



The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic

Suzi Case

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Maggie Lane is a dreamer and a hopeless romantic. She wants to write a bestselling children's book, lose weight and fall in love before she hits 30. Unfortunately nothing seems to be going according to plan and she finds herself in the middle of a love triangle and signed up for a marathon when she can't even run a mile. What's a girl to do but write about it of course?

The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic Details

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From Reader Review The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic for online ebook

L.A. says

Posted first on the The Romance Reviews

Reading the pages of a diary seems so voyeuristic and with the comedy and thought process of the writer the developement is just plain fun. Following the life of Maggie Lane is fun and interesting through the pages of her diary. Her love life and her friendships are much of what we experience and the fun is unique enough to suck you in. This is a strange and addictive read, one I found hard to put down.

Maggie has set her plans in life, and finds love in the most absurd ways. She has some marvelous friendships and some turbulent ups and downs. While her goals seem unrealistic, she too is aware of just how silly they are, but they are hers and the keep her buoyed. She is in love with various move stars and one of her best friends from school, but she is just as sure that these are avenues that will never come to fruition. But then again, Ben often wants her opinion on his girlfriends; maybe he does secretly feel more for her than friendship. When she meets Blake at the gym, there is something about him as well. What is with her that she can't seem to determine who is right for her? Can she turn her life around and find the one?

I really enjoyed this book and the characters were quite wonderful. Each was unique and yet very much like those we all know. Maggie herself is quite funny, and her antics actually have a tendency to keep you smiling. She is very likable, and yet very real. She seems to be someone you could relate to.

With each of her successive guys, while there is some development of tenseness and even overtures of friend ship, there was never that heat that leaves you wanting them to get together. Each of the men in her life are very likable and you root for them all, but there is none of that—this is the one, she has to find a way with this one. You can feel the embarrassment, but not the attraction that generally gets your heart racing along with the heroine.

If you like a good and fun story this is certainly in that realm. The romance is there, just not the heat, so if you enjoy the funny and intricate ways of someone trying to find love, you will enjoy the banter. Case has a way with characters and humor. With just a bit more heat this would be a work of great romance.

This book was received as a review copy through the Romance Reviews. All opinions are my own based off my reading and understanding of the material.

Gloria says

Romantic comedy that could have finished in one book. Instead, the author has written two books and hopefully that second one has the complete ending!

I was not "in love" with this book; the beginning is great, I can hear the girl's voice in my mind - up to a certain point. That point being: her love interest is a lawyer and he talks about his partner, Bridget. For some people, like myself and my husband, we immediately thought it was a law office/business partnership. For

Maggie, the girl whose diary we are reading: she immediately thought it was a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship - the comedic aspect, I guess. Sadly, I was too aggravated by her assumption when love interest says partner in connection with a law firm she thinks boyfriend/girlfriend to be amused. She calls herself an idiot in chapter 23 (book has 24 chapters) and I cannot disagree with her.

Beccie says

Author Suzi Case gave me the opportunity to read and review “The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic”. I’m a romance junkie so this title immediately grabbed my attention. Maggie’s a very real character with flaws and insecurities and dreams that continue to go ignored. I enjoyed her wit and laughed several times while reading this story. I could relate with several of her thoughts and actions. The many humorous parts of the story could not however outshine my many dislikes. Although Maggie is a real and funny character, she’s not the brightest. She spends most of the story thinking the guy she’s in love with has a girlfriend all because he refers to her as his ‘partner’. Here’s the thing, he’s a lawyer and I as a reader understood he wasn’t in a romantic relationship with his ‘partner’ from the start. Maggie is also very self conscious about her weight. While this makes her real, the amount of time she spent focusing on it was annoying. She’s also a pushover, letting other people talk her into doing things she doesn’t really want to do. This is never a favorable character trait with me. I liked her crush, Blake, well enough. He seems like a decent guy and their childhood friendship added a cuteness factor but I didn’t feel any sizzling chemistry between the two. Aside from my dislike of the character, the story itself has a few grammar errors and mixed up character references. The ending was uneventful and unless this is the first of a series readers will be left unfulfilled. Nothing with Maggie is resolved, it just ends. I give “The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic” 2/5 stars. It wasn’t a bad read and it had its funny moments but the characters didn’t draw me. I know I would never reread this story and honestly wouldn’t remember to bring it up in conversation to recommend to others.

Mekerei says

A self absorbed dreamer

A lite bubblegum read.

Maggie is self absorbed who day dreams constantly.

This is the first book in a series. I didn’t enjoy it enough to read the next one.

Two and a half stars.

Melissa Simmons says

The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic was written by Suzi Case. Ms. Case contacted me about reading this book and after reading the synopsis, I thought it sounded great, right up my alley. This is a very fast read, with lots of humor and a great idea. It just never all came together for me.

The story is told from the point of view of Maggie, the main character. Try as I might, I just couldn't like her. It made it very hard for me to enjoy the story, honestly. Her incessant lying and sheer stupidity in some situations made it very hard for me to get behind her. I will say though, there was some growth in the character as the story progressed.

I did love Blake, Maggie's childhood friend who comes back into her life. He's the kind of guy all the girls lust over; sweet, handsome, successful and funny. It's very hard to NOT like him. He has a patience with Maggie that I found sweet and awe-inspiring at times, honestly and I really enjoyed his character.

I'm not a fan of cliffhanger endings, so I wasn't pleased with that, but I'm hoping there will be another installment so we can see if Maggie gets her life figured out and keeps on growing. All in all, I enjoyed a lot of the book, the tone was amusing and it was well-written. I think I would have enjoyed it more if Maggie was a little different. I do have hope for the sequel, though.

Literary Chanteuse says

The heroine of this story is the epitome of a chick in a chick lit story. Not so perfect but real and honest. The story has a lot of humor and just plain silliness that I really enjoyed. I also really liked the diary style. I was disappointed a bit with the ending although it seems like there will be a sequel it left me hanging a little too much. Otherwise very entertaining!

April says

Check out my other listens at Eargasms Audiobook Reviews

This is a really fun quirky read. I liked Maggie from the start, even if she is a bit dim at times. The misunderstanding about the "partner" was a low moment for her mentally. Other than that major mindslip, I found her delightful, if not a touch self absorbed.

I was laughing out loud several times and giggling more often than not. The relationships are sweet and the supporting characters interesting and engaging. I loved the whole dynamic Maggie has with all her friends. I especially love her playfulness she has with Blake. They are a delight to read when together.

The whole book is Maggie's POV, which isn't bad, just very one sided. You have to guess at what others are thinking unless they say something outright.

The narrator for this book is Anne Clamp, she is a delightful listen. I really liked her voice, great tone and pace. She made the book fly by, loads of energy added to the read. I am definitely going to look for more books read by her.

I was thoroughly enjoying my reading/listening experience and then BAM, it ended!! Out of the blue total cold ending, no real resolutions of HEA!!!! WTF!! I feel so cheated. Now I have to decide if I spend another credit to get the rest of the story!! Oh, guess what, there is a book out there that combines both parts. Wish I knew that before I bought this!!

I would have ranked this higher if it had not left me short. It was a entertaining read up until the ending cutting the book short! I am really not happy about having to spend more to get the last third of the book.

Susie says

The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic.

I found this book when it was offered on Amazon for free. I had it a few months before I recently found it. In all I found it a very quick and entertaining ready. Only took me a few hours to get through it on my Kindle.

The Pro's of the book, I related quite well with Maggie's character, I had a few grins reading her mental dialogue as I have too, had similar dialogue. Can relate to her crushes and being a push over for the most part. The tone related well with what I like to read and what I write myself (when I do write), another thing I can relate to her character putting of writing a book, as I have been doing.

The Con's for me, some of the naivety of Maggie was a bit over the top, in my opinion, there were a few character references and toward the end the name of Maggie's brother went from Chad to Brian??? I had to go back and make sure I read it correctly. The one thing that was a big turn off was how it ended.. it just stopped. I appreciated the note that said the 2nd book was coming and I'm looking forward to seeing what happens.

Missy says

Such a cute story, can't wait till part 2 comes out this summer!!!

Jamee Pritchard says

The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic is an entertaining and engaging read. Its heroine, Maggie Lane, is reminiscent of Bridget Jones with her cluelessness and crazy antics. The author, Suzi Case, proves to have a command for writing hilarious and cringe-worthy scenes within a first person diary format. Though her secondary characters are not well developed, her main character makes up for it. Maggie seems real and easy to connect with. She isn't a perfect heroine and struggles with real life issues such as losing weight, succeeding in her career, and finding love.

The book starts off at a fast, entertaining pace, but loses some of its momentum towards the middle. It begins to feel rushed and the continuity is off. Case clearly set her novel up to have a sequel with such a frustrating and abrupt ending. Although I can probably guess the outcome of her next book, I can't wait to read it. I recommend this book to chick lit lovers who love a good laugh and a touch of romance.

Shannon Fuhrman says

This book is about Maggie. Maggie reminds me of your typical woman. She wants to lose weight, meet a man, likes her job but would rather be doing something else. Basically, this book tells the story of Maggie's life for a few months. She goes on dates, has fights with her friends, pines after guys, etc. I was very bored with this book; I felt like all it was was Maggie complaining about her life. It was exactly like real life, which is boring. No body wants to read about what goes on in your actual life. That's why we read books - to escape reality! The only saving point in this book and the only reason it got three stars from me was Blake, Maggie's childhood friend that she reconnects with and ends up liking. He was funny and just livened up the story. The scenes that he wasn't in I rushed through until he was there again just so I could laugh and smile. The story was just finally picking up the pace and then it ends. Now, the e-book version that I bought of this contained the second book in it. I don't know why there are two books, they should just combined into one with one title, because it cuts off in such an awkward place. I'm looking forward to the second book, though to see what happens to Maggie, Blake, and the others. Hopefully the pace stays how it was toward the end. & I pray that Blake continues to be in the story otherwise this is going to go downhill fast.

Margaret says

I was approached by the author for a review of this book. No compensation has been received for a positive review. All opinions in this review are my honest opinions after reading the book.

I wasn't sure about reviewing this book. I'm super picky about my chick-lit and tend to shy away from it unless it's an author that I know or has been recommended to me by friends, so it was an absolute pleasant surprise when I got into this story and fell instantly in love with it.

I love Maggie. I am -so- Maggie. I can totally relate to her and it was great. I can relate to her being boy-crazy, even in her 20's. I could relate to her friendships as well. I could see myself in her shoes quite easily and for me, that's one of the most important things I look for in a book.

I haven't laughed as much as I did while reading this book. I could not stop reading once I started, either. My only complaint was where it ended. It was so abrupt that if I had been reading a paperback, I would have thrown it.

Natalie says

Almost liked it

I would have given this book 5 stars, I just hate books that have plots totally based off of a simple misunderstanding. This story could have been summed up in one book.

Judy says

The Shameful Diary of a Hopeless Romantic by Suzi Case

I really enjoyed the humor in this book, it had me giggling out loud. And I could really relate to Maggie Lane. Maggie had a list of things she wanted to do by age thirty. She has three years to achieve these goals. First she needed to lose weight and yet after a minute or so of running she would be exhausted, ditto. She also wanted to write childrens books, all the ideas were in her head but she was too lazy to put them on paper. Her dog, Lucy, was a bit lazy too so they got along great. Also on her list was to get married. She had her sites on her co-worker Ben Bonkers and movie star Bradley Cooper. When she runs into her brother's friend from her younger years, Blake, she falls for him too. She is a dreamer but realizes that she needed to work on what was real. She tries online dating when everyone she cares for seems to be out of reach. How do you tell when someone is really a doctor?

The book is written from only Maggie's point of view. Each chapter starts with her writing in her diary and then what happened that day. It ends in such a way that we know there will be another book on the way.

**Mild language.

Leah Sperlongano says

I really enjoyed reading this book. The major cons were that it was fairly predictable and of course all the unfinished business at the ending. The Pros? I loved the characters. They were very easy to relate to. I adored Maggie and her supportive friends. I wish I had girlfriends like hers. Blake is a sweet guy who is genuine. The joking and friendship between Maggie & Blake is much like a friend I have had most of my life. The author nailed it. Overall it's a feel good and believable story where nothing seems forced. It was a quick read with lots of laughs and I hope the next book leaves me just as satisfied if not more.
