



Fools Rush In

Kristan Higgins

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Don't miss this deliciously romantic fan favorite from New York Times bestselling author Kristan Higgins!

Millie Barnes is this close to finally achieving her perfect life: Rewarding job in Cape Cod? Check. Cute cottage of her very own? Check. Adorable dog suitable for walks past attractive locals? Check! But perfection isn't as easy as it looks—especially when Sam Nickerson, a local policeman, is so distracting. He is definitely not part of her master plan. But maybe it's time for Millie to make a new plan....

Previously published in 2006.

Fools Rush In Details

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From Reader Review Fools Rush In for online ebook

♥Sharon♥ says

Another enjoyable read by Kristan Higgins. I so enjoy her characters. Millie was great though there were moments when she was going on and on about Joe that I just wanted to pinch her and tell her it might be time to move on. And talking about Joe, he might not have been the brightest bulb but what a good guy he was.

Daniel was great too. He was such a sweetie. And then Sam. He really was perfect. Kind, patient, loving and sexy in his own way.

If you enjoy KH then this one is worthy of your time. I will say that it did take a bit of time for 'things' to get going so have some patience. :) I especially adored the last chapter and loved the Epilogue. ♥

Didi says

4.5 STARS

" Millie," he whispered a little hoarsely, " I want you to know that this is not some passing thing. I look at you and see the rest of my life."

WHAT. A. LINE.

Yet another successful and emotional book by KH! Seeing as this was her first book, it definitely didn't read like a debut. It was just as emotional and affecting as her later work, and I loved it. There's something to be said about all her stories. Romance, humour, lots of family dynamics and at least in my case, much room for tears--the good and sad kind.

Millie returns to the Cape after her residency to set up shop as a family doctor. She also sets her sights on her long time crush and megahot ladies man, Joe Carpenter. She makes a plan and many hilarious lists in order to finally get Joe to notice her. She's always believed that with the right prodding and 'accidental run ins' her fairy tale would finally come true.

But all throughout this time she has her great friend and ex brother-in-law, Sam Nickerson. His divorce from her sister, Trish, has been finalized. They're friends and slowly, with spending time with each other, lines get blurred. But Millie can't see past her infatuation with Joe. What I loved so much was how we saw that sometimes the person we build in our head is nothing like the one in real life. I think we've all had crushes on people and thought we knew them just because we knew some of their habits. That made Millie so relatable because although she put Joe on a pedestal he didn't deserve, she suffered from what many girls have done before her. Minus the fact she's an adult, I remember doing that when I was a teenager! But when reality clashes with fantasy, it's very humbling.

Loved Sam, that was his quote up there. He was such an amazing man. He was rugged yet handsome and confident in himself. He was loyal and kind, a great father to his son, Dan. His pure and intense feelings for

Millie were natural and you couldn't help but feel these two were destined. Some people might suffer the 'ick' factor since Millie is Trish's sister, but I didn't get that. I guess knowing about all the details surrounding Sam's and Trish's life together made the relationship between Sam and Millie non-incidental. I did feel really bad for Joe, eventually. Poor guy was just a big kid. And the last 20 or so pages had me crying and sniffling till the end! And that's the one thing that makes me love KH so much...her ability to affect me so profoundly with her fantastic storytelling. I have one more book, than I've exhausted all the work she has out. Then it's waiting for the upcoming books in her Blue Heron series, which is among my faves by her. Who am I kidding? Freakin' love EVERYTHING by her!

Julie Zantopoulos says

UPDATE 12/7/17

So, initially I was going to let you guys wait and watch my Throwback series video review but I want my thoughts to be available to everyone. After Kristan's shit show of a fat-shaming storm on Twitter today I decided you should know the triggers in this crapfest.

Our MC is a doctor, a legit medical doctor, who loses weight, restricts her eating, and then binge eats in order to get "sexy" for the guy she's been crushing on since high school. That's it. That's pretty much what this book is about. Somebody who obsessively works out, lies, and plots to get her "crush" to like her...as an adult woman. It's problematic at best and while the girl "learns her lesson" about the bad boy, she does so in such unhealthy ways.

Also in this book is single shaming her friend and single mother into **NEEDING** to be in a relationship. Cause this chick is such an expert on relationships while she dates the guy she's stalked for years.

I just can't with this woman's writing. Yes, I'm heated over the blurb on her latest book, but also just realizing that this is a pattern with this author. She's harmful and problematic and I cannot, and will not, support her work.

Not going to go into detail because this is my TBT read for my booktube channel. I have some thoughts and feelings, though. The vlog won't be one of the longer ones because there just isn't all that much to discuss about a book that's so fluffy. As contemporaries go there are much better out there.

Gwen (The Gwendolyn Reading Method) says

Millie annoyed me a LOT at first. But I love the character of Sam. He's the type of leading man I wish there was more of in romance. And after a while the character of Millie got less annoying, til the point I really enjoyed this book. The ending to me felt rushed, I felt like there needed to be more dedicated to especially his son coming to grips with the whole thing. I think it would have made the emotional denouement more satisfying.

Jennifer says

There is something wrong with me. Maybe I am actually a Kristan Higgins heroine, smart but compulsively unable to avoid what I KNOW is bad for me! I mean, I give her credit, she writes very breezy, readable books. But lordy, her heroines are dingbats. Dress them up as doctors or what have you, they are all pretty much romantically stunted - all the way back to high school. My big question is how Millie's supposed straight-talking, no-nonsense, bitch-on-wheels bff actually stayed friends with her. Can you imagine a single mom of two boys being entertained by the selfish phone calls and pre-teen lovelorn ramblings of her 30 year old pal?

Also, the actual love story - was not as advertised per book blurb. 'Twas a bit more fraught than indicated. Again, I should have known better, because she definitely has a formula - which is to drag family crap in whenever possible.

I KNOW. People hate when reviewers review books they know they won't like. I swear I've learned my lesson, ok? So two stars for me, but just take it with a grain of salt, will ya? If you love chick lit and..the Cape?..you might love this!

Mo says

Millie is back on Cape Cod, after ten years. Her teenage crush, Joe is still there and she feels she has to up the ante to catch his attention. Ok, maybe a bit immature to be crushing on the one person for over 15 years ... but, it's fiction. Hey, maybe it happens in real life too.

OK, maybe the cottage is not exactly on the ocean

Here she is, ladies and gentlemen. Dr. Millie Barnes, winner of the Boston Marathon! I looked at my watch again. Twenty-eight minutes. 1.7 miles. That was awesome. I had done it. My convulsive gasping took a while to stop, but after all, what a workout.

LOL. You have to start somewhere.

Ok, Joe was good-looking but, dear Lord, not the "sharpest knife in the drawer." I used to have a boyfriend who was friends with my brother ... my brother and his friends used to call him "Bung". When I asked why they called him that, he answered, "'Bungalow', you know, 'nothing upstairs.'!! No, the relationship did not last.

"I want you to know that this is not some passing thing. I look at you and I see the rest of my life."

Sam was kinda perfect.

All of a sudden, summer was over. It was a bittersweet time. Never had I felt so in tune with the seasons ... My summer brightness had faded, and I felt a long winter of the soul coming on.

I enjoy this author. She has a quirky, fun sense of humour.

Linda says

Kristan Higgins is one of those endearing authors that has a romance formula that works. She takes a ~~gullible, needy~~, susceptible thirties woman and adds some family drama, a dog and an attraction to a man who is (usually) out of her field. She includes light humor, some goofball embarrassing instances and lots of realistic moments. ->As in, *this could have been you.*<- Elementary school friendships, cherished hangouts and cheery softball games add to the homespun yarn. Older parents are still alive and petty adult sibling rivalry exists. *Like in real life.*

FOOLS RUSH IN is Ms. Higgins first published book and a stand-alone as far as I know. I have read several other stories by this author and have enjoyed them tremendously. Bittersweet at times, the stories are often simultaneously heart-wrenching and heartwarming.

Millie Barnes grew up loving Joe Carpenter from afar. She was the younger sister of a self-centered, thin, drop-dead gorgeous teenager. As for herself, she had been overweight, had issues with acne and was one of the little-remembered crowd throughout high school. She yearned for the day sumptuous, handsome Joe would ask her out. It took a makeover, exercise, losing some pounds and sixteen years. She was a doctor now and had returned to her hometown. And Joe.

For the majority of the story we see Millie going through various ups and downs resettling herself now that she was home. Yes, there are a lot of cliches but sometimes it is nice to escape into a goofy story. Along the way Millie finally grows up and learns some valuable life lessons. And maybe, just maybe, the person you were meant to love has been in front of you the whole time.

Yolanda says

qué ratos más buenos me da la Higgins

Sara ♥ says

From the reviews I read before I started the book, I think most people agree that this is Kristan Higgins's

weakest novel. I was sort of hesitant to start, especially since the hero is the heroine's sister's ex-husband (Jerry Springer, anyone?)... But my verdict is:

If this is Kristan Higgins at her worst, bring on the rest! I REALLY liked it! Okay, YES, Millie is a crazy stalker. I didn't realize you could get a medical degree from CGNU, but apparently you can! (GOSH, I love that video! That takes me back!) I mean, don't get me wrong, in HIGH SCHOOL, my friend and I drove past this one hott guy's house like 3 times (Forrest.... mmm... he was pretty!), but she deserved a restraining order! My goodness! Crazy.

And some people were saying things like, "She's a DOCTOR! She wouldn't be this stupid about men!" *raises an eyebrow* How does spending 8 years studying so hard PLUS 3-5 years working so many hours a day you can forget about a social life make someone socially competent? The two don't equate, people. Have you never met a ridiculously smart person who was a bit lacking in social skills? Just saying.

Anyway, Sam was fabulous. And besides Millie's bizarre half-her-lifetime obsession with Joe, she was really great, too! It was a BIT strange that they fell for each other, but I thought it worked. (Maybe because even though he and Trish were pretty recently divorced, things had been not so great for a long time.) I wanted to tear Trish a new one (I just found out what that means... haha!)... what an uber-beeyotch... Danny was great, Katie was great. The other side characters got kinda confusing... I couldn't really keep them straight. But overall, it was a REALLY cute book! I'm glad I took the time to read it!

Tammy says

Reading this book was like chewing on a lemon, hoping it would taste sweet. Chewing harder didn't change the taste. Adding sugar only covered the sour taste temporarily. Pretending the lemon was a juicy, sweet plum didn't help either.

Millie Barnes has had a crush on Joe Carpentar since middle school. She knows everything about Joe and I mean *everything*. Millie is a world class stalker. Unfortunately, Joe is one of the cool kids and he never really notices plain ole', overweight Millie.

Millie leaves home to attend medical school. She returns to Cape Cod several years later as Doctor Millie Barnes and she has a plan - to finally win the attention of Joe Carpentar the Carpentar. (The name of his business alone should've been her first clue!) She moves into a house she inherited from her grandmother and begins remodeling, adopts a dog (because Joe has a dog), volunteers at the Senior Center (because Joe is working construction at the center) and she takes up jogging to lose weight (running by Joe's house or work).

The book started with too many cliches ...

Girly makeover?

Check!

Gay best friends who own a salon?

Check!

Beautiful, perfect older blond sister?

Check!

Gorgeous, dumb jock who is desired by *all* women?

Check!

In spite of Millie's hair-brained attempts to attract Joe - and let me tell you there are some doosies! - he doesn't notice her until she heroically delivers a baby on the beach. Joe asks Millie on a date and the relationship she has always dreamed about finally comes to fruition.

Several dates into the relationship (and a couple of bad sexual experiences later), Millie realizes dating Joe ain't what it's cracked up to be. For a woman who is supposed to be smart enough to be a medical doctor, she isn't very bright. Not true to the character the author was trying to create.

There is a very interesting subplot involving Millie's gold-digging sister, Trish, her teenage son and her yummy ex-husband, Sam, who is a local Cape Cod cop. I loved Sam's strong, quiet ways. For Sam and Sam alone I am giving this one 3 stars!

Millie doesn't wise-up until the last 60 pages or so of the book when she realizes she is in love with someone else. A very yummy someone else. *hint hint* 60 pages or so of sweetness! That's it! Not enough sugar to make lemonade out of sour lemons. I love Kristan Higgin's books, but I felt gypped and the whole thing left a sour taste in my mouth. I highly recommend *Just One of the Guys* if you want to read something by this author.

Christiane says

Let me just tell you what happens so you don't have to waste your time and read it. Millie Barnes is endearing for 3.7 seconds and then turns into the most annoying, immature, unlikeable person ever. Oh, and she's a doctor. I don't know how, because she's so stupid, but whatever. Ever since high school she's been pining over the most perfect, gorgeous man, Joe Carpenter the Carpenter (I'm serious) who is, you guessed it, a carpenter. She loses weight and pretties herself and stalks him (something she's been doing since high school) and eventually gets him to fall for her. She dates him for a little while only to find out he isn't as perfect as she made him out to be in her nutjob head. Eventually she figures out that she is in love with her sister's ex-husband, Sam (I could have told you this from about Chapter 2). And what a shocker, he's in love with her too! All this boring, not important stuff happens and they end up married at the end of the book, which is just weird.

There are also other characters in the book: her sister Trish (also unlikable), Trish and Sam's teenage son/her nephew Danny (cool kid, just kind of unrealistic), her parents (I can't even remember their names), Digger (the dog she adopted as part of her plan to win Joe over), Joe's 3-legged dog (can't remember his name, either, but he was pretty cool), her best girl friend (nope, don't know her name, either), and her two typical best gay guy friends (you guessed it, their names slipped my mind, too), among some other people who don't really matter.

I am all for mindless, cheesy chick lit, but this one was just bad. I could have written better dialogue and I definitely don't have a way with words.

Nay Peregrino says

No, lo siento. Lo intenté, pero este libro se me quedó atorado en la garganta, intentando asfixiarme.

Y como es probable que despotriquee, también es probable que suelte algún spoiler (aunque bueno, la historia ya es bastante predecible por sí misma).

Es la tercera historia que leo de esta autora, y no puedo quejarme. Me entretiene, me encanta su estilo, me hace reír... Y me enamoré por completo de su libro *Tood Good to be true*, fue simplemente uno de los mejores que he leído últimamente en cuanto a Romance se refiere, pero estoy empezando a tener problemas con Kristan Higgins, específicamente con sus protagonistas femeninas.

Las protas de los últimos dos libros que leí tenían todas las características para ser mujeres fuertes e inteligentes, pero en lugar de ello eran o actuaban como unas completas tontas, un tanto infantiles en su forma de pensar, inmaduras a pesar de sus edades; obsesionadas con encontrar un marido y tener hijos hasta un punto que me daban pena (de acuerdo, todas o la mayoría de las mujeres deseamos encontrar el amor, casarnos, etc. pero hay otras cosas importantes en la vida, ¿no? No hay necesidad de soñar, vivir y respirar para encontrar marido); y obsesionadas también con un hombre específico que no les correspondía o las ignoraba o no valía la pena. Y todo eso en un conjunto, me superó. Mi lado feminista terminó gritando, sufriendo, llorando y con urgencia de terapia. Estas protagonistas obsesionadas despedazaron mi moral. Y entiendo, claro, que este tipo de literatura se trata de mujeres buscando el amor, lo sé, lo sé; he leído mucho romance, así que entiendo el punto, pero ¿no es un poco decepcionante que sean mujeres que buscan desesperadamente el amor? ¿No sería mejor que fueran mujeres que ENCUESTRAN el amor, sin tener que buscarlo obsesivamente en cualquier hombre que les sonrío por casualidad? Y lo que más me afecta es las características repetitivas en las historias, que justo los dos libros que elegí para leer en estos días tuvieran protagonistas irritantes.

Específicamente, Millie me daba ganas de darle unos buenos bofetones. ¡Por Dios, Millie! Vas a cumplir 30 años y acosas a un tipo que apenas sabe que existes, un tipo que incluso yo supe que era un imbécil desde el minuto uno. Haces que tu vida gire completamente alrededor de lo que él hace, a dónde va, qué come...

¿Cuál es tu maldito problema? ¡Madura!

Para ser una doctora, su carácter y sus ambiciones resultaron realmente decepcionantes.

Y Sam... bueno, no tengo realmente mucho problema contra Sam, pero... No me hizo suspirar. Era lindo, muy lindo, muy muy lindo; sin embargo, creo que a ellos les hacía falta algo de chispa, no sé. Para empezar, su relación era como la de un par de hermanos (lindo, lo admito), de modo que parecía un poco incómodo, raro/incestuoso que ellos terminaran enamorándose (por no mencionar lo que tardaron en enamorarse), y no soy muy fan de el concepto general "me enamoré del ex esposo de mi hermana". Lo siento, no me gusta.

Menos mal que no tengo hermanas, porque estoy tan en contra de esto que la vida me castigaría dándome un cuñado buenorro por el que terminaría loca. Pero como no tengo hermanas, puedo decirlo abiertamente: NO

ES Lindo meterse con el ex de las hermanas, lo siento. No parece correcto. Y hubo tanto bla bla bla que terminé queriendo bostezar, Joe era un idiota irritante con cerebro de mosca (no entiendo como es que Millie tardó tantas páginas en enterarse), y continué leyendo sólo porque ya quería terminar.

Así que, por favor, Kristan, te amo por haber escrito Too good to be true, pero no aplastes más mi moral con esas protagonistas, dales una razón mejor para existir que complacer al mundo, obsesionarse con imbeciles y desear ser fecundadas de manera inmediata. Por favor!!

BookLover says

Once again, Kristan Higgins drops her readers into the life of her heroine and makes you feel like you've known her your whole life.

Millie has her heart set on a life she has built up in her head to be perfect and that perfect life revolves around her crush since high school, Joe. Who among us hasn't created a perfect version of someone in their mind, one with bits of reality and a LOT of fantasy?

I really enjoyed this story. Millie gets exactly what she has always wanted and soon realizes that reality does not live up to her fantasy.

Sam was the best part of the book. I loved Sam's interactions with Millie. Their closeness and banter was great. Millie took longer than I would have liked to work through her feelings but it was a great payoff when she finally did.

Really enjoyed this one!!

A_Ryan says

3.5 Stalking Your Secret Crush Stars

So good.

So weird.

So funny.

So much to say!

Review to come.

Jennifer says

★★★½

Fools Rush in is a sweet but complicated story about a girl who thinks she knows what she wants. She just has to get "what she wants" to notice her. And sometimes when we want something for too long, the reality just doesn't live up to the dream we've stored on that very attractive pedestal.

This Kristan Higgins standalone romance features a likable heroine that you can't help but want to shake sometimes. The storyline is full of internal conflict and decision making that doesn't quite seem to fit with our very educated and professional heroine's persona IMO. It's predictable and a bit confusing at times due to the aforementioned contradiction. Regardless, I found Fools Rush in an extremely pleasant way to spend a rainy afternoon. Romantic, funny, and thoughtful, Kristan Higgins' fans will want to add this one to their list.

My favorite quote:

"Busy is when you need to do your grocery shopping, clean the bathroom and go to work all on the same day. Raising two children, especially without a husband, was a holy mission."
