



The Clique

Lisi Harrison

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Enter the world of the clique - where the only thing harder than getting in is staying in.

The Clique Details

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From Reader Review The Clique for online ebook

Sophia Sardothien says

I remember when I was grade 5 and I was so freaking obsess with this series it's insane.

eva steele-saccio says

This is a terrible book, part of a series that is at the top of many children's bestseller lists. It is part of that huge chunk of media that reinforces cruel behavior among teenage girls. Here are the popular and rich kids (no coincidence that the two traits go together): Massie, Bridget, Alicia, and Kristen. Here is the pretty, nice, and middle class girl, Claire, who only has one pair of jeans. They are white and from the gap. And she wears Platform Keds. Let's devote 100 pages to how the Clique tortures Claire to the extreme, 50 pages to how she gets them back, and another 50 pages to how she STILL DESPERATELY wants to be friends with them. The saddest part of it is that they are in 7th grade and wear \$780 gucci halter tops. All they care about is designer clothing and cruelty. There are some brief glances of humanity, but for the most part it is devoid of any intelligent or real sentiment. It saddens me that this is the most popular series that young women are reading. It really does. I won't go off onto a tirade about how culture has devolved into this, but really this book is evil at its purest.

Molly says

Um, yeah. So the teen girls at the library are crazy about this series, so I decided to see what it was about. It's ridiculous. It centers around a group of vapid, cruel girls, and how our main character really wants to be a part of their clique. And there's no sense of self-realization, where she discovers she's better off, or where she comes to terms with who she is. No- we're just left with the impression that if she works hard enough, maybe she'll be able to get in the clique. I think that the popularity of this book is a sad reflection on how hard it is to be a young girl in the 21st century. Seriously.

Julia says

These books are great, plus they are totally unexpected! I was just looking for a book that would be simple to read and since I am a girl, some that would be real easy to relate to. Well, I saw this book in the store and I thought this would be a perfect over-the-top take on modern day middle school cliques and after I started reading it I realized I was not reading what I thought I was reading, it was something BETTER! These books talk about a 12-year-old, clothing obsessed girl named Massie who lives in Westchester, New York (totally rich!) and goes to an all girls school where she heads the population of the 7th grade along with her 3 best friends. One day a middle class sweet girl named Claire moves in with Massie and she is forced to hang around her. Of course Claire wants to be a part of this exclusive clique but all Massie does is bring her down. The book really shows how mean girls can be when they do the simplest things. Now I know what you're thinking "this is just another book about a bunch of snotty, rich girls embarrassing a poor sweet girl". These books, though, I can assure you are a lot better than what they seem. Although I would really recommend

this book, at times the book can seem unrelated just because these girls are mega rich. Also as the series goes on the different things the girls run into (being in Teen Vogue, starring in a major movie) become unrealistic. Even though this is a teen novel, the author writes the book very cleverly and you can hardly put the book down. I would recommend this book even for an adult to at least try. I give this book 4 stars.

Stephanie O. says

I'll say this from the start- the book is quite good, but shallow. No depth, nothing. I can't say I didn't enjoy putting down some more agonizing reads that took me a while to understand like Wuthering Heights and sit down with it and just relax, but it isn't a work of literature. A good book, don't get me wrong. Read it if you wish- avoid it if you're looking for something more serious.

Nikki G. says

I am currently reading the Clique by Lisi Harrison. I am almost done with the book and I am really excited. In the book Claire sneaks into Massie's room and starts emailing Massie's friends, but she doesn't get away with it for long. In the part that I am at, Massie gets introduced to her crushes girlfriend. In the beginning I thought I was like Claire, but what I just read where she sneaks into Massie's bedroom well I don't think we are very close anymore. The author, Lisi Harrison, did a great job explaining what the 5 girls look like, some examples are cherry red lips, and fiery red hair. Over all I would definitely give this book 5 stars.

Mayla says

This clique consists of four rich girls by the names of, Massie, Dylan, Kristen, and Alicia. When the new girl, Claire comes in, drama starts to fill up the halls of Octavian Country Day School. Claire is different from them; her family is far from rich (that's why she moved into Massie Block's "mansion"), she doesn't wear designer clothing like the clique, she doesn't know what it takes to be cool, and would do anything to get accepted into the clique.

The author really knows how to surprise us with everything Massie does to Claire. I know the feeling of what Claire might be feeling when it comes to making friends with the clique. I bet every girl has had that "mean girl" in your school that you just can't get rid of. You try so hard to be her friend, but she still tortures you in many ways. And it's not that she doesn't like you or anything, she just wants to act big in front of everyone and pretend that she doesn't care.

This book is an excellent book to read. It portrays the true behavior of some teenage girls, who just have to get everything they want and everything they need. It has on-going drama and it's the introduction of "The Clique Series".

Christine says

This book was terrible, not my taste at all. I gave it a try. Something different from what I normally read. All

it is is over 200 pages of annoying, rich teenage girls, doing stupid annoying stuff. I can't stand teenage school girl gossip. I try and stay as far away from it as possible. However, if you like reading about girls who have lots of money who scheme behind each others backs, this book would be perfect for you. I think you would really enjoy it.

Jean says

I think the story stinks! Four little rich girls (one not really rich, but lying about it so she can be in "The Clique" and one new girl who seems like she might actually be a great kid, but in the story is apparently willing to sell her soul, if she can get into "The Clique."

The rich girls are mean to everyone, including each other, they have no idea that money is not the be all and end all - they say the word poor as if it is something totally disgusting and that the poor somehow choose to be in their condition. The only two characters in the book worth knowing might be Layne and her brother Chris - also very rich kids, but somehow seemed to manage to be real people. They are at least somehow aware that other people exist and have feelings.

I am sad that this is such a popular series with young people 12+ because it is possible that they have to deal with mean-spirited, selfish, vapid kids in their own life and this book gives them no real answers about how to deal with them. The book seems to say "The Clique" not only exists, but is OK!

I gave it two stars because Ms. Harrison's technical writing skills are good, but as I said the story line sucks and she is, sadly, of no help to the youth who read her work.

Azra says

Let me get this straight everyone has a different perspective on this. Mine was that this book was incredibly shallow. The Name Brand Dropping is enough to go one mad. I find that terribly unrealistic seriously what 12 year old wears Chanel, Ralph Lauren, Gucci and ect. I don't think any of them.

Each character I feel is more annoying then the last. I know i'm being harsh on this book but after all everyone's open to there thoughts and this is mine. Massie Block is supposed to be fabulous, perfect, pretty and everyone wants to be her. The leader of The Pretty Committee. Come on? Who is actually like that. Who's got a perfect life, with all these beautiful friends, all these admirers and then has just a fantabulous wardrobe. Oh yeah and how could you forget that her biggest problem is that she has a girl that's actually nice that's staying with her but opps can't hang with me unless those Converse and ugly bangs are gone.

Then there's Claire. She's worse then Massie! All she ever does is complain and whine and spends half the time wasting her time trying to be friends with Massie just because she's popular and pretty and everyone loves her. In the end she's just as bad as Massie and will do anything just for everyone to like her and I just find her annoying.

Kristen, Dylan and Alicia to me exist to be nothing more then Massie's little gang of wannabe friends. The only character that I slightly liked was Layne. Layne because unlike the high society witches was actually different and didn't bother trying to be a Massie Clone.

Overall this makes me wonder what's wrong with the world today? Or just with the writer this was not worth my time and I should have put it down by the first chapter instead of wasting my time. Frankly I will not be reading any of the other books.

Lexi says

Catty, catty girls!!!!

Every girl in this book can be mean but Massie beats them all! She hates Claire from the minute she sees her because her style isn't Florida's apparent style. Massie and her group of friends, Kristen, Dylan, and Alicia, have it all. The fame, the money, and the friends. When Claire's family comes and comes to stay in Massie's guesthouse, she goes crazy. She had yet to know of all the crazy things these girls do so they can restore the natural order of things. They put red paint on her pants and they even threw salmon on her!!!! Massie is controlling it all because the other members of the Pretty Committee are actually getting along with her. Because when Massie was out with a boy named Chris, who already had a girlfriend, so she was blowing off her friends. And her timing was horrible! She got back home a few hours later than she told her friends, so they were left with Claire and ended up having fun in the pool without Massie knowing, until she walked in on them and her friends ran to her side. Claire, not knowing what to do, layed out by the pool and Massie had her friends play mean tricks on her! They put food on her! Even though the Dylan, Alicia, and Kristen were having a good time singing and playing with each other in the pool, mean Massie had them throw food on her!!! But Massie didn't know what was coming next...

Crystal 2 says

I knew girls were mean, but I never thought that they would take it this far. (This is why I can count on one hand how many female friends I have.) This book is a slight exaggeration of how far four best friends will go to hold their titles as the most envied girls in school. There are five main characters which are the best friends and one outcast. Massie Block, who is spoiled and out of control, Dylan Marvil, who is very insecure and covers it up by being uncontrollably rude, Alicia Rivera, who is arguably the prettiest and meanest one out of the whole crew, and Kristen Gregory, who is the brightest one and unfortunately the one sporting the new ugliest hair cut? but she pulls it off. Last but not least there is Claire Lyons who moves into Massie Block's guest house. From the moment that Claire moves in it is hell on earth. The four best friends consistently taunt her and make her cry, and the craziest thing about this situation is the more they mess with her the more she wants to be their friends. She might actually get her wish, but when she does she might also lose herself. Will she realize that the more she hangs out with them the more she finds herself turning into "The Clique", and doing the terrible things that come along with it? With much popularity comes much responsibility

Sangeeta says

I am writing this review not as part of the middle-school audience this book is targeted towards, but as an indignant college student looking back on a book series that may (hopefully not) have influenced my eighth-grade perceptions. There are numerous things wrong with not just this book, but The Clique series as a whole.

I can't begin to describe how shallow these books are. While a depiction of this sort of lifestyle can make for good entertainment, that is only the case when it is paired with a plot that contains some substance. The plot of these books, on the other hand, precisely mirrored the he-said/she-said drama that characterized middle school life. Reading the books as an eighth grader, I found them relatable but not interesting. Reading them now, I am disgusted. The books depict wealth as the ultimate aim for everyone, even middle-school girls, to aspire to. Our protagonist, Claire, is depicted as a normal girl; she cannot afford the \$780 tank tops that members of the clique wear. (Why anyone would wear a \$780 tank top to middle school is far beyond me.) However, the girls in the clique don't accept Claire, and she is bullied and tormented by them. I also recall Kristen, the only truly "poor" character in the series, cutting out the alligator that represents some high-end clothing brand (Lacoste?) and sewing it into generic-brand polos to make them appear expensive. I know I sound cliched right now, and I probably sound like my mother, but if the clique were Kristen's true friends, she wouldn't have had to put up that pretense. It would have been understandable if the clique's exclusivity were somehow portrayed as wrong or (what it really was) catty, but (at least it seemed this way to me) it was what the book series caused readers to aspire to. I read these books five years ago, and I still remember how beautiful Massie was, how thin her wrists were, etc. These girls were never portrayed as having anything wrong with them. The young, somewhat naive middle school girls who read these books, rather than seeing the clique as a group of shallow (excuse my language) bitches, aspired to be like them.

(Curious side note: after reading this book, five girls in my eighth-grade class dubbed themselves "The Leonardtown Clique." Needless to say, I was not part of said clique. However, I'm not writing this review out of bitterness. I'm proud to say that, especially after attending Penn, I have become comfortable with myself, even if I don't have \$780 tank tops... or fake, plastic friends. I'm so thankful to be friends with the Claires and the Kristens of the world, instead of the Massies.)

Another, albeit smaller, issue I had with the book has to do with one specific incident. If I remember correctly, Alicia had just returned from Spain, and said something in Spanish, to which Massie replied something to the effect of "it takes her time to remember she's American." This leaves readers with the impression (at least it left eighth-grade me with the impression) that expressing one's ethnic identity is somehow "uncool." It told me that "cool" was confined to one specific mold: thin, rich, and white. I get it, in-groups and out-groups. Basic psychology. Everyone wants to be in the in-group. The clique was almost homogeneously white- even Alicia always "acted white" and was apparently chastised for doing otherwise.

Congratulations, Lisi Harrison. In eighth grade, I was neither thin nor rich (and I was certainly not white). Your books managed to make the already low self-esteem of eighth-grade me plummet even more. I didn't fit the mold, I thought, so I would never be cool-- or well liked or, most importantly, happy. Your books teach middle schoolers all the wrong things. Call me an idealist, but I'd like to think it's not money that matters. It's not the freshly waxed eyebrows or Coach charm bracelets or Gucci tank tops that make a personality, friendships, or happiness. In spite of the messages conveyed in your shallow, fluffy books, I have finally taught myself that it's okay to be yourself; your broke, "uncool," ethnic self. In a final throwback to your books, I'd like to see myself as the pre-clique Claire, the one that only has one pair of jeans. This one's for all the other pre-clique Claires out there.

Louisa says

PARENTS: read the bottom half of this before letting your middle schoolers read it.

These books are an awful influence. I am in High School now, and I read all of them in the seventh grade

religiously. I told people that I read them because I thought that they were funny, and that's actually what I told myself.

One of the main problems in this book is that there is so sense of right and wrong. The "clique" is glorified and the average girls who just be themselves are tortured. Absolutely NO consequences, the clique just goes on untouched and is worshipped by everyone, including what seems like the author.

Middle school years are cliquey, and its all about what clique you're in. These books actually crushed my confidence because I knew that I couldn't act like or afford to dress like any of those girls. Whatever the case was, I continued to read these books and stuck post-it notes in pages where Massie Block said something cool or witty. In the defining years of middle school, these books give the total wrong impression. I am SO happy to be in High School, by the way.

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You think I'm being dramatic? Look at some of the things my middle school friend wrote recently. Also keep in mind that she was an EXTREMELY intelligent, confident, and thoughtful girl before this.:)

"Ehmagawd. Kayla is in the same class as Harry which is totally not good! And to make it worse, Mary is in the class too! Harry's girlfriend! I mean what the hay!"

"OMG, Molly soooo likes Danny! I mean he's crushing on her and she always talks about how he luvvvvvvssss her SO much. SO AH-NOYING! OMG- NERD-ALERT!!"

about an overweight girl in her class: "Oh yeah! I have the perf name for Janie Kelly: Jiggly Janie. It's like Hefty Hannah from Pretty Little Liars! I won't call her that to her face but stuh-ill! Total Jiggle monster! Ehmagawd, I kinda hope she is considered a loser next year! LOL! Asta la Vista Jiggly Janie!"

"I am in DESPERATE need of a new wardrobe makeover! I mean, ew! I want to be popular next year, totally cah-yute! THAT is my goal for next year- BYE BYE old, boring me and HELLO new one!
xoxoxooxoxoox"

"Remember: don't keep forgiving."

Swimstar101 says

Meet the Clique: Massie Block - with her glossy brunette bob and clear white smile, Massie is the uncontested ruler of the Clique and the rest of the social scene at Octavian Country Day School, an exclusive private school at Westchester, New York. Dylan Marvil - Massie's second in command, Dylan divides her time between sucking up to Massie and sucking down Atkins shakes to try to get rid of the extra fifteen pounds that won't seem to leave her hips alone. Alicia Rivera - as sneaky as she is beautiful, Alicia floats easily under the adult radar because she seems so 'sweet'. Would love to take Massie's throne one day. Might just do it... Kristen Gregory - Kristen has been dying to fit in ever since her parents went broke. She's smart, hard-working and will insult you to tears faster than you can say 'scholarship kid'. Claire Lyons - the new girl from Florida, Claire is staying in the guesthouse on Massie's family estate. She is definitely not Clique material, yet Massie's family insist that Claire is included in her gang. Claire's future looks worse than a bad

Prada knock-off, but with a little luck and a lot of scheming, she might just come up smelling of Chanel No.19...

(Summary taken from www.google.com)

Eunice says

(I've read a couple books from the series so this isn't only a review on the first one.)

I admit that this book is entertaining, watching girls throw around their money without a second thought about the starving kids in Africa (yes I know that everyone's tired of the phrase but it's true, and only a visit to a third world country can make you realize that.) - but that's all I can really get from it.

1. Great detail that can give the reader a sharp and vivid image in their minds and a series of twists and turns to keep them interested, but in the end, it all just comes down to pretty, popular, rich girls whose only goals in life is to date the cute boys, and take trips to the mall every. single. frickin'. day. "Ehmahgaa~wd!" (Sp? Forgive me, I don't speak bimbo.) How original! Really! "Mean Girls" anyone?

Only here's the borderline between the two - "Mean Girls" actually had a POINT and a MORAL. What was Clique's point? Acting like a bitch gets you somewhere in life? Bring other people down just to make yourself feel better? Friends are fakes? Shows how bright and cheery our beautiful world of teenagers really is, huh?

2. Somehow I find these characters (who are only thirteen and think that they can control the universe) are very unrealistic. But then again, I've never been into materialism so it's hard for me to understand why a girl would only think of "Chanel. Chanel. Chanel. Prada. Prada. Prada. Blah. Blah. Blah. Designer. Designer. Designer." (Makes me wonder what their grades are in school.) But then again, they're middle schoolers, and they come from wealthy families, so no wonder they don't really think about their futures. (Or rather, they fantasize about their future careers.)

3. Clique is also a bad influence for middle schoolers, which I believe is the main group of people the book is aiming to interest. And I'm not just saying that out of assumption. I've met preteens and kids in their early teen years gushing over Massie and her awesomeness, and then bragging about their OWN wealth. "My family owns (insert a double digit number here) acres of laa~and!" "My daddy owns a huuuge company~!" "My room is twice the size of your bedroom~" Blah. Blah. Blah. That's *wonderful* kids. Guess how many people in the world don't even HAVE a place to call home? (And Massie isn't really the best role model/character to look up to...)

I realize that the series isn't finished yet, so maybe the lesson of this whole whatever will reveal itself in the final chapters. Too bad I won't be reading those last few pages because I'd rather read books that are worth my time. But I hope that in the end, "Kuh-laire" will realize what a bunch of losers her so called "friends" are and will gain a lot more self-confidence (after LEAVING them and their stupid club!)

(PS - In case you were wondering, I numbered the paragraphs to show my different points. I can't type persuasive essays because I always ramble on to something different.)

Delores says

The review that was promised is finally here.

I don't like clique's. I never have. They suck. It hurts to be excluded. I felt for the excluded party. It was definitely an interesting and fun book. I would like to read more by this author.

Jane says

I hated it. Every. Last. Stinking. Page. Miss Harrison crafts a set of 4 wealthy, airheaded sluts, and then adds in a girl who is an outcast for wearing Keds (WTF?) and eventually sells her soul so she doesn't have to endure the major emotional trauma of being made fun of sometimes (I repeat, WTF?!). It really is rather silly, and makes middle school girls idolize the wrong people. In terms of being able to relate to the main characters, Massie makes Regina George in Mean Girls look like Bella Swan. Even Regina had emotional depth and some humanness. Whenever Lisi Harrison attempts to bring some of this into her own writing, it comes off as weak and shallow, and gets drowned out by the characters' near constant gabbing on the complex social issue of "Oh mah gawwwwd, what purse should I wear, the Prada or the Coach? OMG" No one is really like that, but these unrealistic characters are becoming role models. And that scares me.

Tracie says

Why do the main characters have to be so unlikable? From Alicia, who acts as though she suffers from depression because she has large breasts, and Massie, who hates her parents because she can't go to a spa day with her friends and has to stay in her multi-million dollar home. Oh my God - THEIR LIVES ARE SO HARD.

It's not that I have a thing about rich girl books. I'm actually quite a fan of the Pretty Little Liars series, which also stars rich girls doing their rich girl thing. The difference between Pretty Little Liars and the Clique is this - in Pretty Little Liars, there is a point other than reading about how awesome and popular and rich the main characters are, especially the richest and the prettiest one is. There is an outside conflict, the characters have flaws, and they don't go into spastics if they have to go a day without shopping. The Clique is the opposite. You are reading nothing more than a story about five spoiled little girls who think their money gives them the right to act like bitches to everyone around them.

Oh, and if you don't have obscene amounts of money? You suck, your life sucks, and everyone you enjoy being around sucks. The main characters would apologize for how much your life sucks, but talking to you sucks, so they won't.

And, as I've said before, these girls have no clue what it's like to have an actual problem. They go around like not being able to shop for a month is the worst thing that could possibly happen to them - news flash, that isn't a problem. The problem is that you're a spoiled brat who's never been told no before.

Please, someone, burn these books.

Joe says

Ehmagod.

Reading *The Clique* is like attending an All-You-Can-Eat Cupcake Buffet where the hosts force you to gorge for three hours straight.

Upon receiving the invitation, you become immediately aware that the concept works better on paper than it does in execution. In fact, you might find yourself justifying your very intentions for participating, but still feel a guilty pleasure in the undertaking. Who knows? You might wind up enjoying yourself... even if you have to hide it from your friends. And if you hate yourself in the morning? That's okay. Life is for the living, and this is going to be an *experience*!

So you put on a bib and enter the buffet, only to realize that the cupcakes aren't from a lavish gourmet bakery. They're store-bought Entenmann's.

But you've signed up to participate! You can't back out now! Steeling your willpower, you grab the first artificially-flavored cupcake and nibble on the grade-D quality icing. You think, for the first and only time, "Yeah, this isn't going to be pleasant, but I can do it. I'll just pace myself." Nibble, nibble.

And that's when the host mashes the cupcake into your mouth and screams, "**Eat it, you filthy pig! Eat it!**" And with tears streaming down your face and pounds of terrible, gritty cake in your mouth, you come to the horrifying realization that if you had only trusted your gut instinct, you wouldn't be choking to death.

Hour Two hits, and your stomach is in full-on revolution mode. Every time your barf gland is irritated, another damned Entemann's is slammed down your gullet, preventing anything from coming up. You plead for mercy. You promise your first born child. You question the existence of God. You question your own morals. You choke down another cupcake. Another plaid-clad, bitchy cupcake.

"This is disgusting," you think. "This is base! There's no point to any of this!" You begin to slide out of consciousness, but another frosted Hell Cake is shoved into your mouth. Time, however, is soon on your side. The minutes are closing in, the seconds are ticking by... your three hours are almost up.

The alarm rings.

You vomit.

And you want to buy yourself a Burberry scarf.
