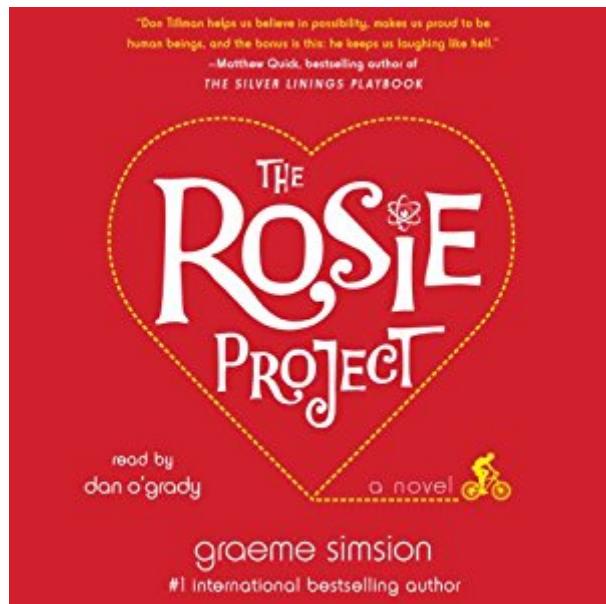


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The Rosie Project: A Novel



Synopsis

An international sensation, this hilarious, feel-good novel is narrated by an oddly charming and socially challenged genetics professor on an unusual quest: to find out if he is capable of true love. Don Tillman, professor of genetics, has never been on a second date. He is a man who can count all his friends on the fingers of one hand, whose lifelong difficulty with social rituals has convinced him that he is simply not wired for romance. So when an acquaintance informs him that he would make a "wonderful" husband, his first reaction is shock. Yet he must concede to the statistical probability that there is someone for everyone, and he embarks upon The Wife Project. In the orderly, evidence-based manner with which he approaches all things, Don sets out to find the perfect partner. She will be punctual and logical - most definitely not a barmaid, a smoker, a drinker, or a late-arriver. Yet Rosie Jarman is all these things. She is also beguiling, fiery, intelligent - and on a quest of her own. She is looking for her biological father, a search that a certain DNA expert might be able to help her with. Don's Wife Project takes a back burner to the Father Project and an unlikely relationship blooms, forcing the scientifically minded geneticist to confront the spontaneous whirlwind that is Rosie - and the realization that love is not always what looks good on paper. The Rosie Project is a moving and hilarious novel for anyone who has ever tenaciously gone after life or love in the face of overwhelming challenges.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Well. I have been criticized before for being to overly rational but Don Tillman sure beats it. Don Tillman's character is best described as a cross between Dr. Temperance Brennan from Bones

meets The Big Bang Theory's Sheldon to create this socially inept yet brilliant character to the fore of this book. In search of a soulmate with the help of his friend, he creates an unrealistic survey to find the perfect candidate for a future wife which is pointless. In a nutshell, the character simply discovers that in order to love and be loved, he must overcome his own flawed perception and unrealistic ideals about love which he finds in down to earth Rosie; who is very much the opposite of anything that Don Tillman would consider as having ideal qualities let alone a perfect candidate for a wife. I'll admit, I almost gave up on the book because the character was a bit of annoying. But the storyline was very decent and humorous. I haven't read the sequel but I hope that there would be more development into the characters.

Three or four years ago, this book was being talked about on all the book sites I belong to and yet the book was free or 99 cents. I only recently read it and I enjoyed it a very great deal more than I thought I would. I don't often read a novel written from the male's POV and this was a delight. For one thing, Don is eccentric and I love that. For another he has Asperger Syndrome and how often does one come across the main character with that? Let alone one who decided it is time to find a wife which he goes about in an eccentric manner. While the book is humorously written, it also deals with some serious stuff. I really want to read the next one in the series.

I give myself five stars for finishing this book. It was a struggle to keep going even though parts of the book were amusing. I definitely rooted for Don as he recognized that he had to make changes to experience life and love. He was a fully-developed character. I never felt that Rosie and Don had enough time or contact to fall in love. She never came alive for me. The many, many "father" possibilities melded together so that I had to go back and re-read parts of the book. It should have been so much more. Yet, I am in the minority. I'm happy for all who loved "The Rosie Project." For me, it never came together.

Rating: 4 stars
Genre: Contemporary Romance
Quote: "How can you tell if someone is a vegan? Just wait ten minutes and they'll tell you." I found The Rosie Project hilarious. It reminded me of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon, since the protagonist also has Asperger's Syndrome. I did not have so much fun reading a book since I read The Wanton Life of My Friend Dave by Tristan Wood. When I read the book synopsis I was under the impression that the book involved robots (I tend to have weird synapses, what can I say?). It turned out that it didn't, though you could still

maintain that impression if you just focus on Don Tillman's social skills and interactions. His level of sociability is Tarzan (yeah, the "me Tarzan, you Jane" kind of style). What makes this book interesting is the main character Don Tillman, otherwise it would be just a plain romantic comedy. He is brutally honest (though he improves his deception abilities as the book progresses and he gains well, humanity) and very efficient. His life is all scheduled and he hasn't got a drop of spontaneity in his body. Well, at least until Rosie shows up in his life--of course the storyline is predictable! But it isn't less fun for that!--and turns it upside down. The thing is that it's all of Don's predictability, with his schedules and timed tasks, that makes him unpredictable and, to me, that's where the originality of this story lies. Another thing that I liked very much in this book is the enormous amount of information that it delivers. You learn a lot of things by reading this book. It's full of useful information and interesting facts that are very well displayed and used to build the main character's personality. I read in several reviews that this was chick lit, but I do not agree. I think this is the kind of book that both men and women would enjoy reading. This is a light romantic comedy. It's fun, well structured, and well written. I would recommend it to anyone who is looking for a good laugh and something different and original.

This book was disappointing because it is a one trick pony. The main character has Asperger's, and the whole book is just a series of events wherein he does not understand how to deal with social situations. It was a fun device for a chapter or two, and then grew to be way too predictable.

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