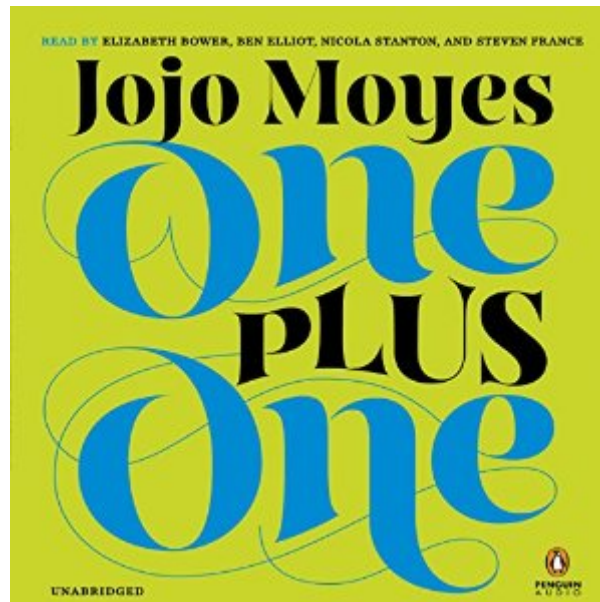


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# One Plus One: A Novel



## Synopsis

One single mom. One chaotic family. One quirky stranger. One irresistible love story from the New York Times best-selling author of *Me Before You*. American audiences have fallen in love with Jojo Moyes. Ever since she debuted stateside, she has captivated fans and reviewers alike, and hit the New York Times best-seller list with the word-of-mouth sensation, *Me Before You*. Now, with *One Plus One*, she's written another contemporary opposites-attract love story that reads like a modern-day *Two for the Road*. Suppose your life sucks. A lot. Your husband has done a vanishing act, your teenage stepson is being bullied, and your math-whiz daughter has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that you can't afford to pay for. That's Jess' life in a nutshell - until an unexpected knight-in-shining-armor offers to rescue them. Only Jess' knight turns out to be Geeky Ed, the obnoxious tech millionaire whose vacation home she happens to clean. But Ed has big problems of his own, and driving the dysfunctional family to the Math Olympiad feels like his first unselfish act in ages...maybe ever. *One Plus One* is Jojo Moyes at her astounding best. You'll laugh, you'll weep, and when you hear the last page, you'll want to start all over again.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jojo Moyes' words are bullets, and she shoots them straight into your heart. *One Plus One* is an absolutely exhilarating novel. Equal parts moving, heartbreaking, hopeful and hilarious, it's a smart and memorable story about one untypical family and their journey to happiness. A journey that includes a painfully slow road-trip to Scotland in a car with a rude boss, two kids and one huge, smelly dog. Two people. Two completely different worlds. What do they add up to? Jess' life is as

far from easy and privileged as you can imagine. Her husband, depressed because of his steady stream of bad decisions resulting in a complete financial fiasco, went away to spend a couple weeks at his mom's. That was two years ago. With two kids to provide for - one not even her own - and a whole load of other problems (including, but not limited to, bully neighbors, rude employers, and constant lack of money), Jess works her arse off at two jobs. She's one tough gal, she never gives up, always bounces back, no matter what obstacles land in her path. But even this short and feisty Erin Bronkovitch-like woman is not unbeatable. She can't always "sort things out", though God knows she tries her best. Ed is a disaster of a whole different kind, and kind of of his own making. He's not exactly filthy rich, though he's definitely on the other end of the spectrum from Jess. His job is hugely profitable, he works alongside his best friend, his high-end home is regularly cleaned - and guess who is the cleaner? - and the only thing that he seems to be missing in his life, is love. Due to an unfortunate affair, he finds himself in a lot of trouble. Legal trouble. Very serious, potentially life-devastating trouble.

I was somewhat trepidous about 1 + 1, the book appeared on my Kindle orders somewhat out the blue. I suspect made the recommendation a while ago and without questioning it clicked pre-order. I needn't have worried, despite being not my usual genre enjoyment area, Moyes managed to take me for a road-trip far away from the lands of cheese, cliché, and purple prose. The story revolves around Jess, a solo mother struggling with the bills and everything else that comes from raising a couple of kids while living within a low-income estate in London. The tension of the story begins when her daughter a maths superstar is offered a potential place in a prestigious private school. Of course there are fees and not much time to raise them. Cue Ed, a rich software developer with unfortunately for him, no clue. Now in cliché-town Ed would simply sweep Jess off her feet and fix all her problems with credit card. Instead (and I don't think this counts as spoilers as it happens in his first chapter) he is accused of insider trading and his freedom and finances are completely at risk. That is the scenario our protags find themselves in, and while there is plenty of romance genre familiar sex, longing, familial malfunction, the story is fresh and original. There is a scene towards the end which will simultaneously break your heart and make you laugh out loud. Something that really stands out in this book, is Moyes' ability to pen unique voices when narrating different characters perspectives, without even resorting to stereotypes. Often books with multiple viewpoints risk everyone speaking with the same voice. Not this one.

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