



## The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel

By Carole Radziwill



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*?Publishers Weekly*

**"One of the richest, most deeply satisfying stories I've read in a long time."**  
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**"Carole Radziwill writes like a cross between Sophie Kinsella and Christopher Buckley. Cautiously romantic, unexpectedly moving, and funny!"** ?Susan Sarandon

***The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating* is Carole Radziwill's deliciously smart comedy about a famously widowed young New Yorker hell-bent on recapturing a kind of passionate love she never really had**

Claire Byrne is a quirky and glamorous 34-year-old Manhattanite and the wife of a famous, slightly older man. Her husband, Charlie, is a renowned sexologist and writer. Equal parts Alfred Kinsey and Warren Beatty, Charlie is pompous yet charming, supportive yet unfaithful; he's a firm believer that sex and love can't coexist for long, and he does little to hide his affairs. Claire's life with Charlie is an always interesting if not deeply devoted one, until Charlie is struck dead one day on the sidewalk by a falling sculpture ... a Giacometti, no less!

Once a promising young writer, Claire had buried her ambitions to make room for Charlie's. After his death, she must reinvent herself. Over the course of a year, she sees a shrink (or two), visits an oracle, hires a "botanomanist," enjoys an erotic interlude (or ten), eats too little, drinks too much, dates a hockey player, dates a billionaire, dates an actor (not any actor either, but the handsome movie star every woman in the world fantasizes about dating). As she grieves for Charlie and searches for herself, she comes to realize that she has an opportunity to find something bigger than she had before?maybe even, possibly, love.

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## The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel By Carole Radziwill Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

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When Claire Byrne's intellectual husband dies in a freak accident with a falling sculpture (a fake, at that), she must figure out how to be a widow. Her marriage was defined by the age gap, Charles' insistence (academic and otherwise) that there is either love or sex (not both), and his frequent infidelities. Claire has almost no identity of her own, and she is convinced by friends to lose her widowed virginity and move on. Radziwill's first novel (after her memoir, *What Remains*, 2005) is a very New York book, even when Claire travels to L.A. to interview (and sleep with) a movie star. There is a constant war between lightness and heaviness in the subject, in the story, and in the telling that seems intrinsic to city dwellers. The plot features a lot of takeout, and Claire sees multiple therapists, a psychic, and a botanomanist to get herself sorted out, which, by the end, she more or less does. Radziwill's book may receive extra coverage due to her association with the Kennedys and her appearance on *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*. --Susan Maguire

### Review

"If you are looking for the perfect fast-paced, light hearted, humorous novel, consider your search to be over. Carole Radziwill's debut novel, *The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating* earns five out of five stars. Radziwill's novel is the perfect book for your solo reading or your next book club. The title is tongue-in-cheek, so you won't find yourself delving into deep grief issues. Instead, you will be carving out time to lose yourself in this splendid novel. Humor permeates Radziwill's writing, and the dialogue is flawless . . . The complete triple package--joy, humor, and romance." *The Huffington Post*

"One of the richest, most deeply satisfying stories I've read in a long time . . . [Radziwill's] spare writing and wry voice make *The Widow's Guide* an exhilarating, insightful and moving story about loss and identity." *BookPage*

"Claire's story is comedic from the first page, skipping over the stages of grief straight to 'acceptance.' And, through multiple bad dates, a firework romance with Hollywood's leading man, and a lot of over analyzing, the humor stays throughout her entire journey of re-discovering herself." *Justin Jones, The Daily Beast*

"A serious attempt to do something comic, a novel about grief and starting again that feels like the product of lived experience." *Salon.com*

"From the author of the best-selling memoir *What Remains* comes a cheeky, affecting debut novel about a woman grieving for her husband and gradually learning to get back in the game" *O, The Oprah Magazine*

"Witty and charming, Carole Radziwill's first novel is a delight. I fell in love with the character of Claire--a modern-day Holly Golightly." *Candace Bushnell, author of Sex and the City and The Carrie Diaries*

"Carole Radziwill writes like a cross between Sophie Kinsella and Christopher Buckley. *Widow's Guide* is a sharp, flamboyant New York novel that revels in the tragicomic absurdities of the city. It's a smart take on Hollywood, too, with gorgeous movie stars and a quirky cast. Cautiously romantic, unexpectedly moving, and *funny!*" *Susan Sarandon*

"Glib, comic. . . [a] novel about a young Manhattan widow looking for love in all the wrong places . . . This may be a grief and recovery story for the privileged, but sharp-fanged Radziwill can be pretty funny . . . Think *Sex and the City* in black." *Kirkus*

“Claire never thought about the odds of losing her husband. But after a freak accident abruptly ends her husband's life, she is forced to wrestle with the question, "What next?" For the next year, Claire's life takes a wild turn . . . and somewhere in the middle of the madness, she begins to realize that her old life wasn't so perfect and perhaps this is all a blessing in disguise--a second chance at life and love. Verdict: Fans of authors such as Jane Green and Madeleine Wickham will enjoy this.” ?*Library Journal*

“I couldn't put the book down . . . It's fun and fast and filled with lines that make the whole book enjoyable. Like: 'A husband dies and the world gets just another widow. A wife dies, and a star is born.' The book is undoubtedly entertaining . . . Radziwill recasts the traditional widow for us.” ?*The Rumpus*

“Radziwill's delicious debut novel . . . is a poignant tale of love and loss.” ?*Publishers Weekly*

“The book's witty humor and Didion-esque raw language provide for a gripping read that triumphantly announces a profound new voice in literary fiction.” ?*Popbytes.com*

“A hilarious account of a young widow's journey to find herself and re-establish her identity.” ?*PW Show Daily*

#### About the Author

**Carole Radziwill** grew up in upstate New York and earned a BA at Hunter College and an MBA at New York University. She spent more than a decade at ABC News, reporting from around the world, and earned three Emmys. Her first book, *What Remains*, a memoir, spent over twenty weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list. She has written for many magazines, including *Marie Claire*, *Harper's Bazaar*, and *Glamour*. She currently is a star of and "the voice of reason" on Bravo's *The Real Housewives of New York*.

#### Users Review

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##### **Laura Dupont:**

This *The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel* usually are reliable for you who want to be considered a successful person, why. The reason of this *The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel* can be one of the great books you must have is actually giving you more than just simple reading food but feed an individual with information that probably will shock your before knowledge. This book is handy, you can bring it all over the place and whenever your conditions throughout the e-book and printed types. Beside that this *The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel* forcing you to have an enormous of experience for example rich vocabulary, giving you tryout of critical thinking that we understand it useful in your day pastime. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

##### **Nancy Page:**

The actual book *The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel* will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book you just read, this book very suitable to you. The book *The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel* is much recommended to you to study. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

**Lauren Robinson:**

Exactly why? Because this The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap this but latter it will distress you with the secret that inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such incredible way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of gains than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I had been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

**Travis Smith:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray a person, why because this The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel book written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that could be understand by anyone who read the book. Written in good manner for you, leaking every ideas and writing skill only for eliminate your current hunger then you still uncertainty The Widow's Guide to Sex and Dating: A Novel as good book not just by the cover but also with the content. This is one e-book that can break don't evaluate book by its cover, so do you still needing one more sixth sense to pick that!? Oh come on your looking at sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to an additional sixth sense.

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