**Once and For All**

**By Sarah Dessen**

**About the Book**

Is it really better to have loved and lost?  Louna's summer job is to help brides plan their perfect day, even though she stopped believing in happily-ever-after when her first love ended tragically.  But charming girl-magnet Ambrose isn't about to be discouraged now that he's met the one he really  wants.  Maybe Louna's second chance is standing right in front of her.

 Sarah Dessen’s many fans will adore this latest novel, a richly satisfying, enormously entertaining story with humor, romance, and an ending that is so much more than happily-ever-after.

**About the Author**

I've been writing, in one way or another, for as long as I can remember. I have a tendency to embellish: I think it's just a weakness of fiction writers. Once you learn how to make a story better, it's hard not to do it all the time." I hope that my books do that for the people who read them: I think it's the best thing to which any writer can aspire. "As far as my other life, my non-writing life, I live in the country with my husband, some lizards, and two dogs who are completely spoiled and rule me completely. I like to work in my garden---although I have not yet perfected the art of keeping everything alive----and, in my weaker moments, shop. I love Starbucks mochas but they make me way hyper. I subscribe to too many magazines. I make a mean bean salad. I could go on, but the truth is, my books are much more exciting than I am, and that's a good thing. It's always more fun to make stuff up anyway."

**If you enjoyed this book*:***

* *Everything, Everything* by Nicola Yoon
* *Alex, Approximately* by Jenn Bennett
* *My Life Next Door* by Huntley Fitzpatrick
* *Turtles All the Way Down* by John Green
* *Windfall* by Jennifer E. Smith

**Discussion Questions**

1. How do you think it would have affected the storyline if it wasn’t set against the backdrop of wedding planning?
2. Did Dessen do a good job of balancing “true love” and cynicism?
3. Who was your favorite character? Least favorite? Talk about why.
4. If you could hear this book from a different character’s point of view, who would it be?
5. Were you surprised by Louna’s backstory with Ethan? How did you feel about what happened? Did the trauma Louna experienced feel real, or did it just seem like a plot device?
6. Talk about Jilly’s influence in the book and on Louna.
7. Do you think Louna made the right decision at the end of the book?
8. Almost every character is in love by the end of the book. How do you feel about that?
9. If you could ask Dessen one question about this book, what would it be?