



## Escape to Mulberry Cottage

*Victoria Connelly*

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Having grown up in rural Norfolk, author Victoria Connelly never thought she'd ever live in London but, after surviving eleven years in the noisy suburbs, she finally persuades her husband to move to Suffolk – to a county with no motorways, a village with no shops and a cottage with no mains drainage.

Escape to Mulberry Cottage is the first book in the 'Suffolk Bunch' series which follows Victoria and her artist husband, Roy, as they embrace country life with their ever-expanding family of animals.

'Victoria Connelly is writing in the tradition of Miss Read and bringing the pleasures of the countryside to a whole new generation.' Leah Fleming

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Victoria Connelly is the author of eight novels, the first of which - *Flights of Angels* - was made into a film. Three of her novels have been Amazon Kindle bestsellers and *The Runaway Actress* was shortlisted for the RNA's Best Romantic Comedy of the Year.

## Escape to Mulberry Cottage Details

Date : Published February 3rd 2013 by Suffolk Bunch (3 Feb 2013)

ISBN :

Author : Victoria Connelly

Format : Kindle Edition 91 pages

Genre : Autobiography, Memoir, Nonfiction, Romance, Contemporary

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## **From Reader Review Escape to Mulberry Cottage for online ebook**

### **Marie Shirley Griffin says**

#### **Great fun for Country Living lovers**

Marie's Read (Marie Shirley Griffin)

I thoroughly enjoyed this book with it's pictures taken by the author.

As an American, it was lovely to read about living in a real British village. Country living in the U.K. sounds much nicer than country living in TX, where people drive out to dump their trash and unwanted animals (so sad the stories I could tell about the animal abuse we've encountered).

Just a brilliant book for rose lovers, bird watchers and other gentle country past times.

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### **Robin\_R says**

This book was a lot of fun!

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### **Pam says**

Escape to Mulberry Cottage is by Victoria Connelly. This is a cute book about the author's changing her home from the London suburbs to the country. She had always wanted to go back to the country and live the life she had when she was a child. Her husband liked their life in London; but as an artist, he could create anywhere. He was fed up with the noise and behavior of the Londoners.

Victoria and Roy began looking for houses further out than they were. They found a couple of houses but lost both in a bidding war. A third one which they really liked was suddenly taken off the market. It seemed something or someone didn't want them to leave London. However, they kept looking and finally found Mulberry Cottage. It needed some work but the land around the house looked fantastic. So, Victoria, Roy, Molly (the dog), and three chickens, (Minnie, Alice, and Dolly Clare) moved into Mulberry Cottage. They were accepted into the community and settled in over the winter. It wasn't until Spring that they would be able to get out and explore the garden.

This is a cute book and it tells it like it is. She also includes some flowers as to what happened to Roy to cause him to break an ankle. This is the first of at least three books about her life in the country.

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### **theresa smith says**

Nice easy read, not as good as the Rose girls & the second book in that series, looking forward to book 3 in the series coming out next week, back to Escape to mulberry cottage, a quick story , about a couple who move out to the country, as nice fill in for a day.

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## I. says

Charming memoir on looking for a house in the English countryside  
Have the next cued for reading

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## Leah says

I really enjoy Victoria Connelly's novels, she's a fab Chick Lit writer, and I look forward to her books each and every year as they're so good, so when she offered me the chance to review her new non-fiction Kindle book Escape To Mulberry Cottage, I was very interested. I admit, I quite like the idea of moving into the country and living in a cottage and being away from the world. I'm a big fan of peace and quiet. Sadly, there is no country where I live because I live on a big rock in the middle of the sea, so I have to live in the country vicariously. This will be a relatively short review because even after four years, I still can't review non-fiction books as long as fiction books. It's hard.

Escape To Mulberry Cottage charts the journey Victoria and her husband Roy take in moving from London to the country, a dream Victoria has always wanted to fulfil. When they find Mulberry Cottage in Suffolk, Victoria and her husband fall in love with it and along with dog Molly and their ex-battery hens they up sticks and it turns out to be the best thing they've ever done. They can see the stars every evening, there are so many fields to explore while walking Molly, and the scope of animals is amazing, and their neighbour are actual neighbours; coming round with scones and being friendly and lovely.

I was totally caught up in Victoria's country dream. I wanted to move into Mulberry Cottage and see the beautiful scenery and animals. I have never in my life had a hankering to keep ex-battery hens, until now. I LOVED reading about those beautiful ex-battery hens (also, FYI: what happens to battery hens is utterly disgusting and inhumane and should just not be allowed) who were having their first day of freedom, it's lovely and it's also quite sad, I teared up when Victoria lost one of her ex-battery hens. They are such mischief makers are the hens, and those are what I'm excited to read about in future Mulberry books! I love that Roy and Victoria followed their dream and I can't wait to read more of their adventures in the country as I very much enjoyed it!

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## Jilly says

This is another one of those books about escaping the rat race. I usually love these and they inspire me and make me wish that I could just upsticks too. This one is about author Victoria Connelly who grew up in rural Norfolk and after 11 years in London dreams of a rural retreat. She finally persuades her husband to move to Suffolk – to a county with no motorways, a village with no shops and a cottage with no mains drainage. It sounds ideal, it is ideal, but the story was somehow lacking for me. I found it quite bland.

I know Norfolk and Suffolk well and her descriptions just didn't do it justice for me.

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### **Sandra McKenna says**

I read this in one day; just couldn't put it down.

Victoria and her husband decide to "Escape to the Country" from suburban London, and search several counties before finding their perfect country retreat.

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### **Wendy says**

I loved this book with its detail of the countryside. Victoria and her husband found their ideal cottage where they could raise hens (rescued ones), grow roses and vegetables, take long walks and live the lives they were meant to live. We've been watching Escape to the Country on TV and can well imagine that the Connellys had this dream also, but theirs came true for them. I'm now reading the second book.

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### **june turner says**

#### **Lifestyle.**

Thought book was brilliant. Although city born and bread this is the country life my dad and myself would have loved.

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### **Fred Putnam says**

#### **Delightful!**

A series of brief vignettes (3-5 pp) about the author's move from the suburbs of London to a country cottage in Suffolk, with lovely photos by the author. Having grown up in rural New England, I found her descriptions nostalgia-inducing, despite the cultural differences. The adventures of Mollie, the chickens, discovering footpaths, and meeting neighbours--simple pleasures all--and the author's transparent joy in them, make this a delightful read.

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### **writer... says**

Delighted to listen to Victoria's eventful journey from urban London to rural Suffolk with many twists along the route. Concise chapters, short stories in themselves, kept me intrigued. Emotive insights into British life in both settings had me laughing along with her at the misadventures. Victoria's acquisition of a growing menagerie, dealings with real estate agents, new country neighbours and side trips with her artist hubby, Ron, all provide charming anecdotes.

Jan Cramer's expressive narration follows the story with excellent voice inflection, providing

characterization and colour. The authentic British accent is tops - one I'd highly recommend for audio listening. The quality of recording is clear and free of distraction, adding to listening enjoyment. Sharing these tales is like accepting Victoria's personal invitation to further the acquaintance begun by reading her novels. A definite pleasure.

Put the kettle on for a cuppa while you listen to this highly recommended memoir.

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### **Susanne Baker says**

#### **Fabulous book**

I loved reading about her move to the countryside. You really felt her excitement about her change in her life.

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### **Gemma says**

I love growing veg and enjoy reading about people moving to the country or trying to become self sufficient. However, this book is a very short volume basically describing someone's quest for the perfect country residence and then the move. It isn't worth buying as a proper book. Thankfully I read it from kindle unlimited.....

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### **Nikki Bywater says**

This is author Victoria Connelly's real life account of making her dream come true and moving to the country. Victoria has had the dream of moving to the country since she was a teenager, but sadly her dream is put on hold, as life leads her to London and she ends up living there for eleven years.

Feeling trapped by life in London and longing to escape with husband Roy and Molly their pet springer spaniel they find their escape in a beautiful old cottage. Mulberry Cottage and Victoria writes of the move and settling into country life, adjusting to the difference between town and country. Exploring her new environment and preparing her cottage and making the dream come true.

A really delightful read and always an inspiration when you read about people who against all odds make things happen and get to live their dreams. I really enjoyed the hen's stories being included in the book too. As an animal lover Victoria decides to adopt and rescue some ex battery chickens and it been heart-warming to read about this and their adventures. The book also includes some beautiful photographs to accompany the story.

There are some handy hints at the back of the book on how us townies can bring a touch of the country side to our lives and homes and a nice collection of country reading material that Victoria recommends and I certainly would like to read a few on her list. I enjoyed reading the readers' Questions & Answers session at the end of the book, it is just so interesting to learn more about authors and their lives and this book is certainly an interesting read that can easily be read in one session.

A wonderful, warm and pleasant read I really enjoyed reading this book.

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