
Cecil Castellucci

The Plain Janes (Janes #1)



By the highly acclaimed author of *Boy Proof* and *The Queen of Cool*

THE PLAIN JANES



CECIL CASTELLUCCI
and **JIM RUGG**

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Author: Cecil Castellucci

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Description

For use in schools and libraries only. Four girls named Jane are anything but ordinary once they form a secret art girl gang and take on Suburbia by painting the town P.L.A.I.N.--People Loving Art In Neighborhoods.

Insightful reviews

Chibineko: I'm a little undecided as to what I feel about this book.

On one hand, this definitely achieved its goal of being a quirky and offbeat book. On the other hand, it isn't perfect. The book tends to jump between scenes too quickly and doesn't flesh out the characters as much as I'd have liked them to be. I also had problems imagining that the town would get that angry and freaked out over the town being art bombed. I've lived in my fair share of ultra-conservative areas where groups would art bomb highly visible objects, yet it was never treated like it was practically a terrorist act. I can't help but think that if the characters and environments had been developed just a teensy bit more, this could have been more believable.

The overall story is rather good, however, and I absolutely loved the artwork and character designs. Our main Jane is nice but it's her fellow Jane sidekicks that really deserved more focus and attention. They're blissfully, wonderfully imperfect in both their personalities and appearances- a nice change from the beautiful, talented, and more stereotypical "alternative" main character of Jane. (She's likable, but come on- she's pretty much your typical alternative stereotype, not that this is necessarily an avoidable or even a bad thing in this book.)

I have to say that if you have the ability to read this, I'd recommend it. I'm just not sure that it will be a "must buy" for all readers. It certainly will be something that some readers will need to own, but for the rest of us this will be something we'll read at the library and check out again as desired.

Ami: A group of ~~stereotypes~~ diverse friends named Jane (or a variation thereof) form a secret art girl gang that makes art "attacks" at night in public places. The main character survived an actual bomb attack in her former home city, during which she found a sketchbook from a man next to her who ended up in a coma. She writes to him throughout the story. I'm not making it sound quite as cool as it was, and it's a unique idea for a book, especially the guy-centric world of graphic novels. Loved that part.

Tahira: Loved this graphic novel. Thought it was an enjoyable and provocative read for alternative youth. The content addresses serious issues without being overly dramatic. I especially appreciated the commentary on art in times of tragedy, fear and suspicion. Creative, eclectic and brave, I think this is a great novel for feminist-minded (and aspiring feminist-minded) folk.

Jackie "the Librarian": Take again your world! Jane survives a bomb attack, and her freaked out mom and dad circulate the relations to the "safer" suburbs. yet Jane takes the spirit of town

together with her - she has a plan, she simply must prepare a group to hold it out. Then she spots the opposite Janes within the lunchroom, and shortly convinces them to hitch her in her guerilla paintings projects. i admire the energetic function those women take, and the humor and positiveness of what they do. and that i love that those are actual women portrayed with sensible appears and personalities. Very beautiful - i would like extra Jane stories!

Kate McCartney: i admire this book. probably it used to be simply because I continuously proposal what the Gorrila Grrlz did was once so cool. i like that the Jane's do random acts of artwork of their suburban town. i admire the way it calls into query the place our priorities lie within the frightening global we're presently dwelling in. construction extra buying centers, implementing curfews and terror signals will not be how one can calm fears. I even loved how just about all the characters (The police officer excluded) all have been great. even if you're thinking that the preferred woman goes to be the nemsis, she too desires greater than to dwell less than restrictions.

Olivia Williford: Writing variety Grade: C :: three starsArt kind Grade: C :: three starsCharacter Grade: C- :: 2.5 starsStory Rating: 2.5 stars = C-I did not like this up to i presumed I would. The characters were not fleshed out like I had was hoping they might be. the various occasions that occurred were not very realistic, and that i had a difficult time liking this picture novel.

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