



Upside Down, Inside Out

Monica McInerney

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Eva is off to Australia, hoping to forget a fizzled romance and find inspiration for a new career. Joseph is taking a vacation from his stressful London job. Each is on a search for some answers about life. Then something unexpected happens: They meet each other.

Upside Down, Inside Out Details

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Author : Monica McInerney

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From Reader Review Upside Down, Inside Out for online ebook

Karen says

Format: Audiobook

This book was one of those stories where a character tells a small lie at the beginning and then can't get themselves to tell the truth for the life of them for the rest of the story. That in itself can get a bit frustrating. However, the story handles it pretty well. It has a pretty good pace and I like how the characters aren't obsessed about love and sex 100% of the time like in other romance novels. They have other real problems.

One annoying part that stands out in my mind is the part where the male MC decides to surprise the female MC with a train ride at the end. It was a bit much. At that point I was just like ok get on with it! Overall cute story that didn't make me hate its guts. Wouldn't really recommend it though.

Sarah says

Fairly predictable romantic comedy of errors. At times I grew exasperated at the continual obstacles that always seemed to pop up at the worst times. Nonetheless, the book really redeemed itself with an ending that made me smile. In typical MnInerny stly there is plenty of bouncing back and firth between England, Ireland, and Australia.

Butterfly2507 says

Wurde von mir nach 50 Seiten abgebrochen. Konnte mit dem Schreibstil einfach nichts anfangen. Der Humor ist leider auch nicht so meins. Schade.

Tiffeny says

I want to give this book 3.5 stars, but I just can't give it 4. I thought it was entertaining, charming, and delightful for most of the book.

SPOILER ALERT:

By the end though all I could think was, "Tell each other already!!" I because convinced that if I had to hear, "he should tell her. . . ." or "as soon as she saw him again she was going to tell him!!" one more time I was going to scream. Fun story, but enough already. For that reason I was thankful to come to the end of the book.

One huge plus for me is that there was little or no bad language at all. How refreshing!

Suzanne says

Another lovely read from the talented *Monica McInerney*. A perfect holiday read, as always it is a choice of mine to read authors such as this on holidays. Romance, wine and coffee; Australia, Ireland and family dynamics are the themes in this contemporary romance.

I have met this author, she really is great. Lots of fun, love, romance and the odd cad makes this easy reading. Everyone from Ireland always seem to be so nice in her books. Fans will love this one!

Mel says

Thank goodness that one is over. I picked it because it seemed light and non-offensive.

But everyone in it was just a little bit dull.

And the two main characters were hiding the truth from each other - and I think the author could probably have saved about 5 chapters if she cut all that 'I will tell him/her next time' bullshit.

This book reminded me why I usually hate rom com.

Irina Kr says

Nice, lovely, light. Good for holidays, for travelings.

It's lovely good story

Sara says

A cute, fun, and easy read - perfect for summer. Shopkeeper Eva leaves her native Ireland for a vacation visiting a friend in Australia, where she meets Englishman Joseph, who's a successful designer on a work-related vacation. Sparks fly (of course) and they fall for each other. The only problem is, due to some misunderstandings (and some lies Eva and her friend had made up to fool another person), Eva believes Joseph is a backpacker staying in hostels and working his way around Australia, and Joseph believes Eva is named Niamh and is a singer and artist who lives in a caravan in Galway.

The narration skips around between points of view, so the reader knows exactly what's going on, even as the characters do not, but it's not jarring to go back and forth. The writing is simple and breezy, and I thought the story got more interesting as the book went on, which is always nice. I did get a little frustrated near the end, where Eva and Joseph seemed to continually miss each other's attempts at contact, but otherwise it flowed smoothly. Lighthearted and fun are good words to describe it overall, and it made me want to visit Australia and Ireland. It was also predictable, but I still thought it was cute.

One complaint though: On the cover, there's a blonde woman getting her red dress stuck in a car door on the

cover. In the book, the main character had *black* hair and never got caught in a car door. So who is this woman on the cover?? That really bothered me. It's like they used a stock image that completely didn't relate to the book's content!

The Cats Mother says

I very rarely read chick lit or romance novels any more, but having overdosed on psychological thrillers recently, was urgently in need of something fluffy with no cruelty, murder or missing children. This was the most lightweight option on my book club pile, and I've read a few by this author before, so knew it would fit the bill. It was written in 2002 so some aspects were a bit dated, but 5at didn't spoil my enjoyment of it.

30 something Eva works in her uncle's cafe in Dublin but dreams of feeling less ordinary so when she is offered the chance to visit her best friend in Melbourne she takes it. Joseph owns an industrial design company and travels to Oz for a conference. For various complicated reasons, they each pretend to be someone else, fall in love, there are the usual misunderstandings and mishaps delaying the inevitable path to true love. Each obstacle is so well signalled that the plot is entirely predictable, but charming nonetheless.

I liked this better than your average romance because of the characters. While the neurotic self deprecating Singleton is standard chick lit, Eva does at least have insight into her problems, although the woman doesn't like cats - major character flaw - and Joseph is thoughtful, kind and humble - I can't stand the standard arrogant macho males in most romance novels. For two supposedly smart people they make a lot of silly mistakes, but the comedy of errors style plot kinda relies on this. It had a happy ending, nobody was abused, and no animals were harmed (apart from poor Rex losing his bits and being locked in a bathroom...)

The descriptions of Australia made me want to jump on a plane (I sometimes wonder if Ms McInerney is sponsored by the Australian Tourist Board, although the way she presents all her Australian characters as complete nobs, maybe not!)

Sharon says

Eva Kennedy decides to take a break from her job in Dublin as a delicatessen and goes to visit her friend Lainey in Australia. Whilst she is there Eva is hoping to forget about her failed relationship she had with Dermot. For a bit of fun Lainey ends up creating a new identity for Eva whilst she is on holidays which is fun until Eva wants to tell people who she really is and never seems to find the right time.

Joseph Wheeler has a rather stressful job in London and feels the need for a holiday so he heads to Australia. Whilst in Australia, Joseph attends a party where he bumps into Eva. After chatting to Joseph for a short time, Eva assumes that Joseph is a backpacker travelling around Australia and he goes along with it. They want to tell one another who they really are, but there never seems to be a good time. Will they eventually find out the truth about one another?

This was a light and enjoyable read, but I felt it dragged on a bit too much for me in parts. Although in saying that it is still worth a read especially if you're a fan of Monica McInerney like I am.

Gillian says

An easy read. Coincidences do happen and a happy ending is guaranteed. I always enjoy McInerney's combination of Australia and Ireland.

Kerrie Paterson says

A nice light "comedy of errors" style romantic comedy. I didn't think this was Monica McInerney's best, but given it was written 8 years ago, her writing has obviously gotten stronger over the years. An enjoyable read.

Letizia says

Overall, I give this book a 1 star for many reasons.

- 1) I saw it at a thrift store, bought it for a few cents, hoping to be a great book according to the book description.
- 2) Nevertheless, I still remember how I felt when I bought it: doubtful. I did not pay attention to my sixth sense saying "do not buy it, it is boring"; but I did it anyways, I just wanted to give a shot to a type of literature I don't normally read.
- 3) I tried to read it for the first time in 2014, but the first few pages did not keep my attention. I put it back in the bookshelf to give it a shot a second time later. I picked it up again until March 2017!!
- 4) AGAIN, the first few pages did not appeal me, but I wanted so bad to give it a shot before saying I did not like it. And so I did, HALF-BIG mistake.
- 5) The only reason I give 1 star is because it gave me a few spots to visit when I go to Australia, and my English vocabulary expanded by learning a few words here and there (half a star). Another reason is because this time I sort of identified with the main character who needed to take a time off from work to analyze a big decision (half a star). Total points 1.
- 6) But overall, I did not like the sequence of the story. Various chapters were detailed and boring. Sometimes I could not find the point of each chapter and where it lead me.
- 7) It is really disappointing that I could not learn more of this book, or at least enjoy it a bit more. I wouldn't recommend it. The genre seems to be romantic, drama, comedy. At least I gave it a shot, hopefully others do enjoy it.

Thanks for reading!

Jan Q says

Absolutely loved it. The only bad thing about Monica McInerney's books is that they end & you want them to go on & on.

Tiia says

Book was nice enough chick lit, not very surprising or exciting. Personally I liked that it was based on Melbourne and Dublin. Brought me lot of memories from both cities. And yes I was curious how the love story might evolve, there was no doubt it wouldn't.

Ella says

Formulaic dross. Read every fifth page and it'll be over quicker without missing any plot.

Jessica says

Like Australia's Cathy Kelly. An enjoyable though somewhat vanilla read.

Tutulu says

This book is absolutely brilliant! It warmed my heart and what really made me smile was how the every day colloquial Australian slang hand in hand with our culture was perceived through Eva and Joseph's eyes. McInerney's humour also caught me off guard and was quite a laugh as she brought to life Eva Kennedy's thoughts on paper. The subtle intertwining of Eva and Joe's lives, initially just a brush by at Heathrow airport, which gradually built up their eventual meeting at a party held in Brighton, was what I loved most about this author's distinct way with words. Having lived in Melbourne majority of my life, the dishwasher's poetic description of the city was beautifully written and validated the on-point goings on from St. Kilda to Richmond to Phillip Island. I thoroughly enjoyed reading of these places and having the knowledge of knowing exactly what McInerney was depicting. Add a myriad of lovable characters (sans Greg), Upside Down, Inside Out is now a favourite of mine and Monica McInerney a favourite author, too.

Devi says

honestly, i find it a bit "refreshing" to be reading romantic novels again. haha. and this one is definitely one of them. the book has the formula of a romantic novel but what i like most about the book is not the love story, but somehow it made me reflect a bit about my life in general. in the middle of reading this book, someone made a remark about "missing half of our life.." (i wish i could tell you the whole story about it but i do not think its a wise idea.) and somehow, i connected the story of this book to the remark. like the character eva, i was made to pause and think, do i feel i'm in a rut? right now, my life is home-work-home routine and a few hours of me-time or time with friends.

check out the book if you are looking for a light read in fiction. but i definitely find the book entertaining.

Lindsey says

Ugh.... this book was so boring to me. I kept reading... hoping that it would pick up, but it never did. Even the ending bored me. I also didn't really love many of the characters. Eva's inner-dialogue drove me mad and their reasonings for carrying on lies were pretty lame, in my opinion. The story never grabbed me and I had to force myself to continue reading. When I finished I found myself wishing I'd spent the time taking a nap instead...
