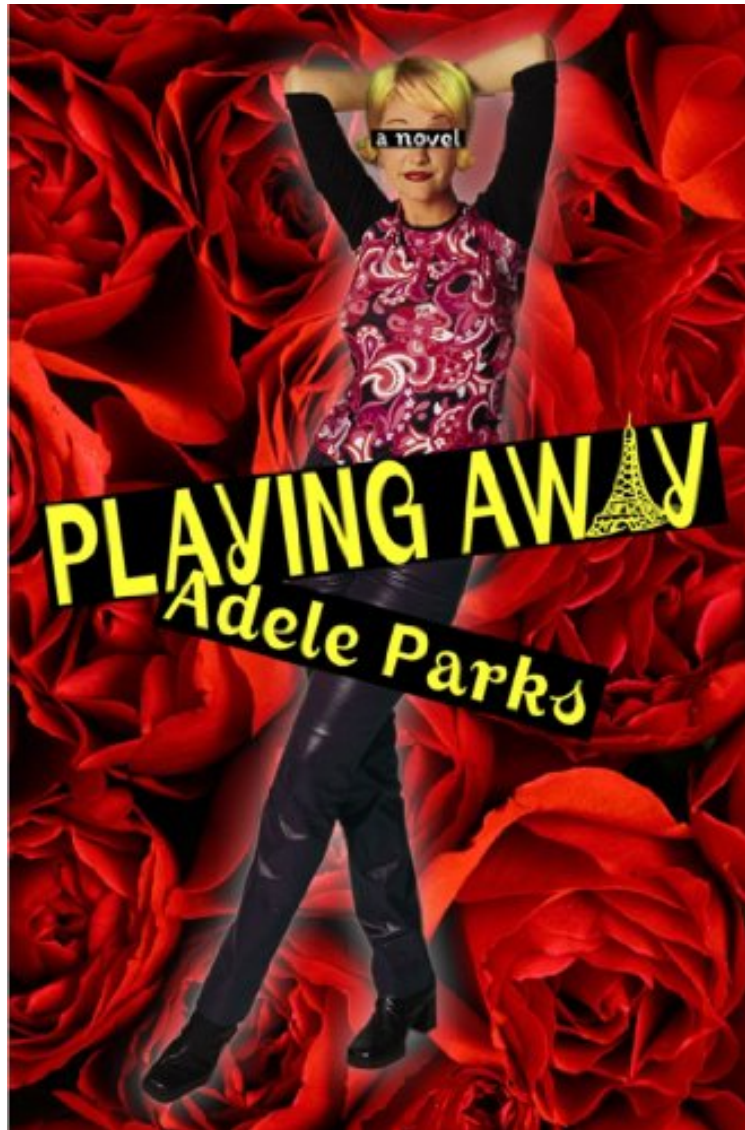


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## Playing Away (English Edition)

Von Adele Parks

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**Von Adele Parks : Playing Away (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Playing Away (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.  
DisappointingVon Sandra GoldschmidtThe book sounded really interesting when I read the preview here and I enjoyed 3 previous books by Adele Parks, but this one is just not worth reading sadly. The main character is awful and you can't symphatise with her at all. It's written completely filthy too and is more of a cheap porn than anything elye.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I just don't get it!Von Laurie GoldThe jacket of this hardcover

novel is filled with terrific reviews from the likes of Publishers Weekly, which called it "wickedly funny and very sexy." They must have read a different book than the one I was sent, because while it may be wicked, it is also boring and yucky. All of us probably have a friend or relative whose behavior we accept only because we care for the person. We would never pull the stunts they pull, but we don't judge them because that would be, well, judgmental. Having never met the fictional protagonist in *Playing Away*, I can be as judgmental about Connie Green as I feel. She's selfish and doesn't deserve half of what she has in life. And while she may have decided to play around on her pretty terrific husband, Luke, because she's bored, she sure spread the wealth - this is a very boring book. It's not the infidelity that bothered me, or the British bitchiness of the writing. After all, last year I read and thoroughly enjoyed Sue Margolis' *Neurotica*. What saved this from being a 1-star book is that the final 19 pages are pretty good, albeit very unrealistic. However, it's definitely not worth the first 306 pages - replete with champagne, farts, bodily fluid, and La Perla lingerie - to get there. TTFN, Laurie Likes Books Publisher, All About Romance 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Funniest book out of London I've ever read Von Elsa Hope Wow, difficult issues! But dealt with in such a raw, honest, direct, funny and heartbreaking way! This book is one I couldn't put down and read in a single sitting last Saturday. The protagonist plays with fire and risks the perfect life through boredom or immaturity or a mix of both and yet you never lose sympathy with her because Parks' voice is fresh and invigorating. All the protagonist's girl friends are interesting and challenging characters too and the interaction between them is so lifelike. The novel is set in London but really this book could be written about a group of girlfriends in NY or Chicago or any one of a number of major cities. Some things travel and it appears that infidelity is one of them! Anyone who has ever considered an affair should read this book and they'll think again. I felt I'd lived through the illicit games and felt extremely uncomfortable because of that! This book made me laugh and cry and I would not hesitate in recommending it to all my girl friends. The cover says this book was a Times Bestseller in London. I look forward with interest to seeing what happens to this British author, I hope she manages to make her mark here in the US too.

Kurzbeschreibung It's sexy. It's roguish. It's hilarious. It's a sensational debut novel from London, a joyously comic take on modern marriage and its fallout. Single people may feel they have it rough...but wait until you see what happens when married folk fall in lust. Connie Green's life should be perfect. She has a hot career, her wonderful husband Luke, and a bunch of great girlfriends. But Connie has a big problem. She has just met overwhelmingly sexy John at a business conference. Her head and her heart said, "no way," but her traitorous body shrieked, "yes, YES!" Now Connie's deep into a tawdry affair, which is destroying her peace of mind and her grand plan for Happily Ever After. Maybe John is her destiny. After all, she's losing weight. It can't be a bad thing if she's losing weight. Can it? Connie longs to confide in her girlfriends. They've always discussed their sex lives before, preferably over cocktails. But this infidelity thing makes it a trifle awkward. Rose would be horrified. For her, it's pretty clear-cut; nice girls don't have affairs. And Daisy is too busy being in love. Sam knows about John but she doesn't want to believe it. How could and why would Connie cheat on her lovely husband? Sam's working hard to ignore the fact that Connie's shagging John every chance she gets. Maybe Lucy would understand; she's bonking a married man herself. Connie just wishes Lucy would be a little less cynical about the whole thing. What Connie wants is... Well, Connie's not quite sure what she wants. And that's exactly the trouble. A novel for every woman juggling the untidy mix of work, romance, sex, and marriage, *Playing Away* shimmers with equal parts comic relief and penetrating insight. As Connie and her brave, silly, colorful friends search for answers along the precarious paths of love and lust, we glimpse more than a little bit of ourselves. With bold strokes both moving and outrageously funny, Adele Parks has crafted a stunningly revealing portrait of the lives of hip, urban women, poised at the cusp of a millennium. de Adele Parks' *Playing Away* is founded on that well-worn adage: the grass is always greener. Connie and Luke have been married a year and they're both ecstatically happy. Or are they? The reader quickly realizes that Connie isn't short for Constancy. Away on a business trip, her loins irrepressibly draw her to the devilishly attractive John Harding and she rushes headlong into a heated affair. Connie soon becomes Con-Artist as she deceives her decent but dull husband. While her lover woos her with evenings at out-of-the-way, grubby pubs and with late-night calls and faxes, after pub closing-time, declaring his longing for her, Connie begins to confuse lust with fate and deludes herself he could be the one. In *Playing Away*, the author has entered dangerous, forbidden territory by writing from the perspective of the adulteress--a traditionally unsympathetic character. However, Adele Parks has succeeded in making the reader despise the character's actions, without rejecting Connie, who is attractive, candid and exhilarating. So many novels these days focus on finding Mr Right, it is refreshing to come across one that looks beyond the wedding and proceeds to undermine the traditional stereotype--only men are tempted to stray. A scorching, subversive debut novel, this novel has all the ingredients of a successful modern romance but with a healthy dose of reality. Adele Parks joins the new elite of twenty-/thirtysomething female authors who are sustaining the spirit of Helen Fielding's *Bridget Jones's Diary*. By deepening the genre's significance and adding a sting to the tail, they are finding innovative ways to achieve more resonance with today's women. Nicola Perry Pressestimmen Publishers Weekly *Playing Away* is a very edgy book. It's

also wickedly funny and very sexy. Daily Mail (U.K.) A modern fairy tale in the classic sense of the word: a story of wanting what you can't have, filled with perils and beasts.... Marie Claire A light comic novel.... This month's Pick of the Paperbacks (April 2000). The Times (U.K.) Plenty to entertain yet the overtly girly stuff conceals a much more serious agenda. Elle Playing Away is compulsively addictive!