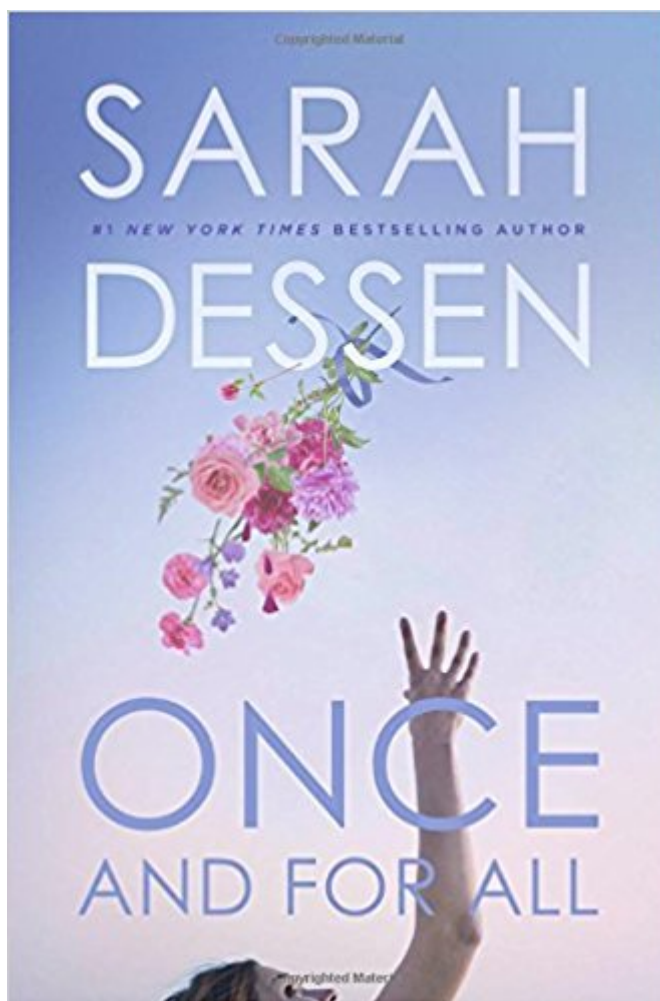


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Once And For All



Synopsis

From *Sarah Dessen*, the beloved New York Times bestselling author of *SAINT ANYTHING* and *JUST LISTEN*, comes a new novel set in the world of wedding planning! Is it really better to have loved and lost? Louna's summer job is to help brides plan their perfect day, even though she stopped believing in happily-ever-after when her first love ended tragically. But charming girl-magnet Ambrose isn't about to be discouraged now that he's met the one he really wants. Maybe Louna's second chance is standing right in front of her. Sarah Dessen's many fans will adore this latest novel, a richly satisfying, enormously entertaining story with humor, romance, and an ending that is so much more than happily-ever-after.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 100 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #9,636 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > Alternative Family #26 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Death & Dying #91 in Books > Teens > Romance > Contemporary

Customer Reviews

Praise for *Once and For All*: "Dessen's expertise at creating a character faced with change is once again on display in this book that reminds readers that love is measured not in minutes but in moments." *VOYA* "Romance, humor, kindhearted characters, and a touch of painful reality make this another sure bet for Dessen fans." *Kirkus Review* "There is no question that this title will be popular with Dessen fans and romance lovers." *School Library Journal* "Dessen delivers a contemplative and satisfying pleasure-read that speaks to the power of opening oneself up to love, perfect or otherwise." *The Horn Book* Praise for Sarah Dessen's writing: "Is

there's anyone who can write about what matters most to teens as well as Dessen can?" I sincerely doubt it." — Jodi Picoult, New York Times bestselling novelist of *Leaving Time* and *My Sister's Keeper* "Sarah Dessen is something of a rock star in young adult fiction. Her bestselling coming-of-age novels are warmly written explorations of teens in transition that are, by turns, questioning, humorous and hopeful." — Los Angeles Times "Dessen is as skilled as ever at turning out steady, satisfying stories about teens that are easy to fall for." — Publishers Weekly, starred review for *The Moon and More* "Readers can count on Dessen; she's a pro at creating characters caught at a nexus of change, who have broken relationships and who need to make decisions . . . Readers will enjoy every minute they spend with her." — Kirkus Reviews on *What Happened to Goodbye* "Realistic teen dialogue, authentic girl friendships, and a complex underlying question: Can people really change?" — Kirkus Reviews on *Along for the Ride* "Good story, real characters, happy ending . . . another must-read." — VOYA on *Lock and Key* "The romance which forms the core of the story is everything a romance should be." — Horn Book on *Just Listen*

Sarah Dessen is the author of twelve previous novels, which include the New York Times bestsellers *Saint Anything*, *The Moon and More*, *What Happened to Goodbye*, *Along for the Ride*, *Lock and Key*, *Just Listen*, *The Truth About Forever*, and *This Lullaby*. Her first two books, *That Summer* and *Someone Like You*, were made into the movie *How to Deal*. Dessen's books are frequently chosen for the *Teens' Top Ten* list and the list of Best Fiction for Young Adults. They have been translated into twenty-five languages. Sarah Dessen is the recipient of the 2017 Margaret A. Edwards Award from the Young Adult division of the American Library Association, recognizing her significant contribution to young adult literature. Sarah Dessen graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with highest honors in creative writing. She lives in Chapel Hill with her husband, Jay, and their daughter, Sasha Clementine. Visit Sarah at sarahdessen.com

I have loved Sarah Dessen's work for many years now and anything she writes is on my must-read list. This was an enjoyable enough story, but somehow it wasn't as amazing as many of her others. I think that is to be expected - all of her books can't be favorites. I'm also reading this as an adult, and teen readers may not find fault with the things I had problems with. The one aspect I found unbelievable is that a one-time meeting between Louna and Ethan could be termed as a

relationship. When she loses him, I understand her grief, yet, found her devastation to be a little unbelievable. As an adult, I also noted that her "relationship" with Ethan was really a one-night stand. As a skeptic, I can't help but see Ethan as a player. Again, I am an adult and not easily buying into the romance of this one. Still, I love Sarah Dessen, even if *Once And For All* isn't her best work.

This book and its characters were funny and very enjoyable. I have read all of Sarah Dessen's novels, and this was one of my favorites! The character of Ambrose had me laughing out loud at many parts and I definitely wanted to be friends with many of the characters. Sarah does a great job of setting up her story and characters in a way in which readers get truly invested in it. This book will make you laugh, cry, feel super happy, scared and yes, sometimes in love (with Ambrose)! As an English teacher who loves a good romance novel, I would highly recommend this to anyone! The only downside for someone (not me!), would be that it is a young adult novel and characters are teenagers (seventeen). I know some older readers may be turned off by this fact, but in my opinion, it just takes me back to that age! Pick up a copy right now and read it! You won't be disappointed!

I loved this book. It definitely has some darkness to it and deals with some deep topics, but I think that makes it more authentic. I loved all of the characters so much, especially the supporting characters. I was afraid of reading another book by Sarah Dessen after *Saint Anything* because I loved it so much, but Sarah hit it out of the park with this one.

I honestly couldn't get through much of it. I love Sarah Dessen and have read most if not all of her other books, but this one hasn't wowed me like her other ones have. I was excited to hear that she came out with a new novel and hoped it would take me back to the days of my youth when I'd read her books in a day or two because I couldn't put them down. I'll try to get through it and write a more comprehensive review later, but know that if this review isn't updated it is because I haven't yet.

I love Sarah Dessen and this book is perfect for summer. Sarah Dessen has a way to make you root for every single one of her characters. You want them to be happy and then you yelp with glee when they pop up in other stories. I'm looking at you Auden and Eli! This was a perfect summer contemporary. Dessen somehow manages to stay fresh even though her stories follow the same format. Also Ambrose is like an adorable golden retriever.

I love Sarah Dessen, and I always buy her books as soon as they're released. I preordered this, and though the story itself is great (not my favorite, but that's another story), the book wasn't in perfect condition. It was a little crinkled, and some of the pages were spotted. Still, I don't exactly regret the purchase.

I can't imagine writing such an emotional story without bawling. I was crying at certain points. I'm 52! Reading YA fiction and getting wrapped up in it! I have now read all 13 of Sarah Dessen's books!

Another knock out by Sarah Dessen, the stories characters are real and flawed and it makes you love them. This novel, like many others of Dessen's books, makes the reader emotional. I was so invested I couldn't put it down. My second favorite novel by Dessen (Just Listen being my favorite). If you are debating, give it a shot!

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