



Holly Helscher
"An Authentic Voice in B2B"

Client : Gently Read

Project : Book Review for Magazine

Objective: Provide Readers with Extensive Review of King of the Class – Debut Novel of New Author

Complexity of Choice

What would you do if your husband, partner, fiance startled you out of plans for your future?

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Not by having an affair with another person, but by having an affair with a new lifestyle?



Excerpts from the Review:

New to the book scene, but certainly not new to providing us wonderful short stories, Gila Green gives the reader much to ponder in this unique satirical novel set inside a much believable future...

The book introduces us to Canadian political science student, Eve Vee waking up in a seaside kibbutz in 2019.

"She thinks how lucky she is to have found someone she can spend the rest of her life with..."

While lying in bed thinking fondly of Manny and her upcoming wedding, Eve admires her engagement ring. It's guaranteed never to get lost because she had a tracking beam attached to it. The ring may always be safe and sound, but in the next several pages we learn that her fiance, Manny, is not so reliable. It doesn't take long for Eve to realize Manny isn't in their apartment and he doesn't respond to phone calls or text messages... However, Eve's positive outlook is as fruitless as her search for Manny. Eve's sister finally states the reality.

"You've quit your job, flown halfway across the world, and gotten dumped."

Later that evening Manny slinks home, but it's clear to Eve that things have drastically changed. The Manny that captivated her three years earlier stands in front of her but in many ways is still missing. He stumbles over his words, but gets to the point when he says, *"Eve, I want be religious."* ...

Using masterful diction and dialogue, Green thoroughly explores all facets of how a single change within a relationship creates explosions within people. The explosions do not occur in a vacuum. They change everything around them. Roles, attitudes and perspectives are all touched. People have at least three choices when this happens. Accept them, reject them, or do nothing at all. Green examines the complexity of these choices within her characters and how they propel personal growth within them.

The tale is a wonderful mix that follows in the tradition of early Sheri S. Tepper novels. Well written and rich with literary devices that involve all the senses, Green has written a novel that puts us inside a world we become part of and are reluctant to leave at the end. While it is a political satire set inside a slightly futurist world, one does not have to be familiar with either of those genres to enjoy the book... Since Green writes about universal themes with believable characters, the book has cross-over appeal.

Gently Read is a literary magazine. It provides essays and criticism of contemporary poetry and literary fiction.