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The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks by E. Lockhart

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Frankie Landau-Banks is used to people not taking her seriously—especially her elitist father. But when Matthew Livingston, her dream boyfriend and the cutest boy at Alabaster Prep School, excludes her from the school’s all-male secret society simply because she’s a girl, she decides to show him just how seriously he should take her. Soon the members of the Loyal Order of the Basset Hound are unwittingly doing Frankie’s bidding, pulling off brilliant school pranks with biting feminist commentary. By the time the boys realize who’s behind it all, Frankie has learned a lot about living in a world where boys may be boys, but girls aren’t invited.

E. Lockhart’s tale of high school high jinks is filled with deliciously devious pranks and a relatable protagonist with a weakness for cute boys. Frankie is a complex character who uses her brain, along with platinum credit cards, to not just cause trouble but to make trouble with a cause. With asides about Frankie’s studies in protest and paranoia, *The Disreputable History of Frankie-Landau Banks* is a useful primer on power and equal rights. Although the male characters are written as simple stereotypes, a deep sense of mystery keeps readers turning pages. If you enjoyed books like *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* and *Princess Academy*, you’ll appreciate Frankie’s fun, feisty journey to an authentic sense of self.

Reviewer: Lauren E. Johnson

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