



Shopaholic & Baby

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Becky Brandon (nee Bloomwood) is pregnant! She couldn't be more overjoyed-especially since discovering that shopping cures morning sickness. Everything has got to be perfect for her baby: from the designer nursery . . . to the latest, coolest pram . . . to the celebrity, must-have obstetrician.

But when the celebrity obstetrician turns out to be her husband Luke's glamorous, intellectual ex-girlfriend, Becky's perfect world starts to crumble. She's shopping for two . . . but are there three in her marriage?

Shopaholic & Baby Details

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Alison says

I read the Shopaholic books as soon as I can get my hands on a copy. Sophie Kinsella is a really funny writer. She has sustained the Shopaholic idea through more sequels than most writers can. However, this book (and the previous one, Shopaholic and Sister) isn't as spot-on as the first two. I mean, isn't Becky ever going to learn to stop overspending? Every book involves her getting in a financial hole, then reforming at book's end, only to start over again in the next book. And of course, now that she's married to a rich guy, it's not quite so nervewracking when she maxes out her credit card. It IS true that when you have your first baby, you buy all kinds of things you didn't know you "needed," and the part of the book when Becky learns about "baby couture" and decides she needs multiple strollers is fun. Die hard fans like me will probably keep reading--but it's not the best in the series for sure.

Trin says

Ahh, how times have changed. I used to consider these books a good guilty pleasure; now I find there's a lot less pleasure and a lot more guilt. Kinsella is still an amusing, energetic writer, but Becky really grated on my nerves this time around. She's just *so* shallow and *so* frivolous, and while in the first few books she was also just a regular working girl, now that she's rich (thanks entirely to her husband), her insane overspending and materialism swiftly loses its charm and becomes...icky. It can be difficult to read a whole book about someone you would probably feel uncomfortable having lunch with.

So, while I still think there's a...certain charm to these books, and that they're in many ways better than a lot of chick lit, I also just don't think they're for me anymore. I've become too old and cranky to enjoy them. They belong to a part of my life that no longer exists (in which, for example, I also secretly owned an Avril Lavigne CD).

Sara says

I'm officially over the Shopaholic books. They are all the same, Becky never learns anything, and I just can't imagine someone being as self-absorbed as she is. It was definitely something mindless to read while sitting by the pool, but won't change your life or anything.

Jennifer says

I'm enjoying the Shopaholic series more and more the deeper I get. It has finally segued from her spending addiction to the root of her problem which is poor impulse control. And when someone has minimal self-control, we all know the messes they can get themselves into lol. Becky's impulses always get the best of her but her happy attitude, out-of-the-box thinking, and sheer determination never fail to get her out every time. And I absolutely loved Luke in this one. We don't see enough of him in this series but I thoroughly enjoyed getting a few more glimpses of his character.

My star ratings are increasing and I am officially excited to continue the series!

My favorite quote:

“Make-up artists should hereby get the Nobel prize for adding to human happiness. And so should hairdressers. And so should Luke.”

Zoë says

Book 31/100

Michelle says

There is something wonderful about being able to pick up any book in the Shopaholic series and laugh out loud, forgetting about any other worries and escaping for a few hours. Sure some would say that chick-lit novels are a fluffy alternative to 'real' books and I guess they are, but that doesn't mean you can't have *fun* reading them. And that's what the Shopaholic series is - fun. The Shopaholic series also happens to include my future fiction husband: Luke Brandon. *dreamy sigh*

The fifth book in the series follows Becky Brandon through her pregnancy as she battles her *"Red Headed Bitch"* celebrity obstetrician who is trying to seduce her husband away...or is Luke willing going to abandon Beck and her baby? It is written in typical Kinsella fashion with brilliant laugh-out-loud scenes which culminate in a...(view spoiler)

Shopaholic and Baby is another wonderfully light hearted instalment in the Shopaholic series and, while it won't win a Pulitzer Prize, it's well worth the read for anyone looking for a good laugh.

Claudia says

Okay, how do I feel about this series?

Dear Becky,

Just quick question; why are you so dumb?

I don't mean to offend you because academically you seem fine, but the general rule of intelligence is to learn from your mistakes.

Have you EVER learned from your mistakes? People around you are aware you're spoiled and shallow and irresponsible but you just can't help yourself can you?

Luke could probably do better, but he obviously loves you and that is truly what is important. I do actually quite like your relationship - except for the secrets! You're aware that you should have an honest, open relationship but it's near impossible for you to manage it! Come on!

However, I do love pregnant you, and I think you'll make great mum. Hopefully you and Luke get out of your economical problems soon because you will need all the money you can get to support both you and Minnie's shopping.

Another thing: Minnie? The name. WHY?

I'm sorry, but I just really detest that name. It's like you're asking for your daughter to be a brat. And she will be.

Now, Becky, you're loved and you love. You have a big heart and you get great ideas sometimes. But please, please try and learn to not get into any messes because I am *this close* to just abandoning you completely.

Love and well wishes,

Claudia

Vicki says

Sometimes I find the shopaholic books hit or miss. This one was a miss for me. I did not like the frivolous way that Becky behaved. I always find her odd and flighty, but this story made me totally confused. I understand the doubts and nerves of gaining baby weight and yet, she takes it to the extreme. I found her to be even more self-absorbed while she should have been focusing on the baby, and Luke.

As I said, a miss. I am not sure I am going to continue with the rest of the books. Maybe it is time to retire the shopaholic and focus on another quirky addiction.

Ruthie says

I had the misfortune of buying this book before a long flight to Europe. Due to a lack of alternative entertainment, I read the book from cover to cover. While the book had some funny excerpts, my extreme dislike for the main character (Becky Brandon) overshadowed any enjoyment garnered from the book.

Rather than being lovable, I found Becky to be irresponsible, annoying and pretentious. For example, after Becky's husband explains that his company is "hemorrhaging money" and asks her to reign in her spending, Becky responds by hiding her purchases from him. How very responsible of her, indeed.

Of course, I realize the book is of the chick lit genre, but it would have been nice to have a modicum of reality intermixed with the fiction.

To me, Becky represents the irresponsible consumerism that has resulted in the current credit crisis, and frankly, I don't find anything laughable about that. Kinsella appears to have mailed in this book, and it's evident that she exercised the same level of brain power as possessed by her heroine in thinking through the plot.

Myrna says

Loved this book. I think it's the best one in the series so far. 4.5 stars!

Irah says

first few pages made me laughed already but as i go later into the story YES....becky has gotten more shallow for some reason;it felt like someting was missing comparing from the previous series.

BUT

i'll admit;she is fab!

"she's a red-hed bitch, and i hate her"...that made me laugh so hard.how sophie kinsella create becky's mind is wonderful!shallow and materialistic but creative and one of a kind.

just a great fun to read it.

some say she's dumb but i find it unique!

come on who have that much drama during labour??

im always a fan of her ,becky;im sure she'll be flattered.

Sally says

In this book, Rebecca and Luke are expecting their first child. Becky has to have everything for the new baby from the best pram down to 400 count crib sheets. Everything is perfect. Luke's job, Becky has the celebrity obstetrician that no one else can get into, a spot in British Vogue. Things couldn't be better. Than her world comes crashing down.

To her utter dismay, she finds out the this new doctor is Luke's ex-girlfriend who turns out to be a royal pain in the butt. She really is, as Becky puts it, a "cow". However, Beck is not about to allow Venetia, the doctor, interfere in her marriage even if it puts Becky in labor.

Then there are problems with Luke's company and Becky's employment as well. But in the end, Becky learns that nothing else matters or is more important than family and friends.

Sophie Kinsella has a way of drawing in the reader and falling in love with her characters. She has a way of touching their hearts but making them laugh out loud.

Morgan says

this was my favorite of the whole series. partly because she doesn't do anything completely ridiculous, and you can see that she is learning and growing and communicating more, even if it's not as much as she should. i seriously love how becky and suze refer to people they don't like as "cows". maybe it's an english thing, but it seems like such a random choice of words. even though all along you know how kind hearted, fun and well meaning becky is, i love how it comes out even more in this book. i am a forever hopeless romantic, so i love the many becky and luke moments in this book, and i LOVE the end. i love that becky has grown and matured, but is still the same old becky who loves to shop, and always will. and i love that she is a mom.

Samantha says

This is the fifth book in the Shopaholic series by Kinsella, and, I'm happy to say, an improvement over the last (Shopaholic & Sister). I don't want to spend a great deal of time catching you up on the whole series (check past blogs or Amazon for details), but in this installment Becky & Luke are pregnant with their first child. Like usual, Kinsella throws us right into it with three little words: "Ok. Don't panic."

Becky's spending habits seem to have toned down as she's gotten older and settled into married life, but even so her shopping gene flares in Pram City and the baby fair and becoming Vogue's number one Yummy Mummy! Then of course there's the major obstacle: the baby's sex! How can she possibly properly shop for the child unless she knows what it's going to be? Solution: get stuff for both!

As per usual, there is some crisis to overcome for Becky (creditors, journalists, Luke's ex's, family, etc.) and this time trouble comes in the form of a redhead obstetrician all the celebrity mummies use (who just happens to be Luke's college girlfriend). It's difficult to tell if something is really going on between Luke and Venetia or not because her hormones are out of whack. Plus Luke can't see how Cruela De Venetia is out to get Becky on a fashion level because he's too busy trying to save his PR company from complete ruin. House hunting, pregnancy, the usual monetary panic, plus the private eye Becky hires have got her frazzled.

This was a fun chick-lit read -- not as great as the first two, but definitely better than the last. I wonder if this will be the last in the series. In my opinion it ought to be, but I wouldn't be surprised to see another somewhere down the road.

Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

That was precious =) ♥

Mel ♥