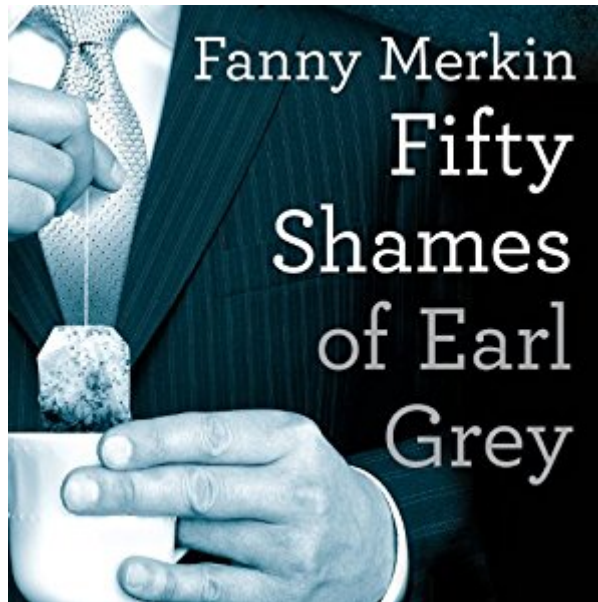




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Fifty Shames Of Earl Grey: A Parody



Synopsis

Young, arrogant tycoon Earl Grey seduces the naïve Anna Steele with his overpowering good looks and staggering amounts of money, but will she be able to get past his fifty shames, including shopping at Walmart on Saturdays, bondage with handcuffs, and his love of BDSM (Bards, Dragons, Sorcery, and Magick)? Or will his dark secrets and constant smirking drive her over the edge?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It is better than the books it is based on and made me laugh several times. If you like satire and parody based on the worse products of art out there, this is for you. If you like to see authors get clever when insulting bad literature, then give this a try.

As someone who has no intention of reading the 50 Shades franchise, I found this book pretty hysterical. Actually, I've read the last 20 pages of the first 50 Shades book. So I don't really know that much about the franchise except what I've seen in popular culture. The author is able to poke fun at the books specifically, but also encompasses tons of pop culture and romance-novel-culture too. I traded off reading this book and a regular romance novel at the same time and I found it sort-of hard to go between the two. This book pokes fun at everything and when I'd go back to the other book, I'd have to remind myself that these romance phrases are meant to be more serious now. Anna was mostly, completely stupid. She knows almost nothing about life and her internal

monologue is ludicrous. "I gaze into his gazing eyes gazingly like a gazelle gazing into another gazelle's gazing gaze." Part of poking fun and very funny to read. But what I loved more was some of the "more serious" silliness. Kissing after eating: "Perhaps we shouldn't have started kissing so soon after eating. Your mouth tastes like you ate an entire garlic bulb." When Anna has some stinky feet: "'I love your scent, Anna' he says, placing his nose an inch away from my toes and inhaling deeply. His eyes grow wide with surprise. 'But perhaps, I shall start with your knees. Good idea.'" You find that in romance novels so often; that people never smell stinky or anything. It's just so funny and laugh out loud to have someone poke fun at that. But that was definitely the hard part alternating with a "serious" romance novel. If you remember from the first 50 Shades book, the last little bit is the big spanking scene. This book takes that scene and makes it completely hysterical. One of the times that Anna seemed totally real and intelligent. Instead of being dark and heavy, this one completely turns it around and gives everyone the silly absolution they need. Bottom line, you can't go into this book expecting a serious take on 50 Shades. It's a silly book, meant to make you laugh and be totally over-the-top insane. I'd compare this book a little bit to the Scary Movie franchise, but it also reminded me a lot of Douglas Adams. Will I buy the second book in this parody series? Maybe, but probably not for full price.

Ok, I will fully admit it, Fifty Shades of Grey was my gateway drug. The book that hooked me on hot romance/erotica. I went on to read every book in the trilogy, at times with one hand, and always biting my bottom lip. But as much as I enjoyed the stories at the time, I too was rolling my eyes at the ridiculousness that emerged from the lackluster writing and odd details. Enter Fanny Merkin. These books were ripe for the picking, and Andrew Shaffer pounced on that opportunity with his capable writing chops and tongue-in-cheek wit. Shaffer's Shames is the love child of Airplane and Fifty Shades... 1 part absurdity, 1 part hilarious, and 50 parts irreverent. Shames follows the love story of Earl and Anna, documenting their unusual courtship and the exploration of their many and varied hang-ups - all done with a perfect humorous touch and mocking tone. I found myself giggling and snickering on each page, and always in anticipation of what crazy path Shaffer would be taking us on next. Do you need to have read the Fifty Shades series to enjoy this book? Absolutely not. Will you enjoy this book more if you read the Fifty Shades books and, as many did, found them to be perfect comedy fodder? Absolutely! Shaffer's clever writing and sharp wit were the perfect tools to deliver up a side-splitting parody of the Fifty Shades novels. The book is a quick and light read and chock full of laughs.

I may be one of the few remaining people who have not read the book series that this book parodies. No matter, Fanny Merkin's (Andrew Shaffer) 50 Shades of Earl Grey stands alone. If you want a book to take with you to the beach while you lay in your beach chair wearing your cool sunglasses looking cool- this is not the one. This book will cause you to snort, guffaw, spit your cool drink in a spray all over whoever's near and choke on your ice cream cone. Seriously it's that funny.

Much more entertaining than the actual book. It took all of the stupidity in the book and made it funny. You do not need to read the actual 50 shades to understand this. Just read all of the 1 star reviews on to get filled in on the lame characters, boring sex and lousy plot. But wait i forgot there are thousands of 1 star reviews, you won't have time to read them all so just read a few. If you feel there is more you are missing believe me there is not, the reviews will be enough info to make 50 Shades a funny read. All of the teenage girls and desperate housewives liked 50 shades as much as the Twilight movies. This should be enough warning to just read this parody and skip the actual book.

Regrettably, most of the parody's cleverness seems to have ended with the title. The parodying of poor writing probably begets a certain degree of built-in mediocrity, can't be avoided. That said, Mr. Shaffer could have benefited by the use of a decent editor which evidently was not a part of the contract. Good parody thrives on sustaining humorous pacing. Mr. Shaffer--again sans an editor--extends needless narrative between some potentially potent streams of bon mots. He just can't resist the urge to wax in-eloquently. Perhaps the next time around Mr. Shaffer's style will have smoothed out, and he will have recruited a hard-nosed editor. All in all, not a bad outing. Good, but not wicked good.

According to other's reviews, was expecting a hilarious parody of 50 shades. Unfortunately, it was a let down, and, at best, minimally amusing. would not recommend others to bother buying and reading. If you loved 50 shades, this was an insult to your intelligence, even if it WAS meant to be a parody.

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