



Peggy and Me

Miranda Hart

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'hilariously funny and often moving memoir...we loved every word ***' *Heat***

'open, honest...her misadventures are hilariously described...charming and funny' *Daily Express*

The hilarious and heartwarming memoir of Miranda and her life changing dog, the inimitable and most lovable Peggy.

Hello dear book browser and welcome to Peggy and Me. The story of my life since getting a beautiful Shih-Tzu Bichon Frise cross puppy (I call the breed a Shitty Frise - fun) in the form of Peggy.

Some of you may be thinking: "a book about a dog, how totally brilliant, I need hear no more, I'm sold." In which case we should be best friends and go out to tea together, every day.

Others of you may be thinking: "a book about a dog, how totally mad, she must have officially lost it." In which case I completely understand. For I once viewed dog owners with much suspicion. The way they obsessively talk about their dogs often using voices for them to reply; the way they have a light covering of dog hair all over their clothes and sofas; and worse, an alarming comfort and ease around excrement.

But I now get why people become so mad about their hounds. It wasn't instant love I have to admit. Getting a puppy when I was at a low ebb in my life wasn't easy - there was a lot of challenging, what I call, dog administration (dog-min), and the humiliating first trip to the vet still haunts me. It's been a bumpy old road, but Peggy has been lovingly by my side through some life changing moments and I wouldn't have coped without her. Most surprisingly she has taught me a huge amount - not how to get an old pie packet out of a bin and lick it (I could already do that), but real lessons about life and love and trust and friendship.

Put aside any doggy reservations and come walkies with Peggy and me...

Peggy and Me Details

Date : Published October 6th 2016 by Hodder & Stoughton (first published January 1st 2016)

ISBN :

Author : Miranda Hart

Format : Kindle Edition 304 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Biography, Autobiography, Memoir, Humor, Funny, Comedy

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From Reader Review Peggy and Me for online ebook

Dawn says

Perfect for dog lovers. Much of what Miranda writes about we've also experienced with our own pooches.

The little illustrations throughout are charming.

I didn't much care for "Peggy's" writing, the same feeling I had for "teenage Miranda" in her previous book but I'm sure lots of people would love it.

Overall - really an insight into what a dog can bring to someone's life.

Michiel says

Super grappig om te lezen. Miranda kan een soort huiselijkheid omschrijven die je een warm gevoel geeft. Tegelijkertijd zit het boek propvol humor.

De schrijfstijl is even wennen omdat je het gevoel krijgt een woordengolf van informatie over je heen gestort te krijgen, maar eenmaal daar aan gewend: top!

Joey Woolfardis says

This is an autobiography-cum-love story about an actor trying to become an actor and a lovable pooch with anecdotes, stories and lessons abound. Bounding, like the dances owner and pup do when they're excited.

Oh, you're not a dog person so you don't understand that. Okay. Are you a Miranda person? No. Right well, not for you then. Not your, as we say here in dear old Blighty, your cup of tea then. And that's fine. If you like neither, you should not read this book. Because you'll probably hate them both even more after.

Miranda Hart won the hearts of many a television viewer with her self-penned sitcom *Miranda*, which was followed by the very first female-fronted arena comedy tour of the UK. Pretty good stuff. And obviously, books come next. There was *Is It Just Me?* which was a side project directly from the hapless character she played in her sitcom (and, to a rather large extent, herself as well). Less biographical and more self-help.

Peggy and Me is half autobiography and half love letter to her dog, Peggy. It's a cute, quick read and there are so many laugh-out-loud, socially awkward moments you'd be forgiven for thinking this was a *Miranda* (the sitcom, see the italics) script. There are little moments where Peggy herself chimes in (she doesn't, Miranda is just voicing her as she thinks she sounds) which, at first, lend nothing to the book as if Miranda herself isn't sure about the whole thing. But as we go along and her voice is found, it actually becomes charming.

Miranda is lovely, from what we can gather from this. There's not a huge amount about her personal life, which is probably how it should be. It's similar to most people's would be: love, loss, heartbreak and friendship. Joys and fun times and the ever-present socially awkward "why me?" moments of everyday life. It's nice to see Celebrities as Real Life People sometimes. Just because you're on telly doesn't mean you're amazing at life. Far from it.

It's a nice book, but it didn't seem to have the heart of *Is It Just Me?*. Or the Hart. Maybe it's because the first completed draft of this book was taken along with the stolen laptop it was digitally alive on. That's gotta hurt. But it's a charming book, an easy read and a lovely story about the wonders of dog ownership.

Emer says

"Such fun!"

This was such a joyous read over a weekend in my life that I needed a little extra joy. In this book Miranda Hart regales us with some lovely tales about her life with Peggy her dog who is a gorgeous little Shih-Tzu Bichon Frise cross. Or as Miranda refers to the breed: a *Shitty Frise!*

Miranda is recognisable to most people in the UK and Ireland for her BBC sitcom 'Miranda' and perhaps more globally for her acting role in 'Call the Midwife'. She is an incredibly witty writer/comedian and always comes across as being a very grounded and down-to-earth sort of person.

I am, and have always been, unabashedly and unashamedly a dog person. **#TeamDog** I can't seem to understand how anyone would want to live their lives without the companionship of a furry canine chum. (Obviously I get that there are valid reasons regarding work, accommodation etc etc). But for me, my life is much richer for all the dogs I've gotten to share my days with since I was a little girl. So when I read the blurb on the back of this book I knew that I had to read it.

"Hello dear book browser... Some of you may be thinking: 'a book about a dog, how totally brilliant, I need hear no more, I'm sold.' In which case we should be best friends and go out to tea together, every day..."

That's me Miranda!!!!!! ME ME ME!!!!

I'm fun!!!

I swear!!!!

Oh my gosh **WE** can be best friend owners **AND** our dogs can be best friends too!!!!!!

YESSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS!!!!

I see no flaw or weirdness to this plan **AT ALL!!!!**

And I love going to tea....but even better I LOVE TEA WITH SCONES AND THEN CAKE TO WASH DOWN THE TEA AND SCONES!!!! And even better if there are a few cheese and ham sandwiches....

Maybe some of those cute cucumber fancy finger ones too...

HAVE TEA WITH MEEEEEEEE!!!!

I have never considered myself a massive Miranda Hart fan although I've always enjoyed her various tv appearances over the years but reading this book has changed me into her newest fangirl! Not only was this book filled with many many funny stories that made me laugh and chortle like this:-

But the book was also filled with honesty and truths about Miranda's experiences with dog ownership and

how her dog became such an important part of her sense of self. She opens up about being lonely before Peggy came into her life and how a little dog taught her some valuable lessons about being comfortable with who she was.

Puppy Classes

The first thing to say about them, however useful they may be - they are WEIRD, WEIRD I tell you. Puppy Classes are basically Monkey Music for dogs, where anxious new young dog-parents congregate to show off their offspring and, crucially, compare themselves unfavourably to other new-dog owners, to the detriment of their mental health. ...

We all knew that each of us behind the banter was thinking, 'Please don't let my puppy be the first to wee on the floor'.

... As the weeks went on it became clear quickly that Peggy wasn't terribly well suited to all of this. ...

I felt judged. I was clearly reeking of newly-single-lady-so-desperate-for-intimacy-she-is-sacrificing-her-dog's-training-for-cuddles. The Bridget Jones of the Puppy Class. The sort of woman who only got a puppy because someone told her it was a good way to meet men and all the salsa-dancing classes were booked up. Someone not only terrible at owning a dog, but clearly a bit dodgy at life...

Don't fear dear Goodreaders!

She finds her feet with dog ownership. But that's what's really nice. Dog ownership isn't the proverbial *walk in the park* if you excuse the terrible pun! Miranda talks about the nerves involved in trying to figure out how to control this little mad ball of fluff and to not feel like others are judging your every moves while doing it! And she talks about feeling awkward about a whole lot of stuff regarding life and what have you, but how that being with a dog can free your mind of worries and let you get on with the important stuff of life. Basically to just embrace being '~~normal~~' '~~slightly unhinged~~' the completely wonderful and utterly bonkers person you were born to be!!!!
SUCH FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Dogs are such simplistic creatures really. Food, love, happiness, exercise and a warm place to sleep...that's it! And isn't that what we all need really??? Miranda's Peggy helped her find her joy after a particularly difficult period of her life and I can testify to a similar storyline. I'm not a perfect person, I am fatally flawed...but my dog doesn't seem to know that. Or at least she doesn't mind!! She's just happy to see me and me her. Dogs **always** seem to know how to cheer us up. It's been shown that they have a form of empathy with their owners: do the yawning trick with your dog! We all know how yawning is infectious among us two legged creatures but try it with your four (or even three!!!! There's a super cute 3 legged wonder that walks with their owner in my local park) ANYWAY!!! Try yawning with your four OR three legged furry canine friend...Start yawning in front of them and they should start yawning back at you. Hello empathy!! My little furry friend does :)))

And it also raises those 'feel good' hormones when you simply sit there and pet your little (or large!) canine companion. See...dogs are just good for you!!!

And just a final little thing. What is extra lovely about this book, and I don't feel it is a spoiler to say so as Peggy, Miranda's canine chum is currently rather active on Twitter, but the dog does not die *happy twirling* HALLELUJAH!!!! It's just lovely to end a dog book without the death of the dog as frequently occurs owing to their relatively short lifespan.

This is definitely a book that I would recommend to dog lovers everywhere and to all fans of Miranda Hart.

four stars

Stephen says

found this book funny in parts but overall wasn't to my taste though

Izabella ? Pages Full of Stars ? says

I just found out about this and I'm so excited for another Miranda book! :D

Amanda says

I found the book easy to get into at the beginning. Some issues I was able to relate to with having a canine as a family member. Personally I felt the book waned just past half way through and I was debating whether to continue on with the story but a colleague from work who previously read it, spurred me on with her cryptic spoiler. Which when I got to that part I had a chuckle as I could visually play the image in my mind.

Stephanie says

Miranda Hart, star and writer of sitcom 'Miranda', is one of my favourite famous people in the world. If I could pick anyone to sit down and have a cup of tea with, it'd be her. So when I heard she was releasing a second book, and one about her dog, no less, my reaction was along the lines of "oh HELL YES!"

There was actually a release event in London, which I attended, where Miranda herself discussed the book and told a lot of the stories contained within. Her dog, Peggy, was there too. Such fun!

Anyway, the book itself is a jolly jaunt through Miranda's life with Peggy, from adopting her nine years ago to now. It's very funny, but has an underlying tone of philosophy as Miranda uses her relationship with her dog as a boost to her own confidence and acceptance of self. The theme of the book is very much a "be yourself and love yourself, even if yourself is a crazy dog person".

While I'm not a dog owner myself (I am, in fact, the mother of four adopted kitties, so I fall on the other side of the standard pet obsession coin) the stories were relatable and uplifting.

Very cute. Very positive and self-affirming. Would recommend.

Nat K says

Peggy, Peg, Peggles, The Pegster, Pegaroo, Pegaloo, Mrs Peggychops, PeggaPoppaLicious, Miss Peggy, Peggio, Le Peg and My Little Russian Hut **

Such fun! A quirky and adorable read. Anyone who has ever had a close bond with a pet will totally understand Miranda Hart's dogmance with the delectable bischon-shitsu-frize ("shitty frize") who is known by all of the above names.

This book is like wearing your favourite comfy pj's with your novelly animal slippers, cup of something warm and sweet with a packet of tim-tams at the ready. It's just so cozy and familiar.

Miranda unexpectedly finds herself the owner of Peggy, and this book follows their life together, as they get to know each other. Lots of cute doggie adventures entail, and "ahhhh" moments of just how much our pets have become part of our families.

This book was about learning to trust and love again...and to live in the moment (think of a dog running free along a beach, or with its' head stuck out a car window, just enjoying life).

Miranda & Peggy, you're both PAWsome! ??

** The Russian Hut = Miranda lying on the floor with Peggy on top of her head like a hat. Lots of pictures ensue. Nice one Miranda.

Daniel Hilton says

Absolutely lovely book from Miranda here. Also brilliant "reading" it as an audiobook as you get Miranda herself reading it to you in her delightful way :D

Kathryn says

Multi- talented, writer and actor, Miranda Hart has now written a book about herself and her experience of becoming a dog owner. In her own inimitable style she documents the sometimes rocky but always love-filled road with Peggy.

I thoroughly enjoyed watching some of the Miranda sitcom shows, and found while I was reading the book I had to go to You Tube to re-experience some of those very funny moments.

Miranda Hart must be very tenacious, she already had this book written in 2013 and then lost it in a house burglary. Imagine the heart ache of losing something like that, hour upon hour of work. But... she began again and here we have the chronicles of Peggy and herself.

Miranda began out unsure of whether she wanted to be a dog owner, but nine years on, she totally loves

Peggy and dreads the day that all pet owners face, the day their beloved pet dies. However Peggy is still very much alive and bringing much joy to Miranda. I would love to see Miranda Hart in a debate for Dog versus Cat. She would of course take the dogs are best side of the argument and would be very convincing and funny. Cat owners you would have a very difficult time putting your side across!

I laughed out loud so many times while reading this book. Mostly something funny would come out of the blue and I would just find a chuckle escaping. I cannot believe the escapades Miranda found herself in, along with poor Peggy who just sometimes had to put her paw over her eyes!

When Miranda first obtains Peggy, she is still unknown - (Miranda that is), and it is in the following years that she becomes more of a well known name for her comedy and acting in both Miranda and Call the Midwives. She shares with us her vulnerabilities, her worries, her joys. Along the way with Peggy she learns and grows and becomes a bit of a philosopher as well.

I am not a pet owner - for the very reasons of some of the 'disasters' that Miranda details in her book, and she is a braver woman than I. However I love the bond that she forms with Peggy and I do get the joy that pets can bring.

Full of great humour, personal sharing and lessons about life, I found Peggy and Me a really enjoyable read. Also loved the little illustrations sprinkled throughout by Jenny Meldrum, totally adorable.

Bethany says

I was on a train sitting next to a stranger when I started reading this, which was BAD because I kept having to stifle my laughter. Thankfully, when I finally finished it yesterday I was not on a train and also alone because I was fighting back tears. I think the book did drag in the middle a bit since it took me a while to finish, but all in all I love Miranda and her estimable furry companion, Peggy.

Kirsti says

Alright, so this book made me smile and I'm sure if I didn't have the flu I would have also laughed out loud too (currently breathing and coughing every few breaths is the best I can manage) and I didn't really expect to find this funny. I'm the last person you want to take with you to see your favorite comedian, the last person you want to show a skit to. I guess I just don't GET most humor? (oh and awkward humor just makes me cringe, I'm looking at you Melissa McCarthy) so I didn't think I would like this book, DESPITE the dog on the front cover. Yep, I bought it for the dog.

I kind of gritted my teeth through the awkward humor bits, but laughed at the dog and smiled whenever Miranda got mushy over Peggy. I empathized with the puppy years (they do SO much poo) and waited hopefully for Miranda to find TRUE LOVE (Before you call me out on this, she spends a lot of the book thinking about it, which in turn made me want it for her) I liked most of the writing and understood the general awkwardness that is Miranda (I have to say, I've never heard of her before this book, I repeat, the awkward humor thing)

So if you want an animal memoir that is probably far more funny to other people than me, this is probably the book for you. It has heart and there is one point where Miranda is on the beach with Peggy that I got a bit teary, fair warning. The writing is solid but occasionally bogged down by too much information. Also, if you

bought a hot laptop with the first version of this on it, shame on you. Miranda had her original manuscript stolen when her house was broken into a few years ago, or else we may have seen this book sooner!

Four stars!

Jessica Frances says

I was really excited going into reading Peggy and Me. I LOVED Miranda's previous book, *Is It Just Me?*, and so I went into this having high expectations that I was obviously going to love it, too. But I felt let down.

Peggy and Me is a sweet story about how Miranda came to have Peggy, and their stories as they travel life together. So basically, a woman talking about her dog. I love dogs, but I found my interest waning as I read about constant walking stories and many poo explosions. I suppose I have a limit for how interested in another person's dog I can be, and I went well over it in this book. In *Is It Just Me?* I found it sweet and insightful to hear from Miranda's younger self. The contrast in views and how far adults come from their childhood dreams and visions for their futures was great. But reading from Peggy's view just felt weird. I ended up hating when those parts came up, especially when they went for more than a page. I get why it seemed like a good idea, I just don't think it helped the book at all. Miranda lived through her younger years (obviously) and so that became relatable as we've all thought many of the things she said. But a dog? That is just entirely guess work and to me was pointless. It didn't add to the story because while Miranda's thoughts and feelings were true for herself, Peggy seriously could have not given one "poo" at all about what was going on with Miranda. I'm certain many thoughts that go through any dogs head involves food, walks or what cool trick can I do that my owner will suddenly throw food at me.

I feel like Miranda was just trying to justify to the world (or reiterate to herself) that it is okay to be single. That finding happiness in having a dog and being content with that is okay. Maybe because women are labelled "crazy cat lady" when they are terminally single, while a man is just considered a bachelor for life, she was feeling a little defensive. Perhaps she felt that writing this book was a big middle finger to anyone who wants to label her a "crazy dog lady". I don't know. I personally think there is no issue with being single, no matter your age, and caring deeply for your pet. So this book felt like it was saying nothing new or insightful.

I love Miranda, and I'm glad she's found happiness and is content in her life. But I wish this book could have felt more relatable or interesting for the people reading it. So if you enjoy Miranda's comedy while also enjoy reading an entire book about another person's dog, then perhaps you'll enjoy this.

Helen says

I bought this without really looking at it because I absolutely love Miranda. If I'd known that it was about her owning a dog I might not have bothered. It's not that I don't like dogs, I don't mind them in small amounts, but I'm probably not enough of a fan to want to read a whole book about one.

Miranda is funny enough to make the book work for me though. Her personality comes through very strong and there were some serious laugh out loud moments. If you like the tv series it's the same kind of humour, and I appreciated the anecdotes about where some of the sketches came from. I did find it dragged a bit towards the end for me - too much dogginess.

The subject matter was not entirely to my taste but if you find Miranda funny and you like dogs than I recommend this to you. I might have better luck with her other books.
