



Match Me If you Can

Michele Gorman

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Would you trade in your ex for the chance to find the perfect upgrade?

Catherine's ex-husband and business partner drops a bombshell over their Chardonnay. He's getting remarried. Catherine has bras that are older than his girlfriend and now he's selling his half of their romantic recycling business to the girl. Worse, she thinks she's going to run Catherine's beloved company.

Meanwhile, Rachel's biggest romantic mistake sits next to her at work. They're friends again after the relationship went disastrously wrong, but they're pitted against each other to win their firm's biggest architecture project. So when she joins Catherine's website, RecycLove.com, where everyone recycles an ex for the chance of an upgrade, she knows just who she's going to trade in.

And Sarah can't be bothered tottering around in painful shoes for another pointless date. Staying home is easier, if a bit lonely sometimes. Besides, her family circumstances don't leave a lot of free time. She reluctantly joins Catherine's dating site with Rachel, but as a minor makeover turns into a complete overhaul, will her newfound popularity be worth the sacrifices she's making?

Match Me If you Can Details

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From Reader Review Match Me If you Can for online ebook

Rebecca says

Originally reviewed on Becca's Books.

Match Me If You Can by Michele Gorman was a fantastically fun, flirty and fabulously entertaining novel in which three best friends, Catherine, Rachel and Sarah, set out on their separate courses in life, yet remain alongside each other as they do so. From careers and marriage, to siblings and ex's new women, I thoroughly enjoyed following the best friends as they dealt with the obstacles of life that tumbled into each of their ways along the path to happiness.

Michele Gorman has created and developed some truly wonderful women in her latest rom-com, Match Me If You Can. Catherine, Rachel and Sarah were all smart, sassy, ambitious and driven women who every young woman could certainly do no wrong in aspiring to be like. What I adored most about these three women though, is that not only were they each trying to progress career-wise, but they also had their own troubles too. From the welfare of siblings, to the hunt for the perfect man, Michele provided me with numerous topics to really think about. This wasn't just a book to have a good chuckle about. It was a book that held immeasurable amounts of love and warmth for me as the reader. The characters were the type that you grow to know so well, inside and out, it's impossible for you not to care about their future and wonder where the author will take them next. Even the secondary characters within this novel felt almost as prominent as the primary characters, so brilliantly were they delivered to me. Colourful personalities, distinctive traits and well-defined issues with each of the women helped to keep them separate in my mind, meaning I could follow each of the best friends with tons of enthusiasm towards whatever challenge they faced next.

The pacing of Match Me If You Can was perfect for me. Even while raising issues and ensuring my interest was kept right the way through, I really don't think Michele faltered once. I sped through this book, lapping up every detail of each of the women's' lives, particularly enjoying the parts where the author would take me back in time to visit a certain part of the characters' pasts, in order to show me how they'd been moulded into the person they were today. These memories only made me enjoy the characters even more, and I really did feel as if I knew them completely. Their personalities and behaviour were so well constructed, they were real to me.

Following each of the women through the ups and downs of their life, cheering them on and hoping for the best possible outcome at every turn, this really was a truly enjoyable novel. It was exciting and warm, witty and entertaining, and Catherine, Rachel and Sarah had me turning those pages as quick as anything. I felt completely involved within the separate paths the women took, but adored how these paths returned and crossed throughout the story, in the way that only best friends can do. It was full of friendship and support and hope, and left me with a huge grin on my face.

Becca's Books is awarding Match Me If You Can by Michele Gorman with FOUR gorgeous cupcakes! This is definitely a book you'll want to pick up if you love humour, romance and friendship, and all of the wonderful things between.

Alison says

2.5 - it was ok

Simona says

Book provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review

The story follows best friends Rachel, Sarah and Catherine on their journey to find Mr. Right.

Catherine started a dating website with her ex-husband Richard. It's called RecycLove and everyone that joins, has to join with an ex partner. They have to fill out a form and write a recommendation for the other, reflecting on their relationship. It was fun reading these forms I have to say. So Catherine wants her friends to join the website and they do. Richard sells his part of the company to his fiancée Magda and she is pregnant. A lot to take in for Catherine. I enjoyed seeing parts of the past of their relationship.

Sarah has a lot to deal with. Her mother passed away a few years ago and Sarah and her brother Robin have to take care of their sister Sissy, who has down-syndrome, which isn't easy. She also wants to date again, but doesn't know how, she is introverted and prefers staying at home. With a little nudge from her friends she changes a little and goes out more. Sarah loves baking and when her friends sign her up for a certain TV show.

Rachel is an architect and is competing against her ex-boyfriend James. Is he really over her?! Well, James has a great plan to find out for sure...

Honestly, I took me quite a while to get into the story and I don't really know why. I love the idea of it, but at the beginning I was struggling to get an overview. But the more I read, the more I enjoyed it. I loved the three ladies and their different personalities. I think they complement each other really well. It was great following these ladies on their dates and adventures. A vivid and entertaining book.

Nancy says

If you like chick lit, you will enjoy this fun romance. The author is very good at creating humorous situations with characters which seem realistic.

Alba says

Originally posted on: <http://www.albainbookland.com/2016/01...>

Something I really like about Michele Gorman is that her stories are always so original. With her, there's no girl meets boy; with her, there are strong down to earth women who might be looking for love but also have a thousand other things in their heads too, they have dreams, concerns and expectations. And above all, they have each other's backs. And that's exactly what Match Me If You Can is about.

Reading the blurb, I expected a fun story about online dating and its disasters. But what I got was way deeper and so self-affirming. Actually, the online dating is quite present in the stories of these three women, Catherine, Rachel and Sarah, but it's not the main focus. Catherine is the one who actually runs the website where you have to register with an ex and evaluate them so you both can find better fitted people for you. She actually owns it and other dating services with her ex-husband. Who is marrying a (quite) younger girl. Catherine was probably my least favourite character. She was OK in general but I didn't really care for her. It was interesting to find out more about her but her parts were the ones I enjoyed less.

Then there's Rachel, an architect who works with her ex-boyfriend. They are actually competing for a project, which made for some scenes between them. They join Catherine's website together and soon Rachel starts getting quite the attention. Rachel is quite stubborn and proud so I really enjoyed seeing her out of her comfort zone in her dates. And I was really happy with the ending of her story. She deserved it.

And finally there's Sarah. She was my favourite of the three, I guess because at the beginning she was kind of lost, never bothering to leave the house and focusing all her energies on baking for her loved one and forgetting about the rest of the world. She really needed to find herself and during the story we see her growing and learning to love herself. But the star of the story for me was Sarah's sister. She was such a special character. I'm sure you all will love her.

All in all, Match Me If You Can is a very entertaining story that flows easily. It has relatable characters and an original idea. It manages to surprise you more than once and it definitely makes you giggle.

Miranda says

I received a copy via the publisher for an honest review.

This is one of those classically tasteful, heartwarming, and magical stories you aspire to find in the bookstore. One that's going to make you cry and laugh all at once and have your heart just wanting to burst out of your chest with giddy emotions. Yes I was a happy crier by the end. It was just too perfect. I loved Catherine, Rachel, and Sarah. And all the side characters they all added such depth to these ladies and made them come alive for me, I could seriously gush over this gorgeous book all day. The concept for the dating was hilarious at times, mildly frustrating because I didn't want anyone to change to drastically since they to me were perfect but it's a way of life. It was like watching them on a tv in my eyes as a read, these ladies going about life and trying to grow and learn love and how to obtain and maintain it. Lovely stuff I must say. Hands down read this it's probably going to be up there on my top reads this year. 5 Ace Stars!

April Wood says

“What if Mr. Right is just a click away?”

Match Me If You Can is a humorous chick lit novel about a woman named Catherine, known as “London’s best date doctor”, who owns a dating business called Recyclove. She convinces her best-friends and housemates, Sarah and Rachel, to join her site and get their exes to sign up along with them. Recyclove is in the business of recycling your ex, and upcycling to a better relationship!

This novel had me laughing soooooo hard. I actually got the attention of my mother-in-law, who thought I was screaming in pain, when in fact I was just laughing hysterically. My favorite scene, and the scene that got my MIL's attention, was when Rachel was having a wardrobe malfunction with her pantyhose. -Nearly died of laughter!

I loved the women of this novel. I kept going back and forth between which lady was my favorite. In the end, I settled on Sarah. Sarah's love of baking and family/friends warmed me to her. Then there was Rachel, my second favorite. I loved her description as a "colour blind cat-lady", regarding her looks. And of course Catherine... I don't know how she dealt with her ex-husband's new fiance, Magda! -But, I sure did enjoy reading about them. (Another great scene was Magda's compulsive belly rubbing).

Another great touch was the crossover with The Curvy Girls Club. It made me smile when the ladies expressed an interest in it. Match Me If You Can reminded me a lot of The Curvy Girls Club, so if you have read that book by Michele Gorman, and enjoyed it, I would recommend this delightful chick lit as your next read!

Full Book Review: <https://aprillwood.wordpress.com/2016...>

Natalie TBGWP says

When Michele got in touch to see if I would read Match Me If You Can, I was actually so excited because the plot to this book is fantastic. I can actually see it becoming a real thing. Recycling your ex and getting an upgrade is genius!

Story is told in third person from friends Sarah, Catherine and Rachel. Catherine is owner of the matchmaking site RecycLove.com and convinces both Sarah and Rachel to join to find love.

And that's basically it.

I wanted to like it I really did. I tried so hard, but I just couldn't get into it. It took me a fortnight to actually get through it because I had to keep putting it down because I was bored. It's slow and flat and to be fair not very exciting. I didn't like how short each chapter was and I didn't like any of the characters. I did get confused a few times with who they were because they were bland and didn't leave any impression on me. No, sorry that's a lie. There is a saving grace in this read and it's Sarah's sister Sissy. Sissy is sixteen and has Down syndrome. She is fearless and funny and lovely and the relationship get and Sarah have is beautiful. I'm sorry for the negativity here, I don't mean to be brutal. I just didn't think it went anywhere and it didn't get there quick enough either.

I'm really sorry Michele.

Kim says

This was a really great read. Recyclove is a dating agency with a difference. When you join you must get an ex to join up and give a review on you! Catherine and her ex husband Richard set it up.

Three friends share a house and all want to find love and sign up to the agency with ex partners. They are such rounded characters and you can enjoy the friendships and traumas along the way. You meet other characters in their lives and they add great depth to the story.

Richard's fiancé Magda adds an interesting dimension to the book.

A really enjoyable read.

With many thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for the chance to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

Leah says

I've read the majority of Michele Gorman's books and I generally really like them, so when I heard about Match Me If You Can, I knew I wanted to read it and it sounded hilarious. Unfortunately, the hype and build-up didn't really come across in the book - where was the hilarity? I genuinely thought Rachel and Sarah and Catherine were going to recommend boyfriends to each other, or something, but no. Instead it was just the story of three friends, who all happen to be single, and two end up joining the third's dating site. When I'm promised a funny read I imagine something like Sophie Kinsella or Lindsey Kelk, and while I enjoyed Match Me If You Can, there was no humour in the book.

Don't get me wrong, I enjoyed getting to know the three girls, they were amazing. How Catherine managed to face her ex and his new, younger girlfriend/fiancee every day was baffling, as they were partners at Catherine's dating website, you have to be brave to do that like. Rachel I loved, she was very ballsy (up until the end, when she turned into a silent wimp, my one fear for Chick Lit because GIRLS NEVER TALK TO EACH OTHER. They let things fester, with bad feeling, instead of just opening their gobs, sigh). By far my favourite character was Sarah. She was the most like me, bookish, indoorsy, happy to let the world outside fly past, until she decides to live a little. Mostly I enjoyed her interactions with her sister, Sissy. Sissy was a scene stealer! She was amazing. And she had me craving toast like you wouldn't believe. Seriously, if you read this book keep a toaster, a loaf of bread and a ton of butter handy.

Match Me If You Can wasn't what I expected but it was a fairly decent read, I enjoyed it, and getting to know the girls was a pleasure. Getting to know Sissy was the icing on the cake, she was genuinely just that awesome. The book may not have been as funny as I would have wanted it to be, because I do love an author who can genuinely make me laugh and Michele can do that, it's happened before, and I may have gotten annoyed at Rachel's antics, but that's just Chick Lit characters. They don't bloody talk to each other, do they? But I really did enjoy the book. The fellas feature were completely out of this world, and Alis was by far the most bizarre. Honestly, not only do you have to read this book to meet the wonderful Sissy, but Alis has to be seen to be believed.

Agi says

The first thing that drew my attention was the title of this book - Match Me if You Can - it's fantastic, I personally love it and it really stands out from the crowd. Then the premise - it's brilliant, just brilliant, and I don't think I have ever come across such concept before. I mean, recycling exes - how clever and unique is this?

But in fact the story itself has not much to do with recycling exes. I was expecting a very different story, full of awkward, embarrassing, funny situations regarding this recycling, I was hoping for dates, dates, dates like you wouldn't believe, but I got something totally different. Michele sticks to her proven and safe concept of three friends living together under one roof, living their own lives. Catherine is the one with the dating business that she started with her ex - husband, Richard. She's happy with the arrangements, as Richard lets her have a carte blanche, but the situation changes when he sells his shares to his fiancé Magda - a VERY young fiancé, let's add. Catherine, by the ways of expanding business a little, is also giving a one - to - one tutorials with some special clients, clients who can't find The One. Then we have Rachel, a young architect who's working together with her ex on their first project. And by working together I of course mean that they must compete against each other! Who is going to win this project and probably get a promotion? And meet Sarah, whose mum passed away few years ago, leaving Sarah and her brother in charge of their younger sister, Sissy. Sarah doesn't have time to think about herself and she's putting all others before herself. Out of all those three women I think it was Sarah that I fell mostly for. It was incredibly touching to see how she looks after her younger sister, how seriously she takes this responsibility. In all those everyday problems she forgets about herself and she feels the most comfortable in a tracksuit and without any make - up, and she doesn't even bother to start thinking about finding a boyfriend. I liked her most out of the three friends - I have a feeling that even though there was a lot about Catherine, I still don't know her too well, and Rachel was the most immature and shallow. Nevertheless, I really appreciate that all the three girls were so different, as it made the story this bit better, and they really complemented each other.

But back to recycling. To be in a chance to join RecycLove, you must sign with your ex - so yes, it's a website with a twist, ha! The former couple must answer questions about each other, rating them from 1 to 4, which is not visible to the public, and they write each other recommendation, which is visible. And this is what I missed so, so much, because there are only two couples doing this evaluation and the rest of the book concentrates on the girls' private lives. So yes, more than about dating and slashing the exes right and left, this is a story about learning something new, about discovering who you truly are and what you really want from life, about finding the right balance between work and private life.

This book is written in the typical Michele's way - first she introduces all the characters to us, and then slowly and continuously takes us deeper and deeper. Each of the chapter is then told from one of the characters' point of view, my favourite way BTW, as we then know what all of them are thinking. And, in fact, we have three stories bundled into one book - and as much as I'd SO like to have a book about dating, and only dating, I really appreciate what Ms Gorman has done with her characters, how she allowed us to follow them on their journey through their lives, dealing with obstacles and searching for happiness.

What I also like in Michele's latest releases is the fact that her heroines are normal woman with same everyday problems as all of us, and that all of them are intelligent and ambitious and they're not scared to change their lives to achieve what they want - which doesn't mean that they're going through life blasting their ways out. No, but still they manage to achieve something.

So Match Me if You Can, even though it was not this what I was expecting, was a fast - paced novel filled with vivid, realistic characters, full of friendship, hope and strong women supporting each other. Every word here sounds honest and genuine, and I couldn't help thinking that this could happen in real life as well, oh heck, it's for sure happening right now somewhere around the world, and Michele has created a great story. She has also managed to brilliantly balance humour with much more important issues, such as caring for a family member with disability, cancer and... yes, that having a group of reliable builders is also important :) I am a little disappointed it didn't turn out the way I was hoping for it, but altogether I think it is the best Michele's novel yet.

Copy provided by publisher in exchange for a review.

Cora Tea Party Princess says

5 Words: Friends, family, love, attraction, regret.

This book was so freaking hilarious that I banned myself from reading it at work during my breaks because I was making so much noise laughing.

Michele Gorman hasn't been on my radar for long, but I will definitely, absolutely read each and every book I can find. So far, every new book I read is better than the last, and that's one heck of an achievement.

Even having finished the book, I couldn't tell you which character I liked the most. It wasn't that they blended together into one, it's just that they were so different, they all came across so differently.

I loved the premise. All of these ladies still in touch with their exes, I just knew it was going to be a pretty crazy read. And it blew my expectations out of the water, especially with the inclusion of various side stories and the little snippets of the past that we got to glimpse really added another dimension to the story, I felt that it stood apart from your average chick lit.

I received a copy of this for free via the publisher for review purposes and I am taking part in the blog tour.

Charlotte Jones says

I have been in the mood for contemporary fiction recently and I am fully embracing that so I decided to pick up Match Me If You Can if I'm honest, almost purely on the cover from Overdrive.

This story is told in third person concentrating in alternate chapters on three characters' lives; three female housemates navigating the modern London dating scene. Throughout the book, I enjoyed the characters and the plot for the most part, however there was one point in the book (about 80% through) where one of the characters seemed to be discriminatory against someone for being asexual. Not only did it frustrate me that this was something the author had written, but also I felt like it didn't fit the character either. Apart from that one hiccup, I did really enjoy this novel. The concept was well executed and I liked that the characters had to overcome some of their own perceptions and prejudices by the end.

On the whole, this was a fun book that was a case of the right book at the right time for me. I enjoyed it but it wasn't without it's flaws so although I would recommend it, there are aspects that I wish hadn't been included.

Nada Hosny says

“You listen to me, you daft cow. You are not boring. If you were we wouldn’t be friends. You’re funny and clever and, yes ,okay, you’re a bit of a dingbat sometimes but that doesn’t make you boring. The fact that we never know what’ll come out of your mouth actually makes you interesting. Now, that’s the end of that.”

when I First picked up this book, I felt like I was picking up a book for Sophie Kinsella, The cover design was so sweet and adorable, just like Sophie’s books, so when I found Sophie’s praise on the Cover, I knew I’m gonna love this one. And Boy I did!

One of the Funniest books I’ve read, I was seriously laughing out loud (FYI I was at work, and I wasn’t supposed to be reading, emm, so yeah it was not a nice situation).

“ She watched the woman around her. Most of them undulated like strippers or ground their arses into the men dancing behind them. She copied a few of the less X-rated moves and hoped she didn’t look like she needed seizure medication.”

I always had a problem with books that included more than one story at once, like multiple heroines; I'm so bad at remembering names, so I’m always so confused when the author starts talking about another character.

But in this one, each character had her own magic, each personality stands out, each one of them was pretty special.

Summary:

Three best friends, Catherin, Rachel, and Sarah; live and share everything together. Catherine owns a dating site, she’s London’s finest Matchmaker, So when her best friends decide to join her site, each one had to join with her ex-boyfriend. That’s when the fun begins.....

While reading this book, I grew attached to each character. I was actually really sad to end the book, I felt as if I was the fourth roommate in their home. Hahaha, I know I’m hopeless!

Catherine, the great matchmaker was pretty amazing herself! She was the perfect lady, beautiful and independent but suffering from her ex’s fiancé.

“Victory! Catherine wanted to pull the front of her top over her head and run around the office making V-signs. Of course, she wouldn’t do that.”

Normally, when you break up, you get far away from your ex, yeah? Well, Rachel the talented Architect was working with her Ex. It was really funny how they were together. She wanted to do everything her way; she was sassy and stubborn and just gorgeous! I admired her. And I absolutely loved her personality.

Sarah Lee was the one I could relate too, she was all shy and cute, and she baked a lot of yummy goodies along the book! Yeah, I was mainly hungry while reading, but I enjoyed it!
Can I just say that my fav part was the last few pages where there were the actual recipes for Sarah's baking?
I mean, can this book be any better?

The book was really funny and interesting. The 400 pages was a lovely journey with these three beautiful ladies, sharing their fears, happiness, confusion, and awkwardness. I loved every word of it.

And the big, beautiful thing about it? It had a happy ending! Ahh, I'm a sucker for happy endings, guys you have no idea!

And hum, I am definitely buying more books for Michele Gorman.

“What was that expression? It's when you're not looking for something that you find it. well, she wasn't about to put that on the love match letterhead, even if it was true, she had a business to run after all.”

Samantha March says

I received a review copy

I'm a big fan of Michele Gorman, and try to read everything she comes out with. This book sounded fairly unique to me for being in the chick lit/rom com family. For some reason, the book started out very slow to me. I just struggled to become invested in the characters, but I can't honestly put my finger on why.

Sometimes books that have a lot of section breaks can make it easy for me to put down, and maybe that's what happened here. I just found myself putting it down a lot, but that's not to say I didn't like it, because I did. Especially after the halfway point, I thought things really started to get interesting. And I enjoyed the little twist at the end that I really didn't see coming, but it sure made me happy! A nice, enjoyable chick lit read.
