



## Summer of Love

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Sian Bishop has only ever experienced one moment of recklessness – a moment that resulted in her beloved son Rory. It's not that she doesn't love the outcome of that wild night, but since then she has always taken the safer route. So when dependable, devoted Richard suggests a move to the beautiful English countryside, she leaves the hustle and bustle of the city behind, and she throws herself into the picture-postcard cottage garden, her furniture restoration business, and a new life in the country.

Her good intentions are torpedoed on a glorious summer's evening with the arrival of Gus Berresford. One-time explorer and full-time heartbreaker, Gus is ridiculously exciting, wonderfully glamorous and a completely inappropriate love interest for a single mum. But Gus and Sian have met before...

Sian has no use for a fling, she simply mustn't fall in love with the most unlikely suitor ever to cross her path – even if he has now crossed her path twice. But who knows what can happen in a summer of love...

## **Summer of Love Details**

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Author : Katie Fforde

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## From Reader Review Summer of Love for online ebook

### Eva • All Books Considered says

Review originally posted at **All Books Considered: 3 STARS**

Katie Fforde is one of my favorite British authors; I just love her quirky chick-lit and especially the towns/villages she creates in her books -- they usually involve an outsider moving into the small and quaint place and being welcomed (eventually) by the town. I really liked Sian and her son Rory but I adored Gus and his mother, Fiona -- I was almost more invested in her story than the main one but this was a fun and fast read. My one gripe about this was the conflict -- when it evolved, it was swift and severe and due to a lack of communication !! This could have totally turned me off the book and I was seriously put off by Sian in this instance but the HEA was good and I just loved so many of the other characters that I still enjoyed this overall.

This is a great summer book; as I mentioned, I always love the villages that Katie Fforde creates and this one is no exception! This one also reminded me of another favorite with this particular twist on the second-chance romance trope, Just for Fun by Rosalind James. My other favorite Katie Fforde's are Highland Fling and Stately Pursuits -- both highly recommended, especially if you love British chick-lit!

**Fiona Matcham and Rory were up the far end of the garden when Sian brought out the mugs of tea. Sian sat down on one of the chairs and sipped hers, watching them together. She was pleased that Rory had forgotten to be shy and was making friends. She had been a bit worried about taking him away from everything he knew in a busy city out into the country, although, as Richard had pointed out, it was in a village, not in a remote location miles from anywhere. There was a school, a pub, a church and two shops, one of which was also a post office.**

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### Rea Cobb says

#### Plot

Sian had been raising her son Rory who is nearly 5 years old on her own after a one night stand, in the hustle and bustle of London. When her close friend Richard offers her a chance to pack up and move to a slower and quieter pace of life in the country where she will be able to carry on her restoration/decoration business and Rory can start a fresh at a new school. Sian quickly settles in and finds a great friend in her neighbour Fiona. It is whilst Sian is attending Fiona's dinner party to meet some new faces that she sets eyes on someone she never expected to see again. Is this chance meeting about to change Sian's life for better or worse...

#### My Opinion

I absolutely love Katie Fforde's style of writing, I have never found anyone who writes in a similar style. This book, just like the rest of Katie Fforde's books has you instantly absorbed into the storyline. Her books

are such a cosy read that just have a way of making you want to curl up in the garden on a hot summers day and this book follows in the same style.

Sian is the main character in this book and she is a very ordinary, down to earth character facing normal day to day situations. In the opening of the book Sian makes friends with her older neighbour Fiona and they form a strong friendship and Fiona takes both Sian and little Rory under her wing. The friendship between the two women felt very natural.

The storyline focuses on Sian who comes back into contact with Rory's father but she is waiting for the right moment to tell him. As well as this storyline there is a small sideline which follows Fiona and her looking for male company through internet dating which is a very modern topic and shows the dangers which can occur so there is a great lesson coming across in this story.

There was only one thing that bugged me a little with this book and that was Sian's friend Richard who has strong feelings for Sian, he was the one to persuade her to move to the country yet he knew the man from her past was bound to show up at some point with his mum living close by!

This book was a lovely read and I would say it is one of my favourite books by Katie Fforde. I would highly recommend this book for a nice Sunday afternoon treat!

<http://reabookreview.blogspot.com/201...>

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### **Karen Mace says**

i received a copy of this via NetGalley in return for a fair and honest review

I loved this gentle romance! The perfect book for summer that just takes you away from all the doom and gloom of the world, and transports you to an idyllic english village and a sneaky peek at the inhabitants and their lives and loves!

Sian has just moved into the village with her son Rory, and they're looking for a new start in a smaller place away from the noise and bustle of London. She moves into a rented cottage and immediately starts on creating a slice of the good life in the garden with flower beds and a small vegetable plot - with the help of 4 year old Rory of course! As with all villages the locals are eager to introduce themselves to the newbie, and Fiona is first to take Sian under her wing and they immediately get along like a house on fire.

We also get to see Fiona and her efforts on trying to move on with her life and trying internet dating.

Soon there are complications though when Sian is faced with a true blast from the past and soon finds out the link between Gus and her new friend Fiona, and this makes life a little unsettling when she has to face the truth and let people in and confront her true feelings.

A really sweet story of new starts and reconnecting with the past.

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### **Ivi says**

disappointing she should never write a book again! ;)

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### **Sionna says**

\*I received this book through netgalley in exchange for a honest review\*  
This was an incredibly charming book.

Usually, only fantasy books capture my attention but, I make myself read outside of the genre occasionally and this book was the one I picked to freshen my palette. I'm always apprehensive about chick lit books and I was hesitant to start.

Truly, the beginning was pretty ordinary but, at about 20% into the book I was pretty hooked!  
I won't go as far as to say this is a favorite book of mine but, probably one of my favorite chick lit books.

The characters were so well rounded and I loved all of them... except Melissa...she's the only one! How dense or mean can a person really be??

The romance was meh. It was there but, I didn't think there was much progression. There is a bit of a **love triangle** but, if this is a concern for you I wouldn't worry too much. It is set up as a love triangle but, it is more of the classic questions 'Love or Money?' or 'Security or Uncertainty?' that kind of triangle.

Really enjoyed reading this book and I'm looking forward to reading more of this author's books in the future!

I recommend this book to people who like little English village settings and/or charming chick lit novels that warm the heart and put a smile on your face.

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### **CLM says**

I love Katie Fforde and believe I own every book she has written, but this was a disappointment. The heroine was indecisive and dishonest with her boyfriend, and she whined far too much. There was a dated quality to the book as if the manuscript had been in a drawer far too long with awkward references to the Internet and online dating. The hero was pleasant, but the issues that kept them apart were primarily a lack of communication that reflected poorly on all involved and were not very convincing.

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### **CeeMarie says**

This was an okay, quick read. I discovered Katie Fforde years ago and one thing I know for sure about her books are that they are always similar in formula and you always know what to expect out of a Katie Fforde book. There will be romance, a whole ton of side characters, lots of misunderstandings, usually other significant others or exes running around causing more misunderstandings and finally at the very end-a happy ending.

So, knowing what to expect, I was not disappointed. I liked it as I usually do her books, but I didn't like it a lot, or love it at all. It was a little annoying all the misunderstandings and I get more and more aggravated with the whole cast of side characters. It felt there was too much going on.

I will read her again, she is a very reliable writer if you like her kind of books. And some days her books are just what you need.

I was given an ARC by NetGalley and Bookouture for an honest review.

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### **Ivonne Rovira says**

Author Katie Fforde tends to be A or Z, sublime or silly. *Stately Pursuits* is one of one of my favorite books — the romance novel for people who think they can't stomach a romance novel. I also loved *Second Thyme Around*, *Life Skills* and *Wild Designs* — all clever, funny novels. But she phoned in *A French Affair*, the worst Fforde novel — until *Summer of Love*.

Single mom Sian Bishop has relocated to a village an hour from London with her lovable 4-year-old son Rory, the result of a very brief affair. Naturally, she never told the father about Rory; naturally, she ends being faced with him in her new locale. So how could this story end up anywhere but at the corner of Hackneyed and Cliché? I don't know because I couldn't make myself finish this clunker.

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### **Grete says**

I was a bit disappointed with *Summer of Love* which is unusual for me and a Katie Fforde novel since I usually ADORE them. It's still a funny and sweet story but I felt it lacked Fforde's usual sparkle. It's by no means a bad book, I still read it in a day and would read it again, but it is not one of her best.

One of the things I find outstanding in her writing are the characterisations; they are loveable, believable and sometimes larger than life. In *Summer of Love* this is still the case but some of the reactions and interactions just missed the mark and I found some conversations a little confusing.

The plot itself while simple and sweet felt very close to a few other books I've read in the past which is perhaps why it didn't feel quite right to me. 'Girl meets boy, has only one day before he has to leave the country, mad romp ensues and has unexpected consequences. Forward five years to see where Girl is at now and ends up meeting Boy again, confused feelings, arguments then Happy Ending'. Usually that's the kind of story I love, but it just seemed to lack the impact her books usually bring.

I did like the main characters however, Sian and Rory were funny and a great mum and son team. Fiona was just loveable and I think everyone would want her as a friend! James was a nice surprise and became much more than he first appeared. Gus had moments when he irritated me but on the whole he was just what Sian needed.

The character I didn't like at all was Richard, he just didn't really seem to have any impact whatsoever, except to give Sian a different option, and not really a very good one at that.

There were also a few typos which jerked me out of the story, and again this is very unusual for a Fforde book. If I had to describe how the book felt, I would simply say it felt rushed.

Definitely worth reading since it is a sweet story but not one of her best, I'm sad to say.

This review and others can also be read at <http://www.bookthing.co.uk>

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### **Melissa Delpot says**

Light, sweet and predictable.

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### **Goddess Of Blah says**

[ Gus is Sian's *baby daddy* (unbeknownst to him) - hence a rekindling of old flames sparks the pages (hide spoiler)]

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### **Jenny Hale says**

A Summer of Love is an endearing and touching story. Katie Fforde's storytelling swept me right into the English countryside and left me frantically turning pages to see what happened next.

The story is about single mother Sian and her son Rory. They rent a house near the wonderful character Fiona, and they become fast friends. So as not to give anything away, I won't go into detail regarding Fiona, but let's just say that, to me, it's the perfect twist of fate that Sian and Rory moved near her. And once I figured it out, it had me reading at warp speed to see how it would end.

This is a story about the bumps we take in life, good friends and family, and the age-old dilemma of choosing to follow our head or our heart. I highly recommend it.

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### **Annette says**

I have been hearing about Katie FForde books from friends. I finally found out why everyone loves her writing so much.

This is a story of Sian who had a one night stand that resulted in her son, Rory. She is not the kind of woman who has one night stands, but it was literally a lightning strike of love. Gus, is the object of her lightning strike. He is an explorer who left the morning after, left no method of contact and did not know he became a father.

Through unusual circumstances Sian and Gus meet again. And life becomes very complicated.

The plot is charming, the characters are well developed and there are supporting characters who help flesh out the entire book.

Sian's housing situation is precarious. She is an artist who is trying to make a living and at the same time provide a good secure life for her son. The situations with which she is faced are realistic for many young parents in the world.

I highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys romance built around real life. There is humor along with the romance. Overall this is much like real life, only everyone we meet is very good looking and very talented.

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### **Cat says**

2,5 stars

If I had any curiosity about Katie Fforde's book, now I can say it has been satisfied. And so satisfied is my curiosity now, I think I won't read another one again.

This book is fluff. Very predictable and annoyingly seen-through-pink-lenses fluff. Almost all the characters are likeable, or have some likeable trait, and even the less pleasant ones are not disgustingly bad.

Sian (how do you pronounce that?!) is a single mother, with a four year-old son, who meets Angus, the father of her son and a one-night thing, when she moves from London to the country side. And after five or so years they are still attracted to one another. Which is amazing considering they don't the other's feelings.

Then there's Fiona, Sian's new neighbour and Angus's mother who, after a bad marriage to her second husband, decides to explore the world of internet-dating. She finds the man of her dreams, obviously, in an unexpected way (at least for her), but before we are treated with some of her (mis)adventures with men she meets via the dating website. These were fun to read and made Fiona's parts more enjoyable than Sian's, which tended to be one the more melodramatic side.

This is not the type of book I would normally read, but I suppose it's that kind you book you can enjoy while at the beach or by the swimming pool. Despite its predictability, it is a light and easy read. Good enough to spend some time in summer afternoons.

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### **Beth Bonini says**

This is a guilty pleasure sort of book -- something for the bath, something for when you are feeling down or a bit ill. It's a very gentle sort of romance novel; romance against a middle England village setting. There are lots of cups of tea in it. Really, this is "romance" in the literary sense; ie, it describes a world that is slightly rosier and pleasant than the one I actually live in. But there are also romances in the more expected sense; one between a 20ish single mother (and a one-night stand who unexpectedly comes back into her life) and the other between a middle-aged mother (with a substantial country house and two grown-up sons). I must be getting old, because I was a bit more interested in the latter!

Katie Fforde is one of those authors who you feel that you know through her books. And she is a very likeable sort, with an appealing sense of humour and a fondness for a cuppa and a piece of cake. It is a soothing world to dip into from time to time. (Oh, to live in an England where summer is a string of long, golden days instead of the typical damp squib.)

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