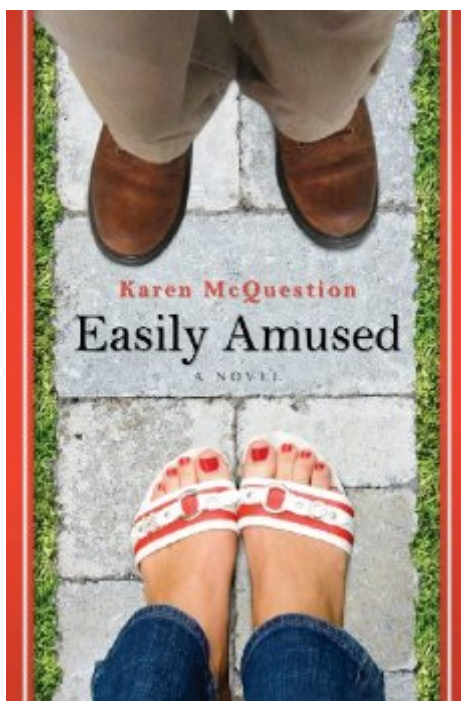


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Easily Amused



Synopsis

When twenty-nine-year-old Lola Watson unexpectedly inherits a rambling house in the suburbs, she thinks it just may be the cherry on a banner year. After all, she's happily single, with fabulous friends and her dream job working at a popular magazine. Life is perfect—until her new neighbors make her their new "project," a heartbroken high school friend crashes indefinitely at her house, and her younger sister announces she's getting married on Lola's thirtieth birthday. Suddenly Lola's not so keen on her newfound domestic bliss. But when she meets handsome, mysterious Ryan Moriarty, Lola dares to hope she's found the perfect guy to one-up her sister and add a little spice back into her life. This light-hearted romantic comedy from Karen McQuestion is headlined by a charming cast of characters, led by the self-deprecatingly funny Lola. Breezy and fun, *Easily Amused* serves as a gentle, often amusing reminder that love can often be found in the place we least expect—under our very noses.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Easily Amused" has all the basic ingredients of a good chick lit/light romance hybrid: the likeable single woman who's ready to meet someone special; two men (sort of) vying for her affection; a

caring best friend; some nosey neighbors; and a troublemaking little sister. The writing is also smooth and engaging, and there are some good lines, although I'm not in agreement with those who thought this book was uproarious. It's cute, but some of the humor is cliched, and it's more subtle than hysterical. The problem for me was poor plotting. The first third of the book meanders from scene to scene, with no clear sense of the actual story. It's fun at first--the excerpt does leave one wanting more. But after several more pages, I couldn't help but think: "Is there a point to any of this?" We meet Lola (yes, the requisite Barry Manilow reference does happen), who has an interesting sounding job and annoying co-workers, but that part of the story goes nowhere. Then we have her best female friend, Piper, who's annoying Lola with her obsession with her baby boy, but that never really goes anywhere, either. Finally, we have Hubert, her best male friend, who's devastated over being dumped by his hateful sounding girlfriend, Kelly. He's mopey and pathetic in the beginning, and essentially moves in with Lola. From there, the story morphs into a pseudo triangle with Ryan, Lola's mysterious neighbor, on one side, and Hubert, who shifts from heartbreak over Kelly to wanting to marry Lola in a totally unbelievable instant. In fact, considering where the novel ends up, I don't understand why the author crafted the first part of the story the way she did.

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