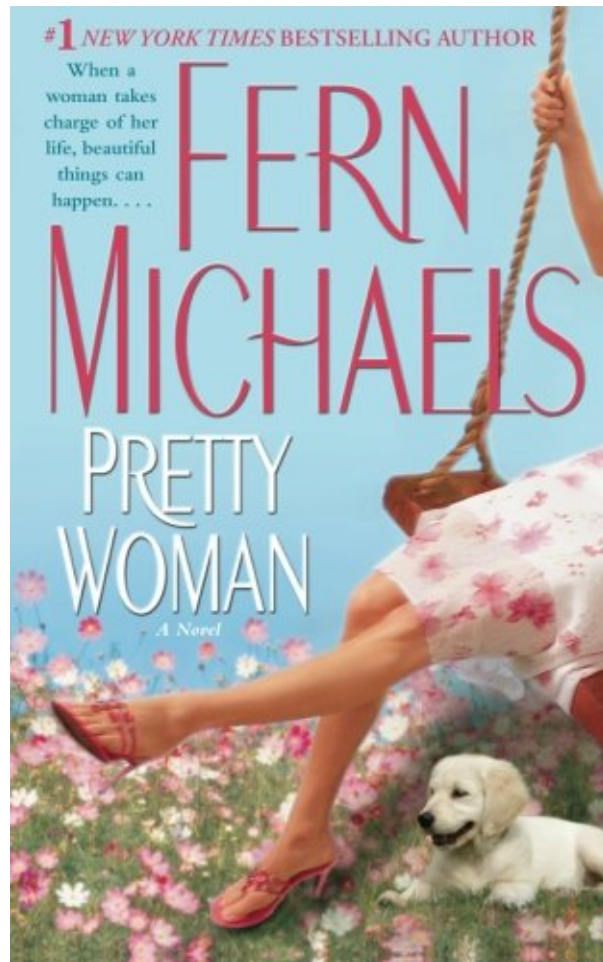
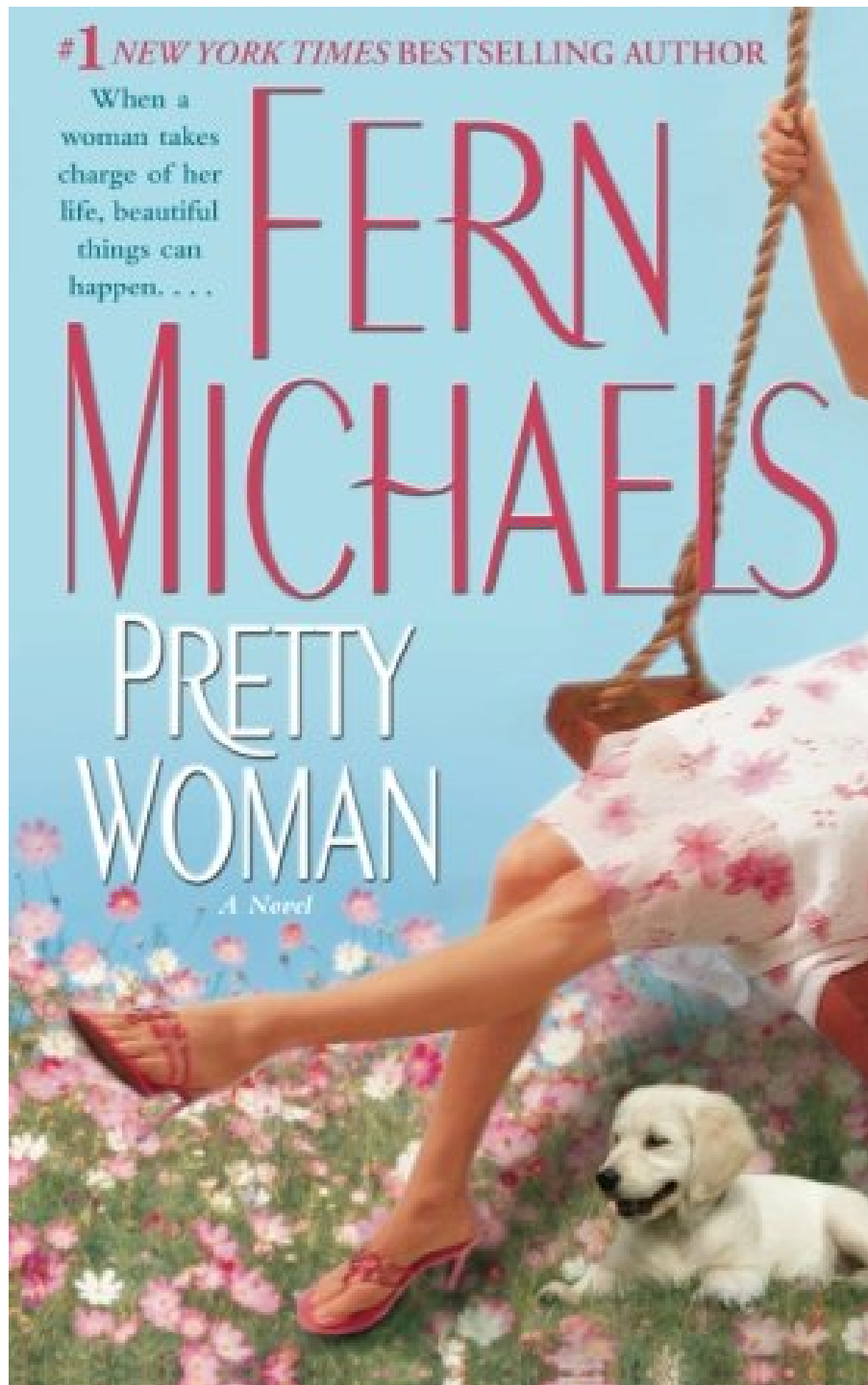


PRETTY WOMAN: A NOVEL BY FERN MICHAELS



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From Publishers Weekly

Rotund Rosie Bliss, née Gardener, is miserable. She has known all along that her husband married her for her money—she runs a successful mail-order business, Nature's Decorations—but she has always lacked the courage to do anything about it. She even lost her best friend and business partner, Vickie, over the truth. In a rare show of spine, Rosie throws out the sorry Kent when he misses their third anniversary dinner. Kent isn't sorry to leave ("You're nothing but a fat pig with big feet"), but he slinks back the next day when he discovers that Rosie has won the lottery—a \$302 million jackpot. As she fights to keep Kent's hands off her windfall and resolves to become the pretty woman he never saw in her, Rosie is cheered on by wonderful trainer Jack Silver, housekeeper Luna Mae, and Vickie, with whom Rosie renews her friendship. Kent schemes alternately to get Rosie back and to steal from her, but ends by almost believably growing up, even seeing her transformation as an inspiration for his own necessary changes. Rosie, however, isn't waiting around for him. The concluding triathlon, in which Michaels's likable heroine shows her stuff, is a strong finish to a frothy read. (Apr.)

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From Booklist

Despite owning her own successful business, Rosie has lived for the approval of her husband, Kent, who never approves. He spends her money lavishly, sleeps in a separate bed, and takes every opportunity to inform Rosie how ugly and overweight she is—until she kicks him out without a cent. Kent is not happy. He is even less so when he suspects that Rosie has purchased a winning lottery ticket worth \$302 million. Rosie, shocked she has won, hides the ticket. She has some decisions to make. Rosie wins back an old friend, expands her business, gets a dog, and hires Jack, a fitness trainer. Kent casts a long shadow over Rosie's life and her burgeoning relationship with Jack, but as Rosie's self-esteem grows, even Kent bows before her. Although readers may take issue with Michaels' definition of fat, fans will still love her newest romance, with its animated characters and exploration of the possibilities of inner strength. Maria Hatton

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PRETTY WOMAN: A NOVEL BY FERN MICHAELS PDF

In Fern Michaels's extraordinary, inspiring New York Times bestseller, an overweight woman sets out to improve her life by losing fifty-five pounds -- and ends up changing much more than her dress size!

Rosie Gardener fell under the spell of handsome Kent Bliss, and not even her best friend Vickie could persuade her that her fiancé was a two-timing cad. Now it's her third wedding anniversary, and Rosie, fed up with Kent's mistreatment, realizes her estranged best friend was right. But the day after kicking Kent out and beginning a diet and exercise regime, Rosie experiences another life-changing event: she wins \$302 million in the Wonderball lottery. Now with Kent lurking in the shadows to claim a share of her money, Rosie needs her friends more than ever. As she works out under the eye of sexy personal trainer Jack Silver, a stronger new Rosie emerges -- a woman who wants to learn to trust love once again. Can she keep her vow not to be stopped by Kent's bitterness and her own self-doubts and jump into life with a passion she didn't know she possessed?

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- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x 1.20" w x 5.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 416 pages

From Publishers Weekly

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-- Los Angeles Times

Most helpful customer reviews

15 of 16 people found the following review helpful.

ANNOYING!!!

By phoenix102874

OK, in the prologue the main character accuses her best friend of being jealous because she's 25 pounds heavier but she's the one getting married.

The friend is a size six. The heroine is a size 14.

That's a 25 pound difference? I don't think so!

Then, three years later, the heroine struggles out of bed and hugs her knees... no mean feat for a size 16 woman! (GASP! The horror! Call Greenpeace, NOW!) She looks in the mirror and sees nine rolls of fat flowing down her body... she's HUGE! She's a BLIMP! (Never mind that the average size of women in the U.S. is a 14.)

We hear her moaning about how much weight she's gained since she got married... and yup, on page 65 she says of her marriage, "I was so miserable, I started to eat. As you can see, I packed on fifty-five pounds."

WOW! She put on 55 pounds and only went from a size 14 to a size 16? I'm soooo jealous!!!

The author's insistence that a size 16 marks a woman as a candidate for blimphood is annoying. The inconsistencies I noted above detract from what could otherwise be an enjoyable book. C'mon, you want to write a fat story? Write about a LARGE woman... size 26, size 28. NOT a woman who's a size 14/16.

They say "write what you know". Obviously this author doesn't have a clue. The least she could have done was look up some facts and tried to make this heroine's "weight problem" a little believable. (I can't imagine a size 16 woman with 9 rolls of fat hanging off her body; that is, unless she's about 3 feet tall! Hey, maybe that's it! The heroine is a midget & the author forgot to tell us!)

I also, can't, stand the way she sticks, commas, into her sentences: randomly. Bad punctuation; sucks!!!

And no, I can't overlook these errors and "just enjoy the story"; it's like getting a salad at a restaurant with a big old hair in it & being told to "Just enjoy it! It tastes good anyway, right?"

WRONG!!!

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful.

I had a beef with this book....

By L. Toll

While I enjoyed Fern Michaels' incomparable writing style and the story was appropriately uplifting and romantic, I was dismayed and put off by the premise of the book. A dumpy, overweight woman, finally sick of being emotionally abused and cuckolded by her handsome-yet-useless husband kicks him out, and sets out to better herself. She wants to lose weight, she wants to look better, and she wants to get even.

My problem with this premise was the author's nudging the reader toward the idea that we should applaud Rosie and identify with her for all the trials she has to go through to finally get what she wants. My problem, although I genuinely liked Rosie's character, was that Rosie is rich, then wins the lottery to become STINKING rich, and really doesn't have to deal with any of the problems that overweight people have to face.

Rosie's "weight problem" is a whopping 20-30 lbs. What does she do? Orders a whole bunch of expensive exercise equipment for the mansion her parents LEFT her (in other words, she hasn't even had to buy this enormous palace, her family's always been rich), hires a personal trainer, and has her housekeeper/companion begin feeding her a prescribed diet. On top of which, she owns her own business, which apparently makes a ridiculous amount of money, selling weeds that she arranges, lacquers and spray paints into arrangements.... oh, with a staff, so she has time to go off for six hours at a time with her personal trainer. By the end of the book, she's competing in a triathlon...

How is the average person who works for a living, lives paycheck to paycheck (or maybe just slightly better off), and needs to get into better shape, supposed to identify with the poor little rich girl who has a staff and all the money in the world to throw at her problems? This really made me resent the author's view of weight problems, and also made me wonder if the author has ever been an ounce overweight. For the tens of thousands (probably more) who have struggled with their weight all their lives, it's downright insulting and demeaning.

While the writing style was Michaels' usual excellent work, and the characters were friendly and inviting, this huge glaring glitch ruined the book for me, and I couldn't bring myself to rate it higher than a 6

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

My first and LAST Fern Michaels

By S. Hanks

First of all I could not get over how a size 14 is so obese and disgusting. Give me a break! I also didn't like her style of writing. It was very juvenile and seemed like the book was written over a weekend. It's one of the worst books I have ever read!

See all 74 customer reviews...

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