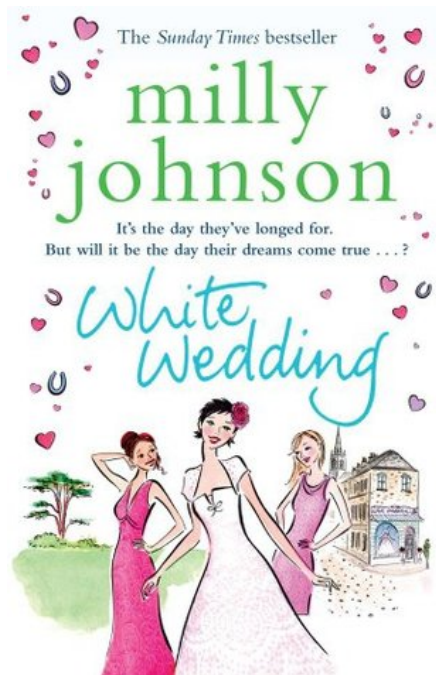




White Wedding

Milly Johnson

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THE SUNDAY TIMES TOP 5 BESTSELLING AUTHOR!

It's the day they've always dreamed about. But will it turn out to be a nightmare ...?

Bel is in the midst of planning her perfect wedding when disaster strikes and everything she thought she knew is turned on its head. Can she hold it all together and, with the help of her friends, and a mysterious man she meets unexpectedly, turn disaster into triumph?

Bel's friend, ice-cream parlour owner **Violet**, is engaged to Glyn, who is besotted by her although Violet fell out of love with him long ago. But however trapped she feels in the relationship, she can't quite say the words, 'I don't want to marry you anymore.' Then, just when she's about to give up and resign herself to married life, she finds love in the most surprising of places. Will duty rule her heart or will she allow herself to be swept off her feet?

Max was planning a quick registry office do with her fiancé Stuart until she sees a TV programme about traveller brides and becomes determined to have the most extravagantly glitzy wedding ever. But in all the excitement has she lost sight of what's really important? Does she want the wedding more than she wants the groom?

And as all three friends find the dress of their dreams at the White Wedding bridal shop, its owner, the lovely **Freya**, guarantees that her gowns will bring them happiness - though maybe not quite in the way they expected ...

White Wedding Details

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Author : Milly Johnson

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From Reader Review White Wedding for online ebook

Dianne says

I've love every Milly Johnson I have ever picked up, yet surprisingly this one took me a while to get into. I don't know if it's because the characters all landed at once, or disbelief that three such vastly different women would form such a close friendship borne of a few chance meetings.

However once each storyline warmed up, things moved along pretty quickly and the book became very hard to put down. You knew where each one was going, but it was a nice journey all the same.

The one comment that keeps coming up in the Goodreads reviews, is why the bridal shop disappeared so suddenly. There was an element of the supernatural to this book, with angels, etc and I think Freya and her amazing dresses and pearls of wisdom was there to help these three women through each of their crises. Firstly she provided the venue for their repeated "coincidental" meetings, then the perfect dress and tale to go with it; tailor-made service for each bride. Once all three had been "saved" she was no longer needed and disappeared in a puff of smoke.

In retrospect, the women by this time well and truly had each other's friendship, which they had been sorely lacking before, and this was also compliments of Freya. I wonder if Freya and gran's angel visitor was in fact one and the same.... :)

Adele says

Three random young women strike up a friendship after meeting each other while visiting 'White Wedding' Bridal Shop. What follows is the tale of Bel, Max and Violet's eventful run up to their respected wedding days. All I want to reveal is things do not always go to plan for the trio. I love Milly's books, they are filled with great characters you fall in love with and a few you don't! There is always some fun involved, some sadness, some warmth, some love and a little bit of magic that makes your skin tingle!

Sarah Broadhurst says

Wedding season is definitely at the height of the season right now and this book is a great one to read during these months. However, a word of caution, if you are the bride, maybe read it after you have tied the knot!

The book follows three women, who are due to get married and the book is split into each of their individual story, although each woman is in each others story, providing an intertwining story throughout the three forthcoming weddings. The three characters met in Freya's wedding shop, White Wedding, and became firm friends, helping each other through the coming months.

Reading this book reminded me of my time spent wedding dress shopping and although I would love to say that I wish I could have visited Freya's White Wedding shop to choose my dress, on the other hand I am quite glad that I didn't as I was so glad my wedding went to plan!

As with all of Milly Johnson's fabulous back catalogue, this book has strong female characters, who have a great story to tell, and believable stories, although if this all happened to the customers of one shop, I don't

think the shop would be in business long as they would gain a reputation very quickly!

If you want a great book to read on the beach this summer or to relax in the garden over a long (Jubilee or Bank Holiday weekend) this is the book for you! A great read for lovers of chick lit anywhere.

Tali says

I liked this book a lot, but I also ended up frustrated with it a lot too, and that's why I've only given it 3 stars rather than 4. The characters of Bel and Violet are great, with Violet's story being particularly touching and well-developed throughout the novel, but the third main character, Max and her fiancé, Stuart, just hacked me off every time they appeared in the novel. Both of them are incredibly selfish and wilfully blind characters, and the way they behave is incredibly childish. I had no sympathy for either of them by the time their story was completed. I also disliked the number of times the main characters said 'there was no way out - there were no other options' when each of them had a dozen other opportunities available to them. I appreciate that the characters aren't meant to be perfect and that that's what often endears them to the reader, but in this case it demonstrated a lack of common sense in any of them which I can't stand. If I'm presented with a character who's successful and intelligent, have them act that way occasionally instead of just giving them a high-powered job to demonstrate their supposed intelligence. It's things like this that meant I didn't love this book as much as I wanted to, so it's a nice read for a slow day, but I don't think I'd go out of my way to recommend it. It was simply pleasant, nothing more, nothing less.

Hannah says

Originally posted at Once Upon A Time.

I went into White Wedding just knowing that I would love it and become a Milly Johnson fan. I wasn't wrong. White Wedding was my first foray into Milly Johnson's fiction and I am now working on getting hold of her other novels (3 out of 7 ain't bad). It is a true feel good chick lit that follows three very different women with three very different stories as they become friends and face their weddings together and the issues that come along with them and thus learn what would really make them happy.

I found the writing style very odd to begin with. It seems fairly ordinary, but every now and then it switches perspectives without warning, and I don't just mean between the three characters but with everybody. We see this story through the eyes of Bel, Violet and Max, of course, but also through those of Freya, their fiancés, parents.. heck even the postman! Usually I would put this down to bad writing form but this is where I found it odd - it didn't bother me at all. It wasn't as jarring as it is in other novels and you do get used to it fairly quickly. It even helps the story along and gives it just a little more depth. Though I did find myself feeling much more sympathetic towards Stuart, Max's fiancé, because of this than I did for Max herself who was just a little too selfish for my tastes.

Violet's fiancé Glyn was such a horror. Whilst I am not fond of the representation of mental health that he presents, I am afraid that there are indeed people like him in this world and that in itself is terrifying. He's basically one of the "nice guys". You know the type who think they're so wonderful so why does nobody love them? Ugh he was horrid. I wanted to kick him in the balls.

And Bel's story had my little heart a-fluttering. I adored her parts. Trouble is, I wouldn't want to spoil the story so I can't discuss why I liked it so much!

Not a single one of the characters in White Wedding are by any means perfect and they all feel so alive as a result. That, I feel, is Milly's greatest accomplishment here. Not even the heroines of the story are entirely innocent in everything they do but even so I found myself craving their happy endings and by golly I finished this book with a smile on my face.

Throughout the story is the presence of Freya, the owner of the White Wedding bridal store who resides in the background but determines to make women happy the only way she can.

I did notice a couple of small hints at magical realism near the end which I usually love in my fiction but I didn't think it fit in well at all here. It just felt too out of place. However, the feel good factor of the novel more than made up for it. There is a certain charm to the writing style which makes me positive that I'll love her other books just as much as I did this one.

Kathryn West says

It does what it says on the tin - this is chick-lit, tried and tested formula at its best. Is it original? Not really. Did you know how it would end from the beginning? Well pretty much! That however in and of itself, is not a criticism. Readers of Chicklit/RomComs like their formula. Its part of the genre, we like to know that they will live happily ever after even if we don't!

The characters however were well drawn. The main protagonists were likeable and you cared what happened to them. Glyn was especially well written, he irritated me intensely - which is the sign of good characterisation; a strong response from the reader. I found it highly entertaining, there are some lovely comic moments within it and the relationships between the women made me long for better friendships! When I read this genre, I am looking for something that is easy to read, enjoyable and fun. This delivered on all three counts and I will read more by this author.

Chloe says

I have read every single book Milly Johnson has written so far, and loved each and every one of them. The warmth in her writing is what makes it so readable, and each time you can't help but fall in love with the characters and be sad when you have to leave them behind when you have finished the book. Somehow, Milly is now releasing 2 books a year, and this is her first release of 2012, White Wedding, and will be followed in October with Winter Flame. The cover is in keeping with the other Milly Johnson books I have on my shelf, and I have to say I do love that they match! The theme of weddings is also pretty relevant to the spring season (although it feels more like autumn at the moment, brrr!), and I couldn't wait to see how the story of all these white weddings was going to pan out!

This book is the story of 3 strangers - Violet, Bel and Max who meet in the White Weddings bridal shop when they are shopping for their own wedding dresses. Max has been with fiancé Stuart for donkey's years, and the pair have finally decided to tie the knot, although Max has her heart set on a "big fat gypsy wedding" while Stuart is more hoping for a quiet do at the registry office. Violet is engaged to Glyn, but can't honestly say she is still in love with him after a change of lifestyle has left him a different man from the one she fell in love with, but can't bring herself to tell anyone the dreadful truth. Finally, there's Bel who is engaged to be married to Richard, her dream man, or so she thought, and when a shocking truth is found out by Bel, her whole world begins to fall apart. Which of these white weddings will get the happy-ever-after that the brides crave and deserve?

I have to say this is perhaps one of my favourite Milly Johnson books to date. It has likeable, and realistic characters who aren't skinny, drop dead gorgeous heroines but are real women, with real problems, and real lifestyles. I loved that when I read each of their stories, I could find myself relating to bits and bobs within them, and laughing and crying along with them too. I love how Milly brings 3 strangers together because of their weddings, and they strike up a close bond, like only women can very quickly. My favourite character was definitely Bel, I felt so sorry for her, and really warmed to her, praying that she would see sense in the end (don't want to spoil it so won't say any more!). She was just so nice, and perhaps the character who gets the most time in the book, although just by a bit. I did like the others but I wanted to tell Violet to get a bit of a backbone, and Max to stop being so rude to her fiance Stuart, even if he was a bit of a wash-out!

The scenarios that happen in the book are all too realistic for some people, but they're written about so well that I found myself completely glued to the book, and not wanting to put it down so that I could find out what the girls were going to do next. I love how Milly managed to write a really funny part and has you laughing out loud, and the next you're sniffing into a tissue with a sad scene, her writing just brings everything to life on the page, and is a joy to read from the first page to the very last. I loved the descriptions of the wedding dresses, especially when they take place in the White Weddings shop, with the owner Freya who was a bit of an enigma. Yes, the weddings are important in the book, of course, but it's really the journey that these characters go on, of self-discovery and self-worth and I found it a wonderful read.

As usual, Milly Johnson has wrapped up a wonderful tale within the pages of White Wedding, and I for one whole-heartedly recommend it. It's a perfect book to snuggle up with in the evening under a blanket, with a glass of wine and big bar of chocolate. It's funny, it's sad and most importantly it's a great read that had me reading it at every spare minute I got. With a cast of likeable characters - although the men could do with a bit of a slap to be honest! - it's got everything you need and want from a fantastic chick lit book. Milly Johnson has definitely become one of my favourite authors, and makes the wait for her next book worthwhile as soon as you dive into it. I loved it, and I'm sure you will too - go read it!

Msdot says

I'm surprise to see the many good reviews of this book. I like reading chicklits, but I find myself feeling frustrated with the characters in the book. The story was also too cliché and unrealistic. The three women were all getting married and were going through some forms of dilemma... and unrealistically, they all found another guy before or right after the failed weddings. The story were too unrealistic and portrayed women to be these helpless creatures whose only way out from a broken relationship is to enter another one... that their only happiness were to be found in a relationship.

I gave two stars instead of one because the write was able to draw the readers in and it was quite a page turner.

Kristi says

To be honest, this book didn't grab my attention at first. I was quite bored at the beginning. Soon, I started to really enjoy it and got to know the main characters.

White Wedding brings you three brides to be. There's a lot of dramas, humor, tears, and feeling in this book. I would recommend for anyone who is in the mood to enjoy a good summer read.

Nicola Clough says

Milly Johnson never let's you down with her books this was another excellent read and had many twists and turns and wanted you reading more so you could find out what dies happen. It's very romantic and so like real life as well. Three ladies are getting married but have they got the right men and can they go through with it or not very well written and a must read.

Stacy says

I picked this up because I was hoping to find a new author who could tide me over between Jill Mansell fixes. While it wasn't miserable, I can't say that my goal was really met. This felt like it was trying to be cute and quirky, but it just fell flat more often than not. And it really took overly long to get to what were foregone conclusions in each of the main characters' relationships. It did pick up after the first hundred pages or so, and I genuinely enjoyed the scenes of Bel & Daniel together, even laughing out loud a few times. I just couldn't find any real connection with any of the characters and Johnson's occasional insertions of paragraphs from some random stranger's viewpoint were very disconcerting.

Blodeuedd Finland says

SOMething something, yawn yawn

Enni says

2.5 stars

I did enjoy it but it wasn't a wow for me.

I found myself mad with the brides half the time.

Bel I enjoyed her story but was confused with the fact that her partner cheated on her with her cousin and yet was thinking maybe the marriage was mendable. Well I don't know what planet she lives on because thats 10x worse than best friend, cousin is family. I wouldn't be ever able to forgive nor forget. I did like the guy she ended up with, how they met, their personailty match and the fact he made her laugh. It was sweet.

Max she drove me crazy this woman. I understand all that rubbish about her having money as secuirty but she is one selfish brat even if she did earn her own money. Like she never spends time with her man and always thought what ever she wanted the guy would eventually just let her have it her way. Well no wonder he ran off and fast, if I was a guy I would too. She did not even consider how upset her partner would have been if she changed the plans and even after he said he was leaving her she thought he would turn up at the alter because he always gave in to what ever she wanted. Puhlease with a attitude like that she is lucky she ever had a man. Also she was so mean to her stepmum!

Violet I liked her and I didn't. I thought her story was a tad boring. I didn't find much to her. But I did understand why she stayed in the relationship with her crazy partner. Being trapped. Good for her she did manage to leave at the end.

I was also curious about the wedding store... Why it was gone at the end. I don't get it...

So it was a love and hate this book. It was funny at times and then the other time I was wanted to strangle the brides lol. Oh and what the hell is the V sign? I kept wondering what the hell was that...

Angela Free says

I devoured this book and it was delicious! So exciting and such a joy to read. I bloody love Milly Johnson books!

Jane says

I wanted thoughtless chicklit and I got it with this book. It's light, full of cliches, unrealistic, trying a little too hard to make you go 'aaaww' but still getting you to keep turning the pages. It's the literary equivalent of a bag of chips.

I might have rated it higher if it hadn't decided to write in a completely ridiculous re-hashing of 'Jane Eyre' into the plot. Utter blasphemy!
