



# The Perfectly Imperfect Woman

*Milly Johnson*

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## **The Perfectly Imperfect Woman** Milly Johnson

Marnie Salt has made so many mistakes in her life that she fears she will never get on the right track. But when she ‘meets’ an old lady on a baking chatroom and begins confiding in her, little does she know how her life will change.

Arranging to see each other for lunch, Marnie finds discovers that Lilian is every bit as mad and delightful as she’d hoped – and that she owns a whole village in the Yorkshire Dales, which has been passed down through generations. And when Marnie needs a refuge after a crisis, she ups sticks and heads for Wychwell – a temporary measure, so she thinks.

But soon Marnie finds that Wychwell has claimed her as its own and she is duty bound not to leave. Even if what she has to do makes her as unpopular as a force 12 gale in a confetti factory! But everyone has imperfections, as Marnie comes to realise, and that is not such a bad thing – after all, your flaws are perfect for the heart that is meant to love you.

The Perfectly Imperfect Woman is the heart-warming and hilarious new novel from the queen of feel-good fiction – a novel of family, secrets, love and redemption ... and broken hearts mended and made all the stronger for it.

## **The Perfectly Imperfect Woman Details**

Date : Published February 22nd 2018 by Simon & Schuster

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Author : Milly Johnson

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# From Reader Review The Perfectly Imperfect Woman for online ebook

## Best Crime Books & More says

I was thrilled to get a chance to read another Milly Johnson. Her covers are always so enticing and I rarely don't love one of her books. Thankfully this latest one is a wonderful read and I devoured it in just two sittings. Marnie Salt has an okay job, and when she meets a guy from work things seem to be going swimmingly. She then has a chance encounter with a lady online named Lillian. When Marnie and Lillian finally meet up, a few things happen to Marnie which have a massive impact on her life and she finds herself living in the village of Wychwell, where Lillian is none other than Lady of The Manor.

Wychwell seems to be something of a fresh start for Marnie however it soon becomes apparent that the village of Wychwall is not like oither places and it has its very own rules and regulations which the villagers ensure Marnie is aware of. I'm reluctant to share any more of the storyline as this book is I feel a bit of a departure from the norm. The story may seem like it goes in one direction but there are actually a number of sub plots running through all of which captured my attention.

The characters are again both likeable and extremely readable, making for the perfect read. The characters are again slightly different from the normal characters you would expect and it makes the book so much more engaging. I absolutely loved this book and would highly recommend it to anybody.

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## Tracy Munro says

Great book ,love this author. Read all her books and they are all a great read

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## Nessa says

I absolutely loved loved this book, it was highly entertaining, heartfelt, little emotional and funny in places. The story was brilliantly written and the characters just came alive, so believable. Milly really does have a way with words.

I really felt sorry for Marnie at times, some of the things she had a cope with and deal with in life, certainly wasn't easy for her.

I loved the whole mystery element which was cleverly woven into the story, I kept trying to figure it all out before the end and I was right on a couple of things but not on others.

As for the cheesecake flavours that Marnie makes of Lime & ginger, white chocolate & raspberry, trillionaires shortbread, old English trifle, chocolate rum truffle, prosecco & strawberry, honeycomb & caramel, well I just wanted to try them all as they sounded decadently yummy.

Milly is fast becoming one of my favourite authors, can't wait to read her other books.

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## **Anne says**

By the end of the first chapter of *The Perfectly Imperfect Woman* I was craving cheesecake! It was almost midnight and I had to go to bed with the image of a delicious buttery, crumbly based topped with creamy cheese and sharp, sweet fruit on the top and oozing down the sides. Torture, pure torture.

Milly Johnson returns with her trademark Northern wit and humour, her totally relatable characters, her divine settings and her wonderfully creative stories.

Lead character Marnie is a lovable, often vulnerable and naive, but always adorable. She suffers the anguish of failed relationships; a common theme in life. Beginning with a difficult young life with a cold and controlling mother and continuing through female friendships and boyfriends. When the reader meets Marnie she's grieving the end of yet another romance, the loss of her best friend and the instability of having to live in a rented property.

It's not long before Marnie begins to feel a little happier with life, but that doesn't last and it's Lillian, a much older, but feisty lady that Marnie met in an online baking forum who comes to the rescue. Offered the chance of a cottage in a beautiful Yorkshire village, Marnie jumps at the chance.

What follows is a heart warming and uplifting story that will delight fans of this author. Marnie discovers that whilst the village may appear perfect at first glance, there are plenty of residents who are not very sweet at all.

Packed with cheesecake and fun, yet dealing with more serious issues, *The Perfectly Imperfect Woman* is a joy to read. The author adds a little mystery here and there, with village legends, curses and magic. She will make you belly laugh and she will make you gulp back the sobs.

Delightful, seductive and pure Milly Johnson

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## **Suze Lavender says**

Marnie just wants to be loved, but finding the right person lands her in the most terrible situations. She doesn't have much luck when it comes to family, boyfriends and friendships, but Lillian is different. When Marnie meets Lillian online she finally forms a friendship that's equal and beneficial to both. Lillian is a little older than Marnie, but they get along fabulously. When one of Marnie's relationships turns into a huge disaster Marnie needs a place to stay. Lillian offers her a cottage and Marnie finally finds the sanctuary she's been looking for.

Being in Wychwell heals Marnie's heart, she can finally bake all the cakes she likes and spending time with Lillian is precious. The place might look idyllic, but Marnie knows not everyone is friendly and welcoming. She thinks being in Wychwell is only temporary, but Marnie's sense of duty binds her to the place in an inevitable way. There's no going back and Marnie has to get to know who she is and learn to stand up for herself as quickly as she can, so she will survive the next round of catastrophes in her life. Maybe, if she succeeds, she will even find happiness this time.

The Perfectly Imperfect Woman is a wonderful heartwarming story. I fell in love with this book from the start. It's so sweet and original. Marnie is a kindhearted woman, but she's also a bit naive. She's longing to be loved and this sometimes makes her blind to the truth. Milly Johnson describes her feelings in a fantastic understanding way and it was impossible not to like Marnie even if she sometimes doesn't make the most wise decisions. She has a lot of growing up to do and meeting Lillian changes her life for the better. Lillian is generous and loving and she's exactly the person Marnie needs in her life. They're both giving and have big hearts, which makes their friendship incredibly special.

Milly Johnson has chosen a gorgeous setting for her story. Wychwell is intriguing and stunning. I love how Milly Johnson's colorful descriptions are making it come to life in a fantastic way. It's the ideal place for a story filled with charm, mystery and kindness. Lillian is fabulously quirky and she perfectly fits into her surroundings. Marnie has finally found a place she belongs and slowly the beautiful person she is fully comes to the surface. I loved Milly Johnson's delicious descriptions of Marnie's cakes and I enjoyed the warm and emphatic way she writes about her main characters. I love how creative her stories are and think The Perfectly Imperfect Woman is a true gem. I highly recommend this brilliant feelgood book that put a huge smile on my face.

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### **Stacey Bennett says**

Really struggled with this one which is unusually as I love Milly's books :(

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### **Samantha says**

Nicely written, feel good factor chic lit which moves along at a steady pace. Some of the decisions made were not relatable but if you're happy to go along with it and not over analyse then it's a fun story that has a happy ending.

Perfect for taking on holiday or for round the fire reading in winter. Loved the little village and its history and the quirky village characters who all added to this charming story. Cheesecake does dominate but it's also about chances, love and rivalry. Nicely put together and easily worthy of 4 stars.

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### **booksofallkinds says**

THE PERFECTLY IMPERFECT WOMAN by Milly Johnson is a book filled with moments - moments that will make you laugh out loud, moments that will make your heart break, and moments where you wish you could crawl between the pages and find yourself in the story so that you could help out the characters that have come to mean so much to you.

Marnie Salt has not had an easy life, adopted by a mother (and I use that term very lightly) that didn't want her and being broken down by so many people in her life. But now she is strong, independent, and determined to make it to the top in her career. But she is also lonely. And when she falls for another guy who breaks her heart and lets her down, Marnie loses her career too.

Luckily for her, there is a guardian angel in her life in the form of a wacky older lady who says exactly what she thinks and she just might have the answer for Marnie when she offers her a fresh start in the stunning

little village of Wychwell with its crazy inhabitants.

As Marnie throws herself into her new life and a new job, she is happy to escape the demons from her past, but as she will soon learn you can never run away from who you are and what has happened in your life ... but maybe, just maybe, the hurt from the past can be softened by opening up to those who want and deserve your love?

The title of this story really tells it all and I loved watching Marnie come to realise that she really is enough just the way she is. As her story unfolded my heart broke for the child that she was and all that she had gone through and was still going through. Lilian, Lionel, Herv, and Emelie are such special characters, and I really enjoyed the crazy village with its eclectic cast of gossips and interfering busybodies.

THE PERFECTLY IMPERFECT WOMAN by Milly Johnson has it all - drama, romance, mystery, and secrets - but it also sends an important message of loving yourself for who you are and recognising your own worth, and I highly recommend this excellent novel to all fiction fans.

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### **Melisa Broadbent says**

I have just finished this beautiful book and feel absolutely bereft!

Milly Johnson writes with such feeling and emotion that you can't help but be swept along with her characters and storyline like.

My heart broke for Marnie but I couldn't stop reading, desperate for her to find happiness and love.

I really enjoyed reading about the history of Wychwell which runs alongside the main story and will genuinely miss all the characters. The good and the bad!

I really look forward to the next book.

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### **Shaz says**

Marnie loves her job in Beverage Marketing, but she has felt lonely for a long time, even when she's been in relationships. When she chats to an old lady in an online cheesecake forum, her path crosses with Lilian Dearman. Following an incident at work, Marnie decides to visit Lilian, who, it turns out, owns a village in the Yorkshire Dales. Marnie thinks her stay at Wychwell will be temporary, but little does she know how much her life is about to change.

*Thank you to Sara-Jade Virtue and Simon & Schuster UK for providing a copy of this book which I won in a competition.*

*The Perfectly Imperfect Woman* is a feel-good book and a great summer read! Marnie is such a likable main character. She has had to contend with a lot of turbulence in her life from a young age. This is partly because her family are dysfunctional, to say the least. Whilst she does make some mistakes, she learns from them and

shows that it's okay not to be perfect. I was cheering for her throughout the novel.

Milly Johnson writes with a warm humour which leaps off the page. Most of the story takes place in the fictional village of Wychwell and you get a real sense of community. There is a diverse range of characters, from the good to the bad to the busy-bodies. Aside from Marnie, my favourite characters are Lilian and Herv. Lilian is one of a kind and she doesn't give a flying fig about what anyone thinks about her. Herv is originally from Norway and has settled nicely into Wychwell. He is such a sweet guy!

The unexpected twists and revelations kept me guessing. Quite a number of the characters have interesting secrets. I also enjoyed reading about the history of Wychwell and the mysteries surrounding this fascinating village which feels like it could be a real place. Last but not least, I loved all the different cheesecake flavours!

This review also appears on my blog, Shaz Reads.

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### **Nicola Clough says**

I have always loved Millie Johnson books and she certainly hasn't let me down at all you are hooked from the first page and full of laughter and romantic and life just a brilliant book. It flows so well as a book and wants you to read more to find out what does happen next.

It's all based around Marnie Salt and her mother never really wanted her after she had her own child as she adopted Marnie and she feels as if life can never go right. As a youngster she meets a lovely neighbour who shows her how to make cheesecakes and in years to come she will not realise this will change her life forever. She's in a job where she is having a secret relationship with the boss and she thinks he's left his wife but when she turns up at the office ranting at Marnie she decides she needs to move and have time away as she can't face anyone. She turns up in a beautiful village and the while village has been passed through generations and Marnie thinks it's only to be temporary but little does she know it will change her life. She comes across problems to start with and is unsure but then she realises she can learn to love and be happy again.

A beautiful read full of family secrets will they all come out and be sorted or not a simply Devine read.

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### **Rachel Gilbey says**

What a book! In part its an ode to a cheesecake, in parts it is the history of a small village in Yorkshire with all of the myths surrounding it, in parts its a story about a realistic main character who has her flaws, but ultimately has a good heart and in parts it is so many other things I can't sit here listing its merits all day!

I absolutely loved this book, it took the reader on a rather unexpected journey, it has a few surprises along the way and generally was incredibly gripping throughout.

The way Marnie first met Lillian is certainly amusing and memorable, and learning all about the village of Wychwell was interesting. I will say there are a fair few villagers that I really disliked but with a sort of enjoyment to my dislike of them. They weren't main characters but did add an extra dimension to the story.

There are so many storylines and subplots in this book that I could take all day just trying to tell you about

them. Instead I will say there is plenty in there for everyone, I was never confused, and I loved seeing this look at Marnie's life and how it changed over a period of time.

This is an excellent book from Milly Johnson, its just a shame it had to finish. There are some really funny bits, some more emotional sections, it touches on issues such as adoption, there are secrets to be revealed and its just an all around fabulous book.

Thank you to Netgalley and Simon and Schuster for this copy which I have reviewed honestly and voluntarily.

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### **Shaz Goodwin says**

<http://www.jerasjamboree.co.uk/2018/0...>

Marnie is truly a fabulously flawed character (and one of the best I've read in a while). She is totally relatable for any age group and the mistakes could be ones we make ourselves. I really felt for her when she thinks she's a magnet for others believing the worst of her, a belief obviously set down in childhood and reinforced by the things that happen. I was so defensive on her behalf around her family, Caitlin and her job, wanting to poke their eyes out. Isn't a great when you're emotionally invested in a character! In fact I was emotionally invested in them all to some degree ... even Kay and Una ... and I've shed some tears alongside the laughter.

The first time Marnie meets the Wychwell crew at the Mayday event had me laughing – definitely one of those Milly Johnson moments. Not an auspicious start for any type of relationship between Herv and Marnie ? I was intrigued with the undercurrents in the Wychwell residents relationships, not only the connection between Marnie and Lilian Dearman but also the residents with each other. What were they hiding? Who could you trust? There's plenty of secrets to uncover. I didn't guess the biggest one of all!

The Perfectly Imperfect Woman is much more than a romance read with conflicts, secrets and magic sprinkled throughout. And of course cheesecake (what IS the special ingredient I wonder). I wanted to slow down and savour every word but found it impossible. Milly Johnson has written another page turner that ticks all the boxes for me. Don't miss it!

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### **Georgie says**

Wow. This bloody book hit me hard in the feels. So hard.

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### **Kim says**

Another absolutely wonderful read from Milly Johnson. They carry on getting better and better. The characters are so vivid that they feel like friends and you experience everything alongside them. Wychwell sounds a gorgeous place to find and spend time

After pouring her heart out to a woman on a cheesecake site, Marnie finds herself renting a cottage in Lillian's viillage, Wychell. She is a delightfully eccentric old lady and she craves Marnie's company. You get



the feel of village life and romance is in the air. You just lose yourself totally within the pages and enjoy every moment- it's just sad that it has to come to an end!

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