



Eligible: A Novel

By Curtis Sittenfeld

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NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Wonderfully tender and hilariously funny, *Eligible* tackles gender, class, courtship, and family as Curtis Sittenfeld reaffirms herself as one of the most dazzling authors writing today.

NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR AND *THE TIMES* (UK)

This version of the Bennet family—and Mr. Darcy—is one that you have and haven’t met before: Liz is a magazine writer in her late thirties who, like her yoga instructor older sister, Jane, lives in New York City. When their father has a health scare, they return to their childhood home in Cincinnati to help—and discover that the sprawling Tudor they grew up in is crumbling and the family is in disarray.

Youngest sisters Kitty and Lydia are too busy with their CrossFit workouts and Paleo diets to get jobs. Mary, the middle sister, is earning her third online master’s degree and barely leaves her room, except for those mysterious Tuesday-night outings she won’t discuss. And Mrs. Bennet has one thing on her mind: how to marry off her daughters, especially as Jane’s fortieth birthday fast approaches.

Enter Chip Bingley, a handsome new-in-town doctor who recently appeared on the juggernaut reality TV dating show *Eligible*. At a Fourth of July barbecue, Chip takes an immediate interest in Jane, but Chip’s friend neurosurgeon Fitzwilliam Darcy reveals himself to Liz to be much less charming. . . .

And yet, first impressions can be deceiving.

Praise for *Eligible*

“Even the most ardent Austenite will soon find herself seduced.”—**O: *The Oprah Magazine***

“Blissful . . . Sittenfeld modernizes the classic in such a stylish, witty way you’d guess even Jane Austen would be pleased.”—***People* (book of the week)**

“[A] sparkling, fresh contemporary retelling.”—*Entertainment Weekly*

“[Sittenfeld] is the ideal modern-day reinterpreter. Her special skill lies not just in her clear, clean writing, but in her general amusement about the world, her arch, pithy, dropped-mike observations about behavior, character and motivation. She can spot hypocrisy, cant, self-contradiction and absurdity ten miles away. She’s the one you want to leave the party with, so she can explain what really happened. . . . Not since *Clueless*, which transported *Emma* to Beverly Hills, has Austen been so delightfully interpreted. . . . Sittenfeld writes so well—her sentences are so good and her story so satisfying. . . . As a reader, let me just say: Three cheers for Curtis Sittenfeld and her astute, sharp and ebullient anthropological interest in the human condition.”—**Sarah Lyall**, *The New York Times Book Review*

“A clever, uproarious evolution of Austen’s story.”—*The Denver Post*

“If there exists a more perfect pairing than Curtis Sittenfeld and Jane Austen, we dare you to find it. . . . Sittenfeld makes an already irresistible story even more beguiling and charming.”—*Elle*

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Eligible: A Novel By Curtis Sittenfeld Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #3546 in eBooks
- Published on: 2016-04-19
- Released on: 2016-04-19
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

With her latest, Sittenfeld has crafted an entertaining modern update of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, though one that at times strains credulity. Like their Regency counterparts, the 21st-century Bennets are approaching crisis—potential financial ruin as a result of Mr. Bennet's heart attack—but are blissfully oblivious. To put things right, Liz, a successful magazine writer, and Jane, a yoga teacher contemplating artificial insemination, return from New York City to the family home in Ohio. When Chip Bingley, the former star of a Bachelor-esque show and still single, enters the scene with his arrogant sister Caroline and the seemingly pompous Fitzwilliam Darcy in tow, it's clear that romance is on the horizon. While the story is compulsively readable, the pop culture references make it unwieldy at times. As always, Sittenfeld soars when it comes to portraying relationships, and teens will particularly enjoy the witty barbs that fly between Caroline and Liz. Often, however, the author's attempts to hew closely to Austen's plot result in some odd choices. Where in the original, Mrs. Bennet's desire to marry Lizzy off to the unctuous Mr. Collins stemmed from understandable motives, here, her insistence that Liz become involved with her cousin, a socially inept dotcom millionaire, is downright bizarre. Nevertheless, this is an overall breezy read that will have savvy teens laughing. **VERDICT** Although this work doesn't hold up under close scrutiny, it's an utterly engrossing, hilariously over-the-top send-up that will appeal to Sittenfeld fans, Janeites, and lovers of chick lit.—Mahnaz Dar, School Library Journal

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“A delightful romp for not only Austen devotees but also lovers of romantic comedies and sly satire, as well . . . Bestselling Sittenfeld plus Jane Austen? What more could mainstream fiction readers ask for?”—*Booklist* (starred review)

“Endlessly amusing . . . Her take on Austen’s iconic characters is skillful, her pacing excellent, and her dialog highly entertaining. . . . Austen fans will adore this new offering, a wonderful addition to the genre.”—*Library Journal*

“An unputdownable retelling of the beloved classic.”—*PopSugar*

“Sittenfeld adeptly updates and channels Austen’s narrative voice—the book is full of smart observations on gender and money. . . . A clever retelling of an old-fashioned favorite.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“The modernization of this classic story allows for a greater and more humorous range of incompetency and quirks; for example, Mrs. Bennet now has Valium and online shopping to distract her from constant anxiety. These familiar characters must deal with issues far beyond class and the all-important institution of marriage; everything from sexuality to racism to eating disorders and single parenthood factor in. And it’s all written in a giddily charming blend of nineteenth-century novel-meets-twenty-first-century casual swearing. . . . Delight in this tale for its hilarious and endearing family drama.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

About the Author

Curtis Sittenfeld is the bestselling author of the novels *Prep*, *The Man of My Dreams*, *American Wife*, and *Sisterland*, which have been translated into twenty-five languages. Her nonfiction has been published widely, including in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Time*, and *Glamour*, and broadcast on public radio’s *This American Life*. A native of Cincinnati, she currently lives with her family in St. Louis.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Elliott Salazar:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day every day to reading a publication. The book Eligible: A Novel it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book features high quality.

Charles Branch:

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book mainly book entitled Eligible: A

Novel your brain will drift away through every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a book then become one form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get prior to. The Eligible: A Novel giving you another experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful details for your better life within this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will probably be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

Jose Lloyd:

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Jackie Thompson:

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