
Susan Fales-Hill

One Flight Up: A Novel



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Description

What happens after happily-ever-after fades? Can the answer be found one flight up?

India, Abby, Esme, and Monique have all been friends since their days at Manhattan's Sibley School for Girls. From the outside, these four women—all grown up now—seem to be living ideal lives, yet each finds herself suddenly craving more.

India Chumley is a whip-smart divorce lawyer who routinely declines the marriage proposals of her charming French boyfriend, Julien. She's taking the first plunge by moving in with him, but she's keeping her own apartment—and keeping it a secret from him.

Abby Rosenfeld Adams is an irrepressibly upbeat gallery owner who married her WASP college sweet heart, a passionate but tormented sculptor. When she suspects he is cheating on her, she realizes that perhaps there's more to life than reassuring her husband of his artistic brilliance.

Esme Sarmiento Talbot is a Colombian Scarlett O'Hara, bored with her proper Connecticut life and her tame, all-American husband. In order to satisfy her sensuality, she escapes to Manhattan and distracts herself with casual encounters.

A card-carrying member of Harlem's thriving buppie-ocracy and a successful gynecologist, Monique Dawkins-Dubois is married to a powerful but dull financier who barely notices her anymore. When an attractive coworker beckons, Monique can't help but be flattered.

The most straitlaced of them all, India is dismayed by her friends' illicit activities. That is, until her ex-fiancé, the love of her life and the destroyer of her heart, reappears in New York— and she finds herself caught between the dependable man she thought was her future and the man she never quite let go of.

Dazzling and sexy, *One Flight Up* is an irresistible comedic romp through the boardrooms, bedrooms, and ballrooms of Manhattan and Paris.

Insightful reviews

Jacqui: Susan Fales-Hill, a writer I've enjoyed for over 20 years now (she wrote for The Cosby Show and A Different World), released her first novel--a follow up to her memoir/biography of her mother. I was looking forward to this book for some time. Now that I've finished it, I am disappointed.

Authors are urged to "write what [they] know!" Ms. Fales-Hill did exactly that, perhaps to a fault. The biracial, Harvard-educated daughter of a tempestuous marriage, India Chumley appears to be Ms. Fales-Hill in a slightly tweaked package. While writing what one knows is expected, one would also imagine that an otherwise talented writer wouldn't drag out the same trite phrases we've read from Ms. Fales-Hill in numerous articles, interviews, and in her previous book. Infidelity was trotted out a little too often...marital unhappiness doesn't have to come in the form of the Other Man/Woman ALL THE TIME. In a book featuring 4 female characters, why did all of them cheat? That speaks to a certain pathology.

I was sadly disappointed by the trite cliches, reliance on weak plot twists, and thinly veiled references to Fales-Hill's own life and upbringing. Ten years ago, when she wrote her first book, they were funny and exciting. Now? Just boring.

Christine: Not my type of book but I read it for my book club. This book tells the story of 4 friends who are successful and smart but still dumb enough to risk their marriages in meaningless affairs. Some of the book cover blurbs described the book as a great beach read, I guess because of all the gratuitous sexual situations, but I found them sad instead of fun. There are certain books where the actions of the characters get me so annoyed that I don't enjoy the book, and this was one of them.

Kaitlin: I can't wait until I hit my mid-30s, have a good career/family so I can cheat on my significant other and almost lose it all. Wait was that not the lesson I was supposed to learn from this book?

I did appreciate how India dealt with her friends through the majority of the book. She did want to lecture but left them to their own foibles instead. She was there at the end if they needed her. But it was hard to care/like the friends. Everyone came off as very shallow, and self-involved.

India's mother is a great character.

Kristin (Kritters Ramblings): try out the whole evaluation at Kritters Ramblings Four ladies who're acquaintances and 3 of which locate themselves in unsatisfied marriages, whereas the opposite continues to be within the courting scene are the characters during this story. For one cause or one other each one of those ladies are unsatisfied of their present occasions and rather than engaged on them, may relatively enterprise to discover happiness with an individual else.

Lauren: *3.5*As of lately, i've got particularly began to love the chick-lit genre. The books continually are typically fun, gentle reads for the main half and infrequently that is simply what i would like in a book. Therefore, while i used to be provided the opportunity to learn and evaluation Susan Fales-Hill's One Flight Up, I jumped on the chance. However, whereas i discovered the e-book to be good written and the storylines to be attractive and intriguing, I

wasn't constantly the largest fan of the characters presented. One Flight Up tells the tale of longtime buddies India, Abby, Esme, and Monique, 4 women who've caught via all of it seeing that their prior tuition days on the elite Manhattan's Sibley institution for Girls. However, as of lately, every thing is commencing to grew to become a piece chaotic. India is making an attempt to make a decision among very diversified men, the type and candy Julian or the broody, horny Keith. Bored in her personal marriage, Esme has taken to stepping out on her husband to achieve the joys and suspense she craves, whereas candy and timid Abby is facing her husband's long-time infidelity and her personal emotions for a brand new man. final yet now not least, Monique, a contemporary addition to the girl's internal circle, is facing her personal doubtless disastrous marriage, hoping fling could galvanize the emotions she's been craving. leaping into their very own affairs and deceit, all 4 girls start to see the professionals and, such a lot importantly, the cons in their infidelity. However, will they be ready to keep their marriages in addition to their very own well being and popularity prior to it is too late? purely extra time and pages will inform during this scandalous new read!First, i need to say that i used to be particularly inspired with Susan Fales-Hill's writing and total storytelling in this. She did an attractive activity of switching among narrators in a manner that allowed each one woman's tale to be built completely in spite of the restricted web page time. I additionally loved how she took the reader on a experience via big apple in addition to Paris in this, permitting the environment to advance because the tale persevered to construct as well.However, i need to admit out right, I slightly beloved the characters during this one, and that is the place One Flight Up started to fail in my eyes. Esme, Abby, Monique, and India are all very attention-grabbing and various woman, yet their activities in addition to judgements have been disastrous and never very likable. You see, all 4 girl to do something that pissed off and aggravated me to at least one end: rather than speaking with their spouse/partner approximately their concerns and matters approximately their relationship/marriage, they took to utilizing affairs as a brief and simple alternative. That simply struck some degree in me, simply because whereas i needed to love those women, I had one little problem: i did not actually appreciate them. Sure, that they had glamorous and admirable lives and jobs, yet on the finish of the day they have been misplaced in a fashion that truly did not make me believe for them; occasionally i did not even actually need to root for them to beat their troubles. whereas they did face the song ultimately and turn into a bit extra likable (especially Abby), in many ways I felt it was once a section too late.In all, i am unsure approximately it, simply because whereas the writing and international construction was once fabulous, the characters were not continuously my favorite. However, I nonetheless can be studying extra through Susan in response to her writing by myself and that i hugely suggest this one to fanatics of the chick-lit genre, in particular ones who take pleasure in indicates like Gossip woman and intercourse and the City.Grade: B

Bobbi: nice summer time read!

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