



Ask Me Anything: A Novel

By Francesca Delbanco

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"An engaging, screwball first novel....A genuine pleasure."?The New Yorker

Twenty-six-year-old Rosalie Preston works by day as an advice columnist for the romantically perplexed readership of *Girl Talk* magazine. But her true passion is for the stage and for her fledgling theater troupe, the First Borns, a tight pack of friends and lovers who live (mostly) in the East Village. When Rosalie comes to the notice of suave Berglan Starker, a theater underwriter?and also the father of her best friend?she finds herself caught up in a very different affair from those she so jauntily untangles in her column for teens. Struggling to be savvy but sage, she is swept along by curiosity, a taste for adventure, and a penchant for those alluring complimentary toiletries in New York's ritziest hotels. Fame versus art, sex versus love, ambition versus friendship, room service versus restaurants: these are the choppy waters the First Borners must navigate?together and, perhaps ultimately, apart?in this delicious novel.

"The best of what the chick-lit genre has to offer: it's wry, compelling, and keenly observed."?Library Journal "What a delightful surprise....[Delbanco's] voice is fresh and wise....The angst here is warm and funny and has the true tone of excited urgency and humility that fuels youth."?Mary Ambrose, *Boston Globe* "Absurdly entertaining....The wistful and wise-cracking Rosalie is a winning screwball heroine."?Mark Rozzo, *Los Angeles Times Book Review*

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