



It's Raining Men

Milly Johnson

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Best friends May, Lara and Clare are desperate for a holiday. They have been dreaming of a little cottage away from it all, long walks in the country and just a bit of time away from it all. But when they arrive in Ren Dullem, a small Yorkshire seaside town, it seems it is not the place they thought it was...

May has never quite found her niche in life, or her Mr Right. Then in Dullem she falls hook line and sinker at first glance for one of the inhabitants - but he's already taken.

Lara is living with James and his awful step-children who taunt her with tales of his younger, prettier ex whom they adored. The woman who Lara walks in to find James in bed with despite all his protestations that he wouldn't touch her again with a barge pole. Reeling from the hurt, she needs the sea air of Dullem to heal her. What she doesn't need is to be constantly in battle with the owner of the holiday cottage - a man who is every bit as bitter and resentful and untrusting of the other sex as she is.

Clare's fiance Hugh wants her to go and live abroad with him for two years, but she's just been offered the promotion of a life-time. She needs some headspace to think about what she needs to do, but then she meets a very bad boy who is everything Hugh isn't - impulsive, wild and dangerous. Will this holiday be the break they all need?

Or will it bring them all to breaking point...?

It's Raining Men Details

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From Reader Review It's Raining Men for online ebook

Cressida McLaughlin says

My first Milly Johnson book, but definitely not my last. Magical!

Sarah says

Not one of my favourite Milly Johnson books but it was a very enjoyable experience nonetheless. The beginning drags on a little, and there is a 'magical element' in the denouement, which is why I'm only giving it 3 stars, but Milly Johnson fans will love it anyway.

Jacob Proffitt says

I felt like I was slogging through this book and realized that I was nearly a quarter through and they hadn't even *left* for the vacation that features so heavily in the cover copy. So I stopped and immediately felt relief.

Some of what made this hard to connect to is that all three women seem rather the same. They're all supposedly high-powered women in a large company, but they're also all just balls of insecurity and hopelessness in their personal lives as well. And they're all with men who are, at best, negligent (at worst exploitative). Even their inner voices seem undifferentiated. And they're even kind of haphazard with each other. Indeed, if they are "best friends" as the cover copy claims, that's more of an indictment of how empty their lives are as they start off relatively detached even from each other.

And can I just say I'm not a fan of the author's PoV hopping? It was bad enough hopping between the three main women (even in the middle of a conversation), but it was worse when the omniscient viewpoint would move through one of their men and back again for a sentence or a paragraph. It was disconcerting and none of the extended attention brought me information I wanted or was interested in. (view spoiler)

So yeah, I stopped. It might have contributed that this was my lunchtime reading book and so I came at it in tiny windows of time and that didn't help me connect. At any rate, I feel like I've wasted enough time and need to move on for a bit.

Sherwood Smith says

The heat has been so merciless I wanted something light with a guaranteed happy ending, and this really hit the spot.

Three English women desperately need a vacation, so one of them promises to set them up at a snazzy spa. But the vacation agent fluffs the name of the town, mistaking it for the next town over, and they arrive to find themselves booked into a cottage that at first looks like a dump. But it's got its mysteries, and slowly reveals its charms, meanwhile the village it's in is odd and intriguing.

Woven into this storyline is a seemingly unrelated one about a predatory gold digger snaking in on a fragile old man who is last of his family, living in a manor house.

Then there is the old lady living precariously on top of a cliff . . .

The plot is really tight, the characters revealed in delicious layers, the mystery slowly unfolding, and the title phrase used several times, once with breathtaking poignancy. The touch of magic is just right. I enjoyed this book so much I forgot the killing heat.

Agi says

I have read some of Milly Johnson's books before and I have really liked them. So I think I don't have to mention that when I got the opportunity to read her newest one I have sprung on it immediately. From the very beginning it was typical Milly's book. There were moments that I laughed like crazy or couldn't stop giggling. There were moments that found me very sad. This book awoke again all emotions in me.

The three main characters are also so typical for Milly hardworking, loveable women. I liked every one of them and I felt for them. All three girls are having similar problems when it comes to their work and love life and a holidays in luxury spa is only what the doctor order. Unfortunately, as usually, the life is not so easy and nice and the holidays are not so promising as they should be. We are thrown then in the roller coaster of situations, romances, drama, love and friendship - there are all of these elements and more.

Actually, I must come back to the main characters, Clare, Lara and May because I really, really loved them. Their lives were not as beautiful as we and they can think and I was keeping my fingers crossed for them reading how they are struggling and fighting and seeing how unfair everything can be, and how strong a friendship can be. The only thing that bothered me a little was the fact that they girls considered herself best friends yet they couldn't have brought themselves to be open to each other and tell the truth immediately. What I also liked about them is that they were not judging each other.

The characters were so drawn that we loved them or hated them. There were two people that I especially disliked, Val and Daisy of course. The rest of the people living in the village were - despite the unfortunate beginning - great, warm and friendly people and friendship and loyalty were very important for them.

I have loved the mysterious feeling to this book and secrets that were slowly revealed. I am not a big fan of such magic in the books, magic that suspend disbelief but nevertheless, it was so ethereal and in some ways just suited this book.

Altogether, it was a great read, a kind of unique book mixing the elements of romance with magic. The setting was beautiful and with the fantastic description I could see everything with my eyes. Light - hearted, full of hope and engaging, one of the nicest read this year.

I received a copy of this book from publisher in exchange for a review.

Ainur says

I was not expecting this book to be so good. amazingly good that I simply cannot put it down and hence, spend almost two days with it, ignoring the fact that I have my last test tomorrow. Well, one must simply know the feeling that you cannot concentrate on anything unless you know what's finally happened, right?

So, this story starts pretty simple, three women with guys problems. I thought that would be it, you know? Having guy problem, head on to relaxing vacation, and then you find someone new, someone better, someone that can take your minds off your ex. But no, there's more to that in this book, and I am simply not disappointed.

A light, enjoyable read, totally recommend it for anyone who enjoy chick-lit reading.

You can't make a rainbow without a little rain.

Book-shelf Shelf says

Every time I pick up one of Milly's books, I am hooked by the end of the first page. The descriptions of the people and places are second to none, the story is heartfelt and warming and you feel as if your living in between the pages rather than reading them. Never have I felt a staleness or sameness, rushed writing or lack of story. Each and every book is new, fresh and exciting, bringing new feelings to the reader with every page.

This book is no exception with the story of a small town no one really knows about and is like no other. The story opens twists and turns so the reader is kept on the cliff edge, as many of the characters, which it has to be said are some of the best characters I have encountered. This is one book I will be visiting again and again and will probably be passed down in my family...if friends don't nick it first.

Nicola Clough says

I always enjoy Milly Johnson books they are so easy to read there are a small group of friends who have wanted to have a holiday together to spend quality time together and imagine of a lovely little cottage but the lady who books the holiday books the wrong place and they end up somewhere they weren't expecting at all can they settle there and be happy or do they decide to try and book somewhere else. They also have men problems so can they sort them out and enjoy a break. Well worth reading.

Iben says

Endnu en skøn skøn bog!

Stacey says

I couldn't finish this book. I stopped reading around 200 pages in because I love Milly Johnson books and didn't want to give up. Usually I find they start a bit slow and then get amazing about 1/3 in but unfortunately this wasn't the same.

This whole novel just seemed a bit strange and a bit far-fetched for my liking. The three main characters all

seemed quite fake, saying that they are best friends but not telling each other huge things that are happening in their lives. Then all of a sudden they meet three brothers and you just know what is going to happen next...

I don't want to give this a low rating but at the same time I just couldn't get into it. The storyline seemed a bit ridiculous once they got to the cottage and for me, it just went downhill from there. The first part of the storyline was great - which is why I'm giving it 3 stars - as I enjoyed reading about the three characters individual issues and there was great drama but after that it just didn't seem all that.

Kim says

Oh wow, judging by the title the book was not about what I expected and I loved that! Three busy career women plan a holiday but end up at the wrong cottage by a booking mistake. Before the holiday we got a taste of their lives and the men in them. Right before the vacation their loves lives got turned upside down and the holiday in this strange town comes just in time. I loved the suspense this book carried along with the laughs and unexpected outcomes. Great one from Milly Johnson.

Leona says

Quite fun. I kept thinking that the magical folklore would be reduced to something logical and scientifically explained away. But nope, not this time. The beauty of it lies in the author's execution and her ability to draw the most skeptical of us into the story. Add a little bit of mystery, quirky characters, female bonding, and you've got another gem from Millie Johnson.

Fabulous Book Fiend says

Review: something completely different again for Milly Johnson. She seems to have the ultimate gift for discovering something that hasn't been covered in Women's fiction and writing about it. This books deals with the weird and wonderful, but at the centre of it still has that lovely heartwarming tale of three women just trying to get the best out of their lives that Milly Johnson does so well!

I was completely drawn into this book from the word go, it literally travelled everywhere with me! It starts out telling you all about the dramas that are going on in the lives of May, Lara and Clare. As always these things are completely realistic and something which a lot of busy working women will be able to relate to. Not having time to have coffee with my friends is something I suffer from too. They are all unlucky enough and then find themselves unlucky in holidays too, when they wind up at the worn holiday destination, something which I'm sure one or two of us have inadvertently done too! The tale which follows is somewhat unusual but entirely captivating and definitely a page-turner!

These characters are Johnson's usual strong women with loud voices and big ambitions in life. I found Clare's struggle with what was obviously depression hard to read at some points, but I found I could relate to all three of the women and I am sure that there will be something for everyone amongst these three women somewhere. The male characters in the book were certainly that-real individual characters. Each of them added humour to the story and were very easy to picture from the descriptions the Johnson gave of these intriguing men!

Something else which was well described was the setting. It is set in a seaside town which meant lots of wonderful descriptions of the ocean, the bay and of the course the smell of the sea air. The cottage which the women stay in is also well described and I would have loved to have curled up in one of the comfy beds in the cosy cottage where they spend their week.

Without giving too much away in old say this is a wonderful summer read for anyone looking for something light and fun with a strong wholesome message thrown in for good measure. Whether you are a fan of this amazing author or not, I am sure that you will enjoy all this book has to offer. Although it is a long one, it is definitely worth popping in your handbag or your suitcase this August. You will find wonderful characters, and intriguing storyline and plentiful smilies to keep you smiling from start to finish. Another hit for this fabulous author!

Love Fool says

Best friends May, Lara and Clare are desperate for a holiday. They have been dreaming of a little cottage away from it all, long walks in the country and just a bit of time away from it all. But when they arrive in Ren Dullem, a small Yorkshire seaside town, it seems it is not the place they thought it was...

I am becoming a HUGE fan of Milly Johnson. Her writing is funny and original. I was a little worried about reading this book though because I thought the whole story would be about three whiny women but it was not that at all. It was about a town with secrets and the secrets are a little crazy but it makes the story work. The women happen to go to the town for a vacation and it changes their love and work lives. A very fun read!

Anne says

It's Raining Men is a little bit of a change for Milly, it features her trademark gritty Northern humour, and some fabulous leading characters, but added to the mix in this novel is a little hint of magic. I'll admit that at first I wasn't sure if I would like the magical element, but am happy to say that she's nailed it, and nailed it down pretty hard and fast!

Three best friends, successful women who work hard and are all having a bit of an emotional roller-coaster of a time with their love lives. May, Lara and Clare decide that it's time for some me-time, they need to get away from the relentless working routine, from their partners and from the City. They need a break, somewhere where they can relax and be pampered, somewhere that is out of the way but will still provide the little luxuries that they deserve. The spa that they book sounds perfect and they have ten whole days to spend chilling out and catching up on life.

They find themselves in Ren Dullem - this is not the spa resort that they booked. This is a strange little village, with very few women, the sun doesn't shine and the locals are far from friendly.

And so begins their adventure in a village that wouldn't look out of place in a horror movie. Dealing with three very different brothers, some very anti social shopkeepers and maybe a witch too!

Milly Johnson has served up a fabulously fun and quirky summer read that will delight her fans, add a little magic to mix of strange, but wonderfully drawn characters and let yourself be sucked in by the story. I loved the description of the village Ren Dullem - it's almost a character in it's own right. Recommended as a great get-away-from-it-all story that will have you giggling and smiling.
