



Happy Birthday

Christina Jones

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Phoebe is a big believer in astrology. But however much she loves reading the stars, she just can't seem to get her life on track and this week is no exception. First she's jilted at the altar by Ben. Then, sitting alone and forlorn in her home in Hazy Hassocks, she discovers that the flat above is owned by an ex-convict!

Happy Birthday Details

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From Reader Review Happy Birthday for online ebook

Bronwyn Rykert says

This was a lovely story and I quite enjoyed it,

Phoebe Bowler has planned her wedding down to the last, using her belief in astrology and the cards to help her planning. She turns up on her wedding day to find that her fiance Ben, her boyfriend of 15 years has stood her up. It gets worse though, she finds that he had been planning this for awhile when she finds out that the rent on their flat has been paid for the next few months. This of course upsets Phoebe even more.

Her upstairs neighbour Mindy is moving out too, leaving her boyfriend Rocky to his own devices. Phoebe is not happy when Rocky tells her he has been in jail and she thinks the worse.

Phoebe finds she needs some extra money to help with her bills so she finds work at Twighlights, a nursing home where she does some hair dressing and then she starts telling fortunes. Here she meets Essie Rivers and through Essie she gets the full story on Rocky.

Essie has been getting into a lot of trouble at the nursing home for all sorts of things but especially when she uses her Happy Birdthday formula on couples who are meant to be.

It was all a bit of fun.

Karen Caruana says

Someone referred this book and I am so happy that I read it.. Christina Jones is now one of my favourites authors.. I will read all books by her.. Such a great story..

Aileen says

This book was a good book, it was funny, it had good characters very easy to follow, I would recommend this book.

Helen Kl says

Thoroughly enjoyed this book. As it says on the cover "A magical romantic comedy"

Swati says

Predictable yet warm, well written, loaded with sparkles and magic and joy!! Perfect happy-ending kinds book! Loved it!!

Nell says

A really fun enjoyable read. Would have been five stars but there were just a few too many mad characters with odd names for me. Well written and a lovely read.

Christina says

Arme Phoebe. Nach 15 Jahren Beziehung kommt sie im schicken weißen Kleid zur Kirche gefahren, wo ihre beste Freundin auf sie wartet, um ihr zu sagen, dass Ben – der Verlobte – nicht da ist und auch nicht kommen wird. Für Phoebe bricht eine Welt zusammen, sie zieht zu ihren Eltern, nimmt Urlaub auf der Arbeit (naja, den hatte sie ja eh, weil Honeymoon) und heult sich die Augen aus dem Kopf. Als sie nach 3 Wochen in die gemeinsame Wohnung kommt, hat Ben alle seine Sachen bereits ausgeräumt, sich aber immer noch nicht bei ihr gemeldet. Die Hausverwaltung teilt ihr mit, dass er den gemeinsamen Mietvertrag schon rechtzeitig vorher auf ihren Namen hat umschreiben lassen. Anscheinend hat er es geplant.

Nach langem hin und her beschließt sie, in der Wohnung zu bleiben, doch dann kommt der Nachbar Rocky nach langer Abwesenheit zurück und Phoebe erfährt, dass er im Gefängnis war.

Um die Miete allein aufzubringen zu können, nimmt Phoebe als Friseurin Abendtermine im örtlichen Altersheim an und bessert sich so ihr Gehalt auf. Sie fängt außerdem an, dort Tarotkarten zu legen und Horoskope zu erstellen und was die Astrologie sonst noch so bietet. Darauf lernt sie Essie kennen (nicht beim Haare machen, wie amazon schreibt). Essie, die Roma-Vorfahren hat und über ein sensationelles astrologisches Wissen verfügt, inklusive des Geburtstagszaubers mit dem man Paare für immer zusammen führen kann.

Die Idee ist ja eigentlich ganz super, die Umsetzung irgendwie nicht. Es ist alles zu perfekt, zu passend und manchmal auch einfach nur an den Haaren herbei gezogen.

In diesem Buch gab es erstaunlich viele Stellen, an denen ich gedacht habe „wie unlogisch ist das jetzt?“ oder „hier müsste man mal nen Kommentar mitm Bleistift dranschreiben und das Buch weitergeben“. Wenn jemand Interesse hat, ich bin gern bereit, das Buch vollzukritzeln und weiterzugeben...

Amanda says

This was one of the many books that were dumped into a plastic container to be used as recycled paper. I couldn't believe my luck that day and also was dismayed that people had thrown these paperbacks away instead of passing them on to other readers.

Anyway it was good fortune to me as I was able to take some of them. This was the first time I have ever read anything by Christina although I have seen her books before. I really enjoyed the story and predicted quite early on in the story what would happen. As I read the story and introduced to the characters slowly one by one I found it was like another author's writing that I had also enjoyed, Debbie Macomber.

Will definitely be reading Christina's books again.

The Book Whisperer (aka Boof) says

I just loved this book. It is my first ever Christina Jones and I picked it up from a bargain bin thinking that it looked fun. I was not disappointed. I have spent the whole day reading it outside in the sizzling hot sun - just perfect.

I understand that a lot of the characters have been introduced in previous books and that they are all set in cute little Berkshire villages with funny names so now I know this I can't wait to dive into the others. This story centres on Phoebe, a list-making, highly-organized, horoscope reading hairdresser who turned up for her immaculately planned wedding to discover that the groom hasn't. As Phoebe tries to come to terms with what's happened and carry on alone, she has to put up with the return of Rocky, her noisy, bad-tempered neighbour as well. Then she meets Essie, a glamorous pensioner who dabbles in something called Happy Birthday magic and that's when things take a turn...

What a wonderful, magical read. I adored all the characters and there is such humour and comedy moments that I laughed out loud in places. Loved, loved, loved it.

Karen Mace says

Light and easy to read. Likeable characters made for an enjoyable read. really enjoy this author

Tasneem says

Jones seems to have really created a wonderful quiet English village in these books that marry magic and romance. This story has a lovely cast of characters. I especially love how she makes her stories revolve around both young and old characters. Rory the hero is scrumptious too.

Alison Sims says

Christina Jones is a marvel in magical realism. This is another page Turner by her read in a matter of days. All her characters have a comedic edge to them. This writer really knows how to cheer me up. Shame her books don't go to print anymore.

Fluffychick says

Another light, fluffy, magical read! Does exactly what the blurb says...a lovely way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

Moon Love says

Another magical gem from Christina Jones. I loved reading of the romance between Essie and Slo. I never thought I'd see the day where one of the Motions cousins broke the status quo. If that doesn't intrigue you, then I don't know what will!

Polly says

Fluffy and predictable.
