



## **Frisky Business**

*Clodagh Murphy*

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**It started with a chance encounter at a Halloween party. Nine months later, the real fun began ...**

Romy Fitzgerald likes to do things properly and in the right order. So she always thought she would go the conventional route of boyfriend, marriage, children. Sex in a closet with a stranger dressed as Darth Vader was definitely not how she saw herself becoming a mother.

But she has no regrets. Her baby son, Luke, is the best thing that ever happened to her. If only she knew who his father was ... Because though she and 'Darth' shared their deepest, darkest secrets, they didn't swap names or numbers.

One year later, Romy is no closer to finding out the identity of her mystery man. But just as she's ready to put it behind her and move on, an old flame comes back into her life and brings with him a whole new set of complications.

Kit was 'the one who got away' and Romy wonders if they can reignite what they once had. But Kit has his own secrets to hide. And why is he so eager to play happy families with Romy and Luke?

Could he be Romy's dark knight? Or is there another?

## Frisky Business Details

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## **From Reader Review Frisky Business for online ebook**

### **Sharon says**

Having read Clodagh Murphy's previous two books I was eagerly awaiting frisky business to come out. Well it was well worth the wait I was not disappointed. This book has a bit of everything in it. Humour, mystery, romance, all rolled in to a wonderful warm imaginative story that Clodagh creates & writes perfectly as usual. I instantly took a liking to Romy & all the characters, they had me completely drawn into their lives. I was so keen to keep reading to find out what was the secret that Romy was holding, what was Kit hiding?and this I say with a smile on my face... where did May get her energy from? Also would we ever find out who Darth Vader was. It will keep you guessing until the very last page. There are so many funny, memorable moments, with great dialogue & interactions throughout. Plenty of laughs in frisky business, I'm certain it's going to be a great success & I highly recommend it.

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### **Moon Love says**

Romy did something out of the ordinary and now has a 3 month old baby to show for it. Unfortunately, she doesn't know who the father is because she never saw his face or exchanged names. But she loves Luke her son and knows the odds of finding the father, or Darth Vader, as she knows him are really slim.

Oh my goodness! I loved this book! I'm going to have to write a review in the morning! It's bed time now! To elucidate, I finished reading this book at about 2:30 am. It was really hard to stop once I started reading and before I knew it the book was over!

This book was seriously funny. I can't count the number of times I laughed out loud. I'm someone who visualizes things, so Clodagh Murphy's words were spot on and I was easily able to "see" what she was describing. Being an American, I had no problem following along with any British slang, not that there was that much.

I REALLY liked Romy. She was down to Earth and just a really good person. Oddly enough, all the other main characters were likable too. I don't really think there was a villain in the book. I did feel like the ending was rushed, almost like an afterthought, just to wrap up the loose threads of the story. It fit just fine, but I felt as if the book could've been longer, so the ending would've been seamless. I would've loved if the book had been longer anyways.

If you're looking for a laugh, some awws, and a little bit of romance, then this book is perfect for you. I did get a little teary eyed at the end, but I'm prone to being a bit more emotional. It's a great summer read, a great comic read, just a great read over all. I also wish some publisher in the US would give Ms. Murphy a publishing contract. It's killer on my wallet getting her books in paperback sent over from Europe, but as long as she keeps writing, I'll keep buying.

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### **Tia says**

Definitely a great read. I will most certainly look out for this author in the future. I enjoyed the novel so

much and was so surprised how well written it was. It was a mystery to the very end, even if I was hoping for the ending I was given. It's funny how the hero turned out not to be the hero until the 'real' hero came back along.

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## **Jennifer says**

This hilarious story is brought to us by Clodagh Murphy, a relatively new writer on the scene, this is her third book. While beginning this book I had my doubts that I would be stepping into a cheesy tongue in cheek typically chick litty book but boy was I surprised. It was so funny from the get go I instantly fell in love. Clodagh Murphy has taken a huge risk in delving into the world of sex with this one and I congratulate her on a risk worth taking.

Romy Fitzgerald is a newly single mother after a one night stand at a Halloween party with Darth Vader, real identity unknown. Keeping in style of the hilarity of the book Romy decides to call her son Luke feeling it is quite fitting given the circumstances. Romy has taken to motherhood like a boat to water and it is truly the best thing that has ever happened to her.

When Kit arrives back from New York after the recession has dragged yet another company down he feels like he is starting from scratch. After some convincing from his mother he decides to track down his first love Romy but all is not as it seems.

Romy is a property developer and is currently living in one of her renovated houses with tenants due to the current property climate. One of her tenants being May, a wonderfully kooky older woman who is determined to investigate every sexual taboo she possible, in fact she keeps a blog and even runs workshops. This book kept me laughing and smiling the whole way through, at one point I was convinced I had worked the entire thing out but of course I was happily mistaken. It was filled with humour reminding us that maybe we shouldn't take sex so seriously and remember it is supposed to be fun too. Here in Ireland especially, sex is still seen as somewhat of a no go area, a hush hush topic and so I admire Clodagh's courage to write a story like this. I truly enjoyed this book and I feel it would also make a great movie. I feel like it is a little bit of a guilty pleasure as it is filled to the brim with taboo. It is also important to say that sex is really the back drop and there are important plot lines in this story, sex is the foundation which once you finish the book makes complete sense.

It is laugh out loud funny, slightly outrageous and I have to say there were times when I had no idea what sexual stuff Miss Clodagh was referring to so keep a dictionary on stand by, this is a fun filled guilty pleasure for me and I loved it.

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## **?????? ♥Team Magnus Damora FOREVER♥ says**

Romy Fitzgerald gets knocked up after a one-night-stand with Darth Vader. Not THE Darth Vader of course but a guy wearing his custom in a Halloween party. Romy always thought that David, the guy who was throwing the party and who was married, would leave his wife for her. Until this hook-up happened. Nine months later, She gives birth to a boy she names as Luke (nice Clodagh \*wink\*). She wonders who this father might be.

Featuring on this story is Kit Masterson, who is Romy's HS boyfriend.

idk what to say honestly. I mean the start was meh! to be frank and the middle seemed to be worth it. Then the end was nice too but ... you see what I did there? no? ok, I had zero emotional reaction to whatever was happening. Really! I felt the writing instead of being very emotional (considering the theme of love) it was just far from making me *feel* anything.

then what I am giving the 3 stars?

well, this book's twist had me. I always fancy myself (esp. with chick-lits considering their predictability) that I am 2 steps ahead of the writer but apparently not this time. It was a v. good twists. I thought the reference to this Darth Vader was good even though I am no Star Wars fan. Ethan was great. I wish he was introduced sooner.

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### **Jacob Proffitt says**

I rather liked the characters, actually, but the story tended to drag rather a lot and the jokes weren't improved by anticipation. Which is to say that they were easy to anticipate and the execution seldom added to the effect.

I'm going to put some of this behind a spoiler tag, but I really don't want to. Murphy cheats a lot and it doesn't do anything for the reader to not know this. Still, make the choice whether to know in advance the stuff that detracts. Part of my dissatisfaction was that Murphy breaks romance convention (view spoiler) And she also cheats with things the viewpoint knows. (view spoiler)

So a lot of things are obvious and Murphy cheats a lot to have the situation comedy she intends. Which is all very clunky. I kind of loved Romy and Ethan is awesome and even Danny was great for what little we see of him. Kit is a dead loss (view spoiler) Personally, I recommend skipping right to her latest, *Some Girls Do*. It's way better, which is good to see. I'll definitely check out Murphy's next book as this is a good trajectory so far.

**A note about Steamy:** There are a couple of explicit scenes and a *ton* of talking about S&M stuff as Romy attempts to figure Kit out. It's all stupid hijinks, but there's enough I feel the need to call it out. This felt the middle of my tolerance despite all the stupid talk, but I'm not sure I'm remembering things correctly...

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### **Catarina Szelsky † says**

this book was super funny and i did not see coming those twists :D

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### **Mary says**

Funny and sweet (without cheesy and corny business)

It's been a long time I don't read this kind of book, where everybody are happy, normal, kind, and sweet. Romy got knock out after her first and only one night stand without knowing her partner in crime. She and her bestfriend had tried to find the father of her son, Luke, with no result.

Then she met Kit, her ex-boyfriend years ago in high school. Out of nowhere Kit asked her to be his fake girlfriend. She agreed to go for it although Kit never gave any sign to move on their relationship. When finally she go to his family's house she met Kit's younger brother, Ethan, who had turned to be gorgeous but out of her league (and 4-5 years younger than she is).

For a while, I kept guessing who would end up with Romy until half of the story going on. First it seem to focus on the mistery guy who knocked her up but really hard to find. Although she could live on her money, had a great live, great friends, and loving family, but it would be perfect if she found Luke's father.

Then the story moved to Kit. They had sweet relationship back then in high school and with their family support Romy could hope there would be a future with Kit.

When she met Flirty Ethan, she thought she had no chance at all. Ethan was sweet, gorgeous, flirty, and had a crop of 'friends with benefit' queing behind. Plus, she's way older, right?

So, who would be her mister perfect? And would she find the mistery guy?

I liked every character in this book, especially Romy, Ethan, and Danny. The writing was really hilarious and entertaining, which made this book so refreshing.

Oh, one more interesting thing I'd like to note: It's clearly not a BDSM genre. Although they talk about BDSM lifestyle, stuffs and all that, but, actually it's the opposite of BDSM story. And that what made this book funny ass hell.

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\*\*\*❁?Yasmine?❁\*\*\* says

**Sweet chic-lit romance, some LOLs and without the pretence**

*Frisky Business is very much about people getting their wires crossed and the funny things that occur when they do. I enjoyed the ride, some very sweet moments, lots of funny happenings, good characters, just felt a little longer than it needs to be.*

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**NurFasha says**

And here I thought it's going to be a cliché story. It started out quite slow but when you get through the middle of the book, that's the best part. I can't stop laughing when I read the part where Ethan was trying to 'please' Romy. And that last line in the book! Haha. You just made my day, Clodagh Murphy. Thank you!

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**TrishM says**

Is there ever an upside to a cold, wet holidaiy weekend? Defintiely if, like me, you spent it reading Frisky Business, Clodagh Murphy's latest romantic comedy. I loved her previous two books but I have to say this one has become my favourite.

All the things I liked about her previous books are here. She has a real flair for writing dialogue and it's as funny, clever and sparky as ever in here. There's laugh out loud comedy, mystery, romance and even a comic take on BDSM, plus another brilliant cast of interconnecting characters.

A year after her son Luke was conceived Romy, with the help of her friend Lesley, decides to have one more

try at discovering the identity of his father, the mysterious stranger who was dressed as Darth Vader at a Halloween party. Lesley - a would be detective - throws herself into the search with real enthusiasm and it's great fun. At the same time Kit, Romy's old flame from her school days, comes back into her life. Romy and Kit are both yearning for a part of themselves they feel they have lost and both start wondering if the answer is to be found with each other.

This book is written with real warmth and you can feel the author's affection for her characters. While there are serious issues involved - identity, how you relate to your family and your place in it - it's all done with a lightness of touch and I read the whole thing with a smile on my face. The characters are brilliantly drawn and will stay with you after you've finished reading. The romance is guaranteed to bring you up in goosebumps.

If you want a fun and warm hearted read set in a world where everything turns out exactly as it should I recommend you treat yourself to this.

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## **Meredith says**

Originally posted on The Librarian Next Door:

Romy Fitzgerald was the quintessential good girl. She was a good student in school, built up her on successful business and always figured marriage and children were in her future, someday. Then one Halloween, she has a fling with a guy in a Darth Vader costume and winds up giving birth to baby Luke nine months later. Though his arrival in the world was unconventional, Romy loves her son more than anything. She just wishes she could tell him more about his father. Then her old boyfriend, Kit Masterson, arrives back in town just as Romy undertakes a quest to find her mysterious Darth Vader. Kit has his own secrets to hide, but he – and Romy – are about to find out that secrets don't stay hidden for very long.

She had me at “Darth Vader.” Seriously.

*Frisky Business* is Irish author Clodagh Murphy's third book and definitely my favorite so far. By combining my enduring love of Star Wars (and, really, everything is better with Star Wars) with a sweet, laugh-aloud funny and entertaining contemporary romance, Murphy all but ensured that I would enjoy this novel. I first discovered Clodagh Murphy on a trip to Ireland three years ago and, ever since, I've gone out of my way to get my hands on her books. Sadly, they're still not available in the U.S., but I firmly believe they're worth paying the extra shipping to buy them from Amazon UK. With *Frisky Business*, you can tell Murphy is growing as an author. Her dialogue is quicker and wittier, her characterizations are sharper and the plots are tighter, with less extraneous material. As an author, she's reminiscent of Sophie Kinsella, but with her own flair.

One of the highlights of *Frisky Business* is the great supporting characters who steal the spotlight. From Lesley and her “incident nook,” May and her wildly awkward sex lectures, and the sweet but dim Tank, these secondary characters feel every bit as important as the main characters. I especially Danny and Ethan, for being exactly who they were and not hiding any part of themselves.

Of course, it's also easy to enjoy this novel because Romy is such a wonderful heroine. I mean, she sleeps with Darth Vader, then names her son Luke. How can you not love her? I loved how complete she was. Yes, she wanted a relationship and yes, she wanted to find Luke's father, but she wasn't wallowing in her life. She wasn't sitting back and waiting for things to happen. She had a happy life all on her own, before a man ever

enters the picture. And even though she seemed a bit too naive at times (I, for one, thought Kit's secret was abundantly obvious from the start), she never let herself be a doormat. Romy is a genuinely nice person and, because of that, you root for her happy ending because she deserves it.

There were some parts of the novel that stretched credibility at times. Romy's romantic relationships moved fairly quickly, which seemed a bit out of character for someone usually so cautious (then again, she did have sex with Darth Vader in a closet, so...) and it took the entire length of the book for me to come to like Kit. Still, Murphy manages to explore some "big" ideas (such as the idea of identity and who you are – especially in comparison to your family, and how people deal with the aftermath when life doesn't turn out the way they plan), but she does so with a lighthearted touch, so it's approachable and enjoyable.

Sometimes I feel like a one-woman American evangelist for Clodagh Murphy, but that's a label I am more than willing to take on. Even if you don't live in the U.K. or Ireland, I still strongly suggest you find a way to track down Murphy's novels. Heck, I'll even let you borrow my copies (and I rarely let people borrow my books, for fear that I will never see them again). If you've liked Sophie Kinsella or Marian Keyes, if you enjoy fun, summertime beach books, and especially if you love seeing Star Wars woven into a contemporary romance, *Frisky Business* is the book for you.

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### **Aileen says**

Romy Fitzgerald is a single mum to Luke and property developer. Luke was conceived in a cupboard at a Halloween Party by a handsome stranger in a Darth Vader costume she doesn't know his name. A year later she decides to throw a Halloween Party and invite everyone that was at the party the previous year in the effort to find Luke's father but does he turn up? Kit her ex and first love is back from New York unemployed and staying with his parents but will Romy ever find Luke's father. Or is he right under her nose? I really enjoyed this book, I couldn't put it down, I have read all the books by this Author definitely recommend.

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### **Melindeeloo says**

3 star = I liked it. Romy has a one night stand with a masked man at a Halloween party, and the result was baby Luke - So named because dad was dressed as Darth Vader. Now a year later Romy is trying to find Darth so she can let him know about his son.

On the whole I liked *Frisky Business*, what made it work for me was that leading lady Romy and the supporting cast were likeable and well developed - I especially liked both of the extended families in the story and their interactions.

In the nits category: the story is a bit long, by the halfway point you know where the story is going and it just a matter of how the characters get there, their paths turning due to a series of misinterpreted half conversations. For me, the clumsy conception scene flashback could have been pared down - Romy shares the story later with friends. And the 'BDSM for beginners' discussions are probably fine for those who want to know what it is without actually reading a BDSM romance but they could have been streamlined. (And, this is not exactly a nit, but for those of us on the US side of the pond, some of the UK/Irish slang was a



mystery. )

I know that seems like a lot of nits but still this kindle cheapie had an interesting hook, some cute and humorous moments, and a nice HEA with a great final line.

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### **Bookish Indulgences with b00k r3vi3ws says**

Romy Fitzgerald is a ‘good girl’, who has always had her life planned out. Good education, a nice career, a nice boyfriend and marriage. Knowing her, one wouldn’t expect her to do something like having sex with a stranger and ending up pregnant. But that’s exactly what happened. While Luke’s arrival into this world wasn’t exactly planned in Romy’s life, she loves her son and wants a good life for her son. She wishes to be able to tell her son about his father but her endeavors to finding out his identity had failed. Then her ex-boyfriend comes back to town with his flirty brother, things start to change.

‘Frisky Business’ is essentially a sweet love story. The plot is simple and predictable. But don’t let that keep you from picking this book up.

The story is supported by a number of very interesting character. Romy is a strong and likeable girl. I liked the way she takes everything that’s thrown at her and just moves on with her life. She is not dependent on anything or anyone to enjoy and make the best of her life and has a certain ‘individuality’ that I loved about her. Besides our protagonist, there are a host of characters that you will absolutely love. Ethan, Lesley, May and Danny have their own contributions to the story.

The author’s wit and sense of humour is really an asset for her. I mean to have Romy name her son Luke because he was Darth Vader’s son – that put a smile on my face the moment I read it in the summary of the book. I had innumerable moments of laughing while sitting alone in my room with this book and reading out loud some portions to my better half. Plus, with her writing style there’s not a dull moment in the book. I have to admit that when the book first arrived at my doorstep I was a bit taken aback with its size, because I couldn’t imagine a love story – with no mystery/ suspense (Oh, I don’t count Kit’s Secret as it was pretty clear to me from the beginning) or action sequence to be able to hold my attention for that long. But once I started reading it, it was over too soon – or it seemed so.

It’s a light and fun read for the weekends!

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