

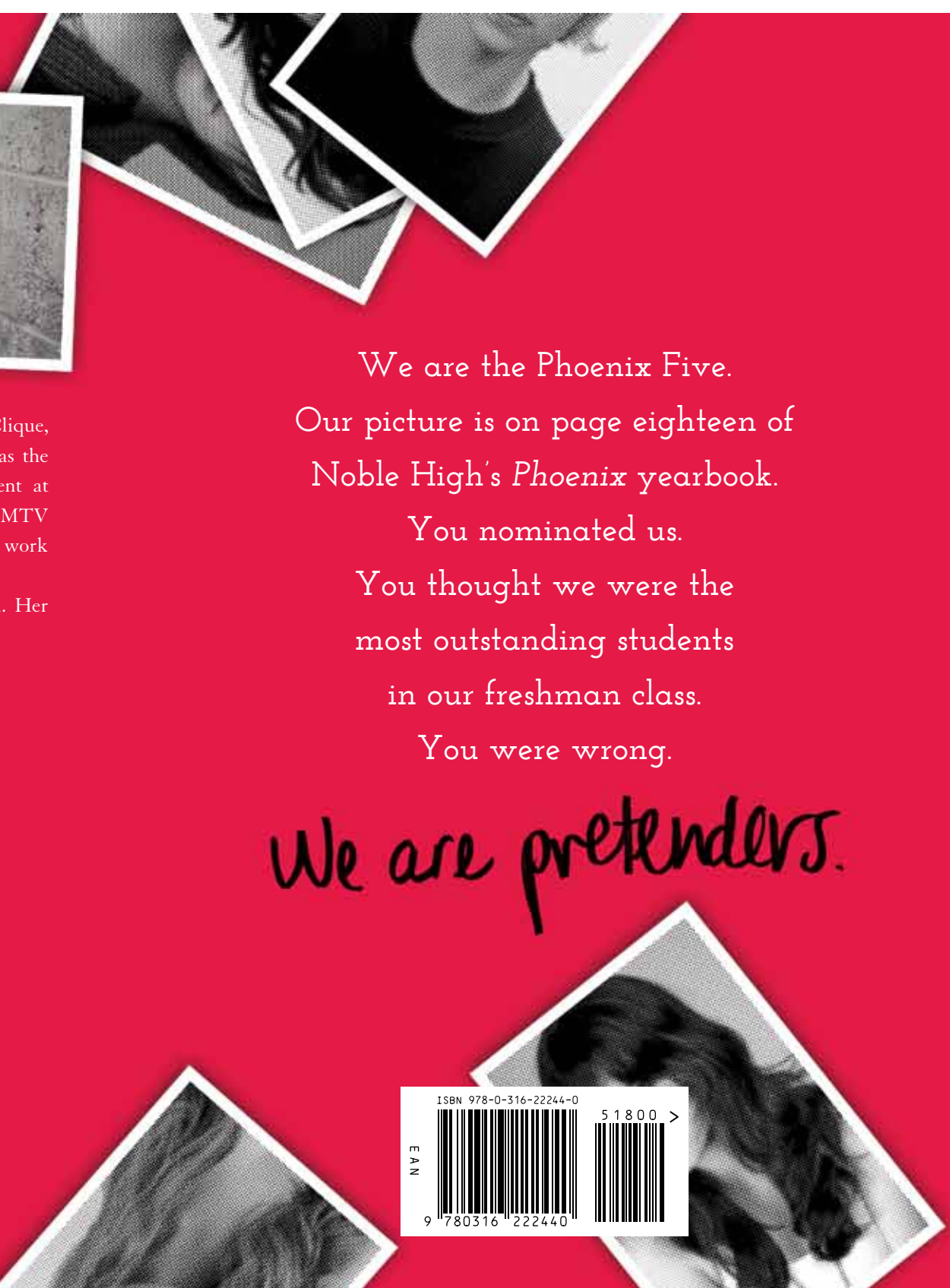


Photo by Gillian Crane

LISI HARRISON is the author of the Clique, Alphas, and Monster High series. She was the senior director of production development at MTV and also served as head writer for MTV Productions. She is currently pretending to work on her next novel.
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We are the Phoenix Five.
Our picture is on page eighteen of
Noble High's *Phoenix* yearbook.
You nominated us.
You thought we were the
most outstanding students
in our freshman class.
You were wrong.

We are pretenders.



LISI HARRISON



PRETENDERS



*Three girls, two guys,
and five secret journals*



PRETENDERS

BY #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
LISI HARRISON

\$18.00 U.S.
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The five most popular students at Noble High have secrets to hide—secrets they wrote in their journals. Now one of their own is exposing the private entries to reveal what makes them all **PRETENDERS.**

These journal entries are 100% real and 100% unedited. I should know. Many of them are mine.
My picture is on page eighteen of Noble High's 2012–2013 *Phoenix* yearbook. I'm one of the PHOENIX FIVE. You nominated me. You thought I was one of the most outstanding students in our freshman class. You were wrong.
Still, I accepted my award. I acted special. But I couldn't help wondering what it would be like if it was for real, if I was actually outstanding. What do outstanding people think about? What do they eat for breakfast? Do they worry? Is life easier when you're born with exceptional talent, brains, looks, drive, athleticism, or money? I needed to know. So I stole all five of our journals.
I'm doing this because I'm tired and I know you are too. The success bar is too high, and pretending has become the only way to reach it. Instagrams are filtered, Facebook profiles are embellished, photos are shopped, reality TV is scripted, body parts get upgraded like software, and even professional athletes are cheating. The things we believe in aren't real. Everyone is a pretender.
The proof is in these pages.