



The Match Before Christmas

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Candlelight, mistletoe, gaily wrapped packages beneath a trimmed tree, and someone to share it with. That's all Barry Richards wants for Christmas. Desperate for a traditional holiday, he creates a profile on "GetaDate.com," in hopes of finding the perfect man in a matter of weeks. One date after another goes sour, while all around him friends are falling in love, and Barry starts to lose faith.

The first snow falls and the world fills with seasonal cheer, all except for Barry, for whom time is running out. Facing the prospect of a lonely holiday, he tries just once more to make The Match Before Christmas.

The Match Before Christmas Details

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Author : Eden Winters

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From Reader Review The Match Before Christmas for online ebook

Heller says

So funny. I read both this and Fanning the Flames mostly because I wanted to get some back story on Otis from A Lie I Can Live With but the two books focusing on Barry were so cute that I'm really glad that I decided to read them.

Barry is guy looking for love. He's lonely and he has a lot of love to give so he turns to a dating site. The dates he goes on...so funny and horrible. This is a short story, not even 40 pages but it packs a punch. I felt so bad for Barry. I do love some of the friends that he meets along the way and of course, Tom I and Tom II his cats.

Cute, fast read.

Simsala says

I'm sure the story has it's flaws but I didn't pay attention. It's a funny, "furry" and Christmasy little gem. - Loved it!

Elspeth says

I really enjoyed this story.

The main character had quite the bumpy road. It was fun trying to figure out what was going to be wrong with each of his dates. I have to say that he was a bit too nice with one of them, I would have been out the door immediately with the control freak!

Breann says

All Barry wants is to share the holiday season with someone. A few months before Christmas, he decides to register on a dating website. Barry goes on quite a few disastrous dates. Some of his dates include (but are not limited to), the guy who is married, the guy who wants to know how much money is in the bank and, my personal favorite, the guy who is in a competition to see how many people he can have sex with in a day. While he was muddling through the "dates" Barry was able to be a matchmaker himself for some of his friends. Now it was closer to the holidays, his friends seem to be in blissful relationships, but Barry is still alone. He, finally, has a reply from someone who looks promising, Adam. But Barry is skeptical, after his experience I would be too. These two ended up having a lovely little romance and they were quite the cute couple. *The Match Before Christmas* was a funny, sweet and romantic short story. I would have liked to have more interaction between the MC's. We didn't meet Adam until the book was more than 60% over and it would have been nice to see their relationship develop further. Other than that, I loved it!

Bubbles Hunty Honest & Direct Opinions says

[i also hated the sex in the book of the three sex scenes in the book only one was with the love interest and that was just hand jobs so rubbi

Vio says

First up let me say how hilarious this was, it truly was special. I loved Barry, the fur boys and the whole bewitching Christmas tale. Barry and his disastrous dates were something special and not to be forgotten lol! You really have to admire Barry's determination and persistence to find his true love which he finally did with Adam. What a heartwarming and joyful romance I highly recommend this!

Lauraadriana says

Barry is just the sweetest thing I've read in a while, with his two cats Tom I and Tom II. He is looking for love and is braving his way through online dating...poor baby...he goes on disastrous date after disastrous date... he meets all the bad stereotypes the slut, the psycho, the guys who lies about how he looks, the control freak...he keeps at it and helps his friends find that special someone along the way.

Then he finally meets Adam who is also looking for someone special and ready for a commitment.

I laughed and laughed, and had moronic grin on my face through the whole story. So happy there's more from Barry and Adam. Sweet men that they are.

Loved this one :O)

DaisyGirl says

4.0 Stars

Barry Richards wants someone special to spend Christmas with. He's a catch in his own right: single, smart, funny, tall, trim, good-looking, financially sound, and a pet lover. What's not to love? He subscribes to "GetaDate.com" in the hopes of finding a perfect match but one disastrous date after another has Barry losing faith. That is until he receives an email from college history professor, Adam Collins. The two meet up and decide to take it slow but it seems Barry gets his Christmas wish after all.

This was a sweet Christmas story. I loved both Barry and Adam. It was hilarious to read about all the frogs Barry had to wade through to finally get his prince but, boy, was he worth it. I really liked Otis and would like to read more about him and Garret.

Bottom line: a short and sweet Christmas read about kissing many frogs in search of a prince.

12/24/13: Re-read. Still one of my fave Christmas m/m stories.

Ami says

Desperate to have someone for Christmas this year, Barry Richards creates a profile at "GetaDate.com", hoping that the site's claim to find the most suitable match will give him a result he wishes. Only road to happiness, is never been easy, isn't it?

Oh, gosh, this is one HILARIOUS short story about finding your true love from the Internet. I swear, I'm giggling all the way through, reading disaster after disaster that Barry must experience with his dates. I feel awful, really, it's not nice to laugh on someone else's misery, right? However, Ms. Winters just creates a series of misfortunate events that sometimes over-the-top, I cannot help NOT to feel amused by it.

Although since almost half of this stort story is dedicated to Barry's disaster dates, the portion that given to his "true love" feels a bit rushed. Still, it's only a small issue for me and overall, I wholeheartedly enjoy this story.

Cole Riann says

I have to tell you that I laughed out loud so many times reading this story. Barry has a really unique voice that is snarky at the same time as being incredibly innocent. Every date he went into with blind eyes I wanted to grab him up before he really got himself into a mess. I especially loved that he could easily have been portrayed as stupid or immature, but he wasn't. He's highly intelligent, but because he had been focused on work, he's almost like a teenager dating for the first time. He is also an average Joe, slightly chubby with a nice face. He is very modest and at times I wondered if he was really a hunk, but because of self-depreciation thought he was ugly. The writing here is excellent as well, very witty. For example, throughout a meal with a much younger man who keeps bemoaning the loss of an ex named Jeff:

At the end of the meal, Barry's curiosity finally got the better of him. "What happened to Jeff, if you don't mind my asking?"

"Oh, he was found beaten to death in his apartment a month ago. But don't worry; I've been cleared as a suspect."

Barry raised his hand, frantically gesturing for the server. "Check, please!"

For the full review, visit [Reviews by Jessewave](#).

Monika says

If you're looking for something sweet, light and funny you need to read this short. I felt bad for Barry, all those horrible dates but *blushing* I couldn't help laughing, not nice to laugh at someone else's misfortune, thankfully he finds Mr Right in Adam....what a wonderful couple they make! *very big grin*

Betryal says

I returned with the need to write something on this book so here it is: I was starting to really feel sorry for Barry. He tried like what 7 dates? Every one of them was bombing from what I can see although he was able to pair up and match people he came to know, but still remained lonely. Getting closer to Christmas I thought the goal he was trying to reach was going to bomb and it was looking rather bleak and hopeless till Adam came along.

To be completely honest here, after giving it much debate I'm not sure how to put this exactly... It was fawking BRILLIANT! :snickering: I completely enjoyed this story. I haven't read a story like this one and truthfully I doubt I will. Eden's stories and ideas are unique and it was a pleasure reading this one. It's not yet Christmas, but it had me getting into the spirit of it.

A truly worth it story to get and read.

You know you wanna :winks: Eden never disappoints.

Serena Yates says

Looking for a partner later in life, once you've established yourself professionally, may sound like a good idea while you're doing said "establishing". The reality, however, as Barry finds out in this hilarious and touching story, can be quite different.

Barry decides that he has been alone long enough, and now that he owns a stable company, is financially secure, and his parents and sister are all doing their own thing, he wants a partner of his own. Not really being part of the dating pool, and not believing he can find whom he is looking for in the clubs, he joins a dating service. He has only one wish: and that is finding a match before Christmas, so he can introduce a boyfriend to his family.

GetaDate.com may look promising, but, oh my God, what a mess. The kinds of matches they come up with go from the ridiculous to the outrageous, and while I really felt for Barry as he kept going to one disastrous date after another, the way they are described is hilarious. I think we've all been on one, maybe two disastrous outings like that, but what Eden Winters makes poor Barry go through is almost unconscionable. Barry, as a result, has this reaction: Scrolling through his latest offerings, he lowered his standards from "lifelong partner" to "someone I'd want to have a second date with." The way things were going, he'd hit "someone not too scary" soon.

Luckily, Barry does not give up and... but you'll have to see for yourself. If you like sweet Christmas stories that have the main character suffer before he gets his happy end, if you prefer said suffering to be described in a humorous, lighthearted way rather than accompanied by massive angst, and if you're looking for a funny, touching, and all-around feel-good Christmas read, then you will probably like this short story. I

totally adored it!

NOTE: This book was provided by the author for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Td says

Awww, poor Barry! I was torn between being horrified by his dates and laughing my ass off. All worth it in the end. :D

Chris says

Excellent m/m holiday romance about a contractor who joins an online GLBT dating site several months before Christmas, with the hope that he'll meet someone and not be alone (well, besides his two black kitties) on Christmas. Anyone who's ever done the online dating thing will be able to relate to the numerous and discouraging encounters he has before almost giving up on his plan... And my kitties are in the dedication! :)
