



My One and Only

Kristan Higgins

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Just when she thought she had life *and* love all figured out...

Divorce attorney Harper James can't catch a break. Bad enough that she runs into her ex-hubby, Nick, at her sister's destination wedding, but now, by a cruel twist of fate, she's being forced to make a cross-country road trip with him. And her almost-fiancé back at home is *not* likely to be sympathetic.

Harper can't help that Nick has come blazing back into her life in all of his frustratingly appealing, gorgeous architect glory. But in Nick's eyes, Harper's always been the one. If they can only get it right this time, forever might be waiting—just around the bend.

My One and Only Details

Date : Published March 29th 2011 by HQN Books (first published 2011)

ISBN : 9780373775576

Author : Kristan Higgins

Format : Paperback 382 pages

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

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From Reader Review My One and Only for online ebook

BookLover says

“Divorce Attorney Risks Hell and High Water to Win Her Man”

One of the better second chance romances I have read and I **LOVE** a good second chance romance.

Harper, a successfully and often UN-impartial divorce attorney, had her world turned upside down when she was forced to face her painful past in the form of ex-husband Nick. Her sister was marrying Nick's brother, Christopher, and Harper hadn't seen Nick in thirteen years.

On the outside, Harper had been ticking off all the boxes that would give her the perfect life. But she had a very firm wall up to protect her from ever feeling abandoned again and with good reason. As a result, her "ticked boxes" were not so well thought out as she imagined.

I loved Nick from the first moment he showed up on the pages. I felt an immediate connection with him and hoped he would do what was needed to win Harper back. In no time at all, it was clear he had never really moved on from their relationship and I couldn't wait to see how things would progress.

I really should have hated Harper. She had one of the character traits I hate most in books - the I'm afraid of being left/hurt so I'm going to sabotage this situation for no reason and leave/hurt you first. Instead, I truly felt for her. Nick was no saint in their failed relationship and in most scenes, I took Harper's side and felt she was justified in her feelings. I kept thinking to myself - *Nick, please pull your head out of your ass and admit your role in the breakdown of your marriage.*

As is always true with Kristan Higgins books, this story was about much more than Harper and Nick's romance. Told in the first person from Harper's point of view, I got a very up close and personal look into Harper's relationships with more than just Nick and it really allowed me to understand what made her tick. She was witty, sarcastic and always on the cusp of really putting herself out there. My heart bled for her.

If you have ever read any Kristan Higgins books, they are often filled with funny blind dates, misunderstandings and internet mishaps. Though this book didn't have that, I have to say that Dennis's "rat-tail" and all that went with it was thoroughly enjoyable. I think I will giggle every time I hear "*Dude*" for the next little while.

Truly enjoyable read.

Melissa says

4.5 stars

If you're in the mood for a great laugh, *My One and Only* won't have to work very hard to drag it out of you. This addictive, snarky and all-around hilarious story played out like a rom-com in my mind, scene by glorious scene. A second chance romance I gobbled up like yummy buttery popcorn.

I'll admit, the beginning of the story was a tad cheesy for my taste buds, but considering my *love* for *If You Only Knew*, I decided to stick it out and it more than paid off. Turns out, the level of depth and emotion was *so* much more than I initially gave it credit for. Hey, I can admit when I'm wrong.

Harper is a divorce attorney with a cynical edge, a woman that comes off as no-nonsense and driven. So, it's kind of funny that she's trying to attach herself to someone that's more of a man-child than anything else. Dennis or 'Den', as she likes to call him, is gorgeous, incredibly sweet and saves lives for a living, but anyone can see things don't quite fit—or was it just me? Having to buy your own engagement ring, learning to accept his rat-tail and being referred to as *dude* . . . I would run the other way. Just sayin' . . . is there really a future there?

Harper is forced into mama bear mode when her little sister breaks the news that she's marrying Harper's ex-husband's brother and after only a few weeks of dating. Some might call that spontaneity romantic and sweet, but not Harper. Not only does it take all of her willpower to bite her tongue, but she has to face the one person that's become her biggest regret, Nick.

The *best* part of the entire story was Nick and those **gypsy eyes** of his. Harper and Nick didn't hold back for a single second and I ate it up. I'm talking great one-liners, hilarious jabs and snarky snark. I couldn't for the life of me figure out how Harper walked away from him. Why, oh why, leave this *perfect* man? I know, I know, no one is *perfect*, but I've gotta say, he's pretty darn close.

The author strings us along with little tidbits of Harper and Nick's past—silly and fun antics that happen along their forced road trip, and a few heart-wrenching moments shared between the estranged pair, for good measure. There are a few life lessons there, too—you can't just bail when things get tough or no one has a crystal ball—sometimes you just have to let go and trust things will work out in the end.

"You sure are memorable."

I have to say, what an epically great ending to such an amusing story. It's one deserving of a standing ovation or a resounding *awww*.

Viri says

¡YA ESTÁ LA REVIEW COMPLETA EN EL BLOG! Les dejo el link abajo :)
<http://www.virivillarreal.com/2016/08...>

A ver... Había pensado en ponerle cinco estrellas pero creo que mejor me las voy a reservar, así que lo dejó en cuatro estrellas porque de verdad me gustó mucho.

Una vez aclarado esto voy a comenzar con la reseña diciendo que...
Definitivamente quiero un Nick ♥?♥?♥? en mi vida y es que fue encantador desde el principio, supo conquistarme lentamente justo como lo hizo con Harper. *suspiro*

La historia es preciosa, de esas que son pausadas y se van metiendo poquito a poquito en tu corazón, simple, pero bien tramada y con una narración que me recordó mucho al estilo vivaz y jocoso de mi amada SEP, la historia tenía amor, dolor, miedo y un montón de sentimientos. Fue una historia profunda a mi modo de ver, de descubrimiento y de segundas oportunidades.

El tema es uno de mis favoritos pues siempre me ha llamado la atención el saber qué pasa después del "SI ACEPTO" y con Harper y Nick he logrado conectar completamente. Debo decir que soy consciente de la cantidad de clichés en este libro pero vamos... Soy amante de los tópicos, y si nos ponemos a pensar dudo mucho que a estas alturas alguien pueda crear una historia totalmente nueva. Por cierto, el estilo de la autora me cautivo totalmente, solo había leído un libro suyo y esa cercanía con el lector me supo a miel. Ahora, con una narración ágil pero pausada PARA MÍ, EL ÚNICO. Me encantó.

Ahora, hablando de los protas...

Nick era el protagonista perfectamente imperfecto, y lo sigue siendo, 12 años después de haber terminado con la que fuera la mujer de su vida. Amé que nada más conocerse el viera en ella su futuro, ame que la apoyará cuando lo necesito y amé que la dejara ir tanto como ame que luchará por recuperarla.

Nick es, *insertar emoji con corazoncitos* ufffff pero es que no sé ni siquiera como describirlo. Hace tiempo que un protagonista masculino no me dejaba tan sin palabras, pero es que amaba su perfección, su sarcasmo, su actitud, su dolor, su esperanza... SU TODO.

Me enamoró totalmente. Y es algo realmente sorprendente ya que odio solo tener el punto de vista del personaje femenino pero es que me encandiló. Siento como que no puedo expresar todo lo que fue con palabras.

En cuanto a Harper, ¿qué puedo decir? Algunas veces pude reconocer que su actitud era más bien la de una niña asustadiza y pequeña que iba de dura más de la cuenta, pero no sé si es que ando hormonal, estoy haciéndome vieja o que se yo, ella logró que la comprendiera, con sus locuras, miedos y metidas de pata me mantuvo en vilo por cada cosa que le pasaba.

La historia como dije es sentimental, tierna y profundamente inspiradora. Al menos a mi así me lo pareció. Dicho está de más que no dure ni un día para terminar el libro. Así que además de la narración ágil es una novela que te seduce poco a poco y cuando menos lo esperas ya te tiene en sus garras. Totalmente sorpresiva pues no me esperaba para nada algo como lo que encontré, tanta cantidad de sentimientos escondidos y luchas internas que no tenía ni pensados. Yo creía que iba a reír a mares con el libro (y no me mal entiendan que si lo hice) pero la calidez y tristeza podía palparlas entre las hojas. Sorry ya me puse onda poética, no me crean tanto así que mejor denle una oportunidad que dudo que los decepcione.

LA RESEÑA COMPLETA PRONTO EN EL BLOG.

Nina says

I guess this makes it official: I'm back into het romance.

This was just perfect. Period.

It has the most amazing cast - from the extremely likeable and relatable MC, Harper, whom I couldn't help but see as Donna Paulsen/Sarah Rafferty, to dreamy Nick (oh, Nick), from that sweet lug Dennis to exasperatingly sweet BeverLee - and a plot that's pretty linear up to a certain point, and then starts twisting and turning around like one of those crazily powerful hoses you see in comedies.

It has elements that usually irk me, namely a dog (give me cats any day) and an interfering family, that somehow I ended up adoring; it has New York and a lawyer and a second chance romance, which are things that I normally love and ended up loving even more in this case.

It has humour and sexual tension.

It has unobtrusive but extremely atmospheric descriptions.

It has smooth writing - invisible and flowing.

Oh, you want to know about the romance?

I'm not sure, because I loved everything in this novel, but I think the way the romance was handled might just be what gave me back my faith in M/F. It's not overdramatic like those Elizabeth Lowell books I was a sucker for just four years ago (don't judge me. I'm sure you have things you're ashamed of too) or cheesy, but it's not over-the-top dreamy and light and romantic either. It's far from being erotica, but it does have some spice.

What it is is simply *full of emotion* - the real, raw kind. The kind that makes you devour over 300 pages of a book in one day and then leaves you feeling bereft and abandoned, but fully satisfied and grinning like a lunatic. These characters are actual adults, not those teenagers in wrinkled bodies you usually see in M/F (sorry, you know it's true). They make idiotic mistakes, they fuck everything up, they realise where they went wrong, they try to fix it. And since this is a romance, they succeed. Thankfully.

It's a mature story that deals with love in all its forms and with all the doubts that come with it, yet somehow it keeps a light tone all the way to the end, making it an easy but substantial read.

In case you couldn't tell, I'm still kind of shell-shocked by how much I liked this book.

Anyhow, the point is: I just gave a het romance glowing praise. That should tell you something.

Jennifer says

3.5 stars

A fun but also sad story about divorce and the complications of everything left unsaid.

My favorite quote:

"If only...the saddest words in the English language."

KarenH says

First of all, if you are on the fence about whether or not to read this book because it is giving you that "chick-lit" vibe, you can climb down now sista and start reading ...this one is all about the romance.

My One and Only is Harper Evan's story, a 33-year-old divorce (and divorced) lawyer living year-round on Martha's Vineyard with her Toto-lookalike dog. She is attractive, successful...but OMG what a force to be reckoned with!. She is cynical, she is sarcastic and she has extreme OCD issues. Having as much to do with her personality as with her profession, she "gives advice" (think "forcing it down one's throat") to family, friends, strangers...wherever she (and only she) thinks it is needed.

Early on, Harper is telling Dennis, her hunky fireman BF of 2 years, that it's time to get married...reading him a list of changes he needs to make before they do the deed, and then whips out the engagement ring she bought for herself! I don't like doormat heroines, but would I enjoy an opposite to the extreme? Fortunately, we learn early on why Harper is so controlling, why she refuses to leave anything to fate, and why she is in the business of breaking up marriages, although to Harper's credit her clients come to her when their marriages are already in trouble, and she simply counsels them with her motto "accept in your heart what your head already knows". (Having been through a divorce, I might have spared myself the unnecessary grief and wasted time spent trying to make the marriage work if someone would have counseled me with that advice.)

Under Harper's many layers of self-imposed protective armor, we find there is a frightened and vulnerable girl beneath who has had her heart broken twice...by the two people she loved the most. Nick Lowery,

Harper's ex-husband and the love of her life, is one of those two people. Now Harper is on her way to Montana to serve as maid-of-honor for her sister, Willa, who is marrying Chris Lowery, Nick's brother. Harper and Nick haven't seen each other for 12 years...

This is the first book I've read by Kristan Higgins and I was totally blown away by how talented she is. I admire authors in general simply because they have the ability to come up with an idea that they can stretch over several hundred pages. Then there is that select group of authors who are, to me, what movie stars are to my mother. I want to see them in person...be the first in line to buy their latest books...talk about them, talk *with* them...be eternally infatuated with each and every one of them because they provide my entertainment, and, therefore, are responsible for a big chunk of my happiness. In short, they are my auto-buys. With one book, Ms. Higgins is in. She is a fantastic storyteller and funnier than hell...which, IMO, is no small feat. I make an effort to avoid authors that try to be funny because it rarely works for me in a romance novel. But KH has that great talent of being subtly funny - kind of in the dry humor family - and I was LOL throughout the entire book! Not a big deal, you say? A common mechanism used by writers? Then let me rephrase that: KH (love the initials) has the unique ability to make you laugh out loud on one page and have you sobbing miserably on the next. No kidding! It happens so many times you are emotionally spent (but in a good way) by the end of the book.

My One and Only is also a great character study. Whether it be the wise-cracking priest, Father Bruce, Harper's Tammy Faye Baker-like stepmother BeverLee, or Nick's half-brother Jason (I wannabe Tom) Cruise, everyone who has a speaking part in this book is a lifelike, 3-dimensional character. Assessing these people through Harper's eyes is a delight, and for the first time I truly enjoyed a book written in first person. Harper is the "smart-ass extraordinaire" and so downright candid that it is a little shocking at first but wicked cool once you get used to it. In fact, I think I was suffering from a little 'heroine worship' there for awhile as she acted out in situations the majority of us would never have the nerve to attempt.

At that moment, Jodi Pickering, Dennis' high school girlfriend and a waitress here, shoved the prow of her bosom in Den's jaw. "Are you all set here, Denny?" she asked, ignoring me and giving my soon-to-be fiance a docile, cowl-like gaze.

"Hey, Jodi. What's up?" Dennis said, grinning past her 36-Ds to her face. "How's the little guy?"

"Oh, he's great, Denny. It was so nice that you stopped by the game the other night. He just loves you! And you know, without a father in the picture, I think T.J. really needs ---"

"Okay, we get it, Jodi-with-an-i," I said, smiling pleasantly up at her. "You have an adorable son and are still quite available. Dennis, however, is with me. If you would just take your boobs out of my boyfriend's face, I would deeply appreciate it."

LOL

Even Harper's dog, Coco, a tiny Jack Russell/Chihuahua mix, had a personality (albeit that of a drama queen).

Though I'd checked on Coco numerous times throughout the day and Dennis had taken her on a few walks, she was in full Chihuahua orphan mode, huge eyes, still body, not raising her head from her tragic little paws, looking at me as if I'd just locked her in Michael Vick's basement...

I realize I'm putting emphasis on the book's humor but overall the storyline is very serious and quite heart-wrenching. This is Harper and Nick's very precious but very sad love story...two people who had found that true, once-in-a-lifetime love together but were unable to hold on. Their siblings' wedding will bring them back together for the first time in 12 years. Will they at least be able to get the closure they both need so desperately?

My throat tightened, and the nearness of him, the only man who ever made me feel cherished...it just sucker-

punched my heart.

"Sleep tight," I whispered.

"You, too."

God, I'd missed him.

Nick was quiet, his skin as warm as I was cold. We lay like that for a long time, not talking, not moving. The wind blew, Coco adjusted herself and gave a little doggy snore. Nick's breathing was slow and even, and this...the two of us lying together, was as comforting and wonderful as anything I'd ever felt. And horrible, because it brought such a pain to my heart. We'd had something special and rare, Nick and I. There had been more to our marriage than loneliness and tunnel vision and wretched communication skills. There'd been times like this, lying in the dark...together.

When I was sure he was asleep, I touched his hand. Just a little, just a little brush of my fingertips against the back of his lovely, wonderful hand.

"You asked why I couldn't forgive you," Nick said, very quietly, and I jumped a little. "It was because you were the love of my life, Harper. And you didn't want to be. That's hard to let go."

sigh Such a good book.

many, many stars *****

A_Ryan says

5 "Holy Testicle Tuesday" Stars!!!!

"It never even occurred to me that we wouldn't make it . And it never occurred to you that we would.

What's it about: About a cynical romantic who divorces the *one* and twelve years later finds that their paths cross again.

The best bits: It is hilarious!!!

I absolutely love Higgins' writing. She has fast become one of my go-to authors. As always, she captures the chemistry between two main characters beautifully, and here she creates two souls who were meant to be together. Always.

I loved so many things...

The thrill of the bear scene.

The breathtaking bridge scene.

The heartbreaking ring scene.

The step mum: Bever-Lee Roberta Dupres McKnight Lupinski James

The fireman boyfriend who calls you "dude"

I loved it all!

The worst bits: The father. (view spoiler) I know that not everyone will have a problem with him, but his storyline just "irked" me.

Recommended for: Fans of second chance romances.

Jacob Proffitt says

This was a painfully . . . painful read. I came close to stopping twice and while I don't quite regret continuing on, I'm not terribly pleased, either.

Higgins wastes the first quarter of the book or so meandering around the central relationship. Harper has a boyfriend she has proposed to and his entire function as a character is to serve as a barometer for exactly how emotionally immature Harper is. Hint: *really, very, incredibly, even shockingly* immature. Worse than the boyfriend are the coy hints and stupid teases about what actually happened back in the day. *Even worse than that*, though, is that the first flashback/remembrance leaves out how it ended. Higgins saves that for later. Which is where I almost stopped reading the first time. Fortunately, once the stupid boyfriend takes off and Nick and Harper are on their own (through a string of contrivances that strained credulity beyond the breaking point), the relationship finally started making sense and we got a charming second-chance story. For a while.

The Nick and Harper for this part were fun and engaging and I was glad to see them work out their past and come to some mutual understanding.

And then Higgins came in with yet more contrived stupidity and unbelievable circumstances and we get more pain while people do wildly unbelievable things and make fools of themselves. The worst part of this section was the hash Higgins makes of Harper's character while she's at it. (view spoiler) This was the second time I almost stopped reading.

Fortunately, depending on how you look at these things, I suppose, Higgins managed an ending that didn't actually suck as much as it should have. Okay, I do her a disservice. I rather liked the ending and have hopes that the characters might actually make it. After all, with their story done, the author has no excuse to contrive more stupid circumstances and can't rewrite whole aspects of their characters to suit some slapstick scene she thinks might be funny. The last bit was touching and genuine and completely unearned, but I misted up anyway. What can I say? I guess I really am just a giant softie.

A note about Steamy/Chaste: This book was really neither. It had sex and some explicit foreplay, but went lights-out fairly quickly once things heated up.

Juan Voráquine says

Kristan Higgins ha vuelto a conquistarme con una de sus novelas autoconclusivas. Aunque no me ha enganchado y encantado tanto como los dos primeros de "Blue Heron", he disfrutado mucho de su lectora y de la bonita prosa de la autora. Además, su sello de identidad está claro: el amor por los animales y la ambientación hogareña.

Si no habéis leído nada de la autora, recomiendo que lo hagáis.

Reseña completa: <http://voragineinterna.blogspot.com.e...>

Lady Gabriella of Awesomeness (On Hiatus) says

4 1/2 I-freakin-love-these-two-stars !!! :) .

ME: I KNOW !!!!

Seriously..With such a solid plot and lovable main characters..I found it very hard To find faults with '*MY ONE & ONLY*'

"COME ON FLOREANCE !"I yelled out of the window."CAN YOU MOVE IT ?"

The driver of the car extended and arm....and a finger.

It was a male arm and a finger.

And then the car door opened,with my ex husband stepping out.

ME: Lmao.....Seriously these Two

LOL these guys are hilarious,and if not that...just plain beautiful together.And that's just one of the reasons main reason this book will always hold a place in my Favourite shelf.

"I'll tell you something, Harpy," he said, his voice almost a whisper now. "It never even occurred to me that we wouldn't make it. And it never occurred to you that we would. You were just waiting for us to go down in flames. I thought we could get through anything."

I loved how the story stayed realistic and the way the author plotted out the story so skillfully that in the end ,neither Harper nor nick was actually to blame for the ultimate divorce.I could actually see how this kind of thing happening to so many couples out there..and that's just seriously sad.

RECOMMENDATION: READ THIS.

♥Sharon♥ says

4.5 Stars

What a wonderful story!!

I just love Kristan Higgins writing. Her books always leave me with that warm fuzzy feeling. She has a knack for taking you on a bit of a roller coaster ride with her characters that will have your heart doing funny things and put a silly grin on your face.

I adored Harper and Nick's story. ♥

(This has nothing to do with the book rather it is an image result for 'warm fuzzy feeling') :)

Myrna says

I found myself....

The characters infuriated me at times but one of the best second chance romances I've ever read.

Dija says

My list of authors to stalk follow keeps growing every time I read a new contemporary novel, it seems. My One and Only is the first book of Kristan Higgin's I've read, and I can't wait to read the rest of them.

My One and Only begins with divorce attorney, Harper, trying and failing to convince her boyfriend of more than 2 years to finally marry her, as she'll be turning 34 soon and wants a stable family life. While she's popping the question, her sister calls to tell her that she's getting married for the third time to none other than Harper's ex-husband, Nick's, half-brother. Naturally, Nick and Harper have a lot of unfinished business and their close proximity at the wedding only results in what we all knew would happen all along - a second chance for the two which eventually results in a HEA ending.

Rather predictable, right? Not. Even though the basic plot skeleton is evident from the get-go, there are still several minor plot twists and details that managed to surprise and intrigue me. My One and Only completely falls under the category of the type of book you swear you'll only read for a few minutes before bed, and before you know it, you're exclaiming out loud how perfect the ending was.

Harper is extremely easy to relate to, even though her denials did get a tad annoying at parts. Nonetheless, Higgin's writing flows so smoothly that you can't help but become absolutely engrossed in the story, no matter how badly the characters are messing up.

Nick...oh, dear, sweet Nick. There are alpha males and then there are the boy-next-door types. I'm a complete sucker for both, and dare I say it, even more so for the latter. Nick fell in love with Harper at first sight, and while that usually irritates me, he's so devoted to her that I actually believed in it, at least for the duration of this book.

Higgin's does a perfect job of alternating between the past and present, letting us know little by little how Harper and Nick initially fell in love, how things went wrong, and how they eventually get better. I *highly* recommend this book to all readers who enjoy something light and fun every once in a while. And because this is the first CR I stayed up all night to read, My One and Only will always hold a special place in my heart.

For more reviews, visit my blog.

Didi says

4.5 STARS

This is going into the 'faves by Kristan Higgins' pile. It was angsty, emotional and beautifully written. Nick Lowery, (all I think is Bad Boys with Will Smith!), is probably one of the most endearing and compelling male Hero's by this author. He's right up there with Lucas from *Waiting On You*, with the same dark, gypsy eyes that never fail to tell a story, and the same intense temperament that manages to lure you in and trap you.

His dedication on initially wooing Harper when they were younger to his singular focus on getting her back was incredible. He saw what he wanted, and he's always wanted Harper, and went after it.

Harper was a tragic heroine this time around, abandoned by her mom at 13, raised by her recalcitrant father and ultimately being forced into accepting a new stepmom and her daughter. And unlike typical stepmom's, Bever Lee was loving and sweet, even if took Harper years to acknowledge that. But Harper always held people an arms length away, never letting them get close in fear of their impending abandonment. Of course this included Nick. So a marriage at 21 to the love of her life had 'tragically doomed' written all over it. Nick thought they'd last, Harper didn't. And you know what they say about self-fulfilling prophecies. The scene things crashed and burned broke my heart, I was sobbing like a baby.

12 years later, Harper, now a successful divorce attorney, is shocked by her step sister, Willa, with the news she's getting married to Nick's stepbrother no less, and Harper's the MOH! This dredges up all sorts of memories, sad ones, happy ones and most definitely hurtful ones. A road trip brings them together and somehow reconnects them, but Harper is still scared, still fearful to let Nick in fully. What ensues is a beautiful and emotional story of letting the ghosts of our past finally rest, and accepting the truth behind letting go and letting those close, in.

Did I mention I LOVED Nick?! He was amazing! And while it took Harper some time to actually see what was in front of her, the scene she finally does was both memorable and heart melting. You actually felt the electricity crackle off the pages reading about these two. The epilogue was perfect, exactly what I'd hoped it'd be, and the secondary characters from Harper's family to Nick's was touching.

The thing is, KH always writes such comprehensive stories. There's a huge and important cast of characters that only add richness to her books. I cried, I laughed, I sighed....loved it, loved it!

willaful says

There's a scene in this book in which Harper and Nick, reunited exes, watch a movie in a theater while loudly snarking and annoying everyone near them, just like old times. If you get the sense from that that both of these people are kind of self-absorbed assholes, well, I think you'd be right.

I'm so ambivalent about this book. It was well-written and powerful, and I couldn't put it down, so it doesn't seem appropriate to give it a low rating. Yet I can't exactly say I "liked" it. Parts of it were so desperately sad I could barely stand it, yet at the same time it seemed much more like watching a shallow romantic comedy than reading a book. (It would be about the work of five minutes to turn the story into a screenplay, complete with meet-cute and splashy finish -- literally.) It veered from much too close to the bone to annoyingly pat. And I didn't love Nick nearly as much as I was obviously supposed to, with his "sad gypsy eyes." I disliked his nasty ex routine -- calling Harper, "Harpy" -- and his overly romantic attitude. Harper is shown as the bad guy here, the one who annoyingly insists on being sensible and thinking things through -- well, after a nasty divorce that lasted twelve years, that doesn't seem like a ridiculous attitude to me, not at

all.

It was interesting to see Higgans write about a different kind of heroine than usual -- instead of being an insecure woman chasing after a man, Harper is beautiful and successful, but closed off. It's a sadder read, but the humor is still strong -- excepting Harper's truly terrible taste in curse words. "Crotch." (Sometimes, "Crotchety crotch crotch!") "Holy testicle Tuesday." Gross me out the door.

Still, despite all the things that bugged me, I did think this was a memorable book, with interestingly imperfect characters. The theme of the love that just won't die is very touching and despite Higgan's usual low-steam level, the story feels genuinely passionate -- otherwise it wouldn't hurt so much to think of them separated for twelve years.
