



# 20 Times a Lady

Karyn Bosnak

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### **20 Times a Lady** Karyn Bosnak

How many men does it take to find true love?

Delilah Darling's magic number was supposed to be twenty. She always thought she'd find the perfect guy by the time she'd slept with twenty of them. But when she wakes up naked in her disgusting boss's bed after a drunken night out, she's filled with regret — and realizes she's hit her self-imposed limit. Unwilling to up her number but unable to imagine a life of celibacy, Delilah does what any girl in her situation would do: she tracks down every man she's ever slept with in a last-ditch effort to make it work with one of them.

A hilarious romp through Delilah's past loves, *20 Times a Lady* proves that in the end, numbers don't matter. True love will come when you're open and ready to accept it.

### **20 Times a Lady Details**

Date : Published June 27th 2006 by William Morrow Paperbacks (first published January 1st 2006)

ISBN : 9780060828356

Author : Karyn Bosnak

Format : Paperback 352 pages

Genre : Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Romance, Fiction, Contemporary

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## From Reader Review 20 Times a Lady for online ebook

### Ronald Lim says

Originally from here

Having been mildly entertained by its big screen incarnation, I had expected that “20 Times A Lady” would at least be a fun read, with some memorable lines and a few romantic scenes that would get an old spinster like me going and content for the next few months. I was expecting the bare minimum from this book.

Apparently, that was already too much, as it would be fair to say that the overwhelming average-ness of “What’s Your Number” was a definite improvement over this waste of dead trees. At least “What’s Your Number” had beefcake to tide everyone over; “20 Times A Lady” consigns Colin to the telephone lines and instead offers up an assortment of guys that are far from charming or even mildly interesting.

It’s not just the men that are lacking, as Delilah Darling is far from entertaining as well. With her tendency to get a little too drunk, a little too clumsy, and generally just a little too ditzy, you’d think that she’d fit right into the mold that Bridget Jones created all those many years ago. Unfortunately, Bosnak is no Helen Fielding, and instead just ends up making Delilah look like one of those girls you knew back in high school that ended up pregnant way ahead of everybody else.

The harebrained schemes that Delilah thinks of in her pursuit of the 20 men she’s slept with over the years aren’t particularly amusing either. After the first two guys, everything just becomes an exercise in tedium and boredom. One encounter stretches the readers’ suspension of disbelief so thinly that it wouldn’t surprise me if they decide to stop reading at that particular part of the novel.

The book’s overarching “moral” — that you should be proud of your past mistakes because they make you who you are — is standard for these kinds of books, but the long and tedious journey that Bosnak takes to get her readers there is definitely not worth it.

And the worst thing about this book? There wasn’t even any shirtless Chris Evans pictures scattered throughout the work to ameliorate the sheer pain of having to slog through it.

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### Cindy Andrews says

#### Amusing

It was a light read, very funny but predictable. I would read more from this author. I would definitely recommend it

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### Ash says

Oh GOD!! What a ride.

This book was exactly my perfect comedy romance movie. and Anna Faris on the cover :O can it get any better!!!

OH MY GOD!! I can't imagine the amount of laughter I've spent over this book it was just HILARIOUS!

And the thing is the book wasn't just funny the story was GREAT not unique (or maybe it was) but it was a really good story with a really strong message behind it.

We all make mistakes and we all learn from them (not always hehe) and falling and tripping over the same old rock isn't really a big deal, and we shouldn't regret anything good or bad happened to us because the past is really what makes us who we are now. Live with no regrets, always look forward and it's ok to take a sneak peek of the past.

I JUST LOVED IT.

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### **Jody says**

This book was funny. Some of Delilah's escapades as she tracks down the men from her past made me laugh out loud. Her character reminded me of Bridget Jones. The ending is fairly predictable, but it still satisfies.

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### **Laura Muir says**

Okay, so I only really read this book because I have seen the film and thought I'd give the book a chance. Not gonna lie, it wasn't until chapter 5 or 6 that I really became hooked. I loved how it was like you were in the mind of Delilah and how there was use of slang to put you on a 'friend' level with her. It was a really easy book to read and seemed very relaxed, there was no parts of the story that I wanted to rush through to get to a 'good bit', which is very rare nowadays.

Another bonus for the story is that it was so easy to relate to Delilah and the emotions are really well written into the plot. I wouldn't say it was so much of a rollercoaster ride but more of a nice Sunday drive.

If you're looking for a nice easy chick-lit read with a couple of naughty giggles thrown in, this is definitely the book to choose.

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### **Ava says**

This book is recklessly funny and stupid.

3 stars.

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### **Krissy Delovely says**

My main reason for picking up this book was because my favorite writer in the history of ever, Jen Lancaster, recommended Karyn's books. That may be because they're friends. I'm pretty sure of it. Jen has never steered me wrong with her recommendations but after finishing this book I was pissed. I wanted my time back! For me, this was one of those books where halfway through I began thinking "finish it? Or abandon it? Which is the lesser of two evils at this point?"

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I am a girl who follows through. I am loyal. I am committed. And I made a mistake because I chose to finish this book.

The premise of this is OK: girl's slept with 20 guys. She freaks out because that's far above the average and she doesn't want to sleep with any more because she doesn't want to seem slutty.

Who the fuck cares about her number? It was clear from the book that nobody but her cared. She didn't realize this.

She also doesn't realize that her brilliant plan of road tripping the country to see if there's anything left with any of them is not so much brilliant as it is completely batshit crazy. Basically she lost me after she mapped out her plan to travel the US in an attempt to reconnect with these guys. Who does that?

Not only that! Wait! There's more! Not only does she decide to go through with this plan SHE USES HER ENTIRE SAVINGS ACCOUNT TO DO THIS. Conveniently she's axed from her job, so she has time to take this little trip around the country. She also has a severance package. So she decides to use ALL OF HER MONEY EVER to fund her crazy ass. Maybe I have a bit of a skewed view since I just used my savings for things like, um, food and rent, while I'm in between jobs, but that? Is a stupid fucking idea and a horrible premise for a book, even one as light as a chick lit novel.

So let's recap: heroine loses her job, is hung up on the number of people who've sexed her up and doesn't want to fail at life so she decides to basically stalk them (with the help of her private investigator neighbor/resident hunk) and fund her unique brand of crazy with all of the money she has ever had ever.

McKrissy is not impressed. And pissed that I chose to not chuck the book across the room after her road trip began.

Because I am a positive person, I want to find some good in this hot mess. So here are the things I liked:

- She gets a puppy quickly after she starts her trip. A bad life choice? Perhaps but I love her little puppy. That dog is the best part of the book, in my opinion.
- Her PI neighbor is Irish, so it was fun imagining a hot Irishman with a charming accent. Yum.
- After checking herself INTO REHAB (in case you were unsure about her stability) to connect with an ex, she does have some sort of self-actualization. Again, it takes her thinking that faking an addiction is a great idea for this to happen. Wow. (I did also learn about the dangers of Peyote, so there's that, too.)

Yes, this is a "Chick Lit" book, so perhaps I shouldn't have had high expectations. But the premise for this book is laughable at best. Delilah is an unrelatable and practically unlikeable heroine. I questioned her motives in every chapter. She's almost 30, too, so I have a hard time believing that she wouldn't have done a bit of soul searching before now. Instead it takes an article about (likely false) social norms in sex and then being in a rehab center for her to take a look at herself and what she wants. The premise could have been a fantastic jumping point for a book about a woman who learns about herself and questions societal expectations. Instead it was page filler that got more and more unbelievable with every new chapter. Don't read this. There are much much MUCH better novels out there if you need a light-hearted beach read.

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**Tameka says**

I am a fan of chick-lit. I love reading about the journey of flawed women seeing as how I am one. :-) I became a fan of Karyn's blog at the beginning of this year and once I found out she was an author, I immediately put her books on my to be read list.

20 Times a Lady is the story of an incredibly flawed woman named Delilah who, through a series of hilarious circumstances ends up on a journey to reconnect with the 20 men she's been um, intimate with. While the plot was highly implausible, I felt like Delilah was my best girlfriend telling me an incredibly funny story full of long rambling run on sentences and enough pop culture references to rival an episode of Gilmore Girls.

As Delilah went on her cross country road trip, I could practically hear the fun girly pop soundtrack playing in the background.

According to Karyn's blog, Anna Faris is slated to play Delilah in the movie adaptation. I certainly hope this is the case, because this book reads just like a romantic comedy. I love being able to read books that make me laugh, and exist purely for my entertainment. I definitely recommend it for a lazy Saturday afternoon.

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### **Katie says**

This is one of my all time favorite books. I read this book years before it hit the big screen as "What's your Number?". As always, the movie did not do the book justice, but that's besides the point. (Still loved the movie anyways FYI)

The basis of the story is Delilah becomes slightly obsessed with her "number" and in an effort to not add any notches to her belt, treks across the country looking for the ex boyfriend/fling who may have turned into her Mr. Right who got away.

I found this book to have every characteristic I look for in a book. It was well written, kept my interest until the last page, sweet, oddly sentimental, and laugh out loud funny at times. There are not many books that I have actually laughed out loud at, but this one caused me to do so several times. It had just the right amount of cheese without being overly cheesy.

The characters felt real. I found myself relating to the heroine years ago when I first read it, and after finishing it for the second time a few days ago, I related to her again in a whole new way. She is impossible not to like, and you will find yourself constantly rooting for her. The character of Colin screams swoon-worthy from the second he is introduced. You can't help but fall in love with him and secretly wish there was a way to conjure a man just like him.

Call me sentimental, but my eyes well up a bit at the end. While slightly predictable, it was still ultimately satisfying. I don't want to post any spoilers (I hate when I read a review and accidentally read a spoiler) so I won't say any more, but bottom line, this book was great. Anyone who has struggled with dating and relationships, and questioning whether you will find the one (who hasn't???) will both enjoy and relate to this book from cover to cover.

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### **My Little Book World says**

This book was absolutely hysterical! Delilah Darling reads an article about the average number of men a woman sleeps with in her lifetime. She is already far over this number at 19 and decides that 20 will be her

cut-off point. When Delilah is let go from her job, and waste her number 20 on her revolting ex-boss, she decides to put her severance pay to good use and track down all the men she has slept with. If she finds one of them worthy of a relationship, she can keep her number at 20 without going over her limit and suffering a life of celibacy.

Delilah has some experiences that made me laugh out loud in her travels across the U.S.! From buying an adorable little pup to ending up in a mental hospital, there is not one stop Delilah makes that doesn't turn into a comedic adventure. It doesn't help that she has such a delusional naivety. It's not until she is back home and at her sisters wedding that Delilah discovers everything she ever wanted was right in front of her all along. And to top it off, she finds out that her number was actually one short of what she thought! I would highly recommend this book for anyone looking for a funny, original read. Karyn Bosnak another book that I will be picking up as soon as possible!

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## **Amber says**

The only reason why I read 20 Times a Lady is because I am (still) abysmally invested in the movie adaptation "What's Your Number?", which, I only watched because I am contractually obligated to watch anything with Chris Evans in it (also you have fab friends who open your eyes to the fab world of rom-com). Just so you know, this is actually a really good movie and everyone should watch it for the numerous occasions Chris Evans is shirtless for inexplicably no legitimate reason, like that one scene where he greets Anna Faris naked with a newspaper over his dick. Ask yourself: was that scene REALLY necessary? Yes.

Unfortunately, there was no Chris Evans in the book, which meant that I had to compensate for the loss by actually reading it for... whatever the hell it is that people read books for.

In the interest of me reducing the amount of time I can spend on bitching about the contents of this book and thus forcing you to read like 50 pages of dissertation notes, I'm going to just straight up tell you that 20 Times a Lady is a piece of shit. This book bored the beejebus out of me, so much so that I can't feel the lord's love shining down on me anymore.

Delilah Darling has a history of banging a collective pool of dudes with shitty carnie names and shitty personalities to match that no one in their right minds would ever want to bang, let alone WRITE about banging (Tim the Townie? Delaware Pepper?? Grody Gourdy??? Why not just add in Krusty the Clown? At least he's famous). She names animals after feminine hygiene products (Max the dog becomes Little Maxi-Pad) and takes advice from really shitty self-help books and ex-boyfriend priests. Twenty pages later, Delilah is laid off from her job, but inexplicably has enough unemployment money to go on a road trip across America hitting up her exes in the hopes of rekindling a relationship with THE ONE, which is clearly supposed to be a reformed shitty carnie dude.

Delilah proceeds to spend the rest of the book allowing random, obscure statistically inaccurate numbers from a random, obscure, statistically inaccurate magazine dictate her sexual integrity, despite the fact that no one else in the book gives a rat's ass about how many pathetic carnie penises her vagina has accosted.

Assisting Delilah on her insane adventure instead of holding her a proper, direly needed intervention is hot, Irish, well-endowed, dreadfully boring, Not-Chris-Evans Colin (moonlighting as a PI specializing in finding all your shitty carnie dude exes), who given the inexplicable circumstances of her sexual history, you'd think the two of them would have banged already since he's the only hot, normal guy within a 20 mile radius – okay, no, not even a 20 mile radius, THE DUDE LIVES RIGHT ACROSS THE HALL FROM YOU HURRY AND GET AT THE ONLY NORMAL DICK WHILE YOU CAN GIRL – except, of course,

Delilah only bangs shitty carnie dudes so that's out of the question.

The introduction of Not-Chris-Evans Colin leaves a lot to be desired. (Like, why are you not Chris Evans?) Not only does Colin not walk around shirtless for inexplicably no legitimate reasons, he and Delilah have the most REMARKABLY boring interactions ever. Their entire relationship is built on a surplus of sticky notes, e-mails, and voicemail messages (their longest standing conversation to date is one solely about Delilah's mother... because nothing screams attraction better than a long discussion about your mother) and when they DO happen to be in physical proximity of each other, this is how most of their conversations go:

Delilah: (non-descript manly musculature enters her peripheral vision)

Colin: You were checking out my abs.

Delilah: No, I wasn't.

Colin: Yes, you were.

Delilah: Ok.

Colin: Ok.

Delilah is not even accompanied on said road trip by Colin for there to be any potential surfboard grinding on flea-ridden motel mattresses or heartfelt confessions of love on the hood of the car. Instead, Delilah spends the entire duration of her road trip accompanied by Eva, her Yorkie dog, who offers all the emotional counseling and support of a loofah. In sum, there was no opportunity for Delilah and Colin to develop any real chemistry.

In fact, Delilah has more chemistry with her shitty exes than with Colin. This is because Delilah and her exes are all bat shit crazy. I don't want to get into the schematics of it because every chapter of Delilah meeting up with a shitty carnie ex only gave me the very powerful urge to drive into a ditch and die there every day.

Just like with sex partners, make the right choices, and don't choose bad books.

**Overall Rating:** 1 star. Scandalized by the fact that I made myself read this with my own two eyes.

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## Erika says

If you want to read a book that takes place entirely in the main character's head then this is the book for you. Delilah was completely unlikeable and I did not feel sorry for at all. After she stalks, and literally I mean stalk, her 2nd lover I couldn't take it anymore especially since she drones on and on about loving his dog more than him and she seriously kept sleeping with him because she liked his dog...WTF!!! I could not sit through 200 more pages of her self depreciating mind talk.

Stalking is not cool esp. if you are doing it find a possible mate.

Don't waste your time.

~Erika

## **Cienne Olaes says**

I like it, that's what I know when I bought this book. I just never knew that I am going to love it this much. This definitely tops my "to read again" list.

First thing to appreciate about the novel is the author's creativity. Every page is like sneaking in and taking part to the life of Delilah Darling, feeling as if it was your voice speaking for her. The next thing to put emphasis on is the fact that Karyn Bosnak is hilarious and definitely deserves the "superb" remark for her first novel. Although, there may be minor flaws as to the way she wrote it, the structure and creative setting of characters have somehow concealed it, thus, allow readers to feel more relax and literally laugh page after page. Some parts made me teary-eyed as well – some "can relate to" parts. It also felt nice to have a Filipino touch in it; there is a special page. It may not be flattering but it just amazes me how some foreign authors were able to embed it in their novel like it was some kind of a French word. I wonder how she'd learn it.

20 times a lady is more than just "the number". It's about finding the courage to humbly accept failure and be enlightened afterwards that really there is nothing to feel regret about. It was inspiring to realize that mistakes make up the better person we are now and is bound to become.

I probably will never get over Roger and his braided belt, Delilah's insane mom Kitty, Eva the yorkie with a lesbian haircut, Grandpa kicking Patsy and Colin and his abs (long sigh).

It is a bit naughty but assumed safe to read for the not so naughty. It is definitely a must-have to every chick-lit fan. I can't wait to watch the movie version of this – "What's your number?"

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## **Rebecca says**

i loved it! i fell in love with colin within minutes <3 i am recommending this to everyone its a perfect light summer read!!

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## **Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says**

I wanted to get back into the romance genre since I've put it on hold on for almost a year but...this was not the place to start up again.

This sadly, was just not the read for me.

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