



# Confessions of a Paris Party Girl

*Vicki Lesage*

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## Confessions of a Paris Party Girl Vicki Lesage

When newly-single party girl Vicki moved to Paris, she was hoping to indulge in wine, stuff her face with croissants, and fall in love. It proved to be much more "difficile" than she'd imagined. In this laugh-out-loud memoir, this cheeky storyteller recounts the highs and lows of her life in the City of Light. Sassy and shamefully honest, Vicki makes you feel as if you're right there in Paris stumbling along the cobblestones with her.

## Confessions of a Paris Party Girl Details

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Author : Vicki Lesage

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# From Reader Review Confessions of a Paris Party Girl for online ebook

## Sanda says

Let me tell you a thing or three about my new friend Vicki (granted she knows nothing of this friendship but more about that later). The best way I can describe this book is that it was like reading a long, hilariously intimate email from a close friend. So what happens when a 20-something girl from St. Louis (MISSOURI!) with a basic knowledge of french and a great appetite for adventure decides to move to the city of love (and great English speaking bars apparently), Paris? Well first of all you get a glimpse of the everyday life of the French through the eyes of an outsider, and as a bonus, a colorful cast of characters and loads of 'laugh out loud' moments (am I ever grateful that I read this book in the privacy of my own home).

One of my pet peeves when it comes to "chick-lit", lighter literature and such, is the fact that just because the subject matter is lighter (often more humorous) that often means that the entire focus is on the plot (and even that often leaves a lot to be desired) and not on the writing style and/or quality of writing. You can't imagine my relief when right from the start it was obvious that won't be the case with this book. The fact that I didn't have to stumble over poorly composed sentences meant that I could give my full attention to all of Vicki's adventures and misadventures. Plus, in case I ever decide to move to Paris I will be armed with an impressive knowledge of french bureaucracy (paper, paper and more paper) and great tips on how to handle apartment hunting in the city.

By the time you finish reading this book you too will feel that a) there simply has to be a sequel to this book and b) that Vicki is just another one of your friends. In my case, part 'b' was helped along by Vicki's ("barely noticeable") OCD, (takes one to know one) germophobia, humour and perceptive way of viewing (and describing) people and situations. (well the fact that every once in a while she ends up having just a few too many drinks will have many 20 something relating and many 30 and 40 something reminiscing) Now there's nothing else for me to do but hope and wait for the sequel.

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## Samantha Verant says

Vicki's memoir is more than JUST a book, because reading it is just like hanging out with your best friend and drinking lots and lots of wine. As an American expat in France, I love her enthusiasm and humor as she conquers Paris one foible at a time. She doesn't have the "I love you, Paris, but you're bringing me down mentality." Nope. It's more like "I love you, Paris, and if you bring me down...I'm just going to get back up, brush off my knees, and then head off to local expat bar. I'm so looking forward to the second installment. And I have to make my way from Toulouse to Paris. And soon. That way I can hand out with my new Parisian best friend and we can laugh about our adjustments over a bottle of wine.

Note: You don't have to be an expat living in France to enjoy this book-- you just have to have a sense of humor. Highly recommended.

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## Jacqueline says

A fast moving, humorous memoir of Vicki's first six years in Paris.

Arriving alone with her laptop and a freelance web designer work plan, Vicki is in Paris to party, and party she does. My ever-sensible eyes nearly popped out of their sockets at some of her stories, including when she mentioned the early closing bar where everyone was booted out by 2.00am. It just highlighted my dull youth when I realise 2.00am has never been a time to move on to another bar for me. She is also not afraid to write honestly about being so drunk that unpleasant incidents occur - you should see the smug smile my sensible head is making now!

I was a bit worried from the description that there would be a bit too much moaning and anti-French rants in this book, but I couldn't have been more wrong. Vicki embraces all that Paris has to offer her; from the simple pleasure of walking to the boulangerie, to late night drinking sessions, to boyfriends found in bars, to full time French employment, to wedded bliss and beyond. Her writing brings the characters she meets to life, her friends, boyfriends, fellow Metro travellers and French officials, and the stories she tells are full of humour, even the truly frustrating ones. What was most enjoyable was watching her change and mature as her life in Paris blossomed.

This book will give you a lighthearted look at life in Paris and should be essential reading for anyone planning a similar move to Paris or anyone missing the heady days of their youth.

I was sent a copy of this book to review, but I'll be looking out for more from Vicki.

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### **Lizzie Harwood says**

If you love reading about fearless gals takes on foreign cultures and winning, then this is a great book to grab! It's funny, insightful and full of great tips on culture (eat the fish at the Integration to France seminar! go on!) and we find ourselves cheering her on as she jumps through the flaming hoops of French bureaucracy to secure her long-stay visa, get a real job, manage the paperwork to get hitched, and even get a wedding cake for her reception. (Believe me, these things are flaming hoops!) Very relatable and just plain good fun. Will be reading her follow-up memoir Confessions of a Paris Potty Trainer as soon as I get my iPad off my children for more than a minute.

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### **Kathy says**

Having been an ex-pat in Paris myself, I totally related to Vicki's story. She definitely managed to capture the daily life of ordinary French citizens as well as their reaction to a transplanted American and her reaction to them. I loved the way she described Vicki's struggles to learn the country's vernacular and slang and how her ineptitude in this area caused her and her listeners a lot of laughs. The one thing I wondered about were all the author's descriptions and time spent on drinking good French wine and other French cocktails, as I think it could send the wrong message about Vicki the young female ex-pat acclimating herself to French daily life. However, it did add to the humor of this book. I found myself caught up in Vicki's life from the get-go, unable to put the book down until I read the last page. What Vicki's story did bring home to me was the fact that studying a language in school can in no way match actually living there and that living in a foreign country can easily become fun and a real adventure. Many people would shy away from any adventure like this, but probably not after experiencing the wanderlust that comes from such an adventure.

Just as Vicki did, many people would gradually grow to actually love living in the new country, filled with new, unheard of experiences that will enrich one's life in ways one might never expect or fathom. This is a real must-read for anyone who ever lived abroad for any amount of time or for anyone who may have ever dreamed of such an adventure. The writing is easy and understandable. The characters are rich and well developed and very believable, as are their experiences. I highly recommend it as a fascinating way to get a good picture of Paris/French daily life and customs as well as a good idea of how taking such an adventure could be both interesting and immensely rewarding. I received this from Library Thing to read and review.

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## **Marie says**

Vicki is a young American full of dreams and ambition. She decides to move to Paris when she loses her job. Her adventures in the city of lights are hilarious and full of surprises. Her struggle with French men, love, work and bureaucracy made me laugh out loud, I could not put it down before I was done with it !

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## **Andrew says**

\*Full Review can be found here: <http://therevboard.com/2014/11/10/mr-...> \*

Vicki Lesage's "Confessions of a Paris Party Girl" has an autobiographical feel as a young Vicki (VeeKee as she is called by a few characters in the story) chooses to leave her unceremoniously relieved from her IT job's duties as well as take a car everywhere life in St. Louis, Missouri to venture abroad into the lavish and glamorous living of Paris, France as a freelance web designer.

Granted, to be in (let alone LIVE IN) a new land, whether stateside or abroad, is trying as well as taxing. Vicki takes everything in stride, and makes the best of her day-to-day situations. From trying to find the key holder to her first dwelling, breaking 20 euros at the store (while getting guff from shopkeepers), SERIOUS bottles of wine, homesickness, loads of reflection of many fun times with her friends and family, TONS AND TONS of handsy, ignorant, quasi-disrespectful, and helpful Frenchmen and Frenchwomen, all the way down to the locals STRONGLY believing that St. Louis in Missouri is ACTUALLY (in THEIR minds) located in "Louisiane," dealing with French authorities while renewing her Visa, and Love.

Ahhh, Paris: you fickle whore...

I am going to be honest: I LOVE THIS BOOK!

Like Thor Odinson with his coffee, I say "ANOTHER!" when it comes to Mrs. Lesage's writings.

NO ONE has ever heard me use those specific combination of words EVER in my review (UNLESS you are close to me to where you can contact me by certain means and we talk at length; NEVER said this in writing).

It is a great read that got me from the jump. When I read the first few pages (namely the boarding call for Paris), I had a strong feeling that this read was going to be something special.

I am glad that I was right (for once).

The description of the Parisian life is overall solid, sound, and good. It has a feel of a blogger which helped greatly in my comfort level of reading (bloggers love bloggers for the most part). There are humorous recollections, sadness, and sarcasm which give the book depth and character.

The ONLY complaint that I have with this read is a not too bad one actually. At the same time, a little lesson for everyone:

While reading the book, I had to put it down a few times to look up and translate certain French words and phrases that did not have a translation already included. Citing that I speak Spanish personally, I would make sure that IF I use a Spanish term, I would include its translation in parenthesis so the language barrier remains intact.

Also, while Vicki was dating a particular gentleman, I noticed a few missing words in the young man's dialogue, ONLY to come to my own conclusion (and Mrs. Lesage can either verify or deny) that the young man REALLY spoke that way.

Spelling and grammar is quite nice. Ms. Lesage makes sure that her sentences end with either a noun or a verb (Oui [that means "Yes" for my non-French speaking populous]: I AM that damn picky in the realm of sentence structure).

"Confessions of a Paris Party Girl" is 237 pages of memoir that I KNOW will put a smile on your face. I had a chance to glance at Mrs. Lesage's Amazon Author Page, and see that she is a hardcore blogger, and has another book "Confessions of a Paris Potty Trainer." I TRULY enjoyed this read, and would LOVE to take a crack at her other books as well.

If I am giving a reigning endorsement for a book, YOU KNOW that I either fell and bumped my head (possible, but not likely in this review), got bought off to give it a reigning endorsement (laughable, because you would have to have me Set For Life FINANCIALLY for me to give you that type of brown nosing ass-kissery), OR (and MOST LIKELY) I REALLY Loved this book.

Mrs. Vicki Lesage DEFINITELY has something special here, and I look forward to reading MUCH MORE from this young lady!

Keep it up!

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## **Pamela King says**

I've just been chatting over a cup of coffee to Vicki Lesage about her first few years in Paris. At least that what it seems like reading her book Confessions of a Paris Party Girl. (Or should that be over several glasses of vino?).

Vicki begins her adventure in Paris optimistically: "The hardwood floors were old and creaky – or in my eyes, authentic and beautiful. The shower didn't have a curtain, which simply provided a better view of the wooden sauna-like walls of the bathroom. The antique sofa was uncomfortable, which ensured I didn't waste time lounging around when I could be exploring Paris. "

Soon the foggy haze of illusion lifts and Vicki is thrown into reality. There is no doubting that she remains delighted with her decision to move to Paris (readily available baguettes, endless glasses of wine and beautiful landmarks certainly help) but between French bureaucracy, struggling with language misunderstandings and some strange characters Vicki is on the proverbial see saw. To her credit she never loses hope and remains steadfastly in love with her chosen city.

Vicki copes with everything Paris and its people throw at her. She has the rare ability to not only laugh at herself but to publicly share both funny and embarrassing (but still amusing to the reader) episodes in her very entertaining and fun book.

Being friendless in a new city doesn't daunt her but she does have some hiccups along the way to finally find a group of friends that she can party with on a regular basis.

Although she has several ongoing jobs from back home as a web designer she realises that she still needs to earn an income from a job in France. (It's a bureaucracy thing as well as a need for cold hard cash to fund the partying.) At first she finds a baby sitting job and then eventually gets a full time job.

Her story is certainly is never dull and boring.

My one and only criticism? There is a little spoiler towards the end of the story. I use spoiler in the sense that something lets you know what is going to happen not that the whole thing is spoilt. (I confess that I didn't take much notice of the chapter titles – I needed to keep reading Vicki's story to bother with that.) It's only a teensy one but gave me the answer to something that kept me page turning – would she marry Mika?

This review is also available on my website [www.pam.id.au](http://www.pam.id.au)

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## **Donna McBroom-Theriot says**

There are a tremendous amount of self-published memoirs on the market today and I'll be the first to tell you that many shouldn't be there - not that everyone doesn't have a story to tell, but that not all stories should be published and let loose on the world. I have had the opportunity to muddle through many of them and *CONFESSIONS OF A PARIS PARTY GIRL* by Vicki Lesage is not one of those.

Vicki headed off to Paris, almost as a default destination, to have an adventure and hopefully meet the love of her life. What she found was not quite the fairytale she had expected. It exceeded her expectations, but not before making her second guess herself a few times as she learned to navigate a strange country and finally find her place in it.

*CONFESSIONS OF A PARIS PARTY GIRL* is her story and is told in a candid and humorous voice, and it was a delight to read. I laughed throughout the book as she finally found the apartment she sublet and through her journey of finding friends and handling the "loving" Frenchmen along the way. She takes us along for the ride. as she satisfies her appetite with wonderfully decadent French croissants and the rowdy bars where she enjoys a karaoke existence. Vicki gives us a first hand accounting of what it is like to be an American in Paris.

Few memoirs have held my attention the way this book did. The book was not only well-written, it was

intelligently written, and of course, the character well-developed! Confessions is not just another memoir, it is a truly entertaining read. I am giving CONFESSIONS OF A PARIS PARTY GIRL five stars and I would definitely recommend it.

I was given a copy of this book in exchange for a fair and honest review. See more at [www.mylifeonestoryatatime.com](http://www.mylifeonestoryatatime.com)

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## **Carolyn says**

When Vicki Lesage went to Paris at the age of 25 to spend the summer subletting a tiny apartment and working as a free-lance web designer, she never expected to stay for years. But she did and she blogged about it and then turned her blog into this funny, witty memoir of her experiences.

It's clear that Vicki loves Paris, warts and all and the book reads like a series of emails from a close friend. She is often self deprecating in her mistakes with the language and customs and doesn't moan about the difficulties she encountered with the bureaucracy involved in renewing her visa, letting an apartment or starting a job but writes about it with good humour even though she was often seething inside at the time. She clearly enjoyed a good time when she was young and fresh to Paris and made many good friends with whom she shared many alcohol and food fueled exploits in Paris. By the end of the book she is a little older and wiser but clearly still in love with her new home. I'm hoping there will be a sequel.

I happily received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Elle's Book Blog says**

### **:: 5 Pretty Little Stars ::**

If you're looking for a good laugh AND finding a book that is stylized as chick lit than this is your book! When I started blogging I signed up for a book tour for Christmas Cocktails and Confessions knowing nothing about this author. But once I read that book I became instantly HOOKED! This book (and the others) are told as memoirs and they follow the life of the author, Vicki Lesage, as she journeys through Paris. Each and every chapter of the book tell a humorous tale of what her life was like. And, in each one of them Lesage is able to successfully make the most mundane things seem downright hilarious! She is now my "go to" author when I am looking for some good, light reading, with a lot of humor, and of course chick lit qualities. Let me also say that the idea of reading a memoir can seem boring. I never in my life thought I would be able to read these types of books because frankly, I am a fan of fictional characters who go through insane situations. HOWEVER, don't let the idea that this is a memoir frighten you! As I said before, this book read like a chick lit told in the first person. The storyline (or plot) flows successfully within this book. I absolutely LOVE it!

This book in particular follows Vicki as she moves to Paris from St. Louis. Along the way we journey with her through trying to find the right apartment (who knew there would be so many doors to choose from), to finding a job, and getting married. Each chapter of the book takes us to a new place giving us a glimpse as to what it would be like to move to a foreign country. In addition to this, each tale is laugh out loud funny. Who knew you could laugh so hard from reading about someone's life? This book is absolutely amazing and

Lesage is a favorite author of mine. Seriously, you NEED to check out her books. They are GREAT!

Overall, this is a 5 star read for me and I look forward to reading all of her books in the near future. If you need a good laugh, are looking to try something new, or are a fan of the author but haven't checked this book out yet, then I recommend doing so. I promise, you won't be disappointed! Hey, you may even learn a little French while you are at it!!

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### **Adria Cimino says**

I really enjoyed this memoir for several reasons. First of all, it was hilarious – the adventures themselves as well as Vicki Lesage's way of describing them. I found myself laughing out loud more times than I could count.

And that brings me to my second reason for liking this book. Reading it is like having a conversation with a good friend. Lesage is a natural storyteller. Her style is unpretentious, and the pace of this memoir is just right.

I also like the fact that the author explains how she found her first Paris apartment, how she was able to support herself when she first moved to the city etc. She presents living in Paris as it really is, with the good and the bad. I prefer this realism to a sugar-coated version of Parisian life. This real picture of Paris is much more interesting! (And it's useful for those readers who dream of following in Lesage's footsteps.)

I don't want to give any spoilers so I won't tell you about my favorite moments, but I will say that whether you have experienced life in Paris or not, the author's stories will have you laughing.

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### **Marie Vareille says**

So funny ! The adventures of Vicki, young American who just arrived in Paris after having lost her job in the US. Loved it, would definitely recommend it !

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### **Jill says**

Oh how I wish the author's trials and tribulations in France didn't ring so true! But France is France--one of the most impossibly frustrating and impossibly lovely countries in the world--and life here is never simple but never boring.

This is a fun memoir that I gulped down in two hours. Vicki has a wonderfully chatty voice, though at times it veered a bit too informal for my taste. Reading this book was like talking with another expat friend over a pint of Kronenbourg. Miserable appointments to the immigration office followed by "strip! and take a lung selfie!"? Been there. French people wrinkling their noses asking, "Vous préférez que je parle en anglais, Mademoiselle?" Been there. Charming, self-assured Frenchies with zero knowledge of American geography who become your new BFFs over the course of a Friday night and numerous bottles of wine? Been there.

Alongside her fantastically recounted stories of French life, Vicki gave me encouragement that this whole France thing works out even in the darkest moments. This is a terrific ode to an exasperating country. For any expat, it will remind you why you persist on living here even when the Sécurité Sociale asks you to

submit your birth certificate (apostilled, officially translated, and no less than 6 months old, of course!) for the fourth time in four months. For any Francophile considering a séjour in France, it will convince you to give it a try, but caution you about the inevitable struggles you'll encounter. A funny, happy, and informative read!

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## **Lisa Cromwell says**

\*I won this book through Goodreads First Reads giveaway. In no way has this influenced my rating or opinion of this book. Thank you to Goodreads and to Vicki Lesage for the opportunity!\*

I would like to say that this is a very FUN read! I literally laughed out loud while reading it! If you like someone with a sense of humor, a funny way at looking at life's (not so fun) moments, and can appreciate someone being bilingual (sarcasm anyone?), then this is the book for you!

I knew I was in for the ride of my life from the very beginning when Vicki arrives in Paris and locates her apartment, only to struggle through finding the key that was left for her at the convent next door. Not to mention the hassle of figuring out exactly what floor it was on. (did you have any idea that the French consider the main floor to not count when counting floors? So technically what we call the second floor in America is the first floor to French folks.) Not only does Vicki have slight issues initially with the language (chop sticks? bread?), but she also runs into issues with money. (Don't carry a 50€ note into a grocery store unless you can handle the consequences!!) She finds friends (Anne Marie...or better known as Ammo, Lisa and Katrina), wine, part time job as a nanny, wine, Refuge des Fondus (which I will definitely try if I am EVER in Paris!), baby bottles of wine, work, love and did I mention wine?

Vicki is wonderful and I wish I could be her best friend. She is fuuuunnnny! Plus anyone who loves cheese, bread and bacon as much as she does is someone who wins a special place in my heart! Plus if I ever find myself near Paris when the Zombie Apocalypse starts...Vicki will be my first recruit. Unless I find her eating brains with....you guessed it...wine...then she is on her own!!

P.S. Vicki, if you are reading this, I would like to submit my request ahead of time to be considered part of the "Mutinous Maniacs" if that becomes a reality! OK? Thanks! :-)

Anyways, I would recommend this book to friends, best friends and complete strangers! I feel it is a must read and will leave you smiling and feeling good. Unless you have a problem with feeling good.....then I don't know what to tell ya!

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