

☆☆☆☆☆ okay, November 29, 2011

By [sc2424](#) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: [Cliques, Hicks, and Ugly Sticks \(The Confessions of April Grace\) \(Paperback\)](#)

Cliques, hicks, and ugly sticks by KD McCrite is a book which I thought sounded much more interesting and better than it actually was. It's a book about April Grace, a 6th grader entering middle school--hating math, having a former friend turn her back on her, fighting with her sister, typical jr. high stuff.

It's written in a first person voice, with April Grace relating the story. April Grace is an 11 year old girl, living in the Ozarks in 1986. She lives in her home with her family and another couple who are rebuilding their house down the road, and she is beginning 6th grade. There is a whole cast of characters who intermittently dominate the story. The book follows April Grace through the first half of her sixth grade year.

I really had high hopes for this book. I thought it sounded sweet and like the type of thing my pre-teen daughter would love. After reading it. . . I wouldn't really call it sweet. And yes, my daughter probably will like it. It seems to read like a lot of current books written for this age group--which truthfully she likes, so I guess it hit its target there. However, there were themes which were never addressed/corrected such as lack of respect to elders and family members, and although it is a Christian fiction book--there's not a strong Christian message that came through to me.

So--would I recommend it? Maybe to read--check it out at your library if you can. I probably wouldn't purchase the book--or give it as a gift. Certainly not a book I loved.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from the publisher through the BookSneeze®.com book review bloggers program. I was not required to write a positive review.

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