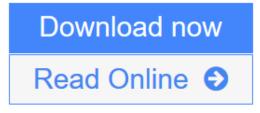


The Third Kiss

Kat Colmer



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Love curses don't exist. At least that's what Jonas, master of the meaningless hookup, tells himself when a letter warns him he's an Eros Guardian cursed to endure a test of true love or forever be alone. His levelheaded longtime friend Cora figures it's a revenge prank by an ex. The way Jonas stamps each girlfriend with a weeklong use-by date, it serves him right.

But when an impulsive kiss between the two friends reveals potential for more, Cora becomes the target of the Groth Maar: demons sent to wipe out the Eros Guardian line. And suddenly the curse becomes dangerously real.

Breaking the curse means Jonas's biggest challenge yet. Failure guarantees Cora's death. But success may cost him his own life...and the loss of his carefully guarded heart to the one girl far too sensible to fall for him.

The Third Kiss Details

Date: Published August 7th 2017 by Entangled TEENISBN: 9781640631540Author: Kat ColmerFormat: ebook 418 pagesGenre: Young Adult, Romance, Fantasy, Supernatural

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From Reader Review The Third Kiss for online ebook

Kira Simion says

I received an electronic advance reader copy in exchange for a fair review. Thank you very much Katharina Colmer and Entangled Publishing for this copy. I can't wait to start! :D

A story of love, magic, sprinkled with adventurous lore. The Third Kiss definitely uses its romantic title to pull you in while it's nice characters and magic keep you bound.

The characters of Thr Third Kiss start normally, everyone meeting everyone. Then all hell breaks loose when magic combined with the reality of consequences. Can love save the day? Is it the journey or the destination that matters more?

A tale of love is a tale already told, right? Well, this is a new take. When the blurb says the characters are sensible, like Cora, it isn't lying (like many books do). The (girl) main character does live up to her expectations, not falling head-over-heels for the guy as soon as they meet. She shows that she has a brain, that she is scared, that she is brave, and that she will do what it takes to save the people she cares for.

The plot is a lot better than what I thought it would be. Usually books centered around romance have little to no plot because the plot is the romance (hardy-har-har) and so I expected cheesiness (there was a little, but I didn't drown. No, I floated). The mythology of gods and consequences of those who defied those who held power was intriguing and I wanted to see more punishments, more action. I was definitely ready for more.

All in all, plot was good and solid for me, the romance was between good, a minute bit of cheese (I love cheddar), and a little bit dry (some parts, not many though), but overall everything was better than average and sparked a smile for me.

(A note: my book had problems loading and it's my fault for not re-downloading, so it took me a while to read).

Lauren says

4.5

Kat Colmer's The Third Kiss has been high on my wish list ever since I first heard about it. Then I saw the cover and I had a case of insta-cover love. Isn't it just gorgeous? I love the purples. Luckily, The Third Kiss turned out to be just as amazing as I had hoped, if not more! Containing an intricate curse, a will-they-or-won't-they romance, and plenty of funny banter, The Third Kiss had me hooked from page one!

A year ago, Jonas and Cora shared a sudden kiss. Then Cora got on a plane and flew across the world. Since then Jonas has became the king of meaningless hook-ups with a never-fall-in-love mantra while Cora has become a habitual evader of sorts, trying her best to move past her impulsive decision. The summer, however, has brought Jonas and Cora back together again, both hoping (but not really) that the other has forgotten about the kiss. Everything changes, though, the moment Jonas receives a letter detailing that he's Eros Guardian and therefore cursed in all respects dealing with love. Cora refuses to believe it, thinking it's just someone's idea of a prank, but Jonas, deep down, doesn't agree...he feels that it may just be real. Even with their differing views, Cora and Jonas team up along with the help of Beth, Jonas's sister and Cora's best friend, and Leo, Jonas's best friend, to solve the mystery.

One of my favorite aspects of The Third Kiss was the alternating perspectives. I loved being privy to both Cora and Jonas's thoughts. It gave more development to their characters as well as their respective relationships with not only other characters but also each other. Additionally, I enjoyed how it caused a bit of tension and build up to the will-they-or-won't-they aspect to their budding romance, because as the reader, I knew what they were thinking, but they didn't know what the other was thinking.

Talking about the characters, I really came to love them all! Cora and Jonas were both incredibly likable as well as relatable. I admired Cora's unwillingness to settle/be second best. She really managed to put Jonas's in his place regarding his romantic trysts, and not only did it cause for some laugh out loud moments, but it also made her such a kick a\$\$ kind of character. I especially loved her dedication to karate! Jonas is the typical hookup king, and even though I normally can't stand those kind of guys, I came to really love him over the course of the book. The aspect that really sealed the deal for me is that even though he was the king of meaningless hook-ups, he did try to justify his actions as best as he could, and given his situation/past, it did make sense. I also admired the fact that he would do anything to protect not only Cora but also his twin sister Beth. He was a good guy who just sometimes made horrible decisions.

Now lets talk about my favorite part of this book: THE CURSE! I don't know about y'all but I love books involving curses. The curse in this wasn't the most out there curse ever but I really enjoyed how Kat Colmer went about developing it. From internet searches to meetings with university professors to outright sleuthing, the characters go full force into finding out exactly what and Eros Guardian is and what it means for Jonas. The adventure the characters go on to get the answers is just so much fun. Plus it introduces some suspense as well as twists and turns (some of which I saw coming but others I didn't see coming at all!). Plus, I loved seeing what the curse meant for Jonas and Cora's relationship. It caused some really great tension to that as well....I was just waiting for the moment throughout that they'd finally get off their high horses and get together.

In all, The Third Kiss is an incredibly strong debut. I simply can't wait to see what book 2 of the Love's Mortal Coil brings, and given that crazy, jaw-dropping ending, it is sure to be EVENTFUL!

Grade: A-

Tara (Spinatale Reviews) says

If you've ever wanted more fantasy in adorable contemporary romance novels, this is the book for you. The Third Kiss is an absolute gem and I am so glad I took a chance on it. The story is part romance, part fantasy, and part coming-of-age. The characters stole my heart from page one (okay, maybe Jonas took a bit longer). If you're looking for a lighthearted read for the summer, absolutely pick this one up.

The Third Kiss started off a contemporary novel. Cora, coming back from a year in New York following her parents' divorce, returns in time for Beth and Jonas's eighteenth birthday party. Even though she's excited to see her best friends, she's also nervous because of something that happened with Jonas, a notorious playboy, before she left. The morning after the party, Jonas receives a mysterious letter stating that he only has three chances to kiss his true love or he'll forever be alone. The friends initially dismiss it as a prank but then

things happen that make them start to wonder if there might be more to the letter than they originally thought. What happens next is a wonderful blend of fantasy adventures, contemporary issues, and paranormal activity all tied together with some creatively repurposed mythology.

The pacing was absolutely perfect in this novel. I never felt like I wanted a section to go by faster or that one hadn't been developed enough. There was a lot of information and unique mythology to wrap my head around but the author did an incredible job of weaving it into the text, I never once was confused or disoriented. There was a nice mix of action scenes and quieter ones that allowed the characters to be more introspective. The romance was entirely swoon-worthy, I still can't get over how perfectly it developed. Everything was tied up nicely, with just enough of a surprise at the end to make me want book two immediately.

The characters in this novel were absolutely fantastic. They easily leapt off the page and into my imagination. I loved how the author included little quirks and flaws in each character, it really made them stand out. Additionally, the relationships between them were strong and well-developed. If Cora and Beth were real, I'd really want to be friends with them. Jonas has his flaws but he matures a lot in this book, coming to some difficult realizations about him self. As for Leo, just read and find out.

The Third Kiss was a fantastic debut that now ranks in my favorite summer reads. I cannot wait for book two in order to continue on this wonderful adventure.

*Disclaimer: I received a free copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Lisa (Remarkablylisa) says

MY RATING: 4/5 STARS

I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

I want to first start off this review by explaining that I don't prefer fantasy and supernatural aspects in my young adult/new adult stories. It's just not my cup of tea most of the times but I was given the opportunity by Entangled Teen to review this interesting tale of two people who are destined for each other and who are also fighting against it so I couldn't really pass it up.

While I had difficulty believing the supernatural aspects of the story because I just love real life so much, I found myself enjoying the story and enjoying the plot that Kat Colmer wrote.

Let's talk about our fierce heroine, Cora. She can probably kick your ass and kick mine too. Seriously, she has a black belt in tae kwon do and she uses this to her advantage to kick some serious demon butt. She also kicks our hero, Jona's butt too. I liked Cora because unlike a lot of fantasy novels on the market, we actually see her actually do something. She isn't an accessory or someone standing on the sidelines, waiting for her hero to save her life. No. She's actively fighting for her life and even for his. I also enjoyed the fact that Cora wasn't smitten with Jona from the first page. Sure, they shared a kiss but it didn't make Cora think Jona was anything special until much later on when the time they spent with each other slowly wore her down and made her see his true colours in order for love to form.

Now let's talk about Jona. My heart sunk when it was revealed why he was so against love and so against

anything close to a relationship. It was sad to hear and I understood why Jona didn't quite understand why his father did what he did until he was in his shoes and went through the same trauma. Kat Colmer did a very good job at making me yearn for Jona and Cora's love. The whole story is about the power of love and it made me really believe in the importance of Jona and Cora falling in love so when it actually happened, it was this amazing feeling.

I think that was really why I gave it such a high rating.

Also, the epic fight scenes were pretty good too.

MY RECOMMENDATION:

READ IT!

Annika says

This book had all the makings for an epic love story. And while it did deliver on everything else I look for in an engaging urban fantasy read, I was left a little disappointed with the romance part. Though I admit that this book was blessedly uncheesy, I was desperate for a little more lurve, especially considering that a love curse is actually the main theme.

Still, I absolutely loved the story-telling and its nearly perfect flow, the action sequences, the mythology and world-building, the kick-ass characters and their beautiful friendships. And despite it not being perfect, I never ever wanted the book to end. Can't wait to get my hands on the sequel. I need to know more about Leo!

ARC provided by the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Tiffany Heywood says

The Third Kiss is the 1st book in the Loves Mortalk Coil series by Ya Australia author Kat Colmer. It is about:

"Love curses don't exist. At least that's what Jonas, master of the meaningless hookup, tells himself when a letter warns him he's an Eros Guardian cursed to endure a test of true love or forever be alone. His levelheaded longtime friend Cora figures it's a revenge prank by an ex. The way Jonas stamps each girlfriend with a weeklong use-by date, it serves him right.

But when an impulsive kiss between the two friends reveals potential for more, Cora becomes the target of the Groth Maar: demons sent to wipe out the Eros Guardian line. And suddenly the curse becomes dangerously real.

Breaking the curse means Jonas's biggest challenge yet. Failure guarantees Cora's death. But success may

cost him his own life...and the loss of his carefully guarded heart to the one girl far too sensible to fall for him."

This book was just what I needed, a book based on love with a fantasy element! That's my favourite kind of book! I'd never heard of anything about loves mortal coil and the mythology behind the story so I loved learning about this new myth and how it took a toll on the characters life's.

I loved all the characters! Jonas was you main character who was a player and loved having flings with girls and couldn't hold a relationship down but I loved when we found out why he didn't want to! He would do anything to keep his sister Beth and Cora safe from harm which I really admired. He has a very strong relationship with his sister Beth which I loved and you could really see how close they were when you read the scenes between them. Cora was a badass character who could really kick butt and I liked how she could put jonas in his play and kick him back down when he got to big for his boots! I really like Leo too he was your classic nerd who wore nerdy tshirts and interested in computers! I liked his friendship with jonas and his growing friendship with Beth!

I also enjoyed how we had alternating pics between jonas and Cora so we got to see both of their views on what was happening in the book and what they believed about the myth and how they felt for each other!

I have this book 5 owls! 5 stars and can't wait to find out what happens in the next book!

I recommend this book to every body who wants to read a romance book which a hint of fantasy/ mythology!! Go read it now!!

Cecily Wolfe says

This wonderful YA mythology-themed romantic fantasy is an intriguing start to a new series. There is a great blend of romance, humor, and believable dialogue between the characters that kept me turning those pages. I would highly recommend this for fans of Michelle Madow and Bree Despain.

Stephanie Ward says

'The Third Kiss' is an excellent first installment in a fresh new young adult fantasy series that readers are going to love. I'm so happy and excited that this is only the first book in a series, because I want more! I loved pretty much everything about this novel - the writing was fantastic, the story line had me riveted, and the characters were realistic and likeable. The author did a wonderful job bringing the story to life - she had me believing that ancient love curses, demons, and Eros Guardians were all real. I adored all of the backstory and history about the curse, the Groth Maar, the Book of Threads, Eros Guardians, and everything else involved. I hope we get to learn even more about them in the next book. I found it compelling and utterly fascinating. The characters were all well written, even the secondary characters were unique and believable. I loved Jonas and Cora - the main characters - and getting to know them both along with watching their relationship change and grow was great. They each had positive qualities and flaws that made them realistic and easy to connect with early on in the story.

One huge plus for me was the author's choice of writing style. The book is told from the first person point of

view, alternating between Jonas and Cora. This was a perfect fit for the story and I'm so happy she wrote it this way. I'm a huge fan of the first person POV because of the personal connection it allows between the narrator and the reader - and this was no exception. We get to really know Jonas and Cora - their hopes and dreams, fears, memories, and so much more are exposed for us to see. It made them both real for me and made it all the more intense watching their friendship and relationship take on all of the obstacles throughout the book, and seeing it change and grow was wonderful. I'm really excited to see where the next installment will take us and what will happen - the only bad thing now is the wait. Very highly recommended for fans of young adult fiction, fantasy, paranormal, and romance!

Disclosure: I received a copy of the book in exchange for an honest review.

Catriona Corby says

I was very kindly sent an ARC of The Third Kiss. This novel was a relative forage into the unknown, not being romantically inclined myself, but what I found within its (digital) pages more than satisfied my taste for a good book. There's something for everyone in The Third Kiss, with the budding romance between the two protagonists linking mythology, adventure, and morality. Part coming-of-age, and part romance, the novel plays out in two distinct planes, whose boundaries increasingly blur as the storyline progresses. On the one hand, characters go about their ordinary lives, and how relationships develop between one another; those same characters are later thrust into a supernatural world, of which they have little understanding. The two concepts are expertly tied together (the climax and following scenes are the masterpieces of The Third Kiss) to create a unique premise and present more than your average romance novel.

Colmer writes with a strong voice, which creates memorable characters and a collection of witty one-liners and jabs at one another, enough to entertain even the dourest of readers. They're a refreshingly real bunch of teens. She mostly takes the content matter lightly, but does inject a needed sombreness at times. She masterfully brings the rising action up to a truly magnificent climax.

The one aspect I would have liked to see more exploration of was further development of the premise. The magical and biblical aspects of the novel, which grow stronger as the chapters progress, is clever and compelling. I found myself caught up in the concept, which left me wanting more exploration, and perhaps more complexity to the workings of the curse. Hopefully more detail will come out in Book 2 of "Love's Mortal Coil".

Readers looking for a light-hearted romance novel with a unique premise and a hint of intrigue will enjoy The Third Kiss. I certainly did.

lacy [lacy's library] says

I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

You would think that a love curse and the friends to lovers trope would be over played in the YA world, right? Well you are wrong when it comes to this book. And for the record, the friends to lovers trope is my favorite. Because the two characters obviously have something that made them friends in the first place.

Being lovers is an added bonus and eliminates that awkward getting to know you stage. You all know what I'm talking about. *It's just soooo awkward*.

Moving on. I really liked this book. For a while there it was touch and go for me. I generally liked Jonas and Cora as MCs. Both were solid in their own way and I'll talk about that later in the review. (view spoiler). By the way they bickered and snapped at each other, you would think that they didn't really like each other. But then again, I can be a nasty woman to my friends sometimes.

Jonas was a solid MC. I liked his point of view a lot. He was very smart and willing to admit when he messed up. He let us into his true feelings and you really felt the brokenness he hid so well. He was clearly affected by things in his past and my heart went out to him. But sometimes, he was a bit pig headed and really wanted to smack the crap out of him a few times.

Cora was the same way for me at times. It was awesome to see a girl interested in science and fighting but she was still girly. *Yay for fellow nerd girl recognition!* But she was also very stubborn to the point where I wanted to hit her as well. It was her personality, though. That was just how she was. She, too, was affected by her past, not as drastically as Jonas, but still. Trauma is trauma.

The concept of the love curse was very well done. I've never heard of the one that was used in this book but I'm sure there is some basis of truth. I might do some more research about it, just to satisfy my curiosity. To add more props to this book and author, the secondary characters were well done. They weren't there for the sake of being there. They were a part of Jonas and Cora's life in a very important way. I mean, overall, I couldn't ask for a better start to what I'm sure will be an awesome series!

Hanna Evaldsson says

To start off simple, I can firstly say that, yes, I liked the book. The Third Kiss is about teenage love which so many of us can relate to, and the fact that the main characters were eighteen (or at least very soon to be) and not the dreaded seventeen actually made a difference in my opinion.

Kat Colmer's way of writing everyday situations made up for the, perhaps a bit cheesy, talk surrounding mythology and everything that comes with it, but also how the fantasy of it all is intertwined in their lives. Demons, gods and curses are perhaps not what most people consider to be realistic, and it is very hard to incorporate that in a modern world where we know that it's science and logic that play the main role. So getting that across was surely not easy, and although some scenes may have been a bit too cliched, Kat does in my opinion manage to get the atmosphere 'down to earth'. Partly through a very humorous inner dialogue with the characters, and partly again through her brilliant way of creating a setting that most can identify with.

I'd give this book a read if you need something fun, with the perfect summer feeling and that bit of magic we all want in our lives.

Arys says

The Third Kiss (Love's Mortal Coil #1) by Kat Colmer is book one in her Love's Mortal Coil series about

Jonas Leander and his longtime friend, Cora Hammond. A year-ago, they shared a spur-of-the-moment kiss that both are pretending didn't happen as they reunite, on Jonas and his twin sister Beth's eighteenth birthday.

Known for his lack of commitment in the dating area, Jonas is taken back by a mysterious letter he receives under his door stating that he'll have to endure a test of true love or be forever alone. A curse that gives him three chances, or rather kisses, to find his true love. However, nothing is ever easy.

Demons are out and about trying to make sure he fails on finding his true love and they mean business. Filled with interesting myth-building, action, suspense, and romance, Ms. Colmer creates a story that will keep you interested until the very end.

I liked how Kat Colmer created a unique fantasy story with mythology and curses. She plays with the theme of love: romantic love, familial love, and love through friendship. How deep the bonds are. Jonas and Cora are strong characters. I admired how Jonas cared strongly for both Cora and his sister Beth. Not wanting either to be hurt even at risk to himself.

Ms. Colmer also succeeds through her characters in showing us the various forms of love and how they are experienced and how it affects people feelings towards love. For example, Jonas and Beth's parents loved each other so much, that Jonas described their type of love as all-consuming, which made him steer clear from love all-together. For Cora, though her parents are divorced, when she asks her father if he regrets loving her mother, he tells her no. Bringing forth the idea that it is better to have loved and lost than to never have loved at all. I liked how Ms. Colmer has ties-in the different views of love through Jonas and Cora, and how they learn how they really feel about love throughout the book.

Besides, the subject of love, there is the curse. The history and mythos, and how they find out more about the curse was interesting. I don't want to give too much away in regards to that, but I liked how it was presented. Though it did take a little while to get there from the beginning. I really hope there is a second book coming soon, because I really want to know more about the curse, the bad guys, and how are the descendants chosen as the Eros Guardians.

Overall, The Third Kiss by Kat Colmer was a good start to a new YA fantasy series and I look forward to reading more by this author. I gladly recommend.

(I voluntarily reviewed an ARC of this book I received for free from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for my open and honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.)

Beaches&Books says

Love curses don't exist. At least that's what Jonas, master of the meaningless hookup, tells himself when a letter warns him he's an Eros Guardian cursed to endure a test of true love or forever be alone. His levelheaded longtime friend Cora figures it's a revenge prank by an ex. The way Jonas stamps each girlfriend with a weeklong use-by date, it serves him right.

But when an impulsive kiss between the two friends reveals potential for more, Cora becomes the target of the Groth Maar: demons. sent to wipe out the Eros Guardian line.

Breaking the curse means Jonas's biggest challenge yet. Failure guarantees Cora's death.

Holy Schmoly(keeping it PG).....That was my first thought when finishing this book. I was totally in WOW mode from start to finish. At first I thought this book was just going to be a simple story about a love curse, but was pleasantly surprised when it turned out to be so much more involved than that. The characters in this story have so much going on as a whole and as individuals, they all seem to have their own inner demons to over come and lets not forget the actual demons they must battle against. Kat did an amazing job of giving the perfect amount of background on everyone, but yet kept you guessing as to what would happen next and how that related to the characters.

This being the first book I have read by Kat Colmer, I really didn't know what I was getting into when I got this ARC from netgalley. I am so extremely happy I came across this book and Author, and I can not wait for Book 2 to come out!

KarenJo Custodio says

4.5 Stars - Fun Swoony Romance with a Paranormal Twist

When I read the premise for this book, I immediately requested. I already love books with romance in them so the idea of love curses just made me even more interested.

The writing in this book is so creative, vibrant and compelling. I found myself trying to squeeze reading time during work just cause I needed to know what happened next. The plot is engaging, hilarious, suspenseful and so much fun. I was really fascinated with the mythology part of the story and enjoyed reading about it.

The romance is so swoony and cute. Cora and Jonas are just too adorable together. They're friends first and foremost so it's endearing to watch them work out their feelings for each other. Their chemistry is sweet and I definitely felt that push and pull between them.

Cora is a such great heroine. She's not without faults and she frustrated me a bit, but I admired her independent attitude. I loved that she's smart, strong, determined, and brave. Jonas is quite the charmer being who he is – an Eros Guardian. He's a player with a tragic past – the super hot "bad boy" you can't resist and want to save. You'll feel for him. You'll root for him. You'll want him to be happy and the whole nine yards. His twin sister, Beth, is quite the character! She's confident, straightforward, ridiculously feisty and probably my favorite. Leo is the wild card -- he's new in town and mysterious so he certainly made the story more exciting.

The Third Kiss by Kat Colmer is such wonderful debut novel. It's unique, intriguing and beautifully written. The characters are lovable and relatable. The drama, romance, mystery, plot twists, and the humor made this story wickedly awesome. I was captivated from start to finish. And that ending?! Soooo crazy!! I absolutely can't wait to get my hands on the sequel.

I received an ARC of this book from the publisher, Entangled Publishing LLC, via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

Visit my blog for more reviews: https://sincerelykarenjo.wordpress.com/

Richard says

The Third Kiss is a good long way from my comfort zone. YA romance with a healthy dose of mythology. But Kat Colmer would be a great writer in whatver genre she chose. In a story that concerns love, honesty, family history and the old testament too what I loved most is the wonderful humour that is always there in any circumstance.

It will definitely appeal to readers of fantasy, mythology and magic realism. But it will mainly appeal to lovers of very fine writing with characters who are very likeable, flawed and attractive in all ways.

Huge fun with passionate romance and a fair dose of fighting. Something for everyone.