



# The Bro-Magnet

*Lauren Baratz-Logsted*

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"There are so many memorable moments in this book that I could spend page after page quoting them."

—USA TODAY

Poor Johnny Smith.

At age 33, the house painter has been a best man a whopping eight times, when all he's ever really wanted is to be a groom. But despite being everyone's favorite dude, Johnny has yet to find The One. Or even anyone. So when he meets high-powered District Attorney Helen Troy, and falls for her hard, he follows the advice of family and friends. Since Helen seems to hate sports, Johnny pretends he does too. No more Jets. No more Mets. At least not in public. He redecorates his condo. He gets a cat. He takes up watching soap operas. Anything he thinks will earn him Helen, Johnny is willing to do. There's just one hitch: If he does finally win her heart, who will he be?

## The Bro-Magnet Details

Date : Published December 11th 2011 by TKA Distribution

ISBN :

Author : Lauren Baratz-Logsted

Format : Kindle Edition 261 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Humor

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## From Reader Review *The Bro-Magnet* for online ebook

(Tori-Smexybooks) smexys\_sidekick says

When my review partner Mandi tweeted me that I HAD to read this book, telling me I would love it, I jumped to it. Know what? She was right.

Bro magnet is a hilarious rom com from a man's POV. Johnny Smith is always the best man but never the groom. Every guy loves him and every woman thinks he's an a arse. it's not he's a terrible person, he's just adorably clueless. When he meets the woman of his dreams, Johnny grabs his friends and does everything possible to reinvent himself with unbelievably funny results.

Favorite Quote: "Eek, a clown!"

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### Brie says

Originally posted at Romance Around the Corner

This is a perfect example of why you should never judge a book by its cover. I know it's bad, I also know the title isn't helping, but believe me, you're in for a treat.

Johnny Smith is man's man. That means that every single guy he's ever met loves him. They all find him funny, clever, approachable, admirable, all the guys want to be his best friend and they all want Johnny to be their Best Man. In fact, he's been Best Man at eight weddings and counting! However, when it comes to women the story is the complete opposite. They all hate him, no matter what he does, men love him for it and women hate him. He's been disappointing women ever since he was born.

*Right from the start, I've been a disappointment to women.*

*Here's me at my own birth:*

*On January 1, 1977, after thirty-two hours, fourteen minutes and fifty-three seconds of labor, most of it during a heat wave so bad there are citywide power outages – a heat wave that would have been perfectly normal in Florida, but in New England, not so much – my mother, Francesca Smith, gives birth to me at home at exactly 2:19 p.m.*

*She insisted on the home birth because she said it would be more natural.*

*Alfresca Tivoli, Francesca's sister, is present as Francesca's birthing coach because my father, John Smith, says it's women's work. Plus, he's scared shitless.*

*As I emerge from between my mother's legs – all thirteen pounds, eight ounces of me –*

*Alfresca catches me. Then I do the usual baby stuff: I get my cord cut, I'm slapped, I cry, I get weighed and measured, someone wipes the cheesy stuff off my hairy head, and finally I get handed off to my mother.*

*"Oh," Francesca says, gently parting the swaddling to examine my body further, "it's a boy. This wasn't what I was expecting at all. I was so sure, all along, I was going to have a girl."*

*Then, she dies.*

*"If you'd been a girl," Alfresca says, taking me from my dead mother's arms as the midwife tries in vain to resuscitate my disappointed mother, "this never would have happened."*

See what I mean? Now, at 33 years old, he's ready to settle down and form a family. But he wonders:

*How did I get to be the guy that men all gravitate toward but that women, except for lesbians, mostly shun?*

When he meets Helen, finding the answer to that question becomes an urgent matter because he really likes her. So he enlists the help of everyone around him: his friends' wives, his dad and even the local tailor. They all agree that he should change his douche ways and become a different guy: no baseball cap, no jeans, no t-shirts, no sports, no belching; but yes to the opera, yes to changing his name from Johnny to John, yes to watching General Hospital and yes to getting a cat.

It's pretty obvious to the reader that Helen isn't shallow and that they are pretty compatible, but he is so worried about becoming what he thinks is a better person that he fails to see this. He's completely self-absorbed and blind, but he doesn't realize it and his journey is about figuring out that the right person loves you just the way you are.

I have so many good things to say about this book that I don't even know where to start. First I should say that it's a comedy and I that I started laughing from page one, right about the "*then she dies part*" and just kept laughing all the way to the end. Next I should say that the whole book is told from Johnny's POV and that, plus the whole "journey to self-discovery" part of the story, made me feel like I was reading a bizarre chick-lit, but instead of chick-lit this should be called dude-lit or something like that. I have read my fair share of chick-lit and some I have loved, but most just blurs together, so this book was a refreshing and an original twist to the genre.

I'm trying to come up with a way to describe Johnny and the best I can say is that he was charming, goodhearted, caring, clueless, and yes, a douche. His story inspired lots of laughs, lots of face-palms and lots of yelling "get a clue!". This is a guy who is wicked smart for some things, and then goes and says things like this:

(Johnny asks his friend Sam to help him get a cat)

*"Precisely. Here's one. Free, six adorable kittens in need of good home."*

*“But I don’t need six. I only need one.”*

*“What are you, stupid? We look at the six and pick out the one you like best. How hard can it be?”*

*“But it says ‘good home,’ not ‘homes.’ Clearly whoever placed the ad is looking to have all the kittens adopted at once.”*

*“Oh, for Christ sake, Johnny, just get in the truck and drive.”*

Parts of his characters felt a bit over the top and cartoonish. Things like his obsession with sports, his lack of understanding women’s minds, and the fact that he put together women into one huge bag where if you manage to decipher one then you have deciphered them all, felt like a huge stereotype of how men are and not like a real person. But despite his shortcomings, both as a book character and as a person, I loved him. He was reliable, honest, loyal and inherently good. When you have to spend a whole book in company of the same character he better be likeable, otherwise the reading experience is going to be bad. Thankfully Johnny was as likeable a character as it gets.

Another thing I loved about the book was the narration. Johnny’s personality grabbed me to the point where I felt like he was sitting beside me telling me his story. Sometimes first person POVs read more like the characters talking to themselves, but in this case I felt like he was talking directly to me.

The book isn’t perfect, the ending was a bit weak, it wasn’t what I was expecting which was good, but it was abrupt and rushed. The book’s pacing is slow and it drags a bit in the middle, but then I had so much fun that I didn’t want it to end. Helen isn’t really the heroine, she acts more like a secondary character and as love interest, she isn’t developed at all and we don’t really get to know much about her which was disappointing.

Finally I want to say that I’m happy I read the book and I’m happy because I read it. It’s a feel good book similar to its main character: crass on the outside, but charming and funny on the inside. This is how romantic comedies should be.

In case there were any doubts left, I wholeheartedly recommend this book to everyone feeling like spending an afternoon laughing out loud and in the company of a great guy.

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## **Sheri says**

My grade: C+. This is like chick-lit, only it's told in the hero's 1st person POV. Parts of this book I liked a lot. Several times I laughed out loud. I was fond of Helen and Johnny, but didn't like how much he was acting like someone he wasn't in order to appeal to Helen. And she was doing the same. Johnny has always been a bust with women, but men love him. All in all, I kept wanting him to act like himself. I didn't find him appealing getting a cat he didn't want, watching General Hospital, etc. I kept wishing I could see them having fun together, watching a baseball game and yelling their heads off. It was a quick read and a different premise.

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## Amy says

This book is totally made of awesome and I have laughed myself silly! General Hospital, Gone With The Wind, Pier 1, barn opera, a cat that walks on a leash. OMG, this was a total riot and I'm so excited that the author has a sequel in the works!

If you want an incredibly authentic and hilarious book about a clueless man's quest for love and the mistakes he makes in trying to reinvent himself along the way, run and get this book! You will not be disappointed!

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## Mimi Smith says

### 2.5 stars

This book...was so not for me. There were very funny moments and I really felt for and loved Johnny, but at a certain point I was just so tired with that-which-annoyed-me, I couldn't even enjoy the humour so much, which is sad.

You want to hear about That-Which-Annoyed-Me? Before we get to that here's a recap.

**"I Am Born  
(and I begin as life intends me to go on)**

Right from the start, I've been a disappointment to women."

So, Johnny is like the ultimate best pal to men. They want to be like him, want to be with him, etc. But women always thought he was an asshole...

*Guys' Verdict: "Johnny is seriously cool."*

*Women's Verdict: "Asshole."*

So, one day Johnny meets a D.A. Helen, and all of a sudden he thinks of something-if he wants a woman to stay with him he has to change, right? No, not only change-pretend he is someone completely different. All of a sudden Johnny(the ultimate man's man) likes opera, fancy wines, cooks and whatnot. He lies constantly, just censors his words and actions to be more likable. And he does it again. And again. And again and keeps doing with the help of his friends and women who keep telling him everything that's wrong with him and that needs to be changed. So, Johnny of course listens and does all kinds of crazy things.

At the end, though, he's totally in love with her and she says she's been pretending too. That she was more feminine and stuff. So all of the sudden you have two people who're in a relationship and don't really know each other and they're talking love and HEA. Really? I don't buy it and this whole situation bothered me.

Yes, I can see that the point WAS to get us to see that being ourselves is ok and all, but I just had a hard time getting into this particular topic. I definitely like the author's writing style, so I'll try reading her other work.

For the humor, and Johnny, it's 2.5 stars...

*"And it's not like I did anything borderline illegal like, say, reach out and actually grab one of her breasts, which you can't blame a guy for wanting to do since, in the entire history of the world and if God really did create the human body, nothing has ever been invented yet to rival the beautiful glory of the female breast."*

*"Hell, I think all women in all their various colors and shapes and sizes are cute or pretty or gorgeous or handsome or attractive. Women: they're a beautiful thing. But scary too. Very scary."*

*"You're way over-thinking this, Johnny. If this is the sort of crap that goes on in your mind during an actual date, no wonder you never get around to kissing the girl."*

*"Remind me again why you're my best friend?"*

*"Because I'm standing here with the blinds drawn and I'm going to let you practice kissing on me even though I'm a lesbian."*

*"Oh right. That."*

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## **willaful says**

I started this with some trepidation, because humor based on gender stereotypes is rarely my thing. It sounded fun though, so I gave it a try -- and it turned out to be a lot of fun, as well as sweet and unexpectedly wise.

Johnny is a really good guy, who somehow rarely gets credit for his stellar qualities from women. The traits that other men love in him, like being good at sports and able to fix junker cars, always seem to lead women to one conclusion: "asshole." They rarely notice that he's considerate, generous, warm-hearted, chivalrous and at least makes an effort to remember to put the seat back down.

When Johnny meets a woman who seems like she might just possibly like him, he's determined not to mess it up this time. And seeking advice from pretty much anyone who'll give it, he performs a make-over, becoming "John" (because "y" ending names are too little-boyish) who likes wine instead of beer and opera instead of sports. What happens next is partially incredibly obvious and partially a real surprise.

This is a light story -- lighthearted, lightly characterized, lightly over-the-top. The beginning description of Johnny's adolescence, in his first-person narrative, made me feel like I was reading YA -- and actually I think young adults could love this story. (There's some swearing but no graphic sex.) It's very funny in a wry sort of way, and though there is some ridiculous situational humor, it's not what entirely drives the book: in one memorable scene, John takes his date to an opera that turns out to be put on by a farm family in a hayloft, but they just go with it and have a really good time.

I think what I liked best about the story is that it's essentially non-judgmental. Although Johnny's "manly," low-brow tastes are embraced, he discovers he actually likes some of the new things he's tried -- but more importantly, he discovers that "things like who loves sports and who loves GH (General Hospital) and who loves both... none of that stuff mattered so long as, somehow, you saw down into the essence of the other person and they saw you."

It's hard to categorize this book: it's not traditional romance, not exactly YA, certainly not realistic fiction.

Its most obvious category is humor. But I think romance readers will also enjoy it; I certainly did.

(reviewed from e-arc provided by netGalley)

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**... says**

3.5 stars

When I started this book, I was super excited. It had a great premise that I hadn't ever read before. Plus, it was told first person, MALE narrative! I'm a sucker for getting into a guy's head, and I actually really love first person books.

I think in this particular piece, it HAD to be done that way. There's no way that Johnny's voice could have come through if this was done in third person. Let's talk about his voice a little, should we? I was laughing so damn hard through the first half of this book. Loud, barking laughter that had my husband looking at me like I was crazy. The storyline was engaging, *Johnny* was engaging. The first half of this book gets a solid 5 stars from me. And I'd give that part 10 stars if I could.

His humor and personality had me hook, line and sinker. His relationship with Sam was amazing--one of my most favorite things about this book.

But then we got into the second half of the book.

Which, to be honest, was a great big letdown. I felt it dragged on unnecessarily, and it lost the humor that had me wowed in the first place. Through the last half, Johnny...er...*John* changes almost everything about himself to get the girl (name change, clothing change, complete condo redo, no sports, starts watching General Hospital (whert?), AND HE BUYS A CAT.).

You could see where the story was going from the half way point, which was probably why it was so frustrating. It wasn't hard to see what was going on with Helen, and I think that's why I was waiting for it to just get there already.

Finally, when we did "get there", it was at the end of the book. I had no warm & fuzzy time, as I like to call it--when I get to bask in the wonderfulness of the characters and their eternal love. I got half a page.

This is my not amused face.

So, while this one started out with a bang, it crashed and burned by the end. I'd give the second half of this book 2, maaaaaaaybe 3 stars, because it was somewhere between being just ok and being likable. But the first half was *so* funny, *so* engaging, that I rounded my 3.5 overall rating to a 4 star on here. Who knows? Maybe the 2nd half won't drag for others, and I'd hate to have you miss out on this hilarious book because of how it bothered me.

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**Mandi Schreiner says**



I heard a lot of talk about *The Bro-Magnet* by Lauren Baratz-Logsted on Twitter, and then I saw Dear Author give it a favorable review, so I had to check it out. Thank goodness, because I am not sure if I would have ever picked this book up based on the title and the cover. But put that behind you because this book will make you laugh and smile the entire way through.

Johnny Smith is a guy's guy. He loves sports and poker, he paints houses for a living and every man finds him very likable. He has been the best man in about seven weddings and is just a happy dude. However, he knew he was cursed against all females the day he was born:

"Oh," Francesca (his mother) says, gently parting the swaddling to examine my body further, "it's a boy. This wasn't what I was expecting at all. I was so sure, all along, I was going to have a girl."

Then, she dies.

"If you'd been a girl," Alfresca says, taking me from my dead mother's arms as the midwife tries in vain to resuscitate my disappointed mother, "this never would have happened."

This sets the stage for what is one of the funniest books I have read in a very long time. We quickly move forward in Johnny's life as we watch him fail at numerous attempts with women in his young adult years.

The story finally settles as Johnny is in his early 30s and as single as he can be. Very smart and interested in law, he decides he'd rather help his dad in his painting business than become a professional. With his best friend, Sam, who is a lesbian, by his side, Johnny spends his days talking about the Mets and accepting best-man invitations to numerous weddings.

It isn't until he meets District Attorney Helen that he realizes his backward-wearing baseball cap and somewhat frat-house style might need to change if he wants to pursue this serious relationship. His friends step up to the plate to help him better himself, with much amusement.

While this story is a romance, it is very different from the typical romances I read. It's more of a one-man show, where Johnny takes center stage and the other characters are all supporting him, even his love interest, Helen. I think I heard someone refer to it as a chick-lit book, except told from a man's point of view. The reason this book works so well is that under all the laughs and silly situations Johnny gets put in, he really is a good guy. He is warm and endearing, and you root for him through the entire book. He is not necessarily suave and charming, rather just downright all male.

He has had relationships with women in the past, but when he meets Helen, he knows it is different and that totally flusters him. He freaks out and tries to act cool, but it comes across just silly. He doesn't want Helen, a lawyer, to know he has an obsession with trying to find loopholes in court cases, so he tries to throw her off course:

"So let me get this straight," she says. "It's not loopholes you have a thing for, it's ice holes?"

"Oh yes," I say, "from when I was little and my dad used to take me ice fishing. Ever since he got MS and can't get around as well anymore, I like to remember the times when we used to be together on the ice, sitting around the ice holes."

Well at least the part about him having MS is true.

"That's sweet," she says.

Hey, I'm on a roll here.

"Not only do I like ice holes," I say, "but I like sinkholes."

"Sinkholes?"

"I mean, I'd hate to get my truck stuck in one, but they're so interesting, the way they just appear all of a sudden. And peepholes, I like those too."

"Peepholes?"

"It is always good to see who's on the other side of the door so you know whether you want to let them in or not. Oh, and blowholes — you know, whales. They should be saved."

"So," she says slowly, reviewing my case item by item, "you like ice holes, sinkholes, peepholes and blowholes?"

There are so many memorable moments in this book that I could spend page after page quoting them. The entertainment in this book never stops, from taking Helen to a "Barn Opera" to trying to buy a kitten, or when Johnny gets scared by a clown and screams, "EEK!" Since Johnny is telling you the story, it makes his slightly over-the-top world feel more intimate.

It is great fun to find a new author, and I will definitely be keeping my eye on Lauren Baratz-Logsted.

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## Saly says

### Rating 3.5

I liked reading about a guy everyone wanted to be but who didn't have good luck with women. It was funny seeing him try to be someone else for the woman he liked, as it turned out both of them were hiding their real selves and had a lot more in common.

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## H?llyB?lly says

*My grade: 3 1/2 stars*

**I GREW UP AS THE OLDEST of four daughters.** My mum has three sisters and only one of them has a son - the rest of my cousins are female. So with that background I particularly enjoy books from a male main character's point of view. Johnny (or John, as he decides to go by, in order to project a more mature image) has an endearing voice. Just like all the guys -bros- that he comes across, I find him charming and endearing and I really want to be his friend. And, I think that is one of the problems I have with this book. Johnny is like the brother I never had and he is not convincing -to me- as a romantic lead.

Some might argue that this is supposed to be a romantic *comedy* first and foremost, and I agree that many scenes in this book are funny. There is a thin line you have to walk in order for the hilarious situations that ensue (a date at the opera in a barn with a pair of siblings performing multiple roles, for instance) not becoming over the top and too unrealistic, and the author does this very well. I think, however, that Johnny's long-time crush could have been painted with a somewhat finer brush to be more effective.

Just like many a romantic comedy heroine needs a gay best friend, so does a hero. Johnny's neighbour, sometime employee and BFF Sam is a lesbian. She is also very self assured - almost like a guy, actually, and very attractive. She has just come out of a failed relationship and is also wondering what she is doing wrong. As Johnny goes about trying to turn himself into the man that he thinks that Helen - the love interest - wants, Sam assists him and also applies some of the helpful hints he picks up along the way. The banter between Johnny and Sam is something that I enjoyed a lot, almost to the point where I was rooting for the outcome that Sam would be a closet bi-sexual person and she and Johnny would be an item at the end. But, of course

she is not.

Another problem I had with the book is that I don't *feel* what Johnny feels about Helen - he tells me/the reader how he reacts and what he thinks about and his hopes for this relationship, but when we reach the butterfly in the tummy moments; the first kiss and when they finally progress to a more physical relationship, he tells me that as well. The door is closed.

When I say that I had some problems with the book, I don't mean that I am disappointed - it was a thoroughly enjoyable and easy read. It brought out a lot of smiles and giggles and left me with a happy feeling. But, at the end of the day I do wish that there had been a little more romance to this comedy.

This review can also be found at [hellyslibrary.wordpress.com](http://hellyslibrary.wordpress.com)

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## **UniquelyMoi ~ BlithelyBookish says**

*The Bro-Magnet* is a laugh out loud story about life and love, told in the first person POV from a man's perspective. If you're married or have spent any length of time in a relationship with a guy, you know how clueless they can be when it comes to their feelings and the ways of the world... the *real* world, that is. Well, in this book we get to spend years inside Johnny's head and while I *still* don't think I'll ever understand the way men think, at least I got a lot of great laughs from reading about it.

If you're looking for something out of the ordinary, something light and easy to read, you really should pick up *The Bro-Magnet* and settle yourself in for an entertaining story.

*This book was provided by netgalley.com, TKA Distribution, and author, Lauren Baratz-Logsted, in exchange for an honest review.*

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## **Annie (Under the Covers Book Blog) says**

### **Posted on Under the Covers**

I will be honest. I overlooked this book countless times because I have no idea that this was a romance novel. The cover confuses you, but once you read the blurb you kind of know what to expect. Even then, I was still caught by surprise over this book. This is definitely not your typical contemporary romance.

THE BRO-MAGNET is written from a male's perspective. I don't know about you, but this is a first for me in romance. Wildly refreshing and outrageously funny, Lauren Baratz-Logsted completely took me by surprise. Not only was Johnny's perspective engaging and unlike anything I've ever read before, but I died laughing at some of the lines in this book. In fact, if I could, I would quote this entire book and leave it at that for a review.

As I said earlier, this book follows Johnny, a 33 year-old guy who makes a living out of painting houses. He's been Best Man eight times, even graduated with honors BUT he has the tendency to fall over himself when talking to a woman.

Here's what you need to know to set up this scene:

Johnny has a thing for Helen Troy, a lawyer and at this point, he's trying to play it cool denying the fact that he has this slight obsession about figuring out loopholes in court cases. In the end, he just ends up looking silly....

"So let me get this straight," she says. "It's not loopholes you have a thing for, it's ice holes?"

"Oh yes," I say, "from when I was little and my dad used to take me ice fishing. Ever since he got MS and can't get around as well anymore, I like to remember the times when we used to be together on the ice, sitting around the ice holes."

Well at least the part about him having MS is true.

"That's sweet," she says.

Hey, I'm on a roll here.

"Not only do I like ice holes," I say, "but I like sinkholes."

"Sinkholes?"

"I mean, I'd hate to get my truck stuck in one, but they're so interesting, the way they just appear all of a sudden. And peepholes, I like those too."

"Peepholes?"

"It is always good to see who's on the other side of the door so you know whether you want to let them in or not. Oh, and blowholes — you know, whales. They should be saved."

"So," she says slowly, reviewing my case item by item, "you like ice holes, sinkholes, peepholes and blowholes?"

Nice save, Johnny.

There are also some great moments with Johnny's wingwoman and lesbian BFF, Sam whom I loved as well. Sam tries to help the less-than-smooth Jonny set a date with Helen. Most often than not, it ends up like this:

I pick up the phone, start to punch in the number from the slip of paper, stop.

"Are you just going to stand there?" I say.

"What's the big deal?"

"I just feel funny talking on the phone with you standing there like that. It's like when a guy's trying to take a pee and some guy comes in and starts using the urinal right next to him. It feels awkward."

"You're being ridiculous about this."

I just keep staring at her, waiting.

"Fine," Sam huffs, heading for the door.

Don't judge a book by its cover. This saying has never held so much truth than in this case. If you're looking for something unique and fun, then Johnny is your man.

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## **Jess says**

Review posted: Happily Ever After - Reads

**Hell, I think all women in all their various colors and shapes and sizes are cute or pretty or gorgeous**

**or handsome or attractive. Women: they're a beautiful thing. But scary too. Very scary.**

The one word that kept coming to mind as I was reading about Johnny and his life was likable. He's such a nice, likable guy that I completely understood why guys would be drawn to him and want to be friends with him. Women, on the other hand, never moved beyond what Johnny was showing them on the outside, for the most part. He's a guy that loves his baseball cap backwards, loves sports, can't cook, and even though he could be a professional in a business suit world, he enjoys his job as a painter. As he watches all of his single guy friends get married, Johnny wishes that for himself one day. He starts realizing, with a little help from his friends, that he might need to change a few things in his life to be more appealing and he starts reinventing himself, as only Johnny can.

Johnny starts changing things up when he meets Helen, a woman he desperately wants to impress and find some common ground with. And so starts the advice that gets thrown at him from many different people. His best friend, Sam, is a lesbian who has her own difficulties in the love department, tosses in her two cents, which end up being zero help to Johnny when he wears a tux at her suggestion to an opera - that ends up being held in a barn. The advice and comments keep coming at Johnny throughout the whole book, and he listens and tries his hardest to make himself into someone that Helen would want to be with. While I don't like the idea of changing who you are for someone else, Johnny never fully did that. He might have started dressing better, bought a few throw pillows and tried not to watch sports around Helen, but he was still that guy deep down and that's what worked for me. I never got the feeling that the Johnny we meet in chapter 1 was completely different by book's end. But the laughs and some nice moments he gives us along his way to figuring things out with Helen were very charming and he's an incredibly likable character throughout the story.

**I'm getting ready to pay when I see something behind the counter that grabs my attention. "Can I get one of those too, please?" I ask the guy behind the counter.**

**"Which one you want?"**

**"Doesn't matter, just so long as it's sturdy."**

**The guy brings down the item and places it on the counter next to the rest of my stuff.**

**"So you're getting a cat and a dog?" he says.**

**"No, just the cat."**

**"Then what do you want a leash for?"**

**"The cat. So I can take it for walks."**

**"People don't usually -"**

**"Don't even bother," Sam cuts him off. "He's probably got this whole thing pictured in his head: him walking down the street, his cool new sleek black cat on the leash strutting by his side, maybe the two of them popping into the neighborhood bar for an ice cold beer for him and a saucer of milk for his furry little friend."**

**Really? Am I that transparent?**

The story is told in first person and I got a lot of laughs reading about the thoughts that would zoom through Johnny's head during the book. He takes everyone's advice to heart and he was a fish out of water in so many scenes, but being the guy that he is, things always had a way of working out in his favor. The ending was a very fitting, full circle moment and I like the match that he ends up finding with Helen. I would have loved to have a little more between these two at end, just being themselves, but there's no doubt left at the end that they really are a great match.

I really enjoyed getting to know Johnny and the best thing I can say about him is that I started the book liking who he was and ended it feeling the exact same way. He's a nice guy, trying to find that one person that fits him and watching him bumble along through all the advice and tips he gets is endearing, funny, and completely enjoyable.

A fun read and one I recommend for anyone wanting a little different take on dating and romance.

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### **Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says**

Very cute chick lit with a twist- because it is told from a male POV. It was sweet and fluffy, though it felt really dated at times. I couldn't relate to many of the references (no one I know watches General Hospital... period) and it seemed pretty obvious to me that this was actually written by a female. However, at times it was laugh-out-loud funny, so that was a major plus. I honestly didn't feel like the couple knew each other at all, certainly not enough to be in love, but it was still a surprisingly enjoyable read.

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### **Keri says**

I giggled my way through this fun and zany read as Johnny struggles to figure out why he is such a guy magnet, but can't get a steady girl to save his life. The entire book is wrote through Johnny's POV, so we really don't know Helen very well. Except what we learn there at the end, but still very cute. I went and got the 2nd book in the series right away.

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