

# HANDYMAN BY LINDA NICHOLS



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“Delightful . . . a romantic fable that warms the heart.”  
—Nicholas Sparks

# Handyman



“Supremely entertaining . . .  
full of unexpected delightful twists.”  
—*The Denver Post*

Linda Nichols

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**Handyman By Linda Nichols.** One day, you will certainly discover a brand-new journey as well as understanding by spending even more cash. Yet when? Do you assume that you have to obtain those all demands when having significantly cash? Why don't you attempt to obtain something basic at first? That's something that will lead you to understand even more regarding the world, experience, some places, past history, entertainment, and also a lot more? It is your very own time to proceed checking out routine. Among guides you could delight in now is Handyman By Linda Nichols here.

From Library Journal

Pretty, sweet Maggie Ivey is struggling with the familiar problems that weigh down many twentysomethings: a small son with ear infections, a harassing boss, a hopeless temporary job, and far too little money. When a friend gives her the gift of a life-makeover from a San Francisco yuppie psychiatrist, she decides to go for it. The shrink, though, has huge problems of his own and is out of town. A contractor named Jake (handsome and charming, of course), measuring the office for remodeling, decides on the spur of the moment to pretend he is the doctor. From that moment on, there are many more "of courses." Both are disentangling from awful relationships she with a jerk and he with a preening snob. Tales of love triumphing over mistaken identity are probably even older than Shakespeare and a staple of light romances. Still, the crazies surrounding the protagonists are boldly drawn and save the story from drowning in clichés. Reader Katherine Borowitz does a great job with the voices. Recommended for public libraries with an audience for easy listening romantic fluff. Barbara Valle, El Paso P.L., TX

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47 of 50 people found the following review helpful.

mystery solved

By Linda N.

I'd like to clear up the mystery of the vanishing review. I wrote Handyman, and my son (13) was excited to see it on Amazon. He decided to write a review, glowing of course, but forgot he had signed in under my screen name. When the review was posted it appeared that I had written it. I was embarrassed, to say the least, and told him to fix the problem, which he did. But someone had already read it and was offended at what looked like blatant, and not very skillful self-promotion. Sorry. No offense intended. By the way, I am giving myself a rating of 3, because I have to fill in the field, and even though I believe Handyman is a good book, I didn't want to add to my offenses by giving it a 5. (Do you suppose I'll be able to laugh at this someday?)

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

Reality Therapy

By ladybug10

Maggie Ivey is having a bad year - actually, a bad five years, ever since her boyfriend impregnated her, then left her with five hundred dollars and a callous note about "taking care of it." She didn't, and though her son Tim is the apple of her eye, other aspects of her life are well and truly broken. She is being sexually harassed on a dead end job that doesn't have the pay or benefits she was originally promised, and she just takes it without protest. Her mother wants her to go home and marry the local boy, dependable, but a little dull and a lot more emotionally abusive. Her so-called best friend thinks she needs a "21 Day Overhaul," the latest time-limited therapy rage on the West Coast. Maggie's friend Gina even springs for the cost of the therapy, so all Maggie has to do is show up in the renowned Dr. Jason Golding's office and go to work on her life. One problem: Dr. Golding is temporarily unavailable. In a comedy of errors and mistaken identities, Maggie ends up pouring out her heartache to contractor Jake Cooper, whom Dr. Golding has hired to remodel his office in his absence. Jake's been accused of being communication-impaired and emotionally unavailable by his ex-girlfriend, Lindsay, so you can imagine his surprise (and unexpectedly growing pleasure) when he

actually turns out to be therapeutic for Maggie! The ensuing story gives new meaning to the saying (also quoted in the novel), "Oh what a tangled web we weave...", but also highlights how chance encounters can lead to lasting attractions and love, and how easily one can miss one's soulmate if they are not "in the right place, at the right time."

I got wrapped up in Maggie and Jake, and I had a mounting sense of anxiety as I read this book, as if there were a big freight train racing toward them. I couldn't figure out how Jake was going to extract himself from the situation, and whether he would end up being victimized by his ex (a therapy addict), by Maggie's friend Gina (determined to "fix" Maggie's unexpectedly growing assertiveness by nailing her unscrupulous therapist and hopefully turning her back into a whimpering dependent in the process), or by Dr. Golding, a well-portrayed slime-ball psychobabblist. Not to fear - in a delightfully written, dry but droll climax worthy of the best film farces, all the pieces fall into place except one. Read the book to find out!

Yes, you will have to suspend reality in order to accept the premise of this novel - that an emotionally beaten-down woman could actually believe that what was being done, was therapy. But the genius of this story is that that's probably how unethical psychological charlatans ply their wares. Jake and Dr. Jason were nicely drawn as counterpoints to one another, and the supporting characters were well and thoroughly dyssocial. The romance develops slowly and is understated, without much steaminess but a lot of affection. The author draws the story to its conclusion with the same matter-of-fact and unadorned narrative that she uses throughout the story, which makes the craziness of the whole situation stand out even more. Yes, it's an improbable plot - but, hey, it's great fiction!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Great book. Linda Nichols is my favorite author

By kabjen

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See all 65 customer reviews...



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