



One Little White Lie

Loretta Hill

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A hilarious romantic novella from Loretta Hill (author of bestselling *The Girl in Steel-Capped Boots*). When *One Little White Lie* turns into a red-blooded reality!

What do you do when your best friend is the serial match maker from Hell?

Single girl Kate Dreson knows that her friend, Lisa, is not going to leave her alone unless she tells her that she is happily dating someone. Who knew that *One Little White Lie* could so blatantly backfire?

The imaginary boyfriend she described to her friend so lovingly suddenly walks into her life and starts making himself comfortable in it.

Trapped by her lie, poor Kate is powerless to stop him. But the real question is, does she really want to?

One Little White Lie Details

Date : Published February 1st 2013 by Random House

ISBN :

Author : Loretta Hill

Format : ebook 144 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Novella

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From Reader Review One Little White Lie for online ebook

Yellow Eyed says

LOVED IT!

I started reading One Little White Lie on a Sunday morning in bed and have to admit I didn't put it down or get out of bed until I'd reached the ending. It was the perfect Sunday read.

Loretta Hill is amazing. She is a fantastic author. She managed to bring life to characters in a NOVELLA! She left me feeling happy and satisfied.

Yes, the book was predictable. Yes, it was full of cliché's. But I didn't care. Once in a while I like to read something different. It's like cleansing my reading palette, I got that from another book blogger, Savannah from bookswithbite.net, it might sound a little weird but it gets the point across. I love the supernatural, and YA but once in a while I need something different because otherwise books would feel like they'd be repeating themselves.

One Little White Lie didn't disappoint. The characters were so...full of life. I had no trouble in connecting with them. Except for the evil douchebag in the story. Him I wanted to kill. Ok. Maybe not kill, just drop him in the middle of a jungle and leave to survive on his own... Still too harsh? And even with that proclamation I have to congratulate Loretta Hill because that's what she made me feel. She's simply brilliant.

Henry and Kate. Cute, adorable and funny as can be. I loved the fact that Henry was a secret, successful, rich author in this book. *sigh*

Loretta Hill has officially made it onto my pre-order list. I will 100% be buying anything she publishes! My bank account isn't as excited as I am.

5/5 - Simply fun.

And if you're still not sure whether you want to read or leave this book. This is how I'm going to describe it. If this story was made into a movie, the critics (old boring men) would deem it unworthy. BUT the women and teenage girls, even if they didn't want too. Even if they liked to say they only loved the action and horror movies would secretly love it. And they'd have it on their DVD pile. Guaranteed!

And if you're still not sure, it's a novella for Christ sake. 100 or so pages.

MrsJoseph says

This one has been on Mt. TBR for 3 years, 5 months.

This book is the poster child for the differences in humor. *One Little White Lie* is supposed to be a Rom-Com (Romantic Comedy) but, to me, it was all that is infuriating.

The heroine was trashed by her ex 2 years ago. Ever since the h's BFF has been trying to fix her up in ways

that would have had me beating my ex-BFF's ass. She sets the h up on blind dates without her knowledge: the h shows up to hang out with friends and there's a drunken man hanging all over her. Or the h starts getting fucking PHONE CALLS from a random ass guy because her "bff" gave out her phone number. Come on, WTF??!

Then, the heroine's fucking "bff" tells a guy that she'll let him meet the heroine IF he PRETENDS to be her boyfriend at a social event (wedding rehearsal dinner) that the heroine's ex will be at. BUT THE HEROINE DOESN'T KNOW so she's feeling humiliated and hurt. The "bff" even gave out personal information like where she's at on a specific day and time and the fact that she's working on her phd thesis. The heroine doesn't even know dude's name!!!

This - to me - would be more than enough. But she then has to apologize to her fucking "bff" because she lied about dating someone. I wouldn't have lied - I would have kicked that bitch out my life because she's gonna get me killed.

The rest of the story had the heroine in tears and being hurt or embarrassed on at least two more occasions.

And I failed to find ANY funny in this. Just a lot of sad, a lot of terrible men and the most terrible "best friend" that wasn't a frienemy. Ever. I mean, I ask my friends before I give out their phone number to someone they KNOW - let alone a STRANGER. I can't.

So. Clearly me and Loretta Hill (and Loretta's editor) have no types of humor in common at all.

Sam Still Reading says

One Little White Lie is one of the launch titles for Random House Australia's new digital imprint, Random Romance. If this novella is anything to go by, it's going to be full of excellent titles – full of fun, humour, witty repartee and romance.

I recently reviewed Loretta Hill's *The Girl in the Hard Hat* and really enjoyed it. I was really interested to see how Hill would tackle a romance novel, given that her previous book focused on a great, underused setting (Western Australia's Pilbara region). I am pleased to say that this lady is GOOD – her characters absolutely sparkle off the page and into my heart. It's been a long time since I had a book character crush, but Henry fits the bill. Not only is he handsome, genuinely nice but he's an incredibly famous (but publicity shy) author. Kate is our heroine and she's no slouch either – she's currently writing her PhD thesis. I love that we have two intelligent characters as the protagonists – gives hope to us geeks!

Kate is sick of being hassled by her best friend over her continual single relationship status after a bad breakup with an evil surgeon. Frustrated, she tells Lisa that she does have a boyfriend – she's just waiting until the right moment to show him off. So it's a shock when her imaginary boyfriend greets her in person at a party! Henry insists that Kate give him a go, but he's hiding his megastar author status. Add in a bit of fisticuffs, a lot of missed opportunities and 'nearly!' moments. This is the perfect romantic comedy – in book form.

I would say that this is the best novella I've read. Usually, I feel somewhat cheated that we don't get to know the characters in depth and plot lines are left unexplored. Hill achieves this all brilliantly in such a concise way – I felt connected to the characters to the point where I think I'd know Kate if I ran into her on the street. Granted, there are not too many threads woven through this book (it is only 100 pages after all) but I felt that everything was tied up to my satisfaction.

I can confidently say that I'll read anything Loretta Hill writes from now on. Her ability to bring a smile to my face through her witty prose and character's adventures means she is an author to watch out for.

<http://samstillreading.wordpress.com>

Celine says

To be honest I barely read contemporary romances. I saw *One Little White Lie* on Netgalley, and decided to give it a try since I could use a short, fun novella.

In *One Little White Lie* Kate lies to her friend Lisa, and tells her she has a boyfriend. She would never find out that she was lying, right? But then Lisa tells Kate that she met the wonderful boyfriend, and everything gets very confusing.

I very much enjoyed this novella. The story catalyst is quite predictable, but Ms Hill handles the subject wonderfully. Kate is just as surprised as anyone when her fake boyfriend joins her at a party, and I found the situation hilarious. It was all well written, and had this romantic comedy movie feel.

The only thing I didn't like about the book was the point of view of the fake boyfriend. The moment he lays eyes on Kate, he thinks she's an angel and he just wants to know her. He instantly identifies her as the love of his life, the woman he will stay with. I found this completely unrealistic. I wish he just found her beautiful and that he wanted to get to know her better - this was just a bit too much weird-stalker behaviour for me. I didn't let this influence my rating too much because I know this is make-believe. This is how women *want* men to think, which doesn't necessarily have to be realistic.

The hurdles the couple has to overcome *are* quite realistic though. It's nice that not all of a sudden everything is perfect between them. They both have issues to overcome, and it takes them a while to come to terms with everything.

One Little White Lie is an entertaining novella that can easily be read in one sitting. Perfect for your daily dose of escapism and romance.

Katie_la_geek says

I really liked the idea of this novella, it sounded fun and flirty but unfortunately it turned out to be the opposite. The writing is generally fine but I found the storyline to be predictable and cheesy.

By far the worst thing about this book was the characters. Henry was not too bad (his brother however is a

different story) but Kate was a total pushover. She let everyone, especially her interfering and annoying best friend Lisa, walk all over her. Lisa is dominating, bossy and not what I would consider a good friend. She pushes Kate too far and refuses to see things any way but hers. She even gives out Kate's personal details to a total stranger. Yet for everything Lisa did wrong Kate always ended up apologising!

I really wanted to like *One Little White Lie* but just couldn't. This one wasn't for me.

Bree T says

Kate Dresden is single after she discovered that her previous boyfriend had been betraying her for probably the entire length of their relationship. Kate's best friend Lisa is determined to see that Kate is as happy and loved up as she herself is and tries to keep fixing Kate up with men, everywhere. After a random meeting at a bar turns out to be nothing of the sort, Kate loses her temper and finally tells Lisa to back off and stop setting her up, because she already has a boyfriend. She just hasn't told anyone because it's new and she was keeping it secret to see how things went.

It's a blatant lie of course, Kate just wants Lisa off her back and she feels that this is the only way in which Lisa will listen to her. But her plan backfires badly when Lisa insists that Kate bring her new boyfriend to Lisa's engagement party. Kate arrives, ready to tell everyone that the relationship is over when all of a sudden her "boyfriend" appears. Kate is partially shocked – who is this man? Why is he saying he's her boyfriend? What's going on? And also partially intrigued. This man fits the bill for her ideal sort of boyfriend and as she spends more time with him, she finds out that they're extremely compatible.

Henry has always wanted to meet someone just as himself, not as a name that sells a lot of books. With Kate he has that chance, but all secrets have to come out eventually...

One Little White Lie is a cute and fun novella from Loretta Hill, best selling author of *The Girl In Steel-Capped Boots* and *The Girl In The Hard Hat*. Here Loretta heads away from the Pilbarra and remote locations and sets her story in a city. Kate is a PhD student, still working on her thesis and still reeling from a bad break up. What makes things worse is that her ex is still in her life and never loses an opportunity to put her down or make her feel an inch high. She has trust issues, which makes it hard to relax when she meets someone and she's tired of being set up.

Henry wrote a trilogy which outsold just about everything else on the market and is being made into a movie. As a result of this and his new found wealth, he often finds that women aren't interested in him, just his pen name and his money. When he meets Kate, he sees a chance for a woman to get to know the real him – and he gets to spend time with the woman that intrigued him from the very first time he laid eyes on her. There's quite an attraction between Kate and Henry but they both have some obstacles and baggage to overcome first.

I couldn't help but relate to Kate. I've been her, the single friend that people often pity! I never had anyone attempt to matchmake me though, and had anyone tried, especially to the extent that Lisa was going to, I'd have lost my temper very quickly. Sometimes you need time to get over a bad break-up! When Kate opens her mouth and the lie tumbles out, I felt for her. I thought it was sad that she needed to lie because her friend was not listening to her. However Kate also needed to let go of her bitterness and her trust issues and she was probably never going to be able to do that until she moved on, so I could see why Lisa wanted her to be open

minded to meeting someone and trying to find some happiness again with another person.

Being a shorter story, the relationship developing between Henry and Kate did feel a little bit rushed but I'm used to reading full length novels where things can take a lot longer! This was still a very fun, quirky story with some interesting characters that proved you can take Hill out of the Pilbarra and she's still going to deliver.

Kris-10 says

One Little White Lie is so freakin' adorable- I absolutely loved it! Sometimes novellas have a tendency to rush through all the information that needs to be provided so that you never really feel a connection to the characters or the story. Thankfully, this was not the case! While I still would have liked to read *more* about Henry and Kate's relationship, I'm still satisfied with the story that Loretta Hill has spun. Kate (who is working toward getting her PhD) has been single for quite a while because of a bad past relationship that she never fully got over. Henry (who is a famous author) is single because he has just found out that his most recent girlfriend was just another gold-digger after his fame and fortune. Kate's best friend is hell-bent on setting her up with someone and Kate is tired of all the blind dates with complete sleaze-bags, douche-bags, and/or dirt-bags. So, she decides that the only way to field off the blind dates is to no longer be single- thus the creation of her imaginary boyfriend ensues. But her one little white lie has grown out of proportion and suddenly everyone is expecting to meet this amazing boyfriend at her best friend's engagement party. Kate goes to the party alone fully prepared to tell everyone that she and her "boyfriend" have broken up. So imagine her surprise when her friends approach her telling her how much they approve of the new guy..... who..... doesn't..... even..... exist.... Kate totally made him up! She never told anyone his name- and only described her perfect dream guy. So when Henry approaches her at the party, looking just like her dream guy, and backing up her 'boyfriend' story- she has no choice but to play along..... for now. Aren't you all curious about how this little charade came to fruition? If you are, then you definitely need to go pick up this little novella- I promise it's a decision that you won't regret! :))

A copy was provided by the publisher via NetGalley.

Actual Rating: 4.5/5 Stars

Shirley Frances says

Kate is tired of her friend Lisa setting her up with guys that are not worth the trouble, especially since she doesn't see the need to be dating anyone at the moment. She is focused on finishing her PhD and has a life plan that doesn't include putting her heart on the line so that it could be shattered to pieces like it had on her previous relationship. Her mistake? Telling her that she has a secret boyfriend and embellishing with a couple of details from her fantasy man.

Henri is tired of meaningless relationship where the women are only interested in his money. He wants an honest woman who will love him for who he is and not how much money he can bring to the relationship. He asks his brother for help and finds himself in a crowded club where he stumbles upon Kate. Immediately, he recognizes that she is the woman for him and searches for her. His mistake? Asking Lisa for her help minutes after Kate informed her of her 'secret boyfriend'. Recognizing the perfect opportunity to set Kate up

with the man of her dreams, Lisa arranges for them to meet.

What comes next is a series of events that will have you laughing and some that will have you feeling bad for Kate and Henri. I was laughing at how the events played out on that first meeting, getting a little teary eyed when Kate and Henri stumble into their first hurdle and grinning like a fool as Kate and Henri finally come together.

Loretta Hill delivered a sweet, funny novella with interesting characters, a little angst and a lot of romance.

I received this title from Random House Australia through NetGalley in exchange of my honest opinion.

Sean Harding says

Unbelievable premise which is the normality of many of these types of books and fairly ordinary execution which is also the norm describe this thankfully brief book which had very little going for it. It is a part of an omnibus I have no idea why I ended up with it, but it must have felt like a good idea at the time is my only excuse. Anyway a very ordinary book with little to praise about it.

Beth says

One Little White Lie, a crazy match making friend, a big secret and an ex-boyfriend from hell creates this absolutely marvelous, sweet, romance that you definitely must read.

Kate Dreson has spent the last 2 years getting her life back on track. She is recovering from a bad break up with a cheating boyfriend. Everyone wants her to get back into the dating scene so when she's had enough of bad blind dates Kate makes up a mystery boyfriend...but her friend Lisa isn't buying it. When said friend, Lisa, gets the chance...she sets Kate up with someone that just might be her perfect man, Henry. But Lisa makes Henry tell all Kate's friends that he is her mystery boyfriend.

Trapped in her lie, Kate must go along with the ruse and protect her heart from ever being hurt again. But as her walls start coming down around her heart a secret from Henry might tear them apart forever.

This was a wonderfully sweet romance. I completely loved reading this story and going along for this developing relationship. If I had one complaint...this story was novella length and I wanted more! More of these fun characters, more of this great romance and more from Loretta Hill. Don't miss **One Little White Lie**.

This copy of **One Little White Lie** was given to me by Random House Australia - RHA eBooks Adult in exchange for a honest review. Book publication date is Feb. 1, 2013.

Dianne says

This clever novella was a joy to read! Short, humorous and, I have to say it....CUTE!

Kate Dreson is young, beautiful and single. She is also gun shy when it comes to relationships thanks to her cheating ex-boyfriend. Meanwhile, her best friend, Lisa is the proverbial matchmaker, always trying to set Kate up with men, usually with disastrous results! Escaping her latest blind date, Kate barrels into a man in the bar, rights herself and heads off to find her matchmaking friend.

Fed up with Lisa's good intentions, with one 'little white lie,' Kate fabricates her dream man and pretends he is always unavailable to meet her friends. Remember the guy she ran into? Apparently she made an impression on him, because after speaking to Lisa, he is now involved in just one more 'little white lie!'

So what happens when the little white lies start to pile up????? Not going to tell you! I will say that this was over too soon! It is that good!! I fell in love with the story, the characters are great, the ending, sure we probably can guess it, but getting there was the fun part!

This edition was provided by NetGalley and Random House Australia's new digital imprint, Random Romance! If this is what we can expect from Random Romance-count me in!

Emma Tingay says

One Little White Lie is a comic novella about white lies and how they can lead to much bigger things. Kate Dreson is young, gorgeous and single – thanks to her cheating ex-boyfriend, Mark. They were together for three years, but now Kate would much rather stay at home than risk being set-up by her best friend, Lisa. Although she means well, Lisa is a compulsive match-maker and, after being chatted-up by a drunk guy at a pub, Kate has decided that enough is enough. She vows to put an end to the match-making by inventing a boyfriend – her dream man.

Meanwhile, unbeknownst to Kate, this dream man has been enlisted by Lisa to pretend to be Kate's boyfriend. Henry is rich, handsome, and a very successful writer who just wants to find a girl who appreciates him for who he is, rather than one who is only after his money.

Here begins a comedy of errors of sorts, filled with a lot of meddling from Lisa and Henry's brother Tom. This is where the story got a bit frustrating for me as I didn't like the characters of Tom and Lisa much and I really just wanted them to leave Kate and Henry to get on with things themselves. I appreciate, of course, that this would not have happened if it weren't for the interferences, and that they drive the story and provide complications, but for Tom to go as far as having Kate investigated I think took things a bit too far. I felt sorry for Kate not being able to go anywhere without being potentially set-up by Lisa.

To further complicate matters, Henry is actually the elusive fantasy writer H.L.Carter. Wanting to see if Kate likes him for himself rather than his money, Henry doesn't tell her, even when she confides to him that H.L.Carter is her absolute favourite author of all time. Needless to say when Kate discovers the truth she is not very happy that Henry had kept this from her.

I liked the fact that, having both been burnt in previous relationships, Kate and Henry were as nervous and unsure as each other at the beginning of their relationship. Ultimately I believed in the connection between them.

One Little White Lie is a cute, bubbly read. With the setting of Sydney sparkling throughout the novel, this would be the perfect summer beach read.

7.5/10

Jenna Anderson says

~ ~ Fun Setting and Characters - Too Many Lies

Thank you NetGalley and Random Romance for the review copy of this book.

I love reading novellas. They are perfect little bites in between longer, more intense books. This title was a quick read.

Kate has been hurt by a ex boyfriend - a real jerk. Henry has been used by many exs who were only after his money. Can these two learn to love again?

This is mostly a clean romance. There are a few kissing scenes but nothing beyond that. I enjoyed the Australian setting. Kate was an adorable main female character and I loved the 'rich author' angle.

When I first started this book I assumed it would be all about the two main characters pretending to be dating. That wasn't the case. It really is a novella about not revealing facts, false accusations, misunderstandings, and flat out lies. The title "One Little White Lie" is misleading because this book is full of lies.

Sadly, the romance aspects of this book take a backseat. The characters don't have their first real date until we reach 69% of the ebook. We spend a majority of the time reading about all the schemes and lies. A miss for me.

MarciaB - Book Muster Down Under says

The Blurb

“A hilarious romantic novella from Loretta Hill (author of bestselling The Girl in Steel-Capped Boots). When one little white lie turns into a red-blooded reality!

What do you do when your best friend is the serial match maker from Hell?

Single girl Kate Dreson knows that her friend, Lisa, is not going to leave her alone unless she tells her that she is happily dating someone. Who knew that one little white lie could so blatantly backfire?

The imaginary boyfriend she described to her friend so lovingly suddenly walks into her life and starts making himself comfortable in it.

Trapped by her lie, poor Kate is powerless to stop him. But the real question is, does she really want to?”

Overview

Lisa, Kate's best friend, is on a mission – to find her the perfect man. But Kate's not interested in Lisa's

attempts to hook her up with someone that she thinks would be the ideal partner.

So, after yet another failed attempt on Lisa's behalf, trying to get an inebriated man to show an interest in her best friend, Kate has had enough!

While trying not to hurt her best friend's feelings, she finds herself telling a lie – that she has, in fact, already met someone, but they've been keeping it quiet until they're sure they're meant for one another.

Imagine her surprise when she arrives at Lisa's engagement party announcing that her boyfriend is unable to make it due to them having called it quits, only to discover that "he" is in fact at the party and just happens to be the image of the man she described to Lisa.

With Kate firmly in his sights after one encounter, there's no way that Henry's about to let her go, no matter how much she prevaricates, and firmly attempts to ensconce himself in her life.

Unfortunately, for any love story to have a happy ending, there's bound to be a bit of conflict, so when Henry's brother Tom has Kate investigated, and he meets her ex-fiancé, sparks are bound to fly.

My Thoughts

This was a sweet, light-hearted, quick read with a comical look at the situations our well-meaning friends can get us into, which I thoroughly enjoyed as I escaped for a little while from the reality that is my life!

Whilst this is .Loretta Hill's first novella and is typically one of those romances with a "*happy ever after*", she has firmly placed herself on the market as an author who is gifted in her story-telling with her two previous contemporary novels, *The Girl in Steel Capped Boots* and *The Girl in the Hard Hat*.

One Little White Lie is also one of the launch titles for Random House Australia's new digital imprint, Random Romance and I wish to thank both Random House and NetGalley for allowing me the opportunity to request this title.

A Little About the Author

Loretta was born in Perth, Western Australia, the eldest of four girls. She enjoyed writing from a very early age, spinning stories almost as soon as she could read them.

She was first published in the West Australian Newspaper with a short story about a circus horse when she was eleven years old. They paid her ten dollars for it and she knew she'd found her calling.

She put her dream on hold however, to pursue a less risky career in engineering. Blessed with her fathers knack for science, she graduated from the University of Western Australia and began working as a structural engineer. She continued to create stories in her free time.

She now writes contemporary romances for Avalon Books under the name .Loretta Brabant and mainstream commercial women's fiction for Random House Australia under the name Loretta Hill. She is happily married with three young children. When Loretta isn't writing, she enjoys reading, good food and travelling

Jess says

One Little White Lie is a delightful little novella from one of Australia's best selling emerging author Loretta Hill. It's quick paced, light and a fairly entertaining read that is both similar and different from Hill's debut novel *The Girl in Steel Capped Boots* (2012) and her follow up *The Girl in the Hard Hat* (2013).

Unlike her current series of books set within the Pilbara, *One Little White Lie* is set in Sydney and follows the story of Kate, a dirt-poor university student who is struggling with relationship issues whilst completing her PhD. Having become almost a recluse following a bad relationship, Kate's best friend Lisa, a serial match-maker, is determined to get her back into the dating game, no matter the cost or methods. Constantly bombarded with blind dates and obvious set ups, Kate puts her foot down only to find herself in the biggest scheme Lisa has ever thought up, and all because of Kate's little white lie. Now with a pretend boyfriend who is requesting official dates and a chance, Kate finds herself walking a path she had never wanted to travel again.

The characters are alive and vibrant and it's hard not to be drawn into their little world. My only complaint is that having finished the novella now I want more. I loved being given a famous and handsome author as a male protagonist (Henry) and a strong independent female university student completing her PhD (Kate). In a way it was kind of a relief not to have ditsy characters that 'giggle' and 'blush' and bounce around all the time. All of which helped to not only create and set the scene, but also create an engaging story that becomes hard to put down. I know I didn't want too.

Initially I was interested to see how Hill's style would change given the format change (novels to novella) and the setting change (Rural to a more Urban setting) and ultimately I think Hill has pulled these both off. While its true that in terms of content, the issues faced in *One Little White Lie* are not as 'serious' and big as those in her novels, I don't think they are any less real or engaging. In fact, despite only being given a snap shot of Kate and Henry's lives and relationships, Loretta Hill deals really well with some of humanities more unflattering traits. A large portion of the novella deals with the types of shallow and ugliness that success can bring out in people. For "it seemed the more successful he got, the less sincere people became. He'd met a startling number since then who had basically wanted to know him for one of three things. Money. Fame. Status."

Ultimately the story's designed to be read in one setting, and true to form, it's an easy and entertaining read making it easy to do so. Like her previous work, this novella has everything a good chick lit/contemporary fiction novel has: feel good writing, dreamy characters and a beautiful love story and relationships. While she may not be tackling as big or problematic issues as she does in her novels, Loretta Hill still manages to explore basic human fears and relationships while casting light over some unattractive social traits. As usual, Loretta Hill proves once again not only why she is a best selling author, but also many readers guilty pleasures.

Thank you to the publisher and netgalley for the copy I recieved to review.

This novella was read as part of my Australian Women's Writers Challenge for 2013.

This review also appears on my blog - The Never Ending Bookshelf - and can be found here:
<http://theneverendingbookshelf.blog.c...>

