



# Another Mother's Life

*Rowan Coleman*

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Can you ever mend a shattered friendship?

From Rowan Coleman, author of the acclaimed bestseller *The Accidental Mother*, comes a deeply moving novel for every woman who was ever a teenager in love, a mother, or made a heartbreaking decision.

For wealthy Alison James, moving with her family to her hometown of Farmington presents more than a case of relocation jitters. Fifteen years ago, she fled town, eloping with her best friend's boyfriend. Now, blessed with three children, but uneasy in her marriage, she wonders if that decision led her away from the life she was meant to lead.

Catherine Ashley, broke, the mother of two and almost divorced, can't help but wonder the same thing. Although she's content with her children, she finds herself returning again and again to those few weeks fifteen years ago when she fell deeply in love, only to be betrayed by her most trusted friend.

Now, once more living in the same town, Alison and Catherine are about to find out just how different their lives could still be. But this time around they are adults, and while their own happiness is at stake, so is their children's.

Wise and warmhearted, *Another Mother's Life* will make you laugh and cry -- and think about what you would do when confronted by some of life's most difficult choices.

## Another Mother's Life Details

Date : Published October 7th 2008 by Gallery Books (first published April 1st 2008)

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Author : Rowan Coleman

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# From Reader Review Another Mother's Life for online ebook

## Kiran Jabeen says

Okay, the reason I read Rowan Coleman's novels is because she keeps everything REAL. I've read The Accidental Mother and now this book and I'm convinced that I'll read anything and everything that has her name attached to it.

I LOVED this book. I hated Marc, I loved Jimmy, I disliked Alison (at first) and I liked Catherine. See? My feelings are diverse because these characters were diverse in every aspect. I loved it! And how can I forget Kirsty? She was adorable (in her own way)! :D

Anyways, the only thing that I thought was missing, was that Alison's family didn't get closure in the end. At least it didn't feel like it to me... There were a few things which would have made this a perfect story if they had been added but it was great!

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## Wendy says

I gave up on this book as I found it all a little 'samey'.

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## Tracy says

This book was okay, at best. YAWN.

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## Niki says

I loved this book!!! Rowan Coleman is an amazing developer of characters. You just really feel like you know them. Great story of friendship. Makes you think about forgiveness and how sometimes it's necessary even when you don't think you are ready - not because it's the GOOD thing to do, but maybe because the one who hurt you is really the one person you need most in your life.

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## Jennifer says

It was a slow read for me and I felt like I glossed over some passages. It just didn't hold my interest like her other books. I never really felt connected to the characters. I wasn't sure if I was suppose to like Alison. I loved The Accidental Mother and Mommy by Mistake.

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### **Stephanie says**

I enjoyed this book, but sadly not enough to give it 5 stars. It felt like it took me forever to read but in reality it wasn't that long. I never did come around to like Alison's character, though I'm not sure I was supposed to. I really felt for Catherine throughout the entire book, she was just such a sweet woman. I like that we got closure at the end with Catherine but I wish there was a little bit more for Alison.

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### **Becky Finrock says**

This is one of those that I would classify as a beach read. It wasn't amazing, but good enough to keep me hooked and an easy read. This is the first book I've read from Rowan Coleman and it was enough to interest me in trying out more from her.

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### **Sydney says**

This was a very good book. I really enjoyed the complicated relationships between the main characters.

Alison and Catherine are best friends. Until Alison runs away at age 17... with Catherine's boyfriend. Catherine ends up marrying the guy Alison had a huge crush on. Their lives converge as each couple is on the verge of splitting up... and as Alison moves back to the town where she and Catherine grew up.

Throw in some kids, a quirky neighbor/friend, a near-tragedy and some good writing and you've got a great story on your hand. This book deals with some heavy material... but it's don't in such a way that it doesn't weigh the story down. The characters are believable... lovable... frustrating... heartwarming.

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### **Ashley says**

This was just an okay book. I couldn't put it down because I cannot not finish and book and I just wanted the story to be over already. It was kind of slow and drawn out. The characters were hardly likable. The main character, Alison, was extremely immature, almost unimaginable or realistically immature. The other main character, Cathy, was so flat and boring it was frustrating. It's a bit predictable, but overall it's an alright read. I wouldn't really recommend it to anyone unless you've got nothing else available.

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### **Audrey Wennink says**

I thought the concept for this story was great. I could not put it down. My only complaint was that a few bits of dialogue were unrealistically harsh. But mostly I thought it was a great story and well written.

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## Catherine says

This was a decent novel, definitely of the chick lit genre, but with a British accent. It reminded me a bit of a book I read several years ago, *"The Reading Group"*.

The basic premise is that one friend stole the other's boyfriend when they were 17. Now she's returned to their hometown, married to the boyfriend in question. Neither of the friends' lives have turned out the way they imagined, and the boyfriend stealer becomes convinced that she stole the life her friend was meant to have.

While it was a fun read, I saw the ending coming half-way through the book. I spent the second half waiting for the main characters to pull their heads out of their arses.

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## Caz Lopez says

This book is about two best friends in school Alison and Catherine. Catherine falls in love with an older guy called marc who turns up one day under a tree where catherine is sitting. Alison is very jealous of catherine and gets her own way and runaways with marc (not mentioning why as it will spoil it) and the girls dont see one another for 15 years.

15 years later alison and catherine both move on and have children of thir own. Alison with her husband and their three children lived in london and catherine with her husband and two children live in Farmington. Marc decides he wants alison to move with him back to farmington to be nearer to catherine, despite knowing that catherine still lives there and she will have to face her at some point.

I loved both alison and catherine they had a great friendship and alison was quite a funny character. Catherine was married to jimmy who alison fancied since school. so when they finally see one another thanks to kirsty (Catherines next door neighbour) it does seem a bit strange to the both of them but kirsty and her witty personality makes it easier for them.

I hated jimmys mum who spoke nastily about catherine and hated marc with a passion for how he treated Alison. however despite all that I thought the book was very well written took me a good 100 pages to get into it but once I was into it the pages were just turning. I shall definitely be reading more from Rowan Coleman. It gets a 4 \*\*\*\*\* rating from me as i would of liked to now what happened to marc at the end. but other than that is was great!

caz

xxx

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## Elizabeth Ray says

I really liked this book. From the description, you would almost think that they tried our each other's lives for a while, which didn't happen. I felt the book was a little off from the description. Nevertheless, I enjoyed this book. Alison and Catherine are two best friends until Alison runs off with Catherine's boyfriend. Sixteen years later, Alison comes back to town with her husband, only to find out that Catherine has married her old

crush. The women have to deal with their confusing emotions. Did they end up with the right men? Can their friendship be restored?

This book was engaging from the get-go and I kept anxiously awaiting for when the two main characters would bump into each other. The pace is good. I love the perplexing relational questions that this book brings up. Both main characters have a lot of issues to work through related to their past and both go through a lot of character development. This book also shows the beauty of friendship and forgiveness. No big plot twists or anything here, but it ended just the way I was hoping it would!

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### **Mary says**

Although it wasn't a page turner it was good. And although the topic of fidelity in relationships is not one I love I thought that this book more accurately portrayed real human relationships than any other book I've read recently. That people aren't either good or bad but a constantly changing and evolving mixture of both. Also I loved the author being able to capture both perspectives of two characters interactions so well. It was real and believable. And in the end I got my happy ending which worried me a bit throughout.

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### **Natasha du Plessis says**

A marriage is not always moonlight and roses and that is what we see in this book. This book also deals with the consequences and how we deal with infidelity not only by partners but also by the children. I really loved this book and the characters, Marc however was not my favourite person. Another great read by Rowan Coleman.

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