



Azur Like It

By Wendy Holden

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A witty, winning escapade through the south of France from the internationally bestselling author of *Gossip Hound*.

The only intrepid reporter in her hometown hamlet, Kate Clegg has dreams of parlaying her dead-end job at the Mercury, or Mockery, as it is affectionately known, into an award-winning career with the most celebrated papers in London. But things seem to be going in the toilet, literally, since her biggest break thus far has been investigating a drainage disaster at the local high school. At least things can't get worse...

That is until shady billionaire Peter Hardstone pulls up outside the Mercury's tiny storefront office in his gold Ferrari and begins firing the staff. Soon enough, Kate herself decides that leaving the Mockery behind may just be the best career move she'll ever make-until Hardstone's wildly attractive son, Nat, takes up residence at the Mercury's office with an offer Kate cannot refuse-a chance to cover the Cannes Film Festival on the luxurious Côte d'Azur.

With internationally acclaimed author Wendy Holden's signature verve, intelligence, and originality, *Azur Like It* is a rollicking ride through the parties, haute couture, and glamour of the French Riviera where, behind the glitz, lies a mystery that would make even the most jaded journalist salivate.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Predictable plot turns and humorless puns abound in Holden's superficial satire (after *Gossip Hound*, etc.), which starts out as a promising tale of a smalltown reporter's attempt to break out of her sleepy English hometown and quickly devolves into a colorful but cliched farce crowded with outlandish caricatures and unlikely goings-on. Kate Clegg, the slightly plump senior reporter for the Slackmucklewaite Mercury (more often referred to as "the Mockery"), longs to have the exciting life of a London reporter, but barring that, she'll settle for covering sleepy stories by day and penning her racy book, *Northern Gigolo*, by night. Aspiring actor Nat Hardstone, the gorgeous son of her callous new boss, may be the answer to one of her more scandalous dreams. Not only does he want to shake the dust of Slackmucklewaite off his shoes, but he wants to take her with him to the Côte d'Azur for the Cannes Film Festival. Though it's obvious that Nat is as shallow and scheming as his father—he makes her foot the bill at a fancy restaurant and then presses her to front the money for his plane ticket—Kate rides his coattails to the south of France and is promptly abandoned. But with the help of a few friendly strangers, she finds love and scandal in a French town eerily similar to the English one she just left. By the end of the novel, Kate is as clueless as when she started her unlikely adventure, and readers will have as little sympathy for her as they do for Nat and his impossibly small-minded acquaintance, Champagne D'vyne.

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From [Booklist](#)

Holden's latest novel is like a daydream--people's words and actions are often unrealistic, scenarios are over-the-top, and unlikely events are contrived for the sole purpose of fulfilling the dreamer's fantasies. That said, those looking for a fun, fluffy read will enjoy this tale of Bridget Jones-like journalist Kate Clegg, who, after toiling for years as a reporter for the *Slackmucklethwaite Mercury* (or, as locals not-so-affectionately call it, the *Mockery*), thinks she's finally off to cover the Cannes Film Festival. After her boss' would-be actor son seduces Kate in order to trick her into putting up plane fare to France for the both of them, naive Kate finds herself in a small village outside Cannes with almost no money left and possibly no job to come home to. At her grandmother's urging, Kate decides to look upon this disaster as an opportunity for grand adventure and stays in France, finding work as a maid for an elderly art lover, a freelance reporter for an English-language paper, and a waitress. Twists and turns abound, along with hefty doses of mystery and romance, in this (as the title would suggest) pun-filled story. Holden, who has been mining the British-working-gal subgenre through several successful novels--*Gossip Hound* (2003), *Farm Fatale* (2002), *Bad Heir Day* (2001)--seems ready for a leap to the next level of mainstream popularity. *Beth Leistensnider*

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About the Author

Wendy Holden is the internationally bestselling author of *Simply Divine*, *Bad Heir Day*, *Farm Fatale*, and *Gossip Hound* (all available from Plume). She is the former deputy editor of *Tatler* and worked at the *Sunday Times* and the *Mail on Sunday*. She lives with her husband and their son.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sheilah Harvey:

Often the book Azur Like It has a lot of information on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was published by the very famous author. The writer makes some research previous to write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can get the point easily after reading this book.

Catherine Ng:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always try to and must have the spare time or they will get lot of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , when we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading guides. It can be your alternative within spending your spare time, often the book you have read is definitely Azur Like It.

Kent Dennis:

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