

MEDIA RELEASE

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JUST JENNA

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a week without a man?

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The début novel from Diane Claire Benant, out 9 October 2016

Ever dated (or married) a dork? Ever wondered what your best friend sees in her boyfriend? Got a friend who never learns from her dating disasters? As I emerged from a duff relationship in my thirties and saw the debris of friends' relationships around me, a question begged to be answered: why do seemingly smart women compromise when it comes to their choice of men?

Novels became my new bedtime companion. The more I read, the more frustrated I became. Why did all light, easy-reading, modern novels for women end with 'girl gets boy'? Where were the feel-good, fun novels with food-for-thought?

My mission was set: to write the book I wanted to read - a funny, upbeat story about looking for love with one difference: that it absolutely, definitely, positively did not end with 'girl gets boy'.

Just Jenna is the result. Many women in their thirties are looking for love. Jenna Andrews is trying to stay single. As a reluctant, self-confessed 'serial girlfriend', who at the age of 33 has always had a boyfriend in tow, she is sent by her friends on a week's holiday alone on a bet: *no snogging, no bonking, no boyfriends*. Will she succeed? And what lessons will she learn along the way?

"Settle for less in love" screamed a recent Sunday Times article. "Meet the freemale – a woman who'd rather be single," declared the Daily Mail. The media debate rages on. The reality is that over two million women in the UK aged 30 to 49 live in single households*. **Isn't it high time we offered women a different kind of happy ending?**

Diane Claire Benant

View the Just Jenna Book Trailer here <https://youtu.be/fcNrmtbHtFI>

(*Office for National Statistics 2015).

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Practical information

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**'Gripping,
heart-warming
and hilarious'**

Louisa Sando-Patel

**'Perfect
ski holiday
reading'**

Heather Gray