



The Best of Fools

Marilyn Grey

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Best when read after No, Not that Jane Austen, the prequel to The Best of Fools.

Jane Austen is nothing like that Jane Austen. Or so she thinks. Emotionally guarded and unwilling to open up to just anyone, Jane is surrounded by friends and family who seem obsessed with starry-eyed sensational romances.

But as Jane explores the hidden chambers of her heart, she finds herself standing face-to-face with the love she's spent her life avoiding. The kind of love that breaks you into a million pieces when it's gone. The kind of love that softens you, hardens you, and changes everything you thought you knew.

The kind of love that is asking her to risk it all and finish what she started.

Magnetic, emotional, and profoundly moving, *The Best of Fools* is a timeless love story for the young at heart. A story that will stir you to place your book down and hold the one you love ... without letting go. A story that will stick with you long after you turn the last page.

Because love knows no end. And neither do the stories that convey what only the heart can understand. As Jane discovers, like the "real Jane Austen," the colors of love are vast, no love story is the same, and sometimes all it takes is the right person to open you up to a world you never thought you'd find. A world you'll never want to leave.

The Best of Fools Details

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Author : Marilyn Grey

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From Reader Review The Best of Fools for online ebook

Lorie says

Awesome read

Great plot and the characters are relatable. Not boring and no sex scenes which didn't ruin the story. Totally recommend this book and the one before it which must be read first.

Nikel27 says

free kindle book

Lusie says

At first I thought this book was like other young adult books of this genre, but when I kept reading I realised it was much more. There was more depth to the story. The plot is very well written. I loved the characters. Jane is so quirky and fun. I don't understand her love for Batman, but I do like that she follows her dreams. She is very passionate about what she wants. The book made me smile at several times during the story :) It was the kind of book I wanted to read in one sitting, and since it was my day off I just did that. I loved the ending. It felt so real.

Steph says

Wow I loved this book so much, were do I even begin to describe my rapture and joy whilst reading it. I feel so lucky that I was given the chance to read this amazing book because if I hadn't I honestly feel that I would have missed out on an amazing adventure,corny eh :-(

At first you think 'oh just another teenage love story' but no don't be deceived as this book is much more than that, much more.

I loved Jane from way back in the prequel,she is just so likeable. She has her weaknesses in not letting people in to love her and holding herself back but don't we all have weaknesses along them lines, but on the other hand she is stubborn and determined, she had a life long dream to sell her designs and she sets out to do just that and still only eighteen.

But even while all this 'love story' is going on there is all the drama with her 'mum' things that you couldn't quite imagine in this story about love and relationships but it works.

I loved her best friend Donovan from the start and really hoped they would get together,to me they seemed perfect together and how could she possibly love Alastair more but then perhaps it would be too much of a cliche,girl falls in love with best friend and they live happily ever after.

But then how much more of a cliche is girl meets stranger at an airport and falls in love, but it worked though

when she went to find him that one time I did think she was crazy n couldn't help saying to myself 'if that was me I'd just have let him go' lol.

I grew to love her strange friendship with Zoe and the close bond they developed, Zoe may be annoyingly rude but you can't really dislike her can you. Must say I really loved the epilogue regarding Zoe, seemed fitting.

Of all the thousands of books iv read over the years there's not very many that give you the story till the very end, most leave you with them 'living happily ever after' but sometimes like now it's nice to get the 'very end' it may be sad, like really sad, but it's kinda perfect too.

I couldn't recommend this book enough if I tried. I feel sad now that's it's finished and their gone, it's almost like I became a part of their lives, like a fly on the wall lol.

I have never read a book that had parts of it in audio and that was kinda cool.especially to hear 'their' voices. Jane sounded very normal,just like a girl chatting to her boyfriend though Alastair sounded like he was reading from a script but then I realised that that's just a normal 'posh' British accent lol.

I will definitely look up more Marilyn Grey novels though I don't think anything else will measure up to the story of Jane Austin :-)

Betty Strohecker says

The Best of Fools is an engaging romance that addresses many of the age old questions about love: Is there such a thing as true love? Is it possible for two people to meet and immediately know they are meant for each other? What does it take for love to survive? Those are only a few that the heroine, Jane Austen, has to ponder as she ventures into adulthood. After introducing the main characters in the prequel novella, *No, Not That Jane Austen*, Marilyn Grey continues the story of Jane, her best friends Donovan and Autumn, and an attractive Englishman, Alistair, whom she met only once. Although Jane was raised in a loving, supportive family, she has a great deal of mistrust and questions about who she is. She discovered information at a young age that she was adopted and wonders why she was never told about this. After graduation, Jane has two immediate goals - to find her biological mother and pursue her dream of a career in fashion design. With a generous monetary gift from her parents, she immediately begins work on goal two, hiring two seamstresses and opening her own store. Since Jane has never believed in love, nor had a boyfriend, her friends and family encourage her to step out of the box she has closed around herself and open her mind to dating. While Donovan tries to convince Jane to take a chance on love by exploring a connection to Alistair (even though he's back in England and she has no idea how to contact him), everyone else thinks Donovan and Jane have always been meant for each other. Thus, the stage is set.

This is a captivating book about hopes, dreams, relationships, and discovery. Grey has built very real characters that we get to know through their thoughts, emotions, and dialogue. She has included almost every emotion - love, fear, sadness, anger, disappointment, anxiety, surprise - to give insight into her characters. This is how we get to know them and experience these emotions right along with them. I laughed, I cried, I felt things more deeply than I have in a long while. Perhaps this was because the dialogue was so believable, but I rather think it is because Marilyn Grey is a master storyteller. This was my first experience with any of her writings, so I was unaware of what to expect. However, I became engaged from the first and cared about these people who were so real to me as I followed them through triumphs and tragedies, anxious to see how the story would end. In addition to story and character development, Marilyn Grey has a beautiful writing

style that flows easily and is full of quotable remarks about life, love, sacrifice, and determination. Every situation is relevant in today's world and provides valuable life lessons. Grey has a knowledge of art, music, and pop culture that she sprinkles throughout the story to enhance it. Jane loves classical music and Batman! As she struggles through many dilemmas, she often compares her situations to novels by Nicholas Sparks. There were also amazing audio links in the e-book version which I played numerous times - just couldn't get enough! I often found my thoughts returning to this story when I wasn't reading, repeating dialogue that was still on my mind. Once I finished the book, I wanted to start it all over again, because I was not ready for the story to end. Although this was my first experience with Marilyn Grey's work, it definitely will not be the last! This is an amazing story that will touch the hearts of many as you travel down the road of life and love with Jane Austen.

Thank you, Marilyn Grey, for the opportunity to read and review this book!

Courtney Pedigo says

Actual Rating: 4.5 stars

I was asked to read this book, as well as the prequel: No, Not that Jane Austen, in favor for an honest review.

That. Was. Astounding! In the first couple chapters, I wasn't as hooked as I hoped to be, but when she reached contact with Alistair, that's when I started to enjoy the book even more! But.. I'm jumping too far ahead.

Let's start from the *beginning!* In *No, Not that Jane Austen*, the prequel to *The Best of Fools*, Jane Austen bumps into a very attractive British guy who insists on buying her coffee. Somehow, they end up spending the day together since he missed his flight until he has to go again. Back to England where he, of course, lives. He wrote a note promising to meet her in two/three years at the same place and same time to give her a *proper* kiss.

The Best of Fools begins just a couple weeks after the Prequel, Jane has graduated from high school and received a boat load of money from her parents. What does she do with? Start her own clothing line, love in her own apartment with an oblivious roommate, meet her *birth* mother, travel to the places batman was filmed, and take a plane to the UK and back home. Of course, She spends that boat load not even within a single year. She lasted longer than I would have though..

Jane Austen, *No.. not that Jane Austen*, never understood love. She never felt it with anyone, never been on a date, only kissed one guy, and that was her best friend Donovan, she didn't like being compared to the loving Jane Austen books/movie that she never got to be her and let love in. She was too secure, didn't want to get hurt, heart broken, or let down, especially abandoned. Maybe she took the risk with her clothing line, but falling in love.. that was *too* risky. She doesn't give up, which is something I can admire about her.

But of course as we all know, Life doesn't exactly go as planned. She starts to *think* too much about Mr. Alistair Anonymous, checking Facebook and Google to find him. Luckily, she's tracked down his Bands website and just so happens, he's been thinking of her too. *Oh, and his name is Alistair Galdwyn*. It's not too long before Alistair has taken Janes heart, willingly might I add. They've fallen so hard, so hard it probably hurt. Everyone told her to take the risk, take a chance on love, be alive! **CARPE DIEM** So, she did.

I feel connected to Jane in some ways, to the way she can close herself off to others, not let them in, especially love. I can understand that... *I also have a strong love/admiration for Iron Man, instead of Batman...*

When they were finally happy, something... happens. I won't spoil anything because you seriously need to read this book! A few months pass and they're reconnected again, stronger, given the circumstances. I was actually squealing and rocking back and forth in my seat within the last 10-20 chapters because, *oh my goodness!!!* SO. FREAKING. CUTE!

Now let's get to the critiques! I noticed there were a few grammatical and spelling mistakes, but only a few. I overlooked them due to the amazing heart felt and very ready eyed story! Maybe it was just on my ebook version..

The writing? I loved it, it was simple and easy to follow along to. I absolutely loved the graphic clips that Marilyn added, as well as the voicemail audio clips, they were such a cute add for the e-readers! I absolutely adored listening to Alistair.. (*Cool thing was, Marilyn spoke for Janes parts, cool!*) It gave the book a sense of reality and connective-ness, like we get to see a closer look, at least it did to me.

Might I also add how bloody fantastic Jane and Alistair are! They're so much the same, but so different as well. They just dove into their dorky lives and fit perfectly together, both huge fans of Batman! I loved how Jane would talk to herself, so much through the book. *I do that too, so it was quite funny and realistic!* *Awesome touch, Marilyn.* I can't wait for those Novellas you mentioned at the end of this book, I would absolutely love to get a closer look at Jane and Alistair's life, and his recovery. *I want my very own Alistair Gladwyn!!*

Also, on another note, Janes dreams really concerned me, but they always made me laugh, she had some really confusing and out of the blue dreams..

Now, I will talk about what I've highlighted and noted, because there was a lot.. They're not in order, though.

One of my favorite scenes, is in Chapter 39...

I unfolded the blanket and put it over him (Alistair) as gently as possible. Then I sat on the floor with my back against the couch and listened to him breathe. I leaned back and whispered to myself, “I don't think he'd mind.”

“No,” my other side responded. “It would be weird if I just...”

His fingers ran down the back of my head and lingered on my neck.

“He'd like if if you came up here,” he whispered. “You nutter.”

I waited. Then turned. “Hey.”

He touched my hair again, then moved over to make room for me. “Come here, duck.”

That is just so adorable, I couldn't resist highlighting it. She's a cooky girl, and she embraces it, it's so cute how he loves that about her.

Another one of my favorites is in Chapter 47...

Jane is finally visiting Alistair for the first time in England, they're at his place when he gives her a framed

copy of the original Batman comic. Here's her response...

“Alistair.” I ran my fingers over the glass. “I’d kill to open this and smell the pages.”

It reminded me of bibliophiles and their passion for reading, even smelling the pages of the books to get the full effect. She gets us. We get her. *Unite!*

Finally, my last favorite passage from Chapter 61, which is my favorite chapter by far...

There are things you deserve in life, but love isn't one of the . Every time you're given it, it's a gift. That's what Alistair was to me, no matter how much he though I deserved it... I didn't. And never would. . .

I loved all the Batman references, and that Jane had a *Gotham City* inspired fashion line, and that she found love against all the odds. She especially didn't give up. I envy her, somewhat. She wasn't normal, and she found someone, unexpectedly, that she could finally love back.

The Epilogue is on May 10, 2075, and its a really sad Epilogue but so amazing. You must read anti find out what happens to Jane and Alistair through their journey of life and love. I honestly couldn't put it down when I got halfway through.

Esha says

The Best Of Fools is a beautiful book. It is a magical tale of a girl who fights her insecurities and hesitations and learns to love. It is a sweet story and its not sappy. Its simply *adorkable!* :D

I had no idea what to expect from The Best of Fools. Whatever idea I had., well, I did not expect that! I genuinely love-d the book. The humour and the moments that were stretched tight. The imperfections made it perfect!

I connected with the book well, especially Jane who I feel I would like to say I am a lot like. She loves batman, I love books. She is scared, I'm more. I in fact actually *learnt* a lot from this book. Things like facing your feelings and things like that! It's for everybody to experience by themselves and I cannot quantify it.

I understand the characters. Their conflicts, their strengths and their life. It is a pleasure to read such things because you can live in it and that is worth alot to a reader.

I loved the story. It was new, interesting, immersive, entertaining, imaginative and really really really good. A definite recommend for those who are suckers for a good long crazy love story. Likers of chick lit and romance.

I would also like to thank Marilyn, she's a good writer and an amazing person it seems from her epic dedication.

Thank you for sharing copies of your books with me. I appreciate it and it was an amazing reading

experience. You're gonna do good with this book girl, I just know it in my heart.

Summary:

The Best of Fools revolves around our protagonist Jane Austen.

No, not that Jane Austen.

:) (I just had to do this! :P)

When Jane meets Alistair, a musician from the UK, she starts having strange lovey-feelings, she has always avoided and been uncomfortable with. We follow through her story from where it begins and where it ends. How it becomes from very tense to uncomplicated. The beginning may seem weird but the end is just... right.

gif time... :D

WHEN ALISTAIR AND JANE MEET

Alistair:

WHEN JANE TELLS DONOVAN HOW SHE FEELS

Me:

THE BIG DAY

Everybody:

THE EPILOGUE

Alistair:

Its a great book and one of my favourites in this genre. Do read it :)

Its only fit to end with *Carpe Diem*.

Some parts I loved:

There's only one person I looked at like that. Only one who made me weak when his hand grazed my back.

And it wasn't Donovan.

"What would you do in that situation?"

"Huh?"

"If you thought you lost the love of your life, only to find him at the last minute?"

I thought for a few minutes.

"Would you cry?"

"Mmm ...I think I'd laugh."

"You'd laugh? Not even one tear would fall?"

"Maybe I'd laugh so hard I'd cry."

"Fair enough."

Dad stepped aside. Then Donovan. Then Mom. Then, one by one, every person formed a path in the middle until it opened up and led to...
Him.

I closed my eyes and felt his love for me. No words needed. No kiss needed. Just ... him. We had officially fallen.

Nicole Collins says

I'm sitting here writing this with tears still pouring out of my eyes having just finished this amazing book. What an emotional roller coaster! After the little teaser we got with "No, not that Jane Austen", I went in to this book 100% rooting for Alistair. But as the story progressed and we got to learn about her dynamic with Donovan, I really wasn't sure who's team I was on anymore.

This is totally a coming of age story for Jane. It was so exciting to be on that ride with her. To watch her go from stubborn and closed off, to slowly but surely taking baby steps to let someone in to her life, to throwing all caution to the wind and being 100% guided by her heart. But like I said, all of this came at the cost of that emotional roller coaster I mentioned earlier.

There are just so many things that happen on this book! Twist and turns out the wazoo. One minute, I'm cracking up and hysterically laughing out loud. The next I'm crying my eyes out. Then I'm mad because our poor Jane can't catch a break. Pretty much that cycle on repeat the whole book. By the time I got to the last third, or so, of the book, I was more than ready for the black cloud floating over Jane to lift. Finding out about Alistair's accident was about one antagonistic twist too far for me. I want to read the "happily ever after" "hearts and flowers" love story to escape all the real life crap that life typically throws at us. I didn't want my fictional heroine to have to deal with the crap too. But, just what I was ready to be mad at this book with no turning back, I got the magical ending I needed to restore my sad heart.

The ending was perfect. I didn't see it coming (and I've read so many love stories that I oftentimes figure out the end and ruin it for myself). It was just what we all needed after the long ride this book took us on. Then there was the epilogue...heart broken AGAIN! But then we got that letter, and I'm a sucker for a good letter. And that brings us back to the tear tracks on my face. After everything we watched these characters go through during this entire story, I don't think their story could've ended in a more complete way.

Characters...loved them. From the bratty but lovable Zoe, to the chronically charming Donovan. Each supporting character had something to teach Jane, and us, the readers. The ups and downs that we watched Jane face all had a lesson inside for Jane, and us, the readers. Though I was mad about it for a minute, it was refreshing to read a story with so much diversity that really made our heroes, and us, the readers, work for the happy ending.

Great story. I'm gonna miss these guys. Sorry if this review was all over the place. I blame still being shaken up from that roller coaster ride!

Joy says

Ugh. I hate giving bad reviews. But then I come across a book that I just have to say my piece.
sigh here we go.

No Not That Jane Austen, showed so much promise. Left me wanting to know what happens next. A short read but I liked where the story was headed.

The Best of Fools.

cringe

Sadly.....it took a sharp corner and ran right off a cliff.....and burned.

What? Too harsh?

shrugs Sorry not sorry.

Lets see...where did it go wrong for me.....

Was it the indecisiveness of Jane's character about love?

The unnecessary chapters that held no structure for the plot, paragraph after paragraph that led nowhere and made the book excruciatingly long? Winchester mansion anyone?

Or the weirdly obsessive uses of anything and everything Batman related?

Ding ding ding!!!

All of the above!

In the first book Jane's character was every likable. She didn't want a relationship because she didn't want the drama and heartache.

She meets mysterious stranger, spends the day with him. Then go their separate ways. Doesn't fall head over heels but there's something there. So I thought ok strong female character, knows what she wants. This could be good then.....The end of book one. Cliffhanger - will they meet again?

Book two. All of a sudden guy best friend who has been madly in love with her since childhood is moving on with his life and isn't on the back burner anymore and suddenly she wants to "try" and feel something for him other than the platonic friendship they have.

Then the confusion happens and you are on a rollercoaster of twists and turns. Ups and downs even some loop da loops. And you finally get back on track to the actual story. And I think to myself...what? What did that have to do with anything? Ugh. Why am I still reading this?

Epiphany!!

I realize I now hate Jane's character and her love for everything Batman. And also the colors black and yellow together.

I kept asking myself why do I need to finish this? I guess I really did like Alisters character and wanted to know how he ended up. (With the short end of the stick apparently)

Alister really could have done better. And it IS all her fault that he's a cripple! I hate you not the real Jane Austen!!!

And that's the end of this rant.

I'm out! *drops the mic*

Kristi says

At the beginning, I was hyped because I thought it would focus on Jane growing as a person and meeting Alistair later in the future. Then Donovan was thrown into the mix and I figured it would turn into a love triangle, but that fizzled out. Then suddenly the book changed and then was super rushed. A span of 3 months at her first shop took up a large portion of the book. Then later, when she was flying back and forth, it seemed to be summed up in just a couple pages. The Batman obsession was a bit over-the-top and I rolled my eyes a lot and groaned at the excessive quotes. I liked that Jane and I share some common interests such as making clothes and film scores. Still processing everything, so I'm not quite sure how I really feel about the book as a whole.

Andrea says

SO BAD! Man, I know I read bad book sometimes, and even really bad books. I've said "wow, worst book I'll ever read" a couple times, but I was wrong. This is, no doubt, definitely, the worst most ridiculous book anyone will ever read. It was so bad, I can't believe it was published, or someone liked it.

Why was it bad? There was nothing good about it. Not the story, not the writing, not the characters. It was filled with stereotypes and cliches, so many. It had grammar and spelling mistakes all over. It once changed a character's name TEN PAGES after he was first introduced. Really:

"I'm sorry" - I looked at his name tag - "Greg."

And then, ten pages later, she runs into "the guy who hit on her at the phone store" (because really, every guy in the universe hits on her) and:

"Cameron" the guy said.

True freaking story.

The characters were the worst. They were inconsistent, one dimensional and plainly crazy. Jane. Jane is the worst. She's selfish, she's self-centered, she can only think about herself and how "the world is so unfair to her". Meanwhile, everything is served to her on a silver platter. (view spoiler). Also, she's so unfair to EVERYONE. She only talks about her problems, and yet her friends stay at her side. And then, she criticizes them all the time, because they're "selfish", "fake" and "mean". (view spoiler). And she practically described Donovan and Autumn as sluts every other chapter.

The whole "I'm not a fall in love type of girl" is so old. But it could've worked. If not for Jane's inconsistency. "Oh, I cannot possibly be in love. Ever. I'm just not like that. Love is dumb. Look at them all weaker souls who fall into such futile feelings". And then, she's in love with one guy. And she's suddenly so jealous, and life's so unfair. (view spoiler)

In the topic of her life being so unfair because long distance relationships are tough... (view spoiler)

But apart from Jane being the most spoiled, whiny and inconsistent girl in the world ("Oh, my whole life is my work which my parents support because they're the best ever. Now I'll leave it for a Batman trip" WTF). The book is full of "telenovela" twist plots, so many I wonder if the author made a bet on "how many twist plots I can fit in my book". These all come as spoilers, so obviously beware. (view spoiler)

Long story short. This book is ridiculous. It's bad written. The plot is terrible. The characters are some of the worst characters I've ever seen. But the worst of all is Jane. I feel bad for her friends and family for having to deal with her. (view spoiler) Also, she was terrible to all of them.

The book was so bad it wasn't even predictable, because who could predict things to stupid?

I don't recommend this to anyone. I only finished because I wanted to give it a fair review. I can't understand how someone would like this. It doesn't even self the purpose of giving you a good laugh. It's too cringeworthy.

Never again, Marilyn Grey, never again. "The Best of Fools", alright. You made of this reader "the best of fools" when she thought this might be entertaining... or mildly good.

PS: Using poor Jane Austen's name for this. Man, I only read it because of that. I thought "oh, it could be fun". Poor woman must be rolling in her grave.

PS2: Is it not possible to give a book 0 stars? This should be a thing.

EDIT: Forgot. Have to mention: SO MUCH CARPE DIEM. So cliche. Hurts so much. Stop it.

Ashley says

"Never say impossible. Everything is possible. Good and bad."

5 Big Stars!!!

((Read the prequel, No, Not that Jane Austen before reading this book))

You know those love stories, which you can sort of guess what will happen next? It's sort of like a game I play at times when I'm reading... thinking to myself, how will this become a happy ending. Usually, one of my guesses is right. While reading "The Best of Fools", every guess I made about what was to come, didn't happen.

This book keeps you intrigued, and it's emotional, but it's real. "Sure, life may not be perfect, but maybe it's those twists and turns that merge our oaths and bring us together."

This book is about Jane Austen... (No, not that Jane Austen) and her journey into adulthood with her best friend Donovan, whom she may or may not be in love with. And the question on if she is 'in love' with him, isn't because she is trying to make up her mind... it's because she truly doesn't know what the emotion/feeling is.

She met a man named Alistair; a British musician... who awakened her in a way... opened her eyes to having feelings, etc. Jane is a very guarded person, and doesn't have a 'fairy tale' background, or a 'fairy-tale' life. Her story is real. It's something you can relate to.

This book not only 'tells' a story, but you also get to have audio within the book... as well as photos.

Jane also has a slight obsession with Batman... yes Batman... not some super hot celebrity big shot, which everyone knows about. This goes to show you just how different Jane is to other people around her. "Nerdy people are always more interesting."

The male characters in this book are 'real' as well. They aren't some huge CEO or billionaire. You have someone who works as a plumber for his dad, and then you have a musician.

"Music had a way of helping me realize how I felt when I couldn't understand myself."

This book didn't have a quick resolution to the problems that came up... some parts of the book; I just wanted SOMETHING good to happen. Something to work out, but it isn't that easy in the 'real world' and it wasn't that easy in the book "The Best of Fools". "Trust me when I say, brokenness is proof that the heart works and when it's fixed it works better than it did before. You just need to find someone willing to fix and be fixed with you."

I highly suggest reading this book. You won't be disappointed. If you love reading romance novels, but are tired of the same 'set up' or 'background', you will love reading this book, and it's prequel "No, Not That Jane Austen"

I can't wait to read more from Marilyn Grey!

"Do you ever feel like prolonging a chapter of your life? Just drawing it out, maybe rewinding and reliving it to make sure you feel and experience every detail fully and deeper."

Joan Angel says

woow! just big WOOOW!

At first I wasn't really hooked up with this book, I don't really get her attitude, I mean I would exchange my life just to have that kind of love her parents have for each other and her best friend's love for her.. I don't know if she's just dense. but i guess Donovan and Jane are not really meant for each other. Alistair really rocks Jane's world, he makes her feelings so confused. Then when the time comes that she reaches for Alistair, that made me so excited that I can't stop reading, I even contemplated to sleep or finished the book,

but guess what won?... I finished it! lol, well this book makes me laugh, love and most especially I cried so hard, it hurts when Jane went to Alistair after knowing his new address for closure then he saw him broken, hurt, and not himself because of the accident.. I really thought Alistair was one of those guys who just leave the girl because of stupid reason, but I was wrong.. then what makes me cry the most was the last part... I never expected that to come, I never expected for Jane to die, Alistair's love for Jane is unconditional, so real, true love really does exist (not that I don't believe in love) .. I soooo love this book! one of my favorite! one of the best! two thumbs up for Marilyn Grey

Laura Dobb says

The best of fools by Marilyn grey

First I'd like to say that the dedication blew me away, and we will certainly be having a cuppa and cake before our time is up, I'm sure. Also, it doesn't even feel like theirs an ocean between us sometimes, as I know if I need someone to talk to, your their, just at the end of the phone (well text) and I treasure that. I loved this, yet Marilyn told me it was her best one yet, but I'm a sucker for the unspoken series and I found it hard to believe, but she blew the others out of the water with this one, I adored it. I'm going to try and write a review that portrays how much I liked it, without hinting at the content too much, because the whole joy of reading an amazing book is the feeling that you've discovered a hidden gem that no one else knows exists and you want the beauty of it to remain with you, just for a little bit longer and then shout to the world that you've found beautiful inspiration. (I wrote this to Marilyn too, and thought it was great!)

Jane Austin (no, not THAT Jane Austin) is a simple girl with a fascination of all things black yellow and grey! (That will make sense, read the book) she has a best friend called Donovan who has been in love with her for as long as she can remember. However, Jane doesn't do love, she doesn't care for hearts and flowers, her heart doesn't skip a beat when a boy brushes her arm with theirs and the idea of staring into someone's eyes adoringly and not needing to say a word, is totally lost on her. She likes things simple, she loves classical music, clothes design and most of all...food!

Donovan is a dreamer. He falls in love with love. He's planned to propose more times than he's had hot dinners, and he's never without a lady on his arm. Jane keeps him grounded, they both give each other what the other one lacks. Donovan gives Jane the ability to see things differently, and Jane keeps Donovan level headed. Keeping him earthed while he plans his next engagement to his next 'the one' girlfriend.

Throughout this book we get hints and clues as to which way the story might take you, but, as with all great reads, the journey is just as important as the destination, and even though the destination is amazing, it wouldn't be half the ending it is, without the way they got there. This book has had me laughing (I mean, hubby telling me I look like a crazy person because I'm in asda laughing my head off) to crying, full on sobbing at some points, to my heart swelling with love for these characters that I feel I know so well. Please read this book, the author is a friend, but she's an amazing novelist, and I wish everyone could read her work and become inspired like me.

Whitney Keith says

SPOILER SPOILER SPOILER Seriously SPOILER alert! I warned you, I am going to reveal things from the story in this review!

So I want to begin by stating that my birthday is also May 17, so The BIG Day meant that much more to me while reading!

The Best of Fools (Jane Austen Book 2) by Marilyn Grey is a heart pounding, breath taking true LOVE story. It is not one of those romance books that you need to confess about after reading. It is beautiful and inspiring and makes you fall in love with the characters and the idea of falling in love! This love story is not just between a couple but about a girl, Jane, learning to love herself! Jane finds out she has a not so pleasant past and she learns not to let it or her name define who she is! She is beautiful and worth loving no matter how she came to this world!

This book was full of cute little quotes I loved! My favorites are:

Most clever quote was "Thank you." "For being a morsel of happiness in a cookie of crap!"

Seriously the best! Life is hard and everyone has struggles, it is all about finding those morsels of happiness to help along the way!

Cutest quote "Two dorks destined for dorkdom."

Being a dork is the best! We are passionate about the things we love and not afraid to dress up like our favorite characters and attend giant meetings with other dorks!

SWEETEST quote "Because it shows that you're careful about who you give your heart to. And if you give it to me one day I know it'll be that much more special."

Seriously, my heart melted when Alistair said that to Jane! Who wouldn't want to someone to say this to them!

MOST epic "So many times I felt like my own worst enemy and I think the Joker and Batman relationship shows how a hero and a villain are so similar in so many ways , like the Joker says to Batman, "I don't want to kill you. You complete me." That part of me. The villainous side. It completed me as much as I hated it. I was two people— maybe even eleven people —and I wanted to be one."

This I totally understand I have always felt that all people have a darker side (Villainous side) and without one side, the other would not exist. I am not sure if I make any sense but it's like without villains we wouldn't need heroes! Without a darker side we wouldn't need the lighter side!

The extras in the eBook! The picture of the Tattoo was INCREDIBLE, I am not a tattoo fan but that design was unbelievable! The Batman clothes were incredible and I wanted them all!

The recordings of their voices added a huge element in falling in love with them! I loved Alistair's accent and their song was beautiful! If you didn't buy the Kindle version of this book do it! I can not describe how amazing these extras are!

Marilyn wrote this book in a way that made my heart race when Jane's did; I got excited when she would get an email! I cried when she cried and laughed when she laughed! This book is why I love reading so much! It is all these emotions written down and shared with me. I loved it so much that I didn't want to put it down, I read in the bathroom, taking a bath and stayed up most the night! I know TMI! She doesn't leave any answers unanswered we get to know how this story ends and it is remarkable. I cried so hard and my heart broke into so many pieces. The love they felt for each other is life changing and everyone should strive to love that hard and devote their selves to one another that much. I am so grateful that Marilyn shared this story with the world and cannot wait to read her other books!
