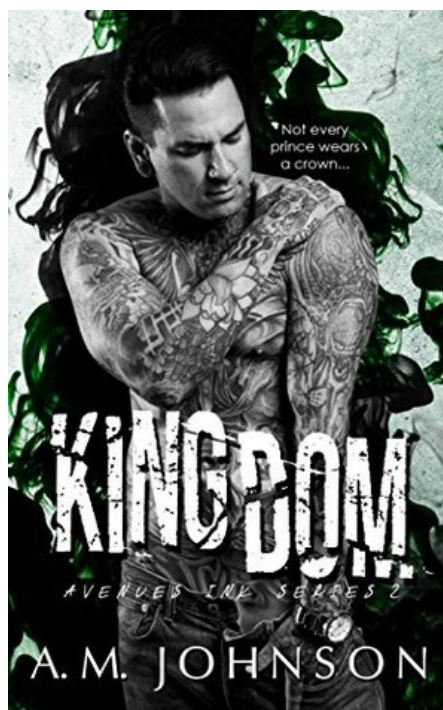




Kingdom

A.M. Johnson

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Kelly Kavanagh was Liam's happily ever after, his loyal princess. A lifeline to something better than any high school dropout could ever hope for...until the day she left to pursue a dream that didn't include him and slowly his kingdom crumbled to the ground.

Liam O'Connell was the sun to Kelly's everlasting moon, her painted prince. A strong and devoted soul to fight the war she was slowly losing against herself...until his promises had become lies and her dream was the only way she would ever survive.

They have more than just miles and time between them now. The twin fortresses they've built around their hearts are next to impossible to scale. But, when two parallel fates collide in life and in death, will the impact be powerful enough to break down their self-imposed walls?

Every love story starts with Once Upon a Time, but in real life there are no fairytale endings, and the prince who rescues you...will never wear a crown.

****Interconnected Stand Alone****

Kingdom Details

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Author : A.M. Johnson

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Genre : Romance

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From Reader Review Kingdom for online ebook

Melanie (mells_view) says

This story was beautiful and amazing! A second chance romance that was a bit of a dark fairytale. Fate, undeniable connections, tragedy, and all that jazz. The writing is absolutely poetic. There is a story within this story, and it is so good! I feel like it could be expanded and made into it's own little series. I'd read it.

Kelly is a young girl who comes from bad circumstances. She thinks that all she has going for her is her beauty. Why? Because that's what she has been told.

Liam is a young man who comes from bad circumstances. He had to grow up way too quickly, and had to take on responsibilities that were pretty dang heavy.

These two come together unexpectedly. Even though they don't look like a perfect match, they find out that they are, and in more ways than one! Fairytale characters come to life. That's how I see Liam and Kelly. Their story isn't easy, or simple, but it's full of emotion and feeling.

I'd love to gush and tell you every detail I loved, but that would spoil it all. I'd DEFINITELY read this book if I were you. It's a modern spin on a fairytale. Finding the one you know you're meant to spend forever with, but not having the easiest path to that forever!

AM Johnson did a FABULOUS job with this one, and I can't wait to see what comes next in book three!

Rebecca Woodward says

The angst this story puts the characters through was courageous! I love these characters so much. The love they have for each other is breath taking. I cried and cried for them. The emotional roller coaster is wild. I was actually cheering towards the end and saying "finally" yay!! I can't wait to read the next installment. It will be epic!!!

Grey says

I received this book in exchange for an honest review. Ms. Johnson was a new-to-me author, but I was intrigued by the blurb. Her words and the back story captivated me. The use of The Painted Prince... how poignant and eerily poetic the dark fairytale was for the main characters in this story.

You all know, I don't do spoilers. So, I will just tell you, this story kept my attention. Even though it is listed

as #2 in the series, I didn't read #1 and although it talked about the characters from the first book, I did just fine. This is about a new couple. It is rather dark in spots, but I like the dark, LOL!

Kingdom is really well written... the way it pulled at my heartstrings in spots and downright shivved me in others, yeah.... it was good! *giggle*

book bruin says

A.M. Johnson has blown me away again with this beautifully broken second chance romance! I absolutely LOVED this book and Liam and Kelly! Just as in **Possession**, book 1 of the Avenues Ink series, the words transcended the page and I felt so lucky to experience this book. You don't just read this story. You feel it. You break with it. You heal with it. Although this is book 2 in the interconnected series, each book can be read as a stand alone.

Liam and Kelly were the perfect yin and yang. Sharp edges to soft curves. Day to night. Each has their own demons and baggage that have imprisoned them, whether willingly or unknowingly. They each struggle at different times to break free from their chains, but that invisible tether to each other grounds them and helps them be the person each of them strives to be. Mistakes are made and insecurities sometimes get the better of them, but it only made the push and pull between Liam and Kelly that much more emotional and intense. Yes, the angst in this book was high, but so incredibly necessary in my opinion. There were times when I was reading that I felt like I was drowning in their pain. The author has an uncanny ability to invest you in these characters and draw you in so deeply that you can't help but feel attached to them and their journey. Though there were definitely heartbreaking moments, those seeds of hope took root too and made for an incredible love story.

I loved catching up with Declan, Paige, and Kieran too! The O'Connell's may not have had a story book childhood, but their loyalty and devotion to each other is unparalleled. I'm very excited that Kieran is getting his own book, **Poet**, as well and can't wait to read his story! You really don't want to miss this book or series!

I voluntarily read an advance reader copy of this book

Michelle Trzecinski says

When I first started Kingdom I thought, "How could Johnson make Liam's story better than Declan's? I fucking LOVE Declan and Paige!" I didn't think it was possible.

Boy was I wrong.

Right off the bat, I fell hard for our heroine, Kelly Kavanaugh. #GirlCrush She's a take-no-shit, outspoken, tenacious young woman. From the moment she met Liam she never backed down; always standing firm and speaking her mind. After growing up in a less than pleasant environment (abusive, alcoholic, dip-shidiot father), she wants to escape her life in Salt Lake City. Unfortunately, her escape plans are halted by Liam's desire to be there and care for his family. She sacrificed a lot as a young woman for this man- to try and have the best of both worlds. She's my favorite Johnson heroine to date, hands down.

“He rattled the lost hope in my own bones, and as his eyes consumed me, promising fire, it made me wish I was ugly, plain- invisible. I was a ruined package in a gilded box with silken ribbons, and I feared his disappointment more than I feared the burn of his touch.”

Liam is a commendable man; he’s always put others first before his own wants and needs. Sadly, that trait is the reason his first love left to pursue her hopes and dreams. Liam’s is alive and breathing but I wouldn’t necessarily say he’s surviving without her. He’s a smug bastard with a strong front and a helluva shield.

As sad as it was, Kelly leaving Liam was the best thing that could have happened to them. Kelly needed to get away from her poisonous past and find her true calling in life. She needed to discover who she was without the harsh words of her father hanging over her head. Getting away helped her realize that her life was worth so much more than she could ever imagine.

This book brought forth a lot of healing... Healing between Kelly and Liam as they worked to try and mend their past and healing between Liam and his brothers. It took him a long time to find that perfect balance of being the noble big brother and keeping the promises he made to Kelly so many years ago.

While Kingdom could be read as a stand-alone, I wouldn’t really recommend it. To get the full effect of the O’Connell brothers, you need to read Possession first and meet Declan and Paige. (Find out why I love them so much, ARGH!) Their story continues a bit in the book and seeing their relationship grow and thrive really warmed my heart.

This beautiful second-chance romance is engaging and captivating. These two never realized what they had with each other until they didn’t have it anymore.

Bev says

I was in the mood for an angsty read without the craptastic NA dramafest that usually accompanies these type of books. I'm thrilled to say I got all the angst and feels I was wanting without the NA drama.

This author's writing just works for me, it's on point, tight and rich. That said, this book had a LOT of flashbacks, though they were done really well. Whilst I loved it, it's not on the scale of love I felt for Declan and Paige's story because Declan.

4.5 stars

Phyllis Smith says

A.M. Johnson knocked it out of the park with this book! Amazing is an understatement. This is a second chance book that will have your attention right from the beginning. You will definitely go through all of the emotions with this book. There wasn't one part of this book that I didn't like.

Liam and Kelly had rough childhoods to say the least. But when they found each other, they found their other half. It is not an easy journey for them at all. Through their struggles, their love remained. But would that be enough to keep them together? We all need to find our Liam!! I didn't want their story to end. I absolutely loved it.

To me, it was a beautifully written story about two souls blending together that leads to a lifelong love. You do not want to miss reading Kingdom!

A.M. Johnson says

KINGDOM IS LIVE

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Alissa says

I finished this book 3 weeks ago and I'm still at a loss on how to express my love for this book! I have a book hangover of epic proportions and my love for Liam is bordering on obsession (don't judge!). I met Liam in Possession, and had no idea what to expect in his story. But if there's one thing I can count on when I start a book by A.M. Johnson, it's that the story will be entirely different than the last book she wrote. And yet, somehow her writing manages to blow me away even more with each new book. Her stories are always unique and I am drawn in by the depth of the characters and the writing.

Liam, Liam, Liam...oh how I loved his story. I love him and how he's so tough on the outside but has a heart of gold and is such a Mama's boy (SWOON). This is an epic second chance romance that will shatter your heart and put it back together again. I adored the fairy tale that was woven into the story and Kingdom is no doubt one of my top reads of 2017. Read this book!!!!

Vanessa (nessreads) says

ARC provided in exchange for an honest review

5 "Tell me your name" Stars!!!!

Alright, *deep breath* let it out. My mind is all jumbled and my emotions are all over the place, so forgive me. This book, whoa, this book. *shakes head* I wish, man I can't even form coherent sentences right now. Just thinking about this story and the characters is bringing tears to my eyes and I can't think straight. But, as I was saying, I wish I had the perfect words, because this book deserves that and much more. AM knows how to tug at your heartstrings, and damn did she ever do that. There were times when I couldn't catch my breath and my heart was in my throat. Did I like it? Heck no! But I freakin' welcomed it because it made me feel the exact same thing that Liam and Kelly were feeling. Oh boy Liam and Kelly, my gosh these two, I mean WOW!

Ever since 'Possession' I wanted and needed to know Liam's story. Never did I expect it to be what it was. And let me tell you, it was EVERY! THING! I guarantee you will feel every emotion that Liam is feeling. You will ache and feel rage and you'll want to break things and you'll shed tears, I promise you, you will cry. Liam, Liam, Liam ugh he makes my heart flutter. I don't have enough words inside me to articulate the beauty that is Liam. The way in which he loves is masterful. I could go on and on, but I'll keep things to

myself because you deserve to experience Liam in all his imperfectness.

"It was careless to want her. Her shattered edges matched mine. I'd never be able to give her the freedom she wanted."

Liam and Kelly were two characters that clawed and fought with all their might to try and change and reach towards a future they so desperately craved and wanted. Their bond was indestructible, their souls were made for each other. These two will take you on such an emotional ride, that you'll want to pullover and catch your breath a few times. Whatever you do though, don't jump off. Stick through it, Liam and Kelly are so worth it.

"My night had always needed his sun. Liam was mine. We were sewn together, heart and soul, patched up with steel thread and leather patches."

I seriously cannot recommend this book enough. Go on a journey with Liam and Kelly, let them guide you and show you what it means to love with all your heart. And while you're at it, if you haven't read 'Possession' yet, do yourself a favor and read that book first. You need to meet Declan and Paige, their story is just as important. And I can't wait for Kieran's book! That man is such a mystery and I need to know his story.

AM, I applaud the amazingness that you are. The brilliance in which you write takes my breath away. Your words seep into my skin and make a home in my heart. Thank you for giving us these stories and these larger-than-life characters. Liam and Kelly will hold a place in my heart, they won't be forgotten. And I CAN'T WAIT for 'Poet' oh my gosh that sample was not enough though. But I'll wait patiently, maybe.

Stephanie Rose says

Possession was one of my favorite books this year, but AM Johnson knocked it out of the park and then some with Kingdom. When Liam, the eternal protector, falls in love, he loves hard. Kelly was his missing piece, his princess, and all he wanted to do was save her. Through different POVs, including a masterfully crafted fairy tale woven into the story, you feel everything. I finished in a day, unable to put it down because I loved Liam and Kelly that much. Kingdom is a beautifully written second chances love story and I am hooked on the O'Connell brothers. Can be totally be read as a standalone. 5+++ stars.

Yvette (Booksandbandanas) says

AM JOHNSON.

Every damn time. I have read all of AMJ books. I was rooting for her at book one, and now to see her flourish into this profound author it's indescribable.

THE FEELS.

This was unlike any story I've come across, AMJ writing is again, a poetically, heart pounding experience.

Liam and Kelly from the very first encounter I knew they would steal my heart. AND THEY DID. I'm a sucker for angsty writing. I love the feel of my heart fluttering, and my eyes running across words that make

my world turn on its axis. This book gave me all of that, and a million other reasons to fall deeper into AMJ world. She writes damaged men to a T!!!! I always think there is no way I can love this book as much as I loved the last, and then it happens again and again.

Kelly & Liam. Both damaged. Both lost & Angry & hopelessly perfect. I loved these too the anger the pain I felt it all.

AMJ, you slay me.

"Belonging to him, being with him, kissing him, tasting him, feeling him, it felt too right, and I'd already learned the hard way nothing that good comes without a price."

I have said it again, and again. But I will say it AGAIN. If you haven't picked up a book by this author, you are missing out on a world. A world I don't have words for. She's just unreal.

Sarah/DragonflyReads says

Once again, AM Johnson pulls out all the stops. KINGDOM is so beautifully unique and surprising, it made the story utterly unputdownable.

The way Johnson weaves a fairy tale into the story is unlike anything I've read before and sets the bar as a romance for the ages. Well done!

Joyce Mercês says

Kingdom is book #2 in the Avenues Ink Series and it's Liam O'Connell and Kelly Kavanagh's story.

Kelly and Liam come from a similar background. But differently from him, who can't leave his family, Kelly wants to escape her life and start a new one with Liam.

When the time to go arrives, she goes, but Liam stays.

Liam hates Kelly for leaving. Kelly hates herself for going. Their love is still there, waiting to soar again.

Just like Possession, Kingdom is one of those books that makes you think and feel. It's not just a romance. It means something. It teaches you something. Is love strong enough to conquer all? How to let go and just LIVE?

A.M. Johnson once again left me blubbing... because I can't just explain how amazing and touching and STRONG this story is. The O'Connell boys are incredible. Life is not easy for them but they are always together.... Seriously... This review sucks! I'm a mess here! The book is SO GOOD! Liam is so good! I hope you get it and read it and love it just like I did!

Michelle says

This was my very first AM Johnson read, so I had very little idea as to what to expect. I was pleasantly surprised.

Kingdom is the second in the Avenues Ink series and features a second chance romance between Kelly Kavanagh, a girl wanting nothing more than to escape the small town she grew up in, and Liam O'Connell. A rough tattoo artist from the wrong side of the tracks, unable to let go of the responsibility to take care of his family. Even it it costs him his only chance at happiness.

Kelly had big dreams. She knew that if she could escape her life and this town, she'd make it. Falling in love with Liam didn't change those plans, but when it became evident that he was never really considering leaving with her - she had to make her choice. She left. He stayed. And they loved. Oh, how they never stopped loving each other.

But when her father's health takes a turn for the worse, Kelly returns home. Running into Liam was something she wanted to avoid, but it became unavoidable. In a high-anst and dramatic romance, things take a twist and everything changes. Suddenly the flashy life of a model isn't in the plans for Kelly anylonger and although Liam knows his heart is at risk, he can't let her take on this life change alone. Even if that means that they fight like cats and dogs and refuse to be honest about their feelings.

Kingdom is one of those books where you want to shake sense into the characters. Both could have saved so much heartache if they'd just open their mouths and be honest with each other. But that makes for a boring book - so we have zero communication, lots of angst and a stomach tied up in knots.

I really love a second chance romance. There is something hopeful about it. That no matter how ruined it might be, that sometimes love is enough to conquer all. That some loves will survive anything. Kingdom was that sort of romance. One about a boy and girl who fell in love at maybe just the wrong time. Too young to fully appreciate what it all meant, but now that they were older and wiser, they knew what it was like to live without it. They knew it hurt more being apart.

A stunningly emotional romance and I'm certainly going to be reading book one to catch up on this series and continuing the journey.
