

The Wild Girls Club: Tales from Below the Belt



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From Publishers Weekly "Talking dirty" is a stereotypically male province, but here Details columnist Radakovich sets out to prove "girls" can do it too. This is hardly a revelation to most women, but then these tales of the author's own life as a single woman in search of lust and love in the 1990s were plainly written with a male audience in mind. Radakovich's purpose seems to be at once to educate men about the disjunction between female stereotypes and real women and to provide voyeuristic titillation by inviting readers to follow the minutiae of her sexual, and sometimes her scatological, activity. Her writing is uneven--pieces range from amusing and insightful to rambling and banal. For example, it should come as no surprise to anyone that you're not likely to meet Mr. Right through the personals or on a singles cruise, but Radacovich records her own negative experiences with these

and other mate-seeking endeavors in lengthy, all-too-familiar detail. And the collection as a whole doesn't cohere except in the loosest sense. But Radakovich's insistence that it's okay for women to be as gleefully prurient as men can be and that men shouldn't feel threatened by such behavior is a point well taken and the book is a quick and sometimes very funny read. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus Reviews Radakovich gives men the lowdown about women's secret desires and conversations, as exemplified by the Wild Girls Club, consisting of her and her "supervixen" friends. The pieces collected here, which have appeared in Details magazine, were written for a male audience, but, filled with anecdotes about the search for sex and love, they will also appeal to women. Obsessed with sex and male sex organs, Radakovich relates her experiences with exuberant candor. After sampling the offerings from a couple of male escort (read "prostitute") services, Radakovich concludes that "having someone to worship you is one of life's better turn-ons." In another experiment, she tests several aphrodisiacs, with varied results (after taking one called Montezuma's Secret, "even the knockwurst in the refrigerator started to look good"). Tired of the single life, she joins several dating services ("getting laid was not the problem; finding someone who didn't irritate us in the morning after was") only to meet a nerd, a likable slob, and a man who embarrasses her by performing card tricks at an outdoor cafe. When a neighbor finds love on a cruise ship, Radakovich takes a cruise. Although at first the trip is a "single's nightmare," it turns around with a huge alcoholic fest and flirtation confessions near the end of the cruise. Radakovich's raffish sense of humor litters her book, especially her tongue-in-cheek answers to "probing questions from the male room" as "the Determinator" at Details. Although right on target with much of her advice and narration, she also receives mail from irate customers ("Come to Seattle," one man writes, "Ted Bundy was from here"). Battled-scarred survivors of stressful dating and miscommunication will want to read this book, if only for laughs. -- Copyright ©1994, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. See all Editorial Reviews

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