



The Great British Date Off

Sheila Brady

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"He hadn't really given her a second look ... until someone else did..."

Londoner, Maggie Sullivan hadn't exactly spent her teenage years beating off hordes of panting admirers with a stick. In fact, most of it was spent alone in her bedroom either working on her Spice Girls, Union Jack dress or trying out her dead mother's heated rollers.

All that had changed in her final year at school. As the object of her all-consuming school girl crush, Steve, had remarked at the time; who would have thought losing a little puppy fat, discovering hair product and investing in a Wonderbra would make such a difference? More than ten years on, he still has 'plans' for Maggie ... but not until he's got one or two things out of his system.

Only now Maggie has announced her intention to move to the country and he is not happy; especially since he's noticed a 'country toff' rival 'sniffing around'.

He is more than delighted that Maggie's move is turning out to be somewhat of a disaster. While she had been expecting village fetes, cricket teas and to be able to finally unleash her inner baker; in reality her cake-making efforts are being described as 'lacklustre', her godfather and boss is being referred to in very derogatory terms and somehow an extremely embarrassing photo has appeared in the local paper.

An overheard conversation and a chance late night encounter lead Maggie to conclude that widower and local 'catch', Will is responsible and there is a price to be paid, right?

How can she know that her day (or rather, intimate evening) of reckoning will set in motion a roller coaster ride of high points and humiliations that will put to the test some of her most long standing relationships and lead her to question everything she thinks she knows about her capacity for love...

Fun, funny and sometimes almost poignant, *The Great British Date Off* is a laugh out loud romantic comedy for anyone who likes their stories with a dash of Jilly Cooper and a nod to Bridget Jones.

From one of the writers of the cult wordplay cartoon site, *The Commytooper Blog* and the creator of the 'Dahling Do Tell!' cartoons.

The Great British Date Off Details

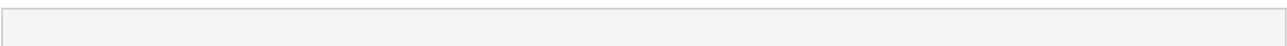
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Jennifer Jenkins says

I so enjoyed this one. Funny, full of great characters, I stayed up really late to finish it. Super read.

Kate says

Enjoyed it. Loved the characters, I could imagine the scene unfolding as I was reading. Looking forward to the next part. Thanks Sheila :)

Carey Louise says

This is chic-lit, pure and simple. I gave it 4 because I expect chic-lit to be light, entertaining, and easy to read. I want to escape reality for a bit and immerse myself in a happy, light-hearted story. This book accomplished all of those things, and I thoroughly enjoyed the escape.

Sarah W says

I don't even know how I came across this book but I'm so glad I did! Really enjoyed it though at times Maggie drove me mad!! A great book, I devoured it in only a few days.

Karen says

Enjoyable romp

A very fun and easy read. Only a few minor typos. Enjoyed the story from the beginning to the end.

Whitney Baine says

Overall, it was fine. But I couldn't help but root for Maggie to just leave everyone behind. Will kept showing up in places where I thought it would have served the story better for Maggie to be alone. He felt a bit like a stalker towards the end. I realize that most people will find it romantic, but I'm like 'give her some space man.' Too much.

Joni Carlton says

The setup was great: Love Triangle with Long time friend/new guy and then it fizzled. Heroine was ridiculous intimacy phobic, and the love triangle didnt even form really. Just not a well set up story. I was a little disappointed.

Shannon S. says

Just--meh. I adore dry British wit, so therefore had high hopes for this. Hopes dashed again. If you are going to advertise comedy on the cover, make sure it's there. There were also myriad errors throughout the text. These mistakes could certainly be limited to the electronic version so I won't grind on about them despite the fact they annoyed the bejeezus out of me. The main character was neurotic and dull and wouldn't shut UP about the fact that she used to be fat and plain until she emerged swanlike halfway through secondary school. The fact that she is THIRTY YEARS OLD seems to have no effect on her whining about her life as a former ugly girl. The characters were wooden and stereotypical with all of the tropes thrown in for good measure. The author also couldn't seem to figure out how to end the damn thing. Frankly, a comedy should leave one feeling good about the ending. I was just grateful that it ended.
