



Good At Games

Jill Mansell

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Love is always just around the corner in a Jill Mansell novel - with a few surprises and a lot of humour on the way to happiness

Suzy fell for Harry the moment she showed him her husband's sperm sample. It didn't really belong to her husband, though, because she wasn't married. It wasn't a sperm sample either, it was a drinks carton containing the dregs of her milkshake. But when you're trying to get off a speeding charge you just have to improvise, don't you? And it wasn't actually love at first sight. Still, it was undeniably a healthy attack of lust...

Good At Games Details

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Author : Jill Mansell

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From Reader Review Good At Games for online ebook

Paula Sealey says

While the action in 'Good at Games' centres around the mansion home of ex-rock star and former alcoholic, Jaz Dreyfuss, as well as his ex-wives, current bubble-head, and a selection of their relatives and friends, the lead role and heroine of the tale is taken by feisty, wise-cracking, ex-wife number two, estate agent extraordinaire, Suzy. Suzy's mother, recently departed, , has left Suzy and her siblings to discover a skeleton (with skin and blood still attached) leaping out of the family cupboard.

An excellent, witty story full of likeable and believable characters. I didn't want the book to end!

Susan says

What can I say? Yet another great book by Jill Mansell. It's amazing how she has so many interweaving story-lines going on and yet she juggles them perfectly. I love her writing style and will just add that if you like English style chic lit, you will LURVE this book!!!!

Eline says

Always kind of the same story in a different coat, but still liked it. Jill Mansell is the author that got me hooked on chicklit so I have to stay faithful!

Ema says

Loved this so much. Absolutely absurd plot and way too much marriage, but lots of fun and characters I was rooting for.

Amii says

This is one twisted story ?? but it's cute .. loved all the characters and it's good to read about something other than sci-fi ??

Alison Bowker says

A great fiction quick read, funny, and hard to put down!!

Patrícia says

Num universo ficcional chuvoso e acolhedor onde nada é o que aparenta ser à primeira vista, onde a verdadeira beleza muitas vezes se esconde por entre expressões tímidas e roupas simples e onde a surpresa, o sentido de mudança e o amor se encontram mesmo ao virar da esquina, evitar soltar uma gargalhada, um arrepião ou um suspiro mais profundo torna-se uma tarefa não só árdua, e também, algo impossível...

«Jogos Secretos» trata-se de mais uma narrativa extraordinariamente divertida e dinâmica sobre as peripécias comuns do coração que afectam um fabuloso grupo de personagens peculiares e deveras excêntricas, ligadas entre si através de estreitos laços de amizade, cumplicidade e intuição. Num romance que se adivinha excepcional em surpresas e gloriosos momentos de partilha de afecto, escolha alguma poderia substituir a leveza, descontração e naturalidade com que esta autora premeia as suas obras, a um público que não só necessita como igualmente procura um meio de escape face o «complicado» do dia a dia.

Jill Mansell escreve com tal carisma e magnetismo, simplicidade e ternura, afeição, que muito dificilmente o leitor conseguirá colocar os seus romances de lado antes do virar da última página. É magistral a imaginação e cuidado que esta autora emprega aos seus romances, bem como a espontaneidade que confere aos seus diálogos, mas, ainda assim, é o humor característico do seu estilo de escrita o elemento que mais atrai nas suas histórias, e que instiga à leitura desenfreada de todas as suas obras.

Opinião completa, em:

[http://pedacinho-literario.blogspot.pt...](http://pedacinho-literario.blogspot.pt)

Lauren says

Really more of a 3.5 / 3.75 Stars than 3 but not quite 4 either. I think Jill Manuel is a good Author but I found this book to be a little drawn out. I also feel like the drama wasn't as good as it could have been? I do like that everyone got their happy ending but it was also a little predictable. This is more Chick Lit than Romance as the most she describes is kissing even though the characters do have sex. I would still recommend this for a beach or pool read. I will also check out some other books by the author as this is a feel good type of read.

Obsidian says

I will have to come back and think of a pithy title for this review some other time. For now, I am just going to go with the title of the book. I honestly don't have much to say about this book besides finding it boring as sin and also very rage inducing at times. I do love my romance reads, but from the beginning I found the whole premise of this book a bit hard to take. It made me think of a grown up Dawson's Creek (and a truly terrible 90210) since most of the people in this book were married, divorced, or had sex with each other at certain times. You do want to say to them all don't you know anyone else? I only talk to a handful of people I knew in high school. My circle of friends from undergrad and grad school is even smaller.

"Good at Games" follows Suzy, Jaz, Fee, Rory, Lucille, Harry, and Leo. There's Jaz's girlfriend Celeste and Suzy and Rory's sister Julia, but this book is overly long so don't expect me to discuss them much.

The main character is supposedly Suzy, but honestly this book shifts perspective so much I just consider her one of many of the characters "Good at Games" follows.

Suzy works with her brother Rory in his real estate business. After Suzy uses the worst excuse ever to get out of a traffic ticket (her husband and her are running to have her impregnated with his sperm which was in a drink cup from a fast food place) Suzy daydreams about the hot cop (Harry). Suzy then runs into Harry at a party (doesn't give him her information) and later on when she and her siblings (Rory and Julia) are getting ready to listen to their mother's will being read. There they find out their mother had an affair and had another child, Suzy's half sister Lucille. While that seems like a lot, it's nothing when you factor in Suzy living next door with her ex husband's first wife, Fee and she is still on friendly terms with her ex husband Jaz. Did you follow all of that?

Through a ridiculous set-up Suzy eventually gets to go out on a date with Harry, but though she likes him, she wonders if that is all there is since she apparently thinks that a man who treats you okay is a terrible boyfriend to have. She wants some fire (drama). Enter Leo, Harry's older brother who sets up Suzy and honestly shows that she is not someone that anyone should date. Of course Suzy then starts thinking about Leo cause hey when a guy treats you like dirt he is totally the one. Do not even get me started of the many times Leo accuses Suzy of cheating on Harry and practically spiting whore at her.

I honestly don't even want to get into the other characters. The main premise of the book though is that Suzy finds herself engaged to Harry though she doesn't want to be. And though Harry initially seemed to be the only one who was a decent character except for Fee, he quickly descends into douche-bag territory so you want Suzy to dump him.

The writing is typical Mansell, but honestly this does not have the humor of her other books. Reading about terrible people doing terrible things gets old after a while. A good part of this book could definitely have been cut.

The flow was off too. I think honestly since the book kept jumping around you honestly don't know who is doing what to who or why you should care.

The ending though has a HEA for everyone except for two people who honestly I hoped would be eaten by sharks at this point.

Kaitlyn Ferrier says

I really wanted to like this one, and I'm certainly still a big fan of Jill Mansell, but it just felt very disjointed and I didn't overly connect with the characters. Still fun, just not my favorite.

Elphaba J says

Quando pensamos que já folheamos todas as loucuras possíveis através das palavras de Jill Mansell, heis que descobrimos Jogos Secretos para provar que a criatividade desta autora não tem limites, assim como a sua boa disposição e as suas personagens, incontornáveis, caricaturas perfeitas dos nossos desejos mais íntimos mas que, preferencialmente, não deveremos seguir como exemplo ou acabaremos envolvidos em alucinantes

peripécias.

Gostaria de vos dizer que Suzy, a protagonista, é uma mulher perfeita no entanto, até mesmo ela que se tem em alta estima, saberia dizer-vos que não é bem assim. Ela veste-se como uma verdadeira senhora, sim, tem um bom emprego e, à sua maneira, sabe que até é muito bonita mas quando se trata de seduzir o homem perfeito, é um verdadeiro milagre que este não desate a fugir de si a sete pés. Ora vejamos, quando ela descobre um espécime masculino que realmente lhe interessa, mente-lhe (por uma causa que apenas ela considera nobre), mais tarde, quando o revê, é raptada (de uma forma que ela considera tudo menos nobre) e quando finalmente se voltam a encontrar, e se conhecem, tanto a sua família como o seu figurino estão no seu pior momento. Suzy não tem, de todo, a vida facilitada e sabe que o seu destino pode sempre piorar! A uma protagonista pouco convencional, com a capacidade inata de vos fazer gargalhar, juntam Jaz, o ex-marido músico famoso que já não canta, Celeste, uma aberração de pompons coquete e a actual mulher de Jaz, Lucille, uma irmã que nunca existiu, Harry, um polícia com queda para herói e Leo, o irmão do polícia com ar vilão, acho que, definitivamente, se pode afirmar que o universo de Suzy parece congeminar, literalmente, contra si, ameaçando destruir totalmente as suas hipóteses de descobrir o homem da sua vida.

Para lá das mil e uma voltas e reviravoltas mirabolantes que só esta autora sabe criar, através dos seus enredos fantásticos e preenchidos, o leitor poderá ainda encontrar abordagens ligeiras a temas muito diversificados como por exemplo, neste caso particular, o alcoholismo ou bigamia, que servem de ponto de partida para desenvolver alguns dramas afectivos mas tudo isto, claro está, de maneira tremendamente divertida.

Dos mais tímidos aos mais desinibidos, passando pelos corações apaixonados àqueles que se recusam a sentir, nesta história quem lê terá oportunidade de encontrar um pouco de tudo no que respeita a intervenientes o que permite explorar, profundamente, as relações humanas sem que, em momento algum, fique de parte o maior trunfo do livro, a garantia de comédia e entretenimento.

Sem dúvida, o tipo de leitura irresistível para os adeptos de romances mais exigentes que pretendam disfrutar de páginas que proporcionem um bom momento de descontração.

Opinião completa: <http://historiasdeelphaba.blogspot.pt...>

Meowpoff Moony says

When you read the back of the book. You think this is going to be a fun book. This is going to be hilarious and easy read. But...this book was boring, utterly and completely boring. I did not care about any of the characters... maybe a little bit with the dog, Baxter. Because he sounded cute. But other than that, dragging myself through this book was just... meh. I expected more. I expected funny and maybe random things to happen... but nope. Not one bit. Just ugh. It felt like nagging - the book consisted of nagging and complaining 80% of the time. Plus there were some cruel people there... Leo and Suzy (Main character) were somewhat cruel... Harry were kiind of creepy... the others were just.. nagging and boring.

I have read other books by Jill Mansell which were far better than this, so this one disappointed me a great deal.

Payal says

Cute, quirky, a lot like a rom-com movie. Slightly predictable and rather slow in the middle. Liked the MC and her staggering self confidence. Enjoyed it thoroughly!

Suad Shamma says

This is the worst Mansell book I've read to date. I mean, I've given some of her books a 1-star rating before because I thought they were terrible, but my God, they were nothing compared to this piece of utter drivel and nonsense! I'd go back and change all the previous 1-star ratings if I could, but I'd much rather give this a NO star rating.

It was terrible. TERRIBLE. I am not exaggerating. This was really a horribly written book with the worst plot imaginable and the worst group of characters to ever grace the pages of a book. What BS! I cannot believe Jill Mansell was happy to let this book be published, she should be ashamed of herself.

Suzy is one of the most screwed up protagonists I've ever read about. I cannot believe that she was made into the protagonist, she should be the villain! She's arrogant, shallow, self-absorbed, silly, stupid, an airhead, and absolutely shameless brat. In fact, every character in this book was like that. I don't know what Mansell was going through when she wrote this book, but man oh man, it must've been a terrible time in her life to come up with such despicable, abominable, distasteful bunch of characters. The deception, the infidelity, the lies, and manipulation - why?!? How is this supposed to be a feel-good chicklit?! Or a romcom?

There was no depth to any of the characters. Every one was manipulating another person. Suzy pursues one guy, Harry, only to realize she doesn't like him because...well...because, nothing. She just doesn't like him for no reason! And decides to pursue his brother, Leo, who happened to have a history of taking Harry's girlfriends and then tossing them aside and then having them become so miserable that they commit suicide. What kind of man is this?!?! What kind of f---d up hero is this?! I don't care how much time has passed, you're still scum!!

And Harry...sweet Harry, suddenly turns into a villainous, treacherous, cheat! REALLY?!?! He cheats on Suzy with HER ex's girlfriend, Celeste, and then when Mansell tries to redeem herself by allowing us to believe that it was true love and therefore SOMEWHAT forgivable because they truly love each other, we find out a few chapters later that they cannot stand to be with one another anymore!! And Celeste is seen grovelling at Jaz's feet to take her back again - Jaz being Suzy's ex, by the way.

Oh my God!! I could go on, but this just makes me so mad!! Everyone is horrible!! Everyone!!

The only two characters I liked enough to care what happens to them was Suzy's brother, Rory and Jaz's first wife whose name completely fails me right now.

What truly astounds me and baffles me though, is the amount of 5 and 4-star rating this book has received.

Hannie says

Een leuk boek. Het is grappig en leest vlot. De enige reden waarom ik er zolang over gedaan heb, is dat ik weinig gelezen heb. In het begin moest ik even aan de vele personages wennen. Soms had ik moeite om iemand te plaatsen. Echt een feelgood roman. Een aanrader als je op zoek bent naar een vrolijk en luchting boek.
