



# Life Plus One

*Rachel Robinson*

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## Life Plus One Rachel Robinson

Ben Brahms shed his glasses, gangly body, and a life long pact to attend an Ivy League college with his best friend the day the world took on a sinister hue. With his outward appearance matching his new career as a Navy SEAL, Ben is saving the world... literally, at the expense of everything he gave up. A whole life.

Her.

Harper Rosehall honors the pact. She takes on, and then dominates college on the opposite coast. Always the geek, and always behind socially — especially with men, she blossoms. With her moral compass guiding her, she finds herself drawn back to San Diego and all she left behind.

Him.

With memories from their pasts haunting every interaction and decision in their present — and future, their timing never seems to be quite right.

A marriage.

A baby.

Nothing.

Some friendships last the test of time, can Ben and Harper's stand the tests of life?

Life doesn't care what you love, it takes it away anyways.

## Life Plus One Details

Date : Published August 16th 2017

ISBN :

Author : Rachel Robinson

Format : 272 pages

Genre : War, Military Fiction, Romance

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# From Reader Review Life Plus One for online ebook

## Sheila'S Book Corner says

Now that my heart has been ripped apart stomped on and put back together. I can confidently say what an incredibly emotional ride I just took. A story that I loved to bits and pieces.

Harper and Ben have been best friends since forever. This story is THEIRS. It's a story that takes you through EVERY emotion possible. It pulls you in tears you apart and just when you think you can be broken any more BAM it happens you're heart gets kicked wide open.

A beautiful kind of love that proves strong. The kind of love that can withstand almost anything.

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## Angie - Angie's Dreamy Reads says

4.5 stars. So freaking good!

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## Kim says

From the prologue, I was completely captivated. Everything flowed perfectly and I adored Ben and Harper's story.

The secondary characters were very well written and I had a feeling where it was going (I was so wrong) but I NEVER expected things to happen the way they did!

I enjoy how in some chapters you went back to the past..prom, their first time...every piece showed their relationship perfectly. I loved the little pieces of their past that explains their relationship so well.

Life Plus One was a wonderful book that is full of so much emotion. Honestly, I have never read a book that had me this emotional, and I enjoyed every minute of it.

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## Red Cheeks Reads says

Ben and Harper have been best friends since they were little and have been through everything together. But when the world changes after the 9/11 attacks, their plans of going off to university together suddenly falls apart as Ben decides to go into the marines. Despite the distance and times of not talking, they remain strong and their feelings of friendship start to grow into feelings of romance. But boyfriends, girlfriends, timings, pregnancy and heartache keep them apart. Will these two ever have their moment to become more than just friends or will their lives and the obstacles thrown at them keep them apart and maybe even ruin their lifelong friendship?

*“I’ll never give up hope. I can’t. Not after everything we’ve been through. As I fall asleep I’m left with*

***only one thought: Love sews souls together. Life picks at the stitches.”***

This was an extraordinary story of the strongest friendship turning into the most beautiful romance. Two people who are so obviously meant to be together but can never quite come together as life and obstacles keep them apart and throw even more distance between them. Ben and Harper’s story will pull at your heartstrings and make you believe in true love again.

***“You’re it for me, Harper. The one. The dream girl. The woman I’d break every rule to be with.”***

Ben and Harper were both extremely loveable characters and their relationship from the beginning was just so beautiful to read. Ben was a geek turned hot marine but despite growing muscles and becoming a brave and admired marine, his personality never changes and his feelings for Harper remain as strong as ever. I admired that he always kept true to himself and the way he felt for Harper and wanted to protect and look after her was quite literally sigh worthy and had me wishing I had a Ben of my own. Harper had also been a bit of an odd ball when she was younger but that didn’t stop her turning into a beautiful, kind and loving young woman. The way she always looked out for others feeling before her own, no matter if it broke her heart, was so admirable and I desperately wished she would get her HEA that she so truly deserved.

***“So, here I stand, wearing a rose-colored midi length dress that’s actually cute, carrying a swath of flowers, watching Ben, my best friend since age three, marry her. He smiles at me and I see everything behind it. I know him like the back of my hand, like a conjoined twin, like the only man I’ve ever loved.”***

This was just a beautiful friend to lovers romance with quite a bit of heartbreak, frustration and drama thrown in. There was definitely some surprises that caught me off guard and I honestly wasn’t sure if Ben and Harper becoming more than friends was in the cards for them, especially when more and more obstacles were thrown into their path. I laughed, cried, wanted to throw my kindle down in anger and ultimately fell in love with the characters and their story. A beautiful love story for two beautiful characters!

4.5 Smooches

BETHANY

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## **Sophie says**

I am SO LUCKY to read the books I read! Some I get to read early. Some I buy. But when I read a book like Life Plus One by Rachel Robinson it solidifies my love for the adult romance genre. I’ve read some pretty incredible books this year and I’m sure I’ll read more before it ends but I can safely say that Life Plus One will sit in my top three of 2017 EASILY!

This is not a book that can be read really quickly, for a fun sexy hit. No, this a book where you have to take your time. It’s a book that hits you SO DEEP in your soul that sometimes you feel there is no way out. Rachel stole a HUGE part of me and it’s left somewhere between the pages of Life Plus One with Ben & Harper.

One thing I LOVE in my books is ANGST and Life Plus One had it in SPADES. I was on the edge of my seat, gasping and sighing and swooning and hurting in equal measure. My smile hurt my face, my pounding heart hurt in my chest, my tears hurt my eyes, my body burnt and ached with SO MUCH sexual tension and connection that was brutally battered by LIFE and missed opportunity. My emotions were everywhere, still

are EVERYWHERE.

To me, Rachel Robinson writes the best SEAL ROMANCES out there. They are littered with strong, sinful, sexy alphas that make you all dreamy eyed. Life Plus One had an alpha that was strong and sinful and super, super sexy, but he was also so sweet, so raw, so BEAUTIFUL. This man stole away with me. Don't get me wrong there was a couple of times I wanted to slap him but it was his whole persona that just ended up making me love him more despite his "moments". Ben was one in a million!

This book also delivers an amazing friends to lovers trope! Honestly Rachel DELIVERS it so freaking good. I felt everything. All their love, all their jealousy, all their lust, regret, pain, anger, sadness, happiness. ALL OF IT. I connected to them both so easily, so quickly that I actually felt as though I was breathing their air, living side by side with them. And that's all down to Rachel and how she DELIVERS this story and these characters.

Cover to cover....Beginning to end... Rachel Robinson destroyed me, ripped me apart, splattered my soul and left me broken, but she also raised me up, filled me with love, breathed beautiful life back into me and left me so happy that it was all sooo worth it.

I could go on forever. I could literally speak about this book for days and not get bored. There is SO MUCH to it, that just when you think you know what's coming or going to happen, the rug is dragged from under your feet and you're freefalling. But in the end, it's an experience I'm SO GLAD I took and it's one I will NEVER forget.

6, but that's not nearly enough, beautiful, stars!

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## **Daisy says**

Life Plus One

by Rachel Robinson

4 Angsty Stars

This book had me at Navy SEAL! Rachel can write this genre like no other, one of my favorites and first reads of hers was Crazy Good!!

Ben & Harper have been best friends since childhood, they had all their firsts together. They were awkward, geeky and nerdy growing up but their love ran so deep and was coupled perfectly in every way. They planned out their lives together, going to attend Harvard until a plan changed and Ben enlisted in the Navy instead.

I loved this book, the angst factor is top notch and their love is endless, but time was always against them.

The story takes you throughout a decade plus more of their lives, the struggles of the ups and downs, but the one thing that NEVER diminishes is the LOVE these two have for each other. After a heartbreaking loss, you'd think there's no coming back but Life Plus One and souls that are fated must fight to get what the universe has always planned.

I strongly recommend you pick this up and swoon over this loving heart throbbing hero Ben & this strong will heroine Harper.

ARC provided for an honest review.

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## **J.E. Benoit says**

*Reviewed on behalf of The Book Boyfriend Addict ([www.bookboyfriendaddict.com](http://www.bookboyfriendaddict.com)). A complimentary copy was provided in exchange for an honest review.*

***“How did we get so messed up? Why did we complicate things? We could have so easily been done. Happily ever after.”***

***“Life doesn't work that way,” she whispers.***

My poor heart! This book began crushing my heart right from the prologue, before I even knew a thing about these characters, and kept on going pretty much the whole way through. Ben and Harper had a love for the ages, childhood friends that continued their friendship into their teens and beyond. Theirs was a forever kind of friendship, a forever kind of love, but despite this incredible bond, their timing never quite worked. A slew of missed opportunities, poor timing or just plain fear kept them from having the one thing their hearts wanted most – each other. As the years passed, their relationship is tested in ways neither of them could have ever imagined. Loving each other was always the easy part. But getting everything else right so they could actually be together? That's proving to be the hardest part.

***She's the woman you want till death do you part. The saint. The angel. She's my devil incarnate. My darkest, dirty secret. It will always be her.***

I've read all of Rachel Robinson's books and have enjoyed them all, if you asked me which was my favorite, I would have easily told you it was Crazy Good. But then I read this book and I think that Ben and Harper have dethroned Windsor and Maverick as my favorites. I don't know what it is, but there's something so special about a good friends to lovers story and Life Plus One was just so well done. It was heartbreaking and so sad a lot of the times but underneath all of the trials and heartache, the foundation of love between Ben and Harper was just so profound that it was still able to shine its light even in the darkest of times. I loved the balance of the flashbacks to simpler times and the tangled web they find themselves in as adults. Life is messy and Harper and Ben's journey really showcases that. Sometimes things have to fall apart before they can fall back together again.

***“You know I don't want it to be like this, right? I'd fix everything and make life simpler, the way it used to be, if I could.”***

Both Ben and Harper were such great characters. Completely relatable and easy to like. Ben was charming, funny, caring and loyal. He made his fair share of mistakes but he never wavered in his devotion to Harper being his end game. I found myself relating a lot to Harper, there's a lot about her personality that I

recognize in my own but I loved seeing her transformation over the course of the story from someone who always played it safe and put the needs of others before her own to someone who finally focused on herself and really found out who she was and what she wanted. I loved the glimpses from when Ben and Harper were younger to see how much they've changed over the years. Seeing them as innocent teenagers was so endearing and really helped me to fall in love with them as a couple and as friends. As time passes certain things about their connection never change but other things have to evolve and adapt to accommodate where they are in their lives. But even in the worst of times, seeing these little remnants and nods to when things were simpler –whether it's a cutesy nickname or even just a look – really tugged at my heartstrings. I wanted them to work so badly and I'll admit that there were certain situations where things looked hopeless. There was only one real way I could see for them to get out of certain things but then it happened and I couldn't imagine how they could truly make their way back from it. But trust in Rachel Robinson, she may stomp all over your heart, but rest assured, she'll find all the pieces along the way and patch you back up in the best way by the time you're through!

*When the light fades and the mute darkness washes over me, I don't think of anything except every memory that has you in it.*

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### **Elmarie Pieterse says**

Wow Wow freaking WOW!!!! Hero Hair was my favorite book by Rachel Robinson but after reading Life plus one ITS MY TOP FAVORITE BOOK by her!!!! I just couldn't put this book down!!!! Oh my heart broke at some parts and I laughed at some!!!! And in true Rachel fashion this book was filled with passion and emotions that will keep you captivated right through till the end!!!! I loved Harper and Ben's story so much and it touched me in so many ways cause life is short..... Embrace what you have and fight for what you want!!!!!! Damn there story is imprinted in my heart forever!!! Wish I could rate this book like 10 stars cause it deserves it!!!!

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### **Gitte TotallyBookedBlog says**

**'Standing on the edge of forever, I can only save one person from spiralling into the abyss. It will be him. Always him.'**

This story is a story of childhood and friendship. Of love and life all wrapped up in a vivid bow of angst and missed opportunities. We never rested once, reading Life Plus One, there simply wasn't a chance of catching one's breath.

Best friends since the early years of innocence, Ben and Harper have never left each other's side and every first in life they've discovered together, thick as thieves. When life alters their paths a physical tie is cut, but can two hearts ever be separated no matter what obstacle is placed in their way?

***"You're my blind spot, Harper. I can't see around you."***

Awareness and understanding is a wonderful thing but many times we are blind to what's right in front of

our face. Sometimes we don't realise the truth until the time has passed or life has made it too late. What can you do other than lament over what could have been or the heaviness or loss suffered as a consequence? Love is never easy nor is it black or white. It is multi-coloured, can shine so bright, be a comforting blanket yet at the same time love can be dulled, lose its spark or be halted in its tracks. How we define it, react to it or the actions we take in its name can change our lives.

**'Love sews souls together. Life picks at the stitches.'**

We loved Ben and Harper's story, granted it wasn't an easy read for its heartbreak and angst nor the decisions taken, yet it was a story of a love of grand proportions that weathered many storms. Be prepared to want to throw your kindle out of frustration, this is definitely one for readers who relish when true love is tested.

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**Lu Bielefeld \*read.laugh.love\* says**

Wow!

Very good story about best friends who fall in love and facing a series of obstacles.

I loved the story!

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**Marieke (Marieke's Books & Books and Tequila) says**

Sometimes I need sweet book, sometimes I want a sexy story and sometimes I want a book that makes me feel all kinds of emotions. *Life Plus One* by Rachel Robinson falls into the last category. I know this author for her throat-punch, angst-y books, and with *Life Plus One* she surely doesn't disappoint. I love it.

*"That's the thing with love. Life doesn't care what you love. It takes it away anyway."*

Ben and Harper have been best friends since childhood. They did everything together and made plans for their life after high school. What they had was not just a normal friendship, it was young love, and everybody around them knew it. But when the world changed forever (see *Black and White Flowers*), so did their pact. And although their lives are very different, and both have moved on, the love between them is still there. It's still very much alive, but life keeps interfering.



*"I'll be your friend. I'll always be your friend. To be anything more than that would be dishonorable to our past. We're so much more than lovers," she says, leaning her head on her shoulder. "We're lifers, Benny. Forever."*

*Life Plus One* spans years of the lives of Harper and Ben, going from teens who just finished high school to grown-ups well into their 30's. Like other books by Rachel Robinson, *Life Plus One* is written in a beautiful, realistic way. Ben and Harper act like real-life people; sometimes making stupid mistakes and at other times seeing the light. The prologue sets the mood for the story to come; you know that a heartbreaking moment is coming, but the moment still shocked me.

I love Harper and Ben, but at the same time I want to punch the two of them. They love each other – that's a given fact – but they keep making 'wrong' choices. I get that they were very young in the beginning (and I did some pretty stupid things myself at that age), but they still do it as adults. In the process, they don't only hurt each other, but also the people they're romantically involved with. And that's not okay in my book. But despite I could strangle the leading characters at times, I love the story, it makes me feel everything.

*"Now or never," Ben says, removing the ring from the black velvet. "That's the question." Holding my left hand, he hovers next to my ring finger. I nod. "Now," I say. "Always now. Never never."*

I love *Life Plus One*, I give the story of Harper and Ben 5 stars.

[www.mariekesbooks.com](http://www.mariekesbooks.com)

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## **We Like them Dark \*\* says**

I discovered this author through one of the blogs that I read for. I immediately fell in love, and had to one click all of her other novels. After a week of no sleep, this author quickly became one of my "Go tos." Meaning to me, an author that will not disappoint with any story she writes.

*Life Plus One*, however, is in a league all in its own. Unfortunately for me, I feel as though any amount of high praise I can give this book will not even touch the amount of justice this book deserves. This novel quickly moved into one of my top five favorite of all time. There truly is something amazing about a book that can make you invoke such a wide range of emotions. I felt myself tearing up, I felt myself smiling so hard my cheeks hurt, and I felt myself wanting to give myself a pep talk telling me everything was going to be okay in the end. I trusted this author to give me the ending I hoped for-and what a crazy roller coaster ride it was! From the very beginning of this book-I think you're able to tell there's something special about the story. Harper and Ben were childhood friends in love-and in the first few pages we learn Ben is marrying someone else. This is the first of many times my heart completely shattered during reading this. Don't worry-there's many opportunities for your own heart to be pieced back together, but be warned-you probably need a good amount of tissues to get through their story.

I can't stress this enough-buy this book. Buy it, and review it and let everyone know just how amazing and special Harper and Ben's story is. Absolutely a must read!

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## **Jenny - TotallybookedBlog says**

**‘Standing on the edge of forever, I can only save one person from spiralling into the abyss. It will be him. Always him.’**

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## **Rachel Robinson says**

Life Plus One is LIVE!!!!!! I am so excited for you to read this book!!!!

"Achingly beautiful. This book will haunt you in the very best way." - J.L. Berg, USA Today bestselling author

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## **Paige says**

2 Stars

Life Plus One had all the makings of the kind of second chance, friends to lovers romance that I adore but it just missed the mark for me. I didn't get the decisions made by either of the main characters. I also didn't like them. And then the reason they even ended up together was the final straw that frustrated me too much to pull me back into their love story. I also found it hard to stay focused during the flashbacks finding myself skimming too often and having to go back and reread. I mean I'm happy with the ending, I just didn't completely enjoy the ride there.

ARC provided for honest review.

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