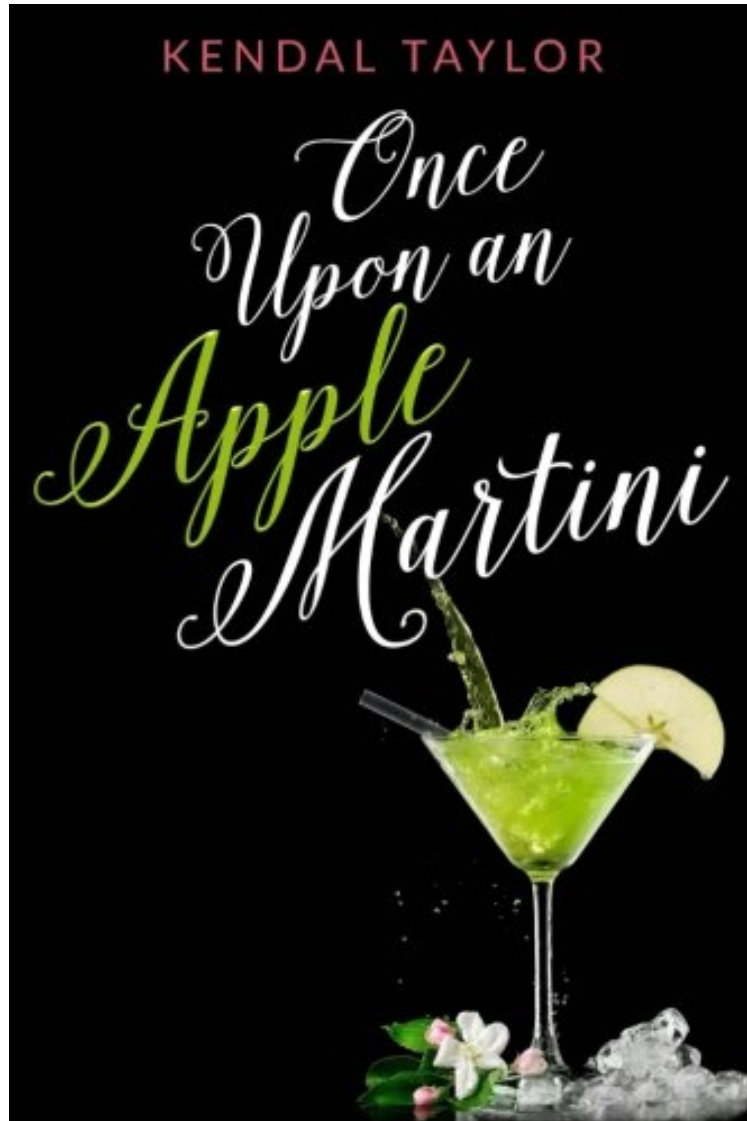


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Once Upon An Apple Martini

Kendal Taylor

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Kendal Taylor : Once Upon An Apple Martini before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Once Upon An Apple Martini:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I did not expect to love this book By David Styles Not a genre I would ever have read had it not been recommended to me, I thought this book would at best prove interesting. I was wrong. This is a superb book, brilliantly written, on many levels. Presenting itself modestly as a rom-com, this is really not the focus on the story — any romantic interests are trivial and fleeting — and instead far, far more than the usual obligatory-“lesson-learned”-scene-near-the-end is given, with instead a long-running focus on the personal evolution

of the various many characters throughout the entire book. Speaking of the the protagonists, it's been a great and refreshing pleasure to meet a set of fully fleshed-out, far from cookie-cut characters, each with their own hopes, dreams, ambitions, insecurities, fears, and foibles — and they all must figure out what they are before they can even come close to addressing them, which they each do with aplomb, each in their own way, after each hitting a stack of lows along the way. I make a point of trying to provide balanced reviews, and for this one it's really difficult to find a negative. If anything, I am sure that the extent of detail may not be to all readers' tastes. Me personally, I love it, when it's well done, and it's done brilliantly here; I felt like everything either added depth to the story or else helped make it real in each passing moment. Definitely a feel-good laugh-out-loud guilty pleasure, but with a stunning quality of writing that makes it difficult to believe that this is Kendal Taylor's first novel. Looking forward to more from this author!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Funny and Witty Read By Sky Rae Taylor paints a real-life portrait of friendship and coming of age in *Once Upon an Apple Martini*. I came across the book by chance and I'm glad I picked it up. It's at turns funny and insightful, and it's altogether an entertaining read. But Taylor's writing – his wit and humor – are what kept me engaged throughout. She's a fantastic writer – she knows how to develop characters and set a scene. The main character Calyssa is determined to keep her job after her conniving co-worker Babette (great names!) get's her busted with the CEO. A few too many apple martinis sends Calyssa off with her friends to Hawaii to blackmail her supervisor – and you can guess the mayhem that ensues. Calyssa has a lot of room to grow, and in the end, I think she does. This is an imaginative first novel, and I'll be on the lookout for more from Taylor.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. *The Hangover* and *The Sex and the City* volume 2, but- not By Ivan Hecimovic Did you ever want to read a book, which is a mixture of *Sex and the City*, *Bridget Jones' Diary* and *The Hangover* (the first one) and all that while drinking an apple martini? Well “*Once upon an Apple Martini*”, a book written by Kendal Taylor is just that. We have Calyssa, who is novel's main protagonist. She just got a respectable job and she seems really happy for that. But things do not really go smoothly for her. There are some people who do not want her there and who would not want anything more than to have her fired. There is also one person who could protect her and her job and that is her boss, who is currently on a vacation. And this is where the 'story' really begins. The story filled with many events, which look like they have been copied from those three movies/books that I wrote above. This means that those readers who previously enjoyed in, for example *The Hangover*, will definitely enjoy in “*Once upon an Apple Martini*”. The similarities are seen on multiple occasions, even when we see how the plot will be gradually more and more complicated and the end of the book, which is actually more than satisfying. All in all- “*Once upon an Apple Martini*” is a nicely written story, a bit long, but I guess it had to be that long, because if it was shorter many things would be left out. Fans of *The Hangover* can add one star.

"Hilarious."

"The most intriguing facet is Calyssa herself, a generally unlikable protagonist who manages to garner sympathy, albeit slowly. . . . But even if the martini lover doesn't recognize her own flaws, she listens when someone points them out. . . . It's not where the perpetually tipsy (or drunk) heroine ends up, but her journey that's the most astute--and most facetious--aspect of this tale."-Kirkus