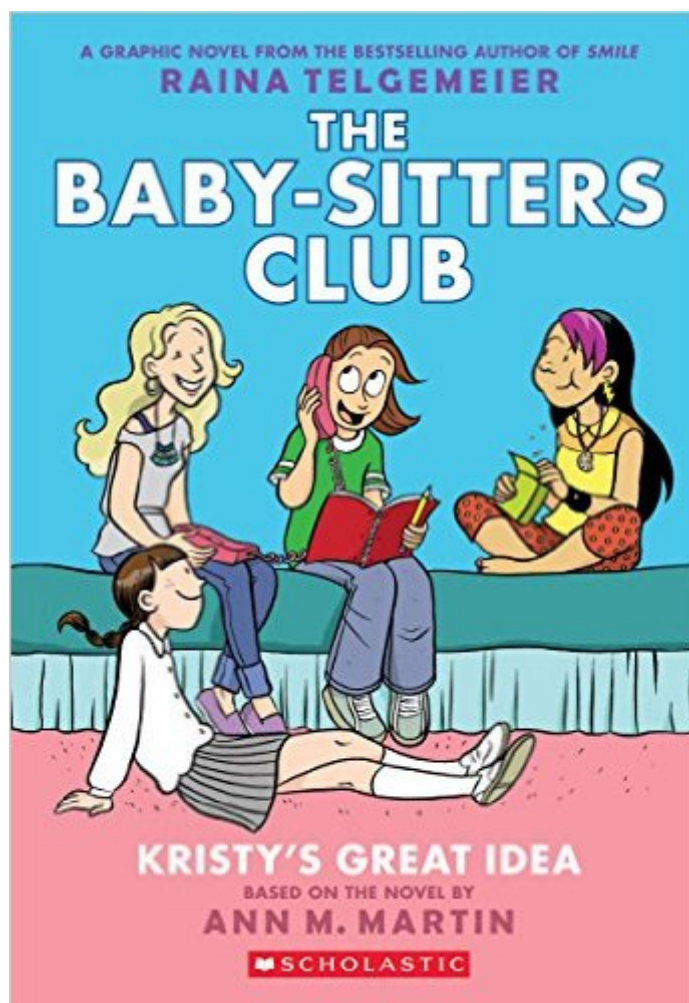


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# Kristy's Great Idea: Full-Color Edition (The Baby-Sitters Club Graphix #1)



## Synopsis

This graphic novel adapted by Raina Telgemeier, the #1 New York Times bestselling, multiple Eisner Award-winning author of *Smile*, is now available in full color! Kristy, Mary Anne, Claudia, and Stacey are best friends and founding members of The Baby-sitters Club. Whatever comes up -- cranky toddlers, huge dogs, scary neighbors, prank calls -- you can count on them to save the day. Baby-sitting isn't always easy, and neither is dealing with strict parents, new families, fashion emergencies, and mysterious secrets. But no matter what, the BSC have what they need most: friendship. Raina Telgemeier, using the signature style featured in her acclaimed graphic novels *Smile* and *Sisters*, perfectly captures all the drama and humor of the original novel!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: IG350L (What's this?)

Series: The Baby-Sitters Club Graphix (Book 1)

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: GRAPHIX; Revised, Full Color Edition edition (April 28, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545813875

ISBN-13: 978-0545813877

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (370 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #984 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Babysitting](#) #21 in [Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels](#) #55 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

You are complaining that the books are too "nice". There's no sex, drugs, drinking, etc. They're 13!!!! And I was 8 when I started reading the BSC. Why on earth would any responsible author write a series for young girls and fill it with stuff like that. This is FICTION (yeah, look it up). An escape from reality. You want sex, drugs, drinking, turn on the TV or something. The BSC was a GREAT series. I read it for years, well into my early teens, and I recommend it to any young girl. This was

the series that spawned my love of reading.

Hey, Um, you, who was talking about how you hate these books now, some people may agree with you or agree with me, but Ann Martin can't write about Claudia ,or whoever, having sex! I mean, yeah, some stuff doesn't seem real, but these were the late 80's early 90's, M.A has a boyfriend in the later stuff, I mean, but sex? That would ruin the meaning of these books, they are supposed to be FUN, HAPPY, and some kids around 9 read these books too, I don't think they're parents would be happy having their 9yr old reading about a 13yr old having sex!! So, Don't blame Martin, you can write your own books about people having sex, ok?

Let me tell you a little something about "The Baby-Sitters Club". When the series first came out in the 1980s I was like millions of other little girls around the country. I wolfed those puppies down like they was popcorn. Couldn't get enough of them. Ann M. Martin (who later went on to garner herself a Newbery Honor or two) only intended to write four books (one for each club member) but popular demand was so strong that she started writing more and more and more. If you were to walk into your local library you'd find dog-eared, yellowing, crumbling paperback editions. The series has never been republished, so libraries are forced to hold onto the dying original copies with their lamentable late 80s/early 90s hair and fashion. But do these covers deter the kiddies from reading them? Hardly. My library shelves literally cannot keep these puppies in stock. Put a new one (which is to say, a donated one) on the shelf and VOOM! It's gone the next day. Which is why the people at Scholastic are geniuses. Right now I am holding in my hot little hands a brand-spanking new "Baby-Sitters Club" book. It's the first book in the series and it has been utterly and completely graphic-novelized (is that a word?). Scholastic has been veeery slowly cornering the market on high-quality literary graphic novels for children. I'm not talking about superhero comics or manga or any of that run-of-the-mill material. I'm talking about things like Jeff Smith's, "Bone", done in full color twelve-episode editions. Really high quality stuff. Now they've given us "The Baby-Sitter's Club" in graphic novel form and the timing could not be better. At this moment in time million of women who grew up with these books are now having children of their own. It makes me feel old, but it's true. There's a real love for this series and with one fell-swoop Raina Telgemeier's drawings are going to attract an entirely new breed of reluctant reader to the books. Imagine it. You get kids, GIRLS, who are often reluctant readers themselves but who don't have their own "Captain Underpants" equivalent (unless they like "Underpants", which is cool). Now they have a great series to get interested in. They'll read the graphic novel then probably want to read other books in the

series and start (cue the heavenly choir) reading real books in the end! It's bloody brilliant, people! If you ever read the first book in the series, "Kristy's Great Idea" then you'll know what to expect. It's fairly straightforward. Kristy is this tomboy who starts a club of baby-sitters. It's a business model with Kristy at the head. Her best friend Mary Ann (who Willow on the show "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" could easily have been modeled on) is Secretary and shy. Claudia is cool, Asian, the Vice President, and not the greatest student gradewise. Then there's Dawn who I never liked much as a kid but that was just me. She's from New York City and is diabetic. Each girl carries about an unwholesome amount of personal baggage but that doesn't really matter because all the books really are about is (awww) friendship. Because the internet makes things so convenient, I was able to quickly locate Ms. Telgemeier's website and ask her how the creation of this book came about. Here was her response: "It was sort of an organic idea that was generated between my editors and I. They were wooing me to do SOMETHING for them, but none of us knew what. I pitched a few original projects, all of which needed some re-thinking. Somewhere along the way, in conversation, they asked me, "So...what did you read as a kid?" I laughed and said, "Um, The Baby-sitters Club!", because while I read plenty of stuff, that was one of the defining series from my pre-teen years, and the books really stuck with me. So my editors said, "Hey, maybe you should try your hand at a GN version of that! Wanna give it a try?". Batta, as they say, bing. Until now Ms. Telgemeier has not done much to garner attention. So I was infinitely relieved to find that though she occasionally does do a somewhat Manga style drawing here and there when a character is surprised, the pictures really aren't in that vein. Since the words haven't been updated there was also a little fear that the books might read like historical novels. It's a relief then to see the girls wearing clothing and hairstyles that don't look as if they arrived in tandem with the newest "Tiffany" album. There are occasional references to things like "Rainbow Brite", but since "Rainbow Brite" has been reintroduced to children today, I don't think this jars in the least. No, all in all Telgemeier has done a lovely job with the first book and if response is strong I'm hoping that she goes on to do the rest in the series as well. At least the first 100. Of course, the book isn't done in color. I suppose that would take an awfully long time and jack up the price as well. Still, after seeing "Bone" all bright and beautiful I was a little let-down to see Kristy, Claudia, Mary Ann, and Stacey in plain old black and white. I got over it. All in all, this is a truly enjoyable book and a great bit of nostalgia for anyone who first read the series when "Blossom" was on tv. Do not hesitate to hand it to a kid you know. They will undoubtedly gravitate towards it, now more than ever.

I first read a BSC book when I was seven - in first grade - and the reading was too challenging for

me, since I had just started reading chapter books. Well, when I was eight or nine, I picked this up and read the whole thing without a problem. Now I'm fourteen and I still love the books. They contain nothing inappropriate - no language, sexual content, violence, and only minor drug usage. And when the rare BSC situation with drinking or smoking involved comes up, the character narrating the book clearly explains that it's a bad thing to do. There's also a bit of racism, but no bad language or anything - just stuff like people avoiding blacks. But this stuff is explained in the books to be wrong, too. So, there's nothing that will turn kids into bad people or make them know bad things. The books are written in a great, flowing style, and each one is unique. Sometimes big tragedies occur, but the girls support each other and pull through in the end. This book was definitely the best one in the series. Though I only own about ten of the books, I've picked up most of the other ones from the library, so I can tell how good this is compared to the others. Sure, they're great, but this one beats them out. It's narrated by character Kristy, who gets a great idea. She and her friends Mary Anne and Claudia, plus Claudia's new friend Stacey, are going to start a baby-sitting club! They encounter lots of trouble in this book, like pesky kids, people who want them to sit for dogs, and Kristy's worst nightmare..... Watson Brewer, whom her mother is dating - and might even marry. Kristy hates Watson and thinks his kids, Karen and Andrew, are probably brats, though she's never met them. Plus, Claudia's friend Stacey is acting strange, especially about eating junk food. You'll have to read the book to find out what happens!

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