



Southern Charm

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The entertaining first novel by socialite Tinsley Mortimer about a Southern Belle thrust into the frenzied world of high society in New York City.

A modern Manhattan fairy tale with the sparkle of a champagne cocktail, Tinsley Mortimer's debut novel provides a delicious peek into her world of society, fashion, and big-city fame.

SOUTHERN GIRL Minty Davenport has always dreamed of skyscrapers, yellow cabs, and a life like Eloise's in New York City. So upon graduation from college, she bids adieu to Charleston and makes a beeline for the Big Apple. Almost instantly, she finds herself at an event being photographed for *Women's Wear Daily*, and her career as a New York society "It Girl" is launched. As Minty navigates the ironclad customs of New York society, a blossoming love life, and a job working for a ruthless and powerful publicist, she finds that the rules a southern belle lives by—being nice to everyone, accentuating her femininity, and minding her manners—don't necessarily guarantee success in Manhattan. She may indeed be accumulating new friends and opportunities along with boldfaced mentions and a very eligible bachelor boyfriend, but someone is plotting her very public downfall. When Minty gets to the top of the social ladder, she must decide if the glamorous life she thought she wanted is really everything she hoped it would be.

Tinsley Mortimer's insider observations about New York's elite are deliciously witty, and the heart of her book is that of an irresistibly lovable young woman who is on the brink of finding her dream.

Southern Charm Details

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From Reader Review Southern Charm for online ebook

Lagniappe says

Disappointing chick lit. Southern girl tries to make it in New York and find love along the way. There - that was the entire plot. Most of the characters were unlikeable and/or forgettable, and the protagonist is a shallow, self-absorbed drama queen. Don't waste another moment thinking about it. Just skip it.

Randy Briggs says

Absolute dreck. Socialite "authors" should take a tip: while describing every designer accoutrement in the book may bump up the word count, it does not fill out the plot AT ALL. this 'novel' contained every cliché ever invented for "Southern Girl makes good in the big City". Don't waste your money. I gave it one star only because I didn't know if it was possible to not give it ANY.

Tracy says

I freely admit I picked up this novel of a southern belle who moves to NY after breaking up with her boyfriend largely b/c of the author, a well known NYC socialite. The book was somewhat predictable, but I liked the characters, even though they were somewhat archetypal. Where the book fell a little flat for me was the ending. One storyline ended but there could have been a little more punch to it. Still, a fast summer beach read.

Helene says

(This review was originally published on helenesworldofbooks.blogspot.com)

Chick Lit books have been disappointing for me lately. Somewhere half way this book I thought I would just give up on the genre, because it almost made me cry in frustration.

It started out pretty good. I love the cover, which is always a good start! I know, it's a bit shallow, but a pretty cover is nice. The beginning of the story was also enjoyable. It was comparable to Devil Wears Prada, one of my favorite Chick Lit's! But it got straight down from there.

Minty is the most insufferable person I've ever read about. She goes to New York and all of a sudden she's the assistant of some high powered fashion woman. And to make it even worse she's becoming one of the best known socialites in like a week, which seems highly unlikely to me. But who am I to know?

And the worst part was Tripp. She was madly in love with this guy when she was fifteen years old. So of course when he turns up in New York to, as the boyfriend of the most important socialite, she falls madly in love again. Although he treated her like shit. Maybe I'm just crazy, but if someone treats you bad, you stop loving them after more than five years, right?

The joke was almost complete when he asks her to marry him, and they just go over to the city hall and get married. Of course after that she finally listens to her doubts and thinks he's cheating on her. So, she dumps him and goes back to her last boyfriend, the one who dumped her for no reason. Seriously, am I wrong to say

that's pretty sad.

This weren't the only things that got me irritated. Minty's mom was around a lot and she calls her mother, mummie or Scarlet. Really confusing, and I think mummie is a really irritating word. I don't know why, but it gets on my nerves.

I'm sorry for my rant, but once in a while I think I'm allowed ;).

I think I made myself clear I would not recommend this book.

Stefani says

Got a hardcover of this for 25 cents from the local library in Cape May Court House. Was really excited about it. However, my verdict is:

Gossip Girl meets The Devil Wears Prada

I realized why when I read the author's bio on the back cover. She appeared in the Gossip Girl TV show. Apparently she's a socialite. Ok, so she lives in that world. She knows how things work there. I understand if that maybe inspired this book. But to me it just feels like a copy. And a bad one at that.

We have a Southern belle moving to NYC because she wants to be a designer. That's it. That's the whole story.

Pretty much the only thing I liked about this book was the setting. It's set in NYC. Part of it is also set in a southern state but I cannot for the life of me remember which one.

The characters are annoying. The story is weak. Nothing interesting is happening. I mean come on! It's NYC! There's so much you could do with that!!!

I actually ended up getting rid of my copy.

Rating – 1 star. More like half a star!

Who would I recommend it to – I won't. There's too many similar and better books out there. Don't waste your time on this one.

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Lauren says

I'll confess: I'm a sucker for glittery novels written by socialites: Plum Sykes, Bridie Clark, you name it! So when Tinsley Mortimer's debut arrived, I was ecstatic, I've read about her in Vogue, I love her style, and I wanted a peek into her (fictional) life. "Southern Charm" did not disappoint - it's just as fun, frothy, and girly as I imagine Tinsley herself is! I loved this fashionable read with heart!

Ary Chest says

Southern Charm is the story about a lovely girl who works hard to have everything handed to her on a platinum (Silver is sooo last season!) platter.

Hard work is such an ugly look. As we all know, newbies who move to the city and dress right have jobs, connections and friends fall into their lap by a modern-day fairy godmother with dollars substituting as a wand. In some cases, the fairy godmother is Minty's actual mother. (More on the mother later.)

The story of Minty is the perfect guide to surviving in the cut-throat city. Minty took all the right steps like...

1. Having her mother set up an apartment for her.
2. Contacting old friends to get her into parties. Seriously, when in a city of eight million people, why bother getting to know anyone new, when the rich people you knew from the South are doing just fine being rich in the North? This applies to love interests, too.
3. Having photographers take your picture for publications, despite not knowing who you are. We all know, if you dress fashionably in NYC, people are obligated to make you famous.
4. Working a job that somehow pays for the expensive apartment Mother set up and brunches galore. It's a good thing designers gift her clothes for being in the gossip columns.
5. Putting up with a love interest who would maybe be a contender to be 3rd or 4th runner-up for the show The Bachelor, assuming the selected and all other backups died in a plane crash. Why try to get to know someone completely new, with a different background or personality than what she was used to? It's New York! It's not a place to explore!

My god, this book is The Devil Wears Prada's aborted sister. There were so many why's I had. Why did this whole story, job changes, marriage, paparazzi drama have to happen in six months? It's not like a national scandal happened. Why did Minty play it so safe? She literally did nothing on her own. I wonder what it would be like to see her try to take the subway? Could she even figure out what a metro card is?

The cast of characters was too small and kept helping her too much. If they all were from her childhood or were friends of her childhoods friends, why does this have to be set in New York? Wouldn't it be better, if it was another southern city near her hometown? The mother was weird. She acted more like a Jewish mother. Constantly coming in unannounced and uninvited? It's like she was copied from Sylvia in The Nanny.

But, alas, I'm nostalgic for the time in pop culture when having money counted as its own storyline. Those were the days.

Amberalba Dawn says

Questo è uno di quei libri che mi lascia piuttosto perplessa. Tirando le somme, penso che questo romanzo non vada molto al di là della sufficienza. La storia potrebbe funzionare, soprattutto pensando come target un pubblico molto giovane. Ci sono tanti elementi che potrebbero far ingolosire. Tutta la vicenda si sviluppa

attorno al mondo della moda e degli eventi mondani nella New York bene e questo, da che mondo è mondo, può solo che produrre un contesto accattivante. Se poi mettiamo in conto che tutti i personaggi sono o belli, o ricchi, o famosi, oppure incarnano contemporaneamente tutte queste qualità, sicuramente il romanzo ha le carte in regola per far parlare di sé.

La trama è semplice, e questo sicuramente non è un difetto. La bella Minty Davenport va a New York e faticosamente risale la china della celebrità, si innamora perdutamente di un pessimo soggetto, finché non capisce cosa vuole veramente dalla vita e prende decisioni drastiche che portano ad un happy end assicurato.

"Uno non va al Frick Ball. Non si viene nemmeno invitati. Si viene scelti. (...) Svegliati Minty. Sei stata strappata all'oscurità virtuale e sistemata sui gradini più alti della società newyorkese"

Quando tuttavia sono andata a leggere la biografia della stessa scrittrice, mi è rimasto un che di amaro in bocca. Alla luce di quanto riportato, metà del romanzo è il ritratto della stessa Tinsley Mortimer, (guarda caso una Bellezza del Sud diventata socialite newyorkese) e, purtroppo, quello che rimane sembra tratto da un connubio tra la sceneggiatura de *Il diavolo veste Prada* e *Gossip Girl*, serie televisiva nella quale l'autrice ha fatto la comparsa.

Insomma, avendo probabilmente vissuto in prima persona gran parte di quello che viene raccontato nel libro, avrei preferito che l'autrice sviluppasse un racconto ben più solido e strutturato, inoltre che trattasse in modo più approfondito i temi cardine del romanzo. Il distacco dalla famiglia, l'ingresso nel mondo del lavoro e, soprattutto, l'impegno reciproco implicito nelle promesse di matrimonio vengono resi con estrema levità.

Niente di male in questo, se non che le similitudini con le pellicole citate sopra sono tante.

Questo denota poco impegno nell'ideare un romanzo veramente accattivante, soprattutto considerando che la Mortimer, appartenendo allo stesso mondo descritto nel libro, sicuramente conosce il contesto e parte avvantaggiata rispetto ad autori che scrivono di tematiche simili basandosi su fonti che non sono la propria esperienza.

Inoltre, il romanzo è veramente troppo. Troppo stucchevole, troppo scontato e, soprattutto, troppo frivolo. All'inizio pensavo potesse essere classificato come una storia d'amore young adult, in cui faceva piacere ritrovare i temi da favola di una cenerentola in chiave moderna.

Purtroppo, la struttura della trama fa acqua e lacune ovunque, mostrando una Minty così acerba, da non essere in grado di incarnare nulla più di una Barbie innamorata del suo principe molto azzurro e poco sincero, passando poi, nel giro di poche pagine- e per giunta alla fine del romanzo- , ad una rampante (e sorprendentemente introspettiva) giovane donna in carriera che sa esattamente cosa vuole dalla vita. Cosa è successo? Cosa ha portato Minty a questo cambiamento? Possibile che in precedenza la protagonista fosse così sprovveduta? No, qui assistiamo ad una miscellanea di luoghi comuni, ma senza un sano sviluppo narrativo nella vicenda.

A mio parere, mettendoci un po' meno impegno nel riportare accurate descrizioni di capi di vestiario (con relativa marchetta sul brand annesso) e riversandolo invece nell'ideazione di una storia solida e plausibile, sarebbe stato un romanzo dignitoso. Lasciato così rimane un racconto con tanti bei fronzoli, ma profondamente scarno nei contenuti e che lascia molti interrogativi in testa. Un esempio su tutti, il grazioso chihuahua Miss Jelly Belly. So che ha un ruolo estremamente marginale, ma, da brava amante degli animali, mi sono chiesta che fine avesse fatto. Prima adorato simbolo di riconciliazione, a cui Minty pensa persino di dedicare un modello della sua nuova collezione di borse, viene successivamente rinchiuso in un limbo dal quale non riemerge più. Insomma, è proprio il caso di dire, dalle stelle alle stalle.

Spero che in futuro l'autrice possa riservarci delle sorprese. Di certo il materiale per scrivere una buona storia non manca, sicuramente la tecnica è da migliorare.

Laura says

Previously reviewed on
www.simplylowcountry.blogspot.com

I am truly a sucker for a cute book! And this book was no exception to that rule. I'm not sure whether it was because the main character in this book is from Charleston, SC or because the cover was amazing, or perhaps it's because it was written by Tinsley Mortimer, but it was such a great read!

There is a whole sloppy mix of reviews on this book, some bad and some good, but mine is a good one. Promise! I feel as though someone looking for a good, sweet, short summer read would really love this book.

Minty Davenport, main character of Southern Charm and daughter of Scarlet Davenport, is from Charleston, SC. She grew up on a true Southern plantation and like any other southern belle was a debutante. After graduating from a well known university, her long time boyfriend Ryerson breaks her heart and Minty finds herself following her dreams of becoming a fashion designer right up to New York City.

Minty's obsession of the City began as a child when her mother took her on a surprise trip to Manhattan. Minty, like any other eight year old girl, was on the hunt to find Eloise, her favorite fictional character who lived at The Plaza, right where Minty and her mother were staying on their trip.

After being in NYC for only a short amount of time Minty finds herself being photographed and on the pages of Women's Wear Daily. Not long after landing a job for a ruthless PR vixen does Minty find herself face to face with long time ex-lover Tripp.

The relationship isn't easy, especially when Minty becomes an "It Girl" in New York society. Her photos begin frequenting Page Six and it's not much after that that the rumors begin swirling about Minty and her newly rekindled love with Tripp. Minty finds herself fleeing for Charleston when things come to a drastic point in her relationship only to be confronted with what her heart had longed for in the past, before NYC. Minty must make the decision of whether or not a once in a lifetime career opportunity is worth returning for, or whether this southern girl really does belong in the south.

Although many people are giving poor reviews because of the author's socialite status, I think the book was well written and makes for a great read while on vacation or at the beach. The book supposedly is based on the author's life, which makes me like it even more. It's a fun ride and promises to keep you entertained all the way through the last chapter.

Stacy says

Minty Davenport is a southern debutante trying to make her way into the fashion industry in New York. Fate on her side, she runs into a sorority sister and from there she is launched into society as the next "It Girl." Add in a dash of society gossip mayhem, high-end fashion and an overindulged, spoiled guy and you have the recipe for a slightly underwhelming cute book.

This book had a couple of great elements, for one the author. Tinsely Mortimer knows the New York society scene, so an air of authority and realism can be found. She sold the glitz and the glamour, the parties and all the air kisses – not to mention ALL the gossip associated with that scene.

I also enjoyed the southern flare. It added a touch of comfort, a down to earth element that helped round out

the sheer overwhelming and fast paced lifestyle of the rich and famous in New York.

However, despite the southern flare and the authentic vibe, this book was a hot mess. Some of the big things that had me scratching my head were:

*the incessant use of the word “mommy” by Minty. Minty is 22 years old, calling your mother “mommy” sounds odd. Maybe that is a term of endearment some southern gals use, but I tend to think that “mama” is more of a sure bet.

*Tripp. I get that Minty “fell in love” with Tripp when she was fifteen (which lasted about 3 months), but to immediately fall in love with him again and form a serious relationship was just not believable. Plus, I saw nothing for her to fall in love with.

*Everything seemed to come a little too easy for Minty - her connection with the sorority sister, the photog taking her picture at the pivotal event, her job with the PR firm, her working for Kevin Park, etc. I call it convenient plot points.

*Spencer. I actually liked Spencer, and so did Minty. However, for as much time as they spent together I didn't quite understand his role in the book.

*Ryerson. What?? He was mentioned just a few times and then he takes center stage? Spencer should have had that role.

*Minty wants to be fashion designer, yet we never see her in her spare time sketching? She has a good eye yes, but how can you want to be a fashion designer but never actually design? The shocker is that she does get a small gig to design a line of handbags with her name. Really?

Overall, this book was an okay read. It's perfect for those that want an inside look in the New York society scene.

Lisa says

This is basically a "fluff" book. Neither the plot nor the characters have any depth to them and you're never on the edge of your seat waiting with bated breath to find out what happens. And our heroine, Minty, is just as shallow as everyone else. I didn't have a problem with her being born to a rich southern family and raised with a silver spoon in her mouth. I've read plenty of books with rich heroines who then proceeded to prove themselves to be strong, likable women I could root for. Unfortunately, Minty is no such woman. While I enjoyed her “fish out of water” southern belle contrast to the ultra-sophisticated New York elite, pretty soon that aspect of her personality fell away and her true self shone through. Minty is extremely immature and hypocritical, displays very poor judgment and virtually everything good in her life gets handed to her on a silver platter through absolutely no effort on her part whatsoever. And yet everyone in the book goes on and on about how fabulous and beautiful and deserving she is of all the incredible things she falls bass backwards into. In short, this book read like Minty's extremely one-sided fantasy diary.

(view spoiler)

All in all it was a rather vapid book without much substance to it. The writing is fine and Minty herself isn't too annoying, but it's far from a quality story.

Tanya says

Enjoyable, fun, fluffy read! If you fancy chick lit, fashion, southern traditions, and the allure of New York's fashion industry, then you'll surely fancy this book. Some of the romance was a bit hurried and I felt the main character, Minty, was so young, at 22, to even consider hooking up with Tripp ... but do read, book has style!

Serena.. Sery-ously? says

Non mi è piaciuto

Scorrevo la presentazione del libro e l'occhio traditore mi è caduto su "Gossip girl". Ecco, dire che ho un debole per GG sarebbe parlare per eufemismi.. Amo, adoro, impazzisco per Gossip Girl. E quindi mi sono ritrovata a leggere questo libro, speranzosa che lo specchietto delle allodole che era stato piazzato rivelasse un minimo di sostanza e non fosse solo fumo. Insomma, ecco, ero consapevole che mi stavo cacciando in una trappola, ma non ho voluto ascoltare la parte razionale di me.. Come sempre :DD

Prima di demolire completamente il libro, ci sono un paio di aspetti che ho salvato: innanzi tutto, si legge in un battito di ciglia. Insomma, un libro tranquillo, senza pretese, con la giusta dose di prevedibilità! Poi ogni tanto qualche pallida prova di dialoghi brillanti intelligenti interessanti sagaci si trova pure!

Lo so che probabilmente sono io che sono una lettrice troppo esigente e mi si potrà obiettare che in quanto "genere chick lit", non devo certo aspettarmi lo Shakespeare dei nostri tempi. Per carità, lungi da me! Ma, seppur non il mio genere prediletto, ho letto altri libri di questo stampo che mi sono davvero davvero davvero piaciuti!

Qui invece, TUTTO fa acqua, non sono riuscita a salvare nulla.. Trama, personaggi, finale.. Nulla! :(La trama: Minty è una "tipica bellezza del sud" (non so quante volte questa cosa mi è stata sbattuta in faccia. E non solo dagli altri personaggi.. Anche da Minty stessa! La modestia fatta persona, del resto.. -.-) che dopo una terribile delusione d'amore (che viene liquidata in 4/5 righe: il ragazzo di sempre, quello con cui Minty stava da sette anni, la lascia perché non è pronto ad impegnarsi. Lacrime? Disperazione? Depressione?! NON SCHERZIAMO! Minty è una ragazza tosta..) decide di andare a New York per ricominciare da zero la sua vita (e provare a lanciarsi nel mondo della moda). Dopo una breve, fantomatica e quantomai poco veritiera ricerca di lavoro, Minty chiama una sua amica dell'università che abita a New York, che guarda un po'! La inserisce senza battere ciglia nello spietatissimo mondo della moda, dove Minty in breve tempo diventerà un'icona e una scalatrice sociale. Non voglio fare spoiler, vi dico solo che questa scalata al milione successo è di un'improbabilità davvero imbarazzante. Statisticamente impossibile!

Ma va bene, tutto ok. Trame un po' improbabili ma supportate da ottimi personaggi e dialoghi possono ancora produrre un buon libro..

Peccato che i personaggi sono piatti come il ventre di Barbie, sciapi come la cucina di mia nonna e scontati come i vestiti nel periodo dei saldi!

Prima fra tutti ovviamente Minty che giuro, vi farà venire voglia di sbatterla al muro o di sfogare in altra maniera la violenza che si accumulerà dentro voi. E' terribilmente presuntuosa (esempio: ad un party c'è un fotografo stra-cazzutissimo e venerato da tutti. Minty io-sono-una-dea se ne esce con "Io voglio che lui mi faccia una foto". No prego, fai come se fossi a casa tua, eh!) E' sciocca, spocchiosa, esasperante ma fortunata in tutto ciò che fa. E' un personaggio così inutile e scolorito che viene da chiedersi se sei tu, quello strano che non riesce a vedere NULLA in lei, o i personaggi del libro che prendono continui abbagli nei suoi confronti e la idolatrano nemmeno fosse il dio Ra sceso in terra.

Gli altri sfortunatamente non sono meglio, anzi. come pecca aggiuntiva c'è il fatto che essendo personaggi di contorno non hanno nemmeno quel minimo di caratterizzazione che invece Minty ha avuto l'onore di ricevere. Sono una massa informe e non ben definita che agiscono tutti alla stessa maniera: ci sono o meno? Non cambia assolutamente nulla!

Menzione particolare alla madre di Minty: Ma seriamente?! Si cerca di darle rilievo, ma i risultati sono davvero.. Brrr! E poi secondo me è affetta da doppia (se non tripla!) personalità! E non è normale, decisamente:

Da quando avevo compiuto diciotto anni, ogni primavera Scarlett [LA MAMMA, chiamata simpaticamente per nome ndr] prenotava la chiesa di Cherleston e il country club per il secondo fine settimana di giugno. Certo, lei poi cancellava e riprenotava di nuovo l'anno successivo, ma era molto amica del prete e del manager del club, quindi loro non ci facevano troppo caso

Sui dialoghi nemmeno mi esprimo; mi sembrava di star leggendo la lista della spesa scritta da mia nonna.. Tornando alla storia, dopo la breve parentesi personaggi/dialoghi.. La storia è CONTRADDITTORIA e piena di controsensi! (Per dire: un giorno Emily non fa parte del gruppo "a" e quindi è immeritevole di partecipare ad un evento. Ma poi guarda un po', partecipa a eventi di élite in circoli chiusi. E' il jolly della situazione, soprattutto quando a Minty serve una spalla). Mi viene da pensare che l'autrice abbia scritto il romanzo nell'arco di dieci anni, non ricordandosi bene cosa avesse scritto in precedenza.. Altrimenti non me lo spiego!

Inoltre la trama è davvero acquosa: vada per la scalata miracolosa e la trasformazione da ignota/inutile ragazza del sud a fantastica 'socialite' newyorchese e icona della moda.. Io parlo proprio di buchi spazio/tempo/causali! Alcune cose NON hanno senso! Sono buttate lì, esche per i poveri lettori che si chiedono titubanti se sono loro a essersi persi qualcosa o se quel qualcosa sia realmente stato detto.. Tanto per dirne una: la storia con Tripp, parte centrale della "trama". Seriamente, ma ha un senso?! Una relazione che si basa sul nulla, un "passato" così labile e poco credibile che viene da ridere e uno sviluppo che di sviluppo e di "edificante" non ha proprio nulla!

Mi rendo conto che l'elemento "ritorno di fiamma" stuzzichi la curiosità dei lettori e sia in qualche modo necessario per dare un po' di pathos alla questione.. Ma questa si basa davvero su basi fragilissime! No, no no!

Vogliamo parlare del finale poi? No, dai, non parliamone. Scopritelo voi poi ne riparliamo :DD

Ah, quasi dimenticavo! L'autrice CERCA di creare situazioni di angoscia, pathos, situazioni problematiche per alzare un po' la tensione del romanzo.. Peccato che se ne esca fuori con "trovate" davvero fuori dalla grazia divina. Un esempio? Minty quasi scoppia a piangere perché non ricorda che penne desidera la sua capa (super cattiva).

<http://images.sodahead.com/polls/0027.....>

No dai! ç_ç

Vogliamo parlare del fatto che Minty è al posto giusto al momento giusto per ascoltare la rivelazione shock del suo fidanzato? Che non si premura di stare zitto mentre è a cena con lei e altre venti persone? No dico, sei scemo o cosa?! Mi è sembrato un po' una presa per i fondelli per il lettore, sinceramente!

E poi, ciliegina della torta, Minty ci fa gentilmente l'elenco di TUTTI i suoi vestiti firmati, nonché di TUTTI i vestiti firmati di coloro che appaiono nel romanzo. Certo, è un libro in cui la moda è centrale.. Ma un bel "e sti cavoli" ce lo metti?!

Il modo in cui l'autrice risolve di togliere dall'impaccio la sua protagonista sarebbe quasi tenero, se non fosse imbarazzante.. Esempio lampante (si noti che Minty è ad una tavolata di VENTI PERSONE, al centro) Mentre nessuno stava guardando, scivolai sotto il tavolo e sgusciai fuori, passando davanti alle gambe di Harry e di Catherine, stringendomi tra le sedie, rimanendo carponi. Quando riersi dall'altra parte, non mi notò nessuno.

Seriamente, la prossima volta che vado al ristorante, proverò la tecnica alla Diabolik di Minty. Nessuno se ne accorgerà!!

Peccato, la copertina e la trama promettevano davvero bene..

Ozma says

Such a fun cupcake of a book! I love chick-lit based in NYC that is all about the glamorous life, like fashion, shopping etc. When I heard that Tinsley Mortimer had written a book, I knew it would be up my alley! I ordered it immediately from Amazon. To my delight, the book did not disappoint. Not only is it a fun story filled with classic New York characters (and some whom you will try to guess as to the real identity), but it is actually well written! If Tinsley wrote it herself, my hats off to her. She is a not bad at all writer! If she didn't write it herself, then I still give her credit for picking a great ghost writer. When celebs write awful fiction, one wonders if they even bothered to read their own book. But this one is quite good and satisfies all my chick lit desires. The Southern girl part is a bit overdone, but every chick lit novel needs its special quirk. A great read for fans of Plum Sykes. If you, like me, ripped through the Debutante Divorcee and Bergdorf Blondes, this is a great next book for your fix.

Allison says

Highly predictable and extremely unimaginative, this autobiography, veiled as a novel, is trying--at best. Readers would be better off spending a few minutes skimming Mortimer's Wikipedia page in combination with three pages of a fashion magazine than spending the hours it took to read this waste of time.

Mortimer painstakingly attempts to lovingly describe her southern-belle-transplant-in-NYC life, but fails horribly to include any iota of charm. Props, though, to Mortimer's editor for choosing delightfully preppy names, such as Minty, Tripp and Barron.
