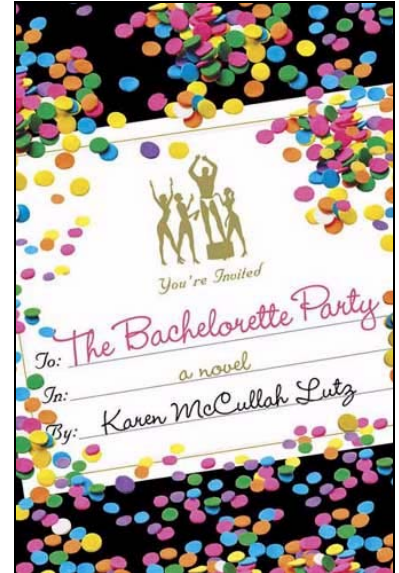


READING GROUP GUIDE

The Bachelorette Party by Karen McCullah Lutz



St. Martin's Press

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Introduction to *The Bachelorette Party*

After being left at the altar by her soap star fiancé, Los Angeles high school teacher Zadie Roberts wants nothing more to do with love and romance. With the help of her best buddy Grey and several bottles of wine, she just might survive the trauma of the wedding that wasn't. Unexpectedly, Grey gets engaged to Zadie's prim and proper cousin Helen, and suddenly Zadie is dragged back into wedding festivity hell. The coup de grace is Helen's bachelorette party, thrown by her clique of prissy friends and certain to be a day of torture. But when the Pinot Grigio goes down and the sweater sets come off, things get out of control. Helen turns into a girl gone wild and manages to get herself into a situation that just might sink the happy couple for good. Zadie faces a major debacle: should she tell Grey about Helen's night of indiscretion, or forever hold her peace?

The Bachelorette Party is a remarkable, assured debut. Lutz's terrific characters and sharp insights put this delightful novel a step above the rest.

Praise for *The Bachelorette Party*

"Solidly written"
- *Library Journal*

"It should come as no surprise that the coauthor of the movie "Legally Blonde" has penned an equally hilarious, female-bonding-inspired romp. Laugh-out-loud funny with a nasty edge, this is chick lit for mean girls."

- *Publishers Weekly*

"Raucously funny with dead-on observations. Grade 'A'."
- *Entertainment Weekly*

"I woke my husband up from a deep sleep within the first few chapters of this adorably hilarious book. I laughed through every step of Zadie's uncomfortable, single existence. The perfect vacation book. You won't put it down until you're done."
- Selma Blair, actress

"Attention chick lit fans: *The Bachelorette Party* is laugh-out-loud fun and not to be missed! Karen Lutz of "Legally Blonde" fame scores big time with a heroine whose spot-on, smart-mouthed observations about life, love and La-La Land will keep you turning the pages and hoping for a sequel."
- Jane Heller, author of *Best Enemies* and *Lucky Stars*

"I absolutely loved this witty, charming, and wickedly funny book and could not put it down! Karen Lutz introduces a character whose experiences are accurate, poignant, and so hilarious they will make you laugh out loud!"
- Amanda Brown, author of *Legally Blonde* and *Family Trust*

"I loved it! I couldn't stop reading it. So good and so funny! Zadie's observations on life are hysterical. Completely delicious and original."
- Heather Graham, actress

"I'm a guy. I don't usually like books like this. But Karen McCullah Lutz tells a tale so wonderfully crass and insightful that I found myself wrapped up, engaged and laughing out loud at almost every page. If you've had enough of "Sex and the City" but not its subject, you've gotta read this book. It's a truly fresh take on friendship, women and the pop culture they live in. An effortless and hilarious read I just couldn't put down."
- Peter Horton, actor, director

Reading Group Guide Questions

1. In the majority of chick-lit books, the female protagonist and her male best friend end up romantically linked. What are your thoughts on the friendship of Zadie and Grey? Is it entirely platonic? Would Zadie make a better partner for Grey than Helen?
2. How does the implosion of her wedding translate into Zadie's complete loss of confidence in her femininity? The other women attending the bachelorette party think Zadie is afraid of sex. Is she? How does she eventually regain her confidence?
3. Helen reinvents herself as a virgin, even though she had slept with three guys. Is it okay to rewrite, or entirely dismiss, past experiences to present yourself in a more flattering light?
4. If Grey had never found out Helen's secret, could they have still had a successful relationship?
5. It's clear that Zadie and Trevor's relationship straddles boundaries of acceptable behavior. Do her actions make her appealing or not appealing? How do you feel about Zadie's friends encouraging her to make a move on Trevor? If you were in a similar situation, would you react the same way?

6. Liquor plays a large role in releasing inhibitions and clouding the decision-making ability of the women in *The Bachelorette Party*. Is the drunkenness the cause of the crazy antics? Or, does getting drunk simply exacerbate feelings and desires that are already present?
7. Why is Zadie able to be so strong when Jack comes crawling back? What was the turning point for her character?
8. Zadie's view of some of the other women in the story is negative. Are her feelings justified? Which female character does Zadie like the best?
9. Since Zadie believes that Helen *had* cheated on Grey during the bachelorette party, should she have said something to her best friend before the ceremony? Does Grey have a right to be angry with her, to hold Zadie partly responsible for Helen's actions? Is it best to forever hold your peace?

About the Author

Karen McCullah Lutz co-wrote the films *10 Things I Hate About You* and *Legally Blonde*. She attended James Madison University in Virginia and currently resides in the Hollywood Hills with her husband Walter and dog Millie. This is her first novel.