



Clueless: Senior Year

Amber Benson , Sarah Kuhn , Siobhan Keenan (Illustrations) , Natacha Bustos (With)

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Haven't got your hands on the newest installment of this 90's teen phenomenon? *As if!*

Your favorite girls from Beverly Hills are back in an all-new adventure! It's senior year and Cher, Dionne, and Tai find themselves in a bit of a crisis of self... Where are they meant to go, and what are they meant to DO after high school? Luckily they have all year—and each other's help—to figure it out!

Clueless: Senior Year Details

Date : Published August 29th 2017 by BOOM! Box

ISBN : 9781608869831

Author : Amber Benson , Sarah Kuhn , Siobhan Keenan (Illustrations) , Natacha Bustos (With)

Format : Paperback 112 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Graphic Novels, Comics, Young Adult, Graphic Novels Comics

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From Reader Review Clueless: Senior Year for online ebook

Astrea says

2.5/5

Unlike a lot of people I didn't grow up having watched Clueless. In fact my first exposure to it came from watching reruns of the short-lived tv show. It wasn't until I was an older teen/adult that I finally got the chance to watch the movie and while I enjoyed it at the time I don't think I really cared. Rewatching it now as an adult-adult it's funny and charming and a total throwback to growing up in the 90s and I could see why people love it so much.

Yet, I went into this with really low expectations since it seems everything is making a comeback these days and not always for the right reasons (money, money, money). Why they didn't bring Amy Heckerling in, to at least consult on this is beyond me (especially since she was involved in the musical workshop). There are a lot of writers out there who are easy enough to imitate but clearly Amy Heckerling isn't one of them.

I... yeah. I wanted to like this, I really did. The art is cute even if the characters don't really look like the actors who played them (honestly most of them I wouldn't know who they are if I wasn't told who they are). In the movie Cher's dimwittedness is charming in this... sometimes comes across as more annoying than anything else.

The fashion was on point at least. I also really liked Tai's sage words to Dionne in Dionne's arc (view spoiler)

Fernanda says

3,5

Eu reassisti o filme ontem e por isso achei que fosse um bom momento pra ler essa graphic.

Foi. E não foi. Apesar de achar que foi uma ÓTIMA adaptação (os figurinos, as falas e as personalidades dos personagens ainda estão ali do jeitinho fofo que sempre estiveram) sinto como se a história não se sustentasse por si só.

Não sei se o ponto que estou tentando expor faz sentido. Tenho noção de que o objetivo não é ser um produto para quem não consumiu o filme mas acho que a menos que você goste MUITO do filme, a hq não convence. Sinto como se entregasse uma parte da história que já foi muito batida pelo seriado e mesmo que prometa uma perspectiva mais moderna não fosse nada menos do que a uma nova versão dos exatos mesmos problemas tratados do filme.

Um ponto muito positivo é a nova tratativa com a comunidade lgbtqia+ que não se prende tão dentro do mesmo padrão de "homofobia leve" e dá valor ao casal. Ainda sobre representatividade o empoderamento feminino ficou muito mais presente tanto por retirar destaque da competição Cher X Amber quanto por dar ainda mais força e presença as personagens D e Tai.

De qualquer jeito achei uma história divertida e vale dizer que a arte é muito bonita.

☆ Ashley ☆ says

☆ 3.5 Stars ☆

I needed this fluff today! It was a shameless guilty pleasure. So, was it as good as the cult-classic?

AS IF!!!

...but it definitely allowed me to lose a few brain cells while diving into nostalgic bliss!! It was as girly as it could get with Cher, D, and Tai. Yup, it's been too long *Clueless*...

Blog ✧ Twitter ✧ Instagram

Scott says

I read this. It's not great.

What I wanted to be a time capsule of that exaggerated yet relatable Beverly Hills high school experience ended up being a weird hybrid of then and now, ravaged by the last 20 years. Tai's lesbian aunt bequeaths her an apple orchard. Dion runs for class president against her doofy, yet eloquent boyfriend. (One thing this book does right is maintain the characters' loquaciousness, even if it's a bit off. There are some writers that are just tough to emulate, like them or not. Joss Whedon, Diablo Cody, and clearly Amy Heckerling.) It just doesn't maintain that classic, poppy, colorful charm of the source material. Maybe rushing each of the girls through a story arc in such a short span of pages was part of the problem.

The art's alright. None of the faces quite translate -- you'd never guess these were *Clueless* characters without being told -- but the fashion's pretty spot on. The iconic plaid skirt is rather overused (her closet freaking rotates, no way she's wearing that thing as often as all that), but other than that, it's sort of the best part. The prom dresses especially.

So yeah, I hoped for more.

The Library Ladies says

(originally reviewed at thelibraryladies.com)

One of my all time favorite movies is "Clueless". When I first saw it in fifth grade (my mom brought it home for us to watch together), I was immediately drawn to Cher Horowitz, our well meaning but flawed protagonist. I wanted to be her, wanted to live her life and be as clever and kind as she was. As an adult I still aspire to live up to her standards, so when I saw that a new graphic novel about Cher and her friends was coming out, I was SUPER excited. The story picks up shortly after the movie ends. Cher, Dionne, and Tai are starting their senior year of high school, and Ms. Geist challenges them and the other students in her class to determine what their post high school goals are by the end of the year, and to figure out what they want to be in the world. After this, we follow not just Cher, but also her best friends on a journey of self discovery

that was both incredibly charming and completely empowering. In spite of my excitement over this book, I was also nervous because I hold this movie so close to my heart (and “Emma” as well, the Jane Austen book that it takes inspiration from). I was worried that it was going to perhaps rehash the movie in some way, or throw in drama for drama’s sake. But I am very happy to report that Amber Benson and Sarah Kuhn absolutely did justice to the film and it’s characters.

I first want to talk about the characters and the arcs themselves. I worship Cher Horowitz, but it’s important to remember that even though she gets her life together at the end of the movie, she’s still a teenager who is going to have moments of stumble along with moments of triumph. I was very worried about her relationship with Josh, the Mr. Knightley analog who is played by Paul Rudd in the movie. Cher and Josh are perfect together, but happy bliss usually means no conflict. And hey, I am aware that stories need conflict (even if that’s an easy grab for conflict). But I am happy to report that while I do wish that Josh had been around a bit more (but that’s all I will say), Benson and Kuhn took their relationship on a trajectory that felt realistic for the characters, but didn’t completely decimate the lovely romance that lives at the heart of it. And it was done in a way that we got to focus on Cher learning how to define herself without basing it all on Josh and his needs. But the thing that caught me the most off guard in the best way possible was that we got similar treatments for both Dionne and Tai, Cher’s partners in crime but sidekick status only in the film. Dionne starts to suss out what it is she wants to be outside of a good friend and girlfriend, and gets interested in civics within the high school by running for class president. And Tai has a tough decision to make when she is accepted to art school, but a family tragedy makes her second guess what her priorities should be. This enabled them to move from “The Best Friend” (Dionne) and “The Ditzzy One” (Tai) and become well rounded, three dimensional characters just like Cher. The justice given to these ladies was so, so satisfying.

A number of tributes to the movie are sprinkled throughout the comic, which varied from being absolutely adorable to kind of ham fisted and distracting. The not so good were the kind of glaring references that didn’t feel like they really belonged (yes yes, Cher does wear Alaia in the movie during the robbery scene, but referencing Alaia in the way this graphic novel did was kind of awkward), or were misused completely. But smaller Easter eggs were far more entertaining (Dionne’s campaign signs saying that Murray is ‘toe-up’, for instance), and I liked seeing them. I was also a bit sad that so many classic characters from the movie were missing. Mel, Christian, Lucy, Mr. Hall, and Elton were no where to be seen, and given that I love ALL of the side characters in the movie I was sad when none of those arguably important faces could even muster a cameo.

I really liked the artwork for this book too. Not only did Siobhan Keenan really capture the styles and imagery from the movie, be it through outfits, faces, or background, she brought a fun and bubblegum pinache to the illustrations. With some potential manga influences as well just for funzies.

Bottom line is that if you like “Clueless” the movie, this graphic novel will never meet your standards of perfection. But it comes pretty close, and does a great job of carrying on the stories of these excellent teenage girls. I would say that it definitely improves upon the characters of Dionne and Tai, which is so excellent to see. Definitely check it out. If you miss it, I assure you, you’ll be totally buggin’.

ElphaReads says

Given that CLUELESS is one of my favorite movies of all time, this graphic novel had a lot to live up to. But I had to get it, of course, as not only is it CLUELESS, it's written by Amber Benson and Sarah Kuhn. So I finally got it from the library, and sat down with it today.

After the events of the movie have wrapped up, Cher, Dionne, and Tai are trying to figure out what they want to do after high school is over. Ms. Geist gives an assignment to all of her students to try and decide who they want to be going into college, which makes all of them reflect on their dreams and motivations. But with Cher and Josh on the rocks, Dionne trying to step out from her friends' and boyfriend's shadows, and Tai torn between a family situation and her dreams of art school, they start to wonder if they are still totally clueless.

This is a very cute graphic novel that made me smile as I read it. I feel like Benson and Kuhn did a good job of capturing the voices of the three girls from the movie that I basically grew up idolizing, and gave them all some good situations to grow and reflect within. Okay, so some of the slang felt a LITTLE forced, and some of my favorites from the movie were missing (WHERE WAS MEL? WHERE WAS MR. HALL? WHERE WAS ELTON, THAT PRICK?!?!). But overall, this was a win because it really was the time for Cher, Dionne, and Tai to shine and just be best friends supporting each other. Sure, I could have used some more Cher/Josh romance, I really liked that Benson and Kuhn made it so romance wasn't the ONLY storyline for these excellent ladies. Also, super props that they made Tai totally into art and her artistic side (man I miss Brittany Murphy).

Fans of CLUELESS rejoice. This is a fun follow up to the movie.

Rachel says

Holy hell, I love Clueless. The movie is one of my favorites and I'm so happy I found this book! Awesome and definitely not a Monet!

lit.erary.britt says

This follows Cher, Dionne, and Tai through senior year, alternating their points of view with each change of season. The language and fashion are spot-on and the artwork is really beautiful. I'm a massive Clueless fan so I had high hopes. Nothing earth shattering here, but it was a fun little read.

Krystal says

I want to like this for so many reasons. But it needs to figure itself out first.

Gaby says

DNF'd after Tai's chapter.

The art is gorgeous, so colorful which I love. Being a die hard Clueless fan, I was expecting so much more. As another person pointed out, the dialogue feels forced in that it's trying too hard to sound like the movie. A lot of the lines are recycled right out of it without really adding anything new. I really wanted to like this but I just couldn't get through it?

Annie Laflèche says

BD super légèrement comme ce film culte des années 90, mais de toute façon c'est ça qu'on veut ! J'adore Cher, mais Tai reste ma favorite!

Ruth Klassert says

It's such a cute, fluffy read. I don't think I'd recommend it to anyone who wasn't a girl in the 90s, but it's perfect if you've that experience behind you. I'm only doing a 3/5 because I felt the story line could've been a bit deeper & some of the original Clueless brand humor was missing in this comic, but it was so cute other than that!

tony dillard jr says

Clueless Senior Year follows Cher Horowitz and her friends Dionne and Tai almost immediately after the first film ends. Cher's relationship with Josh has been put on hold while she's struggles to find herself before graduation. Dionne has gotten fed-up with how boyfriend Murray has been treating her. So she decides to run for class president against him. Meanwhile, former ugly duckling Tai must choose between her dream of going to art school or running her aunt's apple farm after she inherits it.

Living in the 90s

The movie Clueless debuted in 1995. At the time, Clueless was hailed as an accurate portrayal of high school life for that generation. I graduated high school in 1996. Without all the excesses of life in Beverly Hills, my experience was pretty similar to Cher's: Nobody knew what in the hell were they going to do with their life.

By 1995, the rules had changed on members of Generation X. We had been told for years to A) graduate high school B) get a degree and C) find a job. However, the job market got tougher as the previous generation before us started getting masters and doctorates. As a result, my generation was told that the 3-point plan we had been sold on wasn't going to cut it anymore. Thus, even more school was on the table if we wanted to achieve our dreams.

Like Cher, many of those in Generation X kinda got burned out with the whole situation. The best way to deal with our problems was to shop them away. If we happened to find love while on a quest to fulfill our consumerist impulses that was all the better. Ah, 90s life!

Not How I Remember It

Reading this sequel to Clueless was really odd because this isn't the 90s I remember. Senior Class just felt dated and no longer relevant. Writers Amber Benson and Sarah Kuhn claim in the book's extensive production notes section to have studied up on mid-90s vernacular and pop culture. But peppering a story with slang and numerous Fresh Prince references isn't enough to capture the giant pain in the butt being a teen in the 90s was. I feel like the story has been updated with millennial problems flavored with 90s era teen angst. That just doesn't work for me.

It's getting to be a big deal to bring back the 90s. Almost every other show scheduled for next TV season is a reboot of a 90s sitcom. While you can argue how originality is dying in the TV medium, that's not the point I am trying to make. At least for these reboots, they're going to deal with the characters living in 2017. But this sequel has Cher and friends still in the 90s. Yes, they're dealing with problems like gender rights, the environment, and LGBT relationships. But their responses to them aren't typical for a Clinton Era teen. Okay, I'm playing the historically inaccurate card here. But I can- because I lived it!

Fitting Into the Franchise

Another issue I have with this book has more to do with the Clueless franchise as a whole. Why do we need this book as a sequel when there was a Clueless TV series? For 3 seasons, the adventures of Cher and Dionne continued on after the film. In fact, several actors from the original movie reprised their original roles such as Stacey Dash and Donald Faison. So does this book eliminate the series? Is this a supplement? Did the folks at Boom! Studios forget that part?

Another thing Boom! seemed to have forgotten is what the original cast looked like. All of these characters look like friends of Ken and Barbie. The representations of the characters by newcomer Siobhan Keenan are pretty generic. If this wasn't based on an established property, I wouldn't be opposed to the artwork. But I am one of those in the camp of characters need to look like the actors who portrayed them. One thing I can't excuse is the coloring and inking of the book. It looks like someone used magic markers and gives the series a coloring book feel to it.

Sweet Vibes

I will give some praise where praise is due. This book comes with a soundtrack. Before each major scene, the writers provide you with snippets from each character's collection of mix-tapes. If you happen to be able to play the songs while reading this, it actually adds to the 90s vibe. It's in my opinion one of the few things the writers got right!

Clueless Senior Year would be a great read if it wasn't trying to fit into the Clueless franchise. But since it does, just like Cher, this book can't find its true self.

Christy says

This was the best part of my week.

Denisa says

i can't wait to read this!!! it's clueless!!! but also: it's also being illustrated by one of my fave artists siobhanchiffon!!! ofc im going to pick this up and cry when i look at her linework
