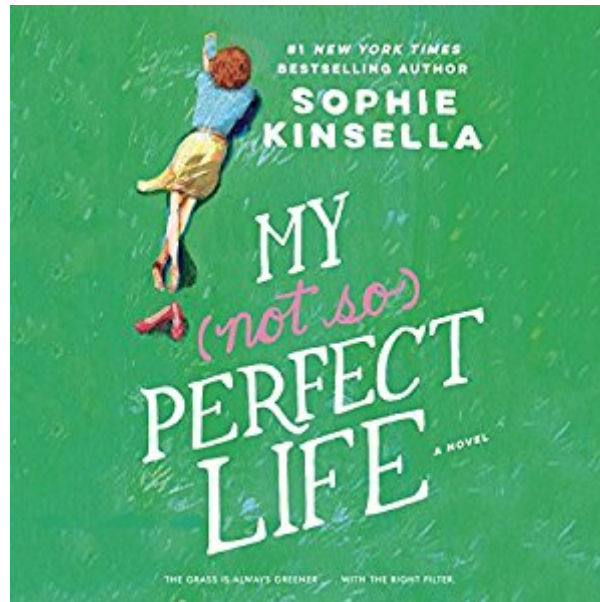




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My Not So Perfect Life: A Novel



Synopsis

Part love story, part workplace drama, this sharply observed novel is a witty critique of the false judgments we make in a social-media-obsessed world. New York Times best-selling author Sophie Kinsella has written her most timely novel yet. Everywhere Katie Brenner looks, someone else is living the life she longs for, particularly her boss, Demeter Farlowe. Demeter is brilliant and creative, lives with her perfect family in a posh townhouse, and wears the coolest clothes. Katie's life, meanwhile, is a daily struggle - from her dismal rental to her oddball flatmates to the tense office politics she's trying to negotiate. No wonder Katie takes refuge in not-quite-true Instagram posts, especially as she's desperate to make her dad proud. Then, just as she's finding her feet - not to mention a possible new romance - the worst happens. Demeter fires Katie. Shattered but determined to stay positive, Katie retreats to her family's farm in Somerset to help them set up a vacation business. London has never seemed so far away - until Demeter unexpectedly turns up as a guest. Secrets are spilled and relationships rejiggered, and as the stakes for Katie's future get higher, she must question her own assumptions about what makes for a truly meaningful life. Sophie Kinsella is celebrated for her vibrant, relatable characters and her great storytelling gifts. Now she returns with all of the wit, warmth, and wisdom that are the hallmarks of her best sellers to spin this fresh, modern story about presenting the perfect life when the reality is far from the truth.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I love Kinsella's books in general. They're a great way to escape from all the bad news of the world.

Of late, it feels as though her books are taking on new depth. The characters are not as they appear, and rather than taking an easy road with clear-cut heroes and villains, the characters in this book have more subtle shading. It's tough to say much about the story without revealing spoilers. Let me just say that it went off in a surprising direction, and one I found fresh and pleasing. Kinsella could have taken an easier road, but she didn't. Cat/Katie, the protagonist of the book, comes across as more competent than some of Kinsella's previous heroines. She's smart and ambitious as she tries to put aside her "farmer Katie" upbringing. She's not without flaws, but she's very likable, but I enjoyed her as the smart girl who's looking to make her mark in the world. Demeter is the brilliant but sometimes flaky boss who seems to have a perfect life. As a stepmom, I thank Kinsella for having a stepmom character who is loving and important in Cat's life. At times I have feel like I'm battling a stereotype as people make assumptions about the role of a stepparent, so appreciate Biddy's sweet, smart, loving presence. And, as someone who has experienced some of what Demeter does in this story (man, I wish I could think of a way to say this without spoiling it!!), I thank Kinsella for dealing with a workplace issue seldom discussed or acknowledged by women. I've SO been there.

I really enjoyed this book! It was light, and fun, and really made me think about how we portray ourselves in the social media era. What I enjoy most in a book is when I really come to care for a character, and I found myself caring for several.

Kinsella delivers again! Loved the characters, the twist, the love story, and oh-my-god the Glamming venture--too funny. She made me laugh, identify with the characters feelings and situations...perfect! Can't wait for the next one.

Rough start but once the story got moving, couldn't put it down. Great characters weaving a delightful tale. Makes you think about the people you see and what may really be going on in their lives.

Sophie Kinsella is a master at making her readers relate to her main character, & in writing fun, engaging stories that hook her readers. While this isn't my favorite Kinsella, I very much enjoyed it & finished it within a day. Her characters' inner monologue, relationships, & friendships are relatable & the story has a great pace that keeps you wanting to keep reading all day.

Kinsella convinced me that she is familiar with both town and country, And of course she is funny. I liked it very much. It's a light read; that is the only reason I gave it only four stars. It isn't a must-read.

This book was great. I loved how it made reference to how social media affects people today and how many young people use it to portray a "perfect" life that literally does not exist for them. The truth is that life is filled with ups and downs, good news and bad news and it is this part of life that people don't portray on social media. All in all, it was a great story. Sophie Kinsella always delivers!

While the book would appeal more to younger adults, I still enjoyed this book. Kinsella has a humorous, uplifting way of writing. Felt it dragged a bit in the middle but luckily picked back up.

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