



In A Good Light

Clare Chambers

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Without even noticing, thirty-four-year-old Esther Fairchild has become a prisoner of routine. Living with her adored brother, Christian, she divides her time between illustrating children's books, nightly shifts as a waitress, weekly visits to her father and fortnightly meetings with her married lover.

Then one day she encounters a face in the crowd which jolts her out of her mundane existence and makes her question both her life and the past that has helped to shape it. Memories she had long chosen to forget begin to resurface. Memories of an eccentric childhood in a large and shabby house, where the children were left to fend for themselves within the loose boundaries of their parents' unorthodox values. A chaotic existence peopled by a rich collection of feckless 'guests'.

And into this shambolic world came Donovan - regularly deposited by his unreliable mother - and Penny, Christian's girlfriend and Esther's idol. Until tragedy struck and shattered their joint existence. But now, it seems, their lives are about to become intertwined once more . . .

In A Good Light Details

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From Reader Review In A Good Light for online ebook

Katrina says

4.5 stars. This is the story of a uniquely British eccentric childhood. It's funny and charming and I miss the characters already.

Penelope says

I adored this book and it just gets better on every reading. A wonderful story of a classically eccentric english family and at it's heart a sweet and touching love story. Simply fabulous

Mariam Mohamad says

A light, yet meaningful read. You can be reading it, standing-up in a crowded-odoriferous bus ride in a massive jam and still feel as if you're curled-up under a duvet in an air-conditioned room at your mum's place.

Caroline Wilson says

Thoroughly enjoyable

Grace says

3.5 stars

I really enjoyed this book and the authors style of writing. It was laid back with a bit of humour thrown in. It's one of those books that initially you don't know whether you are gong to like but it grows on you.

Kate says

A wonderfully absorbing read. I loved the era, setting, characters and plot. A true page turner. I got completely "lost" in the story, a truly wonderful way to escape !

Antonio says

This beautifully written coming of age story focuses on the childhood adventures of Esther and her eccentric english family, living with both parents and her brother in a large delapidated house in a small english village. All The characters were portrayed beautifully and the story reads like a biography. With Esther reminiscing the past events of her life. There is no overall plot just a very pleasant tale that was quite long at over 500 pages. I was never bored but i like a bit more drama in my reading.

Msdot says

" Cooking was another household chore performed dutifully, but without enthusiasm or skill. Ever since working at the mission hospital and witnessing poverty and starvation daily, Mum had had an uneasy relationship with food and took no pleasure in handling it. The fact that human beings required so much of it, so often, seemed to her a design flaw that she would have liked to take up with the Maker at the earliest opportunity. She would never use cookery books, which were in her view decadent and wasteful of ingredients, but instead followed her instinct, invariably driven by thrift or haste, and often wrong. I remember the recriminations that followed Christian's discovery of a whole snail shell in one of her blackberry crumbles. In one respect she was ahead of her time, undercooking vegetables decades before it became fashionable. Unfortunately meat and poultry frequently came in for the same treatment. The phrase 'avoid the pink bits' became something of a family motto. Dinner was often bread and cheese.

Perhaps it was hunger that accounted for my early habit of promiscuous grazing. By the time I was two I had, according to my family legend, eaten:

1 earthworm

1 christmas tree bauble

1 fir cone

2 pieces of coal

the cardboard cover of Ant and Bee

When i was little, this was held up as an example of my irresponsible character and prodigious appetite. Years later it occurred to me that it also signified a certain level of neglect: how long would a toddler have to be left unattended to dispose of an entire book cover? "

Penny says

Not a challenging novel but wonderfully entertaining, with fantastic characterisation and a warm tone. The characters all seem both larger than life yet realistic- quite an achievement! I particularly loved the portrayal

of Esther's parents. Not too keen on the ending though.

Tracy says

Again, an excellent writer. Can't remember the details but I know I really enjoyed it. I was excited to find such a great author but have had trouble finding her other books in Canada - what a shame.

Kerstin says

A light read but a fantastic one. Incredibly funny, a real page-turner I could not put down. Definitely wanted to make me read more books by this author. Go read!

Elliem says

Charming & funny easy to read and really well observed. I loved it!
