



# The Sleeping Beauty Proposal

*Sarah Strohmeyer*

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**A wickedly funny fairy tale for modern women from Sarah Strohmeyer, the “laugh-out-loud funny” (Washington Post Book World) author of *The Cinderella Pact* and *The Secret Lives of Fortunate Wives*.**

“Opening a book by Sarah Strohmeyer is like opening a box of chocolates – sweet, nutty, and absolutely irresistible.” —Meg Cabot, author of *The Princess Diaries*

At 36, Genie Michaels is beginning to feel that she has hit the snooze button on her life one too many times. When her “commitment-phobic” boyfriend Hugh proposes on national TV—not to Genie, but to an unknown mystery woman—Genie’s wise-cracking friend Patty doesn’t hesitate to give her some tough love: “You remind me of that idiot Sleeping Beauty, lying around like a zombie waiting for your prince. Well, guess what, he rode right past your castle and now you have a choice – you can either go back to bed or you can wake up!”

Genie chooses to wake up. After some questionable advice, her first step is to allow everyone to believe she’s Hugh’s real fiancée. She’ll let him be the one to explain the mistake. Naturally the good news travels fast and, in a heartbeat, Genie’s parents are booking a reception hall while friends are showering her with gifts. Genie feels bad about the deception, but at last everyone is dancing to her tune, and she can’t help but enjoy it. Particularly when a certain too-handsome-for-his-own-good Greek carpenter shows up on the scene thinking he’s hotter than Tabasco. Genie realizes that she never needed a man to start her life – to buy a home, to get a better job, or even to wear a diamond ring. And if Prince Charming wants to show up while she’s at it, she just might teach him a thing or two.

## The Sleeping Beauty Proposal Details

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## **From Reader Review The Sleeping Beauty Proposal for online ebook**

### **Lady Allison says**

*The Sleeping Beauty Proposal*, by new-to-me author Sarah Strohmeier, weaves a tale of desperation, hilarity, true love, and finally finding yourself. Genie Michaels, a 36 year old admissions counselor, has wanted to get married for a while. She feels like it's time and she's paid her dues. She's ready to get hitched to her British boyfriend, Hugh, and looks for his proposal everywhere (even in the sand as they walk hand in hand on the beach.) She finds it - where she LEAST expects it. On a National TV show in front of millions of people while promoting his book and proclaiming his love for all to see and assume.

Except that he wasn't proposing to her. As a matter of fact, now seems like a good time to completely smash her heart to smithereens and say she was not sexually attractive nor what he was looking for anymore.

But how do you tell THE REST OF THE NATION that your boyfriend (of four years!) who just proposed in the most romantic way, actually asked another woman to be his forever bride? Apparently, you don't. Genie decides that it will spare everyone if they don't know just yet... plus being treated like a bride to be turns out to be pretty special! Every one has advice, people look at you differently, take you more seriously. She is no longer a single woman, she's a woman with a future. She might even buy a house!

Strohmeier is hilarious. I truly enjoyed flipping all the pages to see what wacky thing Genie would do in order to cover her tracks and get back at the bastard of her ex-boyfriend. She had a lot of growing to do and it was fun to watch her become a much more secure and confident woman - everything she couldn't be or find with Hugh. While transforming into this wonderful new person, she meets Nick, a smexy Greek god (who doubles as her brother's friend and employee). It's hard to describe her relationship with Nick because even though they both consider it to be true love, Strohmeier doesn't really delve into them that much. 90% of the book, she's fake engaged to Hugh in order to reap the benefits. At the end they get together and it's fireworks - but I couldn't buy it. It didn't have the depth I look for in those "real love" connections with my characters. However, that didn't stop me from completely loving both of them and loving the together even more!

While it definitely took Genie too long to let the farce go, I did like how this girl got her prince in the end - I loved the last scene! I probably wouldn't have been as calm if my girlfriend tossed two carats of diamonds into the grass! I would definitely recommend this as an end of summer beach read - it was light, fun, & silly, and I literally laughed out loud!

**This review & others also found on Red Hot Books**

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### **Syamimi Qurratu Aini says**

This is the second book from Sarah Strohmeier that I read. As expected, this book is fantastically amazing. When it comes to Sarah's novel expect a non-stop page flipping until you have finished the entire book. You just cant stop reading once you start the first page. I know because I did it and this is the kind of book you will want to read it because it is sooo good. The story starts with Genie having this amazing perfect boyfriend, Hugh for four years. Then suddenly, that boyfriend of four years long suddenly becomes famous

drops the bomb in front of national television that he is marrying someone else. And guess what? Everyone is watching? Even the kid who is studying at her school which is Genie is the counsellor knows about it! Hugh after all that four years relationship just said that she is not her girlfriend. All this time it was her that believes that. They are only bestfriend according to him. Well... Hello? All this time he was staying at her house, making her help him cleaning his clothes, writing his manuscript and even knowing her family and friend is just a joke? So Genie and her bestfriend decided why should she took all the blame? When all this while he is the one that playing her and having other girl behind her back? So the wedding is ON! No ones knows who is the girl that Hugh propose. Only Hugh knows. So why not let the guy have his payback while she is having her best time of her life gets pretty and loved. Yes, LOVE. Not only from her family, bestfriend and colleague. Love comes at the least expected moments. For Genie, when she is about to get married.

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### **Kalliste says**

I only picked this book up because I was assured it didn't follow the formula that all chick lit appears to follow. This was the book that was going to convince me that it wasn't all desparate/meek/heartbroken women who finally have that light bulb moment.

If you've been told the same, well I'm sorry to disappoint because this is exactly one of those books. The standard women breaks up with boyfriend/husband in a traumatic way and then, after moping for a few weeks/months realises shes worth more. Enter in handsome but argumentative man who she couldn't possibly fall in love with but, ultimately, finds herself attracted too and while protagonist is your regular Mary Jane it turns out that handsome man loves/adores/wants her at first glance.

Enter some dull twist and then BAM! story written.

Hope I didn't spoil you, but then if you're reading chick lit you know all that already.

I did really like how the characters were written though and at least Genie didn't sit down and whine for 50% of the book.

Unfortunately, other than an out of character twist it was all too predictable.

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### **Julie says**

I really enjoyed this book and read it really fast. It was cute and I can't wait to read the rest of her books!

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### **Candace says**

This book was probably one of my first exposures to feminism when I was younger. I had never thought about the differing treatment for married women versus those who were not married. Afterwards, I was very vocal about how I would need basic kitchen and household supplies long before I was married, because I would be living on my own long before that happened. Accordingly, one of my sisters gave me a set of glasses; that remains one of the most significant gifts I have ever received. Moral of the story: I enjoy this book, partially because it's a comforting, happy sort of read, but also because of the reality it brought to light

for me.

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### **Angela says**

What would you do if you had discovered you had been waiting for a marriage proposal to transform your life?

Genie Michaels discovers she has been sleep-walking through life when her live-in boyfriend of four years proposes marriage to another woman on national TV.

Her plucky friend, Patti, decides to cover-up Genie's humiliation by pretending Genie is, indeed, engaged. What ensues from this lie is a fascinating roller-coaster ride of never-ending surprises that will leave even the most jaded reader riveted with delight.

When I confessed I had been sleeping in instead of going to the gym or writing because I had been up the night before reading *THE SLEEPING BEAUTY PROPOSAL* (just one chapter turned into three or four), he said, "That must be a good book!"

I can't wait to read *THE PENNY PINCHERS CLUB*. Any of Stohmeyers books would be a great gift for your chick-lit loving friend for Christmas! (Hint, hint ;-))

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### **Desiree says**

Not trying to be rude, but I didn't like this book at all. It was kinda a bunch of nonsense. When the character's boyfriend proposes on t.v. to someone else, she lets her friend talk her into pretending the proposal was meant for her to avoid the embarrassment. She goes as far as buying a cubic zirconia wedding ring and letting her parents put deposits down for the wedding... except for her dad really knows, and secretly cancels all the plans after the mother makes them.

Anyway, then it turns out the now ex-boyfriend (and fake fiancée) was faking his proposal... to a fake woman... come on! Unrealistic. Predictable. Nonsense.

Positives? It has a pretty cover.

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### **Jennifer says**

This book was a disappointment. I really enjoyed Sarah Strohmeier's other "fairy tale" inspired books, but this one was painfully predictable, flat, and boring. I found myself skimming chapters just to get through it and see if anything remotely interesting (and not predictable) happened. It didn't.

Hugh was the cliched, stuck-up intellectual elitist. Genie was the cliched devoted, loyal and downtrodden girlfriend. Nick was the cliched "knight in shining armor". Patty was the cliched rough-around-the-edges, yet lovable best friend. Insert faked engagement and predictable hijinks that result and you've got this book. The story had the potential to be a fun, light read, but ended up being boring, boring, boring.

This is the second book in a row by Sarah Strohmeier that has disappointed me; perhaps I'll have to give some thought to whether or not I'll continue to read her books.

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### **Melissa says**

Genie has been dating Hugh for the past four years. It may not be fireworks everyday but they are happy. Hugh is an author who proposes to his girlfriend while on national television promoting his book. The problem? It wasn't Genie who he proposed to. Genie decides she will pretend it is her in order to rack in a few presents and make him look like the jerk that he is in the end. While her mother is planning her wedding, she's falling for someone else.

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### **Laura says**

Very cute story. It was maybe a little cheesy that Genie and Patty were able to get away with fake engagements as long as they did...and maybe, just maybe Nick was a little too good to be true. But it was a wonderful modern day fairytale and I'm going to pretend it can really happen.

Strohmeier's characters had really interesting personalities. Genie was someone I could really relate to. Her best friend, Patty, reminded me a lot of Samantha from Sex & the City. (I loved the 'rivalry' between Patty and Genie's brother.) Genie's parents were funny in their stuffy, traditional ways. And I loved Nick of course!

Overall, this book was kind of a mix of a Friends and a Sex & the City episode. The drama Genie goes through with Hugh kind of reminds me of Mr. Big from Sex & the City. But then there were also moments that were super funny when Genie reminded me of Friends' Rachel (like when she was making up 'pure method house building' when she first meets Nick, or later when she's buying herself a fake engagement ring).

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### **Karen says**

Fun chick lit book. Genie's boyfriend Hugh is on tv promoting his book & proposes to another women on the air. After this Genie with her friend Patty, who is a great character, fakes her engagement & discovers her own self value & strength along the way. Great weekend read

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### **Jodi Downs sedivy says**

Genie had me laughing out loud. Somewhat predictable story, still had twists and turns along the way. Quick, easy, fun read.

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## **Ajh says**

Not worth finishing.

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## **Cindy says**

I hated the beginning of the book, i dread reading the middle and I was so happy it ended. The premise of the book could have been fun and interested,unique for sure. However I found the characters to be pathetic. Genie seemed so needy, desperate to have a guy love her, pretending to be engaged so that people won't think she is a loser. I really did not enjoy the whole lying to everyone including her parents in order to feel like she is someone worth being loved. It was all so predictable and dull. I am not a feminist and I really enjoy reading chick literature just as much as the next person. This book I did not enjoy reading at all.

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## **Shonna Froebel says**

This light novel has college admissions officer Genie Michaels feeling in a rut. Her boyfriend of four years, English professor Hugh Spencer shows no signs of commitment and the rest of her life feels stale. When Hugh appears on national television being interviewed about his new romance novel and is urged to propose to his own love, he does, except it isn't Genie. In fact, when Genie gets hold of him, he claims not to be sexually attracted to her. Genie's best friend Patty urges her to pretend that it was her and go with the flow. This is where the fun starts.

Genie lets her mother take on the wedding planning, gets herself a ring, and looks at buying a house. Her new interest in her life has her making personal changes as well and realizing that she doesn't need a man to make her life interesting, but if a good one shows up that is even better. Great fun, and great characters. A good read.

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## **Alicia Prevost says**

Well this book was...

At first, I wanted to say crap. I read the first half just astonished as how crappy it was.

But by the end, it was kind of like a Lifetime movie. It was so bad that it was kind of...good. Not in a good way and I certainly wouldn't rush and tell anyone to read it but it was so bad that I found myself desperate to find out what in the world could happen next because...so bad, so so bad.

It was just too over the top. The characters, the plot line, some of the things that happened, they were all so over the top that it just didn't...seem like real life at all. It's the only way that I can think to say it, everything was just...too big, too in your face, too unrealistic that it made the book hard to read, although fun in the long run.

Even Nick...every single women seemed happy to drop her pants for him, it was...nuts. Just...nuts.

And the best friend??? What the hell?

Honestly, this book was a lot of what the hell.

But in a fun, kind of crack like way.

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### **Michelle says**

Good storyline.

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### **Nikki Wilde says**

After reading The Penny Pinchers Club I knew that the book started off a bit sluggish and got a lot better so I was expecting the same from this book as well. Unfortunately, it never really seemed to pick up. There were very few humorous parts. I never really found myself chuckling at all. I chose to read this book after the Penny Pinchers because the plot sounded like a hit. I just kept waiting for the "sticky situation" to pick up.

One thing that really seemed to bother me was from out of nowhere we all of a sudden start bringing up God. It really seemed to have no place in this book and especially from a character you'd least expect. It was just awkward and made me really uncomfortable.

I was hoping for more, I got less.

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### **Jen Terpstra says**

I loved this book. You have no idea how much. While it wasn't exactly Hemingway, the subject matter made me pull back and think. Think REAL HARD.

For example....why DON'T we hold "Welcome to real life" showers for women just graduating college, or if they don't go to college and just enter the workforce, high school???? Why should a woman's worth be defined by whether she's getting MARRIED or not. Why should only women who are getting married get the REALLY GOOD STUFF that every woman wants when moving out on her own????

We've come SO far in women's movements, and though I'm no "femi-nazi", it still kind of bothers me that women who aren't getting married are regarded as not worthy of the same things that a woman who IS getting married is. BELIEVE me I would have appreciated a new set of china, new towels, and various kitchen appliances when I graduated college. Why must we wait until we're betrothed? It's ridiculous, me thinks. Tradition? Please. Let's get a GRIP people!

Personally, I'm going to throw a "welcome to life" shower for all the little girls in my life. My friend's daughters, my future nieces. They shouldn't be defined by whether they're getting married or not, and this book helped me realize that. I adored it.



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**Angie says**

I really like this book. It took me awhile to fall for the story. Mostly because I would attempt to read it before bed and after about 2 minutes I'd conk out. At no fault of the book though. So I finally started to read it at a reasonable hour and fell in love instead of asleep. I really like how the main character has such a great relationship with her brother. You don't find that often in chicklits. I also thought the inner dialog of the main character was hilarious. The storyline had me going and I must admit Hugh's Fiance' did surprise me. A must read girly book.

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