



## The Fifth Day

*Kaia Bennett*

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## **The Fifth Day** Kaia Bennett

Justin Haas and Alyse Mosell have been best friends since they were ten years old, and more than a decade later not much has changed. After a bitter break up with her fiancé, Alyse moves in with Justin to mend her life and her broken heart. But, one night of drinking and harmless flirting soon morphs into a passion that's been simmering under the surface for years. One of them is willing to take a chance on romance; the other is trying to take their heart and run. And it will take nothing short of a Christmas miracle to keep their friendship – and what could be love – from falling apart around them.

## **The Fifth Day Details**

Date : Published October 1st 2014 (first published November 29th 2008)

ISBN :

Author : Kaia Bennett

Format : Kindle Edition 62 pages

Genre : Romance, Interracial Romance, Adult Fiction, Erotica

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## From Reader Review The Fifth Day for online ebook

### Ruthie Taylor says

"I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads."

The timing of this quick read is perfect in the run up to Christmas. It is sweet, hot and just the right length for an evening's entertainment. The realisation by these two long time friends that maybe they are really perfect for each other, is both exciting and worrying. The dilemma is beautifully described and reaching the desired outcome is an adventure. Really enjoyable story, thank you Ms Bennett.

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### Anita says

Dayuum! She told more of a story in 62 short pages than some writers tell in 300! A lovely little hawt gem of a story about Alyse and Justin who were childhood friends. We get a backstory, a sense of the characters and plenty of yummy lovin'. All about love, friendship and taking a risk when the fear almost overwhelms you. This is my second read by Ms Bennett and I eagerly wait for more from her.

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### Jenny - Book Sojourner says

Overall: 3.5 Stars

If you are looking for a quick erotic read just in time for the holidays, then The Fifth Day may just be for you. Justin and Alyse are longtime best friends, but have never crossed the line to more. Recent circumstances, however, have brought the two closer together, and the doors to more have been opened. I found Justin and Alyse to be really interesting characters individually. I liked that they had a great friendship foundation together, and the few flashbacks we got for them were cute but also set the stage for their present situation. It seemed very reasonable that their eyes for each other would finally start to open. Their chemistry was clear, and once they got together the sparks were off the charts. But the doubts and issues Alyse was dealing with would not go away easily. Justin had some patience, and then threw that out the door. Overall, The Fifth Day was an enjoyable holiday read. I really liked and believed in Justin and Alyse as a couple, and enjoyed their interactions and how their story played out. They were very cute and sweet, as well as super sexy together. I also loved that they were inter-racial!

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### Laverne Brewster says

#### That thin line between love and friendship :)

4.00 stars. This was a great read and lovely story. Justin Haas and Alyse Mosell had been portraying

themselves as just friends to friends and family and to each other for over eons. At 10 years old, they share a kiss the neither forgets; a little over 10 years later while crashing with Justin following a split with her fiance, Alyse and Justin share a night of passion. Within the confines of 62 pages, the author did a great job of revealing the back story of this couple and of revealing their individual character traits and creating the kind of chemistry between the two making their story believable.

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### **Crystal says**

I loved it happy that they got their happy ending

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### **Mary says**

#### **Cute**

A cute and very short holiday story. Best friends to lovers. It took one drunken night for them to realize it.

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### **Bianca Dean says**

Just in time for the holidays, Kaia Bennett's, *The Fifth Day*, is a short, sweet and sensual tale of two best friends, Justin Haas and Alyse Mosell, who let an innocent night out on the town change their relationship. Justin, the playboy and Alyse, the good but self-identified damaged girl, have had feelings for each other that go beyond the platonic for a long time. The main challenge for them will be, can they or will they be able to make a relationship between them work?

Alyse, fresh from a broken engagement, is looking for something more, while her best friend Justin provides moral support. We meet Alyse's ex fiancé briefly to understand that she could have had it all and chose not to. Justin is capable of articulating her reasons for leaving her fiancé better than she can and, at times, knows Alyse better than she knows herself, which can often be the case for true best friends.

Whenever crafting a romance involving best friends turned lovers, there is a delicate balance that needs to be explored. If both characters rush into a relationship, readers can find that unbelievable. Two people that have depended on each other for so many things, and have seen the best and worst of each other, will rarely want to ruin a solid friendship with sex. If they are just acquaintances, sure, what have they got to lose? But if they are best friends, that is much more difficult territory to navigate.

Kaia Bennett does a great job of capturing the characters' angst in the moment, but I would have liked to see a little more of their interactions before their night out on the town.

*The Fifth Day* is a well-written novella, about 20,000 words in length. It's a feel good story you can read in one sitting. I recommend it.

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## **Jasmine says**

The Fifth Day by Kaia Bennett is a 62-65 page short story about two best friends discovering that they could possibly be something more, if only they can figure out how to make it work.

Justin Haas and Alyse Mosell have been best friends since they were kids. As they start to get older, feelings begin to develop between them, but neither one ever acts upon them; neither wants to risk messing up such a perfect friendship. However, things do tend to change...

Take one mildly self-loathing woman (thanks to her ex and the way he looks at her the next time he sees her after their breakup), toss in a best friend who wants to cheer her up, sprinkle with a dash of alcohol, mix in some bottled up feelings and emotions, and bake until done.

Okay, so all silliness aside, that really is the basic premise of The Fifth Day. Alyse is a woman who isn't quite sure what she wants. Justin is a guy who seems to breeze through every aspect of life. The pair live together and make things work with their friendship. Until one fateful night.

Justin, hating that Alyse is so down, invites her out with a couple of other friends. She accepts, they go out drinking, and that's when everything starts to change between the pair. Will one night of passion ruin everything? Can their newly discovered feelings for one another turn into something special? Will it be a Christmas miracle after all?

Personally, I felt as though the first 3/4 of the book were pretty strong. I felt for both Justin and Alyse, knowing the pair wanted to be more than just friends, but afraid to act upon their feelings. The first time they sleep together is pretty hot, and I could tell they did have a connection.

\*\* (view spoiler)

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Overall, I'd rate The Fifth Day a solid 3.5 stars. If you like short, erotic, contemporary romance stories, you should pick up a copy of The Fifth Day and give it a whirl.

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## **Dominique says**

### **Short sexy read**

Very short so don't expect a novel. However it was sexy with a few love scenes peppered in very cute glimpse into the lives of two friends who realized they loved each other.

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## **CJLuvBooks! says**

(Incidentally, I am writing this review on the Fifth Day of Christmas and I swear that's a total coincidence..

:))

I LOVED this story. I am such a sucker for romances where best friends become lovers. I. LOVE. THEM. Then you throw in Christmas and I am a happy camper!

The plot was fast paced, the writing was good, and both characters were likable and relatable. Although if I am to be completely honest, I liked Justin a little bit more. ;)

The love scenes, specifically the second one, was deliciously erotic and sensual. Honestly. I loved it so much I read it twice. lol. Justin put his heart and soul as well as his body into convincing Alyse to give their love a chance. She'd have been a complete fool to pass on this guy!

I had read a Kaia Bennett book a couple of years ago that I really liked, and I think she's a talented storyteller. I would definitely read more of her work! :)

If you like your holiday romances sweet and spicy 1-Click “The Fifth Day” today! <3

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### **Amy Crull says**

A short sweet book of two best friends who finally realize that they have feelings for each other. Justin and Alyse have been friends since they were ten, after realizing she didn't want to be a trophy wife she ends with her fiance and moves in with Justin. After a night of going out with friends, they finally act on those feelings but before anything could happen, Alyse gets scared and runs. Justin has to convince her that he is in for the long run. This was a very sweet book of best friends who finally realized that love was always right in front of them, they just never realized it.

A One-Click Addict's Book Blog

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### **Angela Goodrich says**

I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads.

*The Fifth Day* is a quick read that does an excellent job of balancing a sweet love story between two best friends and a seriously sexy story when said best friends finally decide to risk it all and take it to the next level. I absolutely loved the relationship between Justin and Alyse. The chemistry between the two was such that I could feel the bond between them and was able to take the plunge with them without feeling like their story was rushed. Ms. Bennett has done such a good job of creating her characters that I connected with them both and felt their apprehension as they moved forward, Alyse's fear that their actions had ruined their friendship, and Justin's frustration as he tried to get Alyse to “see” him and that this could be a good thing. Because the love was already there after years of being friends, it made the sex that much hotter. But the extreme to which Alyse drove Justin as she attempted to “run” from their “mistake” was both funny and sexy as sin. If only every girl could find her Justin, the world would be a much happier place. If you're looking for a quick and sexy read, especially with the holiday season fast approaching, give *The Fifth Day* a chance, I doubt you'll be disappointed.

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## **Lisa says**

### **Kirstin's Review:**

The Fifth Day by Kaia Bennett 4 out of 5 stars

Alyse and Justin had been best friends since childhood, but one night in a drunken stupor they decide to take things to the next level. That's when Alyse's fear of the future and Justin's past almost ruin everything. Of course you'll have to read The Fifth Day to see how everything plays out.

I liked the characters and felt like I could relate to them which is impressive in a novella. So, if you are interested in a romance that develops between two best friends, this is definitely the book for you!

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## **Susan says**

I really enjoyed this romantic tale of friends to lovers. Justin and Alyse have been friends for years and when Alyse breaks up with her fiancé, she moves in with Justin to get back on her feet. One night after some drinks, they both discover they are attracted to each other and now must decide if they have the courage to turn their friendship into something more. I found this story to be both sweet and sexy. The chemistry between these long term friends has simmered for years and when they let alcohol and flirting into themselves, it turns into molten lava. This was a very well written and emotional story that captured my romantic side and refused to let go until the end. If you want a quick yet beautifully crafted romance, check out this wonderful tale!

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## **Patty says**

\*\*Originally posted on Bookish Wanderlove.\*\*

### **Opening Lines**

“Justin Haas grabbed his jacket and his keys, checked his phone once more to see if his friend had gotten his calls, and then headed out the door. He was going to his standard watering hole a few blocks away, and he’d been sure Alyse would be home by now.”

I have a serious weakness for stories that revolve around friends turning into lovers, especially when they're best friends and/or have known each other since they were kids. So when I came across The Fifth Day I couldn't pass up the opportunity! Not only was this a best friends to lovers story but it has an interracial couple, WOOT!!! This is something I don't see often and that might be because I tend to read more Young-Adult novels but either way it's just not something I come across often so it makes me happy to see some diversity!

I really enjoyed the layout of the plot and how everything came together. Justin and Alyse were lovable

characters that I just couldn't get enough of! And the romance between them! I love Kaia Bennett's detail of the emotions between them! But what also made this story enjoyable was how realistic it is and how easily people can relate.

However, as much as I enjoyed The Fifth Day there were some things that didn't work for me. I understand its meant to be a novella but this book had the potential to be a full novel. I felt like there was key character information missing like their age, unless I missed it we don't know how old they are, what is it that Justin does? What did Alyse use to do before she quit her job? There were also a lot of grammatical errors and sentence structures that I found to be pretty distracting while reading. And lastly, the last chapter. It's not that I didn't like how everything came to an end but I felt that going from what happens in the 2nd last chapter to the final felt very rushed.

Overall, The Fifth Day was a quick read. Great characters, romance, plot and emotions that felt so real! A perfect read for the upcoming season, I know for a fact that I'll be re-reading this again sometime soon.

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