



The Matzo Ball Heiress

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The Matzo Ball Heiress Details

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Author : Laurie Gwen Shapiro

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From Reader Review The Matzo Ball Heiress for online ebook

Katie M. says

Okay, I'm not sure I can quite legitimately claim this one was recommended by Rebecca... more like she mailed it to me with a post-it note that read "terrible, but amazingly so!" And since I do whatever Rebecca tells me to do, and I can also be convinced to summon up at least a vague interest in pretty much anything involving Jews in New York, I read it. And totally enjoyed it. It's pretty absurd, but no one reads chicklit expecting anything less. And it turned out to be marginally less fluffy than I expected (which was actually to its detriment; it occasionally lapsed into taking itself too seriously to be much fun). The writing was decent and the protagonist's dad is gay. What's not to like?

Lynne says

Read it a while ago, don't remember too much about it so three stars.

Antof9 says

I'll admit it; I loved this book! I'm turning into a chick lit fan :)

Laurie Gwen Shapiro is one of those authors who writes characters I can actually see in my mind's eye, or I have actually known. So many of the scenes (believable or not) were easy to imagine, because she has such a great "descriptive gene".

I could have done without the mini-sex scene early on in the book, but did find it fascinating that there wasn't a sex scene at all with the hero/guy-we-were-cheering for. Intentional? Because their love was real? Too special to taint by letting us in on it? Maybe I'm reading too much into it, but I kind of liked that.

I loved the New Yorkiness of this story. Having worked with NY/NJ people and telecommuted back and forth for the last 8 or so years, I have a soft spot in my heart for any story set "in the city". And of course, I couldn't help but chuckle when Heather talks about standing "on line". This is such an east coast expression, and always makes me want to ask -- was there really a line to stand on? :)

I agree with the friend who sent this to me -- that this is very like Good in Bed, but I think I liked this a little better. Maybe 'cause it was just a little less angst-filled, and a little lighter-hearted.

There were many fun parts in this book, and I could go on and on quoting and citing things I liked. But I'm going to leave some treasures for the rest of the ring members :)

george says

Heiress to the most well-known matzo brand, Heather Greenblotz is everything you wouldn't expect: she

doesn't go to synagogue, she doesn't read Hebrew, and she is not certainly NOT kosher. Heather's dirty little secret isn't that big of a deal until the uber-cute producer at the Food Channel wants to do a live broadcast of the famous family's seder. The seder that doesn't exist. Suddenly Heather's having to pull together her far-flung family and start hiding their massive secrets. Not to mention having to choose between two very attractive men...

Cute. Typical chick-lit, but it was a fun read.

Diana Santoso says

I want to like this book, the premise was interesting but upon reading it, I find everything in it to be so contradictory. She said it's a big secret that her family, the Matzo Ball Biggest Maker in America isn't kosher but she blabbed/revealed about that fact to everyone that she has just met for only 5 seconds, including someone that can clearly be seen as very unreliable like her intern, Roswell. Second she said over and over again she's a heiress but she mentions about buying from a sample sale or stores that targets mid-to-low finance condition. Third, she makes as if she's depressed all the time, need to go to the psychiatrist, etc, but appears normal all the time. Also the book contains too much digression from the main plot / thing that is happening. The scene in the restaurant with Jared and Sarah for one, or the Amsterdam scene. All in all, a wasted good premise :(

Debbie says

Very entertaining story about the heirs of a matzo ball kingdom whose family life is severely dysfunctional. Yet, in order to boost their failing business, they must act like a normal Jewish family at their seder, televised live. The book's full of interesting characters from the best friend, the Egyptian diplomat, the gay father, the shopoholic mother, and the eccentric therapist. Not quite as good as *The Anglophile*, in my opinion, but still superior to most of the chick-lit out there.

Donna says

My sister gave me this to read - I doubt I would have picked it up otherwise - and I was surprised at how much I enjoyed it. Several pages in I found myself googling "matzo" and "seder" though - maybe I'm slow but I didn't seem to be completely understanding what they were from the context, only generally, and I'm a bit of a freak about exactness. I knew what matzo ball soup was, but not just "matzo."

Heather is a Jewish woman, heir and sometimes participant to the world's largest kosher matzo factory. She and her family, however, are not kosher, don't go to temple, speak Hebrew, or know Judaic rituals. When Food Channel wants to do a live show of her family's "seder" dinner during Passover they really have to scramble. To fill out the "family" they include their employee Bertie, in the role of grandmother, a friend and her boyfriend, who happens to be the UN rep for Egypt (!), and a cousin's girlfriend who's last name is far, far from Jewish, among others.

We join Heather through the joys and trials of love and family, so even those who are not Jewish can easily relate. I enjoyed learning more about Jewish traditions.

I like the author's writing style, but for some reason she found it necessary to use the "f" word on occasion, and it felt like a very solid slap every time. Sort of like being at a petting zoo and suddenly being confronted by a lion.

Carlee says

The Matzo Ball Heiress is a great chick-lit book that is not only a good read, but also informative. Okay, so the protagonist does spend a considerable amount of time whining about how tough it is being from a rich, dysfunctional family but she is more educated and sympathetic than many chick-lit characters.

The author includes plenty of tidbits about Judaism which I found interesting and relevant to the story. I also liked the behind-the-scenes look into making documentaries and television shows. The ending, though, is a bit forced. Everything is all tidied up and decorated with a bow- too improbably for my taste. The last chapter seems like an afterthought and serves no purpose.

Ariella says

This is a light book, a fast read, and is great fun. Brings out the Passover family spirit, and there's some romance too. Goes to show that no matter how much money someone has, it doesn't mean they're happy; and it's written in a way that makes me smile.

Joni says

Heather Greenblotz has the life that many people would envy. She is an heiress to one of the largest food companies in New York City, Greenbolz Matzo. She is extremely wealthy. She is a documentary film maker with a few Emmy awards to show for her brilliant work. However, when the Food Channel decides to produce a special on her family's Passover seder—suddenly, her world comes falling down. Heather's family is as disjointed and dysfunctional as they come and they have not celebrated Passover since Heather can remember. With the help of Jared, a camera she met from the Food Channel, Heather is suddenly on a mad dash to find her gay father in Amsterdam, get her mother to cancel her yearly scuba driving trip, and gather the rest of the crazy family to pull off a Passover in front of millions of viewers.

Do you have a crazy family? Well, join the club...so does everyone else in the world—this novel proves it! The novel is a quick read about the craziness of family, the difficulties of finding love, the struggles of being rich, and how to keep it all together when it feels like everything is falling apart. It is a humorous look at life and family. It is a quick read and enjoyable to the last drop matzo ball soup.

Dana says

Surprisingly, this was very cute. Home with a bad cold, I wanted something light - didn't expect to quickly finish it and find it as enjoyable as I did. It's VERY heavy on the Judaism - the language, the cultural references, the humor.... may not be as easily enjoyed by someone less familiar with it all.

Amy says

Honestly, I was lured by the chartreuse- cutesy cover & witty title. The wit, characters, modern allusions, & plot of this comedy make for an entertaining read. I suspect it would translate well into a screenplay for a modern romantic comedy starring a team the likes of Ryan & Hanks. -- Definitely a light read suitable for summer lounging.

Sue says

I was pleasantly surprised. I thought I'd picked up a romance book by accident or something but it had more depth than i expected. Now it's no War & Peace and it is a bit light weight easy read but it was also enjoyable and I liked the characters. Good story, actually more plausible than one might think, and has some good humor.

Perkimom says

How much fun to find Jewish chick-lit! Matzo ball soup, dysfunctional Jewish family, gay characters, and Jews in all their different chosen traditions. I'd like to spend one of my Passover seders with this crowd (though on the second night...can't miss my favorite holiday with my family on the 1st!)

Jojo says

This book was kind of super cute!

I liked that Heather didn't annoy me to no end like the majority of chick lit heroines do. She was fun! And even though she was pretending to be something she was not - a chick lit plot that is also usually annoying - it was different in this case because it wasn't some ridiculous scheme she had come up with herself. It wasn't her idea! It was for the good of the family business! The whole family was in on it! Oh, and I really liked that the love interest knew her secret not because he figured it out on his own (only revealing that he knew all along at the end, like a dude in another book would have done), but because she behaved like a normal person who really likes someone and just told him.

And the supporting characters were all fantastic.

It was fun! I liked it!
