



## That One Night

*Josie Wright*

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All it takes is just one moment to change the course of your life. For me, it was one perfect night. I have always had a thing for my brother's best friend, Ben. When I found him on my parents' couch, drowning his sorrows in a whiskey bottle, my attempts to comfort him quickly turned into a night of raw and intense passion.

My foolish heart hoped he might feel the same way I do.

But Ben wasn't there to stay and I woke up the next morning alone with a broken heart.

I attempted to forget the guy with a smile to die for and a touch that sets me on fire.

I thought I was over him.

I thought he was gone forever.

Until, eighteen months later Ben returns and learns my secret. Now, he is hell-bent on winning me back.

He plays dirty.

And he won't stop until he gets what he wants—me.

But he has secrets of his own.

Secrets that could destroy everything we might have and everything we are.

Not suitable for under 18's due to strong language, violence and sexual content

This book is an interconnected standalone and first in the series.

approx. 86,000 words

## That One Night Details

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Author : Josie Wright

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## From Reader Review That One Night for online ebook

### Rebecca says

That One Night, was a troublesome book to review. For the most part, I found this to be a boring read with more things against it than for, but around the 80% mark things started to change and instead of not liking, I actually had something that held my attention. So now I find myself saying this is somewhere in the middle, I neither loved or hated it.

At the start, it showed a lot of promise, but I quickly lost interest when I couldn't connect to the characters. With the exception of the parents, no one was unlikeable, but I did find them a little immature and lacking in originality. A large part of this problem came from the interactions between the characters. I think the dialogue was supposed to be witty and emotional, but for me it just seemed flat and a little bit forced for the sake of drama or humour.

Now the second problem I had with the story was the hero's reason for disappearing for 18months. A lot of time was spent building up the event that changed his life, resulting in his melt down. I've got to say I did guess what it was, but I had hoped that I was wrong and that there was something more to justify the hero's brooding absence and secretive return, but alas I was right. For me, his reasons for going off the rails, felt like a complete over kill. Yes I can understand his shock, but an adult man abandoning his whole life not only seemed unrealistic but a little contrived for the sole purpose of angst.

Now I know I'm all "Miss Negative", but as I've already mentioned things did improve for me, so I have got some nice things to say.

I think this book is a great example of finishing what you begin, because it was nearing the finish line when things started to get good and juicy.

Something happens to this newly reunited family that scares them to the core and drama junky that I am, welcomed this little twist, as I was finally interested in seeing how this story was going to end. There was some genuine tense moments in this later part of the book and it was great to finally see the characters shine and come to life at last.

Its pretty clear this hasn't been a complete success for me but it did have some good moments so it wasn't a complete reading upset. All said and done this was an okay read for me but it maybe something good for others.

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### Sweets Books says

#### 4.5 Cupcakes

Great debut book, I really enjoyed reading this story. I was hooked right from the beginning and could barely put it down.

I liked the main characters especially Frankie, she has been through a lot but stays strong and doesn't give up and does what she needs to do to survive. Her heart is broken since Ben disappeared 18 months ago and suddenly returns without any explanation.

Ben has a lot of emotional issues he has to deal with but doesn't want Frankie to know what is wrong but she has a surprise of her own.

Can they be together or has too much happened that they can't get passed it.

I also loved the secondary characters and would like to see them get their own book in the future. All in all this was a great read.

Till next time - Sweets Books  
(Written by Sandi - SBAH)

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### **Annie says**

This is the debut novel from Josie Wright and I have to say I will be back for more!

One night of passion and then the disappearance of the man she loves has changed Frankie and given her the best thing in the world. Let me just say this is sooo much more than the second chance romance I was expecting. The book centers around Frankie and her son Archer, her family is really at odds with each other and are disappointed at the direction her life has taken. She has decided to come home after being estranged from them once her pregnancy became known and her refusal to name who Archer's father is. Frankie tends to be a glutton for punishment but her strength comes through as she deals with the different emotions and life's unexpected ups and downs.

Ben... oh dear Ben, after that one night of passion he disappeared, not even telling his best friend Dave who happens to be Frankie's brother where he was going. He is so lost and in a constant battle with himself, the sweet boy next door whose life imploded on itself and his struggle to somehow put it back together. He comes back 18 months later and it just so happens that he is at Dave's parents when Frankie comes home. I loved the depth that these characters were given and felt like I was part of their struggles, the abandonment issues and touches on mental illness were written tastefully and omg the twists this story takes just keep you sucked in!! Frankie's roommates were amazing and you can just feel the warmth that they have for each other as friends. Oh and let's not forget Frankie's Brother Dave.... He is just awesome!! I'm giving That One Night 4 stars, this is a must read and I can't wait for the next book that comes from this amazing new Author!

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### **Nikki ? Navareus says**

[and the perfect parents to little Archer. (hide spoiler

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### **Markéta says**

#### **4.5 stars! \*\*\*\***

This type of books is my favourite - the one where brother's best friend is in love with his little sister and little sister is in love with big brother's BFF. And there is also disappearing AND little munchkin when he returns - also one of my favourite motives. I had high expectation about this book and I wasn't disappointed.

Frankie had a crush on Ben for what seems like forever and had her chance to be with him. She finds him at her home drunk and looking lost. While consoling him, she also fulfills her wish. They had a night of amazing, mind-blowing, sweaty sex and even though she knew it wasn't about hearts and roses, she didn't expect note with only 'sorry' on it and she definitely didn't expect him to disappear for the next eighteen

months. But the note wasn't the only thing he left.

Eighteen months later Ben returns and he's hellbent on winning Frankie back. He knew it will be difficult, he knew that she'll want to know why and where he went (which he's not ready to explain), he knew that he'll have to put out the big guns. What he didn't know was that Frankie's not alone anymore. She's got someone to care about, she's got someone to love.

I really liked Frankie. She's funny, sarcastic and can be mean (like me). She's brave and into healthy stuff. She's caring and can turn from sweet to mama bear in nanosecond.

**"My father pipes up and makes me want to stab myself in the eye with the fork. Or him. I'm not that picky."**

**"This is reckless, wishful thinking that will only get me hurt. Go away weird, girly emotions."**

I connected with her practically immediately and that made the book even more enjoyable. She also has to deal with hairy toes! I thought I was the only one. Plus she's got taste in music.

And Ben. I wanted to smack him sometimes like "wake up, dude!" and in the end he grew some balls. But most of the time I wanted to cuddle him up (I don't know why but I always imagine someone named Ben as a huge man with beard, muscles and soft heart). He's hot, determined and just as funny-slash-sarcastic like Frankie.

What I had a problem with is that there were way too many names starting with 'N'. But one time I didn't remember the main character's name only a day after I read it so.. I guess that's my issue and I'll have to deal with it.

The whole book was realistic and quite gripping. I couldn't go to bed and had to finish it - sleep? what is that. I've never heard of it.

Oh, and I need Ben's POV right this minute! Fifty nine. Fifty eight. Fifty seven..

For more reviews visit: <http://do-notdiewondering.blogspot.com>

\*ARC courtesy of author in exchange for an honest review\*

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## **1-Click Addict Support Group says**

One night is all it took to alter Frankie's life, yet she would never change it because that meant she has a piece of *him* with her forever. For as long as she can remember, she's had a crush on Ben but he wanted nothing to do with her because he viewed her as his little sister.

Ben's life has been a lie and that sends him on a spiral of destruction, wanting to have nothing to do with anyone, especially his mother. When he comes back, he tries his best to let Frankie know what's been going on, to earn her trust again and prove to her that he's back for good...but only time will tell if it'll work.

Now, the chemistry between Ben and Frankie was sizzling and tempting! Reading on how Ben was really trying to be there for Frankie was sweet yet I could tell Ben was still keeping secrets from her and due to that, their relationship could only move forward so far. There were some twists and turns I did not expect that had me mouthing, 'WTH?'

This was an enjoyable story that, once I started reading it, I couldn't put down because I wanted to see how it ended. ~ Kara, 4 stars

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## **Sophie "Beware Of The Reader" says**

That One Night is the first book published by Josie Wright.

I won't lie I needed some time to get my bearings in the story. In the beginning, Frankie had so much anger and frustration bottled up she was hard to love or connect with.

Eighteen months ago, she had a wonderful and steamy night with her lifelong crush, her brother's best friend and then, he left the morning after never to be seen again. His "sorry" was such a poor excuse, certainly when Frankie realized she was pregnant.

To say her parents reacted badly is a euphemism as they called her a wh@re, suspecting she did not know the father's child as she was "known" to sleep around. As I don't like girls selling their charms or jumping from guy to guy (I know, if it's a man he is a womanizer and is seen with envy and admiration. Unfair? Yes.) my feelings were conflicted for what was the female lead character of the story. Not a good sign, right? But that was before I saw what a good mother she was to her son, Archer. Frankie was very courageous, not relying on her parents and still studying to get her degree and make a future for her son.

Frankie was helped by her chosen family of friends. I loved that family: her best friend Dean with his mate Alex and a tattooed wise woman all living together in a big house. They also got their neighbor's help. She was an older woman they "abruptly" met for the first time.

**"We nearly ran her a\*\* over when she shot out of nowhere on her inline skates in front of the moving truck, forcing us to hit the brakes and hold our breath, hoping we hadn't killed an old granny. Turned out, it was her second time on inline skates, and she wasn't quite there yet."**

That's my kind of old lady!

Now Frankie is back for Thanksgiving as she wants Archer to know his grandparents. Surprise, surprise, Ben the prodigal son and Archer's father is also back and is sleeping in her house for the holiday.

The last time they interacted was that famous night. He was drinking whiskey, alone in the dark, telling he's been lied to his whole life. He was shaken and broken. As he left "after the deed" abandoning Frankie, I did not like him either.

Frankie never told who the father was but the cat is soon out of the bag and Ben is shocked to learn he has a son. Now, he did not turn tail but decided to "man up" and follow Frankie to live in her house and learn to know Archer. He wants to win Frankie back and prove he can be a good father.

**"You don't trust me and that's okay. Because I'll fight for you, and I will win back your trust. I will win you back."**

If Frankie got my respect quite quickly once she stopped being angry all the time and showed her nurturing and caring side, Ben was difficult to "grasp" and so, to connect with. He was very helpful as he had "magic hands" and could work on renovating the house. He also took his fair share of Archer's "duty", playing with the little boy, watching over him, giving bath, etc. But as he remained closed off, hiding the reason he left eighteen months ago and kept so many secrets, he did not only kept Frankie out, but me too. I did not trust him and never knew what to think of him. Don't worry, he redeemed himself and ended being a really good guy and a great dad.

If I needed some time adjusting in the beginning, maybe because the author had not yet found her "mojo", it flowed effortlessly soon enough and I ended immersed in the story.

What will you find in this book?

- a second chance at love story with a single mom (I love that kind of story);
- a wonderful bunch of friends and chosen family members, helping each other and bantering all the time;
- lots of feelings, be it anger, sadness (Anna's story had me in tears), frustration (why did he leave for God's sake?), joy (thanks for the banter and sarcastic remarks) and even fear (expect drama at 80-85% of the book).

So, for a first work, it's a job well done and it shows Josie Wright can tell a story.

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## **Donna says**

\*\*arc received for honest review\*\*

3.5 Stars

That One Night starts with a bang. We see Frankie making the dreaded drive to her family's house, only to be blindsided with seeing Ben again. It had been several years since that fated night, and Ben had been MIA from everyone. I was immediately drawn into the characters and Frankies discomfort with him. I could only imagine that happening to me and how awkward it would feel.

Although Frankie has a hard time trusting Ben, she gives him a second chance. We see them get closer and

bond, mainly because Ben doesn't give up. Frankie makes him work, but while doing it, they reestablish their friendship. And although Frankie was a bit neurotic, I can understand why.

In the end, I felt that some situations were a little too contrived and some emotions a little overdone, but it worked for the story. And the best part is that you aren't disappointed with a HEA (I can't resist)!

A great debut for Josie Wright and I'm looking forward to her other books!

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### **Three Chicks says**

4.5 Fantastic Stars!

Review by Jen Hagen

This story held my interest from the first page all the way to the very last page, in fact it left me wanting more Ben and Frankie. They are the most adorable couple, and Ben is one of the most likable guys you will come across – at least once you get past the huge judgement mistake 18 months ago with him leaving a one-word note saying “Sorry.” Nobody knew where Ben went to and what he has been doing since that night when Frankie found him drowning in whiskey on her family’s couch ranting about his life being a lie. Ben was Frankie’s brother’s best friend and Frankie has had a crush on Ben forever. It is now present day and on Frankie’s return visit home, she is in for a huge surprise, but probably not as big as the surprise that awaits Ben who has finally returned.

**I recognize the moment when he finally puts two and two together and the truth hits him square in the face. He closes his eyes for a moment before looking straight at me. His face a mask of confusion, pain, anger, and what looks like hope.**

I have been purposefully vague with the element of surprise just in case you don't want to know, but this is your one and only warning...I am going to let it out of the bag, but I'm certain that you have been able to guess from the book blurb just like I was. (view spoiler)

**“I know I hurt you, Frankie. I f\*cked up and I can’t change that. I know you don’t trust me and that’s okay. Because I’ll fight for you, and I will back your trust. I will win you back.”**

I challenge you not to fall in love with Ben. He is very proud to be a father and is extremely willing to learn everything he can to be a hands-on dad. His actions and love for Archer will melt you alone with speaking volumes as to the kind of man that he is and wants Frankie to see. However, it is very obvious that he is holding back something from the night that he and Frankie were together to the time that he was away. Frankie always knew Ben to be very sure of himself and downright cocky, but the person he is now is insecure and obviously scared of something.

**“I wish I could promise you to never leave, but there might come a day when it’ll be better for Archer and you to not have me in your life and that is when I will leave, but never because I want to.”**

Ben's life is a pendulum between lies and truth and back to lies again. I feel so sorry for this broken beautiful man. He is so scared the truth will define him that he holds back from telling Frankie how he really feels about her. There is no way that Ben can distinguish the lies from the truth when it all blends together and the

lies seem plausible. He will forever be haunted by the truth.

**When I finally hold him, he just breaks down, collapsing, to the floor and taking me with him. He hold on to me like he's drowning and I'm his only hope for survival. Violent sobs are wrecking his body.**

This was a fantastic debut story. The character depth was well defined and every emotion the author portrayed through Frankie's POV was felt. This is told strictly in Frankie's words. I really can find no fault in it, other than I have to wait until December for Ben's POV!!! I can't wait to hear his side of the story!

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### **Cody says**

*Arc from Author, for more visit Literary-ly Obsessed*

This book was nothing like what I was expecting, in fact this book starts many months after this 'one night'. I was a little gutted that I wasn't able to read the build up to this moment however you are soon caught up to speed, also it was your typical one night stand but Wright spares no details, it will no doubt leave you more than a little hot around the collar.

Frankie the MC, has never gotten on with her family to say there was a slight 'rift' would be an understatement. She is clearly the black sheep of the family and is treated horribly by her parents, so she is dreading spending the Thanksgiving weekend with her family. The last person she expects to see is Ben her brother's best friend. The last time she seen or spoken to Ben was 18 months ago after having slept together and she woke up naked, alone with nothing but a note saying 'sorry'. I think it's safe to say Frankie is more than right to hold on to some deep rooted anger towards him

I can't say too much about the plot of the book as I would give away a major spoiler and there's simply no way to talk around it but rest assured you are clued up at the beginning. Ben gives no explanation to Frankie or her family as to why he disappeared for 2 years but Frankie pretends not to notice or care, she just wants to make it through Thanksgiving and get home to her friends. Freedom is finally in sight but when Ben is determined to follow Frankie back home and fight for a chance at redemption and to win her back, what is she to do?

I really enjoyed the story and the relationship between Frankie & Ben. Ben was an amazing MC and his willingness to take whatever Frankie throws at him and still fight for her is commendable. Frankie on the other hand did start to irritate me a little. The book was a little too predictable for my tastes but the dark twist 3/4 of the way through had my heart hammering!! I would really recommend for lovers of romance and fans of HEA's. All in all a wonderful debut for Wright and I look forward to her future work.

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### **Denise - Shh Mom's Reading® says**

Loved this #secondchanceromance <http://amzn.to/1Ly9iv2>

This blurb grabbed me a few weeks ago when I added this one to my to read list..I want to start by saying reading the blurb will have most thinking they know how this one unfolds and on some level yes, you do, but the secrets are layered in this one making for a wonderful read.

Having said that I am going to try to keep the review to only what is revealed in the blurb, which is that Francine (Frankie) is the mom to a young son from "That One Night" with her brother's best friend, Ben.

I am going to pause here and say I loved Ben, I know I know... a man who had sex and ran, a man who leaves a childhood friend alone and pregnant should have me pissed but there are reasons and there were so many times my heart hurt for Ben.

Speaking of things I loved, I adored watching Ben learn to become a Daddy and his easy way with Archer his son, captured my heart. I also loved Ben's mom and in the end the use of her spoke volumes to this author's ability to weave a story together.

The connection Ben and Frankie share is tangible to reader and as they reconnect it was so enjoyable to see them create a family before they jumped back into bed, oh and when they do yes, this book gets hot!

That One Night did an amazing job with the theme of mental illness and the fear that surrounds it. Those who know me know this theme is close to my heart. Ms. Wright did this theme justice and then some. How it was handled and the "why" truly allows the reader to feel that Ben, Frankie and Archer will be happy together (nope not explaining).

If you love second chance romance or friends to lovers stories, I highly recommend this one!

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### **B.E.Love says**

This wasn't bad I just had a hard time connecting to the characters as much as I wanted to. Some of the book was rapped up a little too easily but on the other hand some nice twists were added in the book, and thank goodness the heroine stood up for herself with the two people who treated her like garbage, I was sure that wouldn't play out the way it did and I was so happy it did.

After one amazing night with her brothers best friend Ben, Frankie wakes up alone and soon finds out she is pregnant but Ben is long gone. Taking the criticism from her family Frankie leaves, now months later Frankie is home for thanksgiving only to find that Ben is also finally home after all these months. Angry Frankie can't believe she is seeing him after all these months. It doesn't take long for Ben to figure out who Frankie's son Travis belongs to and with that knowledge Ben has every intention of getting Frankie back and making a family. But Frankie is hurt and isn't sure if she can forgive Ben. Ben has secrets of his own ones that he isn't too quick to share and they are the reason he has been gone so long and they might be the thing that tears them all apart.

All in all this was a nice book Frankie's family was horrible with the exception of her brother and I was so glad she stood up to them. When the reason for Ben's absence is revealed it made perfect sense to me why he was gone and I couldn't blame him because he also had no idea about his son, and it is also very easy to see the love Ben has always had for Frankie. Overall a nice read.

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## **Irene says**

4???????? well deserved stars for this debut book by Josie Wright.

From the start we are introduced to Frankie, she is returning home on a visit to her parents with baby son Archer. As she is only expecting to see her parents and brother Dave it comes as a shock to find the last person she thought would be there, Ben her brothers best friend who turned Frankie's world upside down after one night of passion then disappeared for 18 months with no contact.

I really enjoyed this well written and beautifully told story. Even the secondary characters that Frankie lives with are fun to read about from Vince the cranky pensioner living in a local elderly rest home to Viv, a Darla that helped deliver baby Archer. Dean and Alex her two gay friends and the riotous Mrs Walsh that lives next door, all adding humour to the more somber part of the story that is slowly revealed.

A very enjoyable character driven book told from Frankie's point of view.

An arc was kindly given me for a review.

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## **Cyndi Becker says**

This story took my by surprise. Just when I thought it was simply a sweet second chance love story, I got hit with a twisty psychological mystery that made me gasp. That One Night is Josie Wright's debut novel and centers on the life of college co-ed Frankie and her infant son Archer.

It's a bittersweet story of a family at odds with each other; Frankie and her parents, and Frankie and Archer's father Ben.

When we first meet Frankie, she is home visiting her parents after a very long estrangement brought on by Frankie's pregnancy and her unwillingness to name the father of her son Archer. But this trip home is going to change the course of her and Archers lives. We get the entire story from Frankie's point of view and we explore her psyche as she comes to terms with how her parents treat her and of Bens' place in her and Archers lives.

As the story unfolds, we see the depth of Frankie's character and her maturity, which seemed lacking at first. Initially she seemed like a pushover, her parents treat her as though she is a petulant child, when in fact she's a very strong young women. She's off at college while raising a small child. She's a part of a community, one consisting of her friends and neighbors. When Ben, her brothers best friend, discovers that he's Archer's father he's determined to make amends with Frankie and to be there for his son. However, when it comes to Ben, Frankie's built a wall around her heart - it's apparent that Ben is gonna have to work hard to gain her trust. Ben man's up in a way that while predictable, was written by Wright to spotlight the sincerity of his character and his long standing affection for Frankie. Ben is completely endearing, its both his tragedy and his genuineness that made him a fantastic character that was so easy to cheer on.

That One Night is a thoughtful story that explores the impact of mental illness, the fear of abandonment and how family secrets so easily lead to estrangement and confusion. Ms. Wright's announced that her next book, a standalone, will be from Ben's point of view. I really can't wait to be in his head and heart.

4. 5 Stars and recommendation

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**Sbell says****3.5 STARSHIP**

Great Debut book!! Ben and Frankie were perfect together. I loved how they worked as a couple to overcome their past. I also loved all of their friends! I would read more by this author

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