



Mary Anne vs. Logan

Ann M. Martin

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Lately, Mary Anne's been feeling like she and Logan are spending too much time together. They fight over silly things. And Mary Anne never gets to do what she wants to do--like read, and baby-sit, and be with her friends.

But when Mary Anne suggests that she and Logan see less of each other, Logan takes it all the wrong way. Could this really be the end for Mary Anne and Logan?

Mary Anne vs. Logan Details

Date : Published January 28th 2014 by Scholastic Paperbacks (first published February 1991)

ISBN :

Author : Ann M. Martin

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre : Young Adult, Fiction, Childrens, Middle Grade

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From Reader Review Mary Anne vs. Logan for online ebook

Rachel Brand says

I have to admit, I preferred the Jenny plot to the MA/Logan plot. I owned this book as a kid and it wasn't one of my favourites. When did Logan suddenly become a jerk? There didn't seem to be any lead up to this at all! I liked that MA stood up to her boyfriend, but it all seemed a bit over the top. At least Jenny getting a new sibling was quite realistic, although all of the BSC toddlers can talk a lot better than those that I know in real life. Also, my copy has a sticker of a dog on the front cover. I love books that look like they've been well-loved! 7/10

Amy H says

I can't explain how much I loved these books as a child. They still interest me even though it is only a couple hour read.

This story is mostly about Mary-Anne. She is dating a boy named Logan for a long time now. the only problem is that she is shy, and she is afraid to speak up. Logan is kind of bossy and always makes plans and doesn't ask Mary-Anne what she would like to eat or what she would want to do. Mary-Anne decided that it was time to take a "break" Logan agreed, but you can tell he was hurt about it.

Meanwhile they baby sitters club is dealing with one of their good customers. "mrs.P" is going to have a baby. now they have to help the little girl Jenny adapt to having a new baby in the house. The only problem is that she likes being the only child and likes the attention. Jenny's parents are constantly buying her gifts to make her like the baby. it is up to the baby sitters club to teach Jenny that bribing is not ok and that having another baby in the house will be good for her.

Mary-Anne was surprised when Logan asked her to babysit his sister and brother on valentines day. She is worried that he got a new girlfriend, but after a surprise Mary-Anne doesn't know if she still wants a boyfriend or not.

Ciara says

the one in which mary anne & logan break up. i just (re)read this book a couple of days ago & i have already forgotten what instigates mary anne's decision to break up with logan. there's something about how he's been kind of a pushy jerk lately, i guess. there's some backstory on the fight that mary anne & logan had in super special #4, while claudia & dawn were lost at sea. it made mary anne realize that logan cannot be counted on during a crisis. it made me realize that mary anne uses her emotions to manipulate & control the behaviors of her loved ones. mary anne also mentions the events of book #25, in which tigger was kidnapped & logan was something less than supportive. another great example of mary anne using a personal crisis as impetus to encourage her loved ones to drop everything & be at her beck & call. logan handled that situation poorly because he was distracted by his poor performance on the baseball team. i'm sure this was a personal crisis for him...but he didn't even mention it to mary anne, let alone expect her to bend over backwards supporting him every second of every day. can we cut the dude a little slack for getting bored listening to his girlfriend

fuss over her goddamn kitten all the time?

so, already, mary anne is feeling a little iffy about things. then logan comes over unexpectedly one afternoon when mary anne was planning to lay in front of a fire & read wuthering heights (which seems a little mature for a 13-year-old, but whatever). he wants to make a day of it in the park, ice skating & drinking hot cocoa & making snow angels & such forth. mary anne reluctantly joins him, but quickly becomes too cold & begs to go home. i think both are at fault: mary anne shouldn't have gone if she didn't want to go, & logan could have done a far better job listening to mary anne & reading her signals.

another night, logan takes mary anne out for dinner & a movie. but he orders for her at the restaurant (ann m. martin has a real vendetta against this--travis does it to dawn in book #37 & it is evidence of what a douche he is), & then he wants to see a horror movie that mary anne doesn't want to see. mary anne realizes she needs to take action.

she ends up meeting logan in the park & telling him that she wants to cool their relationship off. not necessarily break up--just slow things down. he is hurt, but what can he do? he barely speaks to her in school the next day & mary anne wonders if she made the right choice.

valentine's day is approaching, & logan calls the BSC to request mary anne as a sitter for his younger siblings that night. mary anne reluctantly takes the job, & imagines that logan has a new girlfriend with whom he's planning a hot valentine's day date. she wonders if logan wants her to sit so she can see the hot new girl he is with & lament what she gave up. she is pretty upset when she shows up at his house & he's wearing a tux & carrying a corsage. he shows mary anne a romantic table for two all set up in the dining room & she wonders why logan is rubbing her face in his date. then logan clarifies: she's the date. the babysitting job was a ploy to get her to his house. he's ready to start the relationship back up again. he gives her a bracelet made of linked hearts to symbolize their love. mary anne is pretty upset.

the books ends very dramatically, with mary anne breaking it off for real with logan. i guess the B-plot has something to do with mrs. prezzioso having another baby & bribing bratty jenny with new toys & clothes into liking the baby, but i can't remember what connection this has to the A-plot.

Alex says

There's something about being in the hospital that just makes me crave comfort reads, and the BSC is always first on that list. So, I apologize in advance for the many BSC reviews that will be coming your way.

I remember being appalled at Mary Anne dumping Logan when I first read this as a kid. Logan was perfect in every way! What was she thinking? Re-reading this as an adult I am really concerned with the fact that I thought this, and was instead cheering MA on.

Too bad the breakup doesn't last long, though.

Swankivy says

I liked the *Baby-Sitters Club* books for the most part when I was a kid, but the focus on mysteries and dating

drove me up the wall. I was actually kinda eager to see Mary Anne and Logan have a fight or whatever, as I figured they would based on the title. However, I was kind of irritated by how Logan suddenly started acting like a jerk in order to manufacture plot (I guess). Logan does a bunch of insensitive things. Mary Anne finally grows a backbone and tells him she wants some cool-down time from their relationship. Instead of listening to her, he gives her some illusionary space and then pushes her into a surprise date. I was glad, actually, that she didn't melt and decide he's so romaaaantic. She actually broke up with him for not listening to what she said. Good for her. I liked that, even though their arguments were stupid and seemed suddenly invented. I think that the babysitting-related plot was mostly about one of their bratty sitting charges having to deal with having a new baby in the house, and just like Logan was trying to change Mary Anne's feelings with gifts, the kid's mom was rewarding her by trying to distract her from being bratty. That kind of stuff never works.

kb says

Love this cover! And also enjoyed how Mary Anne stood her ground in terms of breaking off her relationship with Logan. She wasn't happy and felt controlled, and I was proud of her for standing her ground.

I loved the BSC growing up, and have decided to re-read (or read for the first time) some of the books in the series. Which of the members are you? :)

Logan Hughes says

Mary Anne breaks up with Logan.

Mary Anne, feeling smothered by Logan, asks to "cool [their] relationship," which Logan takes as a breakup. Mary Anne misses him and is sad, but when Logan makes a grand romantic gesture and unilaterally declares their relationship no longer cool, Mary Anne realizes she needs to break up with him for real. Meanwhile, Jenny Prezzioso dreads the arrival of a new brother or sister, but is charmed when she actually sees baby Andrea.

My original comments on this book in April 2013: This book is basically why I don't like Mary Anne. Look, I'm an introvert, and I'm a breaker-upper. I do relate to her desire for space and reading (alone). I even relate to her difficulty expressing that desire (how do you tell someone you'd rather be alone than hang out with them without making it sound like you hate them?) But she is so passive-aggressive about it! We are treated to pages on end of internal monologue whining about how cold she is on their stupid skating date and how upset she is that Logan ordered for her in a restaurant, but to Logan, she just sort of mumbles "I'm a little cold" or "That's not what I wanted" and backs down quickly when he responds. It's realistic, certainly, but it's like listening to a friend who complains and complains but never does anything. She gets more sympathetic during the actual ambiguous breakup, which confuses and saddens her even though she initiated it. Logan is a little out of character throughout, since I don't recall him ever showing "smothering" tendencies before, but it makes sense given Mary Anne's passivity (you can see why the dominance would develop) and Mary Anne does have a history of being attracted to the bossy.

My perspective in April 2016: I remember having that knee-jerk "ugh Mary Anne" reaction I described in the previous review, but when I reread this book, I felt a lot more sympathetic toward her, or maybe just a lot more anti-Logan. I guess my standards for relationships have risen, because it no longer seemed to me that Logan was failing her secret tests to read her mind; it seemed that he was failing to receive basic signals from the person he supposedly cares about. And Mary Anne no longer seemed so much passive-aggressive to me, as a conflicted person trying to deal with her changing perspective on the relationship without hurting Logan's feelings too much. SO I GUESS THIS IS A GOOD BOOK, since it elicits different reactions at different times. I do think it portrays a realistic teen relationship problem, and Mary Anne deals with it admirably. It still feels somewhat out of the blue to me for perfect Logan to suddenly show controlling tendencies, but since he's never had that much of a character, I guess it's fine. Anyway, he's not a villain--just a believably clueless teen boy who has a lot to learn about dating.

Re: the Jenny subplot, I've always liked the classic reverse psychology scene where Jenny is pretending to be a baby and Mary Anne treats her like one, to demonstrate how much better it is to be a "big kid." But is anyone else shocked by how much self-awareness Jenny shows when she explains matter-of-factly that when the baby comes, she won't have her parents to herself anymore? It seems awfully sophisticated for a four-year-old (and anvilicious). Oh well, her actions struck me as a believable even if her speech isn't.

Timing: February, leading up to and surrounding Valentine's Day.

Revised Timeline: February of tenth grade.

Lisa says

Whooooaaa! What?? I thought Mary Anne and Logan would totes be together 4eva! They're 13! Its a serious relationship!
Sigh..

As a kid i thought Mary Anne was so cool. As i get older she's super whiney. And this takes the cake. Poor Logan.

Loved the Jenny P as a big sister storyline. Shame about all the teen angst.

Julie Decker says

Mary Anne and Logan have been arguing a lot lately, so when Mary Anne decides she needs a break and Logan responds by pressuring her for a surprise date, she decides he needs to go to the dump. Are they broken up for good?

These two were an enduring couple who mooned over each other whenever they were apart, so seeing them suddenly fighting made it seem staged so we could have a book about standing up for yourself. I did appreciate, though, that Mary Anne didn't nod and smile when Logan ignored her request for space and tried to get her to go on a date with him instead. I was glad to see her backbone for a minute there. The babysitting plot, of course, paralleled this where one of Mary Anne's sitting charges' mothers had to learn that rewarding a kid for bratty behavior isn't going to make the behavior stop.

Jenn says

This is the one where Mary Anne finally dumps Logan's butt and gets some more of her backbone back. You go, girl. Although, looking at the cover, you'd think they were just on their way to their Valentine's date. Trust me, there is no smiling and soul-searching gazes in this book. Read my full review [here](#) & check out Claudia's steampunk outfit!

lisa says

Mary Anne and Logan can't overcome their middle school problems, and so. . . they break up. And then get back together. And then break up "for good" or until Mary Anne turns into a sappy mess a few books later, and gets back together with him.

Things I remember from reading this as a kid:

Mary Anne and Logan going ice skating, even though they didn't have plans to, and Mary Anne had been looking forward to reading her book in front of the fire.

Jenny wrecking the room of her new sibling, and then falling in love with her the second she lays eyes on her. I also remember Jenny's mother buying her things as a bribe to like the baby, and Jenny seeing right through it. Even as a kid reading this (I was probably nine or ten) I was impressed that a four year old could see through a bribe so clearly.

Things I've considered since reading this as an adult:

Mary Anne and Logan are so lame. Mary Anne frustrates me because she has legitimate concerns about Logan's attitude in this book, but she can't JUST TELL HIM. He forces her to leave her cozy house to go on an impromptu ice skating date, and then doesn't listen to her when she's too cold to ice skate. He wants her to ditch her sitting job to go to the movies with him, and instead of saying "Sorry, I already said I'd baby sit. Want to go tomorrow?" she starts using a scared, trembling voice, and not speaking up firmly enough. Which makes me insane because Logan acts like such a jerk in this book. In *Mary Anne and the Search For Tigger* he was a jerk also, but the way he acts in this book is pretty out of character for him. He's bossy, pushy, dominating, and obnoxious. If he was this way all the time I don't think the BSC would have wanted him as a member, and I don't think Mary Anne would have wanted to go out with him. (But who knows? There are plenty of stupid women out there, and Mary Anne fits the bill for a co-dependent, scared-to-say-no mess.) I also think that Mary Anne's overprotective father would have intervened, and that he wouldn't have allowed her to get back with Logan later in the series. So this book is just a weird anomaly in Logan's behavior, making me think he's getting abused at home, or abused by his baseball coach or something. Presumably this isn't the case because this is happy shiny Stoneybrook we're talking about, but in the real world Logan's sudden behavior changes would raise an alarm.

I believe this is the first book that mentions the stupid words the BSC makes up to describe cool things. (Acute, distant, and dibble, which all mean cool.) Even as a kid I thought this was so ridiculous, and sounded just like something a desperate, drippy wannabe would do to sound like she was popular and with it. As an adult I can picture some loser telling the mean girls at her school that she's really good friends with all the

popular kids at another school, and that THEY all say dibble, and acute, and that's why she says it. It's a thing they have. The popular kids at the other school just love her, and think she's really smart and hilarious. And the mean girls laugh at her behind her back and say "Oh yeah, she's so acute. Boy, is she just dibble." Then they pour pig's blood over her at the prom.

I thought it was sort of interesting to read about Logan ordering for Mary Anne in the restaurant, especially when Travis did it for Dawn pretty recently. I wonder if Ann M Martin, or one of the ghost writers had had a recent date do that to them, and they were still appalled by it.

Mary Anne is so annoying in this book, and I constantly wanted to shake her. She can't stand up for herself, even when Logan is being bossy and controlling. (I think some of the reason that he is being so bossy is because Mary Anne doesn't seem to have any opinions or preferences at all -- he has to make all the decisions for them, and because he's only thirteen he doesn't know how to do it in kinder way.) Instead of telling Logan what's wrong she just shuts down and refuses to continue dates with him. She moons around school and home after she cools things off with him, missing him and crying, and carrying on, but when he decides (without talking to her first) to warm their relationship up again, she is offended. (I mean, I would be too, but I probably wouldn't have made everyone else miserable by being upset about breaking up with Logan first.) And then she just goes along with their getting back together until. . .

. . .she has an epiphany about their relationship. Mary Anne unexpectedly redeems herself for her annoying behavior in the last chapter. She realizes that she may not be as independent as Dawn, but she still has her own thoughts and opinions and it's not ok for Logan to dismiss them. "I didn't want to be anybody's girl. Ever. . . I did not want to be owned," she decides. It is incredibly difficult for her to do since she's such a passive aggressive loser, but she somehow stands her ground, and tells Logan she wants to break up with him. The book ends VERY abruptly after she tells him goodbye. (She literally says "Goodbye Logan" and that's the last sentence in the book.) Because there's nothing more left there is a lot to speculate about. Did Mary Anne spend a week in bed reliving the Remember September dance, and crying? Does Logan keep his membership in the BSC? How awkward is this situation? I want to know (I feel like this is where the story picks up) and there is nothing there.

Samantha says

I feel like I spent so much time as a kid waiting on Marry Anne to grow a pair, and in this one she finally sort of did! To be fair a big part of her problem with Logan was his not behaving the way she wanted him to be have. He wasn't someone she could count on in a crisis (ie: during that convoluted Super Special where Claudia and Dawn got lost at sea and I wish I was kidding) and she just can't seem to get past that. Not everyone is super emotional and wired during times of crisis. Some are calm, some shut down, etc etc but OH NO. Gotta be all up in Mary Anne's business, crying and hugging her and being her emotional tent pole or you're just no good.

Anyway some of it I did get. He was kind of a jerk-off, and if somebody just rolled up at my door with a head full of plans for my day without consulting me first...well, you can leave or get punched in the dick. Your choice. It was just nice to see her FINALLY stand up to the guy when he won't stop pushing and dump his sorry ass.

You can do better, Mary Anne. Then again, so can Logan.

Valerie Best says

Someone made a comment on my review of Logan Likes Mary Anne! saying they didn't like how seriously the books take Mary Anne and Logan's relationship, and, I tend to agree.

Though, I don't have an objection, necessarily, because, I'm its depiction of jr. high relationships, it feels accurate.

The story here is that Mary Anne has started to feel like Logan is taking over her life. He even tries to get her to bail on a babysitting job to go to the movies with him (do you even know who you're talking to here, Logan?!). Mary Anne feels increasingly pressured to dance to Logan's tune, and can't seem to tell him to back off because: shyness.

As I read this it occurred to me how, once Mary Anne started going out with Logan, ALL her stories were subsumed by the narrative of Mary Anne and Logan. Claudia has art, Jessie has ballet, Mallory had reading, even Dawn has sprouts or whatever. All the girls have something that they're interested in and passionate about. An aspect to their personality outside of babysitting that helps define them. Mary Anne starts to have that when she stands up against her father's strict rules, but she meets Logan quickly after and then, alllllllll her stories are about Logan drama. It's kind of a bummer.

What's interesting about this book is that it addresses exactly that. Mary Anne realizes she's let Logan take over her life, and she doesn't like it.

She wants to cool things off with him, and he doesn't take it very well (he's cold and standoffish), and then, on Valentine's Day, he tricks her into coming over (to babysit, obv) and surprises her with a romantic evening (which is disturbing on many levels, not the least of which being he's forced his family to hang out in the basement all night so he and Mary Anne can be alone . . . and they said okay) and tells her he's decided it's time to warm things back up.

It's an interesting moment, because Mary Anne's been imagining Logan with other girls and has been feeling really jealous. Though, when he gives her a bracelet, she's not relieved. She doesn't say anything, but, the next day, gets up the nerve and tells him it's over.

And that's the end.

No resolution beyond Mary Anne just saying, I don't want my 13-yr-old life to revolve around you. Which is actually pretty great.

Shira says

this is my first time reading this book!

after logan is a controlling jerk to mary anne one too many times, she finally tells him she wants to take a break. he listens but then decides for himself when the break is over by enacting a big romantic gesture. mary anne is irritating and indecisive about it for a while, but eventually she legit breaks up with him. meanwhile, four-year-old jenny prezzioso is getting prepped to be primary caretaker to her baby sister-to-be (her mom keeps forcing her to practice changing diapers and stuff. UGH.) and then that baby sister-to-be andrea gets borned. also karen brewer breaks up with her fake fiance.

highlights:

-now they're saying acute in addition to dibble, distant, and dibly fresh. THESE DORKS.

-while dumping glitter into david michael's hair, andrew says, "you look cool! you're a punk rocker!"

-jenny decides to pretend to be a baby as a game so that she can get attention like the stupid brat she is, and mary anne clowns her by being like, "okay, you need to drink formula and go to bed at 6pm" and stuff like that. BOOM. BABYSITTER'D.

-I guess there's some cool fighting against men who try to control women stuff in this book, but it is mostly negated by mary anne being an idiot and a jerk (and the fact that she only just grew a backbone but in the past she really liked having logan make all her decisions for her).

lowlights/nitpicks:

-at one point logan wants to hang out with mary anne but she's supposed to baby sit, so he tells her to cancel her sitting job last-minute. I find it hard to believe he would try to get mary anne to cancel her sitting job considering HE IS A BABY SITTER TOO. HE IS RESPONSIBLE AND UNDERSTANDS THESE THINGS.

-when mary anne asks logan to slow down while they are skating, instead of responding like a reasonable human he says, "oh, you want a leisurely turn around the ice? that's a good idea. then everyone can see what a great couple we make." BARF.

-mary anne says she's cold so she wants to go home. logan keeps saying she can't be cold because he's not. UGHHHHHH.

-logan planned to go see halloween 3 with mary anne. even aside from the fact that she OBVIOUSLY wouldn't have wanted to see that movie, it's also r-rated. how were you gonna get in? goody two shoeses don't sneak into movies.

-the mrs. prezzioso situation is the worst. usually she's just an insufferable snob but in this book she is actually A TERRIBLE PARENT. four year olds DO NOT NEED TO KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THEIR SIBLINGS. do not teach A FOUR YEAR OLD to CHANGE A BABY'S DIAPER. you need to teach the four year old how to hold a baby and about the soft spot and stuff like that, but YOU HAD A BABY. it is YOUR JOB to take care of that baby, not your tiny child's. I AM SO MAD.

-karen and her fiancée split up in a parallel plotline, but it is only addressed for a short time (one chapter I think) and never brought up again. huh? why do we have two subplots and only one gets fleshed out?

claudia outfit:

"Claud was wearing an oversized raspberry-colored shirt, a short black skirt, and black leggings (the layered look). On her feet were black cowboy boots, and dangling from an earcuff was a huge collection of beads and stones."

stacey outfit:

"Compared to Claudia, I looked like a complete nerd, even though I was wearing one of my better outfits: blue print pants that were wide on top but narrowed to cuffs at the ankles, and a short-cropped T-shirt with the sleeves rolled up and this acute picture of a cactus wearing a cowboy boot."

snacks in claudia's room:

-red hots (n.s.)

-heart candies (n.s.)

-chocolate covered cherries (n.s.)

-pretzels

Kate says

Oh Logan, with that dirty blond hair and Southern drawl, how could anyone see through to your misogynistic

ways?
