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A Girl's Guide to Modern European Philosophy

By Charlotte Greig

MAY 12, 2009 | OTHER PRESS | \$14.95 | PAPERBACK ORIGINAL | 288 PAGES

“A distinctive coming-of-age tale from a talented debut novelist... intelligent, sincere and skillfully executed... **Women’s fiction that expects an intellectually adventurous and emotionally honest reader.**”

—*Kirkus Reviews* *starred review*

“[This] coming-of-age book will teach the reader something about the practical applications of philosophy. For readers who survived the seventies—and may possibly remember those days—it will also be an entertaining read.”

—*ForeWord Magazine*

Praised in the UK as “Funny, thoughtful, and gripping” (*The Guardian*) and “memorable and engaging” (*The New Statesman*), Charlotte Greig’s American debut is a brilliant feat. *A Girl’s Guide to Modern European Philosophy* is a coming of age tale that dually succeeds as a charismatic story on the high end of chick lit and a very rewarding introductory course to the major European philosophers of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Set on a 1970s college campus in Sussex, Susannah is a sophomore philosophy major with more on her mind than Nietzsche’s polemics. Caught between her sophisticated older boyfriend and her new student beau, Susannah finds herself in a life-changing predicament—she’s pregnant. Susannah is suddenly immersed in the gender politics of her generation—the ideals of the new feminism versus the conservative values of former generations.

Susannah decides to examine the teachings of the Smaster philosophers, from Heidegger to Kierkegaard, to determine monumental decisions about her future. Humorous, light-hearted, yet intellectually satisfying, *A Girl’s Guide to Modern European Philosophy* is an affable overture to philosophy and an absorbing exploration of what it means to be female in the modern world.

After reading philosophy in college, Charlotte Greig became a songwriter and folksinger with five recorded albums. She is also a playwright for radio and stage, and the author of *Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?: Girl Groups from the 50s On*. Greig and her family live in Cardiff, Wales, UK.

“Since the runaway success of *Sophie’s World*, the youthful philosopher getting to grips with the meaning of life with the help of Kierkegaard, Nietzsche et al has proved a popular conceit with novelists...Greig’s debut, set at Sussex University circa 1974, is an endearing addition to the canon.”

—*The Observer* (UK)