

30 Days of No Gossip

Stephanie Faris

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Can a middle school gossip queen change her ways, or will she lose her BFF for good? Find out in this M!X original novel.

Maddie Evans prides herself on being the gossip queen of Troy Middle School. She is the first person her classmates go to when they need the latest news on the ins-and-outs of her middle school and Maddie never disappoints.

Her best friend since birth, Vi, isn't crazy about Maddie's penchant for passing on rumors, but it's never been an issue in their friendship. Until the day Maddie lets slip who Vi is crushing on in front of her crush.

Vi is furious, and she confronts Maddie with an ultimatum: no gossip for 30 days, or twelve years of sisterhood goes down the drain.

Maddie agrees, but only a week into the challenge, she gets one of the juiciest pieces of gossip EVER-something that could affect the future of the school. Will she be able to keep her mouth shut and tame her ways? Or will she be left standing alone with no one to hear her stories?

30 Days of No Gossip Details

Date : Published March 18th 2014 by Aladdin

ISBN: 9781442482814 Author: Stephanie Faris

Format: Paperback 208 pages

Genre : Childrens, Middle Grade, Realistic Fiction





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From Reader Review 30 Days of No Gossip for online ebook

Arielwinter77 says

Eh, not the best or the worst, seriously unlikely and kinda boring for me... but that's just my opinion the writer definitely has some talent/skill they just need to learn how to use it, :) $XX\sim A$

Beth Strand says

"30 Days of No Gossip" is Great Fiction for Middle Grade Girls

Looking for a great read for a middle grade girl? "30 Days of No Gossip" is fun, engaging and, without being preachy, helps girls examine what motivates gossip. Maddie Evans is the queen of gossip. She even writes and publishes a gossip sheet about her middle school. Anyone who wants to know anything about their peer group knows to go to Maddie. Maddie is convinced that she's playing a vital role because people need to know but then she takes gossiping one step too far and nearly loses her best friend. Can she win her friend back by not gossiping for thirty days? Is it even possible not to gossip for 30 days?

"30 Days of No Gossip" is a fun read which happens to have a great message. Author Stephanie Faris has taken an important subject and wrapped it in great story so it's like a life lesson wrapped in candy. Girls will find the story engaging and entertaining as well as thought-provoking. Maddie and her group of friends are very relatable and the story is fun, fresh and well-crafted. This book is going right onto my gift list for girls I know in upper elementary and middle school. "30 Days of No Gossip" by Stephanie Faris is from Aladdin and scheduled for release on March 18, 2014.

This book was provided to me by Simon and Schuster for this review. The opinions, however, are entirely my own!

Erica says

I received this book from goodreads first reads giveaway.

This was a fantastic book with a great message. It's meant for middle schoolers so I (a mom and grown up) got through the book in just over 24 hours. It was very easy to read and I really had trouble putting it down at times ("Uh oh! How's Maddie going to get out of this now?").

I can definitely see any girl aged 10 and up relating to at least one of the characters. I think most girls can understand Maddie's struggle to figure out the difference between doing what makes you popular and doing the what's right. I would highly recommend this to any girl in or getting ready for middle school. My daughters will definitely have to read this when they're older!!!

My personal favorite part of the book was when the Maddie described Julia Roberts as an "old-timey" movie star. I got a good chuckle out of that ;)

Megan Lee says

Great Middle Grade book! Maddie Evans has trouble holding her tongue and finds it impossible to keep a secret. She even publishes news about her peers in The Troy Tattler--a gossip column for her middle school. When Maddie accidentally reveals sensitive information about her best friend, Vi, she is challenged to 30 days of no gossiping--a nearly impossible challenge. Caught between an insatiable desire to gossip and a desperate attempt to regain Vi's friendship, Maddie must decide what's really important.

This novel will appeal to tweeners struggling with gossip, best friends, and a desire to be accepted. Not only does Stephanie Faris paint colorful characters and a believable middle school backdrop, but she imbues the story with an important message about words and their power for good or for evil.

Ms. Yingling says

Maddie and Vi have been best friends since birth because their mothers met in the hospital and became best friends themselves. Now that they are in seventh grade, Maddie has found a sure fire way to gain popularity-she's the school's top gossip, handing out an unofficial newsletter at lunch and keeping tabs of all of the romances and scandals. Vi isn't thrilled with this, but friends Sydney and Jessica encourage Maddie's obsession with knowing what is going on. When Maddie tells Vi's crush that she likes him, and the rest of the school quickly finds out, Vi is ready to quite being friends... unless Maddie can promise NOT to gossip for 30 days. Maddie doesn't want to, but values Vi's friendship enough that she agrees. Maddie finds out very quickly that this is harder than it seems. Everything she talks about seems to be gossip, and even when she doesn't say anything, people take her silence in different ways and make up their own stories. Maddie comes across an enormous piece of news that she can't share even though it affects the whole school and could be a really good opportunity for Vi to showcase her interior decorating skills, but the news leaks out anyway and causes all sorts of complications.

Strengths: This was a very accurate portrayal of middle school friendships, which have a horrible way of changing in a variety of horrible ways as girls learn how they fit into school society and who they really want to be. Vi and Maddie's different views of gossip, the nature of friendship, and dealing with boys are all topics that are of concern to students at this age. I especially enjoyed that Maddie really tried to make her friend happy, found she couldn't do exactly what was expected of her, but tried to be a good friend anyway. The Mix paperbacks are popular with my students, and a good choice if you know a middle school girl who needs a good beach read!

Weaknesses: Don't know that a reality tv show would really want to refurbish a middle school and add a break room, not that middle school students wouldn't like the idea. Big question: which teacher gets to be on duty to supervise the break room?

Gabs {My Full Bookshelf Reviews} says

This review (and others) can be found on My Full Bookshelf Reviews

I received a free copy of this book from the publisher via Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

I've loved the M!X Books for a long time. I know I'm *probably* not the intended age for any of them, but I have never rated any of them under three stars. So, I was expecting this book to be good, but *30 Days of No*

Gossip totally blew all my expectations away!

It's light, but not fluffy. I love a fluffy book as much as the next person, but those definitely aren't the kind of books I want to read constantly. I love when there's a message in a book. This book has a great message about friendship and how gossip can hurt others, and it doesn't take a long time to read at all.

I could relate to the characters. Who hasn't gossiped or been gossiped about? Basically no one. The book is about a real life situation, and a common situation at that. Girls will be able to relate to either Vi, Maddie, or possibly both. And personally, I find being able to relate characters always makes the book more enjoyable.

There was one thing I was wary about when starting this book, and that is the fact that the title is...well, it's not too original. The book is about a girl who tries to go 30 days without gossiping. But I bet you could guess that based on the title, huh? I usually don't read books that have unoriginal titles, and I am sure that I am not the only reader that does this. (Please tell me I'm not!) But with this situation, I would plead readers to not judge a book by it's cover..er, title, and give it a try. You won't be disappointed!

Ginascozylibrary says

What a sweet, colorful Middle Grade novel that brought me right into the mind of Maddie Evans and her struggles with a challenge her best friend, Vi, gave to her. I would highly recommend this book to children between the ages of 9-13 to remind them about the troubles which coincide with gossiping.

Maddie Evans finds it incredibly hard to turn down any news or gossip around school. She has become the main source for gossip and quite the center of attention--that is only when it come to the "who, what, when, where, and why" of her middle school. She also runs the school newspaper so she is always on the hunt for the best and up-to-date gossip.

When her best friend, Vi, challenges her to 30 days of no gossiping, Maddie is faced to not only take a deeper look at her surroundings, but also into herself. At first, she finds it extremely hard, stating, "I opened my mouth, dying to say the words that were now stuck in my chest. Seriously, that's how I felt. I wondered if someone could get really sick from holding words in like that."

As the challenge goes on, she begins to realize how awful and destructive talking about others really is. She comes close to losing her best friend and discovers how much this would really devastate her if it ever were to actually happen. Maddie realizes she hasn't been a good friend to Vi because of all of the years she was too busy gossiping instead of really supporting her friend.

I read this book before I wanted to lend it to my niece but after reading it, I'm going to be sharing it not only with her, but many of my teacher friends and family because I truly believe in the power of words and the power of this book's message. Great job, Stephanie Faris!

J. Dorner says

It's rare for a character to yank this much emotion from me. But sure enough, with Vivienne, that's what happened. I love her name. Beyond that, I hated her. I love how realistically she was written. But I loathe

her. If asked which V villain is worse, Vi or Voldermort, I'd pick Vi. At least with he-who-must-not-benamed, you see it coming. His evil plans and motives are clear. Not so much with Vi, who is so realistic that she instantly reminded me of a long list of people I know (and can't stand).

Poor Maddie! Exactly what I predicted would happen to her, happened on page 111. Finally a golden adult adds sense and reason in chapter 13. By page 185, there's redemption, and whew was I glad to see it show up! And right there, on page 192, one of the two reasons that I have so much empathy for Maddie through this whole ordeal, and why I dislike Vi so much- because of the future potential mentioned. Glad Vi finally acts enough like a friend to agree.

My kind of characters. My kind of ending. Highly recommend.

Amy H says

I got this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

this was a very great book. It was a easy read, and i know that middle schools would love to read this book.

this books starts off with a girl named "Maddie" she has a problem with gossip. if there was something going on in middle school, she knew about it. Maddie even writes for a paper called that Troy Tattler. Which is a gossip newspaper that she writes and hands out to everyone before school starts. Maddie only spreads gossip because she wants to be popular.

Maddie has a best friend named VI. She told Maddie a secret about liking a boy. Maddie takes it upon herself to walk up to that boy and tell them that Vi like him. The word got around so fast that when one of the girls from school walked up to Vi, and asked her if it was true, she flipped out.

Maddie wanted to stay friends with Vi so she took her up on her bargain to not spread gossip for 30 whole days. That seemed easy right?! the problem with that was a tv producer came to the school asking questions to the principle. Maddie saw the lady, and Took it upon herself to ask questions. The producers name was Ms. Golden. She was a 24 hour makeover tv star

Maddie let it slip that their middle school was going to be on tv so now Maddie had to deal with the principle who threaten to shut down the production, and also her soon to me ex best friend Vi when she finds out that her favorite tv show was going to be at her school, and she was last to find out again.

Can Maddie change her ways before the show starts or will the school ban her from being able to star in the show? Maddie does that next best thing that changes everything!

Valerie Capps says

Great book! If you have someone in your life between the ages of nine and thirteen years (grade Level 4th – 8th), they will love this book. I had the privilege of reading an advance copy and found the theme to be timeless. I am way beyond my teen years but this is one of those books that will hit a chord with anyone who

has been the object, or conveyor, of gossip in school or beyond.

Maddie Evans prides herself on having all the best gossip. When anyone wants the latest scoop on what is happening at Troy Middle School she is their go-to source. Best friend, Vi, tolerates Maddie's eagerness to pass along rumors until the day Maddie lets slip who Vi is crushing on—in front of her crush. Vi is furious and presents Maddie with an ultimatum: no gossip for 30 days or their friendship is over.

Maddie agrees, but a week later she learns something that could affect the future of the school. It is the best piece of gossip ever. Will she be able to keep it to herself or will she break her word to her best friend and spread the news?

Loved it. Run—don't walk—to buy this book when it hits book stores and Internet sites on March 18th! It will change your life! Well probably not really, but it could...

Karen says

Super cute tween book!! Checked this out for my daughter from the library & sounded so cute read it myself. Loved it. Great message about friendship & gossiping. Fun cute read!!

Milana Waller says

Disappointing because I loved Stephanie Faris's 25 Roses This was the kind of book where it wasn't really a bad book but you just never wanted to pick it up. Once I was reading it, it was good. But I just never wanted to read it, I had to force myself to. I just wasn't very gripping but I did like it. Can anyone else relate?

Gail Nall says

Maddie Evans is the biggest gossip in school...until she almost loses her best friend Vi by giving away Vi's secret. Vi gives Maddie a choice: stop gossiping for thirty days or their friendship is over. It's hard, but Maddie's doing well with the challenge. That is, until she learns the most amazing secret ever.

This is a fun read with a great tween voice, and Maddie is such a likeable main character. I loved how much she cared for Vi, and rooted for her throughout the book. I especially liked watching Maddie's journey from Queen of Gossip to a more thoughtful person who begins to understand that not all rumors must be spread, but yet not all gossip is bad.

Dean Deters says

Summary- Maddie Evans goes to Troy middle school and writes a gossip column called "The Troy Tattler". One day Maddie's best friend Vi Lakewood tells Maddie a secret but Vi made a wrong mistake because she should have known that Maddie was going to gossip about it. So, Vi got mad at Maddie and said she would not be Maddie's friend any more then Maddie said she would do anything to become Vi's friend. Vi said

Maddie couldn't Gossip for 30 whole days. Maddie tried her best to keep the secret that the show "24 Hour Makeover" was coming to there school so Maddie told all her friends except for Vi because she didn't want Vi to know that she gossiped. When Vi found out she got really mad because if Maddie was going to gossip about Vi's favorite show she would have wanted Maddie to tell her.

Setting- The setting mostly takes place inside Troy middle school which is important to the story because Maddie needs to be in a place where a whole bunch of kids are to gossip to.

Character Trait - Maddie is a really nice kid but sometimes she can be little on the desperate side, like when was so desperate for Vi to like her so she said she would go 30 days without gossip.

Most Important Event- I think the most important event is when Maddie calls Vi and says "Vi where are you you need to go to the hardware store and meet three kids and the host of the show that is the only way you will get into the school!" because that is when Maddie fixed things between her and Vi.

Recommendation- I recommend this book to anyone who likes drama, gossip, or friendships.

-Megan Scharf

Katie Fitzgerald says

Maddie loves to gossip. It's fun and it wins her lots of friends. Her best friend, Vi, is more reserved and never says anything at all unless she can say something nice. When Maddie reveals Vi's secret crush, Vi decides that the gossiping has to stop. She challenges Maddie to go 30 days without gossiping; otherwise, their friendship is over. Maddie wants to stay friends with Vi, but it's more difficult than imagined to have a conversation that doesn't involve talking behind her classmates' backs.

This tween friendship drama does what more middle grade novels should do: humanizes and reforms the "mean girl." Maddie, though addicted to a bad habit, is likable and believable. Readers will sympathize with her wish to salvage her friendship with Vi, but they will also understand how difficult it is for to give up her coveted position in the social hierarchy. The chatty tone makes for light reading, but the story also has enough depth to satisfy concerned parents and provoke interesting discussions. 30 Days of No Gossip is a great addition to the Aladdin Mix line, and will appeal to girls in grades 5 to 8, especially those who like Lauren Barnholdt and Lauren Myracle.