

FIVE DATE RULE

Screenplay by: Donna Douglas Walchle/donnadhere@gmail.com

LOGLINE: When Hattie, a happily single children's author receives a subscription to an online dating service for her birthday, it results in a series of mismatches likened to installments of Punk'd. That is, until she meets Henry who insists that it's impossible to assess whether or not you're potentially compatible until after you've had five dates.

TAGLINE: There's always a frog pond in route to the castle.

SYNOPSIS:

It's happily single, children's author, Hattie Fisher's birthday and her lifelong besties, Jill and Maggie, both married, have decided it's time for her single status to be transformed into marital bliss. Their birthday gift to her is a subscription to an online dating service.

Reluctantly, Hattie cautiously embraces the idea and is immediately contacted by three guys for a first date: a dentist who invites her to a comedy club, but fails to tell her that he is one of the performers and that he's incorporated their first date into his act; a minister who asks her to meet him at his church where he's wrapping up a funeral and invites her to the bereavement luncheon; and an attorney who takes business calls all during dinner and addresses her by the wrong name each time he attempts to resume the conversation. Hattie's more convinced than ever that she's meant to be single.

However, shortly after that declaration while walking her dog, Utah, Hattie meets Henry and his dog, Canaan as he's mows her neighbor's lawn. Henry's handsome, well-spoken, kind and seems like a really decent guy. But, Jill and Maggie don't think he's good enough. After all, he mows lawns for Pete's sake! However, this author has learned not to judge a book by its cover and decides to take Henry up on his good-humored proposal that they commit to having five dates. He explains that anything short of that doesn't give a fair assessment of potential compatibility.

The challenge will be pulling off this plan without the interference of Hattie's well-intended friends. However, Henry is very resourceful and thinks he may have an idea to squelch the resistance. Invite them to come along! Jill has five children under nine and Maggie is eight months pregnant. If nothing else, let's add fearless to Henry's list of accolades! Hattie has no idea what the end of this story will be, but she loves the premise and acknowledges that Henry has checked one of her "must have" boxes- he makes her laugh!