



## **An Unlikely Match**

*Barbara Dunlop*

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Morgan Holbrook has a PhD in jet propulsion, a plum research position at CalTech and a sexy, new neighbor who is way out of his league. He's got all the confidence in the world where it comes to applied physics, but he's never been the guy who gets the girl.

Cheerleader Amelia Camden has sworn off boyfriends, focusing instead on her budding acting career. But when her nerdy, next door neighbor passes up his high school reunion, party enthusiast Amelia is determined to change his mind.

Wanting his former classmates to appreciate Morgan the way she does, as a brilliant, compassionate, engaging man, she goads him into a haircut, a great suit and a pair of contact lenses. Morgan plays along with the sexy Amelia. Who wouldn't? But when her flattery turns to flirtation, he knows it's all part of the act.

## **An Unlikely Match Details**

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## **From Reader Review An Unlikely Match for online ebook**

### **Tiffany Willams says**

"When he looked at her, he saw a goddess. When she looked at him, she saw an easy mark, a susceptible geek she could bend to her will. There was no point in either of them pretending otherwise."

What a cute story!! Opposites attract for the win!

This book had so many good points! From seeing two people come together that you would never think, to meddling older relatives that want to see their young ones happy, and to my personal favorite...a hot geek! I'm a sucker for a nerdy boy:)

I love that Amelia wasn't like every stereotype for the "popular" girl. She pushed herself for what she wanted in life, and didn't want any handouts. Morgan stole my heart from the start! He was a smart cookie, but also, deep down he wanted more than just a successful career.

"There's something about you..."

"There's something about you too, Amelia."

These two were thrown together and didn't even know it. I like when I read a story about people that just need a little...push in the right direction. They were the perfect match, if you will:)

I enjoyed this book so much! I can't wait to read the others in the series!! Great read!

"He might be a nerd and a genius, but she was quite hopelessly attracted to him."

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### **LaFleurBleue says**

My expectations starting this book were rather low.

I found the premises with the newly found grandfather starting to interfere in his grandson's life a bit extreme. However it did not really matter as I really liked the way the relationship between Amelia and Morgan started and developed. Those two characters were quite easy to like, with their no-nonsense behaviors, their awareness of their own failings without making mountains out of those. The story was filled with everyday moments, a few pushes from one to the other to help him grow better and feel more confident. Nothing very original or outstanding, but all perfectly convincing. Exactly what I like in a contemporary romance.

But then came the moment when they/one of them realized they were manipulated in a relationship by interfering older relatives. I really did not like the way they behaved then and it rather seemed out of character in my opinion. And the all ending felt slightly grotesque with a reunion under the eyes of the same older relatives, very quick and easy making up concluded by a marriage proposal. It reminded me of the way some SEP romances ended, with grand gesture, farcical families getting involved and so on. And me, the reader, I felt let down, unable to find that as funny as it probably should and just plain disappointed that it should all end like this.

Well really this did not work at all for me and it cost the book the 4th star I would have given it otherwise. Plus it made me rethink my willingness to go on reading other books from this author. I might, but it's not

that certain.

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### **Ambrosia says**

2.5 stars. Short and cute. Neighboring retirees plot to match up their grandchildren.

Gorgeous, former cheerleader wannabe actress meets hot, nerdy, socially awkward, genius astrophysicist with a black belt. He's socially awkward and insecure about his appeal. She's bubbly and talkative and insecure about her achievements. Match made in heaven?

It was cute and a bit fairytale. A little Bug Bang Theory meets Pretty Woman.

Mindless entertainment for an hour. The ending was abrupt, and I would have liked some groveling. But whatever.

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### **Lola says**

I've had *An Unlikely Match* on my iPhone for a while, but I didn't bother to read it until pretty recently in my insomniac fueled haze. I was pleasantly surprised by it. It's definitely one of the better written free romances on iBook, and I was sad to see it end. Amelia and Morgan have great chemistry from the beginning, and I enjoyed their banter. The subplot with the grandparents seemed a bit ridiculous to me, resulting in a loss of a star, but I managed to get over it because it is sort of tied back in at the end. It was light and fun, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Definitely recommended! Go download now!

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### **Alison says**

Darn, I thought this was one from my ever-increasing NetGalley TBR pile!

This was a cute, fun read which pushed a few of my One-Click buttons.

JW has just found out that he has a child and a grandson that he knew nothing about, concerns about his grandson Morgan Holbrook lead him and a group of equally "wacky" senior citizens in a retirement complex to develop a real relationship algorithm to find Morgan a match from among the grand-daughters of his friends.

The algorithm matches Caltech researcher (think real rocket scientist) with Airhead Amelia, a cheer-leading, dramatic arts student, wannabe-actress. Notwithstanding their scepticism about the match the elderly cupids conspire to bring these two opposites together. Never fear, the old folk are like book-ends; they introduce the book and then complete it by giving a hint at the next book but they don't really appear much in the main body of the novel.

This is like a modern day *Pride and Prejudice*. Morgan calls Amelia a Pavlovian Blonde because, in geek world, she has learned that when she bats her eyelashes men do whatever she wants. For her part, Amelia calls men like Morgan F-E, PWAPP (four-eyes, probably wears a pocket protector).

Maybe that makes them both seem a bit judgy, really this is the cute girl gives the hot nerd a make-over for his high school reunion and goodness knows I lurve a good make-over plot!

I thoroughly recommend this novel to anyone who wants a feel-good opposites attract FREE novel.

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### **Jennifer says**

I love the fact that the grandparents try and do the matchmaking thing...

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### **Celestine says**

#### **Geek-Lite**

This was a cute story with a likeable girl taking on the task of remaking her geeky neighbor. I call it geek-lite because plaid shirts, glasses, messy hair and a job at CalTech do not make a geek. The beginning had me thinking it was an orchestrated match-up of Big Bang's Penny and Leonard, except this boy is way hotter. Nice banter and a few sexy times make it a fun, easy read. Perfect book for a day when you need a distraction but don't want/need to concentrate. No burning up the brain cells on this one despite the genius in the room. 3.5 rounded to 4 stars.

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### **ChicaLectora says**

fue una historia de esas que estaba esperando hace mucho tiempo!!! me gustó mucho cómo era la relación entre Morgan y Amelia. Los abuelos, merecen todos los aplausos

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### **Kate McMurry says**

An adorable, New Adult, contemporary, romantic comedy

A group of 70-something friends who live in a Florida retirement community are determined to help their grandchildren, grandnephews and grandnieces find their ideal mates by using a matchmaking computer program designed by their most brilliant co-conspirator, a former NASA scientist named Sam.

The first match that the program produces consists of 27-year-old Morgan Holbrook, the grandson of JW, a retired general, and 22-year-old Amelia Camden, the grandniece of Hannah, a bubbly, charming woman who has been a beauty all her life.

Amelia has just graduated from an Arizona university with a BA in fine arts and a C average. Rather than plodding away at her studies, Amelia focused on her extracurricular activities, participating in theater, cheerleading and an active social life. Her post-graduation plans are to move to LA and try out for parts as an actress while working as a cocktail waitress to support herself. Much like her Aunt Hannah, Amelia is beautiful, upbeat and fun to be with.

Morgan has a genius IQ. He attended Berkeley and earned a PhD in astrophysics, making him the proverbial "rocket scientist." In spite of being a "nerd," he is quite athletic, regularly engaging in mountain biking and martial arts, in which he has a black belt.

In order to get the two of them together, the coterie of senior matchmakers arrange to have Amelia and Morgan living, each rent free, in condos in the same building in Pasadena, California, and Sam uses his influence to get Morgan a job as an assistant professor at Caltech to anchor him in the same geographic location as Amelia.

In spite of the fact that these two, on the surface, are polar opposites, from the moment they meet, a strong, mutual attraction flares between them and continues to grow as they get to know each other, though neither of them suspects how the other feels.

This is the first book in a cute, romantic-comedy series. The author has written many bestselling Harlequin contemporary romances, but this series is self-published. I would personally classify "An Unlikely Match" as "New Adult" (NA), though the author does not seem to be marketing this series as such, because the protagonists are in their twenties and just starting out in life.

Looking at the book in that light, it is a terrific, and much needed, addition to that recently created subgenre of contemporary romance. NA has been flooded with angsty, college-based romantic dramas overflowing (ad nauseum) with bacchanalian booze parties, detailed, frantic sex scenes, and endlessly tattooed protagonists. I adore "geek" heroes, and Morgan is one of the best I've encountered in any romance novel, whether, YA, NA or adult. He's mature, responsible, and an outstanding example of a "metrosexual" male who is quite sexy without being alpha-dog domineering, as so many NA and adult, contemporary-romance heroes are.

This is a very funny book, with many laugh-out-loud moments, but it is also deeply emotional where it counts, in the progression of the growing love between Morgan and Amelia. I was really impressed with the way that both the hero and heroine, over the course of the novel, transcend their external, socially generated personas to discover that, deep inside, they have far more in common than they could ever have initially imagined. They both share some of the most important qualities that make for success in a committed, romantic relationship, including responsibility, emotional sensitivity, being good listeners who are truly interested in each other, and a willingness to help each other achieve their most important life goals.

This book is written in the point of view of both the hero and heroine, and initially in the point of view of Morgan's grandfather as we get a peek into the benevolent and humorous motivation behind the merry band of matchmakers who are the linking premise of this series. I am not always a fan of that kind of setup for a romance series, which has been done by Harlequin many times over the years. However, I found this particular, quirky set of seniors extremely likeable and a great deal of fun.

I highly recommend this book to fans of romantic comedy, and if you enjoy this book, you might also want to try another wonderful NA romantic comedy, *Isn't She Lovely* by Lauren Layne.

I rate this book as follows:

Heroine: 5 stars

Hero: 5 stars

Subcharacters: 5 stars

Romance Plot: 5 stars

Writing: 5 stars

Overall: 5 stars

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### **Heather andrews says**

Morgan may be a little geeky, but he's still a man, "he stepped over the low fence and followed her through a sliding door that was identical to his. As they walked, he let his gaze skim her back, over the thin strip of bare skin., coming to rest on the play of her tight buttocks." I mean he's a little shy but he's slowly coming out of his shell, "I have no explanation for my behavior, except that you're an incredibly beautiful woman, and I'm an ordinary man." And well Amelia can get a little touchy feely, "she put her hand on his stomach, and he sucked in a breath of shock, every nerve ending jumping to instant attention. "Rock hard," she declared." He might have responded, but he'd been robbed of the power of speech." And Amelia props to her but she finally voices her opinion, "shut up," she practically shouted. "I've been throwing myself at you for two weeks. If you don't want me, tell me. But you kiss me like you want me. You hug me like you want me." I really enjoyed reading this book.

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### **sandy dunn says**

#### **Loving the nerd**

I enjoyed this book greatly. I can't wait to read the next book in the series. The seniors are little trouble makers and funny.

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### **Sydney D. says**

Contemporary Romance is one of my favorite genres (although I might classify this as more of a New Adult novel since Amelia is fresh out of college,) but this book didn't really do it for me. Morgan, a highly intelligent guy moves to Pasadena, California for a new job and winds up living next door to Amelia, a cheerleader wanna-be actress at the start. Little do they know, their relatives have set up the situation to see if they could have a chance at love. As they help one another become their best selves they form a bond, a bond that could lead to more <3

I found myself rolling my eyes numerous times as Amelia and Morgan were both too clueless or stubborn to see their situation in a clear way. Without giving TOO much away, both main characters place way too much weight on one attribute or another in a way that no real 3-dimensional person would, in my opinion.

Despite the negatives of the story, it is a super quick read, definitely a page-turner, and I was too interested in how it would all end to put the book down!

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## Joan says

Chick-lit. You know how it is. Sometimes you just have to read it. (Like needing a McDonalds - and boy can a Big Mac can be just what you want at times) This was my 'Big Mac' read for the week. And it was exactly right.. froth, fluff, loads of fun. Very nicely written, clever, with delicious characters, and enough predictability to make it easy on the mind.

SO. Why only 3 stars when it could so easily have been 5??

Even now I am not sure if I am over-reacting, or perhaps not reacting enough. There seemed to be a tinge of homophobia running through some parts of the story. (The whole 'match' is set up in an attempt to prove that Morgan is not gay.) It left a slightly sour taste in my mouth. I know that one character was mentioned as being gay, but that almost seemed to be a sop to the gay community. I got the feeling that being gay was considered not exactly 'wrong', but somehow 'not good enough'. A real pity, because this is otherwise a really great 'Chick-lit' read.

Perhaps it's me. I am open to comments and rethinking about my rating, but at the moment I am just a tiny bit..... disappointed. (but I will certainly read other books by this author.)

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## Helen says

Nicely handled romance fluff with lush prose and highly likable characters. Amelia could have been annoying, but fortunately, she moves quickly past the cheerleader stereotype into warm-but-vulnerable territory. Morgan was endearing and also attractive as the not-so-nerdy (and...apparently also buff from karate?) nerd.

Morgan seems to be the perfect man, naturally. It's not like we don't know what to expect when picking up a romance. Smart, well-off, active, strong, mature with good taste, and goshdarnit, he's just one of those really good guys, you know? I dunno. Sure, I guess there must be some guys out there like him.

My main critique is how quickly the story came to an end. It was unexpected and rushed. The story built up naturally, and very suddenly, everything was being wrapped up and everyone was driving into the sunset with potential diamonds, while the (also likable) matchmaking grandparents were plunging into the necessary details to set up the sequel. What happened?! I wanted to hear more about Morgan and Amelia, maybe have them go through a few more events in their relationship. I felt like that was stolen from me.

There were a few editing issues. Aside from that, description was just enough, dropped in here and there, and well-fleshed out enough for me to picture the protags and their activities.

One final question. What the heck does "her nerve endings scrambled into a group" mean? Did *his* nerve endings also scramble into a group, I wonder? So exciting!

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## TSN says

Insanely cute and unrealistic. But Who don't love a great Cinderella story.



Two thumbs up from here!

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