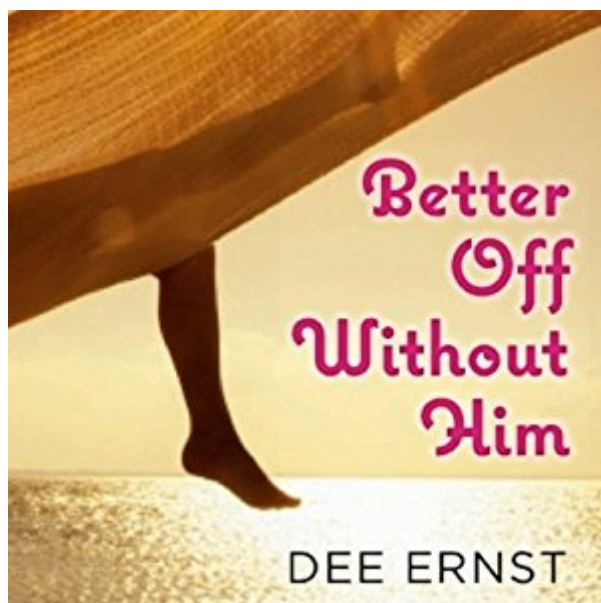


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# Better Off Without Him



## Synopsis

Mona Berman is an expert at Happily Ever After - after all, she's a best-selling Romance writer and happy endings are what she does best. So when her husband of 20 years leaves her for somebody 15 years younger, 30 pounds lighter, and French, she's got a lot of adjusting to do, both personally and professionally. Lucky for her she's got three savvy teen daughters, a few good friends, and Ben, the world's sexiest plumber, to help her along the way. First she decides that her next book will be the anti-romance - her heroine finds the best part of her life AFTER getting dumped. Next her daughters tell her she needs to start practice dating, and summer at the Jersey shore is the perfect place for that. She's also juggling her soon-to-be-ex, a loony aunt, and a match-making neighbor, while Ben is sending her romance-driven imagination into overdrive. Can Mona's life imitate art? Can she write her own happy ending?

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 8 hours and 26 minutes

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Version: Unabridged

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Audible.com Release Date: August 14, 2012

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

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Best Sellers Rank: #11 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Mashups #46

in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Arts & Entertainment > Performing Arts #48 in Books >

Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Comedy

## Customer Reviews

I could feel that I was coming to the end of the book and I started to get so disappointed, I wanted to stay in Mona's life. There is more to this family, her kids, her close friends, even Aunt Lily that I feel I'm going to miss after just getting acquainted and laughing & shaking my head at the antics that have been going on over the last few day. Dee Ernst is a very funny writer, even during seemingly sad parts of the story she'd throw out a zinger to change the temperature of the room.

Life has a funny way of not being interesting to others who cannot relate. However, there comes a

time in your life when the unrelated becomes truer than fiction in some fashion...and that's what I encountered here. You can't help but fall in love with Mona and her life as a future divorcee. The events are hilariously accurate although some of the names and locations have been changed to protect the innocent. Truly a must read.

Fantastic book- first I've read by this author and her character development is excellent. I feel like I know these people. It was funny and real and not unrealistic and silly. I'm 45 with 3 teenage kids and I felt as if she were reading my mind!

I really enjoyed this book. I loved the main character and the fact she wasn't some 20 year old. I will be checking this author's other books (I hope she has written others!)

What a great read! Got rid of the deadbeat husband, and learned to live life for what it really is -- what more can anyone ask for???!!

Great characters. Perfect ending, although I didn't want it to end. I will definitely look more of this authors work.

I absolutely loved reading BETTER OFF WITHOUT HIM. Not only was Mona a delightful person with a sparkling and complex personality; the entire cast of characters were loads of fun to read about. I especially liked that most of the characters were middle-aged and it seemed perfectly plausible for Mona to have a new and more enriching life after Brian, her husband of 20 years, leaves her for another woman. I also liked the fact that Mona was pretty with a nice figure rather than extraordinarily -- and unbelievably -- beautiful. The dialogues were very authentic (and sometimes laugh-out-loud funny) and the passages from her fantasy life were priceless. The imagery was fantastic; it was so vivid and explicit that I found it very easy to suspend my disbelief and totally immerse myself in the story. The editing did miss a few mistakes (Brian was misspelled "Brain," for example) but the errors did not interrupt the smooth flow of the story. The only tiny point that bothered me was that Patricia, Mona's best friend, wore a fur coat to court and I am strongly against people wearing fur. Nevertheless, giving this book five stars was an easy decision and I highly recommend this book to anyone with a sense of humor who likes originality in their romances.

Mona's done it all right. She's loved and been faithful to her husband for 20 years. She's given him

three beautiful daughters, kept his house, and cooked his meals. She's also had a successful, lucrative career as a historical romance writer while managing to be a super stay-at-home mom. Yet her husband comes home one day telling her he wants a divorce to be with a much younger, skinny, French blond. She's devastated; then she's ticked...really ticked. What follows is a warm, human, funny story of a 45-year-old woman starting her life over. She has a wonderful and diverse collection of friends to help her over the rough spots. She also has elderly Aunt Lilly who suddenly moves in with her and who makes Auntie Mame look like Mother Theresa. Her "practice dating" experiences had me laughing til I cried. I can't say enough good things about this book, and about the author's ability to tell a story that pulls you into it with every chapter. Get it! Read it! I know you'll enjoy it.

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