

## Funny Girl A Novel By Nick Hornby Feplus

“A compelling combination of literate storytelling and action-packed thriller laced with humor.” — Library Journal (starred review) Finalist for the CWA Gold Dagger Award for Best Crime Novel of the Year 1991: One hundred miles from the Kuwaiti border, Thomas Benton meets Arwood Hobbes. Benton is a British journalist who reports from war zones in part to avoid his lackluster marriage and a daughter he loves but cannot connect with; Arwood is an American private who might be an insufferable ignoramus or might be a genuine lunatic with a death wish—it's hard to tell. Desert Storm is over, peace has been declared, but as they argue about whether it makes sense to cross the nearest border in search of an ice cream, they become embroiled in a horrific attack in which a young local girl in a green dress is killed as they are trying to protect her. The two men walk away into their respective lives. But something has cracked for them both. Twenty-two years later, in another place, in another war, they meet again and are offered an unlikely opportunity to redeem themselves when that same girl in green is found alive and in need of salvation. Or is she? “Swift, gripping, and mined with surprises...Arwood Hobbes is as intriguing an operative as Graham Greene's quiet American, but without the quiet.”—David Shafer, author of *Whiskey Tango Foxtrot* “[A] stellar, electrifying story with a knockout ending.”—Publishers Weekly (starred review) “A penetrating, poetic, and unexpectedly disarming book about the ageless conflict in the Middle East.”—Kirkus Reviews (starred review) “A Catch-22 for the twenty-first century.”—Madison Smartt Bell, National Book Award finalist and author of *All Souls' Rising*

When eleven-year-old Yumi Chung stumbles into a kids' comedy camp she is mistaken for another student, so she decides to play the part.

A Best Book of the Year: The Washington Post • Chicago Tribune • NPR • Vogue • Elle • Real Simple • InStyle • Good Housekeeping • Parade • Slate • Vox • Kirkus Reviews • Library Journal • BookPage Longlisted for the 2020 Booker Prize An Instant New York Times Bestseller A Reese's Book Club Pick "The most provocative page-turner of the year." --Entertainment Weekly "I urge you to read *Such a Fun Age*." --NPR A striking and surprising debut novel from an exhilarating new voice, *Such a Fun Age* is a page-turning and big-hearted story about race and privilege, set around a young black babysitter, her well-intentioned employer, and a surprising connection that threatens to undo them both. Alix Chamberlain is a woman who gets what she wants and has made a living, with her confidence-driven brand, showing other women how to do the same. So she is shocked when her babysitter, Emira Tucker, is confronted while watching the Chamberlains' toddler one night, walking the aisles of their local high-end supermarket. The store's security guard, seeing a young black woman out late with a white child, accuses Emira of kidnapping two-year-old Briar. A small crowd gathers, a bystander films everything, and Emira is furious and

humiliated. Alix resolves to make things right. But Emira herself is aimless, broke, and wary of Alix's desire to help. At twenty-five, she is about to lose her health insurance and has no idea what to do with her life. When the video of Emira unearths someone from Alix's past, both women find themselves on a crash course that will upend everything they think they know about themselves, and each other. With empathy and piercing social commentary, *Such a Fun Age* explores the stickiness of transactional relationships, what it means to make someone "family," and the complicated reality of being a grown up. It is a searing debut for our times.

The #1 New York Times bestselling (mostly true) memoir from the hilarious author of *Furiously Happy*. "Gaspingly funny and wonderfully inappropriate."—O, The Oprah Magazine When Jenny Lawson was little, all she ever wanted was to fit in. That dream was cut short by her fantastically unbalanced father and a morbidly eccentric childhood. It did, however, open up an opportunity for Lawson to find the humor in the strange shame-spiral that is her life, and we are all the better for it. In the irreverent *Let's Pretend This Never Happened*, Lawson's long-suffering husband and sweet daughter help her uncover the surprising discovery that the most terribly human moments—the ones we want to pretend never happened—are the very same moments that make us the people we are today. For every intellectual misfit who thought they were the only ones to think the things that Lawson dares to say out loud, this is a poignant and hysterical look at the dark, disturbing, yet wonderful moments of our lives. Readers Guide Inside INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A Good Morning America, Esquire, and Read with Marie Claire Book Club Pick and a People Best Book of Summer Named a Most Anticipated Book of 2021 by Time, The Washington Post, Harper's Bazaar, Entertainment Weekly, Marie Claire, Bustle, BuzzFeed, Parade, Goodreads, Fortune, and BBC ??Urgent, propulsive, and sharp as a knife, *The Other Black Girl* is an electric debut about the tension that unfurls when two young Black women meet against the starkly white backdrop of New York City book publishing. Twenty-six-year-old editorial assistant Nella Rogers is tired of being the only Black employee at Wagner Books. Fed up with the isolation and microaggressions, she's thrilled when Harlem-born and bred Hazel starts working in the cubicle beside hers. They've only just started comparing natural hair care regimens, though, when a string of uncomfortable events elevates Hazel to Office Darling, and Nella is left in the dust. Then the notes begin to appear on Nella's desk: LEAVE WAGNER. NOW. It's hard to believe Hazel is behind these hostile messages. But as Nella starts to spiral and obsess over the sinister forces at play, she soon realizes that there's a lot more at stake than just her career. A whip-smart and dynamic thriller and sly social commentary that is perfect for anyone who has ever felt manipulated, threatened, or overlooked in the workplace, *The Other Black Girl* will keep you on the edge of your seat until the very last twist.

'The perfect balance of romcom and drama!' GRAZIA

A hilarious yet deeply moving coming-of-age novel from New York Times bestselling author Caitlin Moran, “the U.K.’s answer to Tina Fey, Chelsea Handler, and Lena Dunham all rolled into one” (Marie Claire) What do you do in your teenage years when you realize what your parents taught you wasn’t enough? You must go out and find books and poetry and pop songs and bad heroes—and build yourself. It’s 1990. Johanna Morrigan, fourteen, has shamed herself so badly on local TV that she decides that there’s no point in being Johanna anymore and reinvents herself as Dolly Wilde—fast-talking, hard-drinking Gothic hero and full-time Lady Sex Adventurer! She will save her poverty-stricken Bohemian family by becoming a writer—like Jo in *Little Women*, or the Bröntes—but without the dying young bit. By sixteen, she’s smoking cigarettes, getting drunk and working for a music paper. She’s writing pornographic letters to rock stars, having all kinds of sex with all kinds of men and eviscerating bands in reviews of 600 words or less. But what happens when Johanna realizes she’s built Dolly with a fatal flaw? Is a box full of records, a wall full of posters and a head full of paperbacks enough to build a girl after all? Imagine *The Bell Jar*—written by Rizzo from *Grease*. *How to Build a Girl* is a funny, poignant and heartbreakingly evocative story of self-discovery and invention, as only Caitlin Moran could tell it.

Funny Girl: A Novel by Nick Hornby | A 15-minute Summary & Analysis Preview: Funny Girl is a novel by writer Nick Hornby set in Blackpool, England in 1964. It tells the story of twenty-one year old Barbara Parker, a beautiful blonde, who wants to become a comedic actress like Lucille Ball. Barbara wins the Miss Blackpool beauty pageant. Barbara wants more than anything to get out of Blackpool. When she realizes the title of Miss Blackpool commits her to a year of hospital visits and charity events, Barbara gives the title to the runner up and leaves for London. Barbara gets a job working the cosmetics counter at Derry and Toms, a department store on Kensington High Street. She meets Marjorie, who works in the shoe department, and accepts an offer to become her roommate. Barbara tells Marjorie she wants to become an actress. Marjorie suggests she buy a copy of *The Stage*, a trade paper that advertises auditions... PLEASE NOTE: This is an unofficial summary and analysis of the book and NOT the original book. Inside this Instaread Summary & Analysis of *Funny Girl* • Summary of entire book • Introduction to the Important People in the book • Analysis of the Themes and Author’s Style

No one steps up to life’s banquet, holds out her tray, and orders, “Grief, please!” But as a child, Candy Pekkala was served a heaping helping of it. Every buffet line has a dessert section, however, and when a cousin calls with a Hollywood apartment to sublet, it seems as though Candy is finally offered something sweet. It’s good-bye to Minnesota and hello to California, where a girl who has always lived by her wits has a real chance of making a living with them. With that, the irrepressible Lorna Landvik launches her latest irresistible character onto the world stage—or at least onto the dimly lit small stage where stand-up comedy gets its start. Herself a comic performer, Landvik taps her own adventurous past and Minnesota roots to conjure Candy’s life in this strange new Technicolor home. Her fellow tenants at Peyton Hall

include a female bodybuilder, a ruined nightclub impresario, and a well-connected Romanian fortune-teller. There are game show appearances and temp jobs at a record company and an establishment suspiciously like the Playboy Mansion, and of course the alluring but not always welcoming stage of stand-up comedy. As she hones her act, Candy is tested by humiliation, hecklers, and the inherent sexism that insists “chicks aren’t funny.” Written with the light touch and quiet wisdom that have made her works so popular, this is classic Lorna Landvik—sometimes so funny, you’ll cry; sometimes so sad, you might as well laugh; and always impossible to put down.

By turns darkly menacing and bright with love and resilience, *The Talk-Funny Girl* is the story of one young woman’s remarkable courage, a kind of road map for the healing of early abuse, and a testament to the power of kindness and love. In one of the poorest parts of rural New Hampshire, teenage girls have been disappearing, snatched from back country roads, never to be seen alive again. For seventeen-year-old Marjorie Richards, the fear raised by these abductions is the backdrop to what she lives with in her own home, every day. Marjorie has been raised by parents so intentionally isolated from normal society that they have developed their own dialect, a kind of mountain hybrid of English that displays both their ignorance of and disdain for the wider world. Marjorie is tormented by her classmates, who call her “The Talk-funny girl,” but as the nearby factory town sinks deeper into economic ruin and as her parents fall more completely under the influence of a sadistic cult leader, her options for escape dwindle. But then, thanks to a loving aunt, Marjorie is hired by a man, himself a victim of abuse, who is building what he calls “a cathedral,” right in the center of town. Day by day, as Marjorie’s skills as a stoneworker increase, so too does her intolerance for the bitter rules of her family life. Gradually, through exposure to the world beyond her parents’ wood cabin thanks to the kindness of her aunt and her boss, and an almost superhuman determination, she discovers what is loveable within herself. This newfound confidence and self-esteem ultimately allows her to break free from the bleak life she has known, to find love, to start a family, and to try to heal her old, deep wounds without passing that pain on to her husband and children.

A Most-Anticipated Selection by *Vogue* \* *Refinery29* \* *Vulture* \* *BuzzFeed* \* *Harper’s Bazaar* \* *O, The Oprah Magazine* \* *The Millions* \* *Literary Hub* \* *The Rumpus* \* *Publishers Weekly* and more A scathingly funny, wildly erotic, and fiercely imaginative story about food, sex, and god from the acclaimed author of *The Pisces* and *So Sad Today*. Rachel is twenty-four, a lapsed Jew who has made calorie restriction her religion. By day, she maintains an illusion of existential control, by way of obsessive food rituals, while working as an underling at a Los Angeles talent management agency. At night, she pedals nowhere on the elliptical machine. Rachel is content to carry on subsisting—until her therapist encourages her to take a ninety-day communication detox from her mother, who raised her in the tradition of calorie counting. Early in the detox, Rachel meets Miriam, a zaftig young Orthodox Jewish woman who works at her favorite frozen yogurt shop and is intent upon feeding her. Rachel is suddenly and powerfully entranced by Miriam—by her sundaes and her body, her faith and her family—and as the two grow closer, Rachel embarks on a journey marked by mirrors, mysticism, mothers, milk, and honey. Pairing superlative emotional insight with unabashed vivid fantasy, Broder tells a tale of appetites: physical hunger, sexual desire, spiritual longing, and the ways that we as humans can compartmentalize these so often interdependent instincts. *Milk Fed* is a tender and riotously funny meditation on love, certitude, and the question of what we are all being fed, from one of our major writers on the psyche—both sacred and profane.

In James Patterson's heartwarming #1 New York Times bestseller, middle schooler Jamie Grimm faces bullying and self-doubt as he chases his dream to become the world's greatest comedian. Jamie Grimm is a middle schooler on a mission: he wants to become the world's greatest standup comedian--even if he doesn't have a lot to laugh about these days. He's new

in town and stuck living with his aunt, uncle, and their evil son Stevie, a bully who doesn't let Jamie's wheelchair stop him from messing with Jamie as much as possible. But Jamie doesn't let his situation get him down. When his Uncle Frankie mentions a contest called The Planet's Funniest Kid Comic, Jamie knows he has to enter. But are the judges only rewarding him out of pity because of his wheelchair, like Stevie suggests? Will Jamie ever share the secret of his troubled past instead of hiding behind his comedy act? Following the bestselling success of the hilarious *Middle School*, *The Worst Years of My Life*, James Patterson continues to dish out the funnies in another highly-illustrated, heartfelt middle school story. (Includes more than 175 black-and-white illustrations.)

THE MILLION-COPY INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER & SOURCE OF THE 2020 HULU SERIES 'One of my favourite novels' Zoë Kravitz in *Vulture* \_\_\_\_\_ Do you know your desert-island, all-time, top five most memorable break-ups? Rob does. But Laura isn't on it - even though she's just become his latest ex. Finding he can't get over Laura, record-store owner Rob decides to revisit his relationship top hits to figure out what went wrong. But soon, he's asking himself some big questions: about relationships, about life and about his own self-destructive tendencies. Astutely observed and wickedly funny, Nick Hornby's cult classic explores love, loss and the need for a good playlist. A must for readers of David Nicholls and music geeks everywhere! \_\_\_\_\_ 'A triumphant first novel. True to life, very funny and moving' *Financial Times* 'Extremely cleverly observed' *Mail on Sunday* 'If this book was a record, we would be calling it an instant classic. Because that's what it is' *Guardian* 'Leaves you believing not only in the redemptive power of music but above all the redemptive power of love. Funny and wise, sweet and true' *Independent*

\*LAMBDA LITERARY AWARD FINALIST\* "Fresh, funny, bittersweet...This book delivers humor, humanity and hubris."--*New York Times Book Review* Named an NPR, *Marie Claire*, and *Teen Vogue* best book of the year and a most anticipated book of 2020 by *Vogue*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Elle*, *Time*, *People*, *BuzzFeed*, *Bustle*, and more In the tradition of audacious and wryly funny novels like *The Idiot* and *Convenience Store Woman* comes the wildly original coming-of-age story of a pregnant pizza delivery girl who becomes obsessed with one of her customers. Eighteen years old, pregnant, and working as a pizza delivery girl in suburban Los Angeles, our charmingly dysfunctional heroine is deeply lost and in complete denial about it all. She's grieving the death of her father (whom she has more in common with than she'd like to admit), avoiding her supportive mom and loving boyfriend, and flagrantly ignoring her future. Her world is further upended when she becomes obsessed with Jenny, a stay-at-home mother new to the neighborhood, who comes to depend on weekly deliveries of pickled-covered pizzas for her son's happiness. As one woman looks toward motherhood and the other toward middle age, the relationship between the two begins to blur in strange, complicated, and ultimately heartbreaking ways. Bold, tender, propulsive, and unexpected in countless ways, Jean Kyoung Frazier's *Pizza Girl* is a moving and funny portrait of a flawed, unforgettable young woman as she tries to find her place in the world.

Expelled for cheating at her private school, seventeen-year-old Astrid, who lives in a rocket ship parked in her backyard, must attend public school where she learns some lessons about family, friendship, and romance.

*Funny Girl: A Novel* by Nick Hornby | A 15-minute Summary & Analysis Preview: *Funny Girl* is a novel by writer Nick Hornby set in Blackpool, England in 1964. It tells the story of twenty-one year old Barbara Parker, a beautiful blonde, who wants to become a comedic actress like Lucille Ball. Barbara wins the Miss Blackpool beauty pageant. Barbara wants more than anything to get out of Blackpool. When she realizes the title of Miss Blackpool commits her to a year of hospital visits and charity events, Barbara gives the title to the runner up and leaves for London. Barbara gets a job working the cosmetics counter at Derry and Toms, a department store on Kensington High Street. She meets Marjorie, who works in the shoe department, and

accepts an offer to become her roommate. Barbara tells Marjorie she wants to become an actress. Marjorie suggests she buy a copy of *The Stage*, a trade paper that advertises auditions... PLEASE NOTE: This is an unofficial summary and analysis of the book and NOT the original book. Inside this Instaread Summary & Analysis of *Funny Girl* \* Summary of entire book \* Introduction to the Important People in the book \* Analysis of the Themes and Author's Style

The book that inspired the hit film! Sundance U.S. Dramatic Audience Award Sundance Grand Jury Prize This is the funniest book you'll ever read about death. It is a universally acknowledged truth that high school sucks. But on the first day of his senior year, Greg Gaines thinks he's figured it out. The answer to the basic existential question: How is it possible to exist in a place that sucks so bad? His strategy: remain at the periphery at all times. Keep an insanely low profile. Make mediocre films with the one person who is even sort of his friend, Earl. This plan works for exactly eight hours. Then Greg's mom forces him to become friends with a girl who has cancer. This brings about the destruction of Greg's entire life. Fiercely funny, honest, heart-breaking—this is an unforgettable novel from a bright talent, now also a film that critics are calling "a touchstone for its generation" and "an instant classic." Includes a discussion with Jesse Andrews and an annotated excerpt from the screenplay! STARRED REVIEW "One need only look at the chapter titles ("Let's Just Get This Embarrassing Chapter Out of the Way") to know that this is one funny book." –Booklist, starred review STARRED REVIEW "Though this novel begs inevitable thematic comparisons to John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* (2011), it stands on its own in inventiveness, humor and heart." –Kirkus Reviews, starred review New York Times bestseller! Capitol Choices 2013 - Noteworthy Titles for Children and Teens Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) Choices 2013 list - Young Adult Fiction YALSA 2013 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers YALSA 2013 Best Fiction for Young Adults YALSA 2014 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults "HONEY GIRL is an emotional, heartfelt, charming debut, and I loved every moment of it." — Jasmine Guillory, New York Times bestselling author of *The Proposal* With her newly completed PhD in astronomy in hand, twenty-eight-year-old Grace Porter goes on a girls' trip to Vegas to celebrate. She's a straight A, work-through-the-summer certified high achiever. She is not the kind of person who goes to Vegas and gets drunkenly married to a woman whose name she doesn't know...until she does exactly that. This one moment of departure from her stern ex-military father's plans for her life has Grace wondering why she doesn't feel more fulfilled from completing her degree. Staggering under the weight of her parent's expectations, a struggling job market and feelings of burnout, Grace flees her home in Portland for a summer in New York with the wife she barely knows. In New York, she's able to ignore all the constant questions about her future plans and falls hard for her creative and beautiful wife, Yuki Yamamoto. But when reality comes crashing in, Grace must face what she's been running from all along—the fears that make us human, the family scars that need to heal and the longing for connection, especially when navigating the messiness of adulthood. "The funniest novel of the year." –The Washington Post A Good Morning America Buzz Pick A New York Post Best New Novel \* An Esquire Best Book of 2021 \* An E! News Best Book of April \* An Apartment Therapy Best Book of April \* A Popsugar Best Book of April \* A Newsweek Book to Read \* A New York Times Book to Watch For \* A Parade Favorite Book of Spring \* A Washington Post Best Book to Read in April \* A Kirkus Best Book to Read in April \* A Daily Skimm Read A wise, bighearted, boundlessly joyful novel of love, disaster, and unconventional family Jane falls in love with Duncan easily. He is charming, good-natured, and handsome but unfortunately, he has also slept with nearly every woman in Boyne City, Michigan. Jane sees Duncan's old girlfriends everywhere--at restaurants, at the grocery store, even three towns away. While Jane may be able to come to terms with dating the world's most prolific seducer of women, she wishes she did not have to share him quite so widely. His ex-

wife, Aggie, a woman with shiny hair and pale milkmaid skin, still has Duncan mow her lawn. His coworker, Jimmy, comes and goes from Duncan's apartment at the most inopportune times. Sometimes Jane wonders if a relationship can even work with three people in it--never mind four. Five if you count Aggie's eccentric husband, Gary. Not to mention all the other residents of Boyne City, who freely share with Jane their opinions of her choices. But any notion Jane had of love and marriage changes with one terrible car crash. Soon Jane's life is permanently intertwined with Duncan's, Aggie's, and Jimmy's, and Jane knows she will never have Duncan to herself. But could it be possible that a deeper kind of happiness is right in front of Jane's eyes? A novel that is alternately bittersweet and laugh-out-loud funny, Katherine Heiny's *Early Morning Riser* is her most astonishingly wonderful work to date.

THE MILLION COPY NO. 1 BESTSELLER THAT BECAME AN ACCLAIMED FILM

STARRING HUGH GRANT AND NICOLAS HOULT 'A very entertaining and endearing read'

The Times \_\_\_\_\_ Thirty-six-year-old Londoner Will loves his life. Living carefree off the royalties of his dad's Christmas song, he's rich, unattached and has zero responsibilities - just the way he likes it. But when Will meets Marcus, an awkward twelve-year-old who listens to Joni Mitchell and accidentally kills ducks with loaves of bread, an unlikely friendship starts to bloom. Can this odd duo teach each another how to finally act their age? Hugely funny and equally heartfelt, Nick Hornby's classic proves you're never too old to grow up. Perfect for fans of David Nicholls and Mike Gayle. \_\_\_\_\_ 'A stunner of a

novel. Utterly read-in-one-day, forget-where-you-are-on-the-tube-gripping' Marie Claire 'About the awful, hilarious, embarrassing places where children and adults meet, and Hornby has captured it with delightful precision' Irish Times 'It takes a writer with real talent to make this work, and Hornby has it - in buckets' Literary Review

Named a Best Book of the Year by The Washington Post, Time, NPR, Amazon, Vice, Bustle, The New York Times, The Guardian, Kirkus Reviews, Entertainment Weekly, The AV Club, & Audible A New York Times Bestseller "One of the most compelling protagonists modern fiction has offered in years: a loopy, quietly furious pillhead whose *Ambien* ramblings and *Xanax*ed b\*tcherries somehow wend their way through sad and funny and strange toward something genuinely profound." — Entertainment Weekly "Darkly hilarious . . . [Moshfegh's] the kind of provocateur who makes you laugh out loud while drawing blood." —Vogue From one of our boldest, most celebrated new literary voices, a novel about a young woman's efforts to duck the ills of the world by embarking on an extended hibernation with the help of one of the worst psychiatrists in the annals of literature and the battery of medicines she prescribes. Our narrator should be happy, shouldn't she? She's young, thin, pretty, a recent Columbia graduate, works an easy job at a hip art gallery, lives in an apartment on the Upper East Side of Manhattan paid for, like the rest of her needs, by her inheritance. But there is a dark and vacuous hole in her heart, and it isn't just the loss of her parents, or the way her Wall Street boyfriend treats her, or her sadomasochistic relationship with her best friend, Reva. It's the year 2000 in a city aglitter with wealth and possibility; what could be so terribly wrong? *My Year of Rest and Relaxation* is a powerful answer to that question. Through the story of a year spent under the influence of a truly mad combination of drugs designed to heal our heroine from her alienation from this world, Moshfegh shows us how reasonable, even necessary, alienation can be. Both tender and blackly funny, merciless and compassionate, it is a showcase for the gifts of one of our major writers working at the height of her powers.

Junge Londonerin zu ihren kurdischen Eltern: "Ich habe eine gute und eine schlechte Nachricht. Die schlechte: Ich werde Stand-up Comedian. Die gute: Ich trage ab heute Burka allerdings nur auf der Bühne." (Quelle: Buchdeckel verso).

To All the Boys meets The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel (with a dash of *Dumplin'*) in this funny, romantic, and heartfelt coming of age story about a teen stand-up comic learning how to be her truest self, from the author of *If You're Out There*. Gretchen has always been more of a "least

likely” than a “most likely” kind of girl. So how does she somehow find herself living out every trope from her favorite rom-coms . . . ? The Best Friend Crush: Why is it suddenly so hard to act normal around her childhood BFF, Samuel? Must be time for a— Makeover(!): Black leather pants and some red lipstick are apparently enough to lend Gretchen the bravado to do an impromptu set at a comedy club and catch the eye of — The Roguish Bad Boy: Jeremy, the alluring young comic who thinks her name is Sabrina. It might just be— The Perfect Cover: A way for Gretchen to escape into her new funny-girl alter ego and figure out who she really is—and what she really wants. But as rom-coms have taught her, leading a double life can only last so long. . . . "A rom-com with six extra helpings of riotous comedy, *The Girl Least Likely* has so many laughs your actual day will be brighter for reading it." —E. Lockhart, author of *We Were Liars*

Funny Girl Funniest. Stories. EverPenguin

"Jenny made me laugh so hard I feared for my safety! I think that's how she was able to get past my defenses and make me feel more okay about myself." -Allie Brosh, author of *Hyperbole and a Half* For fans of David Sedaris, Tina Fey, and Mindy Kaling—the new book from Jenny Lawson, author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *LET'S PRETEND THIS NEVER HAPPENED...* In *LET'S PRETEND THIS NEVER HAPPENED*, Jenny Lawson baffled readers with stories about growing up the daughter of a taxidermist. In her new book, *FURIOUSLY HAPPY*, Jenny explores her lifelong battle with mental illness. A hysterical, ridiculous book about crippling depression and anxiety? That sounds like a terrible idea. And terrible ideas are what Jenny does best. According to Jenny: "Some people might think that being 'furiously happy' is just an excuse to be stupid and irresponsible and invite a herd of kangaroos over to your house without telling your husband first because you suspect he would say no since he's never particularly liked kangaroos. And that would be ridiculous because no one would invite a herd of kangaroos into their house. Two is the limit. I speak from personal experience. My husband says that none is the new limit. I say he should have been clearer about that before I rented all those kangaroos." "Most of my favorite people are dangerously fucked-up but you'd never guess because we've learned to bare it so honestly that it becomes the new normal. Like John Hughes wrote in *The Breakfast Club*, 'We're all pretty bizarre. Some of us are just better at hiding it.' Except go back and cross out the word 'hiding.'" Jenny's first book, *LET'S PRETEND THIS NEVER HAPPENED*, was ostensibly about family, but deep down it was about celebrating your own weirdness. *FURIOUSLY HAPPY* is a book about mental illness, but under the surface it's about embracing joy in fantastic and outrageous ways—and who doesn't need a bit more of that?

Collects three books in which Ivy and Bean teach Bean's older sister how to be a good babysitter, they set out to become so pure of heart that birds and animals follow them, and the girls try to find a way out of ballet class.

Like many ambitious New York City teenagers, Craig Gilner sees entry into Manhattan's Executive Pre-Professional High School as the ticket to his future.

Determined to succeed at life—which means getting into the right high school to get into the right college to get the right job—Craig studies night and day to ace the entrance exam, and does. That's when things start to get crazy. At his new school, Craig realizes that he isn't brilliant compared to the other kids; he's just average, and maybe not even that. He soon sees his once-perfect future crumbling away.

A wise, affecting novel from the beloved, award-winning author of *Funny Girl*, *High*

Fidelity, and About A Boy. New York Times-bestselling author Nick Hornby mines the hearts and psyches of four lost souls who connect just when they've reached the end of the line. A Long Way Down is now a major motion picture from Magnolia Pictures starring Pierce Brosnan, Toni Collette, Aaron Paul, and Imogen Poots. Meet Martin, JJ, Jess, and Maureen. Four people who come together on New Year's Eve: a former TV talk show host, a musician, a teenage girl, and a mother. Three are British, one is American. They encounter one another on the roof of Topper's House, a London destination famous as the last stop for those ready to end their lives. In four distinct and riveting first-person voices, Nick Hornby tells a story of four individuals confronting the limits of choice, circumstance, and their own mortality. This is a tale of connections made and missed, punishing regrets, and the grace of second chances. Intense, hilarious, provocative, and moving, A Long Way Down is a novel about suicide that is, surprisingly, full of life.

In search of an identity, fourth-grader Shelby Bloom worries that she's no sports superstar, no whiz kid, no social butterfly, and no beauty queen. But she is funny—at least she thinks she is—so she decides she'll be the funny girl, the one who wins friends by keeping them in stitches. Soon she finds that while she really does have a comic flair, she also has a few things to learn about what makes people laugh, when the timing is right, and how things can go wrong for the jokester. See a video interview with the author and discover more titles in the series when you scan the book with the free Capstone 4D augmented reality app.

A brilliant novel from the bestselling author of High Fidelity, About a Boy, and A Long Way Down. Set in 1960's London, Funny Girl is a lively account of the adventures of the intrepid young Sophie Straw as she navigates her transformation from provincial ingénue to television starlet amid a constellation of delightful characters. Insightful and humorous, Nick Hornby's latest does what he does best: endears us to a cast of characters who are funny if flawed, and forces us to examine ourselves in the process. A collection of humorous stories from over two dozen contemporary female writers, as well as autobiographical essays, comics, poems, and comic strips.

Clown Girl lives in Baloneytown, a seedy neighborhood where drugs, balloon animals, and even rubber chickens contribute to the local currency. Against a backdrop of petty crime, she struggles to live her dreams, calling on cultural masters Charlie Chaplin, Kafka, and da Vinci for inspiration. In an effort to support herself and her layabout performance-artist boyfriend, Clown Girl finds herself unwittingly transformed into a "corporate clown," trapping herself in a cycle of meaningless, high-paid gigs that veer dangerously close to prostitution. Monica Drake has created a novel that riffs on the high comedy of early film stars — most notably Chaplin and W. C. Fields — to raise questions of class, gender, economics, and prejudice. Resisting easy classification, this debut novel blends the bizarre, the humorous, and the gritty with stunning skill.

In this remarkable debut novel, a boy's bittersweet passage to maturity and sexual awakening is set against escalating political tensions in Sri Lanka, during the seven years leading up to the 1983 riots. Arjie Chelvaratnam is a Tamil boy growing up in an extended family in Colombo. It is through his eyes that the story unfolds and we meet a delightful, sometimes eccentric cast of characters. Arjie's journey from the luminous simplicity of childhood days into the more intricately shaded world of adults — with its secrets, its injustices, and its capacity for violence — is a memorable one, as time and time again the true longings of the human heart are held against the way things are.

Intrepid young Sophie Straw navigates her transformation from provincial ingénue to television starlet amid a constellation of eccentric characters in 1960s London. By the best-selling author of *About a Boy*.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Finalist for the PEN/USA Award in Creative Nonfiction, the Thurber Prize for American Humor, and the Audie Award in Biography/Memoir This Random House Reader's Circle edition includes a reading group guide and a conversation between Firoozeh Dumas and Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*! "Remarkable . . . told with wry humor shorn of sentimentality . . . In the end, what sticks with the reader is an exuberant immigrant embrace of America."—*San Francisco Chronicle* In 1972, when she was seven, Firoozeh Dumas and her family moved from Iran to Southern California, arriving with no firsthand knowledge of this country beyond her father's glowing memories of his graduate school years here. More family soon followed, and the clan has been here ever since. *Funny in Farsi* chronicles the American journey of Dumas's wonderfully engaging family: her engineer father, a sweetly quixotic dreamer who first sought riches on Bowling for Dollars and in Las Vegas, and later lost his job during the Iranian revolution; her elegant mother, who never fully mastered English (nor cared to); her uncle, who combated the effects of American fast food with an army of miraculous American weight-loss gadgets; and Firoozeh herself, who as a girl changed her name to Julie, and who encountered a second wave of culture shock when she met and married a Frenchman, becoming part of a one-couple melting pot. In a series of deftly drawn scenes, we watch the family grapple with American English (hot dogs and hush puppies?—a complete mystery), American traditions (Thanksgiving turkey?—an even greater mystery, since it tastes like nothing), and American culture (Firoozeh's parents laugh uproariously at Bob Hope on television, although they don't get the jokes even when she translates them into Farsi). Above all, this is an unforgettable story of identity, discovery, and the power of family love. It is a book that will leave us all laughing—without an accent. Praise for *Funny in Farsi* "Heartfelt and hilarious—in any language."—*Glamour* "A joyful success."—*Newsday* "What's charming beyond the humor of this memoir is that it remains affectionate even in the weakest, most tenuous moments for the culture. It's the brilliance of true sophistication at work."—*Los Angeles Times Book Review* "Often hilarious, always interesting . . . Like the movie *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, this book describes with humor the intersection and overlapping of two cultures."—*The Providence Journal* "A humorous and introspective chronicle of a life filled with love—of family, country, and heritage."—Jimmy Carter "Delightfully refreshing."—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* "[*Funny in Farsi*] brings us closer to discovering what it means to be an American."—*San Jose Mercury News*

A lovable con woman and a disgraced detective team up to find a redneck reality TV star in this raucous and razor-sharp new novel from Carl Hiaasen, the bestselling author of *Bad Monkey*. Merry Mansfield, the eponymous *Razor Girl*, specializes in kidnapping for the mob. Her preferred method is rear-ending her targets and asking them for a ride. Her latest mark is Martin Trebeaux, owner of a private beach renourishment company who has delivered substandard sand to a mob hotel. But there's just one problem: *Razor Girl* hits the wrong guy. Instead, she ends up with Lane Coolman, talent manager for Buck Nance, the star of a reality TV show about a family of Cajun rooster farmers. Buck Nance, left to perform standup at a Key West bar without his handler, makes enough off-color jokes to incite a brawl, then flees for his life and vanishes. Now a routine promotional appearance has become a missing persons case. And Andrew Yancy, disgraced detective-turned-health inspector, is on the job. That the *Razor Girl* may be the key to Yancy's future will be as surprising to him as anything else he encounters along the way—including the giant Gambian pouched rats that are haunting his restaurant inspections.

"[A] charming, funny, touching, and relevant comedy." —*The Boston Globe* "A provocative yet sweet romantic comedy." —*People*, Best of Fall 2020 This warm, wise, highly entertaining

twenty-first century love story is about what happens when the person who makes you happiest is someone you never expected. Lucy used to handle her adult romantic life according to the script she'd been handed. She met a guy just like herself: same age, same background, same hopes and dreams; they got married and started a family. Too bad he made her miserable. Now, two decades later, she's a nearly divorced, forty-one-year-old schoolteacher with two school-aged sons, and there is no script anymore. So when she meets Joseph, she isn't exactly looking for love—she's more in the market for a babysitter. Joseph is twenty-two, living at home with his mother, and working several jobs, including the butcher counter where he and Lucy meet. It's not a match anyone one could have predicted. He's of a different class, a different culture, and a different generation. But sometimes it turns out that the person who can make you happiest is the one you least expect, though it can take some maneuvering to see it through. Just Like You is a brilliantly observed, tender, but also brutally funny new novel that gets to the heart of what it means to fall surprisingly and headlong in love with the best possible person—someone you didn't see coming.

"My Sweet Girl pushes the boundaries of what a thriller can do."--The Washington Post

"Fiendish, full-of-twists...Sri Lankan author Amanda Jayatissa keeps us guessing and worrying until the very end."--The New York Times "A thriller centered on the meaning of identity and all the layers it can have."--NPR

A Most Anticipated Novel of Fall 2021 by Entertainment Weekly, NPR, New York Post, The Boston Globe, Fortune, BuzzFeed, Goodreads, Shondaland,

PopSugar, Bustle, Betches, Lit Hub, Crime Reads, BookRiot, Crime by the Book, The Nerd Daily, The Every Girl, and more!

Paloma thought her perfect life would begin once she was adopted and made it to America, but she's about to find out that no matter how far you run, your past always catches up to you... Ever since she was adopted from a Sri Lankan orphanage, Paloma has had the best of everything--schools, money, and parents so perfect that she fears she'll never live up to them.

Now at thirty years old and recently cut off from her parents' funds, she decides to sublet the second bedroom of her overpriced San Francisco apartment to Arun, who recently moved from India.

Paloma has to admit, it feels good helping someone find their way in America--that is until Arun discovers Paloma's darkest secret, one that could jeopardize her own fragile place in this country.

Before Paloma can pay Arun off, she finds him face down in a pool of blood. She flees the apartment but by the time the police arrive, there's no body--and no evidence that Arun ever even existed in the first place.

Paloma is terrified this is all somehow tangled up in the desperate actions she took to escape Sri Lanka so many years ago. Did Paloma's secret die with Arun or is she now in greater danger than ever before?

Funny Girl: A Novel by Nick Hornby | A 15-minute Summary & Analysis Preview: Funny Girl is a novel by writer Nick Hornby set in Blackpool, England in 1964. It tells the story of twenty-one year old Barbara Parker, a beautiful blonde, who wants to become a comedienne like Lucille Ball.

Barbara wins the Miss Blackpool beauty pageant. Barbara wants more than anything to get out of Blackpool. When she realizes the title of Miss Blackpool commits her to a year of hospital visits and charity events, Barbara gives the title to the runner up and leaves for London.

Barbara gets a job working the cosmetics counter at Derry and Toms, a department store on Kensington High Street. She meets Marjorie, who works in the shoe department, and accepts an offer to become her roommate.

Barbara tells Marjorie she wants to become an actress. Marjorie suggests she buy a copy of The Stage, a trade paper that advertises auditions... PLEASE NOTE: This is an unofficial summary and analysis of the book and NOT the original book.

Inside this Instaread Summary & Analysis of Funny Girl\* Summary of entire book\* Introduction to the Important People in the book\* Analysis of the Themes and Author's Style About the Author With Instaread, you can get the summary and analysis of a book in 15 minutes. We read every chapter, summarize and analyze it for your convenience.

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