



Follow My Heart

Frances Lawson

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Do we have adventures to change our lives or do we change our lives to have adventures?

When your life in middle age seems to be going downhill, and your restless heart just won't be quiet, what do you do? You move to France, but before you leap read this intimate account of a New Zealand woman's efforts to survive and thrive while doing just that. It's a cautionary tale that tells it like it is; full of passion, powerlessness, perseverance and hope.

This personal journey includes a search for love and efforts to establish a new life while exploring one of the most beautiful and fascinating countries in the world. It examines French culture and difficulties faced by non-European Union immigrants. Follow Frances's journey along a life-changing path where the true destination is unknown.

This book contains numerous photographs. Photographs appearing in the paperback version are in black and white. Readers with Kindle devices capable of color will enjoy these in full color. A book for dreamers, travelers, romantics, immigrants, women, life-changers and other adventurers. Also available in Kindle and all e-formats on Smashwords

Follow My Heart Details

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Author : Frances Lawson

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From Reader Review Follow My Heart for online ebook

Kristine says

Original review can be found at <http://kristineandterri.blogspot.ca/2...>

2.5 stars

I received a copy of this book through a Goodreads giveaway in exchange for an honest review.

This book didn't wow me as much as I thought it would. I was expecting an uplifting story of courage and satisfaction but instead I found it to be slow at times, depressing and quite negative. Considering France is the authors passion and true destiny, she paints a very dreary and negative picture of the people and place she loves.

Her descriptions of the places that she visits are quite beautiful but her experiences are anything but. Instead of inspiring people to follow their dreams I fear that this book will do quite the opposite with its long list of poor luck. I by no means want to minimise the authors experiences and struggles to fulfill her dream. If nothing else, the book does prove her strong determination and will to succeed. I guess I was just hoping for a little more happy or even some happy within the pages but I couldn't really find any.

Alison says

The grammar in this book is appalling, considering that the author claims that she is a teacher! I was particularly irritated by the narcissism shown by Lawson, I do not need a full C.V while reading about France! Can I also bring to light the fact that she changes from 1st person to 3rd frequently. Her style of writing, if you could classify it as a style, is more akin to an email that one would send to a co-worker.

Lilian says

I have won this book from Goodreads First Reads

I am just waiting for the book to arrive so I can read it then review it.

Jacqueline says

Frances feels she must follow her heart and against all the odds make a new life for herself in France. She doesn't ask for much, just the chance to live and work in France, a modest house, a small garden to grow vegetables, an income to keep her solvent and if possible someone special to share it with. I can understand the feeling in her bones that France is the country of her soul. I now also understand how much more

complicated this move is for a single woman from New Zealand, with a daughter almost ready to fly the nest and a very limited budget. It was never going to be an easy journey.

With such a gorgeous front cover I couldn't wait to dive in, but in keeping with her journey, things were slow to start. Unfortunately not everything went to plan and in the first few chapters we meet Nicolas the Parisian, an internet find who she hoped would help ease her move to France. It was obvious from the tone of the writing that things were not going to work out between them and I certainly tired of him and his antics long before Frances did. However, her determination was her strength and she picked herself up and made another plan that this time put her in France as a student at a language school. Despite her hard work doors were slow to open and obstacles were placed in her way, but eventually France became her place of work and although she hasn't quite ticked off everything on her list, what she has managed to do is quite an achievement.

This is not an uplifting book, but it does show true grit and resolve and highlights lots of issues that expats (especially those from non-EU countries) have to face when settling in France. Many in her shoes would have given up, but she is still here in France and I salute her.

If your ebook reader shows colour pictures you will enjoy the photos of France that Frances includes with each chapter. The paperback version contains black and white pictures. I was sent a copy of this book by the author.
