



# Roommates Wanted

*Lisa Jewell*

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## **Roommates Wanted** Lisa Jewell

1990. Please write and tell me why you should live here.

Toby Dobbs received a big Victorian house with too many bedrooms to count as a wedding present from his father, but his marriage is over within a month. Very alone, and very lonely, Toby posts an advertisement seeking the "Unexpectedly Alone" to become his roommates. Fifteen years later the wayward souls he takes in are still living with him, with no intention of leaving.

2004. Please tell me how I can convince you to move out.

Toby Dobbs has met Leah Pilgrim from across the road, and they're falling in love. But before they can begin a new life together, Toby and Leah must help Toby's house of sweet slackers and lovelorn misfits grow up, solve their problems, and set themselves free. But can their new relationship survive the test?

## **Roommates Wanted Details**

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Author : Lisa Jewell

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# From Reader Review Roommates Wanted for online ebook

## Ajla says

4.5 stars

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## Angie says

An enjoyable "coming of age" story (though the character who does the growing up is nearly 40 years old). Toby is a delightful geek who has some social anxiety. He has a soft spot for people who are struggling in life, but that also means that he gets taken advantage of. Then Toby finally meets Leah, his neighbor from across the street who has been watching Toby and his housemates for the past three years. Leah convinces Toby to start living his life, and the book follows this transformation.

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## Shani Struthers says

My first Lisa Jewell and certainly not my last. A very sweet story with a lovable 'hero' and 'heroine' and a very interesting cast of housemates. Loved the pace it ambled along at. So good, I found myself delving into it inbetween cooking, brushing teeth, feeding the cat etc!

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## Lindsay says

So I probably think that I picked up this book because I'm hunting for a roommate myself, and it just sounded interesting. Back in 1990 Toby's dad gives him a big house for a wedding gift. The marriage doesn't last and he's stuck with this giant house. So he posts an ad and gets some roommates. 15 years later, one of the people living in the house dies and leaves everything to Toby along with a note telling him to take the money he left him, fix up the house and start living life. So Toby decides to fix up the place and sell it. But how can he just kick out the people who live there. The cover blurb makes it sound like he's met a new girl and they can't live together until he gets rid of the roommates. Not true. Throughout the book Toby and Leah are friends who like each other, but don't even say so until the end. Mostly it's a book about different people growing up and realizing who they are and what they want to do with life. It was a good book. A bit long, but good enough that it doesn't feel that way.

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## Anna Fagg says

I really enjoyed this book. Was after something light-hearted and easy to read after my last book which was quite heavy going - this certainly fit the bill. I was really easy to pick up and put down - although kept me turning the page long past bed time many a night! Made me laugh out loud and brought a tear to my eye, thoroughly enjoyable easy reading!

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### **Aisyah Roslan says**

never thought i would enjoy this book so much but as soon as i read it, i couldn't put it down. the characters are real and totally relatable and as they go through the stages in their life, i felt like i wanna hug them so damn much, especially when things worked out for them in the end. i swear i got misty eyes towards the end. such a good, satisfying read.

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### **Amanda Patterson says**

Does happiness live inside a house? Leah watches the eccentric and quirky residents of 31 Silversmith Road come and go. Who is the odd, tall man named Toby and how did he come to have this motley crew living inside his home? Toby has had the house for 15 years.

Ruby is a singer - addicted to men and booze. Con works in the mail room at Vogue but dreams of becoming a pilot. His mother Miranda, who abandoned him years ago, sets up home in his bedroom after a second failed marriage. Joanne is a mystery so tightly coiled that it would take a brave soul to find out what goes on inside her head.

After Gus, the resident Toby acquired with the house, dies Leah encourages Toby to start living. He has been alone since his wife Karen left him. Also 15 years ago. When Leah's boyfriend Amitabh rejects her marriage proposal, Leah and Toby embark on a mission to sort out the lives of the residents.

31 Dream Street is a warm book, peopled with characters in pain. Characters who live and laugh, and cry. Mostly behind closed doors. I wanted them all to succeed. Jewell draws them so well that no-one is ever in danger of becoming a cardboard cut out. Jewell is the author of 5 bestsellers. 31 Dream Street is set to join their ranks.

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### **Amy Pettyjohn-Ferris says**

Ok, 3 days and only 30 pages, and I keep falling asleep. The main character, Toby, has about as much interest as a head of cabbage. So boring. I've decided to not even try to make it through this book anymore...It's been torture

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### **Tatyana Naumova says**

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### **Megan says**

This was a fun read. I really enjoyed all of the characters and their troubled lives. It was interesting to see how it all came together in the end. Even though I only gave it 3 stars, the story was interesting enough to keep me up into the early morning hours to see what would happen next. There was an exceptional amount

of swearing, but then it is a British book...so I kind of expected that.

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### **Melanie says**

What a sweet book! I loved all the characters and the Cinderella story of Toby and his house. There were places where I was grinning as I read (because the story was just that charming) and a few places where I got teary, because it was so sad and I felt heartbroken for the characters. A totally satisfying book with some unexpected depth, while still being light-hearted. Loved it!

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### **Jennifer says**

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I wasn't sure what to make of it at first, and decided to read this strictly based on the author's past novels. But once I got into the story, I couldn't put it down. The characters in this book are so REAL, so down-to-earth and relatable.

The main character, Toby, undergoes a slow transformation throughout the novel on his journey to start living, a transformation that is at times a bit sad -- I felt like I wanted to give him a big hug! :) The other characters in this book, Toby's lodgers, are well-written too - I found myself caring about all of them, and even got a bit misty-eyed when Joanne's backstory was finally revealed.

This is not your standard Brit chick-lit novel. It is so much more! With a satisfying, but not tidy, ending. I highly recommend this book!

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### **Elaine says**

In every town, city or village there is always a house that is architecturally unique that always draws the eye and makes you wonder about who lives there. That is exactly how Leah has always thought of The Peacock House, opposite her flat, and its assorted group of very bohemian occupants led by the house's owner Toby, a shambolic and scruffy poet. She has never spoken to any of them, until now, when Leah and Toby's paths cross unexpectedly one day, which leads to Toby asking her to help him get to know his ramshackle group of tenants a bit better – so as to prepare himself in order to drop a bombshell on them.

This is a book that had been languishing on my bookshelf for a couple of years and I am really glad that I finally got round to reading it. It just oozes charm in a story with characters that you just cannot help liking, eccentricities and all. It is very much a “will they, won't they” story, an easy read that you can just curl up on the sofa with a box of chocolates and get lost in. It is a tiny bit predictable, but in a very cosy “I knew that was going to happen” way.

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### **Malia says**

I'll be honest, I had this book sitting around for some time before picking it up to read. I thought, oh this will

be so predictable, typical chick-lit, and kept passing on it for other stuff. But after reading a rather awful, unpredictable book, I felt in the mood for something cozier. I really enjoyed "The House We Grew up In" and "The making of Us" by Jewell, so I don't really know why I wasn't initially as interested in this book(maybe I was guilty of 'judging a book by its cover'-oops).

In any case, I'm very glad I finally got round to it. This is a lovely book! The characters feel so real and mostly likeable, much more so than in "The House We Grew Up In", in my opinion. Toby and Leah are people I want to know, friendly and funny and kind of odd.

What I think I like most about this book, is the message that it's not silly or pointless at any point in life to try something new. It's so easy to slip into a rut, or keep putting things off, and changing is hard. I think this is a story that will resonate with many readers, because let's be honest, we've probably all been there at some point or another, wanting to make a change, but either not knowing how or lacking courage to try.

This is a must for fans of Jewell's other books(at least the ones I've read) as well as fans of Marian Keyes, Isabel Wolff, Madeline Wickham (a.k.a. Sophie Kinsella), and really a feel-good story without being annoying or sickly sweet at all.

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## **Amy says**

so far ... an easy reader .. nice story line

I really enjoyed this book .. the storyline and characters kept me entertained and interested the whole time ... I actually read this book in 2 days! I really enjoyed the style of writing and chapters as each characters story was revealed.

I'd recommend this to anyone looking for an easy reader with a nice storyline

and now come to think of it - i really related to the main character ... sometimes in life people are nice to others ... so much that they forget to take care of them selves ... then when it is to take care of yourself ... you find it hard to let the others go .. but .. it's a way of life - and we all learn from the experience :)

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