



Payback and a Bottle of Merlot

Bria Marche

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Mia James almost had it all...

At thirty, she was a successful photographer with the craziest but most loyal friends in the world and a wonderful life in a picturesque village. The only things missing were a husband and a brood of kids. Love happens when you least expect it, her mom always said.

An appointment to show her photography portfolio brought her front and center with Jack Barnes, a gorgeous, successful Manhattan businessman. Mia was smitten, and they married less than a year later. Unfortunately, the marital bliss she craved never showed up.

Jack, the controlling absentee husband, had a secret: someone else was occupying his mind and bed. Mia had no idea until a chance sighting revealed the real Jack with his mystery woman.

Payback was definitely in order and way overdue. With a little help from her friends and a lot of Merlot, Mia was on a mission to take Jack down.

With hilarious speed bumps, hiccups, and crazy calamities along the way, Mia's ridiculous plot for payback turned into a chance for unexpected friendships and real love.

Payback and a Bottle of Merlot, Book One, in the Like Sisters series, is a romantic comedy novel that will appeal to fans of chick lit, women's fiction and humorous books. Like Sisters is a laugh out loud series of best friends, hot guys and the right amount of steam to have you anxiously waiting for the next book.

Note: There are no cliffhangers in this series, but since the characters carry over, the books are best read in sequence.

Like Sisters Romantic Comedy Series:

- #1 Payback and a Bottle of Merlot
- #2 Insecurity and a Bottle of Merlot
- #3 Destiny and a Bottle of Merlot
- #4 Intrigue and a Bottle of Merlot
- #5 Desire and a Bottle of Merlot

Like Sisters Categories:

- Chick Lit Novels
- Chick Lit Series
- Chick Lit Comedy
- Romantic Comedy Novels
- Romantic Comedy Series
- Women's Fiction Comedy Novels

Payback and a Bottle of Merlot Details

Date : Published December 14th 2014 by Bria Marche (first published December 12th 2014)

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Author : Bria Marche

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From Reader Review Payback and a Bottle of Merlot for online ebook

Amy says

Man these free Kindle reads are not that great - but they're free and quick and easy and great to fill in between runs to the library. Once again this one had some glaring grammatical/word use errors. Had a decent premise (who doesn't like a revenge story?) but a bit overdone - especially the Aaron storyline.

Rebecca Bezuyen says

Cheesy Payback and a bottle of vodka please

I'm not sure how to begin. "Thank God it was free?" This book is purely fairy tale and only happens when a woman fantasized about changing her life.

The relationship with Aaron was a complete farce. I wanted to skip over their dialogue because it was like listening to high schoolers flirt.

Reggie the dog pops up out of no where and apparently, he isn't a toy poodle like I imagined. Still not sure what kind of dog he is...

Hooking up with a hot camp counsellor, and screwing him in the woods with a sprained ankle, then him being a perfect gentleman, but then staying friends? Are you insulting my intelligence?

And the ex wives hooking up with the mistress for revenge and this smoking hot model is actually not a snob but kind? No...I'm sorry. That does not happen. Ever. Not even if she was Tyra Banks.

This is a book written from the mindset of a high school girl scorned by her boyfriend. That's the best way to describe it. It's a good read if you like real life fantasy without anything going wrong, but realistically, just not a good story overall.

Hasanthi says

This was my very first book of Bria Marche. The story was epic and I am so glad I purchased the book via Amazon. I put away everything else to finish this one off. From the very beginning it was super exciting. I loved Mia and her friends so very much. Being betrayed by your husband, while he pretends to the whole wide world that he is happily married is a terrible situation. Mia getting to who her husband really is and how her friends stand by her side is great. The value of true friendship, love, honesty and understanding are the most important values described in the story. Aaron is a guy whom all the girls in this world would love to have. It was super exciting to read each chapter of the story on how they plan to unveil the truth and how everything ends in a wonderful way. Thoroughly enjoyed the story!!!!

Vickie Noel says

Revenge, like the title implies, is the theme of this book. Mia discovers her husband has been cheating on her and even in his first marriage with the same girl! With the help of her best friends, Vic and Tina, alongside additional members of the team, Mia plots the perfect revenge tactic to use on Jack and in the most unexpected manner! It was a great read and I was very engrossed when I started reading it but started getting bored with frequent repetition, like Mia's thoughts on Aaron as the perfect man for her and especially of the term "Jack's demise. " Also, Jack's character was totally flat and unrealistic. His portrayal, even as a cheating husband, didn't carry enough weight. For him to have carried on cheating for that long without Mia or Karen ever suspecting on their own should indicate that he should have been a little nice to them at some point or the other in their respective marriages. Even his conversations with Mia seemed forced, like they just had to sound mean and egotistical. As for the friends turned sisters, they never had an altercation, not even once. Sounds a little too perfect for real life friendships. Personally, I feel the book was overly stretched, hence the repetition. It would have functioned better if it was shorter and more concise. There were a few punctuation mishaps and awkward sentence structures, but none of spelling. Still it was an easy, breezy read with some hilarious instances, and perfect for cozying up by the fire.

Sophie Narey (Bookreview- aholic) says

Published: 14/12/2014

Author: Bria Marche

Recommended for: fans of 'chick lit'

Edition: Kindle

I found this novel on the Kindle Store for free and so I thought that I would give it a try. This novel is a lighthearted and fun story to read, it isn't serious and has a few funny moments in it. The main character Mia is very well developed and described in this book (which can be read as a stand alone book) and her group of friends are all very likeable and relateable. It is a rather girly book, which does contain some real life situations that some might be able to relate too.

Jayne Carruthers says

Meet Mia. She's a beautiful blonde who is married to a jerk named Jack. He's constantly spending the night in the city (without her). He doesn't care about her friends. He really doesn't seem to care about her at all. He's supposed to have split custody with his ex-wife, but Mia has never even MET his daughter that he goes into the city to see all the time.

Fast forward to the moment that Mia discovers the reason Jack is always gone late at night. He's got a hot mystery model that he's giving a LOT of attention to. Instead of immediately filing for divorce, Mia decides she needs some payback. Along with her friends Vic and Tina, she comes up with this outlandish scheme to bring him down. Somewhere along the way, they become best friends with Jack's ex-wife Karen AND the mystery woman and bring Jack the justice he deserves.

This novel was so fun! A lot of the reviews on Goodreads are pretty bad, but I happened to like it. To each their own I guess? I thought it was a cute, easy-to-read novel that really highlighted the friendship these women had. Sure, the scheme was probably a bit immature for women their age, and sure Mia's little side crushes were pretty predictable, but it was all in good fun. I would (and have) recommend this book to anyone looking for a quick, easy, fun read about a woman finding herself and a cheater getting caught.

Gemma says

I know a bottle of merlot is right there in the title... but my god there was soooo much wine!!!

Ok, so I had mixed feelings about this one. As much as I hate cheaters, I feel like the girls went above and beyond with their payback... there has to be quite a lot of bad inside to be able to do that even in those circumstances. Why not just give the photos his boss let them know who he really is, let Sasha know who he really is without the grand scheming? I guess that would not a godd book make...

Right through out we hear of Mia's dog... he is mentioned so many times, but it is impossible visualise as we are told nothing about him... not how big he is or what breed or even the colour of his fur...

Then it's the other men in Mia's life... that's right I said MEN... Multiple guys... So of course there is the cheating ass of a husband, then the best friend who has always wanted Mia, flirted with Mia and "joked" about marrying and having a family with her (as a married woman, she should not have let this go on)... and finally there is Max, and I'm still unsure what the point of your affair with him was, truthfully makes Mia a cheater just like her husband, it doesn't matter if it was just once. Just being friends with Max would have worked.

Overall, okay storyline however I think it would have been better as a novella and not dragged so long.

Megan says

This book was AWFUL. It was poorly written, and I swear, if I saw the word "moaned" or "shaft" one more time, I was going to scream! By the end, I was just laughing my head off at the romantic scenes. I am usually a lover of any book with a dog in it, but poor Reggie was just an afterthought. "Oh yeah, time to walk the dog." (Spoiler ahead...but not really because it's pretty obvious) Mia and her friends are petty and bizarre, and how realistic is it for you to become immediate and fast friends with the ex-wife and current mistress of your slimeball husband? Couldn't stand this book.

Em says

Payback and a bottle of Merlot.

The book was free. Thank you. Full credit for writing the book. Would have been good chicklit at half the word count and sharper tighter scenarios. Needs proof reader.

The Merlot and Reggie the dog were the heroes. Of course the Merlot was non alcoholic, not (with all the drinking and driving)

Reggie gets a Kindle Oscar 'for dog with the strongest bladder' and as for the heroine, Mia, to her goes a shovel to remove theas for me, I could not write a book, so well done on that score and better luck with next one.

As for the introduction of Max in the last chapters, unnecessary eye-candy for a quick romp betwixt cheating ass husband and faithful hound Aaron. A good Private Investigator and a sleazy lawyer would give the story a little credence

Thank you for the free book. I stayed with it to the end. Would have been a good effort except for overly long descriptive sentences. Characters shallow in the extreme no depth. Too long to get to the climax, then it pluttered out or was it me who lost the thread. Sorry not the best review you've had.

Sami says

DNF. The writing is as painful as her heroine is a doormat.

Tracy Kellies says

I found this book very far-fetched and juvenile. It was poorly written and did not really have a natural flow to it. The story was also dragged out and might have been better if it was a short novella. With that being said, it was actually an entertainingly funny read. The overall concept was intriguing and was a great story on how women scorned can be vengeful. The plot is also very similar to the movie, The Other Woman...

Stefanie says

Oh no. OH NO, was this bad. How bad, you ask? So, impossibly bad.

Mia's shitty husband is verbally and emotionally abusive, a liar, a cheater, and very secretive, and all her friends and family hate him (there is no good explanation for why she married him, or why he married her). I expected a cute girl power book where Mia tells the other woman that Jack is a jerk and a liar and they tell him to fuck off. Instead, Mia and her horrible friends team up with Jack's ex-wife to concoct a cruel and elaborate plan to involve the other woman in a twisted scheme that will cost Jack his job. Meanwhile, Mia herself cheats on Jack, starts dating another guy whom she didn't have any romantic feelings for from high school until age 33, and then lies to his face about cheating -- despite everything Jack has done to her. The sex scenes read like a virgin who read one issue of Cosmo and doesn't know how condoms work. The only good thing about this book was that it ended.

Carla says

I think it was a good thought to think but not to write. It was very passive-aggressive, somewhat immature, there was cheating both ways and way too much alcohol. I was seriously with her mom, she needed an intervention because that is what seemed to make her world revolve. I am not a prude by any means but I am disappointed in myself that I finished the book because of all of the above.

Amanda says

Two words is all I need for this book " OH, SNAP!" .

Jenn says

Urgh. This book is awful. The female protagonist has these monologues all over the place but you don't know if she's thinking them or constantly talking to herself because the author never bothers to tell you. What a twist!

The writing is juvenile at best. I hated it.
