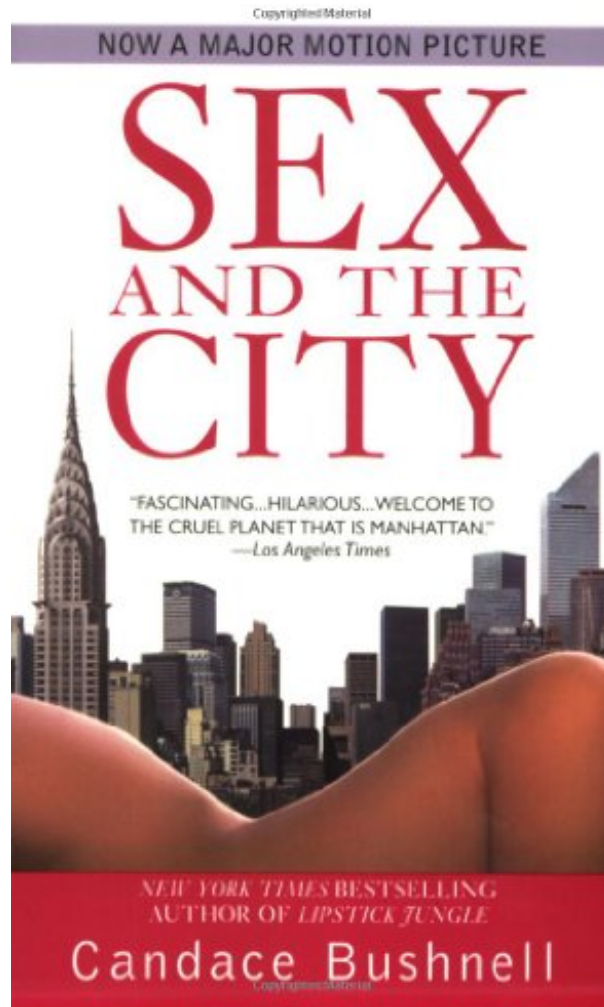


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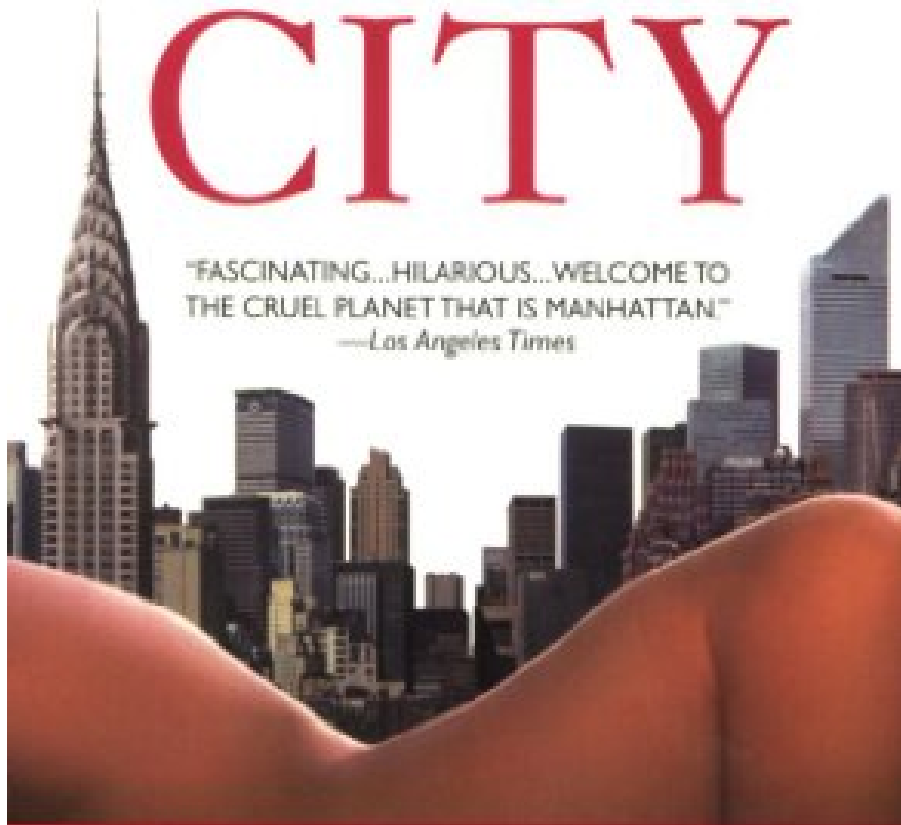


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SEX AND THE CITY

"FASCINATING...HILARIOUS...WELCOME TO
THE CRUEL PLANET THAT IS MANHATTAN."
—*Los Angeles Times*



NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING
AUTHOR OF *LIPSTICK JUNGLE*

Candace Bushnell

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Amazon.com Review

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From Library Journal

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SEX AND THE CITY BY CANDACE BUSHNELL PDF

Enter a world where the sometimes shocking and often hilarious mating habits of the privileged are exposed by a true insider. In essays drawn from her witty and sometimes brutally candid column in the New York Observer, Candace Bushnell introduces us to the young and beautiful who travel in packs from parties to bars to clubs. Meet "Carrie," the quintessential young writer looking for love in all the wrong places... "Mr. Big," the business tycoon who drifts from one relationship to another... "Samantha Jones," the fortyish, successful, "testosterone woman" who uses sex like a man... not to mention "Psycho Moms," "Bicycle Boys," "International Crazy Girls," and the rest of the New Yorkers who have inspired one of the most watched TV series of our time. You've seen them on HBO, now read the book that started it all...

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Most helpful customer reviews

156 of 159 people found the following review helpful.

A disarmingly candid, greatly superficial, and charmingly quirky book

By Tom Benton

As someone who recently discovered (and became addicted to) HBO's delightful series "Sex and the City," it was inevitable that I'd wind up investigating Candace Bushnell's book. Bushnell's book is the collected form of the column she wrote for years before TV writer Darren Star turned it into a hit television series. Ironically, though Bushnell's book probably wouldn't get anywhere near as much attention if it weren't for the TV series, it's because of the TV series that it appears so many readers have had a foul reaction to the book. It's true that those expecting the TV show on paper are bound to be disappointed, probably in a big way, because Bushnell's "Sex and the City" doesn't have a lot in common with the show.

For the most part, the book does revolve around Carrie Bradshaw (a thinly-disguised alter-ego for Bushnell, with even the same initials), a thirty-something columnist in New York. Miranda Hobbes does show up a few times during the first half of the book, though she's not a lawyer. Samantha Jones is not a PR agent nor such a nymphomaniac as she was in the show. And Charlotte is a British woman, whose TV counterpart appeared at the beginning of the series' pilot episode. Stanford Blatch, Carrie's successful homosexual friend, is the only character who remains virtually the same, though here he's a screenwriter. Many of the same situations presented throughout the show pop up in the book, such as Stanford's obsession with his model "protege," the torment of the baby shower, and "modelizers." And those who loved Chris Noth's Mr. Big needn't worry. Big is a major character in the book and is just as adorable (and even less rambunctious) as he was in the show, though the outcome of he and Carrie's relationship is different in the book than in the show.

Bushnell's columns were meant more as musings on the life of single women in New York, and often single men as well, than as a linear narrative. Thus it's surprising that her writings work so well as a book. She has a very cute, quirky, innocent style of writing, and that's a big part of what makes her book such a blast. However Bushnell offers little insight into what any of the characters are actually feeling, and rightly so: it just accents their appalling and, frankly, upsetting superficiality. The dating scene in Manhattan is a hellish world where all that matters is sex, money, fashion, and drugs. Bushnell is obviously deeply involved in this world, and it's her knowledge of it, along with her characters' candid musings, that kept me reading.

In the end, those expecting the HBO series in a book are going to be very disappointed. Those expecting something resembling the HBO series will probably be let down as well. The book and the series are designed for two different worlds - while the show tended to have a sweet optimism to it, Bushnell writes with the same sort of dreamy, hopeful cynicism that one would find in a Bret Easton Ellis book. However, those who would rather read the book than incessantly compare it with the show may enjoy it. I recommend Candace Bushnell's "Sex and the City" to those who are younger and looking for a fun, unusual, honest read.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Even if you've seen the show...read the book!

By Schtinky

Have you ever sat in a coffee shop or your hometown's shopping mall, catching snippets of juicy conversations as they pass by you? \$eXz In The City, the book, is just like that only better.

In SITC, you get to listen to the snippets of the rich and famous, the ultimately wealthy, and the downright notorious; something you don't get at home.

Though built upon shallow ideals, the characters are anything but shallow; they are witty, charming, self-centered, goal-orientated, and real. The storyline, though it is told in fragments not unlike a diary that many people have written in, manages to stay smooth and yet spontaneous in its wandering courses.

Both the Cable Show and the book stem from a column Candace Bushnell started writing for The New York Observer back in 1994, where she decided to remove the sentimental value from relationships and mating rituals and replace it with a healthy, well needed injection of sardonic humor. Thanks to Ms. Bushnell, we have such wonderful glimpses into this taboo subject like "The M&M's", "The Modelizers", "Psycho Moms", "Bicycle Boys", "Dweebs, Nerds, and Losers", "Comparison Shopping", "The Nanny Camera", and many more.

SITC is a wonderfully fun, kick-back-and-relax kind of book; a lively and fun story that reminds you not to take yourself so seriously all the time. I highly recommend it for a lazy afternoon or a sunny day at the beach. Enjoy!

171 of 198 people found the following review helpful.

The age of Un-innocence indeed!

By CoffeeGurl

'Sex and the City' is fun to read and entertaining. The characters' lives are so outrageous that your life seems dull and predictable in comparison. I love the topics: the toxic bachelors; the guys who date models; threesomes; and the four city girls, including "Carrie", visiting married women in Connecticut and enjoying themselves, to their surprise.

The book is mainly focused on Carrie and her boyfriend, "Mr. Big." I love the HBO series based on this book, but the book tells us a different story of love and dating in New York. The book is as fun and as outrageous as the HBO series. A fun read!

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