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Meet the residents of 31 Almanac Road ...

Ralph and Smith are flatmates and best mates - until, that is, the gorgeous Jemima moves in. And suddenly they're bickering about a lot more than who drank the last beer. Of course, Jem knows that one of them is the man for her - but is it Ralph or Smith?

Upstairs, Karl and Siobhan have been happily unmarried for fifteen years - until, that is, Cheri moves into the flat above theirs. Cheri's got her eye on Karl and doesn't see why she should let a little thing like his girlfriend stand in her way ...

Sooner or later its all got to come to a head - and what better place for tears and laughter, break ups and make ups than Ralph's party?

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Review

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Most helpful customer reviews

16 of 17 people found the following review helpful.

A party I would LOVE to go to ...

By Dianna Setterfield

I will admit. I was hoping for a goofy, Bridget-Jones-type British novel. Ralph's Party did not live up, although it was a funny soap opera-ish tale in it's own right. And for a first novel, it really was quite good.

Ralph and Smith are flatmates in search of a third person to share the load. Their new find comes in the form of young Jem, a sweet-looking twenty-something who winds up with both her new roomies competing for her. Of course, the story couldn't be as black-and-white as that...

Throw a couple of love triangles in the mix: Even though Smith seems to be the winner of Jem's affection, he secretly harbors a five year passion for upstairs neighbor, Cheri. Meanwhile, Cheri has been having an affair with the downstairs neighbor, Karl. And of course Karl has his live-in love, Siobhan, who he's been with for the past 15 years. And what about Siobhan? Well, there are all sorts of changes waiting in the wings for her. The lives of these six people that intermingle throughout the novel finally culminates with a bombshell of a party that you DON'T want to miss!

For readers who are in search of Bridget Jones humor, this novel is not for you. But if you crave a breezy tale of mixed-up Londoners with some interesting insight into the male mind (plus a few paragraphs of disgusting male behavior), then Ralph's Party will surely suffice.

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

So much fun!

By Michelle GB

I have grown a little tired of the "Bridget Jones" type books and was really expecting "Ralph's Party" to be similar. It is not-it is truly exceptional! It follows the lives of several different characters and although at first it was a little hard to keep up with/care about all of the characters, by the end of the novel I cared about each one. The character development was fantastic and Jewell does an excellent job of establishing a storyline and developing characters. I was actually sad when the book ended!

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

Funny and Sweet -- Perfect Beach Reading

By Elizabeth Hendry

Ralph's party is a well-written, amusing, enjoyable story about a group of 20ish/30ish people who live near, or are somehow connected to, an apartment complex in London. Their stories are quite entertaining and told with a gentle wit. The main characters are Smith and Ralph, two roommates who add a third, Jem, a kooky and attractive young woman who believes that she is destined to marry one of them. This novel being a romantic comedy, she of course winds up with the wrong one at first, but ultimately sees the romantic truth (as do the other characters in the novel) at, you guessed it, Ralph's party. This book is a quick, non-taxing read, but I really enjoyed it. I kept thinking it would make a great movie, just as long as Hugh Grant somehow gets a part. If you are looking for a light, entertaining novel, Ralph's party is for you. Have fun.

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