



The Plus-One Agreement (Harlequin Kiss)

Charlotte Phillips

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Successful job? Check. Swish wardrobe? Check.

Mr. Right? Not so much...

Emma Burney might not have a man, but she has a very practical solution for that: the plus-one agreement. A guaranteed date for any occasion. The problem? Her date is the gorgeous Dan Morgan, the man she lusted after for *years*.

Dan is all about keeping it casual, so when Emma decides to call it quits on their arrangement, he isn't bothered. Well, maybe there's just a little bit of dented ego. After all, he's always prided himself on his plus-one prowess. So when Emma begs just one last date...suddenly he's got something to prove!

The Plus-One Agreement (Harlequin Kiss) Details

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Abbi Wilder says

I've pretty much read all of Charlotte Phillips' Kiss books and I really like each one. It's a twist on the 'he doesn't really love me so I need to move on' premise. I think that's a premise. LOL. Either way, great book.

Karen says

Review Posted on HarlequinJunkie.com

Emma and Dan were perfect for each other. At least in the sense that they looked nice together, knew how to navigate business dinners, and kept Emma's family off her back. Their long-term fake dating agreement wasn't enough for her anymore though, and it was time to move on to a real relationship. [Read More](#)

Griffinyarn says

'When you said you needed a fake break-up I wasn't expecting it to involve my public humiliation. You were going to lob that drink over me, for heaven's sake, and now you think I'll just agree to a rerun?'

She opened her mouth to respond and he cut her off.

'There are people I know in here,' he said in a furious stage whisper, nodding around them at the crowd. 'What kind of impression do you think that would have given them?'

'I didn't expect things to get so out of hand,' she said. 'I just thought we'd have a quick mock row in front of my parents and that would be it.'

'You didn't even warn me!'

'I didn't want to lose the element of surprise. I wanted to make it look, you know, authentic.'

I guess I should've known at this stage that I wasn't going to love this book. Now, I'm all for dumping the contents of wine glasses (or worse) on the heads of people who deserve it, but just to stage a fake break-up? Tacky and melodramatic.

Perhaps it is just me, but I quickly lost patience with the heroine's issues - yeah, she has an overbearing mother. Who doesn't? Get over it. I felt that she was by parts stupid, self-centered and whiny. (Although kudos for ditching the cycling wonder boy). She expects the hero to help her brother out because they're "friends" but she hasn't got a clue what drives the hero or that he may have his own emotional baggage.

Continuing that line of thought, they've been fake-dating for a year and still know next to nothing about each other, but one weekend later and they're in love. Some soul-searching, and bibbity-bobbity-boo! We're over our issues. HEA. Yes, this is a romance novel. No, I don't expect massive doses of realism, but still. Some credibility please.

The hero was also a bit of an ass, but I felt that he did show some signs of emotional development toward the end, so I'm slightly more forgiving about his character.

This book fell flat for me.

Harlequin Books says

"This creative twist on the fake-girlfriend theme will entertain with quirky supporting characters and numerous emotional ups and downs before Dan and Emma resolve their issues". (RT Book Reviews, rated 4 stars)

Shonnie says

Okay Read

I thought the story was okay as I was just looking for a light story to occupy my mind. The story was a bit long or drawn out but it meet my criteria of easy read.

Carly says

While I did spend the whole book with an odd sort of deja vu (I could have sworn I'd read it before and could tell you what was about to happen, to be said etc) it is one of my new favourites.

Gail says

The hero and heroine have a convenient arrangement where they provide dates for each other when he needs an intelligent date for a business meeting or she needs cover with her annoying family. She wanted more but realized she wouldn't get it, since he takes ditzy blondes on the real dates. So when she meets this hot bicycle racer who wines and dines her, she fake breaks up with the hero, her fake boyfriend. And that's when he realizes he doesn't want to end their plus-one agreement. It's a good story with lots of good angst. Liked it a lot.

Writerlibrarian says

Forgettable contemporary romance novel. Both lead characters are annoyingly boring and the rest of the

characters are not even paper thin. It gets two stars because of the same sex wedding (the brother of the protagonist) that was well done for a main stream romance novel series. Otherwise it would have gotten one star.

Fafiliebe ♥ Warner ♥ Raffie ♥ says

It was an ok read..

2.5 stars

June says

What's better than not having to worry about the appropriate date for a business meeting or social function? Nothing, as far as Dan Morgan could see. But then Emma told him it was over because she'd found her true love. That stirred things up a bit.

Emma Burney has always fallen in the shadow of her brother. She's kept Dan around to help her survive her crazy family. But now she's ready for a change and it's up to her to make it. I enjoyed the story.

There was sexual content, but not too graphic. And not overdone.

Cheryl M-M says

Not exactly ordinary when you have a so called arrangement with a friend, who plays your pretend girlfriend or boyfriend when the need arises. Business dinner, family wedding or an important social event, all you need to do is call Mr or Miss Plus One. That is the strange but straight forward agreement Dan and Emma have with each other.

Obviously things like that work better in theory and not very well in real life settings. After a while, the whole having a trophy guy or gal on your arm scenario, without any kind of romantic inclination towards you, gets kind of irritating and tedious. It is perfect except for the fact it is fake.

Emma thinks the grass is probably greener on the other side of Dan and it isn't until she has to do without her perfect plus one that she comprehends just how perfect it was and how much she misses it. Dan on the other hand is tired of playing games and thinks Emma should try the greener grass.

The trouble with some people is that they often can't see what is right in front of them. They spend so much time looking for Mr/Miss Right that they let the perfect match just slip through their fingers. There is no such thing as 100% compatible or a couple without any misunderstandings at all.

The moral of this light romance is that before you seek in every corner of the world for your soulmate try looking a little closer at home. You never know what or who you might be overlooking.

I received a copy of this book courtesy of Harlequin UK and Mills & Boon.

Desere says

All woman will tell you that attending an event of any kind alone is always embarrassing. You feel every one

staring at you, and in the end for most of the time you don't even attend at all if you cannot find that vital piece of arm-candy.

For Emma this is so not the case, she has an arrangement with the very hotter than hot Dan. He's her hero whenever she needs him to be, perfect ! But lusting after him in secret was never part of the plan yet she goes with the flow and just let's it be.

Dan has always been cool with the arrangement, it's all for fun, but then suddenly Emma calls off the arrangement and he feels just a little more than annoyed.

So when she begs him for one last time to be her knight in shining armor or rather the drowned moron that needs to slick off without the girl, he decides he has to grab the chance to prove to Emma he is worth keeping around.

I loved, loved, loved this book! It was heartfelt, emotional and so awesome. The characters had fire and passion that made the read so intense it completely blew me away. The character of Dan was yes a bit of an ass, but with good reason. He can see Emma is hiding in the shadows but cannot get her to crawl out from it, and this of course drives him mad.

It reminded me that in real life we all do the very same, we think we are out in the open for all the world to see and when we see someone not taking the chance to act on something we want to tell them how to do it. But we don't stop to think that the person has a very good reason for what they are doing. This makes us mad but also completely blind and let's us look past our own failures in life.

The character of Emma was super fun to read ! I enjoyed her nutty family and her always acting as best she can to "hide " them and their antics. I loved how the author used Dan to bring out the real Emma from the shadows and let's her blossom into this stunning real woman.

I am taking away a message of when we find a person who challenges us to be the real person you know you can be, don't push them away. It will be a long and hard road to happiness but it will be worth it.

I recommend this read for all fans of the HK line. The read was fun, romantic and so very sexy!

5/5 star review

" An ordinary agreement suddenly becomes very complicated"

Zara Hoffman says

The guy's egotistical attitude about needing the last word and her disregard for his feelings bothered me too much for me to really get into the story. It also felt like it went around in circles more than necessary, but I did like the end.

Kat Snark says

That star review is not fair, and very biased, but I'm just so TIRED of the "Afraid to commit" thing all the guys now have going on.

Maria says

Really interesting premise and plot, but just ok.

The use of a stand in plus one who becomes more is not a new idea, but I was interested enough to see where it went. Overall the plot was great and kept moving, but I wasn't as invested in the characters. Okay read, but nothing really stAnd out about it.
