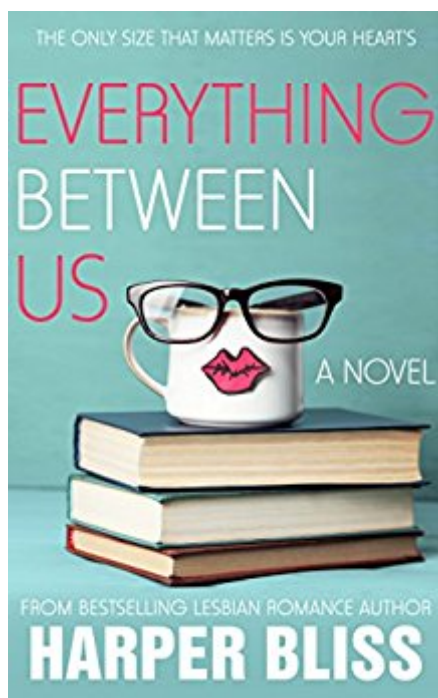


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Everything Between Us (Pink Bean Series Book 3)



Synopsis

The only size that matters is your heart's. When PhD student and Pink Bean barista Josephine Greenwood meets her feminist idol Caitlin James she's starstruck. But when Caitlin starts showing a more than friendly interest in her, Josephine can't believe Caitlin's advances are genuine. Her issues with her own body and how people see her threaten to cut off any prospect of romance before it has the chance to blossom. Will Caitlin be able to break down the walls Josephine has built around herself and open her mind to the possibility of romantic happiness? Don't miss this new instalment of best-selling lesbian romance author Harper Bliss's much-loved Pink Bean series. Every book in this series can be read as a stand-alone without having read the other instalments.

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Customer Reviews

The Pink Bean Series is one of my favorites from Harper Bliss. While I enjoyed French Kissing, I like this series better. This book focuses on Josephine (or Jo) who was a background character in the

other two books. She's a young scholar studying body positivity and gender identities. That's an interesting field for her since Jo has body image issues because of her weight. She's never really described, so we don't know how fat she may be. Is it all in her head, as it is for so many women in our weight-obsessed cultures? At any rate, her body image issues set up her lack of confidence perfectly for this novel. Caitlin James is an icon to her so when she meets her in the cafe, she's both star struck and tongue-tied. Jo is even more flabbergasted when Caitlin asks her out. For various reasons, Jo never explained why she rejected Caitlin on Caitlin's first request for a date. I understand that because I have some of the same issues, but Caitlin seemed to believe that Jo just doesn't like her. Fortunately, Jo does eventually begin dating Caitlin. The entire time, Jo is still struggling with her confidence. It's a delight to see how Jo slowly comes to accept herself. Harper did a great job of developing Jo's character. I felt like I knew her and could relate to her. It's a wonderful, sensitive novel. I'm looking forward to the next book in the series.

Harper is such a master at first-person narrative. She gets right under the skin in magnificent ways with words that dissect her characters' emotions and insecurities. She accomplishes this perfectly through her main character, Josephine. Josephine struggles with weight and self-esteem issues. She finds herself forced to work through these human emotions in effort to feel worthy enough for love. The author describes all of these complicated feelings with such truth and clarity. I especially appreciated that the introduction of Caitlin's attraction to Josephine sparks the journey for the character to push through the negative self-esteem to find love. By the book's conclusion, I was proud of Josephine. I only had one unresolved matter... the book introduces a different construct of relationships -- one shared by Josephine & her friends and a very different concept by Caitlin. I could not leave the book with the fact that this was never resolved... or addressed to conclusion. The concept of an open relationship is so foreign to me that I needed as much patient education as I did with understanding Josephine's struggle with weight and low self-esteem. I did not get this by the end of the book. It is my only disappointment (too strong a word really but no other comes to mind). I assure you though that, in the scheme of things, Harper has hit another home run with this installment of the pink bean series.

As usual, I have nothing but good things to say about Harper Bliss. She is truly a visionary writer. Yes, I know that this is fiction. I do know that Harper writes about things that we, as normal folk actually talk about. So many lesfic books are full of the same thing - vanilla meets vanilla, they

slightly struggle and poof! Romance is born, they vanilla square their way off into the sunset for ole times sake and absolutely nothing is left to the imagination. Harper makes sure that through Josephine, we are all reminded to not body shame ourselves but to learn to love the shell which has been given to us. She reminds us to use our shells as the vessels that we use to go forth and prosper with our lives, to love to the fullest extent practical and cherish happiness in all that we do. From page one of this series and even more so with this one, I kept thinking, just where are we going here. Then all of a sudden, it hits you - she, Harper, is showing that love can come in any form. Daily we fight the beasts within; sometimes they make us cry, sometimes they make us smile. The beasts are still there, no matter how hard we try to keep them in check. For some of us, they keep us from living happier lives. It is clear that Josephine has spent many minutes, hours and days attempting to slay her inner-beasts and believing that she is happy. She only needed to find someone who knew how to keep their own beasts at bay to help her to begin to slay her beasts. Yes, this is another vanilla-vanilla love story, with an added twist that the key characters study women's studies. Yes they do ride off into the sunset in the end. What makes this one different is that the characters show us something different. They show us that no matter at what station we are in life, we can still share with someone and it can be a life changing experience along the way. Have to say - thank you Harper - I love you!

Vary enjoyable read, refreshingly original and a great standalone addition to the excellent Pink Bean Series. This book features barista Josephine, intelligent, kind hearted, compassionate and very talented, but with a body image issue. Her journey with her older lover's unyielding support gives Josephine the courage to be braver and gain confidence. Whilst highlighting important issues, particularly body positivity, this book is also a beautifully written, thoughtful, sweet and fun story. The first person POV worked very well, but there were times I would have liked the gave known what Caitlin was feeling, and I would have liked more. Congratulations to Harper for addressing important issues in her books. Looking forward to reading the next book in this series.

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