

A Christmas Date

Camilla Isley

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No one wants to be single at the holidays.

Even Little Miss Grinch, Nikki, a successful and independent woman, must face her bachelorette status at the most horrible time of the year.

December is her personal version of holly-jolly hell: a merry torture made of couples kissing at every corner, forced vacation days, and an inescapable family reunion.

And when her baby sister announces she's engaged—to Paul, the man Nikki is secretly in love with—and that he's spending the holidays with them, Christmas starts looking bluer than ever.

Nikki can't possibly survive an entire week trapped home as the family's spinster. But she has no time to meet men or to try the newest dating app, she's too busy working as a video producer for an advertising agency.

So what's a girl to do?

Nikki has the perfect solution: **to hire a fake boyfriend.**

Luckily, her job gives her access to an endless catalog of gorgeous actors to choose from.

But Nikki will soon discover that keeping business and pleasure from mixing isn't so easy, and that she might not be immune to a little mistletoe magic. Especially not when she picked out the perfect man as her Christmas date...

A fun, festive romantic comedy with lots of bad behavior and Christmas spirit. Like a creamy hot chocolate with marshmallows, you won't want to put this deliciously hilarious novel down. Perfect for fans of Sophie Kinsella, Sally Thorne, and Jo Watson.

First Comes Love is a series of interconnected romantic novels. However, each book in the series can be read as a standalone.

A Christmas Date Details

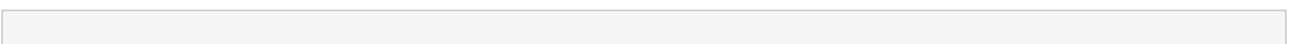
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From Reader Review A Christmas Date for online ebook

Finitha Jose says

If you are thinking what I think, then you guessed it right. This is the textual Christmas version of 'The Wedding Date', but far better than the original book 'Asking for Trouble' of which the movie is based. So we could pretty much see the story through the blurb itself, but that won't deter the reading pleasure a bit. After all, this is a different setting, different girl and if you can visualise someone better looking than Dermot Mulroney, well, then we have a too good to be true hero in our hands.

This is the third in the 'First Comes Love' series but can be read as a standalone. Filled with festive spirit, family moments and siblings rivalry, the book makes an unforgettable read which will warm you like a sweet cup of hot chocolate. Nikki and Diego make a charming couple and their love story is as exciting and intriguing as their respective personalities. Within no time, we get attached to both of them and the impact of the fake date arrangement on Jules was priceless. I enjoyed every twist and turn of the plot and the ending was really fitting to a Christmas story. Highly recommended !!!

D.M. says

So so good! I'm feeling the Christmas spirit in November and this is not like me. Camilla Isley won me over and I'm totally in love with my new book boyfriend Diego (Mr Perfect).

I'm a fan of fake relationships and this one is perfectly executed. Nikki is very successful in her career. She is not very lucky when it comes to love. In fact, her sister is dating the man of her dreams and Nikki just wants to get through the holidays unscathed. In the run-up to Christmas Nikki tries to avoid long conversations with her family in the hope of not being roped into too many unpleasant memories. Unfortunately this year her sister is about to spring the ultimate unbearable news. Paul is coming home for Christmas with her and they are getting married. Nikki wants to make it through the holidays without all the synthetic family members wondering when she's going to settle down. After the idea is given to her she decides to get herself a little Christmas present. A man for Christmas.

Diego O'Donnell is a struggling actor picked right out of a catalogue. He's tall, dark and half Italian. He has green smouldering eyes and a badass bike. He's Nikki's sister's dream man and perfect for the job. Little does Nikki know he is also sweet, caring and a beautiful person.

A Christmas date is fun, festive and loveable. I was hooked on every minute. Yes, it's cliché and maybe Diego is too perfect for the real world but isn't that what Christmas is all about? This is the perfect heartwarming Christmas read and I loved it. I will definitely be looking at this author's other books. I think I've just become a new fan. Fingers crossed.

5 out of 5. It's great.

*I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review via NetGalley.

Tasha and Megan Mahoney says

Beautifully written with wit, humour, romance and festive high jinx. A Christmas Date was a real festive treat that I enjoyed from page one. (The parent guilt trip! – Yep, been there!) To the wonderful ending.

I guess that this is a festive trope that will never grow old for me and I love new twists on it. What I got here was a refreshingly funny – I mean really funny- tale. The stressful family Christmas situation, the embarrassment and the arguments that end up being less awful than was expected. This one added so much more Christmas sparkle with the laugh out loud moments and festive warm fuzzies!

I am smiling and full of festive spirit

Thank you to Rachel's Random Resources and Camilla Isley for providing me with a review copy of A Christmas Date in exchange for my honest review.

Heidi says

Four stars: A funny holiday tale with some hilarious developments.

Nikki hates the holiday season, especially since a trip home is looming over her head. She keeps trying to avoid her mother and sister, but then her sister, Julia, shows up wanting to take her to lunch. Things go from bad to the worst when Julia brings Paul, Nikki's best friend from college, whom she has been crushing on for years. Over lunch, Julia and Paul announce their engagement. The prospect of the holidays just got a whole lot unmerrier as Nikki grapples with the thought of returning home as a spinster and having to watch Julia and Paul together. Desperate, Nikki does something bold and brazen, she hires a boyfriend for the holidays. Diego is smoking hot and he has all the characteristics that Julia longs for in a boyfriend. Will Nikki pull off her fake boyfriend scheme?

What I Liked:

*The Christmas Date ended up being a delightful holiday read. I admit, it started off a bit rocky as I wasn't a fan of prickly Nikki, but thankfully I stuck with it and was rewarded. This book is hilarious. It has fun characters, a charming romance and some family brawling. This one made me giggle.

*Nikki starts out as a holiday grinch. She has no patience for her mother and sister and she is sick of being single. I wasn't a big fan of her in the beginning, especially in the way she treated her mom. Thankfully, I warmed up to her character. What I did like about her was her insecurity and her vulnerable side. She is complicated, but as the book goes on I warmed up to her as I saw her grapple with her insecurities. She truly transforms by the end of the book. I loved her at the end.

*Diego is the perfect love interest. He is genuine, kind, handsome and he sees through Nikki's tough exterior to the vulnerable and sweet woman underneath. He handles all the uncomfortable situations with grace and charm. Loved him!

*What I loved the most about this one was the complex family dynamics. I thought the author captured the competitive sister relationship perfectly. Julia and Nikki definitely have some sister issues. In fact, they get down right bitchy with one another. No one can needle you like a sibling, and *I loved how the author conveyed the complicated parts of Julia and Nikki's relationship. The kitchen scene was outstanding. When the food settles, Nikki makes it right because that is what sisters do. Loved this!

*The romance is adorable. It starts out under strange circumstances, but over time a friendship is formed before blooming into something more. I loved the heat and chemistry and how things progressed. It was

perfect, even with the big stumble.

*This book is part of a series, but no worries, it is a companion book and it can be read as a stand alone so jump in.

*The ending was sweet and satisfying. It left me with a big, happy grin. This was the best holiday book I read this season.

And The Not So Much:

*As I mentioned, I was put off by Nikki during the first part of the book. She is jealous, self centered and she doesn't appreciate her family. Thankfully, over time she gets it and evolves.

*This is the type of romance where I kept wanting the male perspective. I so wanted to get into *Diego's head and see Nikki and her messed up family through his eyes.

I wished there was a tiny bit more progression in Nikki's relationship with her mom.

The Christmas Date is a hilarious book that chronicles one woman's desperate attempt to one up her younger sister. This one has romance, family fights, growth, holiday cheer and a food fight. What more do you need for the holidays?

I received a copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own, and I was not compensated for this review.

Posted@Rainy Day Ramblings.

Katiria says

*** OMGosh this book was a really fun and great Christmas book that I absolutely love and adore! Review To Come Up Soon! ***

Irena says

First of all, I think this book has the longest synopsis ever, so I won't repeat what it is about, just read them if you're interested (or don't if you're like me, and like to go into books blind).

Camilla Isley is the author who's books I noticed before and some of them are on my tbr list, but I still didn't read them for one reason or another (you know how it goes, too many books, so little time and similar excuses).

When I saw her email in my mailbox I was surprised, to say the least. I always admired her from away, and to see that she knows who I am and wants me to review her book was a pleasant shock.

I had so much fun reading A Christmas Date. It was quick and quirky, and it made me laugh out loud. I liked the story. It does have some cliches, but I didn't mind them.

What I liked the most was the writing style. Reading this novel was easy as drinking, I just flew through it, and before I realized, the story was over.

It was short and sweet, just like a chick-lit novels should be.

I mean, A Christmas Date is a chick lit at it's best.

What I also liked about this book is how it explores siblings relationship, including rivalry and affection.

I liked almost all the characters from the book. The only one I wasn't a fan of was Nikki's sister, but then again, since Nikki has love/hate relationship with her, and the story is written from Nikki's POV, I think Julia was meant to be unlikeable.

This is a festive read, but since Nikki has somewhat Grinchy approach to holidays, it was refreshing to read about Christmas in a different light.

However, even Nikki's grumpy attitude couldn't kill the Christmas spirit of the story.

Overall, I really enjoyed reading A Christmas Date and am looking forward to read Isley's other books.

I would recommend this book to everyone who is in the mood for some merry chick lit.

Dash fan says

4? A Cosy Festive Romance.

First of all I want to start by saying how festive the cover is I love it, it sums up A Christmas Date.

A Christmas Date is the third book in the series, but my first book. I had absolutely no problem quickly settling into the story.

I really enjoyed reading this Warm, Cosy, feel good, light hearted Romp.

It had Romance, Fun, Family Drama, sibling rivalry, Mishaps, Sass, Fake Dates, Secrets, all around the Festive Season.

Nikki hates Christmas, but most of all she hates spending it with her judgemental family.

You see Nikki's sister Jules is perfect in every way and now she is about to blow Nikki's world apart!

Jules has just announced shes engaged to boyfriend Paul.

Why would that bother Nikki???..... well Nikki is head over heels... hopelessly in Love with Paul! They knew each other from way back But Nikki missed her chance.

After hearing the news about the engagement, Nikki decides the only way she is going to get through the holidays is to hire herself a Fake Boyfriend.

So she enters a few details into her Advertising works database and.... finds Diego!

Five thousand dollars later, a promise of an Audition for the Super Bowl Commercial and Diego is hired!

Diego is Tall, Dark, Handsome and Smouldering HOT!!.... everything that Nikki's sister Jules finds sexually attractive.

But in order for them to make their Fake Relationship work, Nikki decides to move Diego into her flat

temporarily so they can become acquainted with each other.

Ok so..... Nikki has hired Diego to make Jules jealous, shut her family up, and make going home for Christmas that lil bit more bearable.

I mean what could possibly go wrong?!?!

Camilla has created a captivating, witty and fun Romantic Romp.

The characters are likeable, endearing, real, and Nikki and Diego quickly became my favourite characters. I loved their cheeky flirty banter between them.

The pace just flows along, I simply devoured it in two nights.

I highly recommend this adorable book if you are wanting a festive feel good read, that will sweep you away with Romance, Drama and Cheeky Banter the perfect Rom Com / Chick Lit.

So grab a hot chocolate and snuggle down.

Thank you to Rachel Random Resources for this copy which I reviewed honestly and voluntarily.

My Review is also on my Blog Website :-

<https://dashfan81.blogspot.com/2018/1...>

Camilla Isley says

This is my first Christmas story ... I hope it'll make you feel as warm and fuzzy as a hot chocolate sprinkled with marshmallows. It's a book filled with plenty of holidays spirit, good and bad family behaviors, a fake boyfriend, kittens, and lots of snow, humor, and romance

Get it wherever books are sold:

Amazon

Apple Books

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Kobo

Happy Reading!

Love,
Camilla

Rachel Gilbey says

I had been a bit worried going into reading this that I had read something in theory similar sounding only a few months ago, and was worried I wouldn't find this particularly original as a result.

Well I was completely wrong - ok the hiring of a fake date for whatever reason has been done before and the book even makes a point of referencing some films where that is the case in it - so although you are going into this with a fairly good idea of how it may all end up - the journey is still incredibly enjoyable.

I absolutely loved this book and found myself whizzing through it. The first thing that amused me about this book is the main character's name - Nikki Moore - as I have read some wonderful books by a real life Nikki Moore. No idea if it was sheer fluke, but I kept thinking of the other one every time the name was written in full!

I loved the motivation for Nikki to hire her fake date, and the reasons she had for the criteria of what sort of man she was looking for. I also fell for the man rather fast, he was gorgeous and had a really great vibe to him.

The connection between Nikki and Diego was evident the whole time, and there are so many amusing moments in the book .

This really is an enjoyable read, and another lovely book from an author that I enjoy more and more each time I read her.

Thank you to Camilla Isley for this copy which I have reviewed honestly and voluntarily.

Jennifer ~ TarHeelReader says

4 super cute and funny stars to A Christmas Date! ? ? ? ?

After not being much of a holiday book reader in my reading life, this year, I've been on a spree of collecting holiday reads. A Christmas Date is a standout amongst the pack.

Nikki is not a fan of the holidays. Being single and independently so is hard this time of year. When she would rather be working, she is forced to take time off and observe how romantic everyone feels about Christmas.

Everything comes to a head when Nikki's sister announces her engagement to a man Nikki has feelings for (but no one knows). Not only that, but he is spending the holidays with the family in celebration.

Nikki needs to survive this week at home and look good doing it, so she hires a fake boyfriend. She quickly finds a handsome actor to play the part. However, what will happen if Nikki finds the magical romance of the holidays charming her, too?

A Christmas Date is an endearingly funny romantic comedy perfect for an holiday pick-me-up. It's soothing, comforting, and super cute. I read it in one quick sitting. Thanks to my friends, Melisa and Berit for the recommendation.

Thanks also to the publisher for the complimentary copy. All opinions are my own.

My reviews can also be found on my blog: www.jennifertarheelreader.com

Melisa says

Oh how I LOVED this book! This is my first Camilla Isley book and I can't wait to read all her others! I have been searching high and low for the perfect romcom and I've finally found it. Best Christmas book of the season!

Nikki is a successful, single career woman who is reluctantly going home for the holidays. After finally deciding that she's had enough with her family questioning why she's still single, she decides to take matters into her own hands.

I loved these characters and their antics and the oh so perfect and smoldering love interest. I mean, a beautiful man who is nice AND cleans up after himself? That's a keeper!

This also has the perfect amount of Christmas atmosphere – from snowman building to holiday meal prep – you will find yourself catching the holiday spirit while reading.

There is something to be said about a book that can make you laugh out loud and you will find that here. If you're like me and read for entertainment, you will most definitely find yourself entertained!

Thank you again to Rachel and Camilla. This book is now available!

Berit??? says

I absolutely adored and loved every single word in this book!

If you could see me you would see that I have a BIG smile on my face, I have found me another wonderful author! I love a book that completely engages you and captures your heart! The storyline in this book was not original, in fact it has been done many times before and the author even mentions that in the book... but these characters were so electric, they completely drew me in!

Nikki is not in the holiday mood, in fact she wouldn't mind skipping the entire month of December... when she finds out her sister is bringing her new fiancé to Christmas she goes into full Scrooge mode... The worst part her sister's fiancé Paul, a man she's had a crush on since college.... determined not to go home for Christmas single and with no time to find a date Nikki decides to hire a date.... as I said this is a popular trope that has been done before, but I have to admit it is one of my favorites!

Nikki is a fantastic character I loved her, I mean what's not to love the girl is a cat lover! She is also smart and sassy.... I adored her relationship with her BFF Blair... but most of all I loved the banter and chemistry between Nicky and hired date Diego.... Diego was such a good guy, down-to-earth and genuine, the kind of guy you would want to take home to your parents... not to mention he was tall, dark, and handsome... The perfect go to parade in front of your sister, I make her a little bit jealous.... add in some family drama, Christmas festivities, gluten-free food, adorable animals, and you have got yourself one wonderful story!

Absolutely recommend, this is one of the best Christmas romances I have Red this season!

*** A huge thank you to the author and Rachelle for my copy of this book ***

Whispering Stories says

Book Reviewed by Stacey on www.whisperingstories.com

Nikki has been in love with Paul for many years since they were teenagers but when Paul started dating her younger sister Julia a couple of years ago she knew he was out of bounds forever and it broke her heart.

When her sister announces, just before Christmas, that the two are engaged Nikki puts on a brave face but is absolutely devastated. Then she learns that when she goes home to her parents for Christmas the loved-up Julia and Paul will be staying too, upset about being around the pair for a week she takes drastic action.

Nikki hires male model Diego, to be her 'boyfriend' for the holidays and with Diego being Julia's ideal man, Nikki is even more impressed with her choice as she can't wait for her sister to be so jealous of her. But will her plan work?

I love Camilla Isley's books as they bring together lots of humour, great characters and romantic moments that are always bursting at the seams. A Christmas Date is no exception.

From opening the first page to the very last, I was addicted. The bickering sisters, parents who are at the ends of their wits with their daughters, a handsome fake date and the best, best friend a girl could ask for, plus a dog that thinks he's a cat!! What's not to like?

This book is pure enjoyment the whole way through. The plot was a little predictable at times, but this didn't lessen my enjoyment as Camilla's writing style is so engaging and exciting.

This is the third book in a series, though it can be read as a stand-alone too. It wasn't until I was partway through that I realised that I had read book two in the series as well – Doh.

If you love rom-coms this is the book to read, especially at this time of year with it being set over Christmas. It is just delightful. It is also heart-warming too and will put a smile on your face.

DJ Sakata says

Favorite Quotes:

Oh, come on... You sleep in the candy shop every night, and you want me to believe you've never thought of tasting the candies?

If Diego was a real boyfriend, and not one paid to endure my family, I'd be dying of shame at their ill-concealed eagerness. Mom and Julia look like wolfhounds with the scent of a bone fresh in their nostrils.

"Your mom and your old crone of an aunt always complain you're never going to find a man. But I told them how wrong they were, and bet Dora a pie you'd be married before forty, which is the new thirty."...

I'm not sure what makes me angrier: the fact that my mom openly discusses my dating life with the whole town; or that, apparently, the prize of my happiness is a pumpkin pie.

...that doesn't justify her calling me fat and old. She's so petty." "I don't remember Julia calling you fat or old." "But she did, in female code language." "You girls have a secret language?" "All gals do; it's Bitchenglish."

My Review:

My first exposure to the witty comedic style of Camilla Isley, and I am an instant fangirl. I smirked my way through this lively and clever tale that sure, it has been done before, but this version was much more fun. While they may have been adults, sleeping in their childhood beds seemed to harken them back to their surly teen and childish whining behaviors. The characters were competitive, stressed to a toxic level, and nearing the obnoxious register on the pettiness scale with life-long sibling rivalries reaching a scalding level. But what family holiday gathering isn't complete without several meltdowns and a messy food skirmish? It's not even Halloween yet and I'm already in the Christmas spirit and dreaming of the heavily laden table – bring on the pie.

Els says

This book is the third part of a series, but even though I have not read the other ones, I did not have any difficulty in picking up the story.

Although Nikki is not really keen on Christmas, this year she might receive more than she bargained for or will it all go up in smoke?

I truly enjoyed this book. It's funny, it's playful but it also has a more serious underlayer about rekindling certain relationships and revelations.

Winter is slowly creeping up on us as well, so if you want to shut the world out for a few hours, I suggest you snuggle under a blanket, get yourself a hot drink and enjoy this heartwarming and fluently written story.

I hope the sequel will be published in the near future. 4 stars.

Thank you, Camilla Isley and RachelsRandomResources

<https://bforbookreview.wordpress.com>
