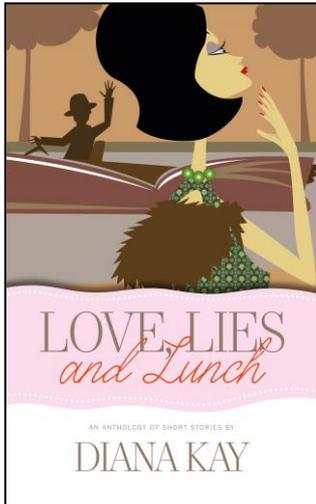


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PUBLICATION DATE: 1 OCTOBER 2018 – PERFECT FOR GIVING THIS CHRISTMAS



# LOVE, LIES *and Lunch*

AN ANTHOLOGY OF SHORT STORIES

BY  
**DIANA KAY**



ISBN: 978 1 86151 898 9 PB 372 pages RRP: £12.99 1 October 2018  
Published by: Mereo Books [www.mereobooks.com](http://www.mereobooks.com)  
Available through: Mereo, internet booksellers & all good bookshops

*“What would you like to do, Jamie?” said Marjorie.*

*I knew damn well what Jamie would like to do. The trouble was, Marjorie wasn't that sort of woman.*

**In this delightful anthology, Diana Kay offers us 46 stories about women who find themselves in unexpected and socially-awkward circumstances or have to face-up to unwelcome truths. For example ...**

- Laura is thrown into turmoil when she learns that an old flame is coming to stay with her and her husband for the night
- Kate pretends to be a successful actress to impress the young man she has just met but can she keep up the act when he meets her parents?
- Patsy dares to lunch alone in a smart restaurant, where she finds herself humiliated by a group of rich diners
- Estelle uses a dating website for the very first time with mixed results
- Izzy visits her old school friend but finds herself drawn to her friend's husband
- Jilly's daydreams about a romantic stranger on a train teaches her to appreciate reality
- Lizzie and Lionel play a trick on their lovelorn cousin which will have unimagined consequences
- And Ginny is about to marry into the county set but is haunted by a guilty secret that could wreck everything ...

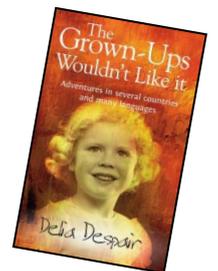
**This varied, imaginative and beautifully-told collection of short stories deals with love and marriage, deceit and disappointment, vanity and jealousy, spite, cruelty, revenge and redemption – and many of the tales are also very funny indeed! A great read – and a great Christmas gift for women of all ages.**

### By the same author:

***The Grown-Ups Wouldn't Like It: Adventures in several countries and many languages***

by **Delia Despair** (ISBN: 978 1 86151 253 6; PB; 2014, Mereo Books)

Diana's entertaining memoir (written under her blog name, Delia Despair), tells of her turbulent, if privileged, childhood as the daughter of a globetrotting diplomat who had several 'mummies' and attended a string of convents, smart schools and a Swiss business school. She recounts tales of her suitors, her working life; encounters with terrorists in Cyprus and fascinating meetings with luminaries such as Somerset Maugham, Noel Coward, John Gielgud and Fanny Cradock – and of her loving marriage.



**The author, DIANA KAY**, lives in Hove (East Sussex) and is known to her many blog fans as 'Delia Despair'. She is a former ground stewardess, governess, receptionist, library assistant and archivist to nobility. She was also a journalist with the *Daily Telegraph* and has written two other books, *How to Get On with the Boss* (1964) and her memoir *The Grown-Ups Wouldn't Like it* (Mereo, 2014).

**Blog:** [www.despairingdelia.com](http://www.despairingdelia.com) **Twitter:** @DeliaDespair1 **Facebook:** Delia Despair

**Local UK interest:** Diana Kay was born in **Hove**, where she now resides. She grew up in **Broadstairs, Kent** (until the house was bombed during the war), **Surbiton (Surrey)**, **Kirbymoorside (Yorkshire)** and **Ditchling (Sussex)**. She has lived in **Norfolk, Liverpool, Edinburgh** and **London (South Kensington)**.

**Media opportunities:** Extracts/serialisation. The author is available for interviews.  
(NB: a few of the stories appearing in this anthology have been previously published in magazines.)



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