



Angels

Marian Keyes

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Maggie has always been the white sheep of the Walsh family. Unlike her comically dysfunctional sisters, Rachel (heroine of *Rachel's Holiday*) and Claire (heroine of *Watermelon*), she married a decent man who adored her and found herself a solid career. Where Rachel was reckless and Claire dramatic, Maggie settled early for safety. Or so she believed until she discovers that her husband is having an affair and her boss is going to fire her. Suddenly, her perfectly organized life has become a perfect mess.

Devastated, she decides the only thing to do is to run for the shelter of her best friend, Emily, who lives in Los Angeles. There, with the help of sunshine and long days at the beach, she will lick her wounds and decide where life will take her next. But from the moment she lands in the City of Angels, things are not quite what she expected. Overnight, she's mixing with movie stars, even pitching film scripts to studios. Most unexpectedly of all, she finds that just because her marriage is over, it doesn't mean her life is. In the end neither the City of Angels nor Maggie Walsh will ever be the same again.

Angels Details

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Author : Marian Keyes

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Laura says

Marian Keyes is one of my favorite authors. At first glance her novels appear to be "chick-lit" but once you start reading them, you realize there is a thoughtful depth to them. Sometimes it takes well into the novel for the true subject to be revealed, but it is always entertaining, and most times, funny, on the way there.

This is an oldie but goodie I had in my shelves that I came across when I was waiting for a library book to come in. Ms. Keyes' novels always make me feel like a better person when I'm done reading them. She does such a good job with her characters and the real life experiences she puts them into.

She is such a wonderful author and can minutely detail the fine points in interpersonal relationships that I find myself almost gasping and thinking, I've thought/felt/said that before!

The first novel I ever read of hers was Watermelon, a novel about a woman whose husband leaves her the day after she births their first child. So real was the emotions described in the plot regarding the husband and the baby that I was shocked to later find out Ms. Keyes had no children of her own. She is an amazing writer and I love each of her novels.

Pennie Larina says

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Trin says

This book almost does something very interesting for chick lit: the main character, an Irish woman whose marriage is coming apart, comes to L.A. to escape from it all. She is shocked—shocked!—to discover that the old friend she's staying with has another friend who's a lesbian. Then she gets a little crush on the lesbian friend. Then she has a lesbian fling! This is almost cool like fanfic. But then the main character realizes that she really loves her husband and goes back to him. Sigh.

Keyes does the same thing with the flashback abortion plot. Main character (whose name, in case you can't tell, I've totally forgotten) goes to England to get an abortion. But at the last second she changes her mind! THEN SHE MISCARRIES ANYWAY! Now, in the present, she has angst because she thinks this has made her unable to have a baby now that she wants one. Um...wouldn't this plot have been better if it involved actual guilt from an actual abortion? There's too much trying to play to both sides in this book. It's annoying.

But the brief lesbian fling part was hot.

Mulva? says

Prologue:

"Shortly we will be landing at Los Angeles International Airport. Please ensure that your seat is in the upright position, that you weigh less than a hundred pounds, and that you have excellent teeth."

funny.

Sita says

It's a shame Marian Keyes is marketed as an author of fluff because most of her books explore women's lives and traumas with warmth and humour. The only reason this gets 3 instead of 5 stars is my brain automatically rejects any book set in Hollywood where the majority of characters are not sociopaths trying to out-sociopath each other in a Kafkaesque dystopia. (only with more money and narcissism)

Thomas Strömquist says

The third book in the series about the Welsh family tells the story of when Maggie, 'the sensible and responsible one' arrives at a turning point in her life. The characterization is great as ever and Keyes writing is superb and inimitable.

Magda Tatiana says

Hace un buen tiempo no me pasaba eso de dejar un libro, y menos cuando le había dado tiempo para que me convenciera. Llegué a la mitad del libro y definitivamente no pude más. Ya leí los dos primeros libros de la saga y pensaba que este me iba a gustar y entretener como sus predecesores, y me equivoqué. Esta entrega pierde la chispa, no tiene ese humor, quizás ácido de los otros dos y lo peor es que este cae en la banalidad, en su tono más extremo, pasas las páginas y la historia no avanza, cae en un montón de detalles que no aportan y a mi me terminó aburriendo.

Carrie says

okay, i started reading this book and i thought it was AWFUL! i got to chapter 5 and it was getting more awful! I don't seem to ever do this, but I quit reading the book and returned it to the library. it just wasn't worth my time. i don't know if it was because i hadn't read any of the others in the series and didn't know the

characters, but i didn't want to know them, they weren't worth it! i wouldn't even give it a full star, maybe a quarter of a star.

SKIP it!

Janjohn says

Marian Keyes' style of writing needs getting used to. She writes in a very un-Sophie Kinsella way (which is what I'm used to). This is my first time to read a book by her and I'm impressed. She writes nonsense things with depths. I don't know if that makes any sense but I think, for this book, it does.

Okay.

Angels is the story of Margaret "Maggie" Walsh and her flight to Los Angeles after she found out about her husband Gary's affair with truffle woman. Maggie is probably one of my favorite fictional characters. She's funny and stupid, smart and dumb at the same time, and, well.. she's Maggie! I love how Marian Keyes made her not the usual I'm-too-perfect character writers are not tired of conceiving. She's not perfect, and her imperfection is what made her a beautiful and an easy to love heroine. She had sex with Troy and a lesbian named Lara (The sex with Troy was great, by the way. I was just too short), she's "bad at being bad", she's had miscarriages, she's not perfect, get it?

I was halfway through the book and I was like, "What's this book all about?"

And the answer to that question is what made this book a great read. I won't tell more. telling more will spoil the book for you.

Angels is a moving book by Marian Keyes and when you're done reading you'll wish you have someone who'll take snails off your windshield. (Read this book to know what that means.) :P

Ellen says

Disappointing. I have loved other Keyes novels, but this one is SLOW. Nothing happens, nothing happens, nothing happens for FAR too long, mostly because the main character doesn't want anything, so she's not trying to do anything, so you get endless descriptions of her pointless days of hanging out. It's quite a long slog through the middle part. And Keyes seems to think Los Angeles "wackiness" makes up for all that, but it does NOT. At the end it gets pretty good, but I'm frankly surprised I made it all the way to the end.

Laura says

I can't believe I'm saying this, but I just cannot get into this book. I've been plugging away for days and days, I'm only like 1/3 of the way through, and I am just not interested. This doesn't seem as fun as the other Walsh family books.

Laura Fudge says

I have been given a big pile of books from my step mum, many of which are Marian Keyes. A few years ago I read a few Marian Keyes books and I couldn't remember which ones I had read from the blurb on the back... Probably not a good sign. I am also not a huge fan of "chick lit".

About three chapters into this book I realised I had read it before. I couldn't remember what had happened, but I was able to guess/remember most of the plot before it happened. The story follows Maggie, who has a big loud Irish family and a husband. Who to be honest, we never really found out much about. From what we do learn, he seems like a really decent bloke.

They are on the verge of breaking up as they have barely spoken to each other for months and seem to have some underlying problems that we don't know about until later on in the book. Maggie realises he's been seeing someone else and leaves him, which pleases her family, who don't like him (I still don't really know why...). She then travels out to LA to see a friend of hers and stay there for a month to get her head together. Her friend Emily is out there writing scripts which keep getting rejected...

We then follow them, Emily trying to get a script accepted, and Maggie trying to get her head together by sleeping around with a male friend of Emily's – a self confessed tart that she falls for then gets annoyed when he doesn't ring, and Emily's gay friend Lara. Eventually she sorts out her issues, we find out what caused the split between her and her husband, and she ends up going home back to her husband.

Despite the lesbian sub plot which was mildly interesting, this book was a bit slow. It seemed to take ages to get going, and I didn't really like many of the characters, they were either stereotypical or predictable, (and not because I had read this years before...)

This type of book is not usually my thing, too much shopping and not enough real people talking to each other about their problems. A nice bit of entertainment, easy to read, but not really my cup of tea.

Krystal says

I'm in the first couple pages, and can't wait to read more already. I love Keyes. She's had a couple little missteps, in decidedly subjective opinion. This though, has had me thinking all day! That's always a good sign.

Some of the content was painfully familiar to me, but amazing in its accuracy.

I seriously loved "Mammy Walsh" and Helen appearances throughout the story. There bits were so comical, especially the visit to LA.

Loved this one. I think this may be my favorite yet. I can't wait for an accounting of Helen. She's such a pleasing character =)

Leigh says

It is a cute book in the style of Maeve Binchy but with a lot more humor.

Angie says

Not my favorite of Marian Keyes

-Sakura- says

I hated it. I hated the way she wrote as it wasn't challenging in anyway. I hated the storyline as it was predictable and made me fall asleep. I hated her characters they were so boring bland and the same as any other basic characters.

The main reason I hated it was for the meaning behind it (that I got at least) It implied that for women to succeed and be successful in life they MUST get married. Oh wait no now women should have children or else they've failed at life and at being a woman. Forget education women should just stay at home because the men should do the work. See what I mean? As a feminist (can I add that feminists are for equality and not for superiority as some people seem to believe.) I did not enjoy this book.

And it talked about the LGBT community as if they were a different species. Which is not ok. Another thing is the way it referred to mental health (like depression for example) was very insensitive and was romanticizing it. Depression is not 'an emotion' to throw around like confetti.

The story is about a woman that is sensible in every way possible. Until she leaves her husband after his affair and runs away to Hollywood. After that it's a series of martinis and heartbreak.

The story was so slow and boring. When I got to the end I honestly saw no point whatsoever in the storyline.

Her characters weren't complex just plain boring. Maybe this was for a realistic effect but I mean still. The main character was called Maggie. I thought she was very very stupid and extremely annoying.

Her writing bored me so much I couldn't even get through the whole book and ended up reading the epilogue. Everything was predictable. And the ending was literally the worst ever. Her writing was so awful it made me understand why people hate reading.

What I learnt: "women are emotionally unstable" and "what's that? You don't want to have children? Woman you are very wrong! You must have children in order to succeed as a woman!"

Recommendations: anyone that wants to bash this book and how truly terrible it was.

Saray García says

Compré este libro por casualidad en una de esas librerías de segunda mano, pero en cuanto lo vi recordé las tardes de playa con lecturas de esta autora ya hace algunos años, y no pude resistirme.

Ha cumplido su cometido, entretenerte sin muchas más expectativas que una lectura ligera y rápida en la que el final me ha parecido un poco apresurado y sin demasiado desarrollo en comparación con el resto del libro.

Marina H says

Plain yoghurt at room temperature.. That's how the sisters describe Maggie the protagonist, and it describes how I felt about the book and the characters.

The book is quit slow in my opinion. I found the characters a bit bland, which is a surprise because I used to like the Walsh family. And I guess I still do. Maybe that's why I like the second half of the book better, where the family gets more involved in the story. The characters from LA were just a little stereotypical and in many ways predictable, and I didn't really care for any of them.

I like Keyes' books because they're normally easy to read and fun but also has some depth. This one... Well, it just wasn't as fun as other books by Keyes. And the serious part of the story drowned in a slow and not as interesting story about working and partying in LA.

Julianne says

Didn't finish it, which I don't do with a book very often. What a slow read this was. Couldn't get through more than 120 pages...

Faith says

I consider Angels the best book Marian Keyes has ever written (although I havent yet read all her books). Maggie is clearly the most sympathetic of the Walsh-sisters. I also think that Angels deals with wider themes. Maggie's problem isn't really low self-esteem, like Claire's and Rachel's. She's somehow a deeper character. I also liked the plot. In Angels Marian Keyes is more entertaining than ever. I really laughed, especially when Maggie's family came to LA to visit her. The Walsh family seems to be an Irish version of Bridget Jones' family. Marian however makes her characters more realistic and nicer than Helen fielding. Angels was also a real page-turner like no other book I have read for a while has been. I completely loved it. It captured me. Marian Keyes has a great way of relieving the background of events little by little. First it seemed like in the book Maggie's and Garv's marriage broke down because they were simply tired of each other or something as shallow, but during the book it turned out there was a lot more to it. Really great! I really felt like I was Maggie when I was reading the book.
