



My Perfect Wedding

Sibel Hodge

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Helen Grey is finally getting everything she wants. She's about to have the perfect dream wedding and begin an exciting new life abroad on the sunny Mediterranean island of Cyprus. But living the dream isn't all it's cracked up to be.

After a mix-up at the airport, Helen finds herself drawn into the midst of an elaborate plot to steal an ancient statue and assassinate a local businessman. And as if that wasn't bad enough, her wedding dress is AWOL, the statue seems to be cursed, and Helen is wanted by the police.

With the big day rapidly approaching, a roller-coaster of mishaps, misunderstandings, and disasters threatens to turn the newlyweds into nearlyweds.

Can Helen prevent an assassination, save the statue, and have the perfect wedding? Or will the day to remember turn into one she'd rather forget?

My Perfect Wedding Details

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Author : Sibel Hodge

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Rachel Cotterill says

Narrator Helen is dashing off to get married and live in Cyprus with a man she's been dating for about five minutes, which would be fine (well, they've known each other since childhood) if it weren't for the fact that she's really uncertain about making the move to a rural community. Meanwhile husband-to-be Kalem is rattling on like a guidebook at every sight he shows her. Oh, and did I mention they're trying to foil a major crime without any competent assistance? Now, I can suspend disbelief as well as the next girl, but I confess I was struggling with plausibility here. Not least since Helen and Kalem were characters I already knew from the equally-daft but somehow much more plausible Fourteen Days Later. I enjoyed Sibel Hodge's flippant style as Helen, and her lush descriptions of Cypriot landscape pulled me in, but I just wasn't convinced by this storyline. I think it's mostly because I knew the characters and associated them with a very different style of story; this plot feels like it would have been a better fit for the Amber Fox series, where comedy peril is the order of the day. It's still a fun read, but just not wholly satisfying to me.

Naomi says

Def. not my favorite Sibel Hodge work. This one does scream "Chick Lit", which by the way is the genre it is classified under. However, this book does have Sibel's classic sarcastic wit which I love in her works. This one just was a bit "over the top" with its' silliness factor for my liking!

Tom Elder says

Sibel Hodge. Perfect sequel .

My Perfect Wedding

This is the 2nd in the Helen Grey series of romantic comedy books.

If you are ever a bit low or not feeling to great, then you should read this series of books you will find yourself feeling better and smiling in a short space of time. Helen and her husband to be are planning on starting a new life in north Cyprus but run into problems at passport control and they haven't even left the UK yet.

As soon as they arrive in Cyprus the problems continue with Helen having picked up the wrong case at the airport. From then on its one calamity after another for she seems to be jinxed Helen and Kalem.

This is a great story and it is so well told by Sibel I am looking forward to reading the next in this series.

Al says

I found the main character, Helen, an endearing, yet at times frustrating (even infuriating) character. She's a smart and successful woman, yet she continually makes shortsighted and obviously incorrect decisions. In addition, her luck is so terrible that even somewhat harmless thing still backfire. Helen and her fiancé haven't made it on their plane in the first chapter before security is detaining them as suspected terrorists due to a couple practical jokes gone wrong.

The other main characters also add spice to the story. Helen's fiancé, Kaleem, alternates between a foil for

Helen's questionable actions and a partner in crime. Kaleem's uncle appears to be a Mediterranean Redneck, but eventually showed I'd underestimated him. Kaleem's parents are sick in their hotel room most of the book, yet provide an ongoing joke regarding the number of condoms they're using. We've got a few villains, some friends of the couple-to-be, and even some celebrities round out what would be described as an ensemble cast were this a TV show.

After the airport episode, things continue going downhill for Helen. There is mystery, suspense, a touch of terror, and plenty of chances to shake your head and laugh while saying, "Helen, what are you thinking?"

How you'll react to My Perfect Wedding is largely dependent on your sense of humor. If you prefer something sly and subtle that sneaks up on you this might sometimes seem too over-the-top. For many of us, it's full of laughs.

****Originally written for "Books and Pals" book blog.****

Shelleyrae at Book'd Out says

This is a cute story that relies on the extraordinarily gullible and ditzy Helen Grey lurching from one farcical situation to another after inadvertently exchanging suitcases at the airport. Helen is devastated that her wedding dress is missing but a simple exchange is impossible once she and her fiancé discover the suitcase contains plans to steal a priceless statue, a lot of cash and a gun rest for a sniper rifle. When they attempt to alert authorities to the suspected assassination plot, they are thwarted by the government's head of security, an arrogant acquaintance whose mutual dislike stems from a parental grudge.

My Perfect Wedding is a comedy of errors that veers towards the slapstick, full of unusual characters and inane obstacles. The dialogue is witty and the novel is well written. The pace rarely lets up as Helen stumbles inelegantly from the silly to the absurd, but Hodge has thought carefully about the plot and the threads of each unlikely situation hang together quite neatly.

While the characters are shallowly drawn, their quirks are quite endearing. Though Helen is almost unbearably vapid, she is as amusing as she is exasperating. Kalem is fairly bland but I found Kalem's father's obsession with the condoms in the minibars and Cosmopolitan funny.

My Perfect Wedding is a light read, written for laughs and offering sitcom style satisfaction, easily enjoyed.

Joanne says

An over-the-top screwball romantic comedy which I found hilarious. It starts six months after 'Fourteen Days Later' finished and involves all the main characters, which I love. Once I picked the book up and started reading I couldn't put it down until I had finished it. I am sad to leave Helen, Kalem, Charles and the family behind and would love to read about them again. I really enjoyed the description of Cyprus and could picture it clearly, now where is my suitcase!

Lyz says

Sequel to 14 Days Later. Very cute, very quirky. The plot was a lot more far-fetched than the first book, thus a lot more campy, but still fun. I can see this being a series like Shopoholic, with the next book Helen and Her New Job, then Helen has a Baby, then Helen and the Cyprus PTA...

CoffeeTimeRomance andMore says

Ms. Hodge does a great job of combining her own heritage and its customs and quirks with a great sense of humor and romantic spirit. Helen and Kalem's love story has been anything but smooth, but the two are truly destined for each other. Helen's accident prone ways only get worse once she leaves England, and her adventures are even more bizarre and funny than the last story. The fun never stops and you will find yourself laughing out loud at odd moments throughout the story. Ms. Hodge is rapidly becoming a favorite of mine.

Maura

Reviewer for Coffee Time Romance & More

Full Review: <http://coffeetimeromance.com/BookRevi...>

Jovita says

I don't read rom-com novels, but every now and then I like to read something different. My Perfect Wedding was entertaining and funny. The dialogue is sharp and witty, which had me laughing out loud at times. I did enjoy the unusual cultural twist of Kalem's family and I had no idea that condoms are stocked in mini bars! If you enjoy chick lit, this book is for you.

Pamela says

Yet another good story by Ms. Hodge. I have followed Helen Grey through all of her mishaps, and never tire of reading just an enjoyable, relaxing story. Ms. Hodge always comes through with a witty, and sometimes, laugh-out-loud story.

Lisa Lim says

After reading 14 Days Later, I fell in love with Helen so I was excited to start reading My Perfect Wedding. And it was fast, furious, funny and fabulously fun! It was a little over the top, but that's why I enjoyed it so much. The wacky predicaments Helen found herself in and all the colorful characters only added to its appeal. And Kalem's parents were a riot! I wished there was more of them! My Perfect Wedding was satisfying, action packed, hilarious and well . . . a perfect sequel!

Donna says

My Perfect Wedding by Sibel Hodge can be described as 'chick lit'. Remember that before you pick up this book. It is a great book for a beach day or a lazy day at home. The book is an easy, quick read. You can read it in an afternoon. I read it while sitting outside my son's school waiting for him to get out.

On the way to her wedding, Helen Grey ends up in jail. Yes jail.. What a way to start a marriage! This book will have you laughing out loud. Think Lucy and Ethel...I still get a kick out of them.. Timeless humor. Sibel Hodge has mastered this kind of humor. Most of Helen's problems are of her own making. She perpetually has her foot in her mouth.

Unfortunately, I read this book without reading 14 DAYS. The first book in the series. I have since purchased it and will reread Helen's story after reading book one.

Helen and Kalem are great characters. Reading this book has made me wish for a vacation in Cyprus. Ms. Hodge did a great job describing the place, now I would like to see it for myself...someday.

Shelly♥ says

I haven't read the first book of this couplet (14 days), and didn't really need to to enjoy this high-spirited, hysterical romp around the island of Cyprus.

Helen Grey travels from England to the island of Cyprus with her fiancé in full burka (a practical joke played on her by him) preparing for their wedding and relocation to this beautiful retreat in pursuit of the simple life. But when a luggage mix up leads to the discovery of political information pointing to an assassination, Helen is determined to put the pieces together and stop the plot. Met by resistance at every turn, Helen and her hilarious band of friends try to save the target of this plot before it is too late.

I really enjoy Sibel Hodge's writing. This book of fun and funny adventure and characters. I laughed out loud. But mostly I love Helen for not being the totally dizzy, blond chick-lit heroine stereotype. She's smart, sassy and daring, but not in a cheap way. Hodge creates another likeable character for this series, and matches her perfectly with a humorous story.

Jaidis Shaw says

My Perfect Wedding by Sibel Hodge is a fun, light-hearted caper with just enough love story thrown into the mix. The story takes place in North Cyprus, away from the hustle and bustle of the ever-changing and up-to-date UK. Kalem and Helen are looking to make a new life for themselves in the beautiful countryside of the Mediterranean. With their perfect wedding only a week away, they're ready to settle into their new home, Kalem's new job, and an entire new way of living. The simple life! They soon realize it's going to be anything but simple when they stumble upon plans for the elaborate heist of a centuries old artifact and the plot to kill the President himself! Instead of looking the other way, Helen and Kalem set out to do whatever it takes to keep the President, and his treasure, safe!

Sibel Hodge has created quirky, easy to love characters. Moving the story along with non-stop action and amusing twists and turns. Honestly, this isn't a book I would typically read purely because it just isn't "my thing". The story unfolds very quickly without giving much background information and tends to be repetitive. Ms. Hodge uses a lot of dialogue which I found a bit unorganized, but overall this didn't take away from the appeal of the book. I think this book would be perfect for a late teen, early twenty-something reading audience. That being said, there are sexual situations in this book, but they are not graphic and are written in a sort of cheeky way. If you are looking for a quick and fun read, this will definitely do the trick!

Written for the Juniper Grove blog,

~Hazel O'Shea

L.C. Evans says

Main character Helen Grey has left the U.K. and moved to Cypress with her fiancé, Kalem where he is starting a new job. Helen has played a joke on Kalem that gets the two stopped at the airport. Fortunately things get sorted out and they are on their way to their wedding. But after Helen uncovers an assassination plot that includes the theft of a priceless bust of Cleopatra, complications threaten to cost Helen the perfect wedding she has planned and also land her in jail.

I laughed out loud at some of the one-liners. I liked the main character, who is funny and witty. In fact Kalem and his family are all likable and fun characters. Since this book is a screwball comedy, the main plot with the criminals and the way Helen tries to prevent the crime are implausible. However, this doesn't detract at all from the story. The madness is part of the fun. A very funny scene from the book occurs when Helen falls into a tub full of fish and crabs.

I love Ms. Hodge's very readable style and her knack for good storytelling. Her description of the setting was so well-done, by the end of the book I was ready for a vacation in Cypress.
