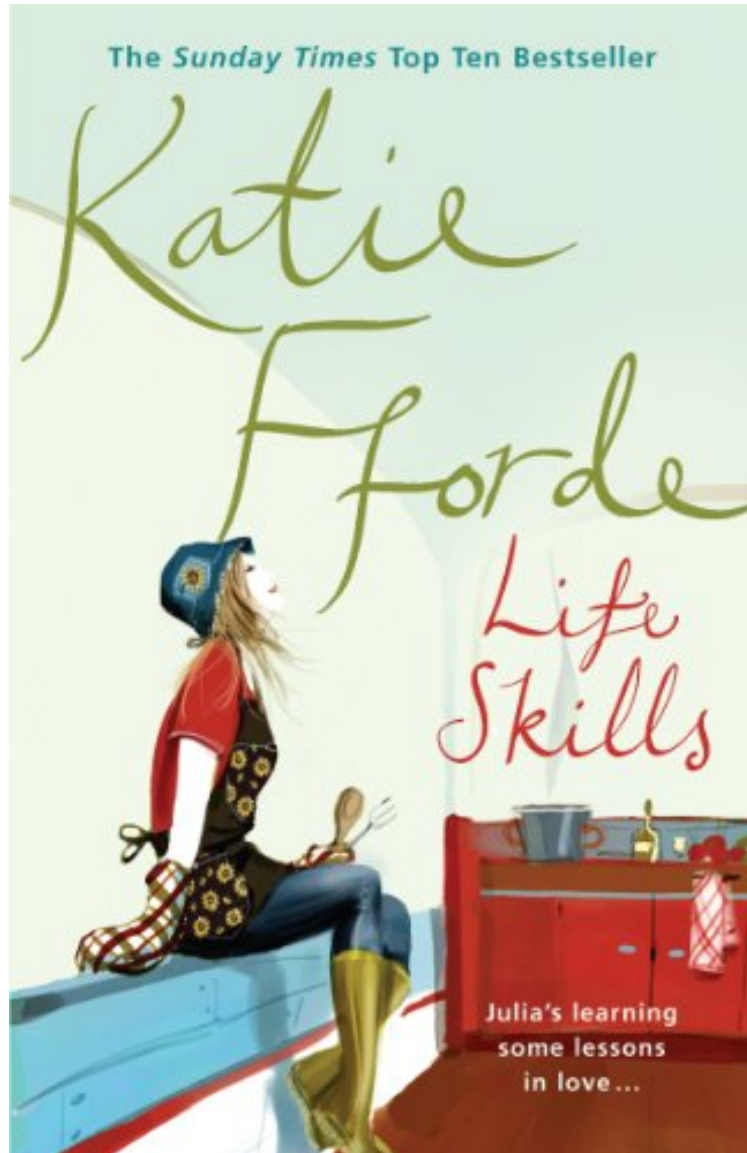


(Ebook pdf) Life Skills

## Life Skills

Von Katie Fforde

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**Von Katie Fforde : Life Skills** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Life Skills:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen6 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fun, cosy, light romantic fiction, but not her bestVon Carol S.Katie Fforde does a great job of writing smart, funny yet sweet romantic fiction. "Life Skills" tells the story of Julia Fairfax, who makes some dramatic changes in her life -- quitting her job, dumping her fiance, subletting her house -- then takes an unusual job as a cook on a canal boat while

she sorts things out. Too much canal boat lingo and too many technical details about boating threatened to overwhelm the story before it got going, but I persevered, and eventually got hooked. Although there's a lot to recommend this book if you're looking for a pleasant read that is romantic yet real and intelligent, it's not Katie Fforde's best. I found the characters a wee bit predictable (e.g. stuffy snobbish matron, dull conventional ex-fiance, daddy's little princess); and the plot meandering. Perhaps I've merely been spoiled by Ms. Fforde's earlier efforts, notably "Stately Pursuits" and "Wild Designs," and you might want to check them out first.<sup>2</sup> von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Humor is an essential "life skill" for the heroine... Von Ein Kunde This is the first book I've read by this author. I enjoyed the humor embedded in the story. Other reviewers mentioned the main character was exasperating but I liked watching her grow as she embarked upon her adventure of life on the canals. Her determination NOT to get involved and then keep him away from our hero wasn't always logical, but when is love logical? <sup>0</sup> von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. You will never know how things end Von Skatersally Julia Fairfax is about to change her entire life. Somehow she got to be engaged to Oscar, who seems to be a catch. But soon she realised, that she likes much more his dog and broke up with him at once. Furthermore, she quit her job. So she was really free to decide which step follows next. How lucky was she, as she got to know Suzie. Normally she was only daughter of her fa-ther and also wants a change in her life. So she just bought two canal boats and wanted to run a hotel with them. No question that Julia took the job as a cook at once. That sounded perfect for her. It offered a place to live, new people around and something to do which pays the bills. Well, actually there shouldn't be send many bills. But it also was a huge opportunity to get life skills, especially when she has to look after the guests. The very first ones are her former fianc and his mother, and - even worse - her old enemy of the childhood, Fergus. Things turned even worse when she realised to be pregnant. The fifth novel of Katie Fforde is written in her well-known style. The characters are described in a witty and loveable way and the reader has always the impression to follow a real life. The author knows very well how to create relationships and the novel profits from the logical way. The story invites for some relaxing reading hours to enjoy what happens to the protagonists. Even some parts are pretty predictable I always wanted to know the real end and felt very entertained. I can almost say that this one is my favourite of Katie Ffordes'. So I recommend this novel everyone who likes romances.

Kurzbeschreibung Julia's learning some lessons in love. A wonderfully romantic novel from the No. 1 Sunday Times bestselling author of Recipe for Love, A French Affair and The Perfect Match. A combination of overwork and jet-leg propels Julia Fairfax into becoming engaged to a golf-playing wine buff called Oscar. But when she realises that she has fonder feelings for his adorable Labrador than for Oscar himself, she is forced to confront the fact that there is something drastically wrong. Ditching her fianc and jacking in her job, she decides to revolutionise her life. Her new career as a cook on a pair of hotel boats is certainly a departure, and teaches her more about life than how to get a couple of narrow boats through a lock. But even afloat, Julia's past catches up with her. Not only must she contend with the persistent Oscar (not to mention his frightful mother and her own mother's determined matchmaking), but also the arrival of her childhood enemy, the enigmatic Fergus Grindley... From Booklist Julia Fairfax has spent the last six years working hard to develop a new department at her job, only to have it taken away from her and given to someone younger and less experienced. At the same time, she finds herself engaged to a man whom she really doesn't know much about, and what she does know, she really doesn't like. She decides to go against her usual stable, reliable self and act rashly, so she ends her engagement, quits her job, and puts her house up for rent for the summer. She takes a job as a cook working on a pair of hotel boats that will sail the canals of England and sets off for a summer of hard work, no days off, and escape from her ex-fiance and his overbearing mother. But Julia doesn't realize how easy she is to find after all, and it isn't just her ex-fiance who finds her. Despite its slightly exasperating heroine, Fforde's romance is witty, original, and perfect for readers looking for something different. Alexandra Baker Shrake From Kirkus s Love triumphs as an agreeably surprise ending validates a story that otherwise often moves as slowly as the two British hotel barges on which the protagonist is resident cook. English writer Fforde, whose popular fiction celebrates strong women who don't fall easily (or at least immediately) in love, now tells the tale of a young woman determined to succeed on her own, without a man's help even when she's about to give birth. When thirtysomething Julia Fairfax is replaced by a man in the position she worked hard to develop, she decides to leave and find a job that will be fun rather than remunerative. She also breaks off her engagement to Oscarsince she realizes that she was essentially attracted by his dog and charming Queen Anne House rather than by him and signs on as cook for two hotel barges that ply the British canals. Her boss, beautiful Suzy, is trying to turn the boats into a successful business, though help is short and the barges are run-down. Julia learns to navigate, work lock gates, and cook meals in a small space, but the men are less easy to handle. There's Fergus, whom she's known and disliked since childhood, who suddenly appears and is surprisingly helpful; then Oscar, who doesn't give up easily, arrives with dog and snotty mother for a two-week stay. Though still determined to be free and footloose, Julia is attracted to Fergus and even goes to bed with him once; but though she spurns his further attentions, their lovemaking has its usual consequence. A pregnant Julia returns

home to find other work. Fergus is delighted with her pregnancy and proposes marriage, but she refuses because she thinks he's motivated by duty rather than passion. By the close, though, the ever-resourceful Fergus has devised a proposal that persuades even Julia. A stylish contemporary love story with lots of barge lore for those who love to mess with boats. But not Fforde's usual fast-paced best -- Copyright 1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.