed it very much and look forward to the last book in the trilogy. On my five pencil scale, I give "With Just One Kiss" four pencils! Rock on, Ms. Ray!

Racquel says

I enjoyed CJ's and Cicely's futile attempts to dislike each other and then their inevitable fall into love. It was refreshing to read another good book by Mrs. Ray in another setting. I love the South but there was an air of 'newness' with this book's northern setting, which I enjoyed. This was an enjoyable read and I can't wait for Sin's story.

Valerie says

Love strikes whether you want it or not!!!

The Book Junkie Reads . . . says

CJ found himself in a boat load of trouble the day he found himself in the presence of Cicely, fashionista extraordinaire. She made lots of assumptions based on appearance, which rub CJ he wrong way big time. Though one dance at a wedding changes perspectives to something totally different.

I love to read about the Graysons' and their friends but I was just not that overly impressed with this Grayson Friend story.

Shone says

You should not judge a person by what they do or how they dress this mistake was made by Cicely St. John the first time she sees C. J. Callahan. But when the chips are down and there is nowhere to turn Cicely must rethink her position.

Shawnette says

Another SWEET and sensual read by Mrs. Ray...I LOVE the complete HONESTY between Cicely and C.J...and the way C.J. takes care of Cicely...he's a TRUE gentleman...and he fights saying the "L" word to the very end...lol...I TRULY feel sorry for Cicely with the lack of love, respect and support she receives from her own family...but C.J. makes up for that loss w/his unconditional love and support for her even though he may lose her to a job that will take her miles away...I'm looking forward to reading Sin and Summer's upcoming romantic journey in a Dangerous Kiss...and I TRULY hope it closes out this KISS series of the Grayson Friends with a BIG BANG!

Michelle Crawford says

Loved it!

Judith says

I really loved this book. I thought that the plot was perfect and I could see them as a couple living in New York. The love they have for each other is seen in the things they do for each other and the way they care for one another. It is sweet and something that we as humans want to experience once in our lives. I am enamoured and hope to buy the Grayson series to add to my collection.

Kim says

3.5 Stars

This was a sweet read with a bit of hotness thrown in. CJ and Cicely did bit around the bush for a long while, and I was patiently waiting for them to get together. I think the author waited a little to long for this to happen, because when they did get together the book just got so much better. CJ was so attentive and caring towards Cicely, which I really didn't expect from his behavior in the previous book, so that was a welcome surprise. The gang was all mentioned in this book...Dianne and Alex, Sin and Summer so it was good catching up with them. Can't wait to read Sin's book next, it should be a goody.

Romancing the Book says

Posted on Romancing the Book's blog

Reviewed by JoAnne

Review Copy Provided by the Publisher

This was an enjoyable read that kept my interest from beginning to end. It had laugh out loud moments along with romance, love, tears, family, friends and high powered jobs that caused angst more than once. There was the requisite happily ever after that didn't look like it would happen even though you were rooting for Cecily and C.J. to recognize that it was more than a fling or lust but love they felt for each other. C.J. was the type of man any of us would want to fall in love with and be with – caring, thoughtful, hard worker, family oriented and romantic.

It was nice to see how C.J.'s family rallied around one another and wanted to spend time together but sad to see that Cecily didn't exist in the eyes of her family since she strayed from what they felt she should be doing as her life's work. The friendships depicted were real and you could feel the affection they had for one another. There was a wonderful storyline, great character development and nice closure.

I have not read other books in this series or other books by Ray except for those in anthologies but look forward to reading more of them. There was an excerpt from the next book, *A Dangerous Kiss*, that whet your appetite for the romance between Summer and Sin who were major players in *With Just One Kiss*. Give Ray a read, you'll be glad you did.

Favorite Quote: He paid attention-albeit occasionally for ungentlemanly reasons – to what she wore, so he easily recalled that she wore floral prints and had floral influences in her home. He didn't have to think long to figure out why her yard was bare of flowers.

Her hectic schedule didn't allow her time to care for them. And although she obviously had someone cut the yard, it was so small, they wouldn't come often enough to care for flowers.

Stepping farther into the yard, he saw a two-tiered stone fountain-only there was no water. He started toward it. She might not have any flowers, but there was no reason she should do without her fountain.

Bebe20018 says

Another great summer romance novel by Francis Ray.

This is book number 6 in the Graysons Friends series but it is book number 2 in the Kiss Trilogy. I think that all of the books should read in order but you don't have to.

This is the love story of Cicely St. John and C.J. Callahan. Cicely and C.J. first meet in *A Seductive Kiss* book number 1 in the Kiss Trilogy. They immediately take a strong dislike to each other. He thinks that Cicely, a fashion director for a major fashion magazine, is stuck up and annoying because she maligned his bar. She on the other hand thinks the C.J., a successful entrepreneur and bar owner, is as neanderthal as they come because tsk-tsk his bar does not cater to the "the in crowd".

"And if I want a cosmopolitan?" Cicely asked.

"Down the street. We make real drinks."

Cicely glanced around. "Real drinks for the knuckle-dragging men."

I enjoyed the dance that Cicely and C.J. go through to try not to like each other. In the end they can not resist each other. Neither can stop thinking about the other and chemistry is there from the very beginning.

Put this on your summer reading list and enjoy.

Carla says

I loved this book. CJ was awesome! He loves his bar and his lifestyle, but his family needs him to take the helm of the family business. I felt so bad for Cicely and I wished her family were better towards her! Cicely, is hard-working, fashionable and a good friend.

I love forward to the next installment in this series.

Mary Gramlich says

WITH JUST ONE KISS by Francis Ray

Could what is exactly the opposite of what be what I need?

C.J. Callahan had too much going on for him in his career. He ran a successful bar that he loved but now had to step up and take care of the family business that he did not care for. However, family comes first and right now and he needed to step up to figure out how to make the business a success for the next generation. C.J. also had too much of an attraction to Cicely St. John which is the worst possible situation to be in.

Cicely and C.J. have been dancing around each other for a while now. They both know the attraction is more than there they just do not want to answer its call. Yet the more time they spend together in their group of friends or alone in a restaurant the harder it gets to fight these feelings. Cicely has a career in the fashion industry where you have to choose a work or personal relationship; there is no room for both. C.J. disagrees but he is blinded by a desire to make it work with Cicely regardless of what stands in the way.

C.J. is working hard to figure out what happened to the company and repair it while Cicely is gaining a reputation with her unique fashion sense. The long days lead to even longer nights together making the time apart seem like an eternity. What will Cicely do when she has to decide her career or C.J. and figure out what she loves more?

Francis Ray is able to take a story that every reader can tell comes straight from her romantic heart. Her characters have depth and so much passion for life a reader cannot wait to find out where this adventure will take them.

Cocoa Faye says

I really like this story but unfortunately I've read it out of order now having realized it's not the first in the series. Unfortunately I can't seem to find the first book which I thought I bought last. Currently reading *A Dangerous Kiss* which ties in nicely with the book I just read, *Loving Sin* and from the looks of it he and Summer are gonna hook up. Love Ms. Ray's family and friends themed series. Was looking forward to more of the Graysons. Rest Peacefully Ms. Ray
