



## Anything for You

*Kristan Higgins*

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**Anything for You** Kristan Higgins

**Before you get down on bended knee...**

...you should be pretty darn sure the answer will be yes. For ten years, Connor O'Rourke has been waiting for Jessica Dunn to take their on-again, off-again relationship public, and he thinks the time has come. His restaurant is thriving, she's got her dream job at Blue Heron Vineyard—it's the perfect time to get married.

When he pops the question, however, her answer is a fond but firm no. If it ain't broke, why fix it? Jess has her hands full with her younger brother, who's now living with her full-time, and a great career after years of waitressing. What she and Connor have *is* perfect: friends with an excellent benefits package. Besides, with her difficult past (and reputation), she's positive married life isn't for her.

But this time, Connor says it's all or nothing. If she doesn't want to marry him, he'll find someone who does. Easier said than done, given that he's never loved anyone but her. And maybe Jessica isn't quite as sure as she thinks...

## Anything for You Details

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Author : Kristan Higgins

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## From Reader Review Anything for You for online ebook

### Mo says

Enjoyed this one. I usually enjoy all the Kristan Higgins books I read. The first in the series is still my favourite and it was great to catch up with Faith and Levi again.

### JESSICA

Connor loves Jessica.

Jessica had a shitty upbringing. Trailer Trash. Her brother, who she looks after, has learning disabilities.

### "Hail Mary."

Loved the interaction between Connor and Colleen. The Twins!

Great food descriptions.

### There would be no Cinderella story here.

If you're looking for smoking hot sex scenes, don't look here. It is implied but that was fine with me.

### CONNOR

This author is always an auto-buy for me and look forward to her next book.

Love how she is "with it" with all the IPA beers and independent breweries. With a Hubby and a Son who love their IPAs it was interesting. Actually don't mind the odd one myself but would not be a connoisseur. Himself is in Boston at the moment and sending us pictures of the great IPA beers he is having. The Son is not happy ...

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### A\_Ryan says

## 5 ++ INCREDIBLE LOVE STARS!!!

*“Every time I think you can’t break my heart again,” he said, “you find a way.” The words were like a hot knife into her heart. “I don’t mean to,” she whispered. “Which makes it even worse.”*

**What's it about:** Jess has had an incredibly difficult past. She is known as the town slut, she's trailer trash, and she has never had less than two jobs since she was fifteen. She is an ice princess. She guards her heart and has no time for emotional attachments.

Connor has been in love with Jess since he was twelve years old. There is no one else for him.

This is the story of family, survival, forgiveness, trust, and true love. And it will blow you away!

**The best bits:** I loved every page of this awesome book... and so I warn you, this review will in no way do it any justice because... well, because I'm still a gushing, smiling, giddy mess.

First of all... the writing is flawless. Higgins seamlessly weaves wit and humour, pain and heartache and makes you fall in love with a whole village of characters. Her stories are character driven and immaculately researched. Her words capture your imagination and glide smoothly across the pages, transporting you into the lives of beautiful wine country. I absolutely love her writing! She is a master storyteller. There are no explicit sex scenes, but it doesn't matter in the slightest. If anything, you can share her romances with your daughters, mothers, grandmothers and neighbours. The focus is almost entirely on the feelings igniting between the characters.

And then there's Connor. Oh Connor! He was sexy and quiet and loyal. And he totally belonged to Jess from the very beginning.

Jess is an outstanding character. (Higgins took an amazing chance with her.) She is tragic and broken and cold. She is not the typical quirky/virginal/thwarted in love heroine so common in contemporary romances. She is layered and complex and leaves most other women in the dust. She is also incredibly strong, resilient, and selfless. She is relentlessly fights with passion for the one thing she loves, and holds her head up high where most would crumble. She is one of the very best heroines I've one across this year.

**The worst bits:** It got a bit slow for about 2 pages around a third of the way in.

**Recommended for:** Anyone who loves strong heroines, sexy heroes, funny dogs; and mouth watering cuisine. An intoxicating romance that will tug at your heartstrings and leave you cheering. I LOVED IT!!!!

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## Duchess Nicole says

Why can't I copy and paste Kristan Higgins about a thousand times...just clone her and live to read her beautiful, wonderful, magical stories?!

This fifth installment in one of my all time favorite series is perhaps Higgins most melancholy of books. Connor O'Rourke and Jessica Dunn have had an on again, off again relationship for years. Jessica is the girl from the wrong side of town, and very few people understand the hand she's been dealt in life...but Connor does. Jess is the type of girl who shows very little emotion. She takes the punches that keep coming her way

and just pushes on through. Now that she's no longer a scared kid or an overly responsible teen, she continues to do what she must to take care of her younger brother and to rise above her circumstances. She keeps Connor at a distance, same as always.

Only Connor is tired of the way things are. He's ready to make the next step in life. With Jess. But when she unequivocally says no, Connor is left in the wind, scrambling to decide what to do. Does he push Jess harder, or finally give in and give up on the woman he's come to love?

I admire Higgins for tackling a woman like Jessica Dunn, and doing it while keeping her trademark humor and wit. Jess is not for the fainthearted. She's struggled her entire life, and it shows. She's not a perky, bubbly heroine with a shiny outlook on life. She's a bit on the gloomy side, with a past that is fodder for gossip. Getting inside her head was a lesson in life. SO much goes on behind the scenes of everyday people, and you really don't know someone until you KNOW them. Connor was the most chivalrous, kind-hearted, *patient* of beta heroes. What a beautiful, unique story. Just when I think I can't love this author more, she gives me something wholly different and even more evocative than I've come to expect from her.

*Advance copy provided by the publisher for review*

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### **Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says**

It is no secret that Kristan Higgins is my go to author when I want a sweet, funny, lovable read that will always leave a smile on my face and sometimes happy tears in my eyes. I jump at the chance to read her books and savor every single one of them. I have come to love her writing style and the humor and heart that she bleeds into every single page.

Her Blue Heron series is by far my most favorite series of her's and I love everything there is to love about it. The small town setting, the nosy neighbors, the lovable Holland family and of course, all the other characters that make this town so unique, fun, and enjoyable.

I couldn't wait to get Connor's story! In all the other books it has always hinted that his heart belonged to someone but until now, we never really truly knew who that someone was and oh boy, do these two have history and a story to tell!

I honestly didn't know half the time if I loved their history or if I hated it. I felt so much for these two. Their ups and downs. Torment, love/hate relationship, it was all too much and not enough.

One thing was cemented though, I adored Connor even more after this. He is one strong, determined, and loyal guy and I just loved him for all the blows that he took, kept on taking, and still stayed strong for. My heart really did go out to him even if I wanted to beg him at times to just let go and move on

Once again, hands down to Higgins for delivering a truly wonderful, emotional, and beautiful story that I adored.

\*ARC copy of this provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.\*

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## Jennifer says

★★★★½

Anything for You is the fifth installment in Kristan Higgins's adult contemporary romance series titled Blue Heron. This book shows that the strong can still be incredibly fragile inside and the most patient and understanding person will eventually draw a line in the sand. Themes include alcoholism, absentee parenting, special needs, doing what it takes, and putting yourself dead last. Higgins brings a contrast of humor and heartbreak to a very real story of a girl trying the best she knows how and a boy who will do absolutely anything for her. Check it out ♥

### My favorite quote:

*"To be a good chef, you had to understand food, let it speak to you, inhale its scents, watch it cook. You had to feel the pasta, assess its stick against the wooden spoon, taste it, to know when it was done. You couldn't just look at a clock. You just had to know when it was right. Cooking was a way to stop time. To make a family take a half an hour and sit, relax, eat and taste. There was a Zen sense to it, a way of making a dozen separate ingredients into something transformative and new and special, something that would sustain and nourish and bring happiness to those who experienced it, at least for a little while."*

The Blue Heron is a series of romances set in the community of Blue Heron. Each book showcases a different couple with cameos from past/future characters. The series includes the following installments as of February 2018:

#1-The Best Man

#2-The Perfect Match

#3-Waiting on You

#4-In Your Dreams

#5-Anything for You

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## ♥Sharon♥ says

This was the perfect book to pick up as I started my end of the summer vacation! Perfect reading while sitting on the beach.

Another fantastic edition to this series! Kristan Higgins writing is wonderful. Connor and Jessica's story was sweet and sexy in a way only KH could deliver.

If you have set this series aside, do yourself a favor and get back to it and if you haven't started it then you must!

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## Les Romantiques says

Posted on Les Romantiques - Le forum du site

Reviewed by Fabiola

Review Copy from the Publisher

Anything for you is the fifth volume (and probably last, see her interview in our December 2014 issue <http://www.lesromantiques.com/Webzine...> ) in the Blue Heron series of which the first volume, The Best Man, is available in French.

To my (big) shame, it's my first Kristan Higgins, when a lot of people around me keep on to sing her praise. To my defense, I have a huge TBR... So when the occasion arose to ask this title as an ARC, I didn't hesitate, especially as the synopsis is very tempting.

I was very disconcerted by the way the author chose to tell the story. The first chapter takes place at the present time, when the hero asks the heroine in marriage and she refuses. I was waiting for the rest of the story to show how Connor and Jessica will overcome this failure. But no. The author decides on a big number of chapters to tell us how our heroes came to be lovers.

That was my first problem. That our heroes already had love affair before meeting their soul mate doesn't disturb me. However I don't really want to know the details of these past affairs, even if they are slim.

My second problem ensues mainly from the first: when you have a certain reputation, in my opinion, it's absolutely impossible to overcome it in a small town in which there are still people who can confirm this reputation, and whose comments can still hurt. So I have trouble believing in a happy future for the person if she stays in this small town for the rest of her life.

I know, you'll wonder if I speak about the hero or the heroine. Well, no, I'll shut up and let you discover it. ?

My third problem is about the heroine, Jessica, of whom I don't find the evolution very successful, not during the years mentioned in the novel, and even less when we come back to the present. Till the end, she stays confined in her ideas, in her prejudices, and in the love she feels for her mentally handicapped brother. At first, it's very noble. Then we understand. But in the end, we just want to shake her. As for Connor, our hero, he's such a doll. Too bad he ends up with her!

Connor and Jessica's couple made me think about the unhappy couple in Love Actually: Sarah and Karl. They love each other but aren't together for the same reasons. In Anything for You, we have our HEA, but an alternative end makes us understand that it could have finished badly for them. For me, when I doubt the HEA, it's not a romance I recommend

Even if the story stays pleasant, in spite of the moments when I hadn't wanted to shake the heroine, in spite of Connor who's decidedly too good for her.

The story tells us principally about how our heroes will overcome the main difficulty, while mentioning our different previous couples and their interaction with Connor and Jessica. The fans will certainly be happy in this regard.

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## **Keri says**

3.5 Stars. First book of 2016!! Going to be frank with you, as much as I adore KH and her writing skills. Jessica's treatment of Connor had me wanting to at times to throw my book against the wall....more than once. I know that Jessica got it in the end, but I felt the ending was a bit to pat and Connor a bit too forgiving too fast. She put him the constant heartache with her on again off again BS. I get her situation with Davey, I really did, but to constantly deny yourself a chance with happiness with such a rock solid guy...it was frustrating. I know we needed it for the story, but I wish we could have seen less of the on again off again stuff and had a longer ending, where Jessica paid a bit more for her sins and Connor got to ...well I don't

want to spoil it for you. Still a great read overall and these issues are my issues, not issues with KH's writing.

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## **Annie (Under the Covers Book Blog) says**

Connor O'Rourke is ready to take that next step in life so he has the ring, he has the special night all planned out. But when he pops the question to his long-time girlfriend, Jessica Dunn. She flat outs says no.

Talk about awkward.

But it's clear that this isn't the first time that they have gone over this. In fact, their on-again, off-again relationship has been something that these two have been dealing with for some time. I had to give Kristan Higgins some credit. You don't often see these kind of relationships often so I love the fact that she decided to write about it. However, I do understand why they aren't so popular with readers. The conflict is quite weak and a lot of it stems from the fact that there's a lack of communication, the one thing that absolutely irritates me about conflict in Contemporaries.

I liked Connor right off the bat but Jessica was a little more harder to handle. She has her own set of responsibilities that she must deal with, but it's at the cost of her own happiness. I actually don't think she minds caring for her brother, but she uses it as an excuse with Connor and I wasn't a fan of that.

A lot of the book is set in the past. It goes over the tumultuous ride of Connor and Jessica's relationship and as you can expect, the failed proposal is the not first time Connor has wished they could take that next step into life together. When Jessica breaks things off, Connor tries to move on, going on several dates that absolutely killed me. While Higgins' trademark humor is still very much present, there's also an emotional punch in this book as well so you can expect some laughter and some tears.

While not my favorite in the series, or my favorite of Higgins' books, I do think that she writes the stories that no other author would ever dare. And that's what makes Higgins stand out and make her books worth the read.

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## **Didi says**

### **10 +++ STARS!**

What can I say about this amazing book? This incredible series I've loved from the start? I ADORED IT. LOVED IT.

Kristan Higgins is my most favorite author. She's the top and between her and Lisa Kleypas, the world is a beautiful place, lol. The 5th installment in the gorgeous Blue Heron series was unbelievably good. Definitely my second favorite after The Best Man. As of now, anyways...they might swap back and forth. The whole series is beyond words. Here we finally got Connor's and Jessica's story! And I've been waiting for their story forever. And you know what? The wait was worthwhile.

The beauty about this series, specifically this book, is that when you're reading about all these characters you feel like you live right next door. This motley crew of individuals that make up the wonderful town of

Manningsport are like a second family to me. I know KH writes her books so they work as standalones, but I urge you, desperately, to read this series in order. The nuances, small details and atmosphere of this world are too important to bypass.

I freakin loved Connor!!! Oh, what a fantastic and wonderful guy! A chef, tall, dark and handsome, funny, caring, thoughtful, sexy and patient. Gah! I just adored him. And then there's Jessica. We've learned a lot about her from past books in the series, but she was quite extraordinary. I never realized the depth of her beautiful soul until this book. Was she stubborn? Definitely. But with her circumstances and experiences in life I don't blame her at all. Nope.

And like with all of KH's books there was a ton of heart, wittiness, intelligence, sorrow, tenderness, hilarity and an amazing secondary cast with characters I love from past books. I cried, laughed, sighed and cried again. Don't even get me started on the food Connor made!

KH manages to capture the small nuances of everyday life and relationships. She has this way of making an ordinary scene drip with emotion and angst. This book was quite focused on Connor and Jessica, more so than her previous books. You still got the tug-on-your-heartstrings backstory, but I found there was a big focus on the relationship between Jessica and Connor aside from every other secondary storyline. Of course I loved this!

The ending was just...just...GAH! Amazing?! The epilogue was sooo sweet, sigh. Everything about this book hit me right in the feels and I am almost brought to tears every time I think this is it. This is the end of the most wonderful series I've read. Is there more? I don't know. But at least I can re-read these books that have come to mean so much to me. LOVED, LOVED, LOVED IT! <3

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## Andrea says

3 and a half stars

Here's the thing. This is #5 in Higgins Blue Heron series. It's not a consecutive story, just stories of individuals within a town I'm longing live in for a bit. I haven't read these In order, and it doesn't really matter if you do. Everything about these books are COZY. You just want to curl up on the couch with a blanket, some cookies & milk and get lost in wine country.

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## BookLover says

I have loved Connor since book of the Blue Heron series. He always struck me as the silent, sometimes gruff guy, happy to be in the background via the kitchen in his pub and always able to hold his own when sparring with his hilarious twin, Colleen. In **Anything For you**, we got to see the inner dialogue happening in his head, which brought a lot of insight into who Connor was. He was constantly trying not to talk, afraid his words would be considered rambling or uncool. I laughed so many times at this self-talk versus what actually came out of his mouth.

It was hinted in previous books that Connor had something happening romantically, but he didn't give anything away. Who would have thought that what he was hiding was a very long-term on-again, off-again relationship with none other than Jessica Dunn? And who better for him? Jessica had her "bitch armour" on solidly when around others. Though we knew she grew up poor and didn't have a great childhood, we got to delve more into what made Jessica tick.

I really detest the plot line “I don’t want to get hurt so I’m going to push you away before I get hurt”. It drives me insane!!! But Jessica’s push-pull tug on Connor’s heart, though maddening, made sense to me. I got it. I didn’t like it or agree with it, but I got it. She had a LOT on her emotionally scarred plate.

I have to say that Connor was either the most understanding, fantastic guy EVER, or a schmuck for putting up with Jessica. Talk about a glutton for punishment. I thought he was perfect in every way. He somehow managed to make Jessica smile, even in the worst of situations.

**“Shit.” She grabbed her jeans and flannel shirt. “What are you doing here?” she asked, pulling on her clothes. She dashed her arm across her eyes.**

**“I’m a scout for Dancing with the Stars. Sorry, we’ve had to rule you out.” He smiled. Her eyes flickered, then she shrugged, her face neutral. “I needed some extra money.”**

**“Really? It’s not your dream to be a stripper?”**

**“Shut up.” She might’ve been thinking about smiling. He was almost sure of it.**

**“So, Jess,” Mrs. Adamson said, thundering down the hall. “You’re fired. Sorry, kid. Stripping’s not for everyone.”**

**“You were quite good, though, Mrs. Adamson,” Connor said. He handed her a twenty.”**

I loved the story line between Jessica and her brother Davey, in particular with their father thrown into the mix. In true Kristan Higgins style, it was both heartwarming and heartbreaking.

I loved this story and can’t help but wonder if this is the end of the Blue Heron series? I hope not, but if it is, I'm so glad we got read Connor's story!!!

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## **Lisa Filipe says**

Kristan Higgins has the recipe to whip up the perfect romance every time! With sparkling dialogue and heartfelt emotion, ANYTHING FOR YOU is a winner all around.

Higgins takes on Connor O'Rourke and Jess Dunn this time, and she is giving no mercy. On again-Off again is all Connor and Jess will ever be, well, if Jess has her way. Connor has never pushed the issue because pushing might mean losing her forever, and he isn't ready for that to happen. Until she says "No", and Connor realizes it might be time to push or move on.

As a fan of Higgins for a long time, and a huge fan of the Blue Heron series, it was so much fun getting into the heads to two of the series most beloved secondary characters, Connor and Jess. Jess, had a rough go, but has made the best of what she was given, worked hard and maybe, just maybe, thought she could have something special that was all her own (Connor). And Connor, my favorite O'Rourke brother, always great for some comedic relief (The Perfect Match) and to play the loving big brother (Waiting on You).

I think it was Connor that stole my heart from the first page of ANYTHING FOR YOU. Not that I didn't relate and feel for Jess, but Connor, yes he could be a dolt sometimes, but he just loved her so much, and I literally was crying at the end of this book. Higgins couldn't have written a better ending. ANYTHING FOR YOU has humor, so much heart and a fantastic couple that you find yourself cheering for out loud! I never want the Blue Heron series to end!

If you have never ever read a Kristan Higgins romance...where the heck have you been?...then don't just pick up ANYTHING FOR YOU, you need to pick up this one, and the first four in the Blue Heron series (cause I have seriously done a re-read like twice in the last two months), and then go back and purchase ALL the rest of her backlist (starting with JUST ONE OF THE GUYS....oh the tears), and then you can join the millions of Higgins-a-holics who wait in hope for the next release to arrive!

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### **Yolanda says**

Muy bonita historia, muy distinta a las de los otros libros de la saga.  
Me ha encantado.

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### **Jonetta says**

*Originally posted on The Book Nympho*

It's Connor's story and up until now, he's only been twin Colleen's affable brother who is in the kitchen of O'Rourke's making wonderful dishes for the restaurant. I didn't know what to anticipate but was completely unprepared for the richness of this story. He had a history with Jessica Dunn, who was known in high school as Jessica "Does" so I was a bit leery of their relationship.

This was an extraordinary story, tackling really tough issues related to alcoholism, promiscuity and the long-term effects of fetal alcohol syndrome. Jessica was nothing like I had imagined and I developed an entirely new level of respect for her, even understanding her stubbornness with Connor. I liked him before, fell hard for this guy here as he's pretty special. Their romance wasn't easy but it fit them and their circumstances perfectly.

I loved everything about this book and had every emotion in play throughout. Their lives were far from perfect, with challenging conflicts and family issues. This is probably my most favorite in the series to date.

(I received an ARC from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review)

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