



The Gatecrasher

By Madeleine Wickham

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The Secret Is Out!

Madeleine Wickham is Sophie Kinsella, and *The Gatecrasher* is just as delicious as her internationally bestselling Shopaholic series.

Everything's coming up roses for Fleur Daxeny, as she goes through more rich men than she does designer hats. Beautiful and utterly irresistible, her success at crashing funerals to find wealthy men is remarkable. Fleur wastes no time in seducing her latest conquest, the handsome and rich widower Richard Favour. His children are caught up in a whirlwind as their father's new girlfriend descends on the family estate. Fleur is not one to wear her heart on her Chanel sleeves, but she soon finds herself embracing Richard and his family. But just as Fleur contemplates jumping off the gold-digger train for good, a long-buried secret from her past threatens to destroy her new family.

Take a wild and marvelous ride with *The Gatecrasher*, whose clever, chic, and sassy style will leave you desperately wanting more wonderful Wickham!

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The Gatecrasher By Madeleine Wickham Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

"Money is safety, darling," the delightfully wicked funeral crasher Fleur Daxeny advises her 13-year-old daughter after an almost perfect execution of her best skill: swindling wealthy widowers. In this modern-day novel of manners, Wickham's lively prose needles the British upper class with a mixture of suspense and wit. Armed with a closet full of designer black suits, the daily obituaries and a face that never betrays her 40 years, Fleur invades the funerals of the wealthy, enchantingly rich, grieving new widowers in need of a shoulder to cry on. She attends the memorial service of Emily Favour, whom she pretends was a long-lost acquaintance, and promptly lures the good-hearted Richard Favour into her web. Although his troubled daughter, Phillipa, and her crafty husband, Lambert, suspect serious gold digging, Fleur's beauty and charm dazzle them, and soon she's invited to live at the family estate in Surrey. What Fleur finds there is a gate-crasher's dream--a welcoming family, an accessible Gold Card and, after some snooping, a bank account worth millions. Even when Fleur's daughter, Zara, whom Fleur has neglected to mention, arrives unexpectedly from boarding school, the Favours make no fuss, welcoming the teen into the fold. As Fleur and Zara become comfortable with country club life, Fleur learns that she's not the only one scheming for Richard's money, and that Richard might not be as gullible as she thinks. But with Zara finally enjoying the stability of a real home, can Fleur leave so easily this time? Wickham (*Swimming Pool Sunday*) creates memorable characters who are as unpredictable and multifaceted as they are stylish. While the quick wrapup misses a cue, this novel is still jolly fun. (May)

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From Library Journal

Fleur Daxeny is beautiful and sophisticated, with an appetite for comfort beyond her means. She also has a fine wardrobe of black designer dresses that she wears to the funerals of wealthy London women in hope of snaring their grieving husbands. Once captivated by her good looks and charm, these men provide her with money, a home, and an extravagant lifestyle for however long it takes her to stash a bit of cash and move on to the next. Such is the fate of Richard Favour. The ease with which Fleur moves into his life dazzles him. His late wife had been really rather dull, and everyone in his family seems to find Fleur most refreshing. But just as Richard proposes marriage, the unscrupulous Fleur gets bored and begins reading obituaries again. This is an often witty and deeply biting novel of modern manners and morals. Wickham's (*Tennis Party*) characters move with the studied grace of Jane Austen's upper class, and her plot is perfect for a made-for-TV movie. Readers will be both touched and entertained. Recommended for all public libraries. DSusan Clifford Braun, Aerospace Corp., El Segundo, CA
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Review

"Wickham creates memorable characters who are as unpredictable and multifaceted as they are stylish. Jolly fun." ?*Publishers Weekly*

"[A] witty and deeply biting novel of modern manners and morals." ?*Library Journal*

"[Wickham is] an observant and engaging storyteller." ?*Kirkus Reviews*

"Wickham knows her characters well and the story never drags... an enjoyable read." ?*Booklist*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Steven Tran:

The book The Gatecrasher give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You can utilize to make your capable considerably more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem with the subject. If you can make reading a book The Gatecrasher being your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You could know everything if you like wide open and read a guide The Gatecrasher. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science publication or encyclopedia or other folks. So , how do you think about this reserve?

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