

Ann Brashares



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“I don’t really write with the idea of trying to teach any lessons. I want to tell a story as truthfully and engagingly as I can, and then let the chips fall where they may.”

—Ann Brashares

Ann Brashares is the celebrated author of the Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants series. Her bestselling novels have appeared on the YALSA Best Books for Young Adults List and the Texas Tayshas High School Reading List.

A Note from the Author

I think pants have unique qualities, especially in a woman's life. Whatever bodily insecurities we have, we seem to take out on our pants. In high school, my friends would have their skinny pants and their fat pants. I like pants that allow women not to judge their bodies. The Traveling Pants are the kind of pants that always love you. They fit my characters' bodies in a nonrestrictive way.

There's a little bit of me in each of the girls in the Sisterhood. I would say I have more in common with Lena and Carmen than the other two. I have some life experience in common with Carmen, but we are considerably different too. I am a little like Carmen in that I sometimes feel as if I lose myself when I'm out of context. Also, I have dealt with issues of divorce and stepfamilies. For the protection of the innocent, though, I must say that my own

family circumstances were completely different than hers. As for Lena, I guess I know what it is to feel awkward and inward sometimes, and romantically, to feel like a big chicken. Sometimes the girls provided me with an escape or a fantasy.

Ann Brashares grew up in Chevy Chase, Maryland, with three brothers and attended a Quaker school in the D.C. area called Sidwell Friends. She studied Philosophy at Barnard College, part of Columbia University in New York City. Expecting to continue studying philosophy in graduate school, Ann took a year off after college to work as an editor, hoping to save money for school. Loving her job, she never went to graduate school, and instead, remained in New York City and worked as an editor for many years. Ann made the transition from editor to full-time writer to write her first novel, The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants.

Praise for:

THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS:

★ "A complex book about a solid group of friends, with each one a strong and courageous individual in her own right. They form a true sisterhood of acceptance and support, resulting in a believable and inviting world."

—*School Library Journal*, Starred

★ "An outstanding and vivid book that will stay with readers for a long time."

—*Publishers Weekly*, Starred

★ "A feel-good novel of substance."

—*Kirkus Reviews*, Starred

THE SECOND SUMMER OF THE SISTERHOOD:

"Highly readable and marked by emotional truth. . . . Certain to delight."

—*School Library Journal*

GIRLS IN PANTS:

★ "Beneath these crisis-ridden plotlines lies an artist at work—an author who encourages her readers to look, feel, trust, and empathize with her characters."

—*Booklist*, Starred

"Lively prose, snappy dialogue, and a complex intertwining of four stories . . . an ode to love and friendship to delight Brashares' legions of fans, who have spent a good deal of their young lives sharing the Pants along with the sisterhood."—*Kirkus Reviews*

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants Series

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