

The background features a complex network of white nodes connected by thin white lines, set against a gradient background that transitions from dark purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with some forming larger, more interconnected clusters than others.

# The Bride Test

Written by Helen Hoang

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Published by sanmarco-sf

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# The Bride Test

By Helen Hoang

## The Bride Test Helen Hoang

Khai Diep has no feelings. Well, he feels irritation when people move his things or contentment when ledgers balance down to the penny, but not big, important emotions—like grief. And love. He thinks he’s defective. His family knows better—that his autism means he just processes emotions differently. When he steadfastly avoids relationships, his mother takes matters into her own hands and returns to Vietnam to find him the perfect bride.

## The Bride Test Helen Hoang Vk

As a mixed-race girl living in the slums of Ho Chi Minh City, Esme Tran has always felt out of place. When the opportunity arises to come to America and meet a potential husband, she can't turn it down, thinking this could be the break her family needs. Seducing Khai, however, doesn't go as planned. Esme's lessons in love seem to be working; but only on herself. She's hopelessly smitten with a man who's convinced he can never return her affection.

## The Bride Test Pdf

With Esme's time in the United States dwindling, Khai is forced to understand he's been wrong all along. And there's more than one way to love.

He was ignoring everyone, including her, at this expensive wedding. So he could read a novel about alien demon things.

My soulmate!

I am going to share this again closer to publication, but after my experience with *The Kiss Quotient* and how it quite literally changed my life, I just couldn't wait to read this. And I gave a lot of thought to my rating. Five stars for a cute smutty romance? Really? But these books are very special to me and I think, deep down, they are actually a lot more than cut He was ignoring everyone, including her, at this expensive wedding. So he could read a novel about alien demon things.

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*The Bride Test* is about Khai, Michael's cousin in *The Kiss Quotient*. He is Vietnamese-American, autistic, and believes himself to be incapable of the emotions that matter. Like grief. Or love. His overbearing but lovable mother decides to take action and find him a wife from *Việt Nam*.

That's where Esme Tran comes in. After getting pregnant young, she now desperately tries to support her daughter in the slums of Ho Chi Minh City. She's mixed race, and has long wanted to go to America to find her father. When *Cả* Nga offers to pay for her visa and trip to California in exchange for her trying to seduce Khai, she takes the opportunity.

Khai and Esme are fully-fleshed out and adorable characters. Khai is geeky and obsessive, but as we would expect from an ownvoices author, it does not come across in a faux-quirky way. His struggles and passion for his few interests are so genuine. *Quả* is also a real source of hilarity in this book; the dynamic between him and Khai makes for some very entertaining parts.

On the surface, Hoang has returned once again to sexual and romantic relationships where one character is autistic. Khai is not a reincarnation of Stella from *The Kiss Quotient* but is very much his own person, and ASD affects him in unique ways. Esme must respect his boundaries, just as falling for her is a learning experience for him. The way these books bring sexiness to consent and mutual respect is wonderful. And HOT.

## The Bride Test

But I said "on the surface" because there's more to this story as well. Trust me when I say the author's note is an absolute must-read. *The Bride Test* is a sweet, cute, sexy and funny romance, but it is also the story of an uneducated Vietnamese immigrant coming to the United States. This aspect is loosely-based on Hoang's mother's experiences, and it is the tale of an incredibly brave woman defying the odds and clawing her way up from almost nothing.

Helen Hoang is making important waves, one sweet sexy romance novel at a time.

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## The Bride Test Read Online

ARC provided by Berkley in exchange for an honest review.

It felt too big. At the same time, it didn't feel like enough.

The Bride Test is the most anticipated sophomore novel from Helen Hoang, AKA: the goddess who we do not deserve and who gifted us The Kiss Quotient! And this book is following a couple of characters who we originally met in that debut! I didn't love this installment as much as I did The Kiss Quotient, but I still think that this book is a treasure and that Helen Hoang is a  
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And like The Kiss Quotient, this is an ownvoices novel, Helen is Vietnamese and is Autistic. And one of my favorite things about this book is seeing the difference of Stella, from The Kiss Quotient, and the main character of this book's Autism. I think people just like to group marginalized people together and act like their experiences are all the same, and this author does such a wonderful job at truly showing the Autism spectrum and how vast it truly is. This book has a completely different Autistic main character, because everyone's experiences are different, and I truly loved it more than I have words to express in this review.

½ Khai Vietnamese, Autistic, Michael's cousin from The Kiss Quotient, living in California, and completely happy being on his own, especially after losing someone very close to him when he was younger. Even though that loss has made him think that he is incapable of love.

½ Esme - Biracial (Vietnamese and white), living in Vietnam as a cleaning woman, when Khai's mom travels there to try to see if she can find a woman who would be compatible with her son. And Esme accepts because she is a single mom, living in poverty with her own mother and grandmother, and she thinks this is an opportunity to give them and herself a better life. Khai's mother promises her a summer in California, where she can see if she can make Khai fall in love with her and marry her, but if not, she will return back to her family.

But with this set up, the power imbalance always is at the forefront. I always was questioning Esme and her feelings, because she has so much at stake. Also, Esme doesn't tell Khai about her daughter for far too long, and that also felt extremely bad to me. And it's always hard for me to root for a romance that is founded on a power imbalance and then also have it harboring such a big secret, especially after the two individuals are choosing to have sex. Now, I will say that the author does such

## The Bride Test

an amazing job at putting consent at the forefront of this story constantly, yet I still could never find my footing on this shaking ground. And because of this, I can't give this more than four stars.

I will say that, besides always putting consent at the forefront, this story has a lot of other amazing elements. Like, just seeing Esme in a foreign country, doing whatever it takes to make a better life for her loved ones, and seeing her getting the education of her dreams, I am soft and so happy. My favorite part of this book was easily the acknowledgements, where Helen really shares about her personal life and her mother's personal experience being an immigrant and coming to America in search of a better life. I shed so many tears at how beautiful and powerful these final words were, and it truly was the cherry on an already amazing ice cream sundae.

Also, much like *The Kiss Quotient*, the family in this book is everything. Quan plays such a major role in this story, and honestly was the shining light for me. And I am counting the days until we get his book next!

But this is a story about loss and love, yet also healing and becoming the person you want to be, no matter the circumstances. We get to see both Khai and Esme dealing with their own traumas, and healing separately, but we also get to see them building something really beautiful together; a future where they can be accepted and happy. And seeing them realize they were worthy of that love and acceptance all along? So damn beautiful.

“My heart works in a different way, but it's yours.”

Overall, I just love being in Helen Hoang's world. From the important elements and themes, to the beautiful diversity and inclusion, to some of the steamiest and most romantic scenes ever, these books are just really easy to fall in love with. I hope she never stops writing, and I hope Berkley signs her for five more books after these five, because she is a gift to the world.

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The quotes above were taken from an ARC and are subject to change upon publication.

Content and trigger warnings for depiction of grief, talk of loss of a loved one, abandonment, and some talk of one's body/body issues that I think could potentially be a little triggering.

Buddy read with Kathy from Kathy Trithardt & Julianna at Paper Blots! • ...more

A romance with characters that express so much more than just physical attraction, but also grasps the heart of the reader with the tender emotions that are portrayed...

Once this beauty landed in my hands, I knew that there was no backing down of putting everything to

the side and start it. That's what Helen Hoang does to you once you get a small glimpse of her writing. I remember last year how hesitant I was about reading *The Kiss Quotient* because of all the hype and love it kept getting. When it comes down to novels that are hyped too much, I like to back away from them and maybe read them in a month or so once the hype calms down. Thank the heavens I didn't, because I would have never encountered upon Helen's marvelous and unique way of putting so many in depth emotions to the page. I would have never gotten to understand, that even individuals whom may be different in some way, socially, physically, emotionally... anyway. There is still a fighting chance of finding love, cherishing that love, and grasping it for dear life. That's what Khai has demonstrated in this compelling romance novel that will have you running for more tissues...

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In my reviews, I really don't like to talk about the story plot of the characters. I like to focus on the way the story plot comes to be and how it changes my mind and mood. Helen does so by implying this new character, in which we came across in *The Kiss Quotient* during Stella's and Michael's story. Khai. That intriguing and mysterious autistic young man, that had picked my interest from that small glimpse we got of him. His way of living is structured, has a routine that he follows every single day and should not be tempered with. From the point of view of his family such as his mother, brother Quan (whom shall be brought up in a moment), and his sister Vy (whom shall also be brought up in a moment...) he is a simple man who enjoys his lifestyle as an accountant, takes his shoes off once he arrives to his two bedroom home and enjoys the feeling of his old carpet against his feet. It's the little things that one would not be able to understand why they are so important in which in that unique side of him, his extended family never understands. Emotions is something that Helen touches a lot when it comes to Khai. He does not come to a realization that, even though he states he cannot comprehend emotions in general; anger, happiness, sadness, disappointment, and love—he truly is a strong human being whom expresses all those feelings.

That's when Má»<sup>1</sup>, aka Esmeralda, aka Esme comes along. A twenty-three year old young lady from Viá»t Nam whose dreams had to take a pause because life came in the way. Supporting her mother, grandmother, a special someone who shall not be named for the sake of spoilers, is what Má»<sup>1</sup> had been doing before she encountered upon Khai's mother whom was looking for a bride for him. She is instantly drawn to Má»<sup>1</sup> and offers for her to come to the states for the summer and try to seduce her son, Khai. Má»<sup>1</sup> of course has to think about it because she has to support her family. But after a very thorough decision, she decides to accept the offer and goes to the states to try and make Khai fall in

love with her.

At first, meeting Esme with the circumstances he was put in by his mother, is not something Khai is pleased with. She moves in with her, but he is also instantly drawn to her natural beauty. Her eyes captivate him in the best of ways, making his body react in ways that have never acted before. The attraction is there and it's beautiful to read that a gentleman such as Khai, whom does not believe he can ever love anyone, expresses these feelings towards Esme;

"Strange, incomprehensible, beautiful woman. She said the funniest things and smiled all the time. His fingers itched to touch that smile, and he sipped away out of self-preservation..."

Weeks pass and Esme and Khai learn how to adequately be with each other. That does not stop Khai's body from acting in a non-gentleman way of course. Which I find so endearing to read from the third point of view. He knows he cannot deny that attraction, but he also knows that he shouldn't act upon it;

"She was already a song that played on endless repeat in his head. If he started having sex with her, this thing would escalate into pure addiction, and what the fuck would happen when she left at the end of the summer?"

Once feelings expand, that's when the struggles begin to form for Khai. Things take a turn when Esme comes across wanting to have a life in America, a life in which she can set as an example for her next in kin. Her dreams come back to life and want to expand and explore everything that is out there for the world to offer to her, but she knows that if she doesn't fight she will not get far. That includes Khai's love towards her as well.

Overall, as previously mentioned... Helen has created a story that has truly gasped my heart and pierced it with her words. It made me cry, made me giggle, and made me swoon over the love and admiration Khai has towards Má»1. Stories such as this one are not found very often and that's why they need to be cherished in the best of ways. Thank you so much to Berkley for being so generous with this advance copy. And as previously mentioned, Quan and Vy better come next. Vy's story should be mysterious to read because we really don't know much about her. But Quan however... **\*\*sighs\*\*** he is the rugged brother, with sexy tattoos that will have me drooling over him once Helen writes his story... that's IF she does it... **\*\*wink wink Helen Hoang\*\***

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## The Bride Test Release Date

5 stars

The Bride Test proves that Helen Hoang is not a one hit wonder, yaâ€™ll. This one was so good! Did I love it as much as The Kiss Quotient? Not quite, but that was a really tough act to follow. Still, it was wonderfully written, delightful, and swoony.

If youâ€™ve read TKQ, you know Khai, who is Michaelâ€™s cousin. His mother is a bit bossy and wants him married. She knows how Khai is and knows he will never go after a woman on his own, so she finds the perfect girl for him while visiting Vietn 5 stars

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â€œI chose her for you when I went to Viá»t Nam. Youâ€™ll like her. Sheâ€™s perfect for you,â€• she said.

â€œI donâ€™tâ€• You canâ€™tâ€•lâ€™â€• He shook his head. â€œWhat?â€•

â€œYeah,â€• Quan said. â€œThat was my reaction, too. She got you a mail-order bride from Vietnam, Khai.â€•

"Why do you say it so it sounds so bad? She's not a 'mail-order bride'. I met her in person.â€•

Esme comes from Vietnam to America for a new life. She is strong, brave, and wants better than what she has. Sheâ€™s nervous and hopes that Khai will like her. She doesnâ€™t know english well and itâ€™s hard for her to adjust at first. Khai doesnâ€™t make it easier for herâ€• itâ€™s not on purpose, itâ€™s just his way. But no matter how Khai acts, Esme is patient with him.

He always expected her to turn him away, but she never did. It was a heady thing, her acceptance.

Khai and Esme living together was something else. Khai just doesnâ€™t know how to live with a woman. And as their relationship progresses, things get really confusing for Khai. He doesnâ€™t know how to express his feelings and he thinks he canâ€™t feel certain emotions, even though its obvious he can and

he does.

Helen Hoang is a gem. She's an author who writes what she knows and does it so well. I respect her and love her words. I love so much that her characters have obstacles to overcome and are flawed. They're real and I can appreciate that. I don't always want to read a romance with a perfect hero or heroine, that's not real life. Hoang seamlessly gives us the best balance of realness mixed in with just a little bit of that fairy tale love story.

Khai and Esme completely charmed me. Sometimes two people so different can be perfect for one another. That is them. Khai is autistic, and I loved that he wasn't a carbon copy of Stella. He had his issues, but he was so lovable. I loved how sweet and determined Esme was. She didn't want Khai for his money, she just wanted him. Yes, she was fighting for a better life for herself and her daughter, but she grew to truly care for Khai. Their romance was a slow burn and it was great watching it grow.

She didn't need a rich man. She just needed someone who was hers.

The Bride Test is a book you don't want to miss out on. I laughed, I cried, I smiled and I had so many feels! And I just want to put it out there, I want a Quan book so badly! He was the absolute best in this book! This story was all consuming, heartwarming, and the best kind of romance! I can't wait for the next book in this series, I'll be reading anything and everything Helen Hoang releases!!

Warm. Content. Safe in his arms. Him safe in hers. She hugged him tighter. He was bigger and stronger, but she would protect him with everything she had.

...more

Helen Hoang is becoming such an important part in my own bookish world to me. She writes romance stories that matter, that have substance, value and are a treat to read at the same time.

This story was such a delight to read. There wasn't one part about this book that I disliked. I loved the characters and getting to know their backgrounds, why they were the way they were and how their circumstances shaped them. I couldn't get enough and I never wanted this story to end. I'm still craving for more. Helen Hoang is becoming such an important part in my own bookish world to me. She writes romance stories that matter, that have substance, value and are a treat to read at the same time.

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It was informative because my knowledge on autism is abysmal. But whilst I was reading about Khai I was learning about how he views the world and interacts with it.

Esme is a mixed-raced girl who came to the US from Vietnam and seeing how she embraced and fought through the challenges of being an immigrant was so incredibly admirable.

And then their love story started forming through all this... don't get me started. It was everything that it

The Bride Test

needed to be.

I so appreciated that their actual Vietnamese names were used, how the culture was infused because it brought such authenticity and realness to the story and its characters. It was their truth.

I want more of these types of novels. More of these types of stories told and Helen Hoang is really setting the standard for this.

Just a side note, the Author's Note is just as valuable as the actual story. I think we tend to skip this a lot, but this adds such great insight to why Helen Hoang wrote this book. It was moving.

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Look what has arrived on me kindle! Guess what I'll be doing at work? ...more

## The Bride Test Excerpt

Helen Hoang has done it again! Similarly to *The Kiss Quotient*, this perfectly balances a mix of charming romance and deeper topics and I loved the heck out of it. The only thing that really kept me from giving this a full 5 stars was the weird power imbalance between Khai and Esme. I never doubted them or their feelings for each other, but it did just feel a little weird as a reader knowing the stakes and the secrets that were being kept behind the scenes. With all that being said I still HIGHLY recommend y'all check this out and I cannot wait to read a million more books from Helen in the future! ...more

Ugh. No. Not for me.

So many issues, so little time.

I appreciated the author's note at the end.

I'll just leave it that.

I received an ARC of this book from Edelweiss and the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

## The Bride Test Amazon

More serious, less smutty, equally sweet, compared to The Kiss Quotient.

So, mail-order bride scenario in romance is not exactly my idea of a good time. (And neither was a male escort one in The Kiss Quotient). But what Helen Hoang undoubtedly has a talent for is creating characters that are kind and empathetic.

Esme is recruited by Khai's mom to seduce and marry him, so that he finally can have someone to be with. He is on the spectrum, and isn't good at relationships, for obvious reasons. Now, More serious, less smutty, equally sweet, compared to The Kiss Quotient.

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Esme is recruited by Khai's mom to seduce and marry him, so that he finally can have someone to be with. He is on the spectrum, and isn't good at relationships, for obvious reasons. Now, this can go wrong in many ways, but Khai's mom is super nice and truly believes Esme is the best match for her son. Esme isn't exactly a seductress, but a goofy girl with a big heart (and some mistakes in her past). And Khai believes himself incapable of feeling emotions.

I feel like The Bride Test is a weightier, more serious work. Hoang draws on her parents' immigrant past, adding a big dose of realism to this romance, but not exactly going all the way there, it is a smutty romance after all. Esme and Khai's personal journeys are more real too, and so are their problems.

I liked The Bride Test a lot, and inhaled it in a matter of hours. I didn't like it quite as much as The Kiss Quotient, because apparently I like fantasy scenarios more than real ones. And I clearly prefer a lot of smut too. Esme and Khai's relationship is a steamy one, but I would have preferred it... even more so. The book has the sexiest haircut scene though. It's amazing how arousing a conversation about boundaries and sensory sensitivity can be! @.@ And when Khai and Quan and Michael are in a different scene together, it's a total riot! You are in for a treat.

Now, more wait for the next Helen Hoang romance. I don't know what it is yet, but I hope it's Quan's turn. ...more

4.5 stars.

"Khai didn't hurt. He felt nothing most of the time. That was exactly why he steered clear of romantic relationships. If someone liked him that way, he'd only end up disappointing them when he couldn't reciprocate. It wouldn't be right."

Khai Diep is handsome, successful, a devoted son and brother. He has his routines and he likes everything in its place. He thinks he's broken because he doesn't feel emotions the way others do, and it has caused his problems. But his family knows it's just the way his autism manifests itself, and they want to help him because they know how special he is. 4.5 stars.

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Khai Diep is handsome, successful, a devoted son and brother. He has his routines and he likes everything in its place. He thinks he's broken because he doesn't feel emotions the way others do, and it has caused his problems. But his family knows it's just the way his autism manifests itself, and they want to help him because they know how special he is.

Because Khai isn't interested in getting involved in a romantic relationship, his mother decides she needs to intervene. On a trip to Vietnam she meets Esme, a young, mixed-race girl working as a maid in Ho Chi Minh City, and is taken by Esme's beauty, her integrity, and her intelligence. She offers Esme the opportunity to come to America and live with Khai for the summer and attend a few family weddings with him, in the hopes that she can make him fall in love with her and decide to marry her. If not, she'll go back to Vietnam.

While she is shocked at first about this offer, Esme realizes this is an amazing opportunity for a new life, for her and her family. Khai is handsome and kind, and she would love to marry him. But seducing him isn't as easy as she thought it might be. Although she is quickly smitten with Khai, he resists her advances even though he is immensely attracted to her. As he realizes that if he doesn't marry her, he'll lose her forever. But Esme wants it all, and won't settle for a marriage of convenience, no matter how much she has fallen in love with Khai.

"It wasn't loneliness if it could be eradicated with work or a Netflix marathon or a good book. Real loneliness would stick with you all the time. Real loneliness would hurt you nonstop."

The Bride Test is an utterly charming, sweet, and poignant rom-com, about the things we're willing to do for those we love, and the sacrifices we're not willing to make. This is also quite a sexy book—the sex scenes are pretty steamy!

I love the characters Helen Hoang created—they're tremendously memorable and likable, and I won't soon forget them. I really enjoy the way she writes, so now I'm going to need to read The Kiss Quotient, too. This is definitely a book that would make a terrific movie, if only because I'd love to see how Khai and Esme (and Quan, too) would look on the big screen!

See all of my reviews at [itseithersadnessoreuphoria.blogspot.com](http://itseithersadnessoreuphoria.blogspot.com).

The Bride Test

Check out my list of the best books I read in 2018 at

<https://itseithersadnessoreuphoria.blogspot.com/2019/01/the-best-books-i-read-in-2018.html>.

You can follow me on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/the.bookishworld.of.yrralh/>. ...more

## The Bride Test Summary

The story is sweet, kind, loving and gentle. And did I mention steamy?? Oh my!

Khai's mother is desperate to find him a wife. Khai's problem is not that simple " he is autistic and just has no interest in personal relationships. Well, time for MOM to step in!

On a "bride seeking" trip to Vietnam, she crosses paths with a beautiful young woman working at the hotel. After a brief, but far from subtle conversation, she gives Esme a most interesting proposition. Come to America, and win over her love The story is sweet, kind, loving and gentle. And did I mention steamy?? Oh my!

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On a "bride seeking" trip to Vietnam, she crosses paths with a beautiful young woman working at the hotel. After a brief, but far from subtle conversation, she gives Esme a most interesting proposition. Come to America, and win over her loveless son by the end of the summer. If it works and all goes well, she will be blissfully married with a new life in America. Unsuccessful, Esme will return home to her simple life in Vietnam.

Esme and Khai's relationship was delightfully played out as they navigated each other's differences, while growing profoundly fond of one another along the way.

Will Esme win Khai over? Can she win her place deeply in the heart of someone who seemingly has no interest in love at all?

My only reservation in reading this book was that there was a lot of sex talk. And I mean a lot!

At times I think it took the emphasis away from the story itself.

But for those of you who love the detailed steaminess in your romance book, (is it warm in here?) then you will be very happy with this one!

A buddy read with Susanne that left us blushing at times!

Thank you to Elisha at Berkley Publishing, Edelweiss and Helen Hoang for an ARC to read and review ...more

ok, so despite my average rating, this book was actually super cute!

Last year I was fortunate enough to receive an ARC of *The Kiss Quotient* by Helen Hoang. It was enjoyable and cute and oh, so unique. Never had I read a book from the point of view of a character on the autism spectrum. To be honest, it's something I never even thought about, especially not when it came to romance novels. I really do wish that more authors take that POV into account in the future as it was definitely an interesting read. ok, so despite my average rating, this book was actually super cute!

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Now, Hoang has given us a new book, set in the same world, with yet another set of wonderful characters and I was so excited to read it.

I am not going to go much into the plot, as I'm sure the synopsis covers that, so I'm just going to tell you all the things I loved and didn't love so much.

First, I love these new characters. Khai is the autistic character in this novel and I loved him! He was nothing like Stella in *The Kiss Quotient*, showing how not everyone with Asperger's syndrome is the same. I often feel like authors represent certain peoples in a shallow and stereotyped manner. Thankfully, as an ownvoices author, Hoang has a wonderful and insightful understanding of ASD that gives depth and originality to her characters.

Esme was also a fun character although I admit there were times when I questioned how fast she was moving in this relationship. That though is more a problem in the plot, and I will get to that later.

Quan, Khai's brother, was awesome and I hope the next book in this series is about him! CÃ´ Nga was also great, I thought she was going to turn out to be a horrible person, as future mothers-in-laws usually are in novels, but she was actually really sweet and caring. Generally, everyone was great. I only wish we would've had a longer Stella and Michael cameo!

Overall, the book was fun and cute and made me laugh on several occasions. The characters were likable and Khai was honestly a sweetheart in his own unique way, and it was all great. I read the book in one afternoon and I wasn't able to put it down. And yet, I only gave it three stars.

There was something in this book that I wanted and that it didn't quite deliver. The romance was cute, but everything else seemed off to me. Things were either too convenient or only put in place for the sake of tension. The book also felt a bit predictable. And yes, I know that romance novels are pretty predictable by nature, there are only so many places the book could have gone, but still. I expected more.

The other issue was the dynamics of the relationship. Sometimes it felt rushed. Other times it felt as if there was no base to it. How well did these characters really know each other? The book takes place over one summer and it's not like the two spend that time getting to know each other all that well. I couldn't quite fall into their story the way I wanted. I was lacking a genuine connection with the characters and the story overall.

In the end, I still do recommend this book. It's a quick and entertaining story from a pov we never get to see. The moment it ended I wanted to keep going and see where else the story was going to go. I also can't wait for book three to come out. Hopefully, we finally get to see Quan's story!

**\*\*ARC was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own!\*\***

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## The Bride Test Hoang

The Bride Test is the second installment in Helen Hoang's collection of adult romance standalones titled The Kiss Quotient. As opposed to many other readers, I personally enjoyed The Bride Test much more than its predecessor. Hoang continues to be inclusive with a high-functioning autistic primary character. Subtle education about this amazing population shatters ignorant stereotypes as we witness internal processing, growth, and love. Yes, love. Doesn't it look and feel different to us all regardless of so-called limitations? A theme related to immigration in this book shows true limitations and puts things in perspective. "How did you change your life when you were trapped like this? Her history didn't define her. Her origins didn't define her. At least, they shouldn't. She could be more, if she had a chance. But people didn't see who she was inside. They didn't know. And she had no way to show them without an opportunity." Well-done, again, Ms. Hoang. This will be a re-read for me for sure. Check it out!

My favorite quote:

"...and sometimes one person could make a world of difference."

Thank you to the following for permitting me access to a digital review copy (DRC) of The Bride Test. This generosity did not impact my honesty when rating/reviewing.

Source: Edelweiss+

Author: Helen Hoang

Publisher: Berkley Publishing Group

On Sale Date: May 7, 2019

Note: All quotes were checked against the final, published edition. ...more

I legit had a huge smile on my face from start to finish (okay, okay, I did cry at certain parts!). Along with almost everyone who read The Kiss Quotient I have been anticipating this book for a year. After loving Helen Hoang's first book I was super hyped for her next work AND IT SURPASSED MY EXPECTATIONS!!

Esme is struggling in Vietnam to support her family. They rely on her and when the opportunity to go to America is presented by a woman who is desperate to find a good Vietnamese girl for h I legit had a huge smile on my face from start to finish (okay, okay, I did cry at certain parts!). Along with almost everyone who read The Kiss Quotient I have been anticipating this book for a year. After loving Helen Hoang's first book I was super hyped for her next work AND IT SURPASSED MY EXPECTATIONS!!

## The Bride Test

Esme is struggling in Vietnam to support her family. They rely on her and when the opportunity to go to America is presented " by a woman who is desperate to find a good Vietnamese girl for her son " at first Esme is strongly apposed but it is not an opportunity she has the luxury to decline.

Khai has autism and has spent his whole life believing that he is incapable of love. And as such has refrained from any kind of romantic or physical relationship. When Esme comes to live with him for the summer Khai is uncomfortable with someone in his space, changing things around the house and making him feel things he is unaccustomed to.

Now don't make the mistake of thinking that this is the simple plot of " marriage for a green card "™. Esme has secrets and she's not one to rely on a man to secure her future. She is determined to earn her place and to make the most of her summer by learning as much as she can.

I really enjoyed Khai's POV. His thoughts were so cute and innocent in a way. I'm a huge fan of autism reps so learning more about his autism was a real eye opener and so interesting.

Guys the slow burn was real!! Is there anything better in a great New Adult novel?

I loved that this is a spin off. It meant I got a sneak peak into the lives of Michael and Stella "œ"œ

Khai and Esme hold a special place in my heart and I am most definitely going to reread this soon.

ARC received in exchange for an honest review.

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Pre-read

I haven't even read this yet. But I already know that Khai is going to be my husband.

—————  
My reviews for:  
Book 1 - The Kiss Quotient  
Book 3 - Untitled ...more