

(Mobile book) The Plain Janes

The Plain Janes

Cecil Castellucci, Jim Rugg

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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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#387334 in Books Hyperion EA 2007-05-02 2007-05-02Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 7.99 x .35 x 5.26l, .40 #File Name: 1401211151176 pages | File size: 19.Mb

Cecil Castellucci, Jim Rugg : The Plain Janes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Plain Janes:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Decent story, good artworkBy Dani ShupingAfter a bomb attack in Metro City Jane's parents move to the suburbs and take her away from all that she knows. Bored and lonely at her new school, Jane attempts to make friends with three other girls also named Jane. She has to do something for each of them, but they quickly form a secret club called the "Plains Janes" and decide to add some excitement to the town with some random secret art projects throughout the town. Some of the people in the town like the secret art projects others

call them vandals. When the police get involved what will happen? Will the town turn on the girls or will they embrace the style they've brought to them? The story is of course meant to draw comparisons to 9/11, but more than that it's meant to tell about a young girl trying to fit into a new place and a new world during some of the most difficult years of a young person's life, the dreaded teenage years. Castellucci does a fairly good job of telling the story and making each Jane feel like a unique person. But at times they seem to resemble more of an individual trait than a complete person. It detracts from the story a bit, especially since the supporting characters don't have much depth to them. The artwork is simply drawn and seemingly draws more inspiration from Scott McCloud, than from superhero comics or Manga. It works well with the story and doesn't try to overwhelm the reader with too many details. Overall it's not a bad read and would be a good book for the teenage crowd, even with its faults. More mature readers might want to look at other books, such as Bryan Lee O'Malley or Hope Larson's works for more depth to characters.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Jim Rugg is a National Treasure
By G. Thompson
A great all-ages comic
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Mean Girls, The Graphic Novel
By MICHAELA
A good story. Well... Just OK. I like the whole idea of what was happening here, but I couldn't help but wonder if 'Mean Girls' did it slightly better. I think girls who like the movie will like this similar story. The heart of this book is good, it just missed that special something. With all that said, I will keep it on my shelf.

Written by Cecil Castellucci Art and cover by Jim Rugg
When a transfer student named Jane is forced to move from the cool confines of Metro City to Suburbia, she thinks her life is over. But there in the lunch room at the reject table she finds her tribe: three other girls named Jane. Main Jane encourages them to form a secret art gang and paint the town P.L.A.I.N. - People Loving Art In Neighborhoods. But can art attacks really save the hell that is high school?

Advance-solicited; in stores May 16 - 176 pg, 5.25" x 8", B W, \$9.99 US Edited by Shelly Bond

From School Library Journal
Starred . Grade 7-10
Young adult author Castellucci makes her graphic-novel debut with this quirky comic. Jane's parents relocate to the suburbs when she's caught in a bomb attack in Metro City. Bored and lonely in her new town and school, the teen is thrilled when she meets three other girls named Jane, all of them as out of place as she is. They form a secret club, the Plain Janes, and decide to liven up the town with art. Some people like their work, but most are frightened, and the local police call the Plain Janes' work "art attacks." Castellucci gives each girl a distinct personality, and spirited, compassionate Main Jane is especially captivating. Rugg's drawings aren't in superhero or manga style, but resemble the more spare, clean style of alternative comics creators such as Dan Clowes and Craig Thompson. A thoughtful look at the pressures to conform and the importance of self-expression, this is also a highly accessible read. Regular comics readers will enjoy it, but fans of soul-searching, realistic young adult fiction should know about it as well.

Lisa Goldstein, Brooklyn Public Library, NY
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From Booklist
Starred For the first book in a new series aimed at teenage girls, DC comics recruited novelist Castellucci (Boy Proof, 2004, and The Queen of Cool, 2005) to write this story about outsiders who come together, calling up themes from the author's popular YA novels. Relocated to suburbia after a brush with disaster in the big city (and fueled by an urge not to be terrified of the world as a result), Jane rallies a small group of outcasts into a team of "art terrorists," shaking the town from its conservative complacency by putting bubbles in the city fountain and wrapping objects on the street as Christmas packages. Their activities end up rallying the local teenagers to their cause and working the adults into a dither. The book has its share of stereotypes--the science geek, the psychotically overprotective mother, the irrepressible gay teen--but this is thought-provoking stuff. The art, inspired by Dan Clowes' work, is absolutely engaging. Packaged like manga this is a fresh, exciting use of the graphic-novel format. Jesse Karp
Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved
"Castellucci gives voice to a memorable teenage narrator."...
"Castellucci clearly knows what goes on in the lives of many teens."