



## Girlfriend 44

*Mark Barrowcliffe*

### **Girlfriend 44** Mark Barrowcliffe

From age ten, Harry has had just one ambition—to find the one girl for him. Forty-three women and twenty-odd years later, he is still looking. He doesn't ask for much: just a beautiful intellectual who doesn't mind his constant infidelity.

Harry's roommate Gerrard did once find True Love—but he didn't realize it until the day she left him. Only two women have met his exacting criteria, and he's not hopeful that he'll find another. Even if he does, he's not sure he can trust her not to grow old eventually.

And then Harry and Gerrard meet Alice.

Alice is the perfect woman. She's the only woman in the world Harry and Gerrard can agree on. Unfortunately, she seems to like both of them, and neither will stop at anything to win her for good.

### **Girlfriend 44 Details**

Date : Published March 6th 2002 by St. Martin's Press (first published 2000)

ISBN : 9780312287689

Author : Mark Barrowcliffe

Format : Paperback 384 pages

Genre : Fiction, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Contemporary

 [Download Girlfriend 44 ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Girlfriend 44 ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Girlfriend 44 Mark Barrowcliffe**

---

## From Reader Review Girlfriend 44 for online ebook

### Rebecca Bell says

Hilarious book. Enjoyed the storyline. Great book to read.

---

### Alicia says

Witty and trite, this is chic lit written by a man. Originally published in the U.K., the edition I read was packed with Britishisms (not necessarily a bad thing). The humor at times seems excessive, detracting from the plot. One of the better books in the genre.

---

### Ben Brackett says

Fairly enjoyable read about an egotistical misogynist that finally meets his match. The witty and clever parts are witty and clever and fun to read, but the book drags in some areas and tries a little too hard in the end. It's entertaining enough though and pretty quick and lite read with some memorable quotes.

---

### Emily says

Endlessly boring blather about countless sexual escapades and a meaningless life.

---

### Amanda says

Harry is looking for the One. He's spent years looking for her and tried out 43 women in his quest to find her. When she walks into his life, he doesn't expect it - and then realises that his best mate Gerrard is also trying to win her heart. It seems that there really is nothing fair in love or war, as both men try to sabotage each other - and themselves - in their efforts to make Alice the One.

I picked up this novel for a few reasons. The first is that Mark Barrowcliffe published his debut fantasy novel *Wolfsangel* under the name M D Lachlan last year - I loved that book, and was interested to see what he could do within a different genre. I'm also keen on men writing in the field of chick lit, since it seems to be an ideal way to see what men really are thinking! \*grin\* I was expecting a light, funny read that I could easily pick up and put down, and would be briefly amused by.

Rather than this, I got a biting portrayal of real life men in slightly farcical circumstances. The banter is bitter, the humour is puerile in the most part, and the men are distinctly unlikeable. But it does come across as incredibly realistic, as Barrowcliffe covers the ways in which men will dump women and the criteria they have for picking women.

The humour in the novel is uneven and scattershot, but I did find myself laughing out loud on more than one occasion. More often I was slightly mystified, but I suspect a guy would have been howling.

I enjoyed the characters, which are larger than life and easy to poke fun at. I rather marvelled at the idea that people like this exist (although a brief conversation with Mark revealed that he based Gerrard and Farley on real characters, which is a massive worry of mine - because it means they are out there walking the street, and there is a faint chance I might meet them by accident!)

What concerned me about this novel is how missold it seemed. It carries the sort of cover that shouts 'chick lit' and I was expecting something along the lines of Mike Gayle - cosy and sweet and trying to present the idea of men as being nice people who don't try to pull women just for the sex. Barrowcliffe is the vicious antidote to Gayle's saccharine sweetness, and it takes some effort to get through the initial shock and embrace the darker elements of the novel.

As I've come to expect from Mark, it was well-written (especially considering this one was his true debut in the literary world, although not too surprising if you take into account his journalistic background), but probably overlong at nigh on 500 pages.

I will seek out some more of Mark's earlier work, but I won't revisit this novel again! For a single 30-something girl, it hit a little too close to home \*grins\* If you want to read this, I would suggest that you make sure you're in a wonderful and warm, loving relationship and then tackle it - so that you don't end up scared at the prospect of encountering these men when you put yourself out there!

---

### **Stef says**

For as long as it took me to get around to reading this, I wanted to like this, and at first I did. Very witty and quippy with a lot of entertaining, smart, original observations. But the tangents that interrupt the actual story are too much and hurt the rest of the story, only serving to seem self-congratulatory re: cleverness. Worse, though, was the unbearable, unsympathetic main character showing little growth. Sort of made the cleverness - and the read - not worth it.

---

### **Carrie says**

It's like chick-lit for men (but probably read more by women anyway). Two roommates are fighting for the affections of their friend's last girlfriend before he died. A few lines into the first page, the narrator establishes himself as hilariously honest: "I do not want to be unkind so let me reassure you that your shortcomings are largely physical...You can't love someone if you think they've got a big nose, not properly. As a man, you might have kids with them, dogs, a cottage, etc. You might get caught in rain storms and drink wine in the sun, do all the romance bit, but when you look deep into her eyes it will be because you want to avoid looking at her nose." Read for a good laugh.

---

### **Rhonda says**

Interesting parts but mostly the Brit speak was lost on me. I know there was some good humor in there, but I wasn't proficient in the Brit colloquialisms to join the jokes.

Harry seemed unredeemable. Where I can't fault him was his thinking ala Larry David. Everyone thinks terrible things. We just get in the mind of a selfish insecure masochistic man child and it is disturbing. I did enjoy the acerbic remarks as well as the in depth explanations for his musings, but I found myself

drifting off more than reading. This is dude lit which can be fun for summer reading, but I am ready to move on to a more engaging genre.

---

### **R.M. says**

A razão principal pela qual não gostei deste livro acho que se deveu, em parte, às minhas expectativas. Esperava um livro cómico, com pouca profundidade, que me fizesse rir por um bocado. Mas não, não cumpre a função. À primeira vista, Há uma tarefa simples para este livro realizar e este não a realiza. Começamos por nos deparar com típicos machistas e páginas (demasiadas) a descrever esta e mais outra situação. As personagens parecem bem delineadas ao início mas ao longo da narrativa, tornam-se completamente diferentes! O autor perde-se entre o rude, o cómico e o profundo (mesmo quando não há necessidade para o ser... novamente volto às minhas expectativas). De um momento para o outro, duas personagens que achava tão distintas, começam-me a parecer iguais. Não consegui acabar o livro, não digo que não tenha tido curiosidade em saber o final mas simplesmente tornou-se desesperante querer um desenrolar da história e sermos impedidos pelos constantes "À partes" ou pormenores não relevantes em primeira pessoa.

---

### **Michelle says**

What I enjoyed was the perspective. The story is about two male flatmates in London and one of them is the narrator. It delves into what some men (and I am saying some as not to offend the opposite sex by stereotyping) think about women, dating and relationships. The book was a fast read and it kept my attention. The ending is a bit of a surprise and the last few pages made me wonder what would happen next.

Worth reading but then again, I don't really like to make recommendations as each person's taste is different.

---

### **Glenn says**

Funny in parts but a rather bloated story. The author could have condensed it down to about half it's size w/o losing any of the storyline. Many times, instead of just having straightforward dialogue between 2 characters, he would interject long-winded tangential thoughts of the main character into it, oftentimes thoughts that didn't add anything, other than turning a novella into a novel.

---

### **-A says**

When I started reading this book, it felt fresh and witty because I've never really read a similar book (a chick-flick written by a man) with many British references and jokes. I found it hilarious and funny and Harry as the main character felt endearing despite being actually unlikable (he had this quality about him) but a couple chapters in it just got old and boring. The author seemed to be hung up on jokes, instead of really moving the story along and telling the story in general.

It is a readable story that you can enjoy but it is far from a must read or read-to-have-fun.

I'm just glad that in the end it didn't end with a cliché.

---

## **M says**

i liked that it was different as one said 'chic-lit for men'. i appreciate the tone, humor and the point of view. some parts may drag on and lose you and you'd probably be scratching your head wondering if the over analyzing was actually coming from a male voice. the very first thing that bugged me was having 'death' as a trend (not a main focus) in his novels-that's 2/2 that i've read of his. the style of writing is something i haven't gotten used to and I would admit that it took me a while to get into the flow, the same feeling i had with Lucky Dog, originally i had wanted to read Girlfriend 44 first, Luck Dog was just lucky to have been purchased first. Overall, reading till the last word was good enough satiating.

as for the Hornby comments i think i prefer watching him instead of reading, How To Be Good was traumatizing and About A Boy after watching it several times has come to be an annoying little bugger.

---

## **Meli says**

No tengo idea de por qué pensé que este libro podía gustarme. No se si estoy teniendo muy mala pata para elegir, pero realmente ¿qué onda?

Ni siquiera llegué a terminarlo y eso que hice un esfuerzo, pero ¿un libro en el cual llevo casi un cuarto y no ha pasado nada?

Tuvo un par de frases graciosas pero hasta ahí.

El problema no es lo machista del libro (lo cual sea paso, miercole) es la forma en que está presentado. Todo el tiempo el protagonista está diciendo "sé que es machista, pero qué se le va a hacer" Las personas machistas no se dan cuenta de que lo son, y quiero pensar con toda mi esperanza en la humanidad, que si se dieran cuenta se horrorizarían de su manera de pensar y no simplemente decir y bueno.

Ni siquiera empezemos a hablar de Gerard, qué ser humano más horrendo.

El único que me cayó bien fue el perro y eso es porque es un perro.

Además de todo eso, sumamente tedioso de leer y lento, y se perdía demasiadas veces en cuestiones que no me decían nada ni de la personalidad del protagonista, ni del argumento.

---

## **Lauren says**

I remember reading this years ago and being horrified at the suggestion all men actually think like the main character. The girl is treated like an attractive trophy and the guys compete to see who gets to sleep with her first, thus being declared the winner. Because women are things that deserved to be played with (much like a game) and everyone knows girls don't have emotions or thoughts, it's only ever about who gets her into bed first, you or your friend.

---