



The Funeral Planner

Lynn Isenberg

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The Funeral Planner Details

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From Reader Review The Funeral Planner for online ebook

Deborah M. says

Great book with a lot of heart. She tackles a subject I do often find uncomfortable with passion and dignity and made me think how much of death is part of life. It also was an amazing course in business neatly disguised inside the story.

Kelly (TheWellReadRedhead) says

This book was no good from the start, but I have a personal policy of never quitting a book, so I suffered through it to the end. The book was difficult to read, with poor grammar and sentence structure throughout...I often had to read some sentences 2-3 times because they ran on. (I often asked myself if this book had an editor.) On that note, there were also several editorial bits that weren't caught...no one can run a "six mile marathon" and Victor's sister's name changes from Shoshanna to Shauna partway through the book. Things like this made it difficult to read.

On top of all that, the dialogue and events throughout the book were just completely hard to believe. And the eventual story between Victor and Maddy literally made me groan.

I usually give chick lit books a little extra leeway, but this one was just bad.

Diane says

This book seemed to have an identity crisis. It couldn't decide if it was a primer for a business management course, a self-help book on dealing with grief or if it was just a really lame romance novel. In trying to do too much, it ended up doing none of it well. I would never have wasted the time it took to finish it if it wasn't the January selection for my book club.

Jenelle Melchior says

This book is great for business students and people who are interested in business. It has a lot of technical business terms in it, but even if you aren't a business student, you can still enjoy the book.

Kirsten Kowalewski says

Not just your average chicklit fluff, this one focuses on a failed entrepreneur who takes on a new concept after a close friend dies- funeral planning- and both she and her clients see some unexpected results. Not morbid at all- it's both funny and philosophical, and eye-opening when it comes to the way we live our lives and the way we want to be remembered.

Sarah says

I try to give the benefit of the doubt to chick-lit but there were so many grammatical and editorial errors that I wanted to pull out a red pen and scratch all over the book. It's sad because some of the ideas were pretty original.

Clare says

A weird take on a chick lit book - it had lots of the usual parts, but never really meshed with me. I found Maddy Banks strange and unsympathetic. She's an unusually moral girl - as she reminds us frequently, yet she has lesbian sympathy sex with an ex, who's also dating someone; she makes a point of never dating her investors yet she ends up marrying her VC; she takes vicious revenge on her enemy who's in jail after insisting that she take the high ground all along; and she acts like a total bitch to the guy who's proposing to her.

I guess the whole point of the book is that you should live a life that people celebrate after you're gone, but I knew I didn't want to pick up the sequel after I finished - and that says something about the book itself, don't you think?

Carla says

Loved the story, the concept, but hated that the character's parents were always referred to by their first names yet she called them Mom and Dad. I would have to remind myself who they were when she referenced them.

Monica Akinyi Odhiambo says

I loved this book because it was all about self worth and believing in yourself. It took Maddy years before she could realize her dream. Am glad they took us through the process of her business plan. That was extensive. It's such a great book for entrepreneurs. I just felt like her life was all about her business ideas, and she couldn't even relate well with people She had no social life, no me time, it was suffocating. The best thing was stepping away from all that drama, finding a peaceful environment and just learning to live life without regrets.

Best books I got to read from Wattpad.

Amy says

the storyline was quite interesting in some parts .. what got me most with this book was the inspiration to start my own business of some sort - to find my niche again ... I've come up with some really creative ideas -

but never followed through with them ... maybe finally i will with something in the works :)

Elizabeth Mitchell says

Okay so the deal is that I didn't finish it. I got about 40 pages in and I couldn't get into it. I refused to push my way through hoping it would get better. I gave it 1 star (I wish I could give it 1 1/2) because it was kind of smart and funny but the story just wasn't doing it for me.

Nikkie says

Madison aka Maddy Banks has been going from entrepreneur career through entrepreneur career, with many failures. After going to a funeral for a friend, she realizes her calling. Planning personalized funerals, with the new company she's going to build called Lights Out. She gets emotional and financial help from her Uncle Sam. And before she can even begin her new career, Sam dies of Cancer. His is the first funeral she plans, and it's a hit. Soon, she has people lined up to do funerals for. One customer even wanted his funeral twice. Just so he could live through the first one. But things take a bad turn when her arch rival, the man behind sabotaging all of her other businesses she's had, decided to open his own funeral company, and steals all of Maddy's ideas, as well as many of Maddy's backers and clients. At the advice of her handsome Venture Capitalist, she decides to take time out for herself, and to properly grieve her friend Tara and her uncle. After spending time in Ann Arbor, she not only regroups, but with an old friend of her uncle's who used to own a funeral parlor, makes a pamphlet on how to grieve, and hold grieving seminars. With this new info, she puts Lights Out back on track, and even gets the upperhand on her competition.

I have to say one of the things that I liked about this book is that the main character is bi, and even though she winds up with a man at the end, there are some scenes with her and her ex-girlfriend, whom she remains close with. This book made me laugh and cry at the same time through a few chapters of it. The bad guys in the book get their just deserts, and Maddy also realizes what unconditional love from a dog can do to someone in need, like herself.

Christianne says

Pretty one-dimensional characters. Everybody is either all good or all evil. Some parts of it read like a business plan instead of a story. Found the main character pretty judgmental. Then the author throws in a past bisexual relationship. Sort of jarring and not sure how it added to the story. Overall? Meh.

Kristen says

Madison Banks really doesn't have much of a life outside of work. She develops business ideas, starts them, and then they are promptly stolen by the same guy, over and over. Can that really happen? There are lots of coincidences all over this book that are a stretch, like lots of people dying (because she's in the funeral business) and sometimes will have paragraphs of details that seemed, to me, completely irrelevant. Oh, I'm

so glad she chooses no sugar in her coffee so she doesn't have a sugar crash halfway through her presentation? Was that really necessary to tell me? I enjoyed seeing the business process, and learning what things like "venture capitalists" really did, but overall, I think my time could have been better spent.

Amber says

Very, very, very business-like. The main focus of the book tries to be loss and hope and trying, but it honestly revolves around the business aspect of entrepreneurship. It gets a little tiresome, but it's a good book behind that.

The book's saving grace, in my opinion, is the bit of romance infused in it. It's just enough to add to the novel and make it seem all the more hopeful. After the book deals with so much loss, it's nice to have a few happy spins.
