



# The Dangers of Truffle Hunting

*Sunni Overend*

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## **The Dangers of Truffle Hunting** Sunni Overend

*True desires will be unearthed ...* For readers of Zoe Foster-Blake, Candace Bushnell and *Gourmet Traveller*, a delightful sexy story that spans the Australian wine country, the French provinces and hip bars of Melbourne.

*Is life too short to play it safe?*

Kit Gossard's life is neatly mapped out. A secure photographic job. A partner ready to commit. A wedding in the family vineyard for her mother to preside over. So why the apprehension? Why a hunger for something ... more?

Then someone new appears. Earthy, reserved, magnetic, this new man brings out feelings she has long suppressed, and suddenly Kit can't contain her simmering discontent. Black truffle hunting, illicit pastry lessons, vine fruit on flesh - Kit is seduced. It feels right. Before it all goes wrong.

Artful, sexy, sophisticated, *The Dangers Of Truffle Hunting* explores how a man can be more to a woman than a destination.

## **The Dangers of Truffle Hunting Details**

Date : Published December 19th 2016 by HarperCollins Publishers Australia

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Author : Sunni Overend

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# From Reader Review The Dangers of Truffle Hunting for online ebook

## Summer Land says

This book made me HUNGRY! I wanted to drink good wine, eat amazing food and make sweet love to my hubby. It will take you from wine country in Australia all the way to a France and provide the perfect escape you need. Sunni is an excellent writer and will keep you glued!

I also loved the mother - daughter relationship as well as the main character's issues with marriage. This is an honest and empowering book! Total must read.

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## Bec says

Could not put it down! The perfect book to escape from reality with characters that i feel like i now know and love! Can't wait for this author to give me my next indulgence

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## Rick Liston says

It was staring at me from the coffee table after my wife brought it home. I decided to pick it up and read the blurb. Yarra Valley... photography... truffles... I'll just have a quick flick through.... \*reads entire book\*... what just happened?

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## Kim Carmody says

Sunni Overend has written a fabulous debut novel with *The Dangers of Truffle Hunting*.

Set in the Yarra Valley and taking readers as far as Milan and the French provinces, the various settings provide a rich backdrop for what is an addictive, luxurious read.

Kit Gossard lives a seemingly charmed life, and yet as her wedding edges closer, she can't help but question if the path she's chosen is right for her. While ultimately a love story, I enjoyed following Kit on her journey of self exploration as she questions not just her relationship, but the many facets of her life.

Overend's exploration of all things food, photography and design, coupled with a warm and well developed secondary cast had me devouring the pages and longing for more. Add to this Overend's elegant prose, and *The Dangers of Truffle Hunting* was easily one of my favourite books of 2016.

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## Mia Elizabeth says

My holiday read! I couldn't put it down :-)

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## Sasha says

Kit has the "perfect" job and fiancé on paper. She's silenced her true creative and passionate identity in order to fit in with other people's expectations - namely her critical mother, but learns to be true to her self. I loved the setting, characters and message in this book. The coincidence surrounding Raph's mother worked out a little too neatly in the story to feel realistic, but I can forgive the book that because it was enchanting and lovely. I loved her character, her dad, brother & best friend - in a short book I felt connected to them.

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## Renee says

Raw and real.

Sunni has a beautiful and unique voice. I haven't read anything else quite like this. I loved the contrast of the down to earth sibling relationship with the stilted mother-daughter relationship, then the romance - swoon. The food. The photography. I felt like I was there, seeing it all, and that's a huge thing for me because I struggle to visualise things.

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## Bianca says

I picked this book on a whim when I was at the library.

I read many books set in wineries. The Yarra Valley and Melbourne are the main two locations in this book. The protagonist of this novel is Kit Grossard, thirty, a food photographer, about to get married to Scott Baldwin, an up and coming industrial designer. As a keen photographer myself, I enjoyed the bits about photography.

When at her parents' estate, she runs into the new employee, Raph. I take it he was handsome, under all that manliness, and dirt and sweat. A complete opposite to Kit's pedantic and very metrosexual fiancé. As it's almost always the case in romance books, the dude barely utters two words, because he's *mysterious* and sexy and smouldering, I guess. I get it, when you really don't know someone you can imagine them being the way you want them to. Still, I may be a fool for demanding articulation of thought in order to grasp someone's personality. Especially a character in a novel, where words are all we have.

I've read plenty of romance novels, so I know there's a formula, the guy always gets the girl. So why do I still read them? Because sometimes their journeys to getting together will provide entertainment and give you some feels. Unfortunately, the two protagonists didn't make me feel anything much outside some incredulity and slight annoyance. I didn't buy the story, the coincidences, not to mention that Kit was kind of annoying. I'm sorry to be blunt, but the characters were either undeveloped, cliché and/or cartoonish.

F-bombs abound in this novel. I'm not that bothered, but I did notice them and thought that there was a lot of cussing for a novel. It's trying to be contemporary, modern, *edgy*? so I let it go. But it's a fair assumption that most of us draw the line at the use of the c-word. While I can accept its use in, say, a street brawl description, used within certain echelons of society etc, I find it such a turn off when used to describe a woman's genitalia in a hanky-panky situation, that's supposed to be sexy and all that. I don't understand why the editors, publishers kept it in. The one time use of the c-word wasn't my main grumble. The tedious plot and the lack of chemistry between the protagonists were what made this novel forgettable.

So, in case I haven't made myself clear, despite being in the mood for a lighter, summer read, this novel was a disappointment.

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### **Katie says**

This book grabbed my attention from the get-go. Beautifully written: undoubtedly modern yet a through-back to classic Australian authors such as Miles Franklin, with how the landscapes are described. The characters came to life, the story had twists and turns that I didn't anticipate, and the way the book travelled through different settings was fantastic. Will be reading again!

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### **Jodi says**

...Kit Gossard's life is neatly mapped out. A secure photographic job. A partner ready to commit. A wedding in the family vineyard for her mother to preside over. So why the apprehension? Why a hunger for something... more?...

The Dangers of Truffle Hunting is the debut novel from Australian author Sunni Overend. Before you even read a word, you will fall in love with the gorgeous cover, and the words inside are just as beautiful.

Sunni Overend has delivered a sensual, seductive novel that will have your mouth-watering, and your mind wandering. She delivers descriptions that are vivid, and deliver in all five senses. From the scenes involving delectable food, to picturesque and aromatic scenes of life on a working vineyard, Overend creates Kit's world in living colour right before your eyes. And it doesn't end there.

The characters Overend has created are not only believable, but will have you feeling all the feels. The main protagonist Kit, is at times frustrating and self-absorbed. For many readers that may be a turn off, but Overend has masterfully sculpted Kit's character so that you actually feel for her rather than roll your eyes at her actions. Sometimes it's so bleeding obvious what she should do, (and what she shouldn't!), but as with real life, things are never that simple. The secondary characters - her fiancé Scott, mother Annaliese, brother Marc, and the alluring Raph - have been richly developed and add to the story in the perfect way.

The storyline evolves slowly at first, which some have criticized. But once you pass the half way point, the plot comes thick and fast. Twists and turns you don't see coming, and the scenes at Rosa's French school are exquisite. I devoured the second half of the book in super quick time.

I can't leave this review without mentioning the way Overend uses Kit's job as a photographer throughout the narrative. Previous to reading this book photography wasn't much I thought about. I admire great

photography, and love looking at amazing photos, but had never given much thought to the process, inspiration, and creativity behind the lens. (I am an awful photographer!) But Overend had me totally enthralled with seeing the possibilities through the lens of a camera. The way Kit sees her photos before her with such passion and creativity was just beautiful. If only I had time to take up another hobby!

The Dangers of Truffle Hunting is a provocative, sophisticated read, that will leave you hungry for more.

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## **Genevieve Gannon says**

Disclaimer: I received a free copy of THE DANGERS OF TRUFFLE HUNTING from HarperCollins Australia who also publish my books. This did not effect my review.

THE DANGERS OF TRUFFLE HUNTING is a moreish treat. Sumptuous, seductive and darkly funny, it pulls you in from page one.

Food photographer Kit Gossard - creative, passionate, messy - is preparing to marry her industrial designer fiance Scott Baldwin - precise, focused, orderly - when a trip to her family's winery in the south eastern corner of Australia disrupts her life.

Raph is the new worker Kit's viticulturist father Connor has hired to help with a special project. Capable, masculine and quiet, the dark stranger is as magnetic as he is mysterious. When Kit claps eyes on Raph in his dirtied moleskins, he inspires in her a feverish hunger she cannot contain.

As her desire for Raph simmers, it seems the world around Kit is conspiring to constrain her. Her employer, prim food mag Hamper, is forcing her to comply with their spartan aesthetic. Her critical mother is pressuring her to pick a dress and settle on a wedding date. Kit rages against these attempts to rein-her-in through her art - but soon even that is not enough.

Kit Gossard is a strong, compelling protagonist whose inscrutable exterior is softened by her friendship with the straight-talking Piper and her affection for her rakish brother, Marc. The scenes in which she spars with Piper, Marc, and her mother lend the book a levity and welcome counter-balance to the heady lust that dominates her interaction with Raph.

The narrative crackles with tension but doesn't follow the usual love triangle path. Just when you think you know where Overend is heading she pulls a switch, the scenery changes and a new story begins.

It's tempting to compare Kit to a modern Lady Chatterley, with her rambling family estate and penchant for dalliances in the worker's cottage. In truth, the Dangers of Truffle Hunting is more like Laura Esquivel's Like Water for Chocolate, with food playing a key and evocative role.

For Kit, "food was a subject her lens had long loved," and it seems she has this in common with her author. Overend is never better than when she is describing a meal.

In addition to the gorgeous depictions of food are luxurious locations and spritely, dialogue that is funny and true. Overend's writing luscious and the story is well-paced.

Sensuous and sexy, THE DANGERS OF TRUFFLE HUNTING is a mouth-watering debut.

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**Kerenza says**

Hooked from start to finish! Great characters. And great setting (Yarra valley, Victoria australia everyone should visit!)

I'll be keeping an eye on this author!

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**Cookie The Book Cat says**

I loved every character, every flaw and every word. Two things I took away from this book is 1. To live your life and 2. Live your passion.

This one will make it to my favourites of 2017 list.

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**Elyse says**

Such a lovely and enjoyable book.

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**Steph Eisma says**

Great read. Smashed it out over a few days and a sleepless night. Lots of romance.

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