



# Hilary Mantel

*an experiment  
in love*

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HILARY MANTEL

# *An Experiment in Love*

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*For Gerald*

'Funny, tragic and wonderfully  
a book to be treasured, for the  
writing and for its honesty.'

Sue Gaisford, *Independent*

It is London, 1970. Carmel McBain, in her first term at university, has cut free of her childhood roots in the north. Among the gossiping, flirtatious girls of Tonbridge Hall, she begins her experiments in life and love. But the year turns. The mini-skirt falls out of style and an era of concealment begins.

Carmel's world darkens, and tragedy waits in the wings.

'*An Experiment in Love* has much to say about its turbulent era, and is replete with the atmosphere of the cusp, with the prospect of irreversible change . . . It is also a profoundly sad novel, to which Mantel's liberal sense of comedy and dazzling acuity for metaphor add an almost excruciating flavour.'

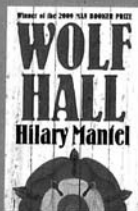
Rachel Cusk, *The Times*

'Mantel writes prose of imperturbable aplomb, crisp with irony and highlighted with deftly placed, elegantly surprising images . . . she has a penchant for caustic, spiky heroines and a sardonic ear for dialogue.'

Peter Kemp, *Sunday Times*

'My favourite novel of the year: *An Experiment in Love* is written with subtle perceptiveness, sharp wit and canny wisdom.'

Margaret Forster, *Independent*



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