

BOOK CLUB KIT

# HOW to PLOT a

a novel

# PAYBACK

Melissa  
Ferguson

BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR



# PRAISE FOR HOW TO PLOT A PAYBACK

"It was so fun to sit in on the writer's room of a successful sitcom in Melissa Ferguson's delightfully charming and wonderfully quirky romance. There are so many sweet moments and wonderful characters sprinkled throughout, and I'm certain rom-com fans are going to fall in love!"

– **Courtney Walsh**, *New York Times* bestselling author

"Super cute! Melissa Ferguson's romcoms lean more on the com than the rom, and this book is no different, delivering chuckles and giggle with an effortless writing voice, witty dialogue, and a cast of lovable characters. I was totally on board as soon as I read the premise, especially since it's a storyline I haven't already read more than a dozen times (give me all the fresh plots please!). You could say this is a grump/sunshine (although he's really not all that grumpy), enemies-to-lovers (although the hard feelings are only one-sided and misguided at that), slow burn, but I just call it a cute little romp of a book."

– **Sarah Monzon**, author of *All's Fair in Love and Christmas*

## MEET THE AUTHOR



MELISSA FERGUSON is the bestselling author of titles including *Famous for a Living*, *Meet Me in the Margins*, *The Dating Charade*, and *The Cul-de-Sac War*. She lives in Tennessee with her husband and children in their growing farmhouse lifestyle and writes heartwarming romantic comedies and children's books that have been featured in such places as *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Travel + Leisure*, *Woman's World*, and BuzzFeed.

She'd love for you to join her at [www.melissaferguson.com](http://www.melissaferguson.com)



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# A NOTE FROM MELISSA

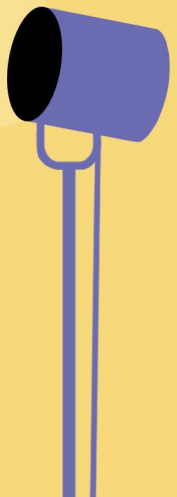
## HELLO HELLO!

I'm so excited for you to be introduced to Finn and Lavender (and Bernie!) in my story! It took quite a bit of research into the world of sitcoms (and many conversations with a wonderful British friend) to get this book on the page, but it was well worth it and quite the joy.

For the record, my characters completely threw me in this book. Finn, in particular, refused to enact the specific type of revenge I had so carefully plotted out, and yet, it was so perfectly Finn he clearly knew best. ;) And Lavender? She wasn't even supposed to have a dog. There were zero animals in the ploy, and yet ... well ... in my own life at the time of writing, I gained a lovable (and crazy) Bernese Mtn puppy named Bernie, and I guess I just had to write him in.

I hope you enjoy this story that has a special place in my heart, and if you do, please be sure to tag me at @ourfriendlyfarmhouse on my socials (or head to my newsletter at [melissaferguson.com](http://melissaferguson.com)) to let me know. I'd love to hear from you!


Warmly,  
Melissa Ferguson





# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Finn Masters faced several hiccups in his life that were difficult to get over. Have you ever had a moment in your life when someone swept something out from under your feet? How did you react both in the short and long term?
2. What is the range of emotions and thoughts you have had when you've had to forgive someone? Have you ever identified with Finn and his struggles, and if so, how?
3. Where would you rather live: in a town like the one Finn and Lavender grew up in or in Los Angeles? Why?
4. Which scene or moment in this book made you chuckle? Why?
5. Do you think you would enjoy Finn's career? Why or why not? Do you think you would enjoy Lavender's?
6. Finn learned that sometimes dreams change. Have you ever experienced a moment where your dreams have shifted?
7. What would you do if you suddenly had the chance to write the actions out for your real-life enemy? Would you act on it or not?
8. Which character's weakness do you identify with most? Why? Which character's strength do you identify with most? Why?
10. When and where exactly does Finn learn a life lesson that changes him? How?
11. Who is your favorite character and why?
12. Lavender was the unknowing victim of a lot of judgment. How quick are you to judge others? How often do you yourself feel duly or unduly judged? How do you handle the criticism in a healthy manner?
13. What is your favorite scene and/or quote and why?



(Side note: I would love to hear your answer to this! Please don't hesitate to message me on Instagram or tag me with your answer at @our\_friendly\_farmhouse. –Melissa)