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The New Beginnings Coffee Club: Sunshine And Second Chances In The Only Feel-good Read You Need This Summer



Synopsis

Pick up a latte and relax into this cosy read that's chock-full of surprises! - Mandy Baggot Everyone deserves a second chance - don't they? Jenny Masters finds herself living the modern dream. Wife to a millionaire, living in a mansion and mother to Kardashian-obsessed ten-year-old April, there isn't anything missing. Until, her whole world comes crashing down, forcing Jenny and April to leave behind their glittering life and start over with nothing. With village gossip following her wherever she goes, she finds refuge and a job in the new coffee shop in town. As the days pass Jenny fears she doesn't have what it takes to pick herself back up and give April the life she always wanted to. But with the help of enigmatic new boss Noah, and housemate Elle, Jenny realises it's never too late to become the woman life really intended you to be! What reviewers are saying about The New Beginnings Coffee Club: "One of the freshest, captivating, and inspiring contemporary fiction novels that I have read in a very long time" Books of all Kinds "A fantastic, charming story." With Love For Books "What a great story for your holiday reading, wonderful characters and written superbly by a great author." Karen "A wonderful, beautiful read." Whispering Stories Book Blog "What I truly loved about this novel was the sentiment of if you want to change something you can." Hayley Reviews

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Customer Reviews

The New Beginnings Coffee Club sounded like the perfect summer read, just the thing to kick off the weeks of sunshine and cool drinks (frappuccinos, anyone?) ahead. Sadly, once I started reading the book, I found that it lacked the spark I thought it might have after sampling the summary. It relies quite heavily on cliches of the genre: a wife, whose entire identity has become wrapped up in her husband and child, finds out her husband is cheating on her (with her "best friend" no less) and she must find the strength to create a new life for herself and her daughter. Jenny, the protagonist and wife in question, was perplexing. She didn't come from money and while she's gotten used to certain comforts being married to a millionaire, her utter lack of sense regarding the real world astounded me. Surely she couldn't have forgotten everything in only ten years? What it's like to not pay hundreds or even thousands for silly little things? It was odd when compared to the fact that she was the only one between her and her husband that could see selling their mansion was the only way to make some dent in their near bankrupt state. She got slightly better over time, getting back to the fashion ideas she had as a college student, so that is something in the way of her development. What I didn't like about her, even as we got toward the end of the book, was that she kept making excuses for Zak's behavior regarding her friend/housemate, Elle, and their own relationship. He says and does things that are reprehensible and yet Jenny makes excuse after excuse. I get that he is the father of her child, but that doesn't mean letting him get away with murder like this. Aside from the problems I had with Jenny's character, I didn't get much of a sense of familiarity with many of the people that she came into contact with in the village: Noah (the new love interest), Martini (a grandmother whose grandchild makes friends with April), etc. The person I liked the most was Elle, whose story I found much more fascinating than Jenny's, to be honest. Something I noticed was that the gossip that is alluded to in the summary actually has next to nothing to do with Jenny at all and more to do with Elle and the revelation that she's transgender. It's strange that they make Elle's story about Jenny and how it affects her. It didn't rub me wrong in the moment, but thinking back on it I get an off feeling and don't care for how Elle's unwilling outing was used as a plot device. Setting was not a problem, exactly, just not as necessary to the story as the title made it seem like it would be. The shop attached to Noah's cottage, where Jenny and April

end up living, could have been any kind of shop and it wouldn't have mattered one whit to the overall plot. We didn't hear enough about Noah's supposed coffee bean passion, except a couple of sentences at the beginning, to make it a worthwhile setting. The writing was a letdown as well. It didn't have anything special to offer, which saddened me, because good writing can make up for an awful lot in a substandard or bare bones plot, but I didn't get any of that here. This was, regrettably, not the summer escape read I thought it would be. I received a copy of this book from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Zak Masters is the head of the fashion house, Elite Eleganz. His wife, Jenny, has a good life married to a millionaire, and living in a lovely home with their precious 10-year-old daughter, April. Jenny wears beautiful clothes, jewelry, shoes, and can afford to belong to spas and such. April attends a private school with the children of some of their rich friends. One evening, Zak tells Jenny he wants to go out for a special dinner as he wants to discuss something with her. She had been thinking of talking to him about her finishing college in fashion design. But when Zak confesses that the business is bankrupt, plus Zak and their rich friend, Chanelle, are together, she is shocked. He tells her that their lovely home will have to be sold too. Jenny decides that she will look for a job and is hired by Noah and Elle who run the popular coffee shop in town called The Coffee Club. As Jenny has been used to being just a customer, it is hard to think of herself as an employee. But she is determined to learn and try to ignore the looks and gossip from her former friends. Jenny soon learns that Chanelle plans on moving into her home, so Noah and Elle agree to let Jenny and April move into their loft above the coffee shop where Jenny and April can share a room. In addition, Jenny moves April from the expensive private school to a local school. These changes are difficult for April to accept but she tries hard and Jenny finds ways to help reward her for her cooperation. But Zak continues to try and throw roadblocks to thwart any plans Jenny has for April. He wants to keep her in the private school and wants her to live with him and Chanelle. He keeps threatening to take her to court. Jenny settles in with her new friends, Noah and Elle, who are so helpful and kind to both she and April. As they get to know one another better, they all open up and share their lives. Will Jenny be able to keep April and raise her or will Zak do as he threatens and take her away? This is a very involved story that tugs at the heart strings and shows how people can come together and form close friendships as they help one another. I don't wish to add any more teasers because they could easily turn into spoilers. I enjoyed the story very much but found the grammar to be atrocious. "Me and Zak, Me and her, etc." shows the need for a good editor to be brought in. Thus, I gave the book 4 stars instead of 5 stars. I

voluntarily reviewed an Advanced Reader Copy of this book.

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