



The Morning After Memoirs

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A smart, irreverent slant on modern dating, Kate Michaels' sexy, laugh-out-loud debut reimagines the world of *Sex And The City* with the biting realism of Lena Dunham's *Girls*.

Twenty-nine-year-old Jess wakes up on New Year's Day a touch hungover and a whole lot confused. The man in bed next to her is not her boyfriend, Ben. In fact, she doesn't even remember Not-Ben's name. It won't be the first time she finds herself in a questionable situation in a year that proves her new single-in-the-city lifestyle is far from the glamorous, *Sex And The City* world she's been promised on TV. Between hacking through last year's leg hair, accidentally snogging someone who may well be her cousin, getting hit over the head with a sex toy that isn't even hers, and ending the night with a walk of shame into her parent's garage, Jess's single life is turning out more cockroaches than cocktails.

The *Morning After Memoirs* is the story of one woman's search for love, meaning, and a low-calorie alternative to wine.

The Morning After Memoirs Details

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Author : Kate Michaels

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From Reader Review The Morning After Memoirs for online ebook

Sara says

Imagine waking up one morning, totally hungover, unsure of the antics you'd been engaged in the night before. Glancing over and finding yourself in bed with a total stranger, who should have been your boyfriend. That's exactly the predicament Jess finds herself in, on New Year's Day. It becomes the catalyst for the domino-effect in her life. The one moment she can look back on, with much defeat and not a whole lot of reflection, lending to even more mishaps as the year progresses.

In *The Morning After Memoirs*, we're on a journey through many various misadventures of Jess' life. She keeps finding herself in very awkward and surreal situations, not really sure how she got there, not really thinking about the consequences of her actions. From sexual encounters with people she doesn't know, to late night benders that end in the most hellacious hangovers known to man, she's still trying to keep it together, working her day job while balancing a party life. It's not going well, as you can imagine.

I felt as though she was really trying hard to forget her scorned boyfriend, but going about it the wrong way. It's obvious she's not over him. When her friends try to help her out of her funk, it's with drinking and late night partying, only adding fuel to the already well-lit fire. Her life is fun, charming and seductive, yet it's not hard to see the writing on the wall for Jess. Life can't be one never ending party, and sooner or later, there will be a breaking point.

Well written and told entirely from the perspective of Jess, "Memoirs" reminded me a lot of *Sex and the City*, one of my absolute favorites. It's the tale of a young single woman navigating the waters of her crazy life, and while she may not have a great handle on it most of the time, it lends to some comedic and, let's face it, relatable moments that most of us have swept under the rug, later feigning amnesia.

Reviewed for Chick Lit Central (www.chicklitcentral.com)

Celeste Ní raois says

Thanks to Laura Stephens from Ago Publishing I received a copy of this in exchange for an honest review.....

When we meet Jess she wakes up on New Years Day with a horrible hangover from the night before beside a man who she realises is not her boyfriend, Ben. In fact, she doesn't even remember Not-Ben's name. Jess is a twenty-nine year old who has a dead end job in an office who temporarily moves back in with her parents and the story follows her life and antics throughout the coming year with her friends and how she deals with her new found single life with some funny moments thrown in and memories which I'm sure we've all experienced when we were younger when relationships broke up.

I liked this book and it did make me laugh in parts but even though there are only 12 chapters I felt some of them were a little too long, unfortunately I couldn't warm to the main character and there were some parts that I felt were also a bit unrealistic. The main character was whiny, needy & got on my nerves at times throughout the book especially where she kept referring to every man she met as "not Ben" even up to a year after her relationship had ended with Ben. While I can honestly only say that I liked the book, I do think that

people who like to hear stories or watch shows like Sex and The City you will love this book. I am looking forward to reading more work from Kate Michaels.

Michelle Ryles says

I absolutely loved this book from beginning to end. It was written with so much underlying humour and I frequently laughed out loud at not only the antics of Jess but also of her parents. I chortled, guffawed, and giggled my way through it in no time at all - leaving me wanting more!

I had an instant affinity with Jess as she gives names to people like I do (Not-Ben, Hot Waiter Number Two, Tweedledum and Tweedledumber) and even used one of my frequent phrases - stranger danger! Jess was an immediately likeable character because she's not perfect and seemed a bit clueless - a bit more Bridget Jones than Carrie Bradshaw, but a perfect mix between the two. She's a normal girl who makes mistakes and struggles with her weight like most normal people - there's an extremely amusing reference to fat jeans! Amusing to those of us with said fat jeans at the bottom of our wardrobe, or not so amusing to those of us with them on our bottoms!

The book starts and ends at consecutive New Years with a hilarious look at a year in the life of Jess in between. Jess goes through a breakup, moves house, finds a new job and turns 30 - all with very amusing results. I liked how every time a new character is introduced they get a dating website style mini bio, often with irrelevant information but that's what makes it funny. Chris - 5ft 8", brown eyes, likes pugs...nope, Jess doesn't have a pug!

In my opinion, this was better than Bridget Jones' Diary as it was more realistic and completely my brand of humour. This ain't chicklit, it's so much better - a funny, sassy look at the life of a modern woman living in London. Don't get me wrong, this isn't a comedy but with so many water bombs of comedic excellence dropped in, it was definitely a 5 star read.

A great read for Bridget Jones and Sex and the City fans or anyone who's ever bought an exercise dvd and sat on the sofa to watch it!

I received this e-book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Lizzy Baldwin says

I thought this book was a hell of a lot of fun – it's one of those books that you can just dive into, have a good giggle over and relate so easily to the humour and the comedy feels. As the blurb suggests the book follows Jess as she struggles through a terrifying break-up with Ben. Moving on from the terrible event eating a Chinese for two in front of an exercise DVD we watch Jess in her newly single life and find that it's not so much fun. Leg hair, fat jeans, a sex toy or two and her new neighbour it's going to be a little nuts to say the least.

I immediately fell for Jess, probably because she reminds me so much of myself unfortunately; I loved the way that she named the people around her – Not-Ben, Tweedledum and Tweedledumber, Hot Waiter Number Two to name a few.) I wouldn't say she's a lot like Carrie Bradshaw, more a Bridget Jones character

but that doesn't make her any less amusing. She's just like us; she eats, drinks, swears too much and gets herself in some seriously amusing situations. The book starts and ends at consecutive New Years so we get a whole year in the life of Jess. I also thought the fact that every time a new potential suitor is introduced he gets his own mini bio – Chris – 5ft 8", brown eyes, likes pugs was really lovely. It just added a special touch.

In terms of wobbles it didn't have a big storyline – it is very much a look at the life of a woman working and living in London. For me there wasn't a hell of a lot more than that to a point. There is a lot of narration but just not quite enough action for me as a completed story and I struggled with that because it feel at times that things were being repeated just to get to a certain length of book. I also thought that relationship with Ben, after four years just kind of stopped. Apart from a couple of weeks where we see her lose herself she kind pulls it back together.

However, the writing is witty and fun, it shows a lot of style and I enjoyed the characters that were well built up throughout; even the supporting character got enough time in the spotlight and that helped to add depth to the book as a whole. For me I would have enjoyed a more substantial plot line but overall a very fun and interesting read.

I received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review

Sarah says

The Morning After Memoirs is a story essentially about Jess and her drunken antics.

Jess is quite a good character. She reminded me very much of myself when I was in my late teens, early twenties. I still like to enjoy myself now that I am in my forties but I have to say that reading this book I am glad that I had got my life together well before the age that Jess is.

Overall The Morning After Memoirs is a good and in parts, funny read. I have to say though as the book goes on some of Jess and her friends drunken antics just started to bore me. I think Jess spends most of the story drinking or drunk and I think nearly every alcoholic drink got a mention. By the end if I was Jess's mum and dad I would have been booking her into AA.

If your a fan of Bridget Jones and similar books you will probably enjoy The Morning After Memoirs and overall I did. I just would have liked a stronger storyline as it just seemed to be mainly about drinking and getting drunk, which twenty years ago would probably very much appeal to me, unfortunately not so much now.

Many thanks to Laura at Ago Publishing for a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Agi says

I can't. I tried really hard but just can't click with the book. I'm frustrated with the writing style, waiting for the smallest dialogue to appear, as even the conversations are re - told. I'm frustrated with the main character, she's just made me hate the first person narration, haven't read about such self - centred characters as she is. I'm frustrated because I can't find any plot there, the book is just telling about the character's days. I didn't

finish this book, stoped reading after 44%.

Jody says

Review first posted on my blog 'A Spoonful of Happy Endings': <http://spoonfulofhappyendings.blogspot.com>...

Twenty-nine-year-old Jess is still trying to get over the break-up with her ex-boyfriend Ben. She knows the best way to get over someone is to just get out in the field again, but things aren't as easy as they might seem, especially when it turns out the best guys have already been scooped up by someone else. However, Jess has the support of her friends and numerous glasses of wine to keep her going, and she's not yet ready to give up on love, no matter what it is planning on throwing her way.

'The Morning After Memoirs' focuses on modern-day dating and main character's Jess experiences after she has broken up with her boyfriend. The book is described as a mix of the two popular TV shows 'Sex and the City' and 'Girls', and perhaps that's where it went wrong for me, because I'm not really a fan of either of those shows. The story really revolves around partying, drinking, and sleeping around, and it seemed to lack any kind of plotline. It just felt like random events happening in the protagonist's life, without any real main storyline to come back to, which is why it was difficult for me to remain interested in both the story and the characters.

The book is quite a short read with roughly 260 pages, but it did take me a few sittings to finish it, mainly because it just wasn't really my type of read. Even though there was a lot of narration in the book and hardly any dialogue, which I really missed, I do think Kate Michaels' writing has potential and perhaps another read of hers will fit me better. I'm afraid I just didn't connect with this novel, not on any level, but I'm sure other readers will be able to enjoy this.

rachel davies says

Morning after

I found bits.of this funny but it didn't hold my interest much but that might be me how i felt.personallyy

Adele says

I'd like to thank the publishers, Ago Publishing, for an arc in return for an honest review.

This was such a fun, witty read. It had moments of hilarity; I loved Kate Michaels' description of all Jess' friends and acquaintances. Jess' parents are one of the funniest book parents I've read about, such great comedic moments coming from both her mum and dad, classic! It was a kind of diary style novel going through the year from when Jess woke up from her New Year's Eve celebrations to the next New Year. A lot happened for Jess in this year she becomes single, homeless, new job, new friends, new loves. It was a sexy,

fun, rollercoaster of emotions and events for city girl Jess. A fantastic debut novel. 4.5/5*

Whispering Stories says

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

Jess makes a stupid drunken mistake that results in her ending up single. This leads to a year-long disastrous (and sometimes funny) challenge to find love again.

I had to persevere with the story as I just couldn't warm to Jess. She seemed obsessed with getting drunk and finding a man and would, more often than not, sleep with a man the minute she found one. It wasn't really a story about finding love. It just seemed like a constant inebriated sex hunt, with no real storyline to it.

Jess became a little more likeable as the story progressed, but it was the supporting characters that I enjoyed reading about. Jess' parents caused a few laugh out loud moments.

I was guessing that Jess would find love with a particular character (I won't say who) but when I got to the end I was surprised. The ending, if you can call it that, didn't feel right as it seemed the author had just thrown Jess into yet another one night stand, albeit with someone briefly from her past.

Another reason I was disappointed with the book was because I found the dialogue strange. It wasn't set out with new lines for each character's speech like most books are – it was all in the same paragraph. At times this was confusing as I found myself rereading sections to understand who was talking. I was quite a long way into the book before I got used to it.

I'm usually a fan of chick-lit and like a good giggle along the way but unfortunately this book just didn't do it for me.

All in all, this chick-lit story was easy to read, non-taxing, and would be an ideal book for someone in their twenties to take on holiday to read on the plane or at the beach. I'm guessing if you're a fan of Sex and the City, then you'll probably like this.

Reviewed by Jodie at www.whisperingstories.com

Megan says

I received an ebook copy of this from the publishers in exchange for an honest review. I honestly am thrilled to have received a copy of this book, as it was a brilliant laugh out loud read. The story follows that of Jess, a 29 year old living and working in London, and her tales of dating, romance, and friendship. All of which were a laugh a minute.

I love nothing more than a good chick lit book. I am not sure if now that i am nearing on the age of 27 and starting to worry about how little i may have accomplished in my life, but i found that i really related to our main protagonist Jess. This book felt like a more modern telling story of a woman living in London, and the

ups and downs that come with it.

Jess provided us with humour, drama and some brilliant adventures as she led us on her journey throughout the course of a year. I loved how we felt just as involved in her life as if we were one of her many friends. It made me want to be a part of her friendship group, that almost collective of sisterhood and the drama and stories that unfold within it. Especially the many drunken nights out that occurred. Jess made this story very real, and her sheer bad luck was incredibly unfortunate, and yet brilliantly hilarious. One of my favourite bits without giving too much away about this story is of a particular walk of shame back to her parent's garage (where she was staying) and struggling to fit under the gap she opened up, subsequently resulting in the neighbours believing they were being burgled!!

We see Jess go through a break up, move house, make new friends, get a new job, and have many hook ups on nights out. I loved her break down of new men as she saw them, listed as their name, height, eye/hair colour. Almost like a mini bio of each male as she weighs them up. It felt very Bridget Jones like to me, as i could almost hear Renee Zellweger's voice at the exact moment, and i loved it.

I really enjoyed the writing in this book, it was a quick easy read, with so much underlying humour throughout that you cannot help but enjoy it. I will certainly be looking out for any more books by Kate Michaels.

I would highly recommend this book if you enjoy a good Chick Lit, filled with humour. Especially if you are a fan of Bridget Jones or

Hannah says

The Morning After Memoirs is Kate Michaels' debut novel, and provides an enjoyable light read, very much drawing inspiration from Sex and the City.

Reading the blurb on the back of the book we are presented with:

“Twenty-nine-year-old Jess wakes up on New Year’s Day a touch hungover and a whole lot confused. The man in bed next to her is not her boyfriend, Ben. In fact, she doesn’t even remember Not-Ben’s name. It won’t be the first time she finds herself in a questionable situation in a year that proves her new single-in-the-city lifestyle is far from the glamorous, Sex And The City world she’s been promised on TV. Between hacking through last year’s leg hair, accidentally snogging someone who may well be her cousin, getting hit over the head with a sex toy that isn’t even hers, and ending the night with a walk of shame into her parent’s garage, Jess’s single life is turning out more cockroaches than cocktails.”

Firstly from the blurb the book looks like a pretty good read, however I will say that it was quite a “bitty” book and feels like it jumps around an awful lot, and it did take me quite a while to get in to.

However, that said I did enjoy the book. I enjoyed watching Jess re-build her life after her disastrous New Years Eve, moving back home, trying to find a new man, trying to find a new house! Everything changes (dramatically) for Jess within the space of a year.

Overall I loved Jess as a character, even with her alcohol addiction that she appeared to have. Jess was enjoyable to follow, as were her friends. Although I did find myself getting a bit mixed up at times with all Jess' different friends as I forgot who was who and I would have liked slightly better descriptions of each of the characters! Jess' family were just annoying, particularly her brother, but they all provided many hilarious moments, particularly her dad and his weird "obsessions".

All in all this is a good book, my only real dislike was the style of how speech was all within the text, with no new lines for new speakers. So it did get a bit confusing at times and I did have to go back a few times to check I'd read something correctly!

I would happily pick up another book from Kate Michaels in the future, and I would recommend this book to people. It may have taken a little while to get in to, but once I was in I really enjoyed the book, and would hope to see more of Jess in the future!

I would like to thank Laura at Ago Publishing again for allowing me to review this book for them.

Lindsay says

Mildly entertaining but without much of a story. Felt a bit like a long ramble. Which a lot I could relate to...

Debbie says

Kindly provided by Ago Publishing in exchange for an completely unbiased review.

Also posted on Silk & Serif

The Morning After Memoirs is a cross between Bridget Jones' Diary and Sex in The City with plenty of humour, adult issues and poor choices to keep a reader guessing whats next. I found Michael's writing style interesting and the British humour really refreshing. The Morning After Memoirs really highlighted that I don't get to read enough British literature!

Jess goes from being a stable woman in a long term relationship to someone who has a drinking problem and a long succession of one night stands. She moves back home, starts drinking more than usual and meets all sorts of new characters. Over time Jess gets a new job, new place and begins to find a new normal after her disastrous New Years Eve. We see Jess make a lot of really terrible decisions that only makes her situation worse and lots of hilarious things happen along the way.

I really loved how Jess' story goes full circle from the night everything goes to hell, to the night Jess begins to get back on track (sort of) -- both of which are New Years Eve. A night for rebirth and renewal, how fitting!

The Morning After Memoirs is a novel you cannot take seriously. It's not about life lessons. It's pure comedy and entertainment.

I found that in order to really enjoy The Morning After Memoirs I needed a bottle of wine and the company of a good friend. I'm not saying that the novel required alcohol and friendship, but it helped me initially get on board with the humour. I was often frustrated and annoyed with Jess and her completely atrocious

behaviour. I think I needed a friend to help me to stop taking Michael's work SO seriously.

I really wasn't amazed by The Morning After Memoirs mostly because I feel like the focus of this novel is for a much younger readers. I feel like I'm well past the age where drunken stupidity and one night stands are part of life so I often felt like Jess was focused on things that I am not. Perhaps this is just because Jess is a complete screw up with some serious responsibility problems, but I would suggest readers in their early twenties for this novel and not readers nearing thirty.

This novel will appeal to readers who enjoy comedic relief with their chick lit, British humour and novels with plenty of adult material. I would not suggest this novel to those who are easily disturbed because there are plenty of cursing, sexual situations and derogatory comments (all made in good fun, though).

Linda Hill says

No spoilers review of an entertaining read here: <http://lindasbookbag.com/2015/08/23/t...>
