



Clockwise

Elle Strauss

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Casey Donovan has issues: hair, height and uncontrollable trips to the 19th century! And now this --she's accidentally taken Nate Mackenzie, the cutest boy in the school, back in time.

Protocol pressures her to tell their 1860 hosts that he is her brother, and when Casey finds she has a handsome, wealthy (and unwanted) suitor, something changes in Nate. Are those romantic sparks or is it just "brotherly" protectiveness?

When they return to the present, things go back to the way they were before: Casey parked on the bottom of the rung of the social ladder and Nate perched high on the very top. Except this time her heart is broken. Plus, her best friend is mad, her parents are split up, and her younger brother gets escorted home by the police. The only thing that could make life worse is if, by some strange twist of fate, she took Nate back to the past again.

Which of course, she does.

Clockwise Details

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From Reader Review Clockwise for online ebook

Jacob Proffitt says

Okay, what Tadiana said. And really, that's pretty much it. It starts off rather stereotypical and develops some nice twists and turns by the end. It's a solid 3.5 that climbs well enough throughout to prompt me to round up.

Tito says

If I could describe this book in one word, it would be cute. The main lead was cute, the side characters were cute, and the love interest was cute. Everything about this novel made me smile, and it made for a nice easy read.

****Brief rant: one thing that kinda bothered me was the way Casey was obsessed with Nate. Or actually just boys in general. I mean these girls (meaning Casey and her friend Lucinda) spent their time watching the football players, and whatnot just to oogle cute boys. I know it isn't that much of a big deal, but the girl seriously needs to find something better to do than looking for the next cute face. Maybe it's just me, but it's difficult to relate to boy crazy characters, simply because it seems like they find their entire identity in them. Just doesn't really mesh with me. **Brief rant over****

Aside from all of that, the book was really good, and the romance between Casey and Nate was adorable. For the first book in the series it was pretty good, and I'm definitely looking forward to reading the next ones.

Mitch says

Alot of this book I didn't like, parts I downright hated, but I'm giving it four stars anyway. Why? Because past the terrible start and cliched insecure/obsessive main character (stuff no guy wants to read about), there's actually a great, serious time travel story here. I just wish I could excise the first part of the book from my head, but since I can't I won't mention any of it and pretend I never read any of it either, except to say the beginning of this book is really, really bad - but stick with it, it gets better.

Anyway, past that this book actually has a pretty good plot, with a serious treatment of 1860s Civil War and 1960s civil rights stuff interwoven into it. Who knew? When the main character, Casey, is actually put into situations dealing with those issues (cause she's a time traveler who can't control her traveling), she's actually serious, intelligent, and knowledgable, and comes out way better than my first impression of her. I liked her interactions with the various people in the past, particularly Willie and his family, how she hid her knowledge and stuff from the future, how she survived in the 1860s. Add to that various quite intriguing plot twists, a friend in the past being conscripted into the Union army, a proposal from a fugitive slave hunter, dealing with prejudices and all that, and I can almost completely forgive the horrid start.

Surprisingly, the modern parts of this book got good too. There are a couple of side plots with Casey's brother and family, and the past and future plots actually connected to each other quite well in the end. Since Casey basically disappears from one time and blinks into existence in the other, it could be've been very hard to follow, but all the time traveling, tracking the past plots and the present plots, was very well done.

There are quite a few loose plotlines for the sequel (including a HUGE twist from the ending), how her time traveling works, the other time travelers she's met, etc, and from the looks of the preview of the first chapter, it doesn't start as badly as this one, so I hope this series continues to be a light, fun, quick, but engaging read - just with less stuff that makes me want to vomit.

Anne says

For 15 year-old girls who have just (re)discovered their love for reading.

Tadiana ☆Night Owl? says

Kindle freebie, 6/19/18 (again). 3.5 stars, rounding up since I think it'll really appeal to its main intended audience, high school age girls who love some romance mixed with fantasy in their novels, and I'd definitely recommend it for that group. This is a cute time travel novel about a high school girl named Casey, who keeps getting pulled back to the year 1860 at random times. The plot thickens when she accidentally pulls her hot classmate Nate back to the past with her.

It starts out rather clichéd - Casey is an awkward girl with a mad crush on Nate, who is one of the most popular guys in her school - but the story gets much more complex and interesting as it goes along, especially toward the end. I was pleasantly surprised by some of the twists and turns in the plot.

This is definitely a story for the YA set, with a side helping of high school romance, but if you like that kind of thing it's worth grabbing while it's a freebie. The author turned it into a series, but this first book works fine as a stand-alone read.

Jennifer says

Casey first time traveled at nine years old. She has no control over it but stress seems to induce the "trip" what she and her best friend call traveling. Casey always travels back to 1860 in the exact same location as she is in the present. She can be stuck there anywhere from a few hours to a few weeks but when she comes back not a single second has passed. She returns exactly the same except completely exhausted with dark rings around her eyes. Anything she is touching at the time also travels back with her but she returns wearing exactly the same thing she had on when she left. No naked time traveling! Thank goodness! Everything is fine as long as she doesn't touch anyone. When her longtime crush, Nate, asks her to dance, she is beyond happy. But with all the stress and emotions she ends up time traveling with Nate along for the ride.

I loved Casey. She was such a brave and down to earth character that I could relate to. High school is hard enough but imagine having to live that life as well as a whole other life in 1860. Casey was able to find a family in 1860 to take her in and give her work but she faces many difficulties such as trying to find food, shelter, and clothes. When she time travels she ends up in 1860 in exactly the same place she is in present day so sometimes she must travel for miles to get back to Sara and the Watsons who employ her. I also loved Nate. At first I was worried I wouldn't like him because he starts off as the typical mean jock. But when Nate travels back with Casey he gets to spend a few weeks in her world. He finally sees what an amazing and strong person she is and becomes a better person himself. Nate must live in 1860 for a few weeks pretending to be her brother and he sees how hard Casey works to survive.

There were great supporting characters as well. The Watsons were very kind to take in Casey especially since she disappears on them all the time with no warning. They also helped out another straggler named Samuel who ended up really surprising me. I loved that along with the great characters I also felt like I traveled to 1860 myself. I was reminded of some interesting American History. I could have never survived in 1860! Casey has to deal with issues such as racism, sexism, no transportation, difficult farm and family work. I read the whole book in one night and it was a lot of fun. I recommend it for anyone that enjoys time travel. It also has a great romance and I loved all the twists and turns and the way everything came together in the end. It all wrapped around in a surprising way. I plan to read the sequel very soon!

"So, this is your life, Casey."

"Just one big loop over and over."

"Something like that."

"Doesn't it drive you crazy? Having your life interrupted all the time. Having to be two different people. Having to survive in a strange era?"

"Your nothing like I thought you were, back at school."

"Which was?"

"I don't know, quiet, boring, uninspired."

"And now?"

"Obviously, the opposite."

Sharon says

www.obsessionwithbooks.blogspot.com

CLOCKWISE was kindly provided to me by the author Elle Strauss in exchange for my honest review.

15 year-old Casey Donovan is your typical shy, awkward teen with a crush on the popular school jock that doesn't seem to notice her. She also has a very big secret which no-one but her best-friend is aware of – she is a time traveler who without knowing how transports back in time to the 1800's.

Time stands still in the present when Casey time travels but she is able to feel when it is coming on and is left exhausted when it ends; unfortunately at a school dance while dancing (as a dare) with Nate MacKenzie, her crush they are transported back in time.

An initially disbelieving Nate handled the time travel well once it was explained and played the part of her brother Nathaniel willingly although protectively, but things went back to usual as soon as they were back in the present much to Casey's dismay and heart-break. I am glad Nate had the opportunity to travel on a number of occasions with Casey which enabled him to get to know her outside of school, he was quite sweet and supportive of her ability.

I really enjoyed both of the worlds Casey was between; I enjoyed the history of the past - their way of living, the politics, the people both good and bad and how she was able to adapt and cope which was the same as how she was dealing with the present and the issues a regular teen faced with family and school life. I wish we could have found out more of why Casey had this ability, and how she was able to travel between times? It is the only thing I found to be missing in **CLOCKWISE**; I wanted to know how it all worked.

There was a slight twist at the end which I really enjoyed and definitely didn't expect, it was a nice ending to a really enjoyable story.

I thoroughly enjoyed the interactions between all of the characters; each were thought out, likeable and written well.

I liked Ms Strauss's detailed writing style, it was a solid and entertaining plot which held my attention and left me wanting more of the world she has created – the 19th century and present time was interweaved perfectly, Ms Strauss certainly knew her history which was impressive and the pacing was spot on for me.

CLOCKWISE is the first time travel novel I have read and I really enjoyed it, I am not sure if it is a part of a series but it would definitely be a great start. I will definitely be reading more books written by Elle Strauss.

The Girl In Boots says

Find this review on: <https://beingabooknerd.wordpress.com/...>

Clockwise was a fun and light read with a fairytale ending. It was sort of like a short summer read, the ones that makes you kind of happy and light hearted. Strauss's take on time travel was interesting- you go back in time but travel back to the same moment.

(By the way,I love the cover)

The story flowed smoothly. I loved how Strauss explored each character, rather than focusing just on time travel. It was nice to know that Casey had other things/ problems in her life other than time travel. Many little things like this made the story more real.

I thought it was real cool who Samuel really was. I liked reading about Casey's and Nate's travel to the past, the lies they make up, problems they had to encounter. Strauss showed the 1860's really well. Casey was a good MC- smart, brave, takes no nonsense but at the same time made mistakes and acted silly. The characters were relatable.

But as I said, clockwise was a very light read. I felt it had more room for expansion.

Anyway, I loved clockwise and would recommend it to anyone who wants a fun fairytale twist on time travel that makes you happy.

Jamie says

3.5 stars

This is a light-hearted time-travel. Part adventure, some disaster, a dash of comedy and an edge of romance. While many things are not very well explained and the summary of the book pretty much covers everything, I did still overall enjoy it.

Casey is a typical teenager who is just trying to live her life. Yet at random, unknown intervals she finds herself thrust back in time. Particularly the 1860s. Sometimes it is for a few hours, other-times weeks she could be stuck there. While she had learned how to handle and navigate these changes she is always fearful of touching others because whatever she is touching at the time goes with her and since she has no control over when she travels it must be quite nerve-wracking.

When the guy she likes is dancing with her, suddenly, POOF! Welcome to the 1800's! Nate things of it as a prank at first but then when he realizes how real it is, he struggles to adjust. This is just the beginning! It is an interesting adventure with some surprising connections.

I did find the book a bit jumpy, especially at first and how she knew certain things didn't make much sense for awhile. But soon, I was into the story and the nuances started to slip into the background. Overall, an enjoyable read but I do wish it was a bit more memorable. I read it a few months ago, and many details of since run away from me. I prefer to have the memories live on, especially until I finish a series when it is part of one.

I was given a copy of this book in exchange for a fair/honest review

Heather *Awkward Queen and Unicorn Twin* says

This was a cute book, typical YA but enjoyable and addictive nonetheless. The romance was sweet and Casey was really amusing. It was actually just what I needed during a book slump!

Jenn says

So this was cute but a little off for me.

Casey Donovan is not your normal teenager. She randomly gets sucked back in time - to the 1800's. When this happens, time doesn't change in her era, so that she always returns to the exact spot she left from. Handy. Only her best friend knows her secret...oh and now the super hot football star Nate Mackenzie, who she accidentally took with her.

I liked the characters. They were fun and light. Pretty much average teens, just with time travel happening.

The plot itself was also all right. It moved along and even though I figured out the "oh my gosh" moments long before they happened, I was interested in how they would eventually come to light.

But I had some issues with the writing. The characters read a little young for me and I felt like nothing was really explained. Casey had no real connection to the time traveling. It just happens and we're supposed to accept it. I guess I just wanted more emotion, more explanation. Also, why when Casey returned from time travel were her clothes the same as when she left? She always changed the minute she arrived in the past so shouldn't she travel back to her time period wearing those clothes? Like how do her original clothes just magically appear back on her body??? See, these are answers I need!

To me, the best thing about this book was the historical aspect. I loved the parts when Casey was in the past more than her actual life because things were happening. So, will I continue? I honestly don't know. I read this one because it was part of a buddy read and a freebie from Amazon, so if that happens again, I may check out the next one.

Coco.V says

FREE on Amazon today (10/25/2017)!

Kereesa says

I have to admit I've encountered more than a few indie/self-published pieces throughout my exploration of the ebook market. And, let's not lie, 75-80% of those have been less than spectacular, and have featured characters, plots, and writing I have either struggled with or given up on entirely. After DFNeing my latest indie novel, I have to admit I was slightly skeptical when I first started *Clockwise*.

And while I do admit *Clockwise* has its fair share of typical YAness and stereotypes, (jock boy with a sweet heart, new clothing/make-up/hair products=gorgeous, damsel in distress syndrome are just a few of many) it's definitely a gem within the labyrinth of self-publishing.

The one thing I really liked about *Clockwise* was the addicting aspect of the writing. It's your typical rom-com/chick-lit novel, so the writing isn't on par with the descriptiveness that usually comes out of Libba Bray or Maggie Stiefvater's pen, but is a nice mix of fun and funny that gives the novel just the right touch. Casey's (our adorable 1st person POV MC) voice, in particular, got me laughing (literally) out loud at moments, and really felt utterly real and human. The only thing that bothered me about the writing (and this truly is a minor point) was the lack of description at points, and the *telling* of events as time passed. But those are truly minor complaints, and in truth, the novel doesn't really need them to stand on its own in my opinion.

The romance is, perhaps, where I wasn't totally on Casey's side. Mostly because Nate was a ~~diek~~ jerk for the majority of the novel, and only sort of redeemed himself in my eyes. (I'm always hard on redemption) The romance also *slightly* smelled like insta love (never a good mark in my book), and was that whole popular guy crush thing sadly. Thankfully the word love in relation to them was only uttered once, and Nate's feelings did develop enough to make me sort of okay with him.

While I absolutely adored Casey, I found she frequently put herself down (with the help of her BFF once in a

while...don't get me started on Lucinda-I was not pleased with her for the majority of the novel, though I felt a little better about her redemption moment than I did with Nate), which I am not a fan of. She did have moments of potential grrl-power awesomeness, however, and only really became insecure in relation to her looks and standing with guys. In a weird kind of way, Casey was so much more confident in the 1800s than she was in the real world.

The more quieter moments of the plot, Casey's father and her parents' separation especially, while small moments, really got to me, and made the novel not only much more relatable, but more real in my mind. I also liked the focus on racism within the time travel, and how it became a small, but important theme throughout the novel.

All in all, I really enjoyed *Clockwise*. It was wonderfully funny, addicting (I read it in two days ya'll), and featured a nice cast of characters as well as some more serious sections that made me want to crank open a few history books myself. 3.5-4/5

Sa says

This book is pure YA entertainment! Casey is so funny and likable. There's never a dull moment. There isn't too much unnecessary descriptions and details, which is always a plus in my book. I didn't like how Casey was the only one pining hard for Nate, and how insecure she was about herself. I know the author wanted to give her realistic feelings, but I feel she could be a bit more confident. As for Nate, he should have been more expressive towards her. It felt like unrequited love till the near end, I'm not happy. Casey should have a love interest totally crazy about her! She's too cute!

Dianne says

Who wouldn't like a story about time travel, especially if you are a young adult living the day to day issues that are so much a part of growing up. **Clockwise** by Elle Strauss is an engaging read, light and actually a fun experience for all ages! Young Casey travels back into the nineteenth century, and really handles the situation well-especially when you realize she has no control over when she will 'pop' back or forward, but at least she returns to the exact moment she left! (Whew, I can imagine her trying to explain that to her friends!) Casey also has a crush on Nate, the stereotypical hot jock, who all the girls swoon for and she just happened to be touching him when she was transported back to around 1860 in Massachusetts and guess who came along for the ride? Is this the beginning of a beautiful relationship or a terrible nightmare? Will Nate embrace her world with keen interest? What consequences are there to their presence in the past?

Elle Strauss has woven a beautiful tapestry of two worlds, contemporary YA/middle grade and historical tidbits that expose the differences in the two eras. By letting Casey tell her story, she allows us a glimpse inside the mind of a teen with a sharp sense of humor that makes her so likeable! I commend Ms. Strauss on her ability to keep the story flowing smoothly and walking that fine line between a wonderful fantasy read and mere fluff! A great read for anyone who enjoys a little time travel with a lot of adventure and fun! Perfect for summer reading!

A review copy was provided by NetGalley and All Night Reads in exchange for my honest review.

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