



The Mediocre Housewife

Stephanie Affourtit

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After years of struggling as an inadequate homemaker in the suburbs, Claire Patterson, finally feels like she has reinvented herself. Her debut novel, *The Mediocre Housewife*, is about to be made into a movie, but before Claire heads off to Seattle to meet the director, her husband Paul admits to having an affair. Why was it that after twenty years of marriage, Paul's motive feels like more of a betrayal than his infidelity?

In Seattle, Claire meets James Ryan, the 26-year-old actor who plays an immortal bounty hunter from the movies based on a popular book series with a cult-like following. Though James is 16 years younger than Claire, they have an instant connection.

Claire returns home for her son Stephen's graduation. She's distraught over her only child leaving for college and worries what her life will be like without someone home to mother. Things are strained between her and Paul and the discontent is spilling over into her new novel. When Stephen leaves for college, Claire makes a life changing decision. Now her son won't have anything to do with her and Claire's wondering if living out her fantasy is worth losing everything that matters.

The Mediocre Housewife is a poignant and funny story about a suburban housewife trying to find her identity and discovering that one's perspective on life can change once we appreciate what is most important.

The Mediocre Housewife Details

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Author : Stephanie Affourtit

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From Reader Review The Mediocre Housewife for online ebook

Tiffani says

Ehhhhh, it was ok, I guess. It was an easy read, and I liked the fact that Claire was successful in her writing. Having a best selling novel for her first book, doing something she was proud of after staying home with her son for so many years, being the 'mediocre housewife'...However, the story lacked the 'umph' I was looking for.

Nicole says

I never grew attached to any of the characters, found myself wondering about them, hoping that the story would end one way or another, or how it was all going to play out. Instead, I just lazily turned each page, reading it, all the while hoping that it would end. I hate to leave a book unfinished and more often than not will complete any book that I have started. This one, however, made no difference one way or the other.

Truthfully, it appeared almost promising in the beginning. With the turn of each page, I found myself enjoying it less and less and just hoping to finish it for the sake of it, knowing that I would never pick it up again.

So much of this story just felt awkward or forced. Almost as if this novel was just a less thought out and more groupie version of Twilight. Claire even went so far as to find a much younger guy and have what would be the equivalent of a teenagers summer fling (or maybe he was a rebound, I'm not sure) named James, who oddly resembled Robert Pattinson (the actor who played Edward Cullen in the Twilight series). It just seemed like a lot of name dropping and half-hearted characters who were not well-rounded or even particularly likable by some fan rather than an interesting work of her own. Truthfully, The Mediocre Housewife (the novel that the main character, Claire, in the story wrote) sounded more interesting than this one.

The ending came rather abruptly and just felt so forced, as if the author were in a rush to finish this book and be done with it. It was not believable in the slightest bit. Here, I will sum up the entire book for you. Claire and her husband both had affairs with other people and were so pathetic that they for some reason kept running back to each other. Both cried A LOT which will make you feel seriously uncomfortable with the ridiculousness of the situation. And then, they decide to stay together, even though the husband and the rest of the world knows she left him for a man sixteen years her senior and famous, while he stayed home doing nothing with his life. If this were real life, one of the two of them would have decided that there was no sense in dragging out their miserable relationship since they are both obviously train wrecks anyway. Last but not least, ending it with James a guy who loved her and did not cheat on her while helping the career she claimed she wanted to skyrocket? Let's be real, who lives this kind of life? Nobody.

Carol C says

While this book provided some entertainment, the cheating spouses portion of it rubbed me the wrong way. I found the characters to be not very believable and was not sympathetic to the main character. On top of that, the editing was horrible - changes in tense, strange formatting, and on and on.

Amanda Parvati says

love love love! put it back on amazon and upload more!

Quinn Maslow says

I loved this book! It's one of my favorites. I think the author is incredibly talented and I wish she'd put it back on the market and come out with some new amazing novels!

Julie says

I have no idea how I feel about this book. Did Claire have a freaking mid-life crisis with James?! It seems she just used him to get back at her husband. I felt bad for James, since Claire did not care about him or his feelings at all. Only about herself. Disgusted with her completely. And her husband? He cheated on her first, sure. But he just takes her dumb ass back after he has a little heart pain? And their son Stephen is the girliest kid. Cries going after going to college, when his mom leaves? What?! Grow up! On the other hand, however, it was an intriguing book. Kept a girl's interest and all. It was almost one of those books you read hoping it gets better and it just...doesn't.

Cheshire Cat says

dnf

Bethyfly says

I agree with other reviewers. I did enjoy this read (not to mention the price) and devoured it quite quickly. However, I was neither particularly invested in the characters emotional toll (with few momentary exceptions) nor impressed by the overall point of the story (though perhaps that was because I found it lacking).

I was more than a little annoyed by the "Midnight" series (transparently "Twilight"), unnecessary name dropping (not to mention character dropping where did they all go?!) and easy happenstance of it all. Everything fell too exactly into place without even the courtesy to acknowledge destiny. Instead of feeling conflicted along with Claire I felt like I was bait-and-switched into a sappy romance novel (not my style). The irony being that I probably would have enjoyed "Mediocre Housewife", (that is Claire's novel) had I been privy to the great writing and amusing anecdotes alluded to.

I think in short I need to stop reading stories with any derivation of "Housewife" in the title, 'cause it seems this housewife's fantasies just aren't average.

Leslie aka StoreyBook Reviews says

"If I lived the rest of my life with only these blessings, I would consider it a life well lived."

That quote sums up what we should all strive for in this life. Not looking for what is on the other side of the fence (because the grass is not greener over there!)

I felt that this book was realistic and I enjoyed the book within the book. I thought it was clever how she ended her story that she was writing.

I also enjoyed what it must be like to be thrust into the media spotlight just for who you are out and about with at the time.

What I didn't like - the name dropping of other celebrities. I also thought this book was more recent times (my error for not looking at the publication date) considering some of the actor pairings that were mentioned. There were times I didn't like Claire and then near the end I wasn't fond of her husband Paul.

It was an enjoyable book.

Karine says

Well, it was interesting. The author totally got into a big fantasy about a certain young actor who played Edward Cullen ;) Even though she does refer to him by name it is so obvious that she's talking about him all along.

Tamara says

This book was "Chit lit" without much depth. The book had a good start and I could feel the interest building. I kept waiting for something more... then the story abruptly ended. I have to admit the book had a mediocre ending. It was so fake and it seemed like the author wanted to hurry up and finish it already. Honestly, not much about Claire's story is even remotely believable. 40 something first time author, gets cheated in by her long time husband. She takes off, meets a young 26 year old "heart throb", has a affair, then goes home and gets back with her husband. During this time her 18 year old son is acting like a child and won't speak to her. It's a little more complex than than, but not by much. Picking this up as a freebie was fortunate. I would have not been happy if I had paid for it.

Darlene Mangum says

Don't judge a book by its cover!

I had loaded this book on my Kindle, thinking it was a period piece. Boy was I wrong...it is anything but! This book is well written and a page turner. I look forward reading more from this talented writer.

Pamela Goloskie says

I really did not care for this book at all. It read like 'fan fiction' on many levels. The situations and actions of the main characters were not consistent or believable. The way the romance both began and ended felt very superficial, more like an excuse to indulge in fantasy behavior without experiencing any lasting complications. The emotional bonds developed and ended far too quickly and conveniently.

Lani Young says

The ending of this book annoyed me no end. Unconvincing and half-hearted. Until then i would have given it four stars.

Aviva says

A fairly enjoyable read, and definitely worth what I paid for it (ie nothing). The ending was predictable and somewhat disappointing. I did enjoy the book inside the book. :)

It was the first book I read on my day-old kindle!
