

The Authenticity Project Awards and Praise

New York Times bestseller

National bestseller

Winner of the Romantic Novel Award for Debut of the Year

A *Washington Post* “Feel-Good Book Guaranteed To Lift Your Spirits”

Winner of *Woman & Home’s* Best Feel-Good Fiction

Library Journal’s Best Pop Fiction of 2020

Real Simple’s Best Books of 2020

One of:

USA Today’s “5 books not to miss”

People Magazine’s “Book of the Week”

New York Post’s “Best Books of the Week”

Good Housekeeping UK’s “14 of the best feel-good books”

Cosmopolitan UK’s “13 of the best new good books to read”

Her Magazine’s “20 feel good fiction novels”

Marie Claire (Australia’s) “Book Club: Must-Reads This April”

Longlisted for *The Guardian’s* “Not the Booker Prize”

Audible Canada’s Best Audiobooks of 2020

Barnes & Noble’s January 2021 Picks

A group of strangers who live near each other in London become fast friends after writing their deepest secrets in a shared notebook... This is a glossy tale where difficulties and addictions appear and are overcome, where lies are told and then forgiven, where love is sought and found, and where truths, once spoken, can set you free. Secondary characters, including an interracial gay couple, appear with their own nuanced parts in the story. The message is strong, urging readers to get off their smartphones and social media and live in the real, authentic world—no chain stores or brands allowed here—making friends and forming a real-life community and support network. And is that really a bad thing?

An enjoyable, cozy novel that touches on tough topics.

—***Kirkus Reviews***

This wistful, humorous tale from follows the path of a confessional notebook that passes through the hands of several characters... Pooley maintains a quick, satisfying pace as the characters’ simple, spontaneous acts affect each other’s lives. This is a beautiful and illuminating story of self-creation.

—***Publishers Weekly***

“A well-suited subject for the Instagram era, this book makes you realize that no one’s life is what it seems.”

—***Good Morning America***

"In a year that was challenging to say the least, this is the book we all needed... In a joyous read, we learn what it means to be real, to put aside the facade and reveal who we really are. A worthy winner."

—***Woman & Home's Best Feel-Good Fiction***

"Poignant and uplifting."

—***Daily Mail***

"a lovely read...A reminder of the importance of friendship and reaching out to others."

—***Good Housekeeping UK***

"A warm, charming tale about the rewards of revealing oneself..."

—***People Magazine***

"If this heartwarmer has a main character, it's a humble green notebook. Left in a café by a lonely, old man (after he's filled some of its pages with a brutally honest account of his life), it is written in by a cast of characters, each sharing the hopes, dreams, disappointments and secrets they've never confessed anywhere else. A ragtag group, they eventually find each other – a sort of epistolary *Love, Actually* that feels like an antidote to the isolation of modern life."

—***Globe and Mail***

"If you enjoyed *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*, you might just like *The Authenticity Project*... A wonderfully warm, feel-good novel about the power of friendship and connection."

—***Cosmopolitan UK***

"The perfect balance of warmth and wit, *The Authenticity Project* will make you laugh out loud in lots of places and feel all warm and fuzzy in others."

—***Marie Claire (Australia)***

"[Pooley] succeeds in persuasively conveying the daily texture of city life, and in creating appealing characters we want to see happy... [S]everal reversals and a neat twist mean that *The Authenticity Project* grows stronger toward its end: a rarity for novels... *The Authenticity Project* is an enjoyable read that is cozy... in the best sense of the word."

—***USA Today, starred review***

"*The Authenticity Project* cracks the facades that people present to the world and shows what happens when you're willing to share your true self. This is a story of love, of community, of found family, and of forgiveness. A beautiful book with a poignant message, perfect for our time."

—**Jill Santopolo, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Light We Lost***

"Insightful, timely, and utterly addictive, *The Authenticity Project* illuminates the importance of discovering—and honoring—our truest, most imperfect selves."

—**Georgia Hunter, *New York Times* bestselling author of *We Were The Lucky Ones***

"*The Authenticity Project* is a rich roast of great characters, even better relationships, wonderful entanglements, and a few surprises along the way. If Monica's Cafe were a real place, I'd stop by every day."

—**Laurie Frankel, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This Is How It Always Is***

"*The Authenticity Project* reads like a gorgeous box of chocolates: sweet, surprising and impossible not to love. I found myself cheering, cringing, laughing and crying as I read this book and—above all—remembering the true value of community and human connection."

—**Tara Conklin, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Last Romantics***

"Fans of Fredrik Backman and Gail Honeyman—make room on your shelves for Clare Pooley. *The Authenticity Project* is a stunning debut and it left me inspired me to share more of myself with the world."

—**Steven Rowley, bestselling author of *The Editor***

"A heart-warming, feel-good story about love, loss and what it means to be human. Pooley's debut is gloriously upbeat and gorgeously readable."

—**Annabel Abbs, author of *The Joyce Girl***

"Online, everyone's lives look happy and perfect, which makes Clare Pooley's charmed novel, *The Authenticity Project*, a fresh, welcome and necessary change of pace."

—***Shelf Awareness***

"The central premise of [*The Authenticity Project*] is compelling and clever [and] her cast of characters is varied and relatable, as Pooley skillfully negotiates their interactions... [T]he narrative's uplifting and heart-warming qualities are undeniable."

—***The Irish Times***

"The Authenticity Project's cast of characters... is by turns quirky and funny, heartbreakingly sad and painfully true-to-life. It's a story about being brave and putting your real self forward—and finding out that it's not as scary as it seems. In fact, it looks a lot like happiness... It is just the tonic for our times that readers are clamoring for—and one they will take to their hearts and read with unabashed pleasure."

—***Book Of The Day .org***

"It's a heartwarming, laughter-and-tears story about the value of friendships and the importance of reaching out to each other."

—***Mail Online***

"A quirky cast of characters you can't help but root for."

—***Woman & Home***