



Mum On The Run

Fiona Gibson

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Laura Swan was dreading the school sports day Mum's race - but whoever would have thought it could be quite so life-changing?

Laugh-out-loud funny, Fiona's writing deals with the real life cringe-worthy moments we all know so well...

Sports Day at her children's school is a nightmare for Laura because of the event she dreads – the Mums' Race. She knows the other mothers have been in training for at least three months – even though they're trying to pretend that they haven't. Laura's vowed never to take part, but the morning of the School Sports Day she makes a fatal error and promises her daughter that if she eats her Rice Crispies, she will run. With no escape, Laura is forced to take part and as she moves towards her inevitable humiliation, she is horrified to spot her husband Jed flirting with Celeste the delectable French girl who works with him.

Determined to put up a fight and to show Jed there is still plenty of spice left in their marriage, Laura decides it is time to give her body the work out it has been desperately crying out for. But when Laura makes a special new friend at the running club that she has joined, she gets much more than she bargained for.

From buying sexy lingerie displayed alongside the gherkins at Tesco to struggling into the last playsuit in Topshop, this novel is full of humour and Laura is a true heroine for our times. A sparkling, witty novel, that fizzles off the page.

Mum On The Run Details

Date : Published by Avon (first published February 1st 2011)

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Author : Fiona Gibson

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From Reader Review Mum On The Run for online ebook

Chloe says

Finn pissed me off. That's all I can say. The spoilt little sod did my nut in!! Laura definitely needed to stand up for herself more! I was also expecting there to be another mums race at the end, at which she would beat Naomi and her kids would suddenly stop being brats. I also found it strange that Laura's relationship with Danny wasn't really an issue with Jed. Their kiss never came up, which it should have! And there was too much devotion to Celeste and Jed's relationship. I didn't really understand it. Although I've got to say it will still a good read, but definitely infuriated me! It was good for me because it's given me the push to start running again! I'm even thinking about doing the race for life this year.. I guess a book can give you a life change sometimes!!

Hayley Noble says

Halfway through reading this book I got deja vue and realized I had read this before! However this book still had be cackling away, extremely funny!

Fiona Gibson Does it again!

Hannah Symonds says

This is my second Fiona Gibson book and I completely fell in love with this book too. It is so true to family life, it will make you laugh out loud so be careful reading it in a public place. Fiona has a relaxed way of writing that I just love. Loved all the characters, it does have funny parts in this book but it also has some serious parts. My kind of chick-lit, easy read.

Leah says

Laura Swan is the type of mum who hates her kids sports day, mainly because after having three kids, her body just isn't what it used to be. But after promising her daughter Grace she'd participate in the Mum's Run, Laura finds herself utterly embarrassed after falling during the race, not least because her husband Jed was there to witness it with his sexy new colleague Celeste. Vowing to not be humiliated like that again, Laura joins a tub-club and meets Danny, who she finds herself clicking with. As they both take up running together, Laura finds herself questioning her marriage and how she and Jed have ended up in a such a rut. Can they work through their problems or will Laura end up running away from their marriage for good?

Since reading Lucky Girl in early 2009, I've become quite the fan of Fiona's work. But because her earlier books aren't so easy to get, I've still only read the one book, so I was thrilled beyond words when I saw Mum on the Run up on Amazon one day, and was desperate to read it. I managed to wangle myself a review copy and with the release date around the corner, I found the perfect time to finally pick it up.

The first thing I'd like to say is that despite how much I enjoyed it, Mum on the Run is a fairly typical run-

of-the-mill Chick Lit novel. Yes, I managed to complete it in a day but it is fairly similar to other Chick Lit novels I've read in the past. The plot is one you see many times, after having a couple of kids (or in Laura's case, three) the main character isn't as slim as she used to be, there's a new woman on the scene catching the eye of her husband and she goes on a diet of some sort to try and win him back. Very familiar. Not to mention, the obligatory nicer man who in this case is the loveable Danny. So although the plot itself didn't grab me, and wasn't as unique as Lucky Girl, I actually did like the book. It might have been a run-of-the-mill plot but Gibson's writing style still makes it hard to put down.

The official synopsis says Laura is a heroine for the decade (or something similar) and I do agree with that, kind of. It's very hard to judge who the heroine of a decade will be before the decade is over, but I loved Laura. Right from the shambles that was sports day when she made an absolute fool of herself, I was captivated. She's definitely a character you root for, and boy was I rooting for her. It took me a while to warm to Jed, her husband, because he seemed very distant and into the new colleague of his, but I think overall he wasn't a bad person, he just let someone new and shiny take over his brain for a while. I loved Laura and Jed's kids, Finn, Grace and Toby, all three had such wonderful personalities and Gibson really excels at making her kids in her novels believable. I must admit, I kinda fell for Danny, Laura's running partner, he was just so sweet and kind and I could see why Laura was friendly with him.

I must admit, as someone who doesn't yet have kids and won't for probably some time, if ever, I do usually find it hard to get into mumsy-type stories because I don't truly know what it's like to be a mother. But Gibson does a wonderful job of selling motherhood (or rather, putting me off for life) and it comes across in a very believable way, in a way that lets childless people like myself know exactly what it takes to be a mother. It definitely seems like a thankless task, being a mother, I have to say. Mum on the Run is told from Laura's point of view, which was brilliant, and worked very well especially as it made us more sympathetic to Laura's life and how much it's stagnated since she had kids. I thoroughly enjoyed the book, despite the plot I've read many times before as Gibson is definitely able to put her own spin on the matter and her writing abilities are brilliant and she manages to capture family life perfectly. I really hope this is the first of many new novels from Fiona Gibson as I love her books.

Elaine says

I absolutely loved this read. Poor Laura, she is 38 years old and not sure what is going on between her husband Jed and his colleague Celeste, which doesn't help her self image one little bit. In a bid to lose weight we follow her to slimming club meetings, the coffee shop and her first ever attempts at running, and usually in that order!

What I love about Fiona Gibson is the way she portrays normal every day life. I am a mother, and when I was reading about Laura's children and the things they said and did I found myself giggling and thinking "yes, mine would have said that". I knew exactly where she was coming from with the sandwiches for school lunches. I have been there. As I am presumably her target audience, I can safely say that I really liked her characters and storyline, and just couldn't put this book down.

This is a great fun read, that you don't really have to think about, but which really put a huge smile on my face every time I picked it up.

Alison Booth says

hilarious every mum can relate to the book had me laughing out loud!!!

Niki says

This book isn't about running but mostly about relationship problems between a husband and wife. Since I started reading this book because I thought it would focus on running, I'm disappointed. The story is ok but not very gripping. The mum seems to get herself into bizarre situations and complains a lot and the husband is just a kind of weak character in my opinion.

Maureen says

laugh out loud funny

Aileen says

A brilliant fun read, I read it in a few hours, had a bit of a late night, but great book, definately recomend.

Agi says

It was my first book by Fiona Gibson but I'm sure not the last one:)
It started with a kick and ended with a kick, it have me hooked from the very first page to the very last page, I couldn't wait to turn the page to see what's going to happen. Perhaps I didn't laugh out loud (although sometimes too) but I have smile on my lips reading every word of this book. Laura and her family were so, so nice, although sometimes I just wanted to salp Finn on his ass, and Toby as well, and Jed was from time to time much to egoistic and didn't even try to understand his wife.
This book was so easy written that reading it was a total pleasure, and even the accidents that always happened to Laura were not too exaggeratted. I just want to put my trainers on and start to run (although it can be hard, what with a 6 months pregnant belly:))))
Read it with pleasure, will read it again and look forward to other books of Gibson.

Rasika Mahabal says

Gets extremely boring towards the end, no liking developed towards the whining characters. It was good in bits n pieces.

Smitha says

This was a spontaneous read....

Was browsing through my Kindle for light reads and the title caught my eye.

A witty book narrating the travails of an overweight middle aged mother of 3, who thinks her husband may be having an affair with his colleague.

She somehow gets to rearrange her life and priorities and loses weight, acquires a male friend, but there is trouble at home.

Their 3 cute kids added to the hullabaloo.

I was so relieved reading about the 10 year old moody devil of a preteen that my 14 year old seemed like an angel in comparison.

I also pondered upon the fact that American mothers are obsessed with certain rules and regulations on bringing up their children, while Indian mothers are more happy-go-lucky, except in the matters of studies. I dont have any real life American mother for comparisons, it is just my assumption based on my fictional knowledge.

On the whole, an enjoyable book, would have been a 4 star, but for the cliched happenings towards the end, and the repetitive nature of Laura, the mother, who kept harping upon "rodent like teeth" of the women she disliked, and cute chubby face of her man friend, and the way she jumps into impossible misunderstandings.

Dawn Lennox says

So many times while reading this book I got the giggles, and thoroughly enjoyed the story. Well written, the children are real in the way of being bratty at times but I can believe in them.

I enjoyed reading about Laura Swann, her entertaining family and all their various antics. Twists and turns, tums and bums, veg bakes and 30 ways with tuna, it all fits in the book.

Danielle says

This is the second book i have read by Fiona Gibson and i wasn't dissapointed.

The book starts off with Laura running the mums race at her children's sports day and lets just say that she comes famously last and ends up falling over at the finish line in front of her children.

Laura and Jed are happily married with 3 children Finn, Grace and Toby. Ed has been getting very close with one of his work colleague Celeste, which very much annoys Laura as she has noticed that her husband has become very distant from her.

A number of events happen which test Laura and Jed's marriage. But they pull through it in the end.

All in all it was a very good book and i'm very much looking forward to her next book.

M.D. Bowden says

Bridget Jones humour, well written and quite the page turner, but I didn't really enjoy the overall theme of not knowing whether her husband was having an affair - it made me feel sad :-(
I thought the portrayal of life with children seemed quite accurate!
