



## It Happened in Venice

*Molly Hopkins*

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## **It Happened in Venice** Molly Hopkins

He cheated, but only once!

Evie Dexter has promised to forgive and forget her fiancé Rob - and her efforts to absolve his sins are paying off: in the past ten days she's only called him a two-timing love rat eleven times.

Thank goodness her flourishing career as a tour guide takes her to fashionable Dublin, in-vogue Marrakech and cool Amsterdam. So when Evie's offered a luxury visit to the sensual city of Venice she jumps at the chance. With its gondolas, wine and sultry Italian men, four days in the city of light and love is just what she needs. Who knows what could happen?

## **It Happened in Venice Details**

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Author : Molly Hopkins

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Genre : Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Romance, Love Story, Humor, Funny

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# From Reader Review It Happened in Venice for online ebook

## Laura Head says

Another hilarious chick lit novel that follows Evie around the world with the travelling company, however in this novel I did miss the amount of travelling that Evie did as in the previous novel we had a lot of description about Paris. I loved the twist of romance that the novel contained and it had a satisfying ending. The friendship between Evie and John is strange, I can see a further twist between these two if there is another book in the series.

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## Gemma Handley says

I have extremely mixed feelings about this book.

Ok first off, I was never really a fan of Rob however after Evie expressing how much she loved him in the previous book and first half of this book, I trusted her judgement and accepted the feelings of the protagonist. But then Hopkins decides to just poo all over this. After forcing us to love a couple together pretty much, she just decides to randomly make Rob a villain.

Even though, I didn't even think his situation was that bad!!!! I mean, overall yes he was a serial cheater, but that aside, he left his wife STRAIGHT after meeting Evie and he was very committed to her pretty much...

It annoys me that I wasted time on It Happened in Paris, following that love story, for her to change it to a different guy the next. It's so infuriating.

I did however, prefer Nikki, I liked him a lot more as a love interest but I found it overbearingly obvious that she was going to end up with Nikki, despite a sort of romance being forced between Evie and John...

Also I liked the relationship between Evie and John, when her friends weren't forcing her to make it romantic, their platonic friendship was sweet and I saw John as a type of father figure for her which was nice for her to have.

And I'm not even sure why it's called It happened in Venice when they went to Venice for like 1 chapter... I was severely disappointed.

Overall, I kind of just wish the whole Rob relationship wasn't so forced and important over the last 2 books, it would've been nicer to see her relationship with Nikki grow for longer over the course of the books instead.

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## Claire Hill says

This is the first book I have read by this author. I found this book very enjoyable and hard to put down !!

This book is based around Evie Dexter who's heart was slightly broken by her two timing Rod the Fiancé , Evie takes him back but promises to never bring up the affair again which Evie finds hard.

After spending a weekend away Rob he moves in and is planning they future telling her , where and when to work Evie feels things are going to fast and that she loves her jobs and does not want to change especially her tour guide job that takes her around the world and meeting new people and seeing new things .

In time Rob runs away with his plans for they future and takes Evie to meet his parents!!!! In one evening she finds out they his parents do not live in Spain he has a wife already and he has a son. Evie world falls apart.

Her friends rally round John her friend / client from the holiday tours takes her away to Dublin and supports her through the bad times!!!!!!!

After months of crying and self pity Evie is ready to face the world, she looking for tours again and her hrs at the bar that Nik her best friend owns to help him out.

Evie is sent to a mystery guest review in Venice siting in the hotel bar drinking her gin and tonic that costs the earth!!!! But all the places and all the hotel who walks into hers.....

Is Evie ready to look for love or is it right under her nose you will just have to read the book to find out.

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## **Sabyyy98 says**

When Evie has been offered a luxury visit to the sensual city of Venice she jumps at the chance. With its delicious wine and sultry Italian men, four days in the city of light and love is just what she needs.

Okay! let's get this straight... Evie is an amazing character, she is a strong woman, quite independent, not so matured and has way a lot more to drink than just a glass of gin and tonic. Rob is a skank and an asshole!, though I adored him in the book It Happened In Paris. He seemed so possessive and selfish towards Evie I mean come on! I know he loves her and all but dude! you gotta give a lady her space!

Nikki on the other hand is a greek god, no doubts on that one!, I always melt away by imagining him speaking in greek, he is caring and loving although he's a little bad tempered and hot headed at times but hey! that's why we all love Nikki right?.

Then, there goes John Jackson, the multi millionaire. At first he sounded more like a sugar daddy than a friend towards Evie for me but later on I realized that he was a sweet, caring good old man and played a role of a godfather instead of a sugar daddy.

When it comes to Lulu... I need not say much because Lulu is just being Lulu: ). The crazy psychopathic lunatic of a friend of Evie. What quite surprises me is that Lulu gave meaningful and truthful advises to Evie although the choices of words she used is just so... Lulu. Anyway, I give her my respect on that.

Overall I find this story to be really fun, exciting, heartbreaking and frustrating. I should say that the frustration was quite hard to cope up with which makes it a joyful read. I would suggest this book for chick-lit readers (like me for instance... lol!!!) who's seeking for a joy and fun holiday read kind of thing.

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## **Agi says**

After reading "It happened in Paris" and knowing there will be a second part, I couldn't wait to get it in my greedy hands. and I must say, I am not dissapointed. This book is written in a way that is my favourite way - easy, funny, witty. I loved the dialogues, the ping - pong conversations, I loved the characters and the situations they put themselves in. Although I must say that as evie and Rob were the super duo from "Paris", I have expected it will be the same. But Rob was behaving really weird and sometimes I was so, so furious with Evie being a total door mat and wanted to slap her really hard.

Perhaps only there were too many plots, too many skipping from one idea to the second, and the end was a little too long for my liking, but all in all - super reading, light and funny, that have me laughed out loud.

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## Leah says

**\*\*If you haven't read It Happened In Paris, then you should not read this review, as there will be spoilers. Please also be aware that this is not a good review, therefore if you're not a fan of negative reviews, please don't feel you need to read it.\*\***

Last year, *It Happened In Paris* was easily one of my favourite books of the year – possibly my absolute favourite. So to know it was the first in a series was really exciting and I couldn't wait for *It Happened In Venice*. Hopkins has such an easy writing style, that's so easy to read, so easy to enjoy and I saw the Evie Dexter series as a modern, globe-trotting Shopaholic series. It's what it reminded me of. I was so excited to see Venice through Evie's eyes as we saw Paris through her eyes previously. I was even more interested in how Evie's relationship with Rob would progress especially after what happened in Paris.

Sadly, for me, *It Happened In Venice* was nothing short of a disaster. From start to finish, it just seemed like an entirely different series. First up, let's start with the fact that Venice doesn't even come into the equation until 320 pages in. In fact, Venice features so little that it should have been called *It Happened In London* with a little bit of Venice. Venice was sparse at best, spanning a mere 20 or so pages in what was a 400+ page book. I just kept waiting, and waiting, and waiting for Evie's fabulous Italian adventure, and it just didn't come. Even when it came, it still wasn't all that. I felt cheated. Where was Venice? Considering the name, the cover, the synopsis, it all seemed geared toward Venice and it was just a bit strange that it wasn't really there.

Now on to Evie and Rob's relationship. I LOVED their relationship during *It Happened In Paris*. They clicked immediately and the sparks just flew. I stated in my Paris review that I hoped Venice wouldn't screw it all up, and it did. Evie turned into a whining harpie. Yes, he cheated (which, by the way, it seems was the worst mistake Hopkins ever made, that effectively is what ruined Venice, that's what started the downfall). Yes, she has a right to be indignant. But for the love of God, if you take him back and **PROMISE TO NOT MENTION IT**, then you should **NOT MENTION IT**. Otherwise you turn into a harpie. And Rob? What happened to Rob? He turned into a monster. A demanding, whining monster who threw his toys out of the pram whenever he didn't get his own way. And then! Oh God. Just to make it worse, Hopkins then went and made it worse, revealing Rob to be something I never, ever saw coming and effectively ruining Paris. I can't quite believe Hopkins went there. That she did that. As a reader I, again, feel cheated. I do not put effort into reading books and enjoying relationships for that to happen. I just don't. In my opinion, Hopkins should never have put the cheating at the end of Paris. She seems to have written herself into a corner and she went a bit fantastical to get out of it. Rob's character was ruined in Venice, ruined.

The book just did not work. Lulu was weird and her and Rob's behaviour to each other was disgusting. Even Nikki and the bar staff across the road just weren't as funny or as bright as they were in the first book. I just thought it was a disaster. What was so good in Paris was the chemistry and the fun between Rob and Evie and it just got blown apart for reasons I can't fathom. The way the book ended was just peculiar, too. I can't even really explain it without spoiling the book (not that that would be a bad thing, well, not for those who previously liked Rob, anyway). It just... you read a book and love it, you love the couple, love the dynamics and then it just gets ruined. I cannot think of a worse sequel that could have occurred, bar somebody dying. I won't be reading *It Happened In Santorini*, because all the interest I had in the series has just disappeared. It disappeared as soon as the truth about Rob came out. Maybe it was meant to be a good thing, but I liked Rob. He was brilliant. I will just remember how good Paris was, because that WAS a good book, and that one is

worth reading again and again.

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### **Karen Whittard says**

I really really really tried to like this book but it took all my effort to finish it that unfortunately liking it was a step too far. This book had sooo much promise. I looked on here for the rating and when I saw one and two stars I thought personal preference and all that and I thought perhaps they were wrong and perhaps I need to just give it a go. Sadly people were not wrong. To me this book is poorly written as the plot seemed a little all over the place kept going off in tangents. Just when I thought ohh this is good I'm getting into it another tangent was gone off on again

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### **Ann says**

I ordered this for my Nook to "cleanse my palate" between books. I'd just finished a disappointing novel and needed to have a bit of "dessert" before continuing my reading.

I was right-this was fluff but fun fluff. In spite of everything, I liked the protagonist and enjoyed reading what little there was about Venice. (I'm taking a trip there next year).

Good beach book or rainy afternoon in front of a fire book...

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### **BestChickLit.com says**

I am rather torn as to how I feel about this book, I struggled with it slightly but when everything came together at the end I loved it. I felt a rush of emotion and gave a little fist pump of joy for Evie's conclusion. However, there was a little too much going on and I wasn't sure about Evie and John's relationship. John, a friend she makes on a holiday tour after he's struck down with a heart attack, ends up showering her with gifts like some sort of sugar daddy – it was a tad creepy (unless you like that sort of thing!) and I prayed she didn't end up with him. I hated Rob, which you're supposed to, he's rude and treats her like a child. I was so frustrated she let him treat her so badly; he spoke about her friends with disgust and demanded she quit her job at the bar. I almost gave up hope for her, so it's very satisfying when he gets his comeuppance!

Nikki, Evie's boss and friend, is an interesting character: a dark, handsome Greek god with a temper! His relationship with Evie makes you speculate, in one chapter Nikki's bending over backwards to help her out of a sticky situation and you're thinking "ahhh there could be romance here" and the next he's almost bitten her head off in rage – but what is at the root of all this emotion, love or hate? If you like a lot of action and drama, you will devour this book in hours. The story has many twists and turns to keep you guessing, and just when you think you have it all sussed out someone puts a spanner in the works! A pleasant read and eager to find out more of Evie's story, she's a feisty, sparky character and I am sure 'it happened at Bootcamp' by Molly Hopkins is equally as entertaining!

Reviewed by Francesca Verbeeten on behalf of BestChickLit.com

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## Zarina says

Evie Dexter's job as tour guide takes her to faraway destinations, from the romantic island of Venice to the rising temperatures of Marrakech. The vivid descriptions of the exotic cities she visits makes them sound ever so inviting to the reader.

Upon first glance Evie's life seems quite perfect. However, her fiancé Rob (who cheated on her, though she has been able to forgive him his momentary judgement lapse) is slowly becoming more controlling as he first asks her to quit her second job, and then even suggests that she should stop touring as well. With the exception of the tours for which he can be assigned the driver, as they'll be together for those.

While I haven't read the first title in the series, *It Happened in Paris*, it was easy to get into this novel and be swept away by Evie's escapades and the vivid descriptions of all the places she gets to visit as a tour guide. As a seasoned traveller myself it was nice to be able to revisit cities I've been to in the past and also discover new exotic destinations that sounded so appealing that I wanted nothing more than book myself onto the next plane able to take me there.

And in between the detailed descriptions of the holiday destinations there is the solid story of Evie's turbulent romantic life and the crazy situations she often finds herself in. With an outgoing and bubbly personality, which seeps through the pages of the novel and defines its flirtatious tone, it's hard not to instantly fall in love with her.

However, despite Evie's fun-loving nature she was as a main protagonist quite weak. Throughout the novel I was hoping she would grow a backbone as she rarely (or ever, really) makes any important decisions for herself, but instead goes along with whatever the men in her life (Rob, John, Nikki) tell her to do. Had she been stronger I would've probably sympathised with her more.

The other characters were mostly well-written and provided a colourful background; rich and handsome business man John, Evie's temperamental boss Nikki (and his hilarious mother) and her best friend Lulu (who has an on and off relationship with her nicotine addiction), are the most prominent ones. Author Molly Hopkins managed to make them all very likeable and it quickly felt like I had known them for years. John in particular was well-rounded, and in fact I wish I had known him for years! I mean, who wouldn't want to be swept of their feet by this handsome man and fly away in his private jet? My point exactly.

In short: *It Happened in Venice* is a quick and fun Summer read. Those who enjoy books from the likes of Sophie Kinsella and Lindsey Kelk will particularly enjoy reading about the adventures of Evie Dexter. Thrown in a healthy mix of eccentric friends and family members and, of course, available bachelors, and you've got yourself a fab chick-lit read to dream away with.

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## Michael says

One needs to have absolutely nothing between the ears to be able to read this. Vapid. I seldom wish ill towards a character but I hope she drowns or be swept out to sea by a huge wave.

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## **Kim Lachine-caron says**

Perfect mind-candy type book.

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## **Jennifer Joyce says**

It Happened In Venice is a great read with fun, quirky characters. Evie kept me amused as she told her story and there were plenty of laugh out loud moments. I loved the relationship - or lack of - between Rob and Evie's best friend, Lulu. They didn't get along at all, which is hardly surprising under the circumstances. Rob had already hurt her friend once and didn't want it to happen again. Evie was stuck in the middle as Rob and Lulu constantly sniped at one another and while I felt a bit sorry for Evie, I found the jibes very funny.

I would have liked to have seen the men in Evie's life to be a bit less aggressive as they all seemed to have extremely short tempers and bossed her around an awful lot, which isn't very attractive in a hero and meant I found it difficult to warm to them. Even still, Evie more than made up for it. I loved her character and really enjoyed It Happened In Venice, both for its humour and for the mystery of who Evie would end up with.

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## **Best Crime Books & More says**

Molly Hopkins released her debut novel last year (2011) and to be honest I only picked it up because there were so many favourable reviews on Amazon. Boy was I glad that I did! I read her book in a day or so and was genuinely shocked as it had been such a long time since I had read such a funny debut novel.

I realised that her second novel was released in August 2012 and when I received an early copy to review I was foaming with excitement. Evie Dexter is once again back with her crazy motley crew of friends and family. The one thing that made me love the first book was Evie herself and in this one she is back on top form. Evie is a brilliant character that I have fallen in love with. She cannot keep her mouth shut when required, constantly gets drunk and is always unpredictable, especially when it comes to shopping. She is engaged to her fiancé Rob even though he cheated on her. However, as a tour guide for Insignia Tours she gets the opportunity to leave the country for a few days at a time and her trips are always eventful.

This latest book had me snorting with laughter into my tea within the first few chapters. As a result when I arrived home from work, the book accompanied me whilst cooking, taking a bath and into the early hours of the morning. It's a book that is so warm and funny that you just can't put it down. In addition to Evie, her friends and family cause just as much mayhem and make the book what it is. I love her crazy flatmate Lulu, her sister Lexy and everybody that works with her at her friend Nikki's café.

It's hard to really review the book without giving spoilers, but I will say this. If you are a fan of the Angela Clarke series of books by Lindsey Kelk then make sure you pick up Molly Hopkins. She is without a doubt a rising star and if you haven't read her yet, you need to start now, you won't be disappointed. Without a doubt Molly Hopkins has created a series that can run and run and leave the reader wanting that little bit more. I loved the way the story went, loved the characters and was disappointed that I had finished it so quickly. It



happened in Venice is a truly fantastic book that I would highly recommend. I guess the only saving grace is that I now know I can truly look forward to the next It Happened in book in the series due for release next year. Roll on for the next one Molly I am truly looking forward to it! A MUST READ!

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### **Megan Readinginthesunshine says**

I have been a fan of Molly Hopkins ever since I read her debut novel 'It Happened In Paris', which by the way, if any of you haven't read, then you need to try it because it is a truly fabulous book. Having loved Paris so much, I was very excited when I heard about 'It Happened In Venice'.

I raced through this book, I enjoyed it so much and was reading at every opportunity I could get. The story opens with Evie and Rob on holiday in Barbados, which I became engrossed in immediately. I'd barely finished the first chapter and I was crying with laughter, and had tears streaming down my face. Throughout the story there are many more hilarious moments, most of which had me sniggering and bursting out loud with laughter, prompting many funny looks from my fiancé.

Evie is everything you could want in a main character of this genre, she's hilarious, she loves beautiful clothes and drinks far more than she should! But most of all, she gets herself into crazy situations, and the way she deals with them makes for a gripping read. I really became involved in Evie's character, at times I was really rooting for her, and at other times I was screaming at the pages, wanting to give Evie a shake and to give her some much needed advice (you'll see what I mean). Overall Evie is such a likeable and relatable character and I'm sure everyone will warm to her.

All of the old characters are back for the sequel as well, firstly there's Evie's handsome now-fiancé Rob, who I think everyone couldn't get enough of in book one! Then there's Evie's housemate Lulu who thinks the answer to everything is to go shopping or drink more (I want to be her friend so badly!), Evie's sister Lexy with her two twin children Lauren and the evil Becky, who manages to frighten me from within the pages, I dearly hope my future children aren't like that!!! We also see the return of John, Insignia Tours' most valued customer, as he whisks Evie away to many different parts of the world on his business trips. I must say, I absolutely loved the relationship and the banter between Evie and John, I loved their friendship, their jokes and I always looked forward to scenes where John featured. My favourite characters however, have to be Nikki and his Greek family who work in the bar. I absolutely LOVE them, especially Nikki's mother Maria who made me laugh all the time. Nikki also had a special place in my heart, I fell in love with him during 'It Happened In Paris' and was positively delighted that he featured a lot in 'It Happened In Venice'. If the characters were real, I'd be in Nikki's bar from the moment it opened right up until closing time!

There are some surprises in store, sexy scenes, a lot of laugh out loud moments and hours of joyous reading ahead of you if you buy this book! Molly Hopkins you are amazing and I absolutely LOVED this book!

It Happened In Venice is the PERFECT sequel to Paris. It is hilarious, it is fun, and it is so well written that from the moment you pick it up, you won't be able to put it down!

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