



# The Playground Mafia

*Sarah Tucker*

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## **The Playground Mafia** Sarah Tucker

Meet Caroline Gray: divorcee and newly-single mother. Firmly closing the door on her acrimonious divorce, Caroline and son Ben have moved to trendy Frenchman where they join Caroline's long-time best friends, Heather and Eva. Settling into their new life is easy, but nothing has prepared Caroline for the demands of motherhood at The Sycamore, the school the trio's beloved offspring attend. Forget classroom bullies, forget trips to the head's office, this is full-scale adult playground politics. This is battle with the mothers who won't take no for an answer -- the Playground Mafia.

Amidst the four-wheel drives, Ben's complicated afterschool play-date schedule and her friends' perilous extra-marital affairs, Caroline tries to keep a low and very single profile. But it's not long before she too finds herself under the mafia's scandal-radar, and her life takes an unexpected turn ...

## **The Playground Mafia Details**

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# From Reader Review The Playground Mafia for online ebook

## **Kahla says**

I read this book because it was written by an author who lives in my area of london and is based on her experiences as a mum of a youngster attending public school in the area. I found it poorly written and just didn't care about the main character.

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## **Lotte\_ladybird says**

1,5 stars from me. I just couldn't get into it, though to be fair it did have some funny bits but they were few and far between.

It was a story that's a bit boring, characters are annoying and/or unconvincing. Some of the things Caroline goes on and on about just passes without a mention which I found strange.

It also really bothered me (I don't know why!) that the writer had named a character after herself (whether it was intentional or not, I don't know) - and not a very nice one at that!

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## **Lynne Geary says**

Wasn't impressed at the start as all seemed a bit unrealistic and characters not that engaging, but stuck with it. An easy read for holidays if you don't want to think too much.

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## **Rebekka Steg says**

Funny, light, quick and easy read.

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## **Plum-crazy says**

Usual chick-lit fair - nothing to get excited over but an amusing read nonetheless. Caroline is a likeable enough character & how she gets to grip with playground politics, the domineering PTA types & the dreaded cliques makes for an easy read. Bring back memories of standing at the school gates...unfortunately....

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## **Debbie Dubin says**

A very light read. A look at the rich kids/families in Britain.

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## Rebecca says

I expected this book to be more of a comedy but I think it was intended to be more dramatic than funny. I didn't dislike it but I don't think I would read it again or recommend it to anyone. It started quite promisingly, with Caroline's group of friends opposing Sarah's, but after the announcement of the court case it fizzled out and instead focused on Caroline's life, which became repetitive. Her friend Eva was completely overshadowed by Heather, and was pretty much only a plot device to be peacemaker between Caroline and Heather. Also Heather was incredibly unlikable.

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## Jane says

really funny book.....could so relate, there is such a click in every playground and the parents are so much worse than the kids, and this book describes it all in a hilarious manner .....loved it!! (that could be 'cos i've spent the last 20 years as a mum in the playground and seen it all!!

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## Tania says

quotes#088834

Then there's Anne, a mum whose little girl has only just joined the school and is in Ben's class. The poor woman looked as nervous as I did on my first day so I introduced myself in the playground and after quite a long and bizarre chat I invited her along too. She's an intuitive therapist and yoga instructor and tells me I should take fifteen minutes for myself each day and just 'be'. Apparently I'm a human doing rather than a human being at the moment, and should practise being a tree, imagining my roots going deep into the ground so that I can be a firm foundation for Ben. After I stopped laughing, I told her I don't have time to spare fifteen minutes each day, but I might try to get to one of her yoga classes. p314

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## Janet says

If you are a school mum ,you will recognise the various cliques!!

Funny as hell .....

Go read x

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## Rebecca says

This was a horrible read, the author doesn't seem to know how people act and interact at all. The main character is incredibly annoying and her 4 year old son is very unrealistic. Infact the whole story is unrealistic, a single part time working mum is able to live in this place full of multi-millionaires? Weird :/ Also I just found it terribly badly edited, no one seemed to have picked up on the authors repetition of words. And the names? The two worst 'baddies' are called Sharah **Flint and** Karin **Stone** while their school is

called The Sycamore (hello? there are NO state schools with names like this!) and The Chestnut... unlikely so many tree names!

Overall a really annoying book, I do NOT recommend it!

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### **Louise Self says**

This book is so boring and utterly predictable. Waste of time.

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### **Ali says**

Easy no-brainer! Good holiday read.

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### **M.B. says**

Yeah.... I haven't read chick lit for ages because the books started to get a bit samey after a while, regardless of who wrote them. But I thought sounded different. It had so much potential... So I thought.

I found it slow, the characters bland and a bit flat (apart from Ben who was my favourite) and I really didn't care what happened to them.

I only continued to read the book because I hate not knowing the whole story and I wanted to know if I'd worked out the ending. As it happens, I didn't, but it never really came as a shock.

If you like chick lit and like to read about women who care more about how others see them, then I would recommend this book, but my copy is going straight to the charity shop.

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### **Bev Taylor says**

this school isn't big enough for the both of us .....

caroline is newly divorced and has moved with her 4 year old son, ben to trendy frencham. her she joins up with her two long time friends and ben joins the sycamore, the best school in the district

forget playground battles between the kids - here it is all out war between the mothers with the school mafia, led by sarah flint and her two cronies

they set out to make life a misery for caroline and her 2 friends but they give back as good as they get. this is a battle of mothers that won't take no for an answer

add to this one of her friends is having an extra marital affair. caroline tries to keep her head below the parapet but she too finds herself on the mafia's hit list

good characterisations, especially the children, the best being that of ben. though he would appear to be too adult for his age

but to be honest i found this story dragged, mainly because this subject matter has been done to death in novels

also was inaccurate on many points - like ben one minute in the car and the next sentence skipping beside his mother; months pass and then it is just a few weeks .....

why did she not give peter a chance to talk?

also plenty of grammatical errors

truth about jack was obvious - at least to this reader

to be honest it seemed to be written by a non human who did not understand or see how normal humans interact

bev

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