



Mary Anne's Big Breakup

Ann M. Martin

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More than 100 stories after meeting Logan, Mary Anne is ready for a change. And she's about to find out that breaking up is hard to do. Martin's classic series is going in a new direction with a new look and new focus on the four characters who started it all.

Mary Anne's Big Breakup Details

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Author : Ann M. Martin

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From Reader Review Mary Anne's Big Breakup for online ebook

Kara says

This is so bad, it's good. Teens acting/speaking like grandmas, babysitting charges knowing more than they should, forced introspection. Kristy calling her peers 'kids' never gets old.

Also, Logan's face 'crumples' and he cries. Heeee.

Maria Robinson says

The Mary Anne books are the saving grace of the Friends Forever series-we get to see more of the Schafer-Spier home life than we usually do in the series and Sharon and Richard prove to be more likable characters than some of the sitters themselves.

Ciara says

there's not a lot to this book. mary anne grows a backbone & dumps logan because she's being a possessive jerkface. she's kind of bummed about it, & logan is really upset, but mary anne sticks to her guns & realizes she is doing the right thing. she rereads old letters she sent him in which she said things like, "i feel like half a person without you," & she gets really icked out with herself. she realizes that if you are feeling like half a person without your boyfriend, you need some space to stand on your own two feet & get to know yourself, & that's what she does. it turns out that she's quite the hot commodity at stoneybrook middle school. two boys ask her out after hearing that she dumped loagn, citing the fact that she is "very pretty & nice". she refuses both of them because she wants to get to know herself & her own possibilities without a boyfriend. pretty awesome! mary anne is spinsterxcore! her friends are all pretty supportive, with the exception of kristy, who thinks logan is awesome & mary anne is making a big mistake by dumping him. mary anne thinks for a second that maybe logan & kristy are going to start something up (they should, in my opinion) & confronts kristy, & they fight because kristy doesn't want mary anne telling her what to do, but they make up pretty quickly. kristy is not going for logan (hopefully because she is interested in <3 cary retlin <3!).

i guess the sub-plot is that the building plan for mary anne's family's new house have been approved & they are ready to hire contractors & start construction on their new barn house (mary anne's house burnt down at the end of the original BSC series). mary anne has a heart-to-heart with one of the contractors, who is also a landscaper, about being open to unforeseen possibilities & taking chances, & she realizes she is becoming more independent & doesn't want to be hemmed in by people's expectations of sad, sensitive, sweet mary anne, BSC secretary & logan's girlfriend. basically, mary anne is becoming a total badass. i wish i was that mature, insightful, & self-aware when i was 13. my life probably would have been a lot more awesome to date. i love the fact that there's a YA book out there for young girls in which the prtag ditches her boyfriend, who everyone really likes, because he is too possessive of her in these weird little ways that girls are taught is no big deal (ie, always picking the restaurant they eat at, squelching mary anne's opinions of movies they see, etc), & rather than rushing right out & finding a replacement boyfriend, she hangs in there by herself & make a conscious effort to get to know herself better. very refreshing!

dearlittledeer says

They first got together in "Logan Likes Mary Anne!" (BSC #10, published 1988). In "Mary Anne's Big Breakup" (published 1999), she finally dumps him for good. Hey, you might get antsy too if you'd been 13 for 11 years! Let me say that this was kind of a downer for a BSC book (even one of the more realistic Friends Forever series) but I really love Mary Anne's character development. She's not that into Logan and his overbearing ways anymore, and she's not going to stay with him just because it's the easier thing to do. Way to go, MA!

Jay says

More BSC fighting! Ahh, my favourite books.

There's good continuity in this book, something that the original BSC series lacked, especially when they got into the higher digits. Stacey actually mentions an event that happened in the original series (Stacey's Movie - book 130). Thank you, ~~Ann M. Martin~~ Suzanne Weyn!

But Stacey's also a jackass in this book. She goes from one boy to the next, never thinking about developing her own single self-identity. When Mary Anne's just fresh out of her breakup with Logan, Stacey immediately tries setting her up with Pete Black. At least Dave Griffin (possibly related to Rachel Griffin, who Stacey befriends in Stacey vs Claudia?) tries to understand that Mary Anne wants to be on her own for a while.

But finally, Mary Anne and Logan are no more! Logan's such a jackass. Go Mary Anne, shake your single ass and your creepy future visions. Better get that checked out- Sharon might have added some of her 'herbs' to your dinner last night.

Nancy says

Book the Third: In which Mary Anne vs. Logan happens again. This time for good. I didn't care much for this one, mainly because it really did seem to me like a rehash of regular series book #41. I did like that MA didn't accept any of the date offers she received and decided to try being single for a while. Maybe she'll end up hooking up with SMS Dream Hunk and All-Around Practical Joker Cary Retlin. Fingers crossed!

Memz Allerby says

idk yet its a suprise

Sella Malin says

didn't like these books much.

Amy Holcomb says

The Baby-sitters Club series was my favorite growing up! :)

Logan Hughes says

This is basically a meandering rehash of Mary Anne vs. Logan. Mary Anne breaks up with Logan, ostensibly for the same reasons that caused their first breakup (Logan being overbearing), but we don't see any of his bad behavior as Mary Anne seems to have basically made up her mind by the beginning of the book. Logan and the other baby-sitters can't really see how his behavior had changed lately, and Mary Anne admits that it might be she who has changed. Her feelings about The Fire at Mary Anne's House also factor in, as she seems to want a clean slate relationship-wise to go with her clean slate home-wise.

This does feel like a fairly final breakup. There's not a lot of indecision or overwrought angst, which makes it kind of a boring book, and also convinces me that Mary Anne is thoroughly through with Logan. Still, neither of them has done anything unforgivable and they still want to be friends, so the door is open if you insist on pairing them in futurefic.

In a lot of ways I admire Mary Anne for sticking to her guns, despite her friends' bafflement (they support her but don't understand; Stacey wants to get her together with a new guy right away, while Kristy, interestingly, takes Logan's side, objecting to the breakup and continuing to pal around with him after the breakup. I kind of like this; it makes sense that Kristy would get along well with sporty Logan and become genuine friends with him beyond her connection via Mary Anne.) Mary Anne resists going with the path of least resistance, which has historically been a problem for her, and refuses to be in a relationship she's not excited about, even though she can't always exactly articulate why to the satisfaction of others. She prefers being alone to being in a "meh" relationship. I feel like this is a good lesson, and I don't blame her in the least. For a Mary Anne feelings book, it's therefore surprisingly un-irritating. But it does not make for the most entertaining story, because nothing really happens in it.

Meanwhile, the Spier/Schafer family plan to renovate the barn into a home is underway, as Richard has hired contractors. One of them spends a lot of time saying metaphorical things about gardens to Mary Anne. I don't see how they are going to be done by the New Year.

Author Gratefully Acknowledges: Suzanne Weyn

Timing: Early November

Revised Timeline: Third academic year postgrad (or 11 years post-8th-grade, making them all 24). I guess this is as good a time as any to shed your all-through-college boyfriend and make a fresh start.

Alex says

I've only read this book once before, because I didn't own it like the others and only recently found it at Half Price Books. As such, I didn't remember much about it at all.

I'm pretty impressed with Mary Anne here. She knows in her gut something isn't right in her relationship with Logan, even though she can't quite put her finger on what. All of her friends try to convince her she's crazy, but she sticks to her guns and breaks up with him anyway. I like this new Mary Anne!

Sally says

Mary Anne actually dumps Logan, because she's finding him just too possessive and overbearing and controlling. And he spends about 80 pages begging her to come back.

Samantha says

Mary Anne finally got a spine! It only took about 150 books for that to happen, but hallelujah! I am so proud of her in this moment!
