

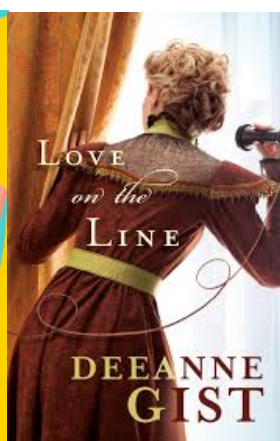
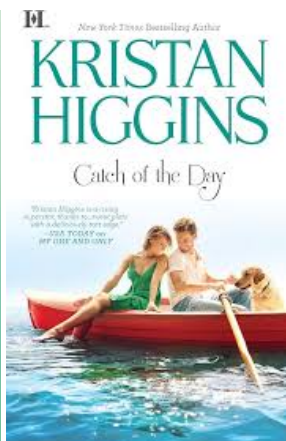


Clean Rom Com and Funny, Romantic Women's Fiction Reads

This list was commissioned by a patron who wanted clean rom com reads. She enjoyed Katherine Center's work, as well as Jen Turano's and Pepper Basham's. Contemporary and historical romances were both fine. She didn't mind some steaminess but didn't want anything particularly graphic. I developed a list that covered both clean rom com suggestions and readalikes for the authors she mentioned liking. These books are also a mix of what's available in our physical collection and our digital ebook and audiobook collection from Libby and Hoopla. I divided the recommendations into an author list and a title list.

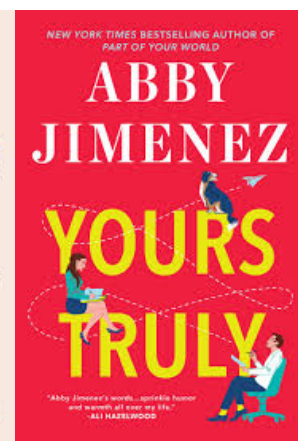
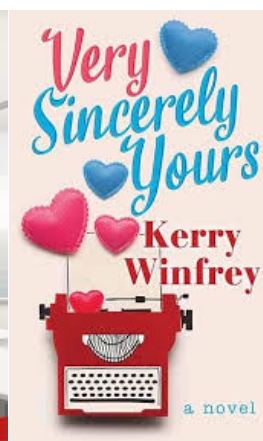
List of Select Authors

- **Mhairi McFarlane.** Heartwarming, hopeful romance-filled women's fiction that also touches on more serious themes while still remaining very funny. Recommended for Katharine Center fans. Start with *Don't You Forget About Me*.
- **Kristan Higgins.** Uplifting, character-driven contemporary romances and women's fiction, usually set in small towns, with a blend of humor and drama. Sex occurs behind closed doors. Recommended for Katharine Center fans. Start with *Now That You Mention It* (relationship fiction) or *Catch of the Day* (contemporary romance).
- **Annabel Monaghan.** Upbeat books that emphasize the main character's internal growth alongside the romance and balance humor and drama. Usually set in small towns. Recommended for Katharine Center fans.
- **Deeanne Gist.** Inspirational and hilarious Christian historical romances set during American history. Settings can encompass the Chicago World Fair, turn-of-the-century Texas, or the Biltmore Estate. Recommended for Jen Turano and Pepper Basham fans. Start with *A Bride Most Begrudging*.





- **Carol Cox.** Heartwarming Christian romances, romantic suspense, and Westerns featuring chaste romances, a keen sense of humor, and plucky characters. Recommended for Jen Turano fans. Start with *Trouble in Store*.
- **Mary Connealy.** “Romantic comedy with cowboys,” according to the author. Try her if you’ve enjoyed Gist and Cox, also featured on this list. Start with *Petticoat Ranch*.
- **Emma St Clair.** Sassy and witty clean rom coms.
 - **Billionaire Surprise series**
 - **Love Cliché series**
- **Melissa Ferguson.** Fun, heartwarming clean rom coms that focus on mishaps and amusing dialogue, particularly couples who fall in love amidst unexpected circumstances and hilarious misunderstandings.
- **Jennifer Shirk.** Contemporary clean rom coms that are fun, sweet, and funny.
- **Sarah Adams.** Clean contemporary romances that the author hopes makes the reader both laugh and cry.
- **Kerry Winfrey.** Funny, heartwarming, emotionally moving contemporary romances set in Columbus, Ohio, that often feature a showbiz connection. They usually only feature minimally explicit sex scenes.
- **Abby Jimenez.** Humorous romance reads with well-developed and likable characters and thoughtful depictions of more serious issues, usually with a Minnesota setting. Steamier than others on the list but still usually closed-door.





List of Select Titles

- **Libby Hubscher's *If You Ask Me*.** Heartwarming, upbeat contemporary romance about an advice columnist who always has a polite suggestion for personal problems until she encounters issues of her own. Deals with serious issues in a funny way. Recommended for Pepper Basham fans.
- **Denise Hunter's *A Novel Proposal*.** A novelist sets out to write a romance novel, despite never having been in love. Recommended for Pepper Basham and Jen Turano fans, particularly *Authentically*, *Izzy* fans.
- **Sophie Kinsella's *Can You Keep A Secret?*, *The Undomestic Goddess*, *Twenties Girl*, *Remember Me*, and *I've Got Your Number*.** Comedic chick lit, often set in London, that features both comical professional and personal challenges.
- **Beth O'Leary's *The Flatshare*.** Funny, quirky, heartwarming story about a woman falling in love with her roommate.

