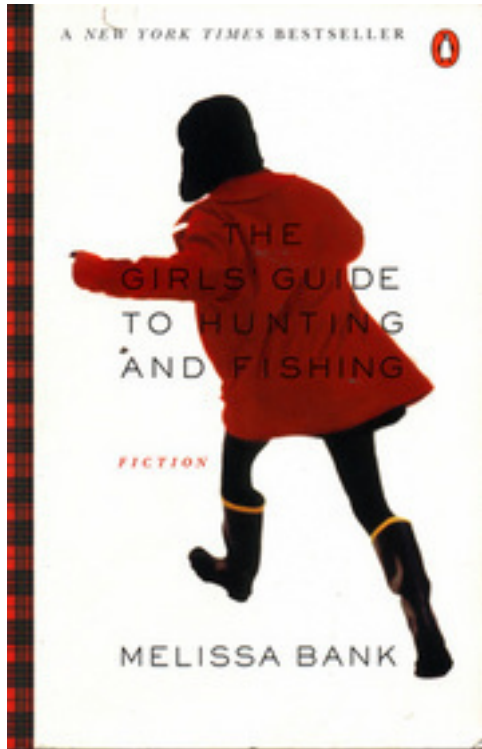

Melissa Bank

The Girls' Guide to Hunting and Fishing



Title: The Girls' Guide to Hunting and Fishing

Author: Melissa Bank

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Description

Hailed by critics as the debut of a major literary voice, *The Girls' Guide to Hunting and Fishing* has captivated readers and dominated bestseller lists. Generous-hearted and wickedly insightful, it maps the progress of Jane Rosenal as she sets out on a personal and spirited expedition through the perilous terrain of sex, love, relationships, and the treacherous waters of the workplace. With an unforgettable comic touch, Bank skillfully teases out universal issues, puts a clever, new spin on the mating dance, and captures in perfect pitch what it's like to be a young woman coming of age in America today.

Insightful reviews

Emily: Sometimes you read the right book at the right time in your life and it just clicks. As a single, independent woman living in the big city, I can relate with Jane's journey to find out who she is and what she wants her life to be. Some reviews I've seen call this novel the first "chick lit" of the new millennium, which is both demeaning and misogynistic, putting a book written by a woman about women in a second-class category. Sure there are stories about dating, but the men are used more to illustrate Jane discovering who she is and what she expects from people in her life.

Bank avoids using the typical tropes of women in media: no "manic pixie dream girl" who is going to fix the male character with her quirkiness. No "strong female lead" who must never make a mistake or feminism is dead. No "straw feminist", an extremist who hates all men. Above all Jane is a person, with her own dreams and desires, who makes mistakes and grows from it. She isn't afraid to speak her mind and fight for her own happiness. This is best shown in the final story, where she tries to follow this awful self-help book to "catch" a husband. The book tells her to put her true self aside and put on an act of "hard to get" so that men can enjoy the chase. She soon learns that this does not make her happy, and doesn't help her get a man that she would actually want. It was so wonderful to see a character go through the struggles than many of us single women face in today's horribly skewed dating world. Women have so many rules that are supposed to follow or else a man will never want them. You're either a whore or a prude, a good future mother and wife or a feminazi lesbian. These dichotomies are perpetuated by both women and men and in the end are hurtful to both. Do we really think so little of men that we assume they can't handle a complex, multi-faceted woman? And do men really think that they don't want that? Jane goes through stages of trying to fit herself into other's worlds but in the end her strong personality and fabulously sharp sense of humor allow her to walk away from relationships that don't make her happy and fight for ones that do. That's the definition of a true "strong woman".

Clara: I'll fustigate a structurally fantastic novel because its central theme is presented in an unbearably banal mode: *The Girls' Guide* embraces a worthy theme but devolves into national geographic narrative, rendering the text completely (in my opinion) degrading. The easy to follow jumps in time are clever and enthralling. However, if you want to address the dilemmas of modern, urban single women astutely, don't end the text with "We are just two mayflies mating on a summer night." Seriously. Don't.

Karen Dmytrasz: Based on the title, I thought that this novel would have some feminist themes, encouraging women to do things that normally men do, but instead this was a book about a series of romantic affairs, none of which were particularly engaging, memorable or unique.

After realizing that the book was about relationships, at a minimum, I had hoped Ms. Bank would shed some new light on the woman's struggle to find a male partner in modern America...Instead, I found her writing to be caddy and her plot to be shallow and somewhat reflective of a soap-opera. The first chapter was enticing, but afterwards I found the protagonist's decisions and reflections to be vexingly childish. The main character does not seem to undergo any emotional transformation or intellectual growth.

Furthermore, the novel lacked continuity, it seemed disorganized and left holes in the plot. Not a terribly satisfying read. Nonetheless I had to finish the book to find out who the protagonist ultimately ends up with.

Rachel Miller: this can be the 1st ebook i have learn in decades the place i needed to reread it once it ended. i'll nonetheless do that.

Staci: This e-book drove me crazy. such a lot of of my neighbors enjoyed it and insisted I learn it. I hated it. i assumed i used to be lacking something, so I learn it again. nonetheless hated it. Ugh.

Jessica: i could not think the disconnect among the studies of this ebook and its content. the recent Yorker truly compares it to Bridget Jones, because, you know, all books written through ladies with a feminine protagonist in her 20s are the same. i presumed this learn like severe literary fiction. If a man had written this book, he'd be known as the following Salinger. If an older lady had written this booklet her identify will be Abigail Thomas and it might be a memoir titled Safekeeping . To be fair, I picked this up at a thrift shop whereas on holiday and given the chick-litty visual appeal of it I had low expectations. by means of the 1st few pages, i noticed this was once unlikely to be a few foolish relationship stories. This used to be serious. strong serious. The basically cause i am not giving it five stars is due to the weird placement of the tale titled "The very best Light." I bought all excited to leap into the long run with future-Jane. Then it seems this can be a tale from the first-person viewpoint of a once-mentioned neighbor. That'd be superb if it ever occurred back within the collection, however it doesn't, that's weird. I belief that financial institution is so clever she had a reason behind it, yet I sought for meta-clues within the textual content and could not locate any. Anyways, it did not matter. This booklet used to be serious, lovely, fantastically written, and humorous and that i desire sometime it will get one other shot with the critics.

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