



Her Best Match

Tamie Dearen

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Feisty, stubborn, and bored with life in Texas, Anne Best is about to get more than she bargained for.

The lovely widow heads off to the Big Apple for a job interview, expecting no more than a few days adventure in New York City, only to find herself with a new job working for the most infuriating man she's ever met.

Billionaire Steven Gherring is one of New York's Most Eligible Bachelors, and he has every intention of staying that way. But Gram has other ideas. She's on a not-so-secret campaign to find a wife for her grandson.

As fearless as she is clumsy, Anne tackles every challenge (including her new boss) enthusiastically, with two lone exceptions... public speaking and recognizing her own feelings. Passions rise along with hemlines as Gram joins forces with Anne, a veteran matchmaker, to find the perfect match for Steven.

“If you like Hallmark movies, you’ll love The Best Girls!”

Her Best Match Details

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From Reader Review Her Best Match for online ebook

Christina says

For those who enjoy traditional romance or chick-lit but are looking for more PG-13 versions of their stories, Tamie Dearen has some writing chops. I really enjoy her romantic style, and I think she does a great job of character development and interaction. This book took me longer to get into than *The Best Is Yet to Come*, partly because that story was keeping it pithy and to the point, and there was a lot of extra detail here. By the time I was midway through, there were so many characters introduced that I felt a bit lost. The ending quickly drew back to the main couple, though, and brought around to a satisfying conclusion. Anne's daughters are just as feisty and unique as her, so I've no doubt that the next books in the series will follow in the same vein.

April Adams says

Ok you guys, or should I say you girls... or actually, hey ya'll, this book is the shizznit!

If you like romance you will love this book. If you like feeling frustrated at someone through almost an entire story, you will love this book. If you like happy endings, you will love this book. If you've ever had hopes that one day a handsome, kind, generous billionaire would fall in love with you, you will definitely love this book. If you want a book to make you FEEL, then you will love this book.

Seriously, buy this book!

Anne Best is a widow and mother of two. She's startled to be invited to interview for a job in New York as an executive assistant. She feels out-classed and over-aged as she sits in the waiting room looking at all the eager, young candidates. When her name is finally called, she nervously enters the interview room to see a gorgeous older man sitting there. Then he opens his mouth.

Her temper flares and she tells him off, ready to go back home to Texas and call it all a waste of time. But he hires her. He's not as bad as first impressions would seem and Anne becomes determined to find him a match (matchmaking being her hobby) to the detriment of everyone and everything else.

You will want to slap her, but you'll be rooting for her the whole time.

I laughed, I cried a few times. I LOVED Gram. If a certain something had gone differently with Gandalf (buy the book if you want to know) I would have been devastated. I couldn't put it down.

CAVEATS:

Now, if your'e on Amazon you'll see a couple of 2 star reviews. I was shocked but I read them. I actually don't disagree with their points.

Point 1: The book is a bit long for the story. It's hard to whittle it down as an author after pouring your heart

and soul onto the pages for months or years. I do think this could do with some paring down. As far as grammatical and spelling errors, there were a few but not so many as to be distracting. I've found the same number of errors in books from the big publishing houses. Not a big deal.

Point 2: Getting frustrated with Anne and her internal dialogue. I literally wanted to choke her out sometimes. She does over-think EVERYTHING and Steven does have to coddle her. But let me ask you this, don't you know somebody who's like that? I sure do! They exist.

Also, if you've read romance before you know that it's very formulaic - in a good way. Frustration is par for the course. It's all about delayed gratification. Greater frustration and buildup means more satisfaction at the end. Right ladies? ;)

If you're an "A" type personality you may not be able to deal with Anne. It's worth it though.

Point 3: Character development lacking. Well, yes and no. I think we have go back to realizing that this is a lighthearted romance, not a character-driven drama. The author even labeled it as "Romantic Comedy" in the title!

As romances go it's always the same, super hot non-conceited woman finds herself in situation with super hot misunderstood man. Stuff happens. They finally hook up. The end.

REASONS WHY, IN SPITE OF CAVEATS, YOU SHOULD BUY & READ IT:

1. No need to brush up on penis euphemisms or synonyms. It's very PG-13 and I, for one, appreciate that. It's very satisfying without the smut.
2. It made me feel. For me, that's the whole point of reading. They aren't always pleasant emotions but a book has to make me feel something. I felt many different emotions with this book.
3. It's well written. This is not a plot or character driven novel; it doesn't need to be. Romance is all about the tease. They almost hook up, but then they don't. He's about to profess his love, and someone interrupts. She almost realizes her feelings, but then she gets distracted. Good stuff. I actually yelled at my phone/Kindle, "If you don't stop interrupting him and let him speak I'm gonna smack you!!"
4. It's light-hearted and makes you feel good. It's sweet.
5. I couldn't put it down. I have a 3 month old and a 5 year old. Had to juggle life a bit to get this read, but I read it every chance I got! While nursing my infant, while walking around, while cooking, while my 5 year old did his homeschool work... I couldn't wait to get back to it.

I think I've given you enough information to make an informed decision, and I hope you think it's worth a shot. It really is a very good book.

As an author myself, I would request that if you do read this book please leave an honest review. It helps us become better writers. Thanks for reading my long-winded review!

Get your copy today!

Alyssa says

I really enjoyed Her Best Match. It was a quick, easy read with likable characters. I also appreciated the fact that the main character isn't your typical 20-30 something single girl. I have already suggested this book to several friends and family members!

Brian O'Hare says

Superb Story Telling

Sometimes as a reviewer I will come across a book that is good, or better than good, and instinctively I examine the pages in an effort to analyse what it is that makes a particular book so appealing. Is it the short punchy sentences, the precise vocabulary, the type of verbs used, the elegance of the phrasing? Is the depth of the characterisation, the plotting, or the overall theme? Usually I can make reasonable deductions as to why a particular book works.

Tamie Dearen's 'Her Best Match', however, has presented me with a puzzle. I suppose there are some aspects that might be described as weaknesses, e.g. a successful mother of 45 years of age who cannot walk in high heels. Seriously? She is such a klutz that she keeps falling over her boss. Once is bad enough, but Anne repeats the feat a couple of times more for good measure. She tends also to over-analyse situations almost ad nauseam. And the book itself is perhaps a little longer than it needs to be.

BUT...and it's a big BUT... do these minor flaws matter in the context of this book? Is not the story the thing? I do not normally read romance stories. I love thrillers and mysteries. But this book has grabbed me. I couldn't put it down and found myself reading long into the night, trying to find a place where I could naturally stop reading but unable to do so. It ticks every box there is. The story is brilliant, the characters are enchanting and engaging (I almost said 'enDearen') and there are plenty of events and episodes that are of genuine interest for the reader to enjoy. We wait for the naive Anne to become aware of the effect she is having on Mr. Gherring while he seems too stuffy to be able to express his feelings, for all the world a Mr. Darcy to his Elizabeth Bennett. All the stuff of romance and the same delayed denouement that one finds in Pride and Prejudice (a book I devoured several times as a sixteen year old.)

And yet, I knew there was something else, an extra ingredient that sets this book above the norm and plays havoc with the reader's emotions. Then it struck me. Good writing is like good acting. Great actors do not act a part; they become the person they are playing and the acting never intrudes upon the spectator's involvement. And now I know what is so appealing about Her Best Match. Tamie is not just writing about Anne. She becomes Anne, and is clearly enjoying every second of it, a joy so infectious that the reader cannot but be involved, enthralled, and empathic.

Most people, regardless of the genre they normally read, will enjoy this book. Readers of romance fiction will absolutely love it.

Tracy Wainwright says

A great romantic ride

Almost 400 pages has rarely flown by so fast. Anne is quirky and very likable. Steven is commanding and lovable. Their story is a fun adventure.

Coco.V says

FREE on Amazon today (10/21/2017)!

Janet says

I really liked most of this book.

Anne who is bored in her life in Texas gets invited to interview for a job in New York. This starts a story of new friendships, romance, mis-communications, family, and a bunch of other things.

I think this story was a little too long - in some places I couldn't wait to turn the page and on other pages I almost couldn't finish that page, ready to move on to the next part.

Almost from the beginning I could guess what was the outcome was going to be I enjoyed some of the cat and mouse but it got a little old, a little too much.

There were a few characters thrown in that I am not sure of the why, the daughters which were such a big part at the beginning kind of dropped off for a while, the funny thing is I didn't know till closer to the end that they weren't mentioned for quite a while.

But there was a twist at the end that I didn't see coming.

Would read another book by Tamie.

Lisa says

My initial thought upon finishing this book was, "thank God it was free." The book was poorly edited, poorly paced, and poorly executed.

The initial premise was exciting: long-time widowed woman with two grown children wants a new life. She gets the option to interview for an executive assistant in a top New York company, and despite a mad interviewing experience, gets a three-month trial. Her boss is a stoic and handsome millionaire who's, of course, single. Like all romantic lit, you as the reader know from the get-go that Anne and Steven are Meant to Be.

But how does this manifest itself? In control issues. Steven glowers when she begins flirting with another man. He. Shows jealousy when she mentions Sam, until he finds out that Sam is short for Samantha. He rages until he learns that Charlie is Anne's daughter. He doesn't want Anne around men in general, and it's really gross.

Anne, as a character, would've been better as a twenty-something rather than a 45-year-old woman. She was naive and cried every other page (seriously, when Steven's obviously wretched cousin spoke to her about his mother being upset that he never did as well as Steven in school, Anne ended up crying in sympathy. It was ludicrous.) And while chick lit often is founded on misunderstandings, it devolves into a state of frustration when most of the misunderstanding is because the protagonist won't let her love interest finish a sentence when he's trying to explain.

Overall, the book was ridiculous and too long. A hundred pages could've been edited without hindering the plot. There were typos (at one point the word "me" was used when it obviously should've been "meet"), and there were no scene breaks in chapters. Anne was literally at work in one paragraph, and the next she was soaking her nails at a spa with nothing to denote a change of scene. This happened regularly throughout the book, and was a great source of frustration.

Honestly, if you're looking for a refreshing chick lit read, just skip this one altogether.

Melissa says

This book started out really fun. I enjoyed the characters and I really thought I would love this book. It is from one woman's point of view. Anne is 45 and ready for a life change she fly's off to interview in New York with a huge successful company with a very eligible boss. She gets the job the sparks fly you know exactly what is going to happen and then chaos ensues. I think I needed less of Anne as the book went on, she was such an idiot. Everyone else knew what was going on it would take a really air-headed person not to catch on but she didn't. I didn't like the manipulation, game playing, anger and just general writing of this book. How many times can people get interrupted, or have a crisis and have to leave at a critical moment. This book drug on for way too long and drove me crazy. I started to skim. It had some great steamy kisses towards the very end and then a little too much detail in the make out scene to call this clean, but no bedroom scene. PG13

Lorraine Adair says

Her Best Match is laugh out loud delightful.

I picked up Her Best Match free on Smashwords a couple months ago. I couldn't put it down. It was cute and fun, a little bit sexy but never sleazy. I loved the story and how naive and clueless Anne was in spite of her age and having raised two lovely daughters. As a (cough, cough) mature woman myself, I found her very relatable.

It's a fish out of water story as this Texas mama hits the Big Apple for a little adventure. She is so out of place in the worlds of big finance and big city sophistication. Yet her Southern Charm shines through in spite of her klutziness and her tendency to take what people say literally.

The book is long for a romance, but I felt it fit the story line. I wouldn't want to see any of the story cut out, especially as some of the events set the stage for the next two books in the series.

Some people have mentioned the issue with mistakes in the book. I noticed them, too, but I persevered. And then I contacted the author via Twitter. I found out she was in the process of having all the books professionally edited. And when the edited version of Her Best Match was uploaded to Amazon, I bought a copy and read it. I'm happy to report it is in much better shape. I didn't notice any issues, although nothing's ever perfect. I'm sure if you pick up a copy now, you will be very happy with both the story and the quality of the writing.

Overall, I recommend this book to anyone who's interested in a funny romantic story, and appreciates a romance that is good clean fun.

Kitty says

I got this book for free in exchange for an honest review.

Her Best Match was a very unusual kind of a book with the protagonist of 45 years of age (or maybe I haven't read any with an old protagonist). Anne was sooo cute with her insecurities and came across as a 20 year old on her first interview in the start. The author showed a very beautiful relationship between Anna and her two daughters who shared everything together. The love interest Steven came across very arrogant in the beginning but turned out okay. I even loved the owners of Papa's diner and the other secondary characters were well written as well.

There were a few problems with the book as well like it could have been a little shorter if you eliminate the unnecessary details. Also, Steven was a little too informal and unprofessional towards Anne as he had just hired her (getting jealous and telling her to stay away from Henri) which was weird for an owner of an internationally successful firm. However, the problems did not distract from the cuteness of the story and it flowed with ease.

Rachel Braugh says

I really enjoyed the characters. They were very likeable, complex, and believable. It felt like I was reading about my friends!

Didi says

1.5 STARS

UUGGGHHHH

I need an aspirin.

My only consolation? This was a freebie. Thank you, God.

It's not that it was *bad* necessarily--no, ok, maybe it was--It's just that it could have been much, much better save for a few things:

1. **Annoying as hell heroine.** *fuuuccckkk*
2. **Too damn looooong** *Oh, my God. Kill me now.*
3. **Excessively immature and unrealistic.** *No, really?!*

The premise of this book had promise. A 45 year old widowed mother of two grown up girls, makes the move to New York from Texas for a position as an executive assistant to a billionaire. Said mother (Anne), decides to help match up said billionaire, Steven Gherring, but finds herself--and him--falling for each other. Cue the hilarious antics, romantic comedy and hi jinxes (**insert sarcasm**). YEAH, NO.

For a 45 year old mother, Anne was an immature, meddling and annoyingly naive woman. Sure, she had traditional views on things like sex and marriage, but she spoke and acted like a teenager. I couldn't believe how rigid she was at times. I swear, had I not known she was a mother, I would have assumed she was a virgin. It was ludicrous and almost insulting to those women who are.

Add in the fact that although this was touted as romantic comedy, it was more a comedy of errors. I got why Steven was attracted to Anne, aside from her annoyingness, she was selfless and kind, but they both felt out of place and out of touch with how people act. After 60%, I skimmed like my kindle was on fire. The weird thing? It went on and on...easily, this could have lost 100 pages of filler and useless scenes. The last third was ridiculous in its antics. The things Steven and Anne resorted to were both juvenile and completely over-the-top, annoying-as-hell drama. And Steven. I don't like inconsistency in a character. The whole book he's saying one thing but by the end does something different without any explanation. Did I feel frustrated? IMMENSELY.

Don't get me wrong, the whole point of a good romance is to see the hero and heroine overcome barriers to be together. Angst and frustration are part and parcel of that of course, but this was ridiculous and infuriating. I loved how they finally stopped being douche canoes--ahem, Anne--but for Gods sake! You guys are 45 (Anne) and 50 (Steven)?! I guess those ages are the new 13. Good Lord. There are more books to the series, but HELL TO THE NO.

I'M OUT.

Ines Bautista-yao says

Characters you care about, a fun story, and chemistry that's quite hot!

I had so much fun reading this book. I knew what was going to happen, and the plot and the actions of the characters were easy to predict but the way the author makes you fall in love with and care for these characters is a gift. I felt bereft after reading it because the book was over and I wasn't going to spend time with the characters anymore. It's a good thing there are more books in the series!

I think because reading the prequel tells you how Steven feels, you already know what's going down and what's going to happen, and I kind of wished I didn't know so I could relate more to Anne's denial. But because I knew, I wanted to hit her on the head at times. And I kept wondering why she was acting like a teenager at 45 with two adult daughters. But I realized love makes you do crazy things and acting like a teenager can definitely be one of them.

I couldn't put this down because the chemistry between the two main characters was just so hot! And this is a clean read - which I really appreciated. But I was also happy they got their happily ever after. So much love for these characters!

Bethany Turner says

Lizzie drives the story, but Darcy is why we're still obsessed. There is no Twilight without Bella, but there are no crazed fans without Edward and Jacob. Without Gale and Peeta, Katniss's story would swallow us in despair, and send us running for the hills. When I read a love story, I want a strong, likeable, believable heroine. That's what gets me interested, but that's not what gets me invested. If I begin to care for this strong, likeable, believable heroine, and then I'm expected to go along for the ride as the author tries to convince me that an unlikeable man is right for her...well, you've lost me at that point.

Thankfully that was not the case in *HER BEST MATCH* by Tamie Dearen. Let me just go ahead and say it...I have found a new literary love in Steven Gherring. There is no question that this story belongs to Anne Best - a heroine who is indeed strong, likeable, and believable. We follow Anne on her mid-life adventure, which is really much more than an adventure - it's the beginning of the second act of her life. And from the moment we meet her boss, Mr. Gherring, we know where this story is heading. That's where the fun begins. With our expectations firmly in place, Ms. Dearen sets about directing us to the destination. And she does a masterful job of guiding the journey.

Any grievance I have against this book is minor and inconsequential. At one point the thought occurred that I would have preferred fewer supporting characters in the mix, but even that complaint is currently being reconsidered in my mind, due to the well-executed and unexpected way the author tied some of these characters together in the end. Regardless, here's what matters: This is the first book in ages which has literally made me lose sleep, because I don't want to put it down. This is the first book in ages which I couldn't wait to finish, and yet I didn't want it to end. Also...there is my crush on Steven Gherring to consider...

I loved this book, I love the author's writing style, and I love Steven Gherring. (Oh yeah...Anne Best is fantastic as well!)
