



## The First One

*Tawdra Kandle*

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## **The First One** Tawdra Kandle

Ali and Flynn were high school sweethearts. Eager to see the world and leave behind their small Georgia hometown, they'd planned for an exciting new life together after they finished school. But on graduation day, only one of them hit the road. Eight years down that road, an unexpected loss brings Flynn home again. He's a big-shot photo journalist, and he's made most of his plans reality. But he's done it alone. Is it too late for his biggest dream to come true? Ali's spent those years working hard, raising a daughter and helping her brother keep their family farm alive. Thinking about Flynn and what might have been is a pain she tries to avoid. . .even when it's impossible to forget. Flynn's return brings back feelings Ali thought were long dead and hopes she'd abandoned. Finding their way back to each other will change them forever, opening old wounds and stirring up memories. Can the first love be the one that lasts forever?

## **The First One Details**

Date : Published February 8th 2015 by CreateSpace

ISBN : 9781507628690

Author : Tawdra Kandle

Format : Paperback 238 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, New Adult

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## From Reader Review The First One for online ebook

### **Momma says**

I think I knew from reading The Last One that I would love The First One. Ali is such a strong character that you can't help but love her. While you want to completely hate Flynn for taking off and leaving like he did, you can't help but fall in love and swoon at the man he has become. This story switches back and forth between present and past as we learn more of Ali & Flynn's story and what lead to the current state of disaster. I sometimes don't like this style of writing, but Tawdra managed to make it seamless and a wonderful read. It's a story of love, loss, secrets and lies. Naturally we get our HEA which is what makes the story all worthwhile. I found myself arguing both sides of the story and shaking my head at times. I cried more than a few tears with this one - have your tissues handy!

As always, I loved getting the glimpse into Meghan & Sam's lives again and making guesses at who the next installment will be about! ( I know who it is ... do you? )

If you are looking for a well written romance, look no further than one of Tawdra's stories! I highly recommend this series. Although this could be read and enjoyed as a stand alone, I recommend reading The Last One first :)

\*I received an ARC in exchange for my honest review. \*

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### **Alexandra (Books-In-A-Storm) says**

So like what the hell?

There seemed to be a lot of details skipped that could have been added but no I got lost a couple of time reading this too. The flash back confused me just a little. But like love there's is strange. I have to say there was a time or two that I wanted to bash some heads together. And Bridget just is like yeah more family.

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### **Marsha says**

The First One by Tawdra Kandle

Tawdra Kandle is a terrific storyteller. This second book in the series is as well written as the first. Meghan and Sam's story mixed in with Flynn and Ali in such a wonderful way. I never lost track of the characters and followed where they led. This one did drop a star for editing, but it did not detract from the story at all.

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### **Margaret says**

This book is full of heartbreak and love. It is about second chances, trying again, forgiveness and most of all love triumphing in the end. It is about compromises and making the right decisions after making a few bad

ones. You will need tissues for this book but it does have a happy ending. I am really enjoying this series.

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### **Carrie says**

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

This was a beautifully executed romance that managed to change around all my preconceived notions about Flynn and Ali from the previous book. I started the book determined to hate Flynn all the way through for abandoning his family, but somewhere along the line I began to hope for happiness between these two. Amazing!

We met Ali in the previous book and she was the picture perfect single mother. She has an adorable daughter that she's raised on her own because she didn't reach out to tell the ex for abandoned her that she was pregnant. When a funeral brings Flynn back to town, it's very obvious that now's the time for Ali to come clean about her daughter's father. The small town hasn't managed to put it together, but it's only a matter of time. Luckily, Ali has a good support system to help her through this troubling time. Just as lucky for her, Flynn has never actually stopped loving her.

These two are adorable in an almost high school way. They have to find a way to co-parent, but they end up going way beyond that. Where they end up is so much better than where they would have been had he stayed, so I'm ok with everyone forgiving him. I love these two and was super happy about this HEA.

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### **Mandi Morgan says**

Very sweet, lovely story. Moved a bit slow. Was sad in parts, but overall a nice book.

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### **M. says**

Not as good as the first one, but still an enjoyable read.

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### **Kanwarpal Singh says**

It was about second chances, trying again, forgiveness, hope and finding compromises in situations that seem hopeless and final.

Ali and Flynn were inseparable in highschool. For four years nothing could break them up and then Flynn wanted to leave Burton, travel and work as a photographer and Ali was supposed to go with him. But she changed her mind and wanted to stay at home and help her brother Sam with their farm. Flynn gave her an ultimatum. Him or the farm. She chose the farm. And Flynn disappeared the next day and didn't come back for nine years.

Nine years and one divorce later Ali is a mother to eight year old girl. A girl who never met her father because he wasn't around. Because he didn't even know about her.

Nine years later Flynn comes back to bury his father. He doesn't want to stay in Burton for long, but when Ali finally tells him that he's a father he decides to stay for a while.

And Ali just let him. Yes, she was a bit sceptical in the beginning but after a while she warmed up to him rather quickly too.

They never really talked about past. There were some talks, but they were short and never seemed to resolve anything

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So now lays another dilemma, does he leave everything behind again or , does he chose the first one; the first one he gave his heart to, the first one he spoke about his dreams to, the first one who loved him and can give him everything!

### **Sharene Barnes says**

My goodness!!!!.....I LOVED THIS SECOND BOOK

Life sometimes gives you those second chances. But in between the first chance and second chance we learn so much about the self. Loving someone teaches how to sincerely forgive and compromise. I am on Ali and Flynn's team all the way. These two started the inseparable relationship in high school. They were so open and honest with each other that they were able to establish friendship and love. Now who doesn't want that in life! But things happen as you grow and life starts calling you for different things. Flynn wanted to live the small town Burton and travel the world with the woman he dearly loved. Ali wanted to live her life with the dream love of her life...

The night before graduation, Ali and Flynn went all the way with their love. Right after graduation, the plan was to tell her brother that she wanted to leave town and go with Flynn. But she felt obligated to stay behind and help her brother. Ali's parents had passed away, and she felt obligated to her brother to stay and maintain the home and farm business their parents left behind. She made a huge sacrifice.

Flynn was devastated and left town....Ali was devastated as well. But she didn't know she was pregnant with Flynn's child. Neither spoke to each other....

Nine years later, Ali is a divorced mother raising a smart eight year old child and Flynn came back to town to bury his father. They avoided each other for as long as possible. But Ali had to tell Flynn the truth. After getting over the hurt of knowing he was a father, he still loved his only Ali and Ali still loved her only Flynn. This is a must read. I would recommend this story to those who can admit that life happens but there is NOTHING more powerful than LOVE!

This is a beautiful romance novel that gives you hope!

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### **Markéta says**

4 stars!!!!

I adored the second book in the series. It was about second chances, trying again, forgiveness, hope and

finding compromises in situations that seem hopeless and final.

Ali and Flynn were inseparable in highschool. For four years nothing could break them up and then they broke it themselves. Flynn wanted to leave Burton, travel and work as a photographer and Ali was supposed to go with him. But she changed her mind and wanted to stay at home and help her brother Sam with their farm. Flynn gave her an ultimatum. Him or the farm. She chose the farm. And Flynn disappeared the next day and didn't come back for nine years.

Nine years and one divorce later Ali is a mother to eight year old girl. A girl who never met her father because he wasn't around. Because he didn't even know about her.

Nine years later Flynn comes back to bury his father. He doesn't want to stay in Burton for long, but when Ali finally tells him that he's a father he decides to stay for a while.

There were some things that I didn't really get in the book. How come that Flynn didn't even get mad when he find out that he's got a daughter? Yeah, he was pissed but he got over it really quickly. He jumped right back in almost as if he never left.

And Ali just let him. Yes, she was a bit sceptical in the beginning but after a while she warmed up to him rather quickly too.

They never really talked about past. There were some talks, but they were short and never seemed to resolve anything.

If something like this happened to me I'd be furious. If I were Flynn I'd be so damn angry for missing out on my daughter's life. I'd never be understanding or even trying to take the blame (well, it was partly his fault, but still). And if I were Ali I'd make him grovel more, I'd make him prove himself that he's not going to leave again.

But overall it was a sweet story with a cute ending. Sometimes I thought it was bit rushed and that there was a lot of pretending that the past never happened but most of the times it felt natural and real life-ish.

I liked that it showed that you can have your happy ending. That a compromise is a solution and can result in something amazing. That a real love is worth waiting for.

Another thing: what is the obsession in USA about homeschooling? I really don't believe that parents could teach their children everything they'd learn in highschool and what about social interaction? Won't the child be lonely and shy or socially awkward around other kids and adults later on? As an european I really don't get it.

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### **Sue Brooks says**

Tawdra Kandle is an amazing author!!! She knows how to compose a story which will keep you on the edge of your seat and asking for more!!!

This is the second book in The One Trilogy -- so if you haven't read The Last One, you will find it beneficial to read it before The First One. This way you will be fully aware of what is going on when you start The First

One.

In The Last One, we get to read about Sam and Meghan's story. And since Meghan and Ali are good friends, the spinoff has Sam and Meghan involved in it also. Flynn and Ali's story has a lot of flashbacks which take you from their present back to their past. Each memory explains more about their relationship and how it fell apart. I don't write spoilers - so from here I will say that you have to read the book!!!!

While reading this book, I found it extremely hard to stop reading. I would put the book down and have to pick it up as quickly as possible -- that is how good the story is!!!

I received an advanced copy of The First One in exchange for my honest review. All thoughts and opinions are 100% my own.

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### **??Hannah?? says**

This was a good book. I did enjoy reading about these characters again. It was nice that even after all that time they could be so in love still. The ending was wonderful and everybody from both books got a happily ever after. We also got introduced the main character of the next book. Which I'm looking forward to reading.

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### **Natasha says**

Review by Natasha Gentile

When I read the blurb I was caught right away. I mean who doesn't love stories about high school sweethearts?

Meet Ali and Flynn -high school students looking forward to taking on the world. Flynn is the photojournalist for the high school paper. Little did he know that when he would be meeting the reporter for the school's paper she would bring along her friend. It all started with a look and in the end a look is all it takes, right?

She'd turned toward me, and for the first time, I looked at her. Really looked. Huge, gorgeous brown eyes gazed back at me, and I was gone.

And with that history was made. The friendship quickly escalated to love and let's be honest, at 16 you think that you will be with that person forever. They had all their plans laid out for them; go away to college together, travel the world together, get away from their small town. It was going to be all or nothing.

Except on graduation day, only one of them left. Flynn would not be stuck in this little town no matter if he left his heart there.

Eight years later, eight long years later, Flynn is coming back to town. He comes back to town the big honcho photo journalist, he made all his dreams come true. The only problem is that he did it all alone. He has it in his mind to get in and get out, just one problem. Actually it's an eight year old problem!

“You weren’t here.” I covered my face with my hands. “You were gone, and you’d told me that night that nothing and no one was going to hold you back. When I asked you to stay with me, you told me that if you did, you’d end up hating me. Resenting me. So strangely enough, the idea of asking you to come back was not very appealing.”

When he comes face to face with Ali and her eight-year-old daughter, he is shocked and utterly speechless. For eight years he thought that she didn’t love him, he thought she didn’t choose him. For eight years she thought he forgot all about the girl who held his heart.

So now lays another dilemma, does he leave everything behind again or does he finally choose the girl who he loves, does he chose the first one; the first one he gave his heart to, the first one he spoke about his dreams to, the first one who loved him and can give him everything!

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### **Three Chicks says**

Review by Natasha Gentile

When I read the blurb I was caught right away. I mean who doesn’t love stories about high school sweethearts?

Meet Ali and Flynn -high school students looking forward to taking on the world. Flynn is the photojournalist for the high school paper. Little did he know that when he would be meeting the reporter for the school’s paper she would bring along her friend. It all started with a look and in the end a look is all it takes, right?

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And with that history was made. The friendship quickly escalated to love and let’s be honest, at 16 you think that you will be with that person forever. They had all their plans laid out for them; go away to college together, travel the world together, get away from their small town. It was going to be all or nothing.

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### **Katherine says**

4 Stars-Great (had my attention and I enjoyed it),

This is the second book to The One Trilogy. Can be read as a standalone. Each book in this series has it's own HEA, but they are characters you meet within the books, so I suggest if you don't want and ending ruined by reading it out of order start from book 1 - The Last One. This book is about Sam's sister which you are introduced to in book 1.

Loved this read. I battled with myself because I felt the pain and weariness the characters had. Though I times I wanted to jump in the book, tie the characters up and lock them in a room together so that they can work out their issues. I enjoyed the pace, the beginning, end and everything in between. Also enjoyed that I got to see Sam and Meghan's story evolve even more in this book.

Story is about Ali, single mother to an eight year old daughter, little sister to Sam from book 1. Ali has always been in love with her high school sweetheart, Flynn, and they along with everyone else in town thought they would end up together. But one night, one ultimatum, one decision changed it all. Now Ali is raising her daughter alone trying to avoid her past and not deal with it. Flynn is back in the town her swore he would never come back to. Ali and Flynn have to face their past and deal with the consequences their decisions made 9 years ago.

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