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# Fancy White Trash



## Synopsis

Finding love is simple with the One True Love Plan. If only life were as easy as your sisters. Abby's heard that one before. And it's true. Shelby and Kait aren't exactly prim and proper. Abby is determined not to follow in their footsteps, so she has created the One True Love Plan. The most important part of the plan is Rule #1: Find Someone New. This means finding a guy who hasn't already dated Shelby or Kait. But when Abby starts falling for the possible father of Kait's baby, she has to figure out if some rules are meant to be broken. This debut novel, a modern comedy of errors, is as lighthearted and irreverent as its title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 8 Up • Fifteen-year-old Abby Savage has always thought of herself as the "normal" one in a household that more closely resembles a soap-opera cast than a real family. It's the summer before sophomore year, and, with her best friend Cody's help, Abby is determined to follow her One True Love Plan (formulated to avoid the mistakes of her sisters Shelby and Kait). Then Mom announces that she is pregnant by her new husband, Steve, a younger man who also happens to be the father of Kait's unborn child. Things become even more complicated when Cody's older brother, Jackson, returns home. Last spring, Abby thought she was falling in love with him, but she now distances herself because she's obsessed by the possibility that he could be the father of Kait's child (Kait dated Jackson before Steve). This somewhat farcical account of the Savage women is told in a witty, toned-down Meg Cabot style. The novel moves breathlessly from one family drama to the next—often in front of the neighbors—and touches on some

heavy topics along the way, most notably Cody's attempt to come out of the closet. While there's no fairy-tale ending, the story's central romantic conflict is tied up a bit too tidily. Still, the likable main character and fast-paced storytelling will appeal to fans of Aimee Friedman's *The Year My Sister Got Lucky* (Scholastic, 2008) and Meg Cabot's *Pants on Fire* (HarperCollins, 2007). --Amy S. Pattee, Simmons College, Boston Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

[T]old in a witty, toned-down Meg Cabot style...the likable main character and fast-paced storytelling will appeal to fans of Aimee Friedman's *The Year My Sister Got Lucky* and Meg Cabot's *Pants on Fire*. --School Library Journal

This was my favorite book in high-school so I decided to buy it again when I was feeling a little lost in college. It was fair to say that, in highschool I read this book five times and in college it was just as good. The characters are well written and each character development evolves wonderfully. Not all develop into mature better versions of themselves, but Abby most importantly does. What I loved most about this book is that it teaches you, they are no rules to love or a road map that will guide you down the right path to 'The One'. He just comes. Maybe not the way you expected him to, or when you thought was most convenient.....but until then surround yourself with beautiful people who make you feel loved!

*Fancy White Trash* begins with this great line: "If your eighteen-year-old sister, only three years older than you, was pregnant with your oldest sister's ex-boyfriend's baby, you'd be saving it for Mr. Right. And you'd know that Mr. Right had not already dated one of your sisters." Abby Savage is the straight girl in a crazy family, a cast of characters nuts enough that Abby finds sanity in soap operas. In fact, she adopts her rules of life from afternoon television. Of course, the rules and Abby's resolve are tested when she begins to fall for her next-door neighbor, who may or may not be the father of her sister's new baby. "*Fancy White Trash*" is such great fun. One mark of a great book is how it makes readers feel at the end, and Abby's family is mixed up enough to make most everyone feel good about their own families.

Marjetta Geerling is a master at writing YA literature. She knows how to create characters with fantastic voices, and that is evident all throughout "*Fancy White Trash*." Geerling makes the reader connect with each character, especially Abby. Although some of the family and love interest

situations may seem unreal or extreme to some, I'm sure there are kids that really go through these exact situations, and Geerling writes the plot in a way that makes each scene and situation very believable. She also adds just the right amount of humor to balance all the tough issues that Abby is dealing. I highly recommend this book.

FANCY WHITE TRASH is positively marvelous. Through well-developed characters, Geerling captures real, palpable, and wholly relatable teen and family situations. I would give a plot summary for this book, but you simply do not need it. I am always apprehensive about reading new YA literature, but when I took a Look Inside FANCY WHITE TRASH, I knew I would be in for pure enjoyment. Each page is littered with humor and wit, and the narration is strong and convincing. I found myself smiling at the characters' comments; Abby, in particular, always made me laugh, and she never failed to inspire other emotions in me, too. By the time I finished the novel, I felt a personal connection to many of the characters. This is exactly how I know Geerling has created a fantastic read. If you pass this up, you have made a dreadful mistake.

Love this book! I first read this in high school when I borrowed from my friend. But eventually I had to return it to her and couldn't find this anywhere. It's nice to know that not every family is "perfect" and this is perfect to show it. I hope they make this into a movie someday and that the author writes more books because she's amazing!

I really wasn't sure I'd like this book, but I was pleasantly surprised that by page two, I was hooked. I love the soap opera elements (even though I don't even like soap operas) and all the craziness of Abby's family. The whole thing was hilarious and just plain wonderful.

Abby rocks! No doubt about it. Her story, her philosophy, her world, are all tragic and beautiful, lost and found, up and down. With fresh dialogue and very real characters, it's no wonder Marjetta Geerling's story is such a fun-filled teen drama with plenty of references to soap operas, boys and modern American family life. Sticking to a plan is generally a good idea but Fancy White Trash and Abby's One True Love plan makes you re-consider even your most treasured policies.

Abby Savage lives in a family with beaucoup complications. That's why she created her One True Love Plan modeled after the "dos" and "don'ts" she's learned from watching soap operas. Then Abby's first love, Jackson, shows up again in her life and threatens to make her break her own

rules. Marjetta Geerling's debut novel features a cast of unforgettable characters that will make you laugh out loud.-- Reviewed by Michelle Delisle

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