The Idiot Girls' Action-Adventure Club: True Tales From A Magnificent And Clumsy Life

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

The Idiot Girls’ Action-Adventure Club

Laurie Notaro
Author of Autobiography of a Fat Bride and I Love Everybody (and Other Atrocious Lies)

True Tales from a Magnificent and Clumsy Life

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Synopsis

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLERâ€”ve changed a bit since high school. Back then I said no to using and selling drugs. I washed on a normal basis and still had good credit.â€”Introducing Laurie Notaro, the leader of the Idiot Girls™ Action-Adventure Club. Every day she fearlessly rises from bed to defeat the evil machinations of dolts, dimwits, and creepy boyfriendsâ€”and thatâ€™s before she even puts on a bra. For the past ten years, Notaro has been entertaining Phoenix newspaper readers with her wildly amusing autobiographical exploits and unique life experiences. She writes about a world of hourly-wage jobs that require absolutely no skills, a mother who hands down judgments more forcefully than anyone seated on the Supreme Court, horrific high school reunions, and hangovers that leave her surprised that she woke up in the first place. The misadventures of Laurie and her fellow Idiot Girls (âœtoo cool to be in the Smart Groupâ€”) unfold in a world that everyone will recognize but no one has ever described so hilariously. She delivers the goods: life as we all know it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Did you ever love a book so much that as soon as you finished it you started reading it over again? This is one of those books! Laurie Notaro's self-deprecating humor and unique slant on life are a wonderful way to spend a few reading hours. Reading about Ms. Notaro making fun of not just herself but others including friends, neighbors, family and the occasional fellow bar patron made me laugh so hard I shook the bed and scared the cat. If you are an internet chat user of much duration you are familiar with the expression ROFLMAOSTC which is short for rolling on floor, laughing my
a-- off, scaring the cat and the chapter on Laurie's mom's attempts to learn how to use the internet will in particular strike home. I found her website which has more articles but I can't wait for her next book. It won't come soon enough.

This was one of the worst books I've ever read. I'm not sure how this ended up in my TBR pile. I assume someone recommended it to me and I'm certainly hoping that whoever it is never brings it up because this book was truly awful. It's touted as a novel but it's really basically a series of Ms. Notaro's really dull newspaper columns. Each story goes basically like this: 1 - Laurie gets drunk 2 - Laurie does something stupid like peeing her pants, driving while drunk or sleeping with someone she doesn't know 3 - Laurie thinks she's hilarious! I want to find this woman and tell her to stop encouraging her terrible lifestyle.

As I read each "chapter", I find that I can see her punchline coming a mile away. Notaro does a great job painting a picture of herself with these stories and I feel like she's sitting there next to me telling me how her visit with Nana went or how she's landed a job to get her mom off her back. But it's like you're listening to the loud girl at school. The one who wants every one to hear her funny story, but we're all kind of bored with her tales by now. Because she tries too hard and she's predictable. I can also tell by the gleam in her eye she thinks she's creating a hilarious set-up, but I know what she's going to say before she says it and I really wanted to like this book, and I feel bad writing a negative review. Usually I just wouldn't say anything, but I'm compelled to let people know I'm underwhelmed. It's not something I won't finish reading. But I wouldn't recommend it either.

There are a couple of gems, and her subjects are all situations women in their 20s-30s can relate to (being the butch protectress of your hot friend at bars, using public restrooms, trying to get male attention, how to get drunk faster (skip dinner)) but for the most part, Notaro is trying to be really clever, but has taken a long leap past the clever line and landed just shy of annoying and blatant. If you want self-deprecating humor and amusing family memoirs, spend your money on David Sedaris instead. It's not from a female perspective, but it's laugh-out-loud entertaining.

This book is great. Laurie Notoro is awesome. She has a self-deprecating sense of humor (e.g., when she talks about what it's like to be the "ugly friend"--priceless!) that makes her at once both hilarious and incredibly appealing. You either relate to her (I did) or even if you don't, at the very least, you've gotta sympathize with her daily life tragedies. This book seems to be a collection of mini-essays or past columns she's written. There's no overarching story, so if you're craving a
"story," then don't read this book. DO read this book, however, if you're craving light humor in small doses. The chapters are short, their topics engaging, and the writing hilarious. You can read the whole book in a day, or you can pick it up whenever and read a chapter or two, and then put it away again for a while. Either way works. The chapters are set up to be independent little stories so you won't feel like you've lost the "feel" of the book if you leave it for a while. Chances are, though, that you'll find the chapters so amusing that you'll come back before too long. Like my review summary states, there's at least one laugh out line per chapter...often times there'll be three or four. Some of her lines are so funny, I still smile whenever I think of them...which might explain the stupid smile I currently have my face as I type this review :-) I gave this book four stars rather than five because some of the bathroom references did tend to wear a little thin after a while, but that may just be me. It's completely consistent with the rest of her low brow humor (which I loved). But read it and decide for yourself. With or without the bathroom humor, this book is still absolutely hilarious and definitely worth a read!

Like a previous reviewer, I HAD to give it 1 star because wouldn't let me give this book ZERO stars. I received it as a gift and read the reviews AFTER I attempted to read it. I feel so bad that my cousin spent good money on this. First of all, being proud of being one of the "dumb ones" is sad...but I guess the joke is on us because she was smart enough to convince someone to publish this crap. I'm pretty sure I lost a few brain cells just reading the few pages I did. I made it through the 3rd chapter, skipped ahead and just knew I could not waste any more precious time on a book that is more cringe-worthy than laugh-worthy. I didn't even manage to crack a smile...it's THAT BAD. Apparently, this drivel comes up as a suggestion on if you are a fan of Jen Lancaster (of which I am). Um..., NO. Laurie Notaro isn't even in the same hemisphere as Jen Lancaster. Jen Lancaster can write a readable story. Oh, and she can make you laugh without resorting to potty humor. Spend your money elsewhere.

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