



Girlfriends: Invisible Bonds, Enduring Ties

Carmen Renee Berry, Tamara Traeder

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Almost any woman will tell you that her friendships with other women are among the most rewarding relationships she has. In this remarkable book, real-life girlfriends Carmen Renee Berry and Tamara Traeder explore the depths and complexities of women's relationships and the joy, sustenance, and power they bring. The ideal gift for special friends, *Girlfriends* celebrates the steadfast, wonderful women in our lives.

Girlfriends: Invisible Bonds, Enduring Ties Details

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Author : Carmen Renee Berry , Tamara Traeder

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Patty says

That girlfriends are so important in my life,,,,,especially when I grew up without a sister.

Christina says

just reading this to torture myself and hopefully give me some clue as to how to make close friends. found it at the thrift store calling out to me.

Diane Eskridge says

I love my girl friends and this book celebrates those unique relationships. All the stories are reminders of the many journeys we walk through together.

Erika says

A delightful collection of the ways in which we love our girlfriends, Invisible Bonds Enduring Ties is a book I hope every woman has the privilege to identify with. Authors Berry and Traeder capture the facets of how and why we love the women in our life and how they can impact our lives. From roommates to childhood friends, those next door to those across the world, women we speak to multiple times per day or once a year, weddings to cancer treatments, readers can smile reflecting on the connections we share with the women around us. MAny times I felt that the authors truly captured the nuances of my friendships and what makes them so important and unique. Many smiles and sweet giggles were produced reading this book as I identified with the women in this book. A recommendation to any woman who can relate with the unmistakable power of our girlfriends. Thank you, Sisterfriend, for the wonderful birthday gift!!

Maria Murray says

I tried to give this book a chance...but couldn't get past page 40. There is only so much you can read about other people's friendships. And each is only a couple of paragraphs. It's not like even shore stories.

Kimster says

A book about the whole experience of friendships. Why they last, what to do when they don't, how to be a better friend, and all other facets of friendship. I wrote a note in mine and gave it to a friend hoping it could

be a pass around book but I don't think she ever read it and she returned it to me even after I told her to keep it and pass it on to someone else when she was done. I'm certain she never even opened the front cover. So it's been sitting on my shelf for 10 years. I'm taking it to book club next month in hopes someone there will want to read it and pass it along.

Jeanne says

I got this book as a Christmas gift from my best friend. It was extremely sentimental to me to get a book about the strong bonds between friends, especially when she is leaving in two weeks. The book just made me look back on all the friendships I've had with various people. It tells stories of new friendships, forgiveness, betrayal, lasting friendships through marriage and kids, people who move far away but still remain close with that one special friend. It gave me some hope that no matter how far away my best friend and I are we will not lose touch and will remain as close as ever. However, it also made me look at some of my friendships that I have not put much effort into lately and I realize just how important those friendships are to me. After reading this book, I am definitely contacting some friends I haven't seen in a while. It was a light, heartfelt book that makes you look at your friendships and cherish what you have with those important people in your life.

Julie Barrett says

Girlfriends, invisible bonds by Carmen Renee Berry and Tamara Trader

Female friendships are vital to a woman's growth. Opinions and bonds throughout a woman's life, starting at childhood stage.

Lots of stories through tough times and fun times. Authors ask for your stories to maybe include in their next book.

I received this book from National Library Service for my BARD (Braille Audio Reading Device).

Scott Haraburda says

Well-written book of short stories (about 3 pages each). Contains some valuable insight into female relationships.

Heather says

I enjoyed this book. A walk down memory lane ensued, as I myself thought of different friendships that I have had and still cherish, as well as those I stepped away from. It was an interesting proposition to look at my relationships with women over the years, and to understand a bit more about why I had them, why I lost them, or why I kept them.

I've been a traveller since childhood; Chronologically, here is how it went:

My father was in the Canadian Army and we moved from Montreal to London, Ontario when I was 7; to Oromocto (i.e. Camp Gagetown, NB) when I was 10; to Soest, Germany when I was 13; and back to

Montreal when I was 16.

Then, after I met my partner (Wayne) we moved from Montreal to North Bay, Ontario; Temiscaming, QC; Sarnia, Ontario; Toronto, ON; Montreal; Yanbu, Saudi Arabia; Montreal; Sarnia, ON; Balikpapan, North Kalimantan, Indonesia; Sarnia, ON; Chatham, Ontario.

And then, on my own I moved from Chatham, Ontario to Toronto, Ontario; Chatham, ON; Sarnia, ON; London, ON; and here I stay for now over 23 years.

I have never had problems making friends, lots of practice on it over the years. But keeping friends is another proposition.

I enjoyed this book. It clarified some things for me. It's not a hard read, and it is a book that makes you appreciate your friendships with women.

Reclaim your girlfriends! Read this book!

Lesley Looper says

I read this book quite a while ago, my guess is nearly 20 years ago. I remember enjoying it well enough then, I could probably use a reread of it, considering how I'm in a different stage in my life now, but there are so many other books waiting to be read!

Tara says

I liked this okay. In fact I would have given it 2.5 if that was an option, which I guess rounds up to 3.

What I liked: It gives a number of short anecdotes describing various aspects of friendship between women. While the anecdotes were mostly too short to be very meaningful, they made me reflect on a lot of my friendships in life, and that part I liked. Makes me want to record some of the thoughts it brought to mind in writing and maybe share with some of the friends that inspired them.

What I didn't like: How I would love to see a literary work that can celebrate women without the need to stoop to male bashing. While there wasn't a lot of male bashing, because the book is not about men, they weren't able to entirely refrain from it. It also tends to glorify the "bad girl". Just think of all the speed bumps and scrapes we might have avoided in life if today's world wasn't trying to pound it into women that they need to be "bad" to be who they really are. What the world needs more of right now is Integrity, Respect and Self-Discipline (IRS, an unfortunate acronym). Also, after talking a lot about how every relationship will have its unique qualities, in the end they make a blanket recommendation that all female friendships develop a ritual of some sort. That's as silly as saying all friendships need to spend a weekend at the beach every year (which is fine for some, but not needed for all).

Arwen says

I often use quotes from this book when I'm giving talks. While it is a great source for sound bites, it doesn't have much meat. It's really just a bunch of anecdotes from different women on friendship. It's very feminist in viewpoint, and doesn't carry any other consistent theme about friendships.

Carol says

I just couldn't get into this book. It jumped from one pair of friends to another, giving only snippets of their relationships. I have the best of best girlfriends, am experiencing the joys of it and feel no need to read about that of others.

I would have liked to have read of more practical ways to develop more friendships like the one I have but this book did not deliver.

Nancy Zorn says

Received this book in a batch of hand-me-downs. I brought it with me on a trip I took to Bali with my girlfriend. It seemed appropriate. The book is filled with short stories about women, our life phases, and our ever present girlfriends. It was OK. Nothing earth shattering. I didn't feel compelled to keep it, so I passed it on to my girlfriend with the instructions that she, too, should pass it along. It's short. If a copy comes your way, it's worth a read.
