



Finding Colin Firth

Mia March

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From the author of *The Meryl Streep Movie Club*, “a heartwarming, spirit-lifting read just in time for beach season” (*Kirkus Reviews*), comes a new novel about three women, connected in secret and surprising ways, who are in for a life-changing summer when rumor has it that actor Colin Firth is coming to their Maine town to film a movie.

After losing her job and leaving her beloved husband, journalist Gemma Hendricks is sure that scoring an interview with Colin Firth will save her career and marriage. Yet a heart-tugging local story about women, family ties, love, and loss captures her heart— and changes everything. The story concerns Bea Crane, a floundering twenty-two-year-old who learns in a deathbed confession letter that she was adopted at birth. Bea is in Boothbay Harbor to surreptitiously observe her biological mother, Veronica Russo—something of a legend in town—who Bea might not be ready to meet after all. Veronica, a thirty-eight-year-old diner waitress famous for her “healing” pies, has come home to Maine to face her past. But when she’s hired as an extra on the bustling movie set, she wonders if she is hiding from the truth . . . and perhaps the opportunity of a real-life Mr. Darcy.

These three women will discover more than they ever imagined in this coastal Maine town, buzzing with hopes of Colin Firth. Even the conjecture of his arrival inspires daydreams, amplifies complicated lives, and gives incentive to find their own romantic endings.

Finding Colin Firth Details

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Author : Mia March

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From Reader Review Finding Colin Firth for online ebook

Carlie Van Amerongen says

Finding Colin Firth is an example of chick lit/beach reading at its fluffiest. The story follows three women who arrive (separately) in a small town in Maine just as a Colin Firth movie is being filmed. The movie set becomes one of the unifying themes across the three storylines, but it's really a book about three women learning what's important in life.

In general, the book is sweet enough to make your teeth hurt. The reunion of a daughter with her birth mother - a newly pregnant journalist trying to figure out what her life means in the face of impending motherhood - a woman resolving the emotional issues of her town with magical pies (?) while being unable to come to terms with her own problems - are all pretty basic storylines that all come to pretty predictable ends. There is a lot of repetition, and the themes and important points are almost shouted at you, so you can shut your brain off while you read it.

I'm not down on *Finding Colin Firth* because it's soft. It's that kind of book, and we all need to read that kind of book from time to time. It just feels kind of like a story written by a girl in high school who is trying to imagine some idyllic world to escape to – sure, people have problems, but they're all easily swept away by the magic of friendship and the promise of seeing a movie star. The idea is great, but the execution could use a little work.

Vanessa says

ARC provided by the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

“I have a birth mother. Her name is Veronica Russo. She lives in a place called Boothbay Harbor, Maine.”

One year has passed since Bea Crane lost her mom. A letter arrives written by her mom; a confession that rocks Bea's entire world. No longer knowing who she is or what to think, Bea sets out on a journey to find answers to questions she never believed she would have...

“People will come and go from your life for all kinds of acceptable and crappy reasons...So you've got to be your own best friend, know who you are, and never let anyone tell you you're something you know you're not.”

Veronica Russo has finally come back to Boothbay Harbor after twenty-two years in hopes of facing her past and starting fresh. Working at the local diner and being a legend for her famous “elixir” pies, Veronica seems to be heading in the right direction. Though she never married, her heart being closed off at a young age; one day she hoped she would find the one man who would be her everything, her Colin Firth. She never had children...except the six pound baby girl she gave up when she was sixteen, but the hope hasn't completely died there either. She keeps her information current so that if her daughter were to ever come looking, Veronica could be found.

“What a beautiful story of coming full circle it would be.”

Gemma Hendricks loves the city. Living in New York has always been a dream of hers and her husband, Alex. Now, his dreams have changed and Gemma can't take the constant tension in their upscale NYC apartment. Getting shocking news, losing her job and hearing her husband talk about moving to the suburbs leaves Gemma feeling lost. Deciding she needs time, she leaves; escaping to her childhood vacation spot where she can just breathe. Meeting up with old friends also helps, and with a celebrity in town, maybe an interview would help get her life and career back on track...little did she know that her heartstrings would pull her into a story that could very well hit too close to home.

Can Gemma work her literary magic in order to bring mother and daughter together? Can she face her own new reality too? Can Bea make a future with her unknown past? Can Veronica really face what she's been running from all this time...and what is in those pies?

What a breath of fresh air! I loved this book! Reading any story from multiple points of view always intrigues me and keeps me glued to the pages. **Finding Colin Firth** was no exception. I loved how each woman had her own separate story and backstory (which were wonderfully described and placed) and yet how they all intertwined. I laughed and I cried. The bonds that were forged and lessons learned truly touched my heart. Beautifully written and I absolutely look forward to reading more from Mia March.

****4.5 Feel-Good Stars****

Marjolijn says

Gewoon een mierzoete chicklit in de categorie "drie vrouwen met een probleem, alle problemen zijn aan het eind van het boek opgelost". Extra ster omdat Coin Firth in de titel staat.

Cathleen says

This book's main theme (other than finding Colin Firth) was about teen pregnancy and adoption but more importantly about the decision to seek out your birth mother. Hits close to home for me and I really like how they handled it. FYI I found my Bio-mom and it completed me :)

Anne says

I read this for a book club – willingly, because I like Colin Firth and this looked like a fun read. Then, early on I hit a major, unforgivable, unfathomable snag in the book: a character supposedly loves Colin Firth, loves his work, loves him as Darcy in the mini-series of *Pride & Prejudice*, which she has watched over and over. And over. And over. Then she “quotes” Firth's Darcy – except the quote is from Matthew Macfadyen's Darcy in his movie of *Pride & Prejudice*!!!! Do you see the problem??? All credibility is dashed to smithereens!!! How can I move beyond this and have any faith that the author knows what she's talking about??? Nevertheless I persisted, but I never forgot the error, not for one page of this novel. Glad to get that out of my system.

Dana says

3.5. This was a cute read (despite the lack of Colin Firth in it)! It focuses on three women: Bea, who recently found out she was adopted; Veronica, a baker who specializes in "magical" pies that returned home to face her past; and Gemma, a reporter who recently found out she is pregnant, but has been arguing with her husband over moving out of New York City. All three women are brought together to Boothbay Harbor, which has been selected as a filming location for a Colin Firth movie, which has a small effect on each woman. Fun, light read that is perfect for summer!

Liana's Reviews says

4.5 stars! I'm surprised at how much I loved this book! I was in the mood for something light hearted and sweet and this was the perfect read! Really enjoyed all three characters stories so much. Definitely recommend if you're in the mood for something that's charming, with a lot of heart.

Kathy Broyles says

I read about a fourth of the book and ran back to the room with my DVDs and gathered all my Colin Firth movies. I've spent all this weekend reading this book and watching his movies.

Cocktails and Books says

This book was not anything like I expected it to be. Although, I'm not entirely sure what it was that I expected. It's a story of three women, all in different places of their lives, searching for answers. Their paths cross and the questions they all have revolve around the IDEA of Colin Firth.

For those of you who are not aware of who Colin Firth is (I can't imagine there being many who do not know this handsome, charming man), he is a British actor best known for his role of Mr. Darcy in *Pride & Prejudice* and *Bridget Jones's Diary* (yes, he was a Darcy in that one too!). Women are drawn to him for obvious reasons (Google him if you must!).

In any case, the three women that cross paths are all anticipating a movie production that will star Mr. Colin Firth. Gemma, a hard working woman who is seeking solace and comfort with a friend, is given the opportunity to be a journalist in the same town the movie is being made. While there, she is hell bent on getting the chance to interview Mr. Firth. Bea, a young woman who just found out that the people she's known as her parents her entire life, are indeed not, and she sets out to this same town looking for her birth mother. Her birth mother just happens to be Veronica, the third piece to our puzzle. Veronica is looking for a fresh start and maybe a rom com romance to boot. It's in their flaws and their desperation to be a part of a Colin Firth type movie life, that the three women find themselves and their complicated situations entwined with one another.

The story is moving, fun and, well... charming. It's a sweet contemporary romance that reunites a mother and daughter, restores a woman's faith in love and romance, and brings a family closer together. And, well, it's got plenty of the dashing Mr. Darcy. What's not to love?

Reviewed by Marie for Cocktails and Books

GraceMyBookSnack says

Filled with so much warmth and hope! 4.5 Stars!

I have to admit, I initially wanted to read this book because of the title alone. The title makes me think of many nights spent watching the movies of one of my favorite actors. Finding Colin Firth: A Novel turned out to be so much more than what the title suggests. The quaint tourist town of Boothbay Harbor, Maine is all abuzz! Colin Firth is coming to shoot some scenes for a movie. How very exciting! Boothbay Harbor is also where the lives of three women entwine and change forever. With alternating POV in each chapter, I was pleasantly surprised at how quickly I got wrapped up in the stories of Bea, Veronica, and Gemma. I sympathized and cared about them so much that I kept hoping for the best for each of them as I was reading along.

Mia March has created a story full of warmth and hope. It's about unexpected pregnancy, adoption, facing and confronting demons, and accepting what is truth. This story has so many heart-tugging moments that will require tissues. It even has a tad of romance.

Although, having previously watched all the movies mentioned in this book provided a much more enriching reading experience for me, it's not necessary to have seen any of the movies beforehand to enjoy this book. I love how Mia March cleverly weaves the movie titles in such an enticing way that if you haven't seen the movies, you'll want to by the end for sure. So, for those who want to have a little fun and have their own movie marathons before, during, or after reading this book, here are the Colin Firth movies mentioned in no particular order:

Pride and Prejudice BBC miniseries

Bridget Jones's Diary

Love Actually

Then She Found Me

A Single Man

Girl with a Pearl Earring

Mamma Mia!

The King's Speech

This is my first time reading anything from Mia March. I found her writing to be witty and poignant. I'm looking forward to reading more from her. I'm sure this book will make a wonderful book club selection. There could be much lively discussion about not only what these women go through, but also about pies and Colin Firth!

A complimentary copy was provided in exchange for an honest review

Knigoqdec says

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Sharon says

I will be honest and admit that I actually bought this book solely based on the title. I am a huge fan of Colin Firth and the title definitely caught my attention. I did not really know what to expect. I guess like most people who see the title straight away think that it will be all about Colin Firth, that could not be further from the truth. What the reader will find is a heartwarming, sweet and sometimes heartbreaking tale of three women who are desperate to find something.... Veronica Russo wants to find peace with the mistakes of her past by returning to the town of Boothbay Harbor, where she caused and felt so much heartbreak and pain. Bea Crane wants to find the mother who gave her up for adoption and Gemma Hendricks wants to find a way to make her life the way it used to be before she lost her job and discovered she is pregnant. Even though they are all looking for something, none of them can resist going on a hunt for Mr. Firth when he is rumoured to be coming to the town to shoot scenes for a new movie.

I have to say that this was nothing like I expected it to be from reading the blurb, but I loved every single minute reading this story. The author has the ability to make you feel for her characters, you become one with them, feel the pain, anxiety, and joys. Each woman has a story to tell individually, but it is when their lives become entwined that the story takes on a whole new meaning. They might start out as complete strangers, but eventually, they begin to change each other's lives in a way they never thought possible. This book will make you laugh, make you cry, make you want to eat pie and without a doubt make you want to watch Colin Firth movies. Even though there is a theme about the actor throughout the book, you do not have to necessarily be a fan of his to enjoy it.

Highly recommended reading

Claire Robinson says

What a lovely thoughtful tale.

This is the first book I have read by Mia March, it won't be the last as I have already bought myself The Meryl Streep Movie Club after enjoying Finding Colin Firth, I am happily looking forward to returning to Boothbay Harbor and reading more about Isabel, June, and Kat's stories.

Mia March's writing reminds me an awful lot of Sarah Addison Allen's, they both have a style of writing that draws you in, with its warmth, intimacy and just a touch of magic. Mia has created a town and inhabitants that I would happily up-sticks and move to tomorrow if I could, and you almost feel like you are there with all the characters while you are reading.

This is book 2 in the series, so I am a little late to the party, but I don't mind I am just happy to have discovered another imaginative writer.

It focuses on Gemma, Bea and Veronica, all of them are dealing with major change to their lives, and it offers you their stories and the subsequent developments in their alternating points of view. Mia has brought them together quite cleverly as the main theme for all three women's emotional state is an interpretation of the same issue. Gemma is trying to come to terms with some major changes in her life, Veronica is looking to step forward from major events from her past, and Bea is looking to make sense of some major revelations of a loved one, from beyond the grave as it were.

This book wrapped around me like a warm blanket, the colourful descriptions of the town and its inhabitants, the upheaval of the film crews arrival and its ripple effect. To the sightings of Colin Firth, which made me chuckle as I have a soft spot for him myself. Well worth a read if you are looking for a heartwarming, well written, wish you were there book.

I was privileged to be provided with a copy of this book through Netgalley, and for that I am happy to provide the above honest review.

Leo says

The moment I saw this book I knew I had to pick it up. Awesome title, that's for sure. I'm fascinated by the love everyone seems to profess for Colin Firth, especially to the extent of making a statue of him and putting it in the middle of a England Lake just to recreate the utterly famous Pride and Prejudice (great show, by the way, watch it if you haven't already) scene. But I guess it's understandable, Colin Firth definitely has something. Here's a quote of the book that kind of captures him:

“For me, Colin Firth all the way. He's our generation's Cary Grant - that swoon-worthy older actor, tall, dark and handsome, debonair but still very masculine and completely epitomizing everything a woman wants in a lifetime partner. Just look at how politely good looking he is. He's so British!”

There's a lot of references to Colin Firth in this book, a bunch of his movies are watched by the characters,

there's a Colin Firth fan club around (they wear "HAPPINESS IS COLIN FIRTH" t-shirts) and there's a drunk guy shouting sightings of Colin Firth because he is supposedly in town filming a movie. By the way, quote from Colin Firth that opens the book:

I'm fully aware that if I were to change professions tomorrow, become an astronaut and be the first man to land on Mars, the headlines in the newspapers would read: "Mr. Darcy Lands on Mars".

So damn true.

This novel reminded me of *The Husband's Secret*, a book I just read a few weeks ago and I totally loved. The structure is similar, we have three main characters narrating their stories, every chapter one of the three. The characters of both books felt real and you could relate to them, but whereas Moriarty's writing compelled me from the first moment, Mia March didn't achieve that. Which isn't to say he writes badly, but definitely not as good as Moriarty. I know this comparison sucks and if I had read this book first I would have probably like it a little more, but what are you gonna do? The events in THB happened within a week and it felt like a month due to the many things that happened. But in FCF the opposite happened, it was a longer period of time but it felt like two days had only passed. The main problem is that there was a lot of repetition, meaning that one character told us what was going on in her head, then she told a second character and then this second character told someone else and so on. I know in life we are bound to repeat ourselves a thousand times but that's why books need to condense stuff sometimes. See, this is where this book failed to deliver. In *The Husband's Secret* the characters "helped" each other offering new layers, but in FCF it just felt a bit repetitive.

And I'm going to compare again, sorry. The stories in THS touched my heart even though I couldn't relate personally (which is why I loved that book), the ones in FCF are more easy to relate to (and less dramatic) but I didn't feel that connection to the characters that I did feel with *The Husband Secret*.

But overall, it was a good read, I quite enjoyed it and didn't take much time to go through it. Recommended especially if you love Colin Firth because he is all over the place (not in person, but "spiritually").

And now, I'm off to watch *Pride and Prejudice* again ;)

P.S.: This was a birthday gift (that I selected myself) from my cool aunt :)

Sandra says

So far, it's not looking good. The author has written into this light-hearted book a terrible, grave, and even fatal mistake. Veronica, one of the main characters, is watching "Pride and Prejudice" on her dvd while there is much talk and thoughts on Colin Firth. The book is named for this man! But any true fan of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" and any fan of Colin Firth as Fitzwilliam Darcy would know easily that Veronica is watching the WRONG version! These are not the words uttered by Colin Firth to Jennifer Elhe, but of Matthew MacFayden to Keira Knightley right after he has walked across the field in the wee hours of the morning. I remember hearing them the first time as I watched this poor interpretation. I thought the words and execution ridiculous then. What is to become of the next 300 pages or so. I feel tainted already and I might not be able to forgive this mistake. I cannot think why it is not mentioned at all in some of the samplings of reviews posted here already. Stay tuned to see if the book can resurrect itself!

Well, upon finishing the book, it was a quick and light read. I liked the book for that, but I would not forget the error made. You just cannot fool a Janeite.
