



## Because She Loves Me

*Mark Edwards*

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A gripping tale of jealousy, obsession and murder, from the No.1 Bestselling author of *The Magpies*.

When Andrew Sumner meets beautiful, edgy Charlie, he is certain his run of bad luck has finally come to an end.

But as the two of them embark on an intense affair, Andrew wonders if his grasp on reality is slipping. Items go missing in his apartment. Somebody appears to be following him. And as misfortune and tragedy strike his friends and loved ones, Andrew is forced to confront the frightening truth...

Is Charlie really the girl of his dreams – or the woman of his nightmares?

## Because She Loves Me Details

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Author : Mark Edwards

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## From Reader Review Because She Loves Me for online ebook

### **Matt says**

Returning with another stellar thriller, akin to THE MAGPIES, Edwards helps readers forget his blip that had fans staring at the skies and asking that the former author be returned to earth. Andrew Sumner has been through a great deal at a young age: some significant relationships turning sour and a major eye operation that almost left him blind. When Charlotte (Charlie) appears at a vending machine, Andrew is left to wonder from where this ginger-haired goddess came and how he might see her again (pardon the pun). Through a series of lucky events, Charlie and Andrew cross paths again and soon become inseparable lovers, their lives intertwined from the beginning. The attentive reader will read between the narrative lines and feel the frissons along their spines as Andrew continues his infatuation. Charlie spends much time with Andrew and gives off an air of jealousy and mystery when his past surfaces, revealing none of her own. This leaves Andrew unclear about the woman he's come to love with all his heart and body. Numerous events, which seem innocuous on their own, can be woven together to give the reader that omnipresent view that red flags appear at every turn, with a likely suspect. What began as a lustful connection soon spills into a horrific bout of jealousy, all in an attempt to keep Charlie from sharing Andrew with anyone. Edwards adds his own twists and storylines to capture the reader as never before.

While this is a stand-alone novel, after reading THE MAGPIES, I was pleased to see at least a little follow-up in this novel. The theme is similar, showing how a thriller can evoke the reader's emotions and keep them up late into the night to finish "just a little more". While some may say that the plot is cookie-cutter and the physical connection over the top, those readers miss the bigger picture of Edwards' work. He posits that humans tend to be jealous beings, prone to acts that defy their character. Also, there are some out there who are completely detached from reality, a la Lucy Newton (see THE MAGPIES). Edwards knows just how to pull the strings to bring the story a chilling reality, to which many readers can relate. Leaving the door open for more Lucy Newton was an added bonus that has me, and likely many others, begging for more publications in the coming years.

Kudos, Mr. Edwards for returning to what you do best. You keep it real and ask the reader to pull on personal experiences, rather than the inane idea of visitors and cult lifestyles.

Like/hate the review? An ever-growing collection of others appears at:  
<http://pecheyponderings.wordpress.com/>

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### **Liz Barnsley says**

So another madly addictive and excellent thriller from the pen of Mark Edwards who is fast becoming a favourite of mine when it comes to adult psychological fiction with those lovely little twists and turns and mad misdirection that make a reading experience so much fun.

In this novel we meet Andrew who believes he MAY have found the love of his life. But all is not right and as more and more things go wrong around him, he begins to wonder just who it is he has become involved with...

Another difficult book to review without spoiling it that is for sure – things ebb and flow and just when you think you have grasped the point it will slip away from you – hey even I did not work out the truth behind the web of deceit until VERY late on, ooh just a touch more Mr Edwards and you'll be in my hall of fame. It is absolutely addictive reading, no way once you start you will want to stop and as usual the author has brought his unique style and depth to his characters making you either love them dearly or loathe them with a fiery vengeance. Not a lot of inbetween really, not even with the more peripheral supporting cast.

I often thought Andrew was a bit dim but he was very appealing, I really liked Charlie even though it is entirely possible she is a bunny boiler...and all those around them were integral to the plot often in ways you didnt see coming. All in all terribly well executed as ever and written in a brilliantly readable and engrossing style.

Highly Recommended for fans of pyschological thrillers and crime. Perfect way to while away an afternoon.

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### **Sue says**

"Because She Loves You" is a psychological thriller by Mark Edwards, (the best selling author of "The Magpies"),and is my first book by Mark Edwards. It is hard to write a review for this novel, without spoilers, so I will try to limit my comments.

This thriller novel is an emotional rollercoaster,coverings a real gambit of emotions ranging from emotional abuse, insecurities, manipulation, relationships, control, obsession, betrayal , trust and most of all JEALOUSY.

This was a gripping thriller which keeps you guessing to the very end. I had a few suspects in mind for the murderer; however, I was wrong, as well. Edwards does an outstanding job of throwing you off track and holding the dramatic disclosure to the ending.

Andrew worked as a freelance web designer, in London, and had a consultation appointment with his ophthalmologist surgeon, a follow-up to his recent eye surgery. It was there that he met the sexy and beautiful Charlotte(Charlie), a project manager/want-to-be painter. It was LOVE at first sight! The encounter immediately blossomed into a serious relationship. The sex and passion was hot, and he was soon pulled into her powerful web. Andrew felt so lucky...because he had met her, and they were in love. But it didn't take long for Andrew to notice her one main fault- she had a very jealous streak.

When Charlie's obsession gets out of control and the women and people in Andrew's circle begin to show up murdered—he begins to wonder who? Could the woman he loves be a killer?

I couldn't put this book now, and I can say that fans of psycho thrillers, will enjoy this thrilling intense ride. I look forward to start reading more by this talented author, and will now start reading " The Magpies".

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### **Lisa says**

I am so torn.

The first 90% of this book gets 5 stars. The last 10% DOES NOT.

But that's just me.

I'm giving this one 4 stars because Mark Edwards really had me caught up in his world. I couldn't wait to get back to this book and find out more, more, more. But then THAT happens. My forehead hit the table. I just was not a fan of THAT happening.

Maybe you'll think the ending was amazing. I've read the reviews and plenty 'o readers do. But of course I have to be difficult and NOT like that ending. Let me know what you think when you get there, okay? Peace.

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### **Maxine (Booklover Catlady) says**

Superb! Another brilliant psychological thriller that will keep you guessing from the pen of Mark Edwards. Very well written twists and turns in this novel. I had a few moments of my eyebrows being raised and making shocked sounds. All readers like to be clever to work out what's going on in books, well I was not so clever reading this one as it got me. But I love that. The book won!

### **What's the book about?**

*When Andrew Sumner meets beautiful, edgy Charlie, he is certain his run of bad luck has finally come to an end.*

*But as the two of them embark on an intense affair, Andrew wonders if his grasp on reality is slipping. Items go missing in his apartment. Somebody appears to be following him. And as misfortune and tragedy strike his friends and loved ones, Andrew is forced to confront the frightening truth...*

*Is Charlie really the girl of his dreams – or the woman of his nightmares?*

### **My Review:**

For the first half of this book I was hooked in and waiting, waiting for pieces to fall into place that I thought I had worked out in my head, then by the second half I was just blown away. The plot picked up pace, the twists were spectacular and I was frantically reading to get to the end to see what our grand finale was going to be, I was not let down in the slightest.

Andrew is a freelance web designer who works from home, Charlie (Charlotte) enters his life in whirlwind and before long they are enmeshed in each other and an intense passionate relationship ensues.

BUT in the midst of all the loving, fun and sex, weird things are going on in Andrew's life. At first it's just small things, things he passes off as not important but then things start to get very strange and he is trying to connect the events with reality, it's not gelling very well.

**WHO is Charlie? Is she the best thing that ever happened to him? Or is she the biggest mistake of his life?**

It's hard to write a review for this book without spoilers, as the whole book is really about messing with your head wonderfully as the reader. Mark Edwards has done an exceptional job with writing this book and keeping the hooks in the reader for more reveals and more truth.

It's tense at times, it's can be dark, it has some shock factor, it's very readable and I just really enjoyed the book, especially past the halfway mark, for me that pushed this book up to a 4.5 star review from a 4 star read.

It's a book that questions trust, relationships and what we see before us that we know to be true (or is it?). Is everything as it seems in this world? Not likely! Nothing is as it seems. My cryptic review is really about expressing how clever this book is at being sneaky and surprising you as the reader.

**So go to it. Read it? Tell me if you worked it all out before the end.**

*I received a copy of this book thanks to the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.*

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### **Christine says**

Because She Loves Me is the first book by Mark Edwards that I have read. This is a very compelling read of psychological suspense.

The set up encompasses the first 15% of the book and moves along nicely. The suspense factor starts to creep in at that point and slowly builds to a crescendo over the last 85% of the book. I love that steady even progression of tension; I think Mr. Edwards pulls this off better than anyone else I have read in the last year. The protagonist, Andrew, is a good guy, but a lonely fellow who has had a lot of tough breaks in life. You want him to find the happiness he deserves, but Andrew has a big problem. He loves Charlie. But is Charlie the girl of his dreams or is she a monstrous nightmare from hell? The reader is struggling with this question right along with Andrew. If she is indeed the right woman for him, then how does he explain all the horrific events that are happening in his life that logically seem to be emanating from Charlie? But Charlie loves Andrew. Doesn't she? Can Andrew trust her? One thing is clear. Andrew will never stop loving Charlie. This means Andrew will either end up blissfully happy or in a horrendous living hell where death could be the better option. How can Andrew possibly unravel this dilemma? I couldn't stop reading this book.

The only thing keeping this from being a 5-star read is that I was disappointed in the explanations for one or two of the bad occurrences. This demerit, however, is not serious enough to deter me from highly recommending Because She Loves Me to all fans of psychological suspense/psychological thrillers. I will definitely be reading more of Mr. Edwards' novels.

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### **Judith says**

\*\*\* 5 Stars \*\*\*

This is so good.....

I've had this on my Kindle for ages and I've no idea why I waited so long to read it.

This just captivated me straight away. I love a story of deep obsession.....think of the films **Fatal Attraction** and **Misery** and if you've read **You** by Caroline Kepnes, you'll probably get me.

Andrew is a little bit jaded. He's a bit of an introvert.

He's at the hospital one day having treatment when he bumps into the beautiful Charlie....

Is it a coincidence or something more???

They find themselves waiting for the tube....connect and embark on a passionate affair.

But Andrews life is about to spiral out of control...and it seems as though it's just since he's met Charlie...

I read a few reviews before starting this and that's probably why I didn't read it sooner.....people were banging on about the last 15% and the twist...

Well, I've got to say I LOVED the twist.....

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### Tracie says

The short review is that I never really enjoyed this book, which was about twice as long as it needed to be, and then it had a really stupid twist ending. So then I really hated it.

The long story is:

Boy meets Manic Pixie Dream Girl and they have a ton of mind-blowing sex. When he comes up for air, he notices a few things about her are a little off. But, she's really hot, and, you know, mind-blowing sex! So he's in love with her. Because of course he is. Charlie is a bundle of impulsive, outrageous behavior and other red flags, but she looks good, cooks for the guy, and is always ready to jump into bed, so that's good enough for our hero, Andrew.

Then bad stuff begins to happen to Andrew and everyone close to him. Could it be Charlie who is causing all of it?

No! Guess what? Andrew's so unlucky that he's managed to attract \*two\* totally psychotic chicks into his life - but only of them, a minor character who has thus far demonstrated absolutely nothing that might tell the reader she's anything other than a minor character, is homicidal. Surprise! Then there is eye torture, and more carnage.

After we're asked to swallow that craptastic twist, we learn that Andrew still loves Charlie, the lesser of two psychos. She only lied to him countless times, kept from him that she was still living with her ex-boyfriend the whole time she's been seeing him, destroyed things, messed up his apartment and slashed herself with a butcher knife in a drunken, jealous rage, accused him of sleeping with other women several times, and offered his pretty cleaning woman money to stop cleaning for him. Only compared to someone who killed several people, framed a man for pedophilia, disfigured a woman with acid and pushed Andrew down the subway stairs can Charlie still seem like good girlfriend material. Good luck with that, Andrew! You are a

moron.

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### **David Staniforth says**

Having finished this book, I find myself torn when it comes to rating it. On one hand it was gripping throughout, especially the latter third, upon which I struggled to put it down. And, the characters were well drawn and strikingly individual. On the other hand, for such a top selling author, I found elements of the writing a little amateurish and dotted with errors.

The twisty ending came as a big surprise. Not that there would be a twist, but in the direction that the twist went, as it wasn't sign-posted at all. Now, I don't mind if a story has a surprising twist or if there's no twist and I'm just going on a journey with the characters. Both work equally well for this reader, but if there is going to be a massive twist it should come with a light-bulb moment, an of course, why didn't I see it type of realisation at the reveal.

Taking the above into account then, I'm giving this a four star rating, pushed up there by the fact that it just refused to be put down.

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### **Delee says**

I loved this book...until I didn't...

BECAUSE SHE LOVED ME is one of those books -in my opinion- that suffered from the author thinking that it needed a twisty ending. Not all books need a twisty ending! PLEASE AUTHORS...you don't always have to stump the readers. For hundreds of years people wrote books without "WTF" endings. Don't get me wrong- I love endings with a hidden surprise..but only if it is well done- this one not so much...

When Andrew Sumner meets the beautiful and feisty Charlie- he thinks he has finally found "The One".

...But soon Charlie starts to display unusual amounts of jealousy...items from his apartment start to go missing, he feels like he is being followed, and strange and frightening things are happening to the people close to him.

Most people that have read my reviews or comments- know one of my best GRs friends is the lovely Lisa E. Those people, will also know that I enjoy disagreeing with her. So when she told me she hated, hated, hated the ending of this book- I was sooooooooooooo looking forward to having an opposite view. I always feel that I have a more laaaaaaaaaaaaaid back open mind...but this time I begrudgingly admit to her being SPOT ON!! ;)

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

I hated this ending tooooo!!! It seemed like it was written by a completely different author than the one I got to know at the beginning of BECAUSE SHE LOVES ME and from- The Magpies- which I looooved all the way through. Sorry Mr. Edwards- you can't win them all- but this will soooooo not stop me from reading more of your offerings in the future.

Thank you NetGalley!

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### **JaHy?Hold the Fairy Dust says**

**\*\*2.5 STARS \*\***

... Nuff said.

*\*\* Mark Edwards, I'm sorry this story didn't work for me. I wish you much continued success. \*\**

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### **Gary says**

I had heard a lot of good things about Mark Edwards novels from my Goodread friends so I decided to see for myself.

I instantly liked this book, so much that I read it in one sitting and then started on the other book I had of his straight after. Great characters, excellently developed plot that is well paced and twists and turns to keep you guessing.

A psychological thriller that is so well written you will struggle to put it down as I found to my cost. You just want to keep reading to find out what is going to happen.

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### **Stefanie says**

Rating 4.5

This is the first book I have read by Mark Edwards and I thoroughly enjoyed it. This was also the first time I read with a buddy so I think that increased my enjoyment of the whole experience. There is no doubt that Edwards is a talented writer and the mystery unfolded with just the right pace. He wasn't excruciatingly slow to build the tension and he didn't throw it all at the reader in the last chapter. For each mysterious occurrence there were at least two possibilities (if not more) to explain whodunit and that kept me guessing throughout the book. Although the main character was a man there are a lot of strong females in the book which isn't always something I see in the work of a male author.

The Plot:

I'll be brief here as I am sure most of you have read the blurb. Andrew our main character, is a young man who at the tail end of a months long recovery from eye surgery; he suffered from a detached retina. At the

doctors office when the tell him he is healed and doesn't have to return he runs into a stunningly beautiful woman who he sees again at the train station. They have a fun night, shopping, clubbing ect. They exchange numbers but a week later he still hasn't heard from her. Then he gets The Call. He and Charlie end up in a whirlwind romance, the type of romance where they are saying I Love You in the first week. But shortly after commencing the relationship strange things start to happen. I don't want to give any of the plot away but suffice it to say these happenings are targeting Andrew's ex-girlfriends and female friends. Before long Andrew can't deny the fact that the beautiful Charlie has a green eyed monster living inside her, and he has to ask: Is she behind this?

The only reason this book didn't get 5 stars from me is the ending. As I mentioned, the author kept me guessing throughout the book about who the bad guy was and I got this one wrong. Usually that's a great thing, it means the author stumped me, surprised me and I love to shocked by a books' ending. But I was more disappointed after the big reveal than shocked or surprised. But that is just my opinion and shouldn't prevent you from reading this book. Highly recommended to any lover of mysteries and thrillers.

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### **Joya says**

Loved it...until I didn't.

This book was kind of like eating an ice cream cone that was soooo amazing and when you get to the cone you find out it's made of cardboard instead of sweet waffle cone goodness.

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### **Patrice Hoffman says**

I am hovering between a 2 and 3-star rating. My initial reasoning for the 2-star rating is based on the fact that *Because She Loves Me* by Mark Edwards is just like every other novel based on obsessive love connections.

Everyone knows the type of story I'm referring to. Boy meets insatiable girl who warps his mind with sex, more sex, better sex, and even better sex. He's so wrapped up in this woman's love (and legs) that he can't see straight and that's besides the fact he's initially dealing with problems with his eyes. He refuses to see that strange things are happening. Items are missing from his home, friends are having scary encounters, and words of wisdom from weird kooks don't dissuade this guy, Andrew, from ignoring all the signs that things aren't right with Charlie.

The reason I decided to go with the 3-star rating is because this book wasn't entirely awful. We observe what it's like to be so overcome with someone else. We ignore their jealous rages to the point of finding them to be endearing. We even make excuses for all the unexplainable bad luck we've been having since meeting that person. All for the sake of love and keeping it. Thank God I haven't been there.

My other reason behind the 3-star rating is that *Because She Loves Me* is just so damn entertaining. Sure, the characters are a little thin, the plot is a lot predictable, and the hero is a complete dummy, I was still totally entertained. That's essentially the point of psychological thrillers. To be entertained and thank your lucky stars she doesn't love you.

*Copy provided by Thomas & Mercer via Netgalley*

