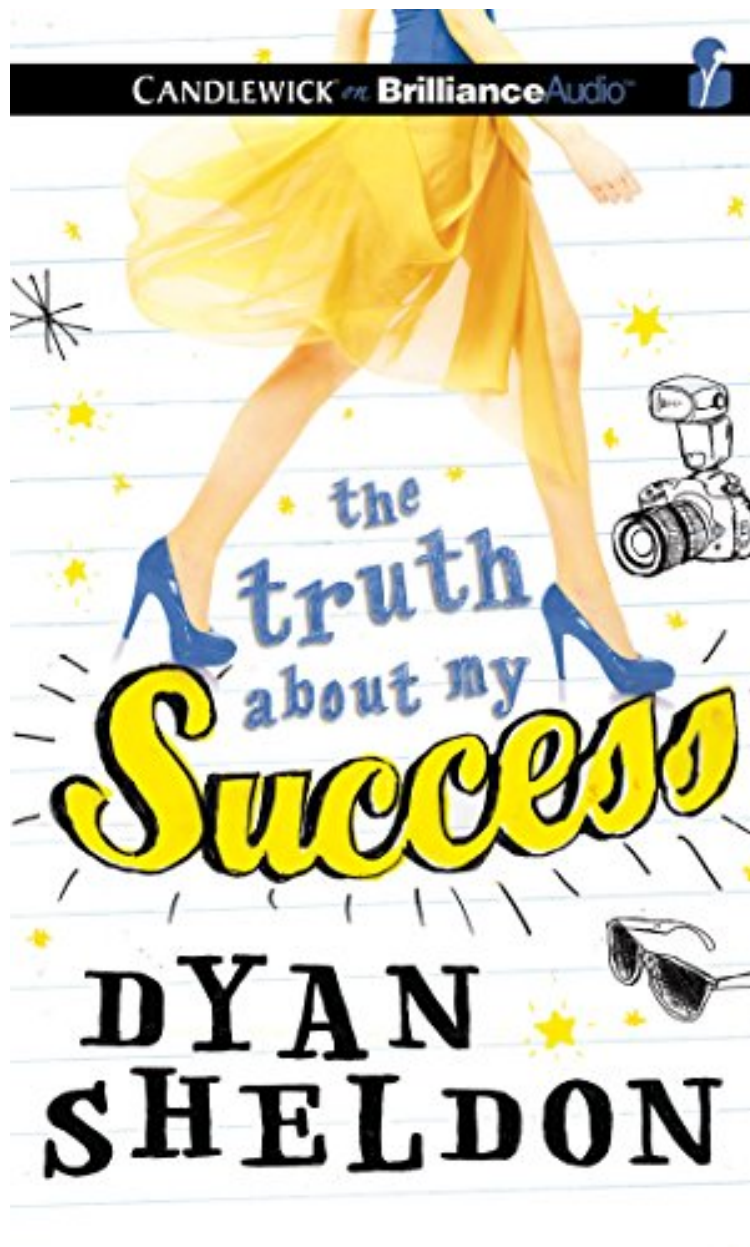


(Download free pdf) The Truth About My Success

The Truth About My Success

Dyan Sheldon

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2015-06-09 2015-06-09 Formats: Audiobook, CD, Unabridged Original language: English PDF # 7 6.50 x 1.00 x 7.131, Running time: 8 Hours Binding: Audio CD | File size: 71.Mb

Dyan Sheldon : The Truth About My Success before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Truth About My Success:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Terrific! By Grimwig I first found out about Ms Sheldon by coming

across her Janet books. They are very funny and well written. Highly recommended. This is a bit different, but still shows off Ms Sheldon's smooth writing style and humor. The story is excellent, fast moving, not as predictable as you might think, and was a joy to read from start to finish. Highly recommended, even if reading about the problems of teen-age girls is not one of your interests. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Switch Off

By BeatleBangs1964
Protagonist Susan R. Minnick, stage name Paloma Rose (pink dove) is a diva with a sense of entitlement. That having been said, this is an adorable story. Paloma, 16 has a sense of entitlement and the way she talks to her mother Leone is galling and appalling. She even once threw a \$3,000.00 vase at Leone. I didn't like Leone at all, but still...As for Paloma's father Arthur, he has about as much impact as a feather would on a construction team. He is very ineffectual; is more like a specter and has minimal influence in their household. He also has a drinking problem and is rarely home. Paloma is a star in the teen series "Angel in the House." Paloma must be an incredible actor because her off-camera persona is everything but angelic. "Angel in the House" sounds like a thinly veiled "Touched by an Angel," a popular TV series. Even so, Paloma is quite the skilled actress. Rebellion and Paloma are on intimate terms. Paloma has been caught in some embarrassing photos such as going topless on a Disney ride and getting drunk in local bars. Leone locks her in her room, but Paloma is adept at sneaking out via the window. Things reach a critical head when Paloma was photographed acting a fool in public. Her ratings slip and Leone, seeing Paloma as a cash cow and a meal ticket as does Paloma's oily agent, Jack Silk (should be "Slick") is desperate to keep the show's ratings afloat. If "Angel in the House" gets canceled, Leone will be out on her keister. So will Paloma and their life of hedonistic excess. Leone and Jack meet in a coffee shop to discuss a game plan to save the show. The barista might be the answer to their greedy prayers. Oona Guinness, who bears a strong resemblance to Paloma despite being 2 inches shorter and with darker hair might just be what they are looking for. With a good rinse, cut, colored contacts and lessons in walking and talking like Paloma, she just might be the angel who saves the show and their monetary interests. Oona is Paloma's opposite number. Raised in a fashion by her widower father in a poor neighborhood, Oona has learned to be self-sufficient at an early age. Her mother died from cancer when Oona was 12 and her father sank into a clinical depression and is not really able to act as a parent to her. Oona's goal is to become a veterinarian and she takes her hound-Jack Russell terrier mix Harriet with her just about wherever she goes. Some smooth talking and a slick contract later, Jack convinces Oona to act as Paloma and take her place. Naturally Oona hems and haws and drags her feet, but leave it to Jack. He clears things with Oona's father and...introducing the new Paloma! Meanwhile the original Paloma is being groomed for brat camp. Jack lies to her and tells her she's "tired," "overworked" and "in need of a long rest" at a place that has gyms, spas, shopping malls and all the things her hedonistic little heart desires. Naturally Paloma takes the bait and is in for a very rude awakening. The chapters are told from each girl's side and how they cope with their very different set of expectations. Oona is a media darling and people love the new and improved Oona who is nice to people and who loves her adorable little dog. Paloma, the girl who threw a water pitcher at one interviewer and saw herself as a sun and everybody else as a satellite learns at brat camp, aka Old Ways Ranch that a sense of entitlement is about as useful as shoes are for a fish and a hat for a bird. After two weeks of meltdowns and refusal to leave her room, she gradually comes to accept life at the ranch. She learns to go along with the ranch psychiatrist, Dr. McGrew and with Dr. Ethan Lovejoy, the aptly named head of the place. A chance incident in which Paloma realizes that she had been deceived and replaced leads to a very satisfactory conclusion. In an updated *The Prince and the Pauper* - Literary Touchstone Classic and the 1983 movie *Trading Places* (1983), the two girls, Susan aka Paloma and Oona are very interesting characters and the book itself is a light, fun, quick read that no doubt many will enjoy. *Being Sloane Jacobs* is a good companion book to this one. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fast and funny

By John Rogers Clark IV
Paloma Rose is sweet and cute...Or used to be and still is on rare occasion on her rapidly failing teen TV show. These days, she's more likely to be caught in an embarrassing or compromising photo or situation that makes YouTube or the tabloids. This is in part because she's turned into a spoiled brat, but also because she's feeling like her life is turning into an ever smaller box thanks to her driven mother. Mom has had her in front of the camera since she was a baby and now they're in an ongoing war. When things reach a point where one more bad photo or blow-up on the set of her TV show will tank her career, Mom and her agent Jack Silk realize that drastic measures are in order. They decide to send her off to a wilderness brat camp for troubled teens. Only there's a problem. Who will replace her on the show and in the press? Enter Oona Guinness. She looks almost exactly like Paloma, or would with contacts and some hair tweaking. Jack and Mom spotted her when they stopped at the restaurant where she waitresses. Oona's life is at the other end of the spectrum from Paloma's. She lost her mom to cancer and that loss hit her dad so hard he can't really work or be a parent. He sits in front of the TV most of the time while Oona takes care of his maintenance duties at the rundown apartment complex where they live. Her only enjoyment comes from helping some of the other people who live there and Harriet, her small dog. When Oona is approached about impersonating Paloma, she refuses at first, but the amount of money being waved in her face would really turn things around at home, so she very reluctantly agrees. No sooner does she say yes than Paloma is outfoxed by Jack and flies off to what she thinks will be a luxury break at a remote spa. The book alternates between each girl's point of view and reading how they deal with being in completely new situations as well as gradually realizing how they've been hoodwinked, makes for a fast and fun read. Teens who like stories about celebrities and

teens in unusual, but funny situations will enjoy this book.

What happens when a bratty teenage star and a hardworking waitress get a taste of each other's worlds? Featuring the bestselling Dyan Sheldon at her snarky, entertaining best. Paloma Rose is sixteen and already a major TV star. She has money, franchises, adoring fans and an agent and parents who are dependent on her success to sustain their very comfortable lives. But all that could come to an end when Paloma becomes more famous for her bad behavior than for her acting, and her show's sponsors threaten to cancel the upcoming season if things don't improve. Meanwhile, Paloma's worried agent happens upon Oona Guinness working in a coffee shop. Maybe she's not as tall or as blonde as Paloma, but small details aside, they really might be twins. So a plan is born: what if they sent Paloma to a boot camp to become a better person, and put the malleable and much nicer Oona in her place? Oona thinks it's a stupid idea, but the money is hard to resist, given her family's dire circumstances. What does she have to lose? But plans don't always work out the way they're supposed to....

From School Library Journal Gr 9 Up Paloma Rose, teenage star of a major TV show, lives in the lap of luxury. But her every waking moment is scheduled or carefully choreographed, and the paparazzi are constantly on the lookout for a slip-up. Paloma is rebelling and taking out her frustrations on her mother, her agent, her fellow actors, and even her adoring fans. When her agent, Jack Silk, stumbles upon a young waitress, Oona Guinness, who is a dead ringer for Paloma, he concocts a plan to send the demanding and ill-behaved Paloma away and have the look-alike take her place on the show. Jack tells Paloma she is going for a brief getaway at a posh resort, when in reality, Paloma is sent for an indefinite stay at a rustic dude ranch. Oona, somewhat reluctantly, takes Paloma's place on the show and at home. Narrator Tara Sands admirably voices the large cast of characters. She is at her best as the whiny, acerbic Paloma and her tightly wound mother. VERDICT Although this work is somewhat predictable and wrapped up with a too-tidy ending, fans of chick lit will enjoy this entertaining romp. ["Despite its flaws, this novel will be an easy sell to teens who enjoyed Mean Girls and are looking for light drama": SLJ 5/1/15 review of the Candlewick book.] Lisa E. Hubler, Charles F. Brush High School, Lyndhurst, OH Constantly funny, splendidly witty: a bull's-eye. Kirkus s Sheldon's latest outing mashes elements of *Pretty Woman* with *The Prince and the Pauper* to create a twenty-first-century answer to *The Slums of Beverly Hills*. ... Recommend this to teens who appreciate wry commentary on contemporary life. Booklist Entertaining ... Teen girls will enjoy the peek into the life of the rich and famous. VOYA The books slightly larger-than-life characters and plot offer some hilarious scenarios as both teens learn a bit about power, greed, compassion, and what they want in life. Publishers Weekly This novel will be an easy sell to teens who enjoyed Mean Girls and are looking for light drama. School Library Journal About the Author Dyan Sheldon is the author of many novels for young readers, including the #1 New York Times bestseller *Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen*, which was made into a major motion picture; *The Crazy Things Girls Do for Love*; and *One or Two Things I Learned About Love*. Dyan Sheldon was born in Brooklyn and now lives in North London.