



Lil Mama's Rules

Sheneska Jackson

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Madison Maguire is a modern-day heroine who appears to have it all. She's feisty, gorgeous, smart, and savvy -- a single woman playing the field and loving it. She sticks to the rules of dating she's learned through life's tough breaks as she fends off two-bit actors, old flames, and a determined secret admirer. The game changes, however, when Mr. Right appears on the scene. But just as Madison is about to follow her heart, her life turns upside down, forcing her to learn a whole new set of rules about love, loss, and trust.

Lil Mama's Rules Details

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Author : Sheneska Jackson

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From Reader Review Lil Mama's Rules for online ebook

Dorothy says

Great book.

Kellsea Paige says

Ughhh not finished with this book. It's gonna take me a while to finish if I finish at all because I really do not like the main character.

What I've discovered from my reading so far is that this book highlights issues in the black community concerning homosexuality, AIDS, broken homes, etc. And at the moment I just wanna read a sappy love story with a happy ending. Not something that is gonna make me angry and sad. LOL

Carrie says

For someone as strong-minded and independent as Miss Madison Maguire you'd think she'd have a "rule" to strap up everytime you "hook up". She seemed to have a rule for everything but something that could save her life. However, it's an ok read.

Foxy says

I've Read this book 12yrs ago and I still remember it like it was just yesterday! It is my all time favorite. People seem to think that with all the rules Maddison set she should've wrap it up! But they seem to have missed the part about her being raped! I encourage a lot of people who have not yet read this novel! To do so.

Jeanna Brown says

The story of a young woman who is a teacher and was heartbroken; and she keeps an eye after her little sister who is in high school that has Turret's Syndrome & mother. After a heartbreak she deals with her pain through sex. She goes about this lifestyle casually until she later finds out that she has contracted AIDS.

Ka'leneReads says

This is a definite must read. Most may not find themselves in the place of the main character, yet most may find themselves in the place as one of the partners of her past partners. Recommend to all and recommend

that the recommendations continue. A great reminder about responsibility and safety for self.

Shannan Harper says

The end shocked me on this one. I was kinda hoping it wasn't going to end like it did, but I enjoyed the book.

Black Carrie says

Tried to get into this and I just refuse to struggle through it. It couldn't hold my attention SORRY IT WAS SO HARD FOR ME TO GET INTO THIS BOOK. IT WAS LITERALLY ALL OVER THE PLACE MADISON HAS ALL THESE DATING RULES BUT SHE DOES NOT SEEM TO FOLLOW HER OWN ADVICE. THIS BOOK HAD GOT ALOT OF GOOD REVIEWS BUT I COULD NOT FIND ANYTHING GOOD ABOUT THE BOOK ESPECIALLY THE WAY IT WAS SET UP. THE BOOK WOULD BE IN THE PRESENT AND IN MID SENTENCE GO INTO THE PAST. SORRY IT JUST WAS NOT JUST FOR ME THIS BOOK MADE MY HEAD HURT

Stephanie says

Madison McGuire, also known as Li'l Momma, is a successful, independent thirty-something woman living in Los Angeles. Though she grew up in the projects with a single mother, younger sister and all odds against her, she made sure that she focused on making a better life for herself, and stayed on top of her baby sister so that she too can follow suit.

She is quite satisfied with her life. She has a good job which she loves, a wonderful best friend and a sprinkle of different men here and there. But nothing too serious. She is not interested in a committed relationship and has absolutely no intentions of getting married. This is where her list of rules for dating comes in. Over the years she has developed this love directory as her own personal reference. It is a combination of lessons she's learned, and situations she's come across.

Here's the thing. Madison is scarred for life in the men department. This is why she makes sure no man gets too close. So when her ex-fiance, Chris comes back into her life years after he broke her heart, she naturally pushes him away. Chris won't take no for an answer. He is determined to win back Madison's heart and he will do anything to prove that this time around, he will put all of his efforts into making it work.

From this point, the story takes a turn *no one* will see coming. Madison discovers something that will change her life and those around her forever. Even through it all, Chris proves his love and sticks by her through literally the good and the bad. It's a story that will touch your heart and open your eyes.

Yolo says

Li'l Mama's Rules is one of the books that I considered to be ahead of its time. Sheneska Jackson arrived on the scene when the issue of HIV/AIDS in the African-American community was still fresh, misunderstood,

and often ignored. Back in the day, there were no public service announcements advising people, "Be positive that you're negative" and BET wasn't promoting the "Rap it Up" campaign. But there was Rae. Rae Lewis-Thornton that is. Lewis-Thornton was featured on the December 1994 issue of Essence magazine and she was HIV positive.

As I read Li'l Mama's Rules for the first time in 1998 all I could see was Lewis-Thornton's face. Her beauty had me in awe as I thought she is too cute to be sick. Let me say, I was 16 when that Essence magazine came out and she taught me early on that looks didn't matter. So when I read Li'l Mama's Rules at the tender age of 19 going on 20, I was hit with another dose of reality as it pertained to the epidemic that was affecting women and girls that looked like me but no one wanted to talk about it.

Madison Maguire, the leading lady, is the epitome of what many young girls want to be when they grow up. She's attractive, intelligent, educated, has a nice career in sunny Los Angeles, and most of all, she isn't anyone's baby mama. While living it up, Madison has the joy of playing the field and dating whoever she wants as long as they follow the rules, Li'l Mama's Rules that is. According to Madison, "My dating rules are mainly for my own peace of mind, so I don't have to put up with shit I don't like."

But, somewhere along the way things get twisted for Madison. She is forced to face her demons and be real with herself about life, her life. She realizes that all the things that she said didn't matter, really did and it dictated every move she made in her life, the good, the bad and the ugly.

Li'l Mama's Rules is one of my all time favorites and please know I don't say that lightly. I was a young'un when I first read this book and it was an eye opener. It was the first book I read that dealt with the topic of HIV/AIDS head on without any constraints. It was raw and wretched as we like to say around my parts. The plot was so well-written that at my younger, wiser age of 31, I still love it and own it. The funniest thing to me is that I now have my own rules, Spinks' Rules. LOL! Like Madison, when I decided to go back to college, I decided that there would be no dating. I loves me a male specimen and I didn't want any distractions this time around so I stuck to my no dating rule. (Oh, I'll be finished with school December 2010!)

In addition to addressing the issue of HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy and sex education, Jackson also gives ample exposure to Madison's little sister, Serena, who has Tourette's Syndrome. She takes the reader into the life of a teenager suffering with TS and how she copes with it. Before reading this book in 1998, I didn't know what TS was, so I couldn't imagine having to grow up with it.

In closing, let me say that too many of us are suffering from this avoidable disease. Yes, I know things happen but we have to be responsible for ourselves and love ourselves enough to go against the grain. If you read my blog then you know my brother died while HIV positive and above any and everything that has happened to me, that incident reigns supreme. After losing my brother so suddenly, at the young age of 32, I know my status and I am positive that I am negative. If you do nothing else after you read this post, please get tested, educate yourself, love yourself enough to protect yourself and know we all can live with the results.

Accountability & Responsibility

Jonna says

I really loved this book. I always love a book that has a strong woman as the protagonist, and then when it is true-to-life, showing her going through the daily battles of juggling her job and her personal life. The writing was great and it was a wonderful read.

Yolanda says

I really loved this book. Excellent. She has done it again. Blessings was just that for me but Lil Mama's Rules really ruled. I had every emotion pulled out of me while reading this book. I laughed with an old friend and cried with one too. I really felt like I knew this character. I really felt like at times I WAS this character. A wonderful read with a lot of twists and turns. Good plot. Great ending. I adore Sheneska Jackson. I have three words for her YOU GO GIRRRRRRRRL!!!! You keep writing and I will continue to give you my unwavering support financially and by reviewing your work so you will know what a fan base you have and it starts right here.

Temitope says

read this book about eight years ago but i didn't see the end of it before it got lost. i really can't remember it all though but i vividly remember her sickening sister. i really wish i could read it all.

Tamara says

I remember reading this book many years ago, but what comes to mind when I think about it today was how cute, witty and most importantly the lessons learned throughout this story gave us! I may even take the time to read this again! I'll check for more by this author.

Meave says

You know this book is a pretty good book. I'm not sure about adding it to one of my faves but I must admit, I kind of enjoyed reading it. I was kinda mad she got HIV, but I guess that was a good chunk of what the book was about. Anyway, I wanna find my Chris--he was too perfect. :-)
