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# The Hating Game: A Novel



## Synopsis

Debut author Sally Thorne bursts on the scene with a hilarious and sexy workplace comedy all about that thin, fine line between hate and love. Nemesis (n.) 1) An opponent or rival whom a person cannot best or overcome. 2) A person's undoing 3) Joshua Templeman Lucy Hutton has always been certain that the nice girl can get the corner office. She's charming and accommodating and prides herself on being loved by everyone at Bexley & Gamin. Everyone except for coldly efficient, impeccably attired, physically intimidating Joshua Templeman. And the feeling is mutual. Trapped in a shared office together 40 (ok, 50 or 60) hours a week, they've become entrenched in an addictive, ridiculous never-ending game of one-upmanship. There's the Staring Game. The Mirror Game. The HR Game. Lucy can't let Joshua beat her at anything - especially when a huge new promotion goes up for the taking. If Lucy wins this game, she'll be Joshua's boss. If she loses, she'll resign. So why is she suddenly having steamy dreams about Joshua and dressing for work like she's got a hot date? After a perfectly innocent elevator ride ends with an earth-shattering kiss, Lucy starts to wonder whether she's got Joshua Templeman all wrong. Maybe Lucy Hutton doesn't hate Joshua Templeman. And maybe he doesn't hate her either. Or maybe this is just another game.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 11 hours and 29 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: HarperAudio

Audible.com Release Date: August 9, 2016

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B01FY8M6Q8

Best Sellers Rank: #68 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Romance > Contemporary #148 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Humor & Satire > Humorous #600 in Books > Romance > Romantic Comedy

## Customer Reviews

PLATINUMI recently attended a Writers Retreat where one book in particular was mentioned, and I use the term mentioned very loosely, what actually happened was they demanded we all read it

immediately. Suffice to say, I purchased the ebook that night and dove in, immediately I was smitten, utterly invested and truly in love with every single word written by Sally Thorne. "Watching you pretend to hate that nickname is the best part of my day." Lucy Hutton always dreamt of working in the publishing industry, as an avid reader her love for all things books was greater than anything she'd ever known, being hired by Gamin Publishing was everything she had ever imagined, but when her beloved company was on the brink of collapse and amalgamation with another struggling publishing house, Bexley Books, became her reality, her career goals stayed alive, just barely, with a host of personnel cuts and the loss of her best friend Val, her work world was rocked. The day she met Joshua Templeman seemed like a possible new beginning, but his cool disregard of her almost immediately sent shockwaves through her usually cherry demeanor, a war began that day and with every day that past their mutual dislike of each other grew. "You've broken me down so completely, I can't even handle it when a guy tells me I'm beautiful." The Hating Game written in the first person point of view painted Lucy as both incredibly smart, and extremely funny, every snarky thought, every snappy comeback, every moment of despair mixed with joy as Joshua became Josh in front of her eyes. Every moment in this book served to cement my love of the author's words, I was invested immediately, but each new chapter brought with it feelings of awe, the more I read the deeper in love I fell, the more real Lucy and Joshua felt, the more their personalities jumped off the page and straight into my heart. "I'm about to lose something I never had to begin with." The Hating Game is slow burn in the very best way, Thorne builds not only the connection between her hero and heroine but the readers attachment to them, their witty dialogue served to lure the reader into losing themselves in one of the best bouts of drawn out verbal foreplay that I have ever experienced. Usually when I enjoy a book it only serves to make me want to devour the words, here however I simultaneously wanted to speed read my way to end, and slow down in order to savor every moment. I loved every second here, I wanted to drown in Thorne's words, I wanted to escape into Lucy and Joshua's world, stand in the corner, watching them like a creeper, I wanted to befriend them, I wanted to relax with Lucy over a glass of wine after a long day at work, I wanted to know everything that happened in between every moment, every lost look, every sigh, every secret smile. The Hating Game has quickly become one of my very favourite books, climbing it's way onto not only my Best of 2016 List but my favourite of all time list. If this is how Sally Thorne marks her debut into bookworld, I can only imagine what she has yet to do.

I just finished reading this book, staying up until 3:00am to do so. I absolutely loved it. I was looking for something romantic, light-hearted, sexy, and funny and this definitely delivered. I love the main

characters and their banter. Like other reviewers have mentioned, the concept is not new or original. And certain parts were a little predicatble. But the author's comedic style added something special to each scene. And after the first 50 or so pages, sexual tension explodes between the two main characters which made this book very difficult to put down. The only reason this book did not receive 5 stars from me is because I felt as though there were too many moments of Lucy being totally vulnerable with Josh and him holding back and completely controlling the pace of their relationship. She could tell him how much she wanted him and he would say nothing and let her suffer. I felt like the scales of power were tipped too often in his favor and that he was always calling the shots. However at the end of the day, this book was a solid read and one I would recommend to everyone.

I can't stop thinking about this book! It is one of my favorites. I absolutely love it. I read it because there was so much online buzz praising it. I started to read it and first thought it was going to be pretty cute, then I found myself laughing out loud while reading it in public. From there, The Hating Game began to captivate me in a totally unexpected and thrilling way. I began to become absorbed in these characters and their situation. I began to feel deeply a range of emotions as the story progressed. This book is edgy and sweet and addictive, something unique and wonderful. Simply, you must read this book! I recommend it most highly! I recommend it to everyone who likes contemporary fiction, contemporary romance, or chic lit. It is hard to convey the perfection of this story that is so well-written that you will be eagerly turning pages, cheering, crying, cringing, and laughing, totally invested. P.S.~ Joshua Templeman is one of my all-time favorite book boyfriends

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