



Molly's Millions

Victoria Connolly

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Hard-up florist Molly Bailey has just won £4.2 million pounds in the National Lottery. And she needs to get rid of it – fast!

Tom Mackenzie is on the verge of losing his job. He needs one hell of a story if he hopes to secure his future in journalism.

With Ebenezer Scrooge for a brother, and a strong belief that sharing her good fortune is the only way forward, Molly unwittingly becomes the most sought-after person in the country as, in true Robin Hood style, she distributes her wealth to the masses.

With only her terrier pup, Fizz, for company, Molly embarks on the journey of her life, crossing the country in her trusty – or should that be ‘rusty’? – yellow Beetle. But with Tom Mackenzie hot on her heels and the nation on the look-out for her, Molly must outwit them all if she’s to achieve her grand finale.

Will she succeed before her family and the media catch up with her? And with Tom leading the pack, would that really be such a bad thing...?

Molly's Millions Details

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From Reader Review Molly's Millions for online ebook

Maria says

isn't half the fun of playing the weekly lottery the days you spend dreaming about what you'd do with all that cash? Yes. Unless you win. Then the fun is spending it. Or is it? This book takes you on a ride with Molly, who is having fun spending her millions. Well, mostly fun a pesky reporter and downer family members suck out some of the fun. Doesn't this sound like a good idea for a book? I thought so. But, alas, I think this one falls a bit flat. Molly's adventures could be much more fun; the reporter could be less annoying (really, he didn't realize that he'd make her mad?); the family could be less predictable.

Big Book Little Book says

Helen for www.bigbooklittlebook.com

I picked this up needing a little light relief after reading a more weighty tome and this was the perfect antidote! This story is chick lit at its best; a funny, romantic, well-paced ride through the English countryside with a bit of substance as well.

Molly Bailey is a lovely girl who has managed to stay lovely despite the un-loveliness of her family. She owns her own florist shop and has escaped the family home and all the scrimping, saving, penny pinching men who live there. Her brother Marty, (married to her friend Carolyn) is a chip off the old block however. Molly's mother, Cynthia, left when Molly was still a child and Molly still has many unanswered questions about what happened.

On a whim one day Molly buys a lottery ticket and Bingo(!) hits the jackpot coming away with £4.2 million. Despite Lottery advice to do nothing too quickly Molly knows that once the Bailey men discover the news about her win there will be no stopping them dividing it up and packing it off to the bank, never to be seen again. Molly wants none of this so she decides she is going to give it away, the only problem...to who?

So Molly begins her journey in her brilliant, bright yellow VW bug. She shuts up shop and leaves discovering good causes as she drives through England. She begins anonymously leaving donations with a calling card; a yellow sunshine daisy and having a wonderful time. She gets into some hilarious situations and meets fantastic people. But the fun really starts when those Bailey men find out what's happening and come after her. Molly is desperate to stay one step ahead and the ensuing chase around the country is fabulous.

In addition to all this Molly is also being chased by Tom, a journalist, and his 10 year old daughter Flora who is along for the ride. He is the reason her family discover she has the money and causes a fair bit of friction until Molly figures out how to use him to her advantage. He also provides the will they/won't they part of the story.

During all this there is depth too, Marty and Carolyn's rocky marriage is really put to the test, Marty learns some valuable life lessons about money (its too late for the older members of the family!!) and Molly does get to find out more about her mother and what happened long ago.

Verdict: The ending is great, literally the high point of the book. This is definitely a story I will re-read, it would be a brilliant cheering read if you were a bit down too. Very funny and I loved it.

Olivia says

A relaxing, cute book. Predictable but still enjoyable.

Book-shelf Shelf says

Got this on my kindle over the Christmas break and wish i had got it before, but it seems to be one of those books that slips through the marketing ... yet its is a truly brilliant feel good book....none of the sloppiness just a brilliant story of a girl with a heart and no hidden agenda.

I loved every page and will certainly be getting another Victoria Connelly book!!

Heidi says

I would loved to have given this book 4 stars but an irritation of something in it brought it down a notch for me. The florist Molly Bailey runs out of her floral shop to buy a lottery ticket at the end of the day. She wins 4.2 million pounds. Molly's family is miserly and she keeps it a secret running off on an adventure to give away money to others to make them happy. Tom MacKenzie gets hold of the story from the start and decides to pack up his car and follow her. What he did not bargain for was the arrival of his daughter Flora on his doorstep the very morning he was to leave. She tags along and makes a great sidekick for him on his chase.

The story is fun and predictable. It is all that chic lit is supposed to be but I became irritated by some remarks about Americans by Tom. I felt the remarks did not add to the story in the least. It was almost as if the author (who I have contacted by email previously after reading another book and found her such a nice lady) was putting forth her own thoughts just for the sake of them. I was amazed as I found them inappropriate. It is my own opinion and many may read this and not think twice about it but I come from a background where some things need not be said in life.

Hmy says

DNF. The premise is that he needs one hell of a story and frankly this is not one hell of a story.

Elusive says

In 'Molly's Millions', young florist Molly Bailey buys a lottery ticket and unexpectedly ends up winning 4.2 million pounds. In the blink of an eye, her financial dilemma is solved. She decides to use her money to

make other people's lives better while keeping the whole thing a secret from the Bailey men as they would definitely want their share and be against her altruistic plan.

The premise interested me as I was envisioning several possibilities – it could be thought-provoking seeing how such a large amount of cash could change Molly and change how people treat her. On the other hand, it could be a fun, adventurous read filled with details on her journey and how she attempts to keep her whereabouts a secret from the Bailey men. It could be eye-opening, showing how Molly realizes that she's focusing too much on others instead of making herself happy first. Instead, I found this book to be terribly boring, flat and unrealistic.

Molly was definitely a Mary Sue. She had no flaws at all. There's nothing wrong with creating a character who enjoys giving and does it without expecting anything in return but it's a problem when the aforementioned character is too good to be true. The repetition didn't help either – all Molly did throughout the story was distribute her wealth by putting lots of money into envelopes and placing them into strangers' mailboxes. Sometimes she even handed the money to the person face-to-face. How exciting! Basically, even the incorporation of reporter Tom and the Bailey men being hot on her trail failed to inject some life into this dreary tale.

All the characters were one-dimensional. Tom was predictably meant to be Molly's love interest. Of course, he was good-looking and liked her even before he spoke to her. He was also a very considerate reporter who followed Molly but tried to give her some space when she expressed her annoyance. How believable. His ten-year-old daughter Flora who accompanied him during the entire chasing-Molly trip was conveniently well-behaved. As for the Bailey men, they were unbearable as they were stingy as hell while Marty's wife, Carolyn was an absolute doormat.

The subplot regarding Molly's mother who left the family years ago wasn't properly weaved into the storyline. Consequently, it was just weird and didn't belong at all. There were no conflicts anywhere in the story despite the ample opportunities which would have made the book at least a little less lifeless and more realistic. For instance, Molly and her mother's reunion was peaceful from beginning until the end even after the latter revealed a major secret (which was hard to care about because I didn't feel connected to any character).

Overall, 'Molly's Millions' sounded better than it turned out to be. It was disappointing and lacklustre.

Moon Love says

This was a very entertaining story about Molly Bailey who just happens to win 4.2 million pounds in the lottery, the very first time she plays it. Molly is a struggling florist who loves her job. She decides to put some money away for her cheapskate relatives and herself and then decides to give away the rest. She starts travelling around England and her good deeds catch the attention of reporter Tom Mackenzie. Tom starts chasing her around and reporting about her good deeds and whereabouts, making her a national story and bringing attention to her she didn't want.

This is Victoria Connelly's debut novel and it's quite good. I don't think I've ever read a book with this premise and I've read quite a few. The story flowed well and never got boring. Molly was likable and sweet and the story regarding Molly's family was a nice touch. Tom was a character that grew on me. He also grew on Molly as well. Lol.

Petrucha says

3.5 stars

This was as cute and British as you can imagine. It took a bit of time to get used to the pace but as the story progressed, the pace got faster and it was perfect. The ending was as cute as the book cover, really :D Maybe a bit too adorable but it was to be expected.

About the characters - the author's done a great job because she made me hate Molly's family with my soul. OK, not hate...just make bile rise in my throat whenever they were mentioned because they're the type of people that just make me go aaaaaaaaaargh.

And the two main characters - Molly and Tom, both equally likeable - you just have to root for them even though you don't really know anything and their contact is rather sporadic. It gets better but still, this kind of a thing really happens in romantic books and films - there wasn't much base for their romance, yet I was dying for them to be together. In the real world, I'd be asking questions, being doubtful :D

Kirsty says

I loved this book, it was a welcome breath of fresh air for me. The story is about a woman named Molly, who at the beginning of the story doesn't even have enough money to buy all the shopping she wants. With money being tight she has never dared buy a lottery ticket, as she cannot justify wasting the £1 on such poor odds. Early on in the book, for one reason or another she decides to take the risk and buy a ticket. Molly then wins over 4 million. The main bulk of the story then leads on from what she does with the winnings and the journey she goes on.

Whilst this may not be the most realistic of stories, and is basically chick lit, there is so much more to this book. The characters feel real, especially Molly who I found to be inspiring. While lottery wins are a frequent topic to appear in novels, this story is totally different. Molly has a genuinely good heart and I must say that her attitude definitely rubbed off on me from reading this book. I feel like it has made me look at money in new ways. It has also helped me want to be a kinder person. Molly's kindness knows no limits. She is a strong, intelligent and generous character.

While some parts of this novel may perhaps be considered predictable by some people, I must say I didn't find this to be the case for me other than the potential love story angle. However, even this is a bit different to anything I have come across in the past.

This book is accessible and a real page turner. I found myself picking it up any chance I could and I'm so glad I bought it on a whim. I'd never heard of this author before, but I will definitely keep my eyes open for her books in the future. I highly recommend you read this book if you are looking for some happy, inspirational light reading. Maybe Molly will rub off on you too.

Marie says

Pleasant enough but very predictable read. No resolution to some issues raised in the story.

Helen says

What would you do if you won £4.2m on the lottery? Would you tell your Scrooge-like family and risk them taking the money away from you...or would you try to keep it a secret and have some fun? That's the decision faced by Molly Bailey, a struggling florist from Cumbria - and it doesn't take her long to make up her mind!

Knowing she can't hide her win from the Bailey family forever, Molly decides to dispose of it as quickly as possible. With only her dog for company, she sets off on a journey around Britain, distributing money to those in need.

Journalist Tom Mackenzie is looking for a big story to save his career. Accompanied by his ten year-old daughter, Flora, Tom chases Molly up and down the country, determined to discover the identity of this modern-day Robin Hood. Molly must use her wits if she is to avoid being caught by Tom and the Bailey men and continue spreading goodwill to the nation.

Victoria Connelly writes with a lot of warmth and humour, making this a lovely, inspiring story with characters that the reader can really identify with and care about.

It would be impossible not to like Molly Bailey, as she's such a generous, kind-hearted person. She truly doesn't seem to realise how unusual it is for someone to behave so selflessly and can't understand why her actions are making her a media phenomenon. I also liked Tom, despite the trouble he was causing for Molly, and I loved Flora, his daughter. I was torn between cheering Molly on, and wanting Tom to catch her!

This isn't the kind of book I would usually choose to read but Molly's Millions, with its pretty pink cover, caught my attention. It was a light, enjoyable, fun read and I'm glad I decided to give it a chance!

<http://shereadsnovels.wordpress.com>

Bookventures Book Club says

What would you do if you won the lottery? Perhaps you would reward yourself with a new house and car, splurge on items that were considered out of your financial reach and travel to practically anywhere in the world. The opportunities are indeed endless when a large sum of money is worked into the equation. This is essentially the dilemma faced by Molly Bailey a struggling florist in rural England. Having taken a chance with luck, she has won the lottery and is now in a situation where she can do anything that she wants. So what does the Molly do? She gives the money away to random strangers!

Molly's Millions is a light read that moves quite quickly. The reader is exposed to England in a way that the English would be proud of; green rolling hills and tight knit communities in the country side, sprawling metropolis city landscape. Readers will enjoy meeting the characters and getting a bird's eye view on

English values whether they are traditional or contemporary.

Though the moral of the story is quite unconventional in this day and age, it does raise the theme of charity (albeit the ones that begin at home), kindness and goodwill. At times you could tell that the author tried to strike a balance between these themes and those of greed but she was always careful to swing the proverbial pendulum to the good side, so much so that once a character behaved greedy or self seeking, the reader would definitely disapprove.

A book that is so 'light' in nature would have a few things that simply fell through the cracks; sub stories that were developed up to a point and then left the reader hanging. However all of that is forgiven when the reader examines how nicely the book flowed. Everything seemed in its rightful place; even the humor which will from time to time surprise the readers.

Molly's Millions is a nice, light choice and would be an excellent book to keep close by so that whenever you are on a long commute or if you simply feel like reading, you have Molly's Millions to keep you company.

Leah says

Molly Bailey's life is trundling along fine until one day she decides to buy herself a lottery ticket and ends up winning £4.2 million. Trouble is, Molly doesn't want £4.2 million and sets off around the country distributing it as and when she feels like it. Journalist Tom MacKenzie is worried he's about to end up on the journalistic scrap-heap when he happens upon Molly's story. He sets off, with daughter Flora, on a wild goose chase to try and find Molly. As Molly continues around the country not only does she have Tom hot on her heels but also her family – the three Bailey Men along with Carolyn, Marty's wife, who are famed for their tightness. Will Molly be caught before her millions run out?

I hadn't really heard of Molly's Millions until I saw a few reviews popping up on various sites. It soon peaked my interest and I wanted to read it so badly as it sounded fantastic. I finally got my hands on a copy, thanks to Allison & Busy, and I started it in earnest. I finished it in two days and have to say I absolutely adored Molly's Millions. It's a book that will make even the hardened pessimist smile.

The book starts just before Molly's lottery win. She's actually struggling to pay for her shopping when we first meet her. I could feel her embarrassment as she stood at the head of the queue wondering what to get rid of and I instantly liked Molly. She then, inevitably, wins the lottery and I loved how quick she was to decide that she wanted to get rid of it. As Molly heads off around the country distributing her wealth along with her dog Fizz and trusty Beetle Old Faithful, Tom MacKenzie comes into the picture. From then on it's a wild goose chase as everybody tries to find the elusive Molly. It was told in third-person so we got everybody's perspective. We have Molly, ambling down the country giving her money away, Tom who is wildly trying to find Molly along with his daughter Flora and we have the Bailey Men, Old Bailey himself, Magnus and Marty, grandfather, father and brother to Molly along with Carolyn, Marty's husband, desperately trying to find Molly also. It was an incredibly clever plot and seeing it from all angles gave it an interesting perspective. On the one hand I wanted Molly to succeed in her mission and the Bailey men to fail in theirs but on the other hand I was desperate for Tom to find Molly.

All of the characters are fantastic. Molly is just so incredibly nice it's hard to not like her. She knew exactly what she wanted to do with the money once she'd one so she was also incredibly headstrong. She did,

unwittingly, manage to make herself the most sought-after woman in the country which was highly amusing as she had no idea. Molly just wanted to distribute the money and be a good person and wasn't concerned with all of the press attention. Maybe calling Molly nice isn't the best adjective to use but that's what she was. Nice. I actually quite liked Tom MacKenzie, what he did wasn't particularly nice, tailing Molly and invading her privacy like that but that's what his job was. He definitely seemed to have some hidden depths and I really liked him. I loved his daughter Flora and I thought she seemed quite like Molly although a younger version. The relationship between Tom and Flora was fantastic and I enjoyed picking up their thread of the story. The Bailey Men were all incredibly mean. How such tightfisted men could have raised Molly is beyond words. It was like they were a world apart. I did like Carolyn however and she perked up their parts of the story.

Molly's Millions is incredibly well written and I enjoyed whizzing through it immensely. Connelly really has a writers touch and I'm so surprised this is her only book published in English (she has three others all published in German, which is a shame for me as I don't speak it!). There are a few minor plots in the story as well as that of Molly's millions and there are some things we learn as the story progresses that surprised me a little bit. I really enjoyed Molly's journey down the country and I can't believe how quickly I flew through the book.

I highly recommend you pick up a copy of Molly's Millions as it truly is an outstanding read. It's a light read, don't get me wrong, but it's just so incredibly enjoyable you'll wonder where you're day has gone once you get started. It really did make me smile.

Alice says

Reading the synopsis of this book I probably got my hopes up a bit too high. The thought of a financially struggling florist who lucks out and wins the lottery only to embark on a journey of wealth distribution leaving behind her signature gerbera flower each time she bestows some cash on an unwitting stranger sounded really fun.

The story was light and warm-hearted with a tiny touch of romance and I enjoyed it well enough while I was reading it, but just not enough to ever pick it up for a re-read.

My two biggest problems with this book were probably the plot and the characters. Plot-wise things were just too predictable, I was often 'ahead of the book' and waiting for it to catch up. Character-wise I felt it only skimmed the surface and there wasn't enough exploration of the characters. By the end of the book I still didn't feel like I knew Molly all that well and she was the main character.

The plot also seemed a little clunky at times and with a bit more tweaking/editing could have been stitched together a bit better. The whole (view spoiler) thing probably could have been removed entirely and I wouldn't have missed it.
