



Hanging Up

Delia Ephron

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"HILARIOUS. . . A CHARMING, ENTERTAINING READ."

--Los Angeles Times

"WONDERFUL. . . Eve Mozell is having a lousy day, and she hasn't even gotten past breakfast yet. Her father, a senile ex-alcoholic whose idea of a good joke is goosing his woman doctor, started phoning Eve at 6 a.m. Her teenage son, who alternately ignores and lectures her, is off to a séance. ('You know, Mom, all doors are entrances. Think about it.') And a quick glance in the mirror turns out to be a big mistake. Oh, God, is that my face? . . . I need a vacation. No. This is just me. Me at forty-four. . . . What a terrific debut."

--Newsweek

"TRUE AND TOUCHING."

--People

"Delia Ephron is blessed with the driest of wits, the tenderest of hearts, and an uncanny ear for the way people really talk. Do yourself a favor and curl up with Hanging Up--but unplug the phone first."

--Armistead Maupin

"MOVING AND FUNNY. . . In some ways, Hanging Up is a funhouse version of King Lear."

--Newsday

Hanging Up Details

Date : Published July 18th 1995 by Putnam Adult

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Author : Delia Ephron

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From Reader Review Hanging Up for online ebook

Amanda says

While I'm technically classifying this as chick lit, it actually has a lot of depth in it. I was surprised at how issues of family and love and responsibility were met in a very realistic if not painful way.

Annette says

Even with high powered tools, I doubt I'd find the charm in this account. Eve, the protagonist, acts with weary inauthenticity every day of her adulthood... and weary is what I became as I chronicled her inability to find one true emotion and move with it.

Her selfish sisters, senile, ex-alcoholic father, unassuming husband and teenage son complete a picture of an American life gone grey and spineless.

There are humorous moments, but mostly lots of frustration and resignation and weakness.

Carol says

A sad dysfunctional family who really has no clue. I wasn't in the mood to listen to whining and blame placing and never taking responsibility for anything.

Jane says

I thought this was a good story about how complicated life gets dealing with a parent who is suffering from dementia besides being mentally unbalanced. I had such empathy for Eve and what she had to put up with since this is not uncommon in our generation as our parents age. I highly recommend it and think it would make a good book for a book club discussion.

Karen says

Now this is a good book! I am savoring every page! Well, it got kind of tedious. Maybe because I've seen the movie. Also, I think I had read part of it before. It didn't give me any more insight into the characters than the movie did, really. Also, I thought the main character should have not been so wishy-washy. And why did the mother leave? It never gave us any introspection on that either.

Barbara says

Funny and sad. It's about three sisters and their crazy father. It's from one sister's, Eve's, point of view. She's the middle sister. The younger sister is irresponsible (a minor role soap actress) and the older sister is a magazine executive who is a bit egocentric and very successful. The dad has mental issues and is mean in a crusty way. Ephron writes very sad situations in very funny ways. I laughed out loud. Yet, it was very sad....much like life at times. I love Ephron's sense of humor. It's called hanging up because her dad calls her ALL the time, multiple times a day. He's a nuisance yet lovable (sometimes).

Karschtl says

Ich kann nicht genau sagen, woran es lag - aber dieses Buch hat mir nicht so recht gefallen, obwohl ich den Film noch ganz passabel fand. Wohl auch weil ich Meg Ryan mag, und der restliche Cast hat seine Rollen ebenfalls sehr gut gespielt.

Claudia says

You can count on the Ephron sisters for a good woman-to-woman blend of comradery and humor. And a bonus was listening to C.J. Crit read it. She's one of my favorites...an early Stephanie Plum voice. She got the voices and attitudes right on for me. Probably made the book work better for me as well. Whenever I find myself laughing during my commute, the rating stars start adding up. Coincidentally, I just finished Still Alice, a rather serious look at dementia. The juxtaposition of serious against a lighter look at dementia and how it affects families turned out to be rewarding and somewhat of a relief!

trina says

being that i've acquired a mild case of adhd (for which i blame the internet), i doubted that i'd get into, much less through, this entire novel wherein nothing happens other than the dissection of familial relationships via phone calls. lo and behold, i will not underestimate the power of ephron again. eve is relatable and infuriating, funny and dumb, cold but compassionate to a fault... i liked her a lot more than i should. the dialogue and family relationships are so natural and fucked up, and though the reader knows up front that we're just waiting for her father to die, the end still has a bit of a punch. an excellent light read without being empty calories. i think i'll try the movie version next.

Beth says

A really irritating book that is supposed to be hilariously funny. Unfortunately I was stuck on a plane with nothing else to read. Eve Mozell comes from a dysfunctional family— Eve's mother left Eve and her two sisters with their bi-polar father to run off with her (the mom's) environmentally committed lover. Eve grows up, marries, and proceeds to subject her long-suffering husband and well-adjusted son to her own brand of dysfunctionality which primarily consists of spending 30 hours a day on the telephone with her older and younger sisters in long conversations about their still bi-polar but now senile father. Hahahaha. Lots of laughs.

Debbie says

Fun fun book, and I would love to have an Efron sister as a friend, but it was a bit drawn out for the substance. kept me laughing though!Really liked the NPR writer husband!

Kacie says

The Ephron sisters just get complicated people so right.

I loved the writing and her portrayal of how complicated relationships with parents and siblings can be. I've read a lot of reviews that are exasperated that she didn't just hang up the phone and it seems like such a simple solution. But Delia Ephron shouldn't have to explain to everyone, particularly since she's shown everyone, how rocky Eve's relationship was with her parents and that her connection was with her father, even if it wasn't strong. She clearly has a sense of duty - while still seeking approval - even if it's not affection to her father. This type of character story is relevant to any time and place.

Maybe it's just me, but I feel like the Ephron sisters can do no wrong.

Christine Sinclair says

Funny/sad story of a dysfunctional family (or should I just say "family" since they almost all are?) of three sisters and their annoying elderly father. The best part was the great ending! Gotta see the movie now, directed by Diane Keaton!

Mervi says

I had a couple of laughs, but sometimes I just wished they would shoot the ol' man and get on with their lives.

Theri Rowen says

Not that great
