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Welcome, Caller, This Is Chloe



Synopsis

Big-hearted Chloe Camden is the queen of her universe until her best friend shreds her reputation and her school counselor axes her junior independent study project. Chloe is forced to take on a meaningful project in order to pass, and so she joins her school's struggling radio station, where the other students don't find her too queenly. Ostracized by her former BFs and struggling with her beloved Grams' mental deterioration, lonely Chloe ends up hosting a call-in show that gets the station much-needed publicity and, in the end, trouble. She also befriends radio techie and loner Duncan Moore, a quiet soul with a romantic heart. On and off the air, Chloe faces her loneliness and helps others find the fun and joy in everyday life. Readers will fall in love with Chloe as she falls in love with the radio station and the misfits who call it home. Praise for Welcome, Caller, This Is Chloe

Spring 2012 Indie Next List Children Selection

"Debut novelist Coriell shows sparkling wit and great skill in creating complex characters with memorable personalities. Chloe's emotional growth is believable, and her attraction to a quiet, mysterious boy at the radio station adds spice and tension to the story."

"This debut novel is more than it seems. Tough issues are addressed here, and the information is ladled out deftly."

"This is fun, lighthearted chick-lit that touches on drug abuse and tough family issues. Romance, personal growth, and friendships are central to the story line. A quick, enjoyable read."

"School Library Journal

"Looking for a fun, inspiring read? Then check out Welcome, Caller, This Is Chloe. Entertaining and full of heartrending moments, and the author has created interesting and unique characters. Even though this is more of a sparkling and humorous read, Welcome, Caller, This Is Chloe delves into some tough topics such as drug addiction and bullying. 5 stars"

"North Valley Magazine

"It's kinda like Mean Girls but with more shoes."

"Ashbury Park Sunday Press

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A professional journalist, Shelley Coriell has worked as a newspaper reporter, an award-winning magazine editor, and an association executive. She is a six-time finalist for the Romance Writers of America Golden Heart Prize. This is her first novel. She lives in Tempe, Arizona. Visit her online at www.shelleycoriell.com.

"We need her. When you've been out in an ocean, stung by jellyfish, battered by waves, and circled by sharks in frosty pink lipstick, you grab the first life preserver tossed your way. We need her. I faced every member of KDRS radio staff. I wasn't naked. I wasn't alone. And according to Duncan, I was needed." Before school let out for winter break, Chloe was on top of the world. She and her two best friends were inseparable--and ultra popular--and she'd been crowned Mistletoe Ball Queen. Her Junior Independent Study Project (JISP) had been approved on the lives of soap opera vilenesses and she could always make her friends laugh. But then, for no apparent reason, everything completely falls apart. Her best friends hate her and start spreading vicious lies through the school, the old guidance counselor retires and the new one un-approves Chloe's JISP, and her beloved Grams starts to succumb to her Parkinsons disease. Desperate for a new JISP--because it's the only problem she seems able to fix--Chloe ends up at the school-run radio station, KDRS. The only problem? No one wants her there. These kids, all outsiders of the school's social order, have formed their own little family and newcomers aren't exactly welcomed with open arms. But Chloe doesn't have any other options and the KDRS kids can't say no. The only one who doesn't seem to hate her is the radio's fix-it guy Duncan who is incredibly cute, but about as taciturn as Chloe is talkative. Can Chloe work her magic and put all the pieces of her life back together or do some things that break stay broken forever? Before I start, I'm just going to say I love this cover. Is it the best cover ever designed? No, but it fits the book perfectly. The designers paid attention to things like the color of the main character's hair and her love of vintage fashion and added those details into this layout. It's colorful, glittery, and totally Chloe. Kudos to the team behind this. When I get published, I hope I have a team who really gets my book and can pull together a cover just as

representative of the story. Now, for the actual contents...Well, I loved those too! The characters were all unique with easy to differentiate voices and I found myself smiling a lot as I read. Shelley did a great job working in a lot of common high-school-age issues without treating them in the same way. Chloe is lambasted by her ex-best friends, but never seeks vengeance. She also doesn't go out looking to get her popularity back. Because of who she is, though, it comes anyway. The love interest between Chloe and Duncan is adorable and develops naturally. Throughout the book you see Chloe not only coming out of her comfort zone, but helping pull others out of theirs. She's funny, outgoing, intelligent, and kind. She may end up being a trifle self-absorbed at times, but, honestly, who isn't? Overall, I found her and the rest of the cast delightful and the book was a quick, fun read. In the end, I was only left with a couple of questions: 1) What is Clem's story? The girl who runs the radio station is prickly as hell, but we never really get any background on her. 2) The shoes Chloe is always talking about sound expensive! Where in the world is she getting the money for those? How much does her side job as a promo girl at a Mexican restaurant pay exactly? Still, if those were the only biting, unanswered questions left at the end of the book, I have to say the author did a bang-up job of tying the loose ends together. I can't tell for sure, but I feel as though there might be a sequel buried in these characters. Maybe with Chloe taking the lead again, maybe not. All I know is I wouldn't mind taking a trip back into Chloe's universe one day. Sera's Rating: 5/5 For more book reviews, visit sera-phyn.com

This book is a must read! The story tells of a "popular" high school teen who suddenly finds herself an outcast of the "in crowd". She is torn between trying to be the most liked, the best friend, and a responsible young adult. The book describes the struggles that many young adults go through every day. Decisions seem to be so hard to make. As she struggles with school, family, and friends and the author keeps readers of ALL ages captivated with the modern language, humor, and most of all the vivid descriptions used throughout the book. She describes the events, places, and characters to the extent you feel you are watching the events unfold before you! GREAT BOOK! I couldn't put it down. AWESOME new author!

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It was very original.

This was a great book. It was well written. I could not wait to get home to read more about Chloe. I recommend this book to all girls. Tuscaloosa, AL

Welcome, Caller, This is Chloe was super cute! It's a light hearted and fun story, but it also covers some series issues without crossing into dark and deep waters. Chloe is shunned by her two BFFs out of the blue, and then her junior project is rejected and she only has a few hours to come up with a new one. Of course, Chloe puts her friendships first, so she's stuck with the project that her guidance counselor assigns her: working at the school's failing radio station. I immediately adored Chloe (and her shoes). When we first meet her, she's in a burrito costume and vintage high heels! And she's not even complaining about the humiliating costume! She's in her element! This girl is all about the happy. She's not one of those overly perky people who are severely aggravating. She just thinks you should have fun when you can, and wants to make the people around her smile when times are tough. It's not a bad philosophy to have, except that Chloe does have the habit of talking a bit too much and not always hearing what others want or need. Her radio show and just being part of the team help her tackle this issue, and I enjoyed watching her become a better version of herself. Welcome, Caller, This is Chloe also has a cute romance. Of course, Chloe starts to fall for the quiet guy, Duncan, who does repairs and the more techy stuff for the radio. She helps bring him out of his shell a bit, since he keeps to himself and works way too hard. What I liked best about it was that Chloe puts her feelings out there. She doesn't play games. She likes him, she tells him so, and asks if he likes her in return. She even asks him out instead of waiting for him to ask! It was very refreshing! There is a bit of drama, which I didn't totally get, since it's never fully explained, but compared to all of the aspects I did like it's a small thing. My only real issue with Welcome, Caller, This is Chloe was Chloe's supposed best friends. While I do agree that it wasn't nice of Chloe to go out with other people when she knew Brie was upset, I do think Brie and Mercedes could have been more understanding. Chloe did apologize and has been trying to be there for them, but they keep pushing her away. And they don't even seem to care that she also has some family issues on hand, specifically her grandma's health (as her BFFs, I have to assume they know how close Chloe is to her grandma). In fact, at one point, Brie laughs at Chloe's grandmother even though it's obvious that something isn't quite right. Let's not even go into the awful rumor she spread about Chloe and a teacher, for no reason other than being malicious. None of this felt believable to me, and I also didn't get why Chloe wanted to remain friends with these girls in the first place. Thankfully, everything worked out in the end, for better or worse. I really liked Welcome, Caller, This is Chloe. It touches on friendship, family, community, and a few other topics. I loved the radio aspect, since I hadn't read about it before, and it brought back fun memories of watching Radio Free Roscoe on Teen Nick!

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