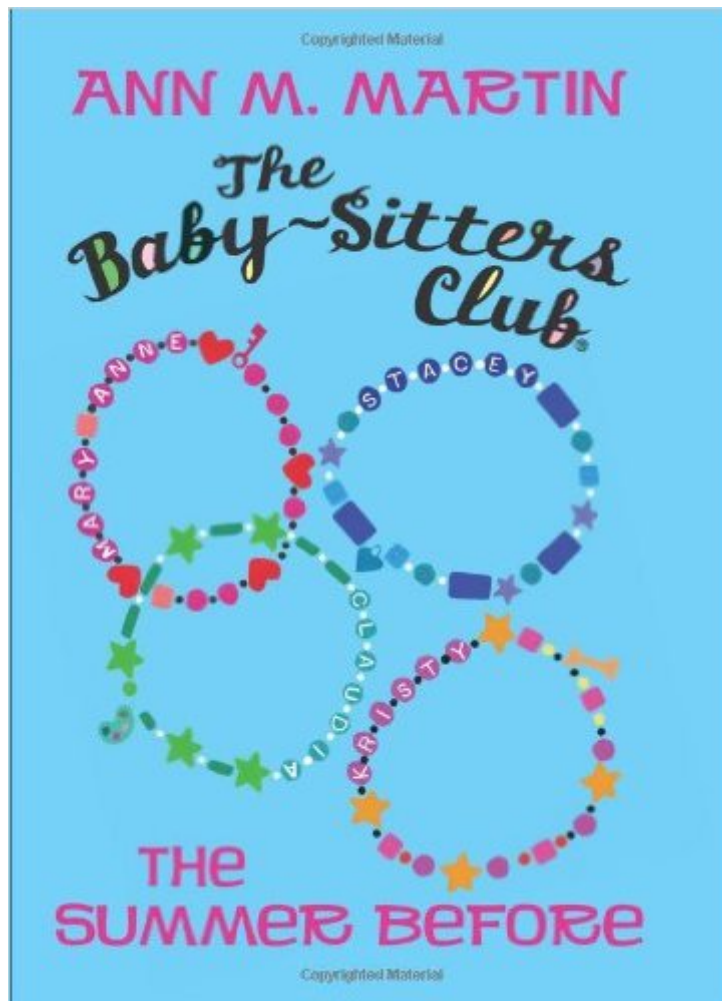


The book was found

The Baby-Sitters Club: The Summer Before



Synopsis

FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. During the summer before their seventh-grade year, Kristy, Mary Anne, Claudia, and Stacey tackle difficulties, including family problems, crushes, moving, and making new friends. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780L (What's this?)

Series: The Baby-Sitters Club

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Inc.; 1 Reissue edition (April 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545160936

ISBN-13: 978-0545160933

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (38 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #358,746 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #199 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Moving](#) #586 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction](#) #5051 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I was beyond thrilled to hear that Ann M. Martin was writing a prequel to the BSC. I've been a fan of the books since I was 7 years old - more than 20 years now. The book is set the summer before the BSC begins (if that isn't obvious from the title) and stars Mary Anne, Claudia, Kristy, and Stacy, with a cameo from Mallory. We see a lot of our favorite baby-sitting charges too. Although this book is written for tweens, I think adults will relate to it best - especially those of us who have "known" the BSC girls for years. All four of the girls are struggling. It really is a difficult summer - that awkward time when you're no longer a little child, but you're not even a full teenager yet. Mary Anne is feeling tied down by her strict father and trying to learn everything she can about her deceased mother. Kristy is devastated that her father is completely absent and resents Watson's intrusion. Claudia is ready to grow-up and clashes with her still childish friends - she gets her first boyfriend and learns

that's not always as great as it seems. Stacy is about to move away from NYC, has no friends, and still getting used to being diabetic. I felt sad throughout a lot of the book - relating to the girls now more as a parent than as a friend - you just want to give them a hug and try to ease the growing-up process. This interesting but difficult summer makes the Baby-Sitter's Club seem even more important than before - it gave 4 girls a place of friendship, happiness, and stability. Ann M. Martin's writing has definitely improved over the years. She'll never be one of the more skilled writers in children's literature, but I can see clear growth between this book and her early books.

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