

New Australian Author Book Release

# SWIPE, DATE, REPEAT

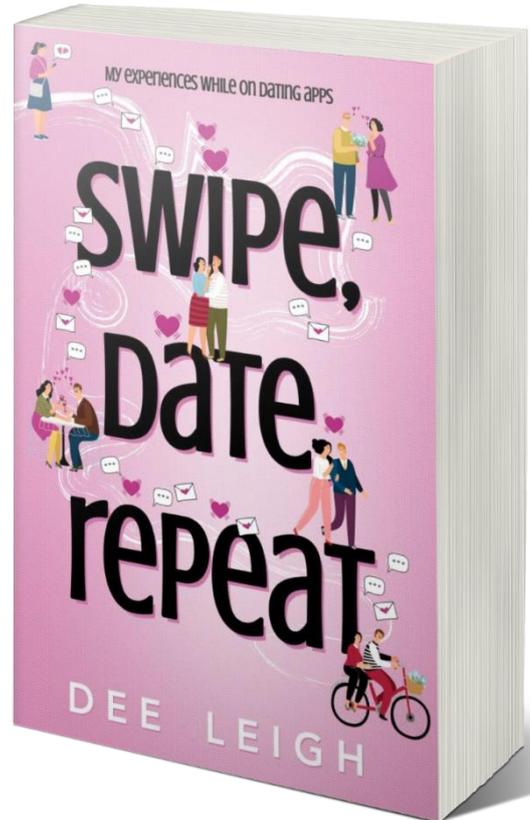
DEE LEIGH

***Dating can be hard at the best of times, but imagine having to sit through over 50 dates!***

Here within these pages, is a true recount of a single woman's dating experiences. Some stories are funny, some are sad, and some are just downright scary. Then throw a pandemic into this mix of online dating dramas and discover just how difficult finding a Prince Charming can be!

***One would ask the question – Is it me?!***

*“A crazy ride of what can only be determined as embellished fiction...but then realised with shock that it isn't...a laugh out loud, cry in your chicken soup winner of a book for all the single ladies to stand with pride...great stuff Dee!” Janice, Indiebook reviewer*



Visit [shawlinepublishing.com.au](http://shawlinepublishing.com.au) for more details on the author, Dee Leigh.

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# A Conversation with Dee

## **What was an early experience where you learned that language had power?**

*Being an avid reader from an early age, I realized words can move you. They can bring out all sorts of emotions. If they are written well, they can make you laugh, cry, sad, angry... I love a book that makes me just want to jump into its pages.*

## **What did you edit out of this book?**

*Once I almost reached the end, I couldn't think of another date to include in my book in order to reach my chapter 50, so I recounted a date that I once met in a bar. After I submitted my book for editing, I had another failed online date, so I included that chapter instead.*

## **How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have?**

*One other. It's a picture story book that I wrote many years ago that was never published.*

## **What does literary success look like to you?**

*Seeing my book on the shelf in a store or library. I also love the way people respond to my book when I tell them about it. I often get, 'You won't believe what happened to me!' Everyone has a story to tell.*

## **What was your hardest scene to write?**

*The chapter where I had my heart broken. It's still a painful memory. Even though I am over him now, I still cried when I was writing it. Not cried over him but cried at the pain I felt at the time. I cried for my shattered heart. It's like a broken plate. No matter how hard you try, you can't put it back exactly the same as it was before it broke. You can come close, but there will always be cracks and little pieces missing. The heart is the same.*

## **How do you select the names of your characters?**

*I made up random names. There is only one of my chapters that I have kept his real name. That's because I like him, and we remained friends. In fact, he has nagged me to death about the book release. He can't wait to be a celebrity. The others, well, if they ever read my book, I want to keep them guessing as to whether it's about them or not.*

## **Did you have any interesting experiences while writing this book?**

*My experience is still ongoing. Even though I have made my last chapter promising, that too has fizzled.*

## **Why did you write this book? What were your inspirations?**

*My marriage ended a long time ago and I've been on so many dates. I often relay my stories to my friends. The general response was always, 'OMG. You should write a book'. I've thought about it for a long time and the opportunity arose during lockdown when I had a lot of spare time on my hands. Then one day, Jess Bedford mentioned her book on Facebook, so I contacted her, and the rest as they say is history.*

## **When did you first realise you wanted to write?**

*I've written my whole life. I was particularly keen on fiction writing in my youth.*

## **Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym? What, and why?**

*Yes. That is what I am doing. I am a primary school teacher and still currently employed. I would feel better off in keeping these two roles separate.*

## **If you could tell your younger writing self-anything, what would it be?**

*Write sooner. All those book ideas that are in your head... Pen them.*

## **What kind of research do you do?**

*My books are recounts of personal experiences.*

## **Do you hide any secrets in your books that only a few people will find?**

*I guess for those people who know me, will now know the ins and outs of my dates, and my parents will now know about my sex life.*

## **What are the ethics of writing?**

*I guess in my case and that of this book in particular, truthfulness and acknowledgement. Some thinks I have written about don't always put me in a flattering light, but I own them. We are after all human.*



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