

[Ebook pdf] Boat Bastard: A Love/Hate Memoir

Boat Bastard: A Love/Hate Memoir

Deborah van Rooyen

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Deborah van Rooyen : Boat Bastard: A Love/Hate Memoir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Boat Bastard: A Love/Hate Memoir:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sailing... and other horrors!By BooSad and twisted tale of the agony of incompatibility. As well as the horrors of sailing with someone who doesn't give you the heart space to float his boat. Read it!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Don't Miss the BoatBy David McKieI don't usually read much in this genre but this one is juicy in form and content. Using consistently inventive writing and open-heart surgery with only local aesthetics for protection, the author travels over male-female oceans familiar in their choppy

rhythms and treacherous currents. Yet she adds fascination through taking her own distinct bearings, standing on her integrity, getting blown off course, and finally finding safe haven - albeit not in the destination she desired. Despite the pain and love van Rooyen comes over as more than fair to her fellow seatraveller but I can't help but feel she jumped ship just in time. Otherwise he'd have sailed her into a sea of alcoholic despond infested with vapid wasps in what must be one of the inner rings of Hell. In the end, the feisty Jewishness that blocks her acceptance to the class and salt encrusted establishment proves to be a blessing - you need to read to the conclusion to understand what I mean - as Israeli directness rips the thin topsail of upper East Coast America's illusionary inclusiveness into shreds. Each time my interest began to die down, van Rooyen found a fresh inspiration to keep me reading right through to the finale and even after that she had a unexpectedly entertaining coda of friend's comments. I hope she writes a mystery next time around as this is a talent to enjoy already and to watch in the future. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. "Hell Hath No Fury..." By Emmanuel d'Amonville "Hell hath no fury..." but does not have such a talented one as she who has expressed it with the candor, love, humor, artistry and sophistication of this intimate memoir. Deborah takes you by the hand and invites you to visit the ports of call of this stormy relationship that are the tapestry against which she portrays vividly, and with remarkable economy of brushstrokes, the human foibles of the characters, including her own, that bring to life this memorable and deeply moving human saga. It is around The Captain and his thoroughbred yacht, who at center stage display exquisite style and presence topside but considerably less elegant and accommodating selves below deck, that the protagonists are unmasked. This is the work of a compassionate artist whose sensitivity and generosity give life to a cast that is above all imminently human. It is, in no way, a "bitch and moan" statement but rather an expression of courageously processed and resolved experience of abandonment and loss which keeps author and reader intact as they navigate the stormy passage. Deborah offers a compelling and delightfully readable book that belongs in everybody's beach bag for a first read, with anticipation of many subsequent revisits.

Embark on a thirteen-year journey through the stormy, madcap, on-again, off-again relationship between a Boston advertising art director (van Rooyen) and a Boston advertising film-director-turned-sailor ("The Captain"). *Boat Bastard* examines the torturous, slightly out of step mating dance that ensues between these two oversized personalities, complete with the requisite break-ups, reconciliations, and bloody bumps and bruises along the way. From Boston and Cape Cod to France, Israel, Jordan, and, finally, the Chesapeake, the Captain navigates this affair on his own terms, until one day, van Rooyen jumps ship. With enormous wit and deadpan delivery, van Rooyen lays bare the very real experience of being the not-so-perfect woman trying to get it right with the almost-perfect man. In the end, she discovers that much as the Captain cannot seem to eke out much space for her within the confines of his boat, so too fares her claim on the affection within his heart. Van Rooyen finally emerges from the relationship with more than her share of sadness and regret, but also with the dignity that comes from having the strength to walk away.

From Publishers Weekly The "boat bastard" in question is van Rooyen's lover, "Captain," a newly retired advertising film director with a 36-foot sailing sloop, although he could be any man with a "one-foot-in, one-foot-out" attitude to romance. The author, a creative director in Boston, fell in love with this Hemingway wannabe on a work assignment and spent the next 13 years trying to figure out what to do about him. Life on board ship is enormously frustrating for this otherwise capable woman "I grow stupid on the boat," she confesses, injuring herself constantly, losing verbal skills and losing her sense of self. Her man is so egotistical and emotionally unavailable that parallel troubles surface on shore, whether they're in Amman, Cape Cod, the Chesapeake Bay or France. The memoir's prologue prop a castrated voodoo doll reminds van Rooyen of her anger at the casual slights she's suffered; the retelling of her on-again, off-again romance reminds her of the love she still feels, long after she's jumped ship. Her confessional style is funny and self-deprecating, leaking enough about her own very checkered life (her teen years on a kibbutz, her rescue of her daughter from a kidnapping attempt by her ex, her project consulting to the queen of Jordan on a venture to market Palestinian women's handicrafts) to pique readers' interest and sympathy. Fans of NPR's *Satellite Sisters* program know the tune: "reader, I love him, but I wasn't getting anything back." Agent, Charles Bell Everitt. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. About the Author Deborah van Rooyen is a writer and award winning creative director based in Boston, Massachusetts. Author of *My Grandfather's Brother's Son*, published in Israel, she is now working on a new book of memoirs, *Jewish in Jordan: A View from the Other Side*.