



Testify

Valerie Sherrard

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Before you judge me, there are two things you should know about why I did it.

Shana Tremain is a good kid. She knows right from wrong and shes never been in any serious trouble. But when her best friend, Carrie, comes to her for help, Shana agrees to break the law to save Carrie from a molester. She even feels good about it for a while.

Then trouble starts. Someone in their group of friends is stealing from the others. As she searches for the truth, Shana uncovers evidence that raises a terrifying question: Has she made a horrible mistake?

Faced with the reality of what shes done, Shana finds herself trapped in a web of her own lies and deceit. Can she convince the right people that shes telling the truth now? Either way its clear someone is going to pay a terrible price for her crime.

Testify Details

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From Reader Review Testify for online ebook

Chenny Wu says

This is a pretty good mystery book that's also teen fiction which is a good mix up. I really like the plot of this book, it's all twisted up and unexpected. I never thought that a person can be mean to her friends, the way that Carrie was being mean to her friends. Why would she even pretend to be friends with her, if she didn't like her in the first place. She's a person that just uses people for her needs, like she used Shana to testify at the court for her. I really think that Shana is really brave, turning against her best friend and standing up for what's right although it can lead her into some serious trouble. I really like Shana's character. And I really like Shana's parents, they're really encouraging and they stood up for their child, so I think they're really good parents. I also really enjoyed the ending of this book, it was a quick ending, but I still liked it. For a second in the ending, I thought that when Carrie called Shana she actually meant what she said, about like being sorry for everything. But it turns out that it was all a lie, a trick, to get Shana to her place so that she can kill her.. I really don't get how she could do that. I can't believe a girl at age 15 (i think) can kill her friend because she said she was going to set her body on fire. I don't understand how someone can do that to their friend. But Shana was really smart and she recorded everything, and got away safely. Although I gotta admit this whole time, Carrie was actually pretty smart too in a evil way, planning everything before so that she can frame Carrie and Haley (another victim of Carrie).

I picked up this book, because it was a red maple book, and when Mr. Gould gave us a brief summary, I thought it was pretty interesting. I never thought that things could get so out of hand in this book though. I thought it was be less exciting, but this book was really fun to read.

I finished it because it was amazing. One chapter lead on to the other and I had to continue because I really wanted to know what would happen in the end. Again it was really surprising what Carrie did to her friends. I also noticed something about my reading habits; I think I like to read books that are short, maybe not necessarily short, but has short chapters, and a good plot so each chapter leads on to the next and next and it never gets boring.

I recommend this book to everyone, especially people who like crime or mystery. Because this book is a really fun read to all teens, because it deals with a possible real life situation.

M.G says

Testify is about a girl named Shana who testified in court for her best friend Carrie. Carrie told Shana that Carrie's step father joe sexually abused her but that was not true and somehow Carrie convinced Shana to lie in court to send joe to jail. Shana didn't want to send a innocent man to jail but Carrie begged her. Carrie only did this because she does not like her stepfather. Carrie won the case and Joe was sent to jail. Shana made a horrible decision for helping Carrie because she betrayed her. Shana has a group of friends which are Carrie, Hayley, Jen and Krysti. Carrie first betrayed Hayley because Hayley knew that Carrie was the reason why Shana's boyfriend broke up with her but Shana didn't know that, so Carrie showed fake evidence that Hayley stole their jewelry. That made everyone stop talking to Hayley. But Shana found out that Carrie was the one stealing she tried to prove that to her other two friends but it didn't work at it backfired and everyone hated Hayley and Shana, Hayley and Shana found a way to prove to Jen and Krysti that it was all Carrie's fault and now the group is back together except for Carrie. In the end Carrie was charged for beating up Shana and for sending joe to jail but joe was set free. Therefore I really liked this book and it showed that even your best friends can betray you.

Clara says

Did not enjoy the ending; the way the conflict was solved.

Shelby says

I thought that this book was amazing. in the beginning i was starting to understand why Shana(the main character) had lied in the court to help her best friend, Carrie, who was going to court because she calmed that her step-father, Joe, had molested her. As soon as problems started to happen in their little group i had started to wonder if this whole testimony against Joe was a lie. Some of the problems that had really surprised me was when Carrie had said that she was going to talk to one of her friends she had framed of stealing when she never did. She had said all of these mean things about every girl but the mean thing she said to Shana was something that Shana had only told one person and that person was CARRIE!! After all the things Shana thought were true were false, & she and Hayley(the girl that was framed) had realized that everything that Carrie said, did, wanted, and more was always a lie. In the end i was just shocked at how Carrie had turned out to be & how stupid Shana had been to lie in a court to back up her "best friend" when she never saw anything. I am still in shock at how that amazing book ended and how amazing this author is. But most of all i am very impressed at the ending of the book.

Celina says

I found that it had a unique story-line. I feel that Carrie has such a strong character but might of been written better. More information of why she was like that. Did something happen in her childhood or is it generic? Maybe she is just whacked. She thinks that she has everything planed so perfectly yet a fifteen girl, who has no detective training, figures it out. Real smart she is!

Sarah Horner says

RED MAPLE NOMINEE This is a quick read that really grabs you quickly. The dynamic between the female characters in this book is rather interesting. It will make for some interesting discussions about "truth" and honesty. A few surprising twists keeps the reader on their toes in this short quick novel. If you have reluctant girl readers this is a great book as it moves quickly and is not all that long or difficult.

Meghan McCracken says

This book is really short but keeps you off your seat the whole entire time. Just read this book soooo good.

Me says

This book had an interesting concept, and some interesting elements but there simply wasn't enough. The technical details throughout the book are well thought out and planned, yet any specific details concerning the exact how or why is unknown.

Testify tried to keep the reader in the dark too hard, and yet never revealed the information that was being hidden. The entire book the reader was being talked down to, and never actually there. This significantly cut off the reader from any emotions and character development. Also any details that are revealed are revealed in a random order that makes no sense, yet the reader is still treated as if they're in the dark.

Character development in this book was seriously lacking. With the close-knit group of friends I expect to know some of their mentality, yet none of this is present. The mentality of the characters would have been extremely interesting for the reader to know considering the circumstances and easy to gain considering the fact that they are all really close friends.

Also I feel that details would have been nice to know. As so much of this book relies upon the criminal process it's be nice to know which Province/Territory they were in. Then an adventurous reader could look up and research the facts if they were curious.

However it wasn't an absolutely terrible read. There were no clues on how and I had no idea until the characters realized themselves. I didn't hate this book, but it definitely wasn't a great book. Testify had an interesting concept and plot, but I feel that the author bit off more than they can chew.

I don't like the big font either.

Elly says

This book was excellent. Whenever I read books it bugs me because I always end up predicting what happens and it becomes less interesting but this book was very shocking and all over the place yet very easy to understand. The plot was great and overall 4/5.

PinkAmy loves \u0026#x1f495; books\u0026#x1f4d6;, cats\u0026#x1f63b; and naps\u0026#x1f6cf; says

Grade-B+

When Shana agrees to lie on the witness stand to say she saw her best friend's stepfather molesting her, she feels like she's saving Carrie. But soon after, Shana begins to have doubts. Is Carrie capable of such a lie, and if she's capable of that, what else might she do?

TESTIFYING was a fun read, despite the seriousness of the subject. Shana is a likable character, much too trusting of her best friend, even after the evidence mounts. Her naïveté, at first understandable at some point turns to cluelessness as she continues to fall for Carrie's manipulations. I knew something about Carrie was off, as the story progressed, she became more of cliched. I enjoyed the writing and pacing, I wish Valerie Sherrard had included an additional 50 pages to add more meat to the story and delve deeper into the

characters. She created a nice voice for Shana's narration.

Themes: friendship, sexual abuse, honesty, cliques

TESTIFY would probably best appear to Tweens and younger teens as older readers might be see this novel as implausible. At 128 pages, I finished the book in about 2 hours in one sitting.

Bob101 says

I thought this book was amazing. I thought it was good because the way the author wrote the book leaves you wondering after every chapter. Something I thought was a little confusing at times was that so much was going on in the book at once so sometimes it was hard to follow. My favourite character was Shana because she always a sweet girl and always did what she thought was right but she makes a huge mistake and I think that's what makes her so interesting.

Esraa G. says

Testify By Valerie Sherrard.

This novel is about a teenage girl that lied in court while testifying about her best friend being sexually molested by her stepfather.

Her best friend had begged her to testify and lie because she was worried about being molested.

The main character is the teenage girl and her name is Shana protagonist. Her best friend Carrie believe it or not is the antagonist in the book.

In this book Shana has a group of friends including: Hailey, Carrie, Jen, Kaity. Hailey figures out Carrie's secret, that she lied about her stepfather and starts acting weird when Carrie wins the trial and her stepfather gets arrested. Carrie being as smart and devious as she is, started to suspect that Hailey thought she lied about the sexual molesting with her stepfather due to what Carrie told Hailey one morning. Carrie told Hailey that if she was uncomfortable with the border renting a room to help with rent money regarding the whole house, then Hailey can just say he sexually molested her. Hailey strongly felt uncomfortable after that conversation with Carrie. Carrie was indeed correct. When they were all at Shana's house Carrie framed Hailey and said that she was stealing. To prove it Carrie stole a brooch from Shana and her other friends and placed the brooch in Hailey's cell phone pouch. When Carrie came to prove it and dump out her bag, the brooch was found in Hailey's cell phone pouch.

Carrie planned all of that just to get Hailey out of their group so Hailey can't tell anyone what Carrie did.

When Hailey tried to prove to the group that she was innocent only Shana listened. After that Hailey proved to Shana Carrie was EVIL.

Then Carrie found out and started sabotaging Shana her so called BEST FRIEND.

All of Carrie's evil schemes other than the one's i've mentioned broke the group a part. So one day Carrie called Shana crying really hard and weeping and apologizing so hard and asking Shana to come over so that she can go to the police saying her stepfather was innocent and telling her mom the truth. Shana of course with her kind heart ran to Carrie's house. They talked for awhile and then when Shana went to go get a water bottle for Carrie and came back Carrie had disappeared after a couple seconds Shana gets hit on the head and

blacks out. When she wakes up she finds herself tied up from her mouth, her hands, and her feet her head is also bleeding a little. Carrie comes up to her with a gasoline tank and tries to set her on fire and make it look like she took her own life at Carrie's house to frame her Carrie. Carrie's plan fails because Shana records everything Carrie said before Shana was in flames and sends it to her friends and her friend Jen calls the police first. Carrie was of course stuck and tried to escape but failed and got charged and arrested and everything was back to normal. Also her stepfather was found innocent and freed.

I felt that the antagonist was a really good choice of character. I feel that Carrie is a true evil villain and deserves everything that happened to her. Overall i can not add or thing of anything more evil then what this teenage girl has done to her innocent people who are supposed to be her friends.

I really enjoyed this book and all the conflict and mystery that happens in it. I recommend it to anybody alive and suggest reading other books by Valerie Sherrard as well.

By: Esraa Ghanem

Sibella says

Find this review and others here: <http://reviewsofyabooks.blogspot.ca/>

Introduction

Shana Temain and Carrie are best friends. So when Carrie comes to Shana saying that she is being molested by her stepfather, Shana knows that Carrie is telling the truth She will do whatever it takes to help her. Carrie convinces Shana to testify in court. Shana's testimony states that she saw Carrie's stepfather molest her. Which of course is a lie, but for a while Shana doesn't care about her lie. Especially after Carrie's stepfather ends up in jail. Now Shana just can't wait for everything to get back to normal with her group of friends. Unfortunately, that's not what happens. Carrie accuses Hayley, another one of Shana's friends of stealing. Everybody believes Carrie, but soon Carrie reveals some pretty nasty things that she claims Hayley said. Shana just wants to find out the truth, so she goes to talk to Hayley. As secrets become revealed, Shana begins to doubt how trustworthy Carrie really is.

Characters/Relationships

I liked the characters in this Testify, although, it didn't tell you a lot about any of the characters besides Carrie, Shana, and Haley.

There was no love story involved in this book. It does tell you about a past relationship that Shana had and how they broke up though.

Cover

The cover to this book is a girl looking down, hiding her face. The cover is plain ans simple but very pretty.

Dislikes

The book didn't go into very much detail about anything, if I remember correctly, It didn't even give a description of what the characters looked like, If it did it was very small. Like what the general weight of

what the characters were. I don't really know what the characters were supposed to look like, but in my mind, I pictured Carrie, with very short brown hair, and I pictured Shana, tall with black hair.

Conclusion

Overall, Testify was a good book. Boys could read this book, although it only really has a few male characters. Most boys can't get past that though.

Amaal says

I thought this book was great in had so much excitement in it andi also thought that the character Carrie was very crazy and i don't understand why she would do it i mean it is a crazy idea. Anyway i thiught it was great and anyone that didn't read should read it as awesome!!

Weajue says

One of my favorite books that I read in middle school.The further you get into this book, the more the plot thickens and you don't know who to believe. The ending was crazy, I was at the edge of my seat!
