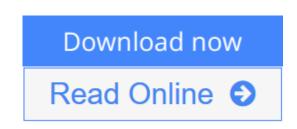


The Opposite of Love: A Novel (Random House Reader's Circle)

By Julie Buxbaum



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With perfect pitch for the humor and heartbreak of everyday life, debut author Julie Buxbaum has fashioned a heroine who will be instantly recognizable to anyone who has loved and lost and loved again.

When twenty-nine-year-old Manhattan attorney Emily Haxby ends her happy relationship just as her boyfriend is about to propose, she can't explain to even her closest friends why she did it. But somewhere beneath her independent exterior, Emily knows her breakup with Andrew has less to do with him and more to do with...her. "It's like you get pleasure out of breaking your own heart," her best friend Jess tells her.

As the holidays loom and Emily contemplates whether she made a huge mistake, the rest of her world begins to unravel. She's assigned to a multimillion-dollar lawsuit where she must defend the very values she detests by a boss who can't keep his hands to himself... her Grandpa Jack, the person she cares most about in the world, is losing it, while her emotionally distant father has left her to cope alone...and underneath it all, memories of her deceased mother remind her that love doesn't last forever.

How this brave young woman finally faces the fears that have long haunted her is the great achievement of this marvelous first novel, written with authority, grace, and wisdom.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Harvard law grad Buxbaum makes an appealing debut with this tale of Yale law graduate Emily Haxby, eager to break through the emotional and professional ties that bind her. It's like you get pleasure out of breaking your own heart, best friend Jess tells Emily after her bustup with her doctor boyfriend. But Emily isn't through self-destructing; she also implodes over her fast-failing Grandpa Jack, from whom Emily learned everything... about life; chilly relations with her lieutenant governor father, Kirk; and a precarious career as a litigator defending big, evil corporations for a Manhattan law firm. This single-gal-in-the-city finds her white-knuckle hold on life and love slowly slipping as it dawns on her that the opposite of love isn't hate, it's emptiness. Grandpa Jack and his retirement home pal, Ruth, help steer Emily to a soft landing, but the big disappointment is that the resolution is far less interesting than the unraveling that precedes it. (*Jan.*) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Review

"In the character of Emily, Julie Buxbaum has created the quintessential motherless daughter: a woman who longs for the comfort of intimacy, yet fears its permanence. **The Opposite of Love** is a brilliant examination of loss, romance, and the jagged, imperfect, utterly realistic way we fall and stay in love. A stunning debut."—Hope Edelman, author of **Motherless Daughters**

"You'll want to keep reading all night."-Library Journal, Starred Review

"A witty, touching debut novel rich with emotional truths. Women everywhere will relate to Julie Buxbaum's thoughtful, young heroine and her journey of loss and love."—Emily Giffin, author of **Love the One You're With**

"Gripping, wise and extremely refreshing. I loved it."—Marian Keyes, author of *Sushi for Beginners* and *Angels*

"Buxbaum makes an appealing debut with this tale of...[a] single gal-in-the-city [who] finds her whiteknuckle hold on life and love slowly slipping."—*Publishers Weekly*

About the Author

Julie Buxbaum is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard Law School. **The Opposite of Love** is her first novel.

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carla Arbogast:

This book untitled The Opposite of Love: A Novel (Random House Reader's Circle) to be one of several

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Ann Gonzalez:

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Patrice Lach:

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