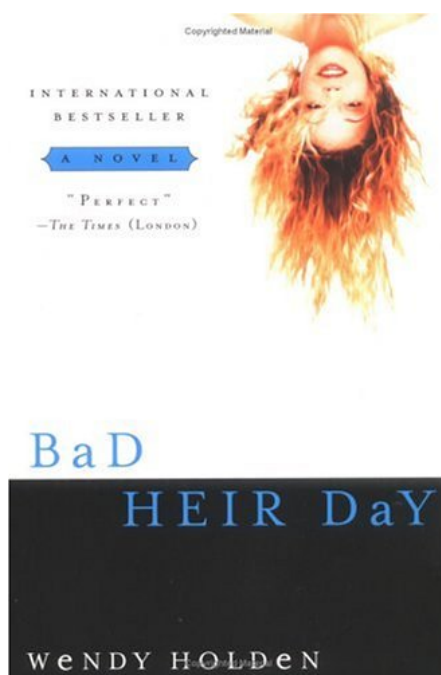




Bad Heir Day

Wendy Holden

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Bad Heir Day Wendy Holden

After being dumped by her rich, handsome boyfriend, Anna vows to give up men forever. She takes a job as a nanny in the ritzy Kensington home of the Knights. Armed with a Hoover in one hand and Harry Potter in the other, Anna finds herself living with the family from hell: Cassandra, a social-climbing romance novelist with writer's block; Jett, Cassandra's cheating rock-star spouse; and Zak, their spawn-of-satan son. So when Anna meets Jamie, the dashing heir to a castle in Scotland, she figures he's too good to be true. And she just may be right . . . Featuring an irrepressible heroine and a story that bounces along at the speed of laughter, *Bad Heir Day* is the hilarious follow-up to Wendy Holden's irresistible debut novel. It is a witty and delightful romp certain to captivate readers on both sides of the Atlantic.

Bad Heir Day Details

Date : Published March 1st 2001 by Plume (first published 2000)

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Author : Wendy Holden

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From Reader Review Bad Heir Day for online ebook

Ferina says

Anna gembira sekali ketika mendapat lamaran yang ditempelkannya di papan pengumuman perpustakaan akhirnya mendapat jawaban, tidak tanggung-tanggung yang memanggil adalah Cassandra, novelis terkenal itu. Tadinya, Anna sempat ragu-ragu, tapi, ketika Seb, pacarnya mencampakkannya, tanpa pikir panjang, Anna langsung menerima tawaran bekerja di rumah Cassandra.

Ketika berada di rumah Cassandra, tidak ada tanda-tanda sedikit pun, Anna akan diajari tehnik-tehnik menulis. Malahan, Cassandra memberinya pekerjaan sebagai Nanny, pengasuh anaknya, Zak yang nakalnya ampun-ampunan dan menjadi pengurus rumah. Ok... Anna sempat berpikir, mungkin ini hanyalah sebuah awal untuk menjadi asisten penulis.

Tapi, lama-lama, harapan itu sepertinya semakin jauh dari kenyataan, bahkan Cassandra pun tidak pernah terlihat menulis. Cassandra hanya sibuk mabuk, sibuk memikirkan persaingan antar orang tua untuk saling pamer kekayaan di St. Midas, sekolah Zak, dan sibuk bertengkar dengan suaminya, Jett, mantan penyanyi rock terkenal yang sedang mengurus album comeback-nya dan yang mata keranjang.

Harapan untuk pergi tiba-tiba datang, ketika Anna bertemu dengan Jamie, bangsawan Skotlandia. Kencan-kencan kecil berlangsung beberapa kali, Jamie pun melamar Anna dan mengajak Anna pindah ke kastilnya di Skotlandia.

Ternyata, title bangsawan tidak menjamin Anna jadi bahagia. Jamie, sang tunangan, lebih sering mengurus perbaikan kastil daripada memikirkan hari pernikahan mereka. Ternyata, Jamie punya maksud tertentu di balik pertunangannya dengan Anna.

Di tengah kegalauan, Anna bertemu dengan seorang penyair bernama Robie MacAskill. Tapi, Robie ini pun menyimpan rahasia, sampai Anna berpikir, adakah yang jujur, tanpa maksud-maksud tertentu?

Seperti chicklit-chicklit lainnya, ceritanya termasuk lucu, kocak. Tapi, satu yang mengganjal di novel ini, koq kesannya Anna benar-benar harus selalu tergantung sama para cowok. Putus dari Seb, jadi nanny di rumah Cassandra, lalu berhasil 'melarikan diri' ikut Jamie ke Skotlandia... terus... berharap dibawa lari lagi sama Robbie..

Wendy Holden sepertinya senang menyoroti tingkah laku orang-orang kaya, selebritis yang senang pamer dan gak mau kalah sama sesama orang kaya, yang akhirnya terkesan norak dan lucu. Selain itu, Holden juga suka bercerita tentang suasana pedesaan yang gak kalah 'nyentrik' dengan perkotaan. Seperti di novelnya yang lain, yaitu Pastures Nouveaux – yang menceritakan tentang bintang film yang sok ngetop dan pengen banget tinggal di pedesaan karena menganggap itu adalah trend terkini di antara para seleb.

Camelama says

Awful book. The supposed heroine is boring, lackluster, dispassionate and so annoying. Get a backbone, if you want your life to change then CHANGE IT! The other characters were universally unlikeable, the plot was ridiculous even for trashy chick lit. Things I wanted to know about the characters were passed over for

endless descriptions of boozing and makeup, plot points were skipped over willy-nilly, and overall the book needed a hell of a critique group to pull it to pieces so that the author could re-write it into something worth reading.

Anne says

Anna takes a job as a nanny but then she leaves that job to get married, and then she doesn't get married. Really jumps around a lot and I never got a sense of who the characters really were... It was too British, filled with euphemisms I couldn't understand and pop culture references that made no sense because I wasn't raised in England. If you are going to sell your book in other countries you should make sure the references are broad or big enough that other markets will understand where you are taking the story. The ending was kind of awkward and abrupt too.

Emma says

By far the worst Wendy Holden book, I found this book excruciating to read and just wanted it to be over. An example of the worst chick lit, do not read!

Cindy says

Anna

I hated her character. I think Wendy Holden depicted her as lacking in confidence, spineless, stupid and lost. There is not an itch of reality in the character. If WH was attempting to create a character who is likeably clumsy - then she failed.

1. How did she get with Seb? Why does she allow him to kiss other women in the first chapter? Why does she continue to stay with him after she hears he has been calling her bad in bed? Why is she happy to be a live in maid?
2. In what universe does a self respecting woman accept a proposal from a man after 2 dates? Why does she stay for so long in Scotland when she realises that she is being used?
3. Why does she allow Geri to dedicate her EVERY move?
3. Why does she allow Geri and Jamie to simply get together? Is that NOT her best friend and NOT the man she moved to Scotland for?
4. Why does she decide to move in with an author she has just meet?
5. Is renting a property in London so difficult that it is easier to just move from relationship to relationship?
6. Why does Anna have no back story? Her mother and father are mentioned as part of a conversation during a date with Jamie - but that is it. Where are her friends and family who should be questioning her stupid

decisions?

Cassandra

Now, this is a character I liked. She was diva, fiery and funny. I liked her alcoholic tendencies and her unrelenting defence of her spawn of a child Zac.

Jett

Sleazy and pervy. Probably spot on then

Seb/Jamie/Robbie

Boring. One dimensional. Pointless

This book was disappointing. There was potential. Maybe Anna moving in with Cassandra and sorting her out? Ghost writing for her and then being discovered as the star. I didn't like Anna's hopeless attempts at love - and even half hearted attempts at writing. Such a frustrating book. The second I have read from WH - but it wont be the last.

Nancy Brady says

A chick-lit novel featuring an aspiring writer who has a love life that is hardly inspiring. Will Anna find love? Will Cassandra, Jett, and their incorrigible son manage to deal with their issues? Just an okay read overall.

Jennie says

I picked this up because I desperately needed something fluffy to keep from thinking for a couple of days. This met that requirement, anyway: it's definitely the kind of nonsense that leads to dropping a few IQ points.

Don't get me wrong: there's nothing wrong with fluff and some can be quite fun to read. This just wasn't one of those: I found the main character to be an insipid, mousy doormat with no "sparkle" and the secondary characters all rather hateful in a cartoonish way (too-skinny drunken social-climbing harridan; evil spoiled child from hell; philandering rock star husband of drunken harridan; philandering handsome (ex)boyfriend of insipid doormat main character; random, rather vacant Scottish laird; adventurous, lucky bestie).

The plot doesn't really matter - it was too stupid to get into here and just reminded me of why I don't really read these books anymore. It did serve the "no-thinking" purpose, but went a bit too far: I'm going to have to read my whole issue of this week's *The Economist* instead of just the politics half to regain those lost brain cells.

Naomi Nair says

Okay, I've an admission to make - I didn't read the whole book. Actually, I couldn't read it after the first 50 pages. Gosh... 50 pages!! Enough to drive a sane man, in this case, woman, mad! I skipped so many pages along the way and finished a 400 pages book in half an hour!! See, I can do impossible things when I put my mind to it!!

Anyway, the book takes you through the life of Anna somebody - pathetic, self pitier, desperate, annoyingly guileless and for the lack of a better word, boring (just like the book!). Having been asked to move out by her "Filthy rich, drop dead gorgeous" and constantly cheating boyfriend, she decides to make a fresh start. Part of that is taking up on the offer to be a nanny to 8 year old Zak. But she realizes she would rather stop breathing than work for that family. At this complicated juncture, she meets another loser in life, Jamie and marries him to escape Zak or the "Spawn of Satan" as she calls him. Now, I wish I could say Anna and Jamie lived happily ever after but unfortunately, marrying Jamie gets her into more complications (I have to say here I'm not surprised... What was she thinking? You don't like a job, you quit... You don't marry to escape work! Gosh where did the author pick up these ideas???) Anyway that's the story... do u feel like you've missed a great book!! Hardly!!

Tressa says

I didn't like **Bad Heir Day**. I despised several characters. The only character that was mildly likeable was Anna and she was treated horribly. I also couldn't believe how she accepted such treatment, too. I can't believe I continued reading this book in hopes of something good happening to Anna. The pay-off wasn't worth it. I would not recommend this book.

Anna says

The only thing I can't figure out is why I kept reading to the end. Painful.

Anne Meyer says

This was a .99 deal on the nook. I didn't understand some of the language here and there since I'm not familiar with british slang, but that isn't why I didn't like the book. I just didn't care for the storyline. I'm not even sure why I finished the book.

Deetz says

Read several years ago when on vacation

Amy! says

Part of my problem with this book was perhaps that it had more modern British slang and pop culture references than I could relate to. But a much bigger part of my problem with this book was that not a single character was sympathetic. The main character wants to be a writer but ends up as a "writer's assistant" nanny to a horrid wretch of a woman who found fame and fortune by writing four trashy novels and is now plagued with writers block because she drinks too much. Her son is a sociopathic holy terror who no one ever says no to. Her husband is a washed up rock star. The nanny's best friend is another nanny who knows how to play the game much better but is ultimately just shopping for a husband. The book had hints that the main character could turn her diary into some sort of Nanny Diaries expose, but that didn't happen. Everyone has their lives crumble in appalling ways because they are so stupid but then somehow, fate steps in and saves them by having them exploit yet someone else. The salvations seem false and forced and in the end, I was just glad it was over, although rather annoyed that the characters had happy endings they didn't deserve.

Monica M says

[
- Anna is supposed to be an aspiring amateur writer. But the story somehow go the wrong way, when her main purpose completely change to finding a man. She forgotten her writing career, just like that. Instantly. She even go through accept the proposal from someone who she barely knew and regret it later.
- Seb t

Kay says

I'm not into this kind of book at all. The main character annoyed me with her inability to cope with anything and her desperation for a boyfriend as though he were a missing appendage. Whilst I am sure there were a few moments that made me smile, I think it must have been so fleeting it barely registered. I'm still puzzling over why I read this and, possibly, the most interesting part of reading it is why I bothered in the first place.
