



## The Summer I Gave Up Boys

*Kassandra Kush*

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## **The Summer I Gave Up Boys** Kassandra Kush

A summer love novella

Kalayah Simon just broke up with her cheating boyfriend, and now that summer break is here, all she wants is a quiet, boy-free summer. To focus on work, reading, and her tan. But then she meets up with her old high school nemesis, Isaiah Winters, on the way home, and he seems more interested in being friends than enemies. Can Kalayah lower her walls and get over seven years of pushing Isaiah away and find out what it would be like to actually be with him?

With her best friend going boy-crazy, a twenty-first birthday looming on the horizon, Isaiah continually showing up on her doorstep, and an ex that seems to want her back, Kalayah's summer promises to be anything but quiet.

## **The Summer I Gave Up Boys Details**

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Author : Kassandra Kush

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## From Reader Review The Summer I Gave Up Boys for online ebook

### Megan says

This was a quick and cute read, something that I think would be great for a lazy afternoon at the beach. I loved how the Kaliyah was a book blogger, with aspirations of becoming an editor. The romance was a little predictable, but that's okay to me since the story wasn't that long. All in all, a good read.

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### Courtney says

This is an amazing quick read, with a little humour and bad break up storyline.

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### Jasmina says

The Summer I Gave Up Boys was a novella I accidentally came across on the Kindle Shop. I have to admit that the cover was the key reason that made me download it. Yes, I judge a book by its cover. I was anticipating some really good romance, and needless to say, I was not disappointed. Also, before I trail off completely, The Summer I Gave Up Boys is FREE on Amazon Kindle!

In The Summer I Gave Up Boys, it's finally the best time of the year (summer, duh!). Kaliyah goes back to her hometown which is where all the fun starts. She meets old friends, an annoying old ex-boyfriend, and new flames flashing in every corner.

The characters in The Summer I Gave Up Boys was the most likeable part of the entire novella. They were mature and likeable, they had their quirks, but most importantly, they weren't weak characters! Kaliyah's an independent person, she has her two friends that she can confide in, and yet among all that, she's very outgoing. She was a person who stood her ground. Whilst Kaliyah, as well as some of the other characters, had her flaws, it wasn't anything major that couldn't be looked past. Kaliyah's temper is very vibrant, causing her to become an internet sensation over night. Good job, Kaliyah!

Kaliyah's two best friends were Amanda and Kristen. I've tried to figure out how to explain who they were and what kind of characters they were, but there's a lack of words from my part. Not because they were bad, because that's not it. One friend is a super-supportive person who's got Kaliyah back no matter what, whereas the other is very blunt and will tell her the truth straight to her face without much thought. The latter one is especially funny at one part, but I'll let you read the novella to figure out which one I'm talking about!

Isaiah Winters is a guy we meet fairly quickly. He's the typical jock who has a more creative side of him. Isaiah going from crushing on Kaliyah for a very long time, to meeting her time after time that particular summer seemed like fate to Isaiah, causing him to finally man up and try to make a move. This doesn't go all too well because the two.. well, they seemingly hate each other. Oh, poor guy. I have to admit I pitied him. Well, I pitied both of them.

Although The Summer I Gave Up Boys had its fair share of awesome characters, Kassandra Kush didn't fail in creating ones that were annoying, frustrating and overall stupid ones. Although I had enough with Kaliyah's idiotic ex-boyfriend and some of the major brainless girls, they did serve as great supporting characters. As I'm typing this, I'm reminded of the ounces of drama that occurred. I've now come to the

conclusion that although there was drama at some parts, it wasn't overly done to the point where it loses its credibility.

This novella isn't anything special, to put it that way. The novella is written well and its plot moves in a perfectly calm way. Despite is being a mere "novella", it's still a written piece of art that is highly enjoyable; regardless whether you're a hopeless romantic! And it all gets a lot better when you realise that there's a second novella with Isaiah's side of the story.. /insert dramatic fangirl gasp/

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## Sophie says

I didn't particularly like this book. It was a free book I got on kindle. It was your typical quick paced, easy summer read that had a stereotypical plot and an obvious ending. As you can tell, not my cup of tea. Although technically there were no mistakes in the plot hole or grammar mistakes, it was a good book in its own right. But not for me.

This review will probably be short for two reasons:

- 1) I don't like the book so I have nothing good to say
- 2) the book is so short even the bad things aren't too big

Kalayah is a introverted book worm who has few close friends, she had recently finished college for the summer, just before the end she found out her boyfriend was cheating on her. She threw a book at his balls and swore off boys- for the summer at least. Of course we all know that's not going to last as it never does. At home she meets up with old enemy and very popular Isaiah and the flame burns bright. They become fast friends (obviously) and go to parties together. Only he's off limits, not only has she sworn off males but her friend has dibs on Isaiah. On her 21st birthday she wakes up in bed with Isaiah after drinking, they haven't done anything but she realised her feeling for him. Conveniently enough when she confesses to her friends the one who also liked Isaiah was only pretending and was really shacking up with someone else. Ironically Mr Popularity had a crush on nerd Kalayah since high school. They get together and Kalayah forsakes her summer mantra. The end.

So right from the off you know the whole of the story which I always find boring no matter the genre. Some people like the knowledge of what's going to happen- but I just think what's the point of writing a story if there aren't any twists and turns along the way to excite the reader? Also if you know what's going to happen you stop wanting to read on. There were no plot twists, trying to fit any in such a small story would have proven near impossible.

I wasn't sure at first if I could count this book in my summer reading list because it was quite short, but it's on the Goodreads index so I assumed I was allowed to count it. Had there have been more plot twists to keep it interesting the book probably would have been longer and I would have liked it more but it was intended to be short and sweet even if I don't agree with the latter.

Can we also just take a moment to think: if everyone likes the people they shouldn't appear to click with- how long will relationships last? And what happens to the people who like the people in their own clique? Will they get pushed aside for the attractive opposite personality?

Cover: I do really love the cover, it's relaxing and it gives you a good indication to the story. 7/10. Again, even the cover shows you that she's going to forgo her summer mission of no boys.

Plot: as above, it wasn't my thing. Not that I have anything against it, other people will enjoy it, I just didn't. 3/10. It was boring, stereotypical and dull.

Characters: they were very monotone and maintained just one emotion for the whole book. There was no depth to most of the characters, even the main ones who should have had big character transitions. 4/10

Kalayah: book nerd geek extreme. There isn't much to say. During the whole book she doesn't show many other emotions besides 'I hate my cheating ex' and 'get the video I me beating my cheating ex off youtube'. She has hundreds of books and is rarely seen reading any of them yet she's constantly finishing new ones. And three years it took her to realise Isaiah liked her, although since he's the outgoing one he could have told her.

Isaiah: typical jock who doesn't really want to be a jock. Why does every author think this is original? Why have them being a jock if they don't want to be!?! For once maybe a book where the jock actually likes the sport they play? He is an artist. Again, yawn. So overdone. He has a longterm crush on the protagonist who is totally not his perceived type. ARE ALL OF THESE ROMANCE BOOKS THE SAME BUT JUST SLIGHTLY CHANGED AT REPRINT TIME?!?!? All through the book he maintained a woe is me state, which eventually just gets goddamn annoying!! And why didn't he tell her earlier about his crush, for an outgoing type it sure took him a long time!

I would recommend this to people who are looking for a mind numbing, short romance story. Not my type but someone has to love it, right?

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### **Ashley says**

I absolutely loved this book! The characters were super funny and the plot was really fun. I predicted what was going to happen in the end, but that is okay because it is an awesome contemporary read for summer!

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### **Sunny says**

Das Buch gefällt mir gut, ich habe es gut verstanden obwohl ich nicht jedes Wort kannte und der Plot gar auch gut. Allerdings gibt es einen Minuspunkt, ich bin fertig mit dem Buch und fühle mich so leer. Ich möchte umblättern und wissen was passiert, es ist für mich nicht 100% abgeschlossen.

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### **KC says**

Cute and short, albeit cliché-filled and a bit predictable.

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## **Abbie says**

### **Actual rating - 2.5**

This wasn't an awful read, but I did get bored quite quickly. Not much happened, and the characters annoyed me a few times.

Don't think I'll be continuing with the series.

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## **Jessie says**

A fun, quick read. It was "good enough" - enjoyable, but not memorable.

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## **Riki says**

This short novella has some promise, but ultimately wasn't everything I had hoped it would be. Kaliyah is a likeable enough main character, although she is a bit on the surly side and seems to jump to the worst possibly conclusion about those around her. I get that she was hurt by her ex-boyfriend after he'd cheated on her and that she just wants revenge, but even in a summer where she's sworn off boys altogether, she comes across at times as just mean.

Things look up whenever Kaliyah interacts with Isaiah, which is a good thing since it's their romance that is the center of the book. A real strength of this story is the witty banter that goes on between the two lead characters. They're funny and sweet and have this wonderful back-and-forth teasing that really held up the book for the most part. I was really into them as a budding couple, right up until the quick exchange of "I love you" that came all too abruptly and much too soon. Their romance was developing nicely without the heavy admissions flying near the end of the book.

A major weakness in the book is the author's tendency to lay it on thick when it comes to pop culture references. There's a ton of name-dropping and pop culture stuff that took me right out of the story and will ultimately date this book. Those songs she likes to talk about by name might be relevant this month, but give it some time and they'll seem very out of place.

Overall, this was a decent read with a cute romance, but it lacks the polish to be an excellent novella.

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## **Ashley says**

Another book I got on my iPad. What's wrong with me, I'm reading ebooks instead of real books!!!! But I have to admit, getting books for free is pretty awesome. ANYWAY

This book was really funny and quick, (I read it in a day if anyone cares) and I really liked the characters. The only thing I didn't like was there were a couple of grammatical errors, but they were really minor.

Anyway, I give it four stars, and I definitely recommend getting it on your iPad/iPod/iPhone, cause it's FREE!!! :D

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### **Trinity says**

Okay so I LOVE reading but out of all the books I've ever read this one is my all time favorite. I have probably read it about 200 times. One thing though is that I wish I could have an actual paper copy of it to have instead of having it on my phone iPad and kindle. Personally I like having the actual books to hold and not reading it off of a screen. Other than that this book is INCREDIBLE in every possible way I would give it a 11/10

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### **xzzzx says**

Predictable.

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### **Hannah Kay says**

cute with just a little substance...a light, fluffy New Adult read minus the scandal!

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### **Jenna says**

I got this book for free on smashwords and I'm happy to say this book entertained me and made me laugh a lot. The characters are great Kaliyah ( love the name by the way) is feisty and doesn't take sh#t from nobody not even from her now ex boyfriend Andrew who cheated on her. And he and rest of the world now know it since it was filmed and put on youtube.

Kaliyah is on her way home when she meets Isaiah( love his name to) on the airport they have been frenemies for years now. Kaliyah doesn't want any drama anymore and swears of boys for the summer. But that's not so easy with handsome Isaiah there.

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