



## The Bridesmaids: True Tales of Love, Envy, Loyalty . . . and Terrible Dresses

*Eimear Lynch (Editor) , Hanya Yanagihara (Editor)*

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**"An entertaining beach read... [and] a nice way to provide your besties with reading material for the bachelorette weekend."—Lauren Conrad**

WHAT DO A FORMER FASHION MODEL, AN EX-NUN, AND A FRAT BOY HAVE IN COMMON? VIRTUALLY NOTHING, EXCEPT THAT EACH HAS EXPERIENCED A UNIVERSAL RITE OF PASSAGE: BEING A BRIDESMAID.

Each year 11 million bridesmaids lead their best friends down the aisle. Most wear matching dresses, and nearly all have a thing or two to say about the bride. In this uproarious oral history, editor and journalist Eimear Lynch offers us an intimate glimpse at the moments the wedding photographer failed to capture.

From the accidental bridesmaid who helped sew the bride into her "designer" gown to the tomboy who struggled to carry Princess Diana's twenty-five foot train, *The Bridesmaids* lifts the veil on the Big Day. Opening with her own experiences as a five-time 'maid, Eimear gives us stories that are by turns heartfelt, funny, scandalous, and sometimes downright strange. An ode to the good, the bad, the strapless chiffon, and the occasional three-piece suit—and, above all, to the supporting actresses and actors who wore them—*The Bridesmaids* is a colorful walk down the aisle that you won't want to miss, and the perfect companion for every bridesmaid-to-be.

## The Bridesmaids: True Tales of Love, Envy, Loyalty . . . and Terrible Dresses Details

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## **From Reader Review The Bridesmaids: True Tales of Love, Envy, Loyalty . . . and Terrible Dresses for online ebook**

### **Dina says**

Somewhat depressing since most of the stories end with either a divorce or loss of friendship...not too many happy stories in this one...not sure what the point is, for other bridesmaids to commiserate with each other??

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### **Emily Gustafson says**

Definitely a fun read while I'm in the middle of planning my own wedding. Makes me extremely grateful for my beautifully wonderful bridesmaids and makes me feel good that I'm not being a bridezilla (at least I hope I'm not, I'm doing my best!). Lots of great stories, some are a sweet testament to sisterhood and friendship, while others are horror stories of girls who need a reality check. They're all entertaining though!

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### **Rachel Rogers says**

This was kind of disappointing. I've been a bridesmaid/Matron of honor/House party in 7 weddings and my husband has been groomsmen almost that many times. We pride ourselves on being prepared for everything with bottled water for the whole wedding party (especially during the interminable photo sessions in the sun after the wedding), mints, pins, eye drops, aspirin, sewing kit, tissues, sun block (a bunch of balding pates in the hot sun). Yes, I've spent a lot of money on dresses, but the brides were never actively mean in their choices for us. More the bride wanted the dresses to fit the image of the wedding. I've never been asked to arrange a bachelorette party, probably because I have No Interest in going out, spending hundreds or thousands of dollars on a drunken free-for-all in Vegas, or some destination. I've even worn 2 of those dresses a 2nd time.

Some of these anecdotes were amusing, touching, or left me teary eyed. Others left me appalled either at the presumption of the brides to be all powerful or at the bridesmaids themselves for their attitude that they had to hook up or get falling-down drunk in order to get through the experience.

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### **Sarah (Head Stuck In A Book) says**

The Bridesmaids was one of those books that hooked me from the synopsis, chances are that at least once in your life you will be asked to be somebody's bridesmaid/maid of honor, if not you then at least somebody that you know, if you are really lucky you won't end up bridesmaid to a bridezilla.

Being asked to be part of a bridal party, to be a part of the happy couple's special day is a privilege, and let's face it you feel special because out of the many number of friends and family, you were one of the chosen few.

I loved reading all the stories in here about people's different experience's, from the good, the bad and the ugly, every tale was interesting and relatable.

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Some people found themselves at the beck and call of the bride, some got fired and the age old problem with being a bridesmaid, the dress, you know the one that you would never ever wear again and which you also seem to spend an obscene amount of money on just to wear it that once.

And while most of these stories are anonymously written with only an initial and age of the person, I would have loved some pictures of the hideous dresses, but I can understand why there weren't any, it's a pity though.

Intentional or not I loved that the cover to this book felt like the paper some people use for wedding invitations, it was a nice touch to go along with the pretty design on the front cover.

All in all I really enjoyed this book, with most stories only being a few pages long, it's a quick read, highly recommended, even for those who don't generally read non-fiction, give it a go.

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### **Joannie says**

Overall okay. I like and never realized that there are that many men then end up being bridesmaid. I was wishing for more funny stories from bridesmaids but still very nice and some very cute stories.

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### **Teddie says**

People never cease to amaze me. It was a quick and mostly fun read. If you liked the TV show Bridezillas you will enjoy this book

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### **Sarah says**

Cute stories that read like blog posts, but nothing immensely captivating.

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### **Megan says**

I loved this book. Easy to read, short shorties from bridesmaids. If you have ever been a bridesmaid you can relate to this book, the stories covered all aspects of being a bridesmaid-menship in a lot of different situations, you will travel all the emotions in this book. I forwarded it to all the ladies I have been bridesmaids with!

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### **Hayley says**

Some parts funny, some parts horrifying - I would not want some of those girls as my bridesmaids! Good light read and a reminder not to be a bridezilla!

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### **Jessica says**

It was just ok. Funny in some places, sad in others. I usually enjoy collections of essay, but the subject Got old really quick for me. I also thought it would be fun to give to my sister after the wedding, but reading some of the sadder stories, I don't know if that's the best idea ...

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### **Alison says**

This collection of (very) short stories examines the role of bridesmaid, or bridesman, or Muse to the groom, though a wide lens. Each story has a distinct voice of the person telling it, but they fit together as a large collection of wedding vignettes. Some stories are sweet and happy, some are shocking and troublesome. It makes for a surprisingly enjoyable read.

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### **Brooke DeLong says**

Quick easy read-great "inbetween books" book. Finished it in just a couple hours. Made me very grateful that I made it through my bridesmaid experience still friends with my best friend!

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### **wade says**

Well over 50 different stories of the varied traumas and high jinks these women encountered during the bridal process. Some are funny, some sad, some outrageous and some tender but all are memorable and make me happy I am a man ( although several stories are told be bridesmen). One of my faves was when at the bachelorette party all the heterosexual bridesmaids and bride start making out with each other to the shock of the one that is telling the story. I wouldn't have minded being a fly on the wall. Light frivolous reading fun.

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### **Alma says**

This book is a collection of easily forgettable stories told by self-congratulatory, self-absorbed bridesmaids. Every single bridesmaid here is (in her opinion) an epitome of effectiveness, impeccable taste and coolheadedness. Ready to handle natural disasters and misbehaving relatives. Wise, strong, beautiful. Sometimes way too drunk and high on medication but (of course!) she always has a good excuse. You will not find a hint of self-doubt here.

Style-wise, the stories are so heavily edited that they look alike, as if they had been told by the same person (each chapter is by a different person). It is a lifeless, dull book, and the only sparkles you will find here are those gold letters on the book cover (in the paperback edition). I am very sad that my library has three copies of it.

**lisa says**

Fairly boring, not recommended.

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