



## Watermelon

By Marian Keyes

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### Watermelon By Marian Keyes

*February the fifteenth is a very special day for me. It is the day I gave birth to my first child. It is also the day my husband left me...I can only assume the two events weren't entirely unrelated.*

Claire has everything she ever wanted: a husband she adores, a great apartment, a good job. Then, on the day she gives birth to their first baby, James informs her that he's leaving her. Claire is left with a newborn daughter, a broken heart, and a postpartum body that she can hardly bear to look at.

She decides to go home to Dublin. And there, sheltered by the love of a quirky family, she gets better. So much so, in fact, that when James slithers back into her life, he's in for a bit of a surprise.

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## Watermelon By Marian Keyes Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Claire Webster, heroine of this breezy Irish bestseller, thinks hubby James is the man of her dreams until he ditches her for an older woman (Claire herself is 29) two hours after their daughter is born. Mother and child repair to Dublin, where there's hope of solace and sustenance in the bosom of an eccentric family, while Claire downsizes from watermelon to wisp and struggles over the hurdles of blues and booze. When she attracts a handsome young lover and considers dumping the suddenly repentant James, it's clear a happy ending's in sight. Or is it? There are a few surprises and plenty of sassy girltalk in this slick if sometimes silly take on what it's like to be female. Much of the hilarity generated by Claire's funky family?airhead sisters who squabble over clothes and men, a mother who'd rather watch soap operas than cook, a father perpetually bewildered by the women in his life?wears thin, but readers will identify with Claire's flaws, applaud her irreverent wit and rejoice at her triumphant recovery. Like the fruit it's named for, this overlong novel is short on nutrition but long on refreshment.

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From Library Journal

Claire Webster's got it all-a perfect marriage to a handsome husband who provides well and now a darling baby girl-until the morning after she gives birth, when her husband, James, informs her that he's having an affair with their downstairs neighbor and deserts her and his child. Claire flies back to Dublin and the dubious security of her wacky family to sort out her life. A too-handsome hunk of younger man named Adam-whose motives in pursuing her must be suspect, mustn't they?-enlivens this story of survival in the face of crushing blows to one's self-esteem. Hilarious interior monolog, with Claire's refereeing the warring segments of her obstreperous psyche, puts this first novel on the Gen-X "must-read" list. It will appeal to mainstream, women's fiction, and romance fans, too. Highly recommended.?Jo Manning, Univ. of Miami Lib., Coral Gables, FL

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From Kirkus Reviews

A grand first novel by Irish writer Keyes is a hilarious treatise on loves roller coaster. Both elated and exhausted after giving birth to a daughter, the 29-year-old Claire is shocked senseless when her husband James comes to the London hospital not to celebrate, but instead to break the news that he's leaving her for their dowdy downstairs neighbor. The stunned Claire, with new baby in tow, and feeling as big as a summer melon, hightails it back to her family in Dublin to sort out her life. Wandering around her childhood home in her mother's old nightgowns, a vodka bottle in one hand and the bawling Kate in the other, Claire tries to banish images of the frolicking James and his ``other woman.'' Her two younger sisters prove to be a comfortsweet Anna, a hippie drug-dealer, loans Claire money for booze, and haughty Helen deigns to buy it for her. And drunken anguish does have its rewards, for in no time Claire sheds her extra weight, thanks to a steady liquid diet and nights spent on the family rowing machine fantasizing Jamess ruin. But it is only when Gorgeous Adam appears on the scene that Claire begins to recover a sense of purpose. A college friend of Helen's, Adam exemplifies perfect manhood--and helpfully takes a liking to her, too. But just as things begin crackling between them, James shows up, oh-so- generously ready to forgive Claire for driving him into the arms of the other woman. Torn between the comforts of her former life in London and a new, heartening sense of self-worth and self-sufficiencynot to mention the Gorgeous AdamClaire finds herself hard put to make a decision. A candid, irresistibly funny debut and perfect summertime read. -- *Copyright ©1998, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Daniel Hanson:**

As people who live in the modest era should be up-date about what going on or info even knowledge to make these keep up with the era that is certainly always change and advance. Some of you maybe can update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to you is you don't know which one you should start with. This Watermelon is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

#### **Eddie Patten:**

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#### **Ida Acord:**

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#### **Jason Buckley:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got college students? We believe that that issue was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everybody has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person like reading or as examining become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important and book as to be the factor. Book is important thing to include you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update about something by book. Different categories of books that can you choose to adopt be your object. One of them is actually Watermelon.

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