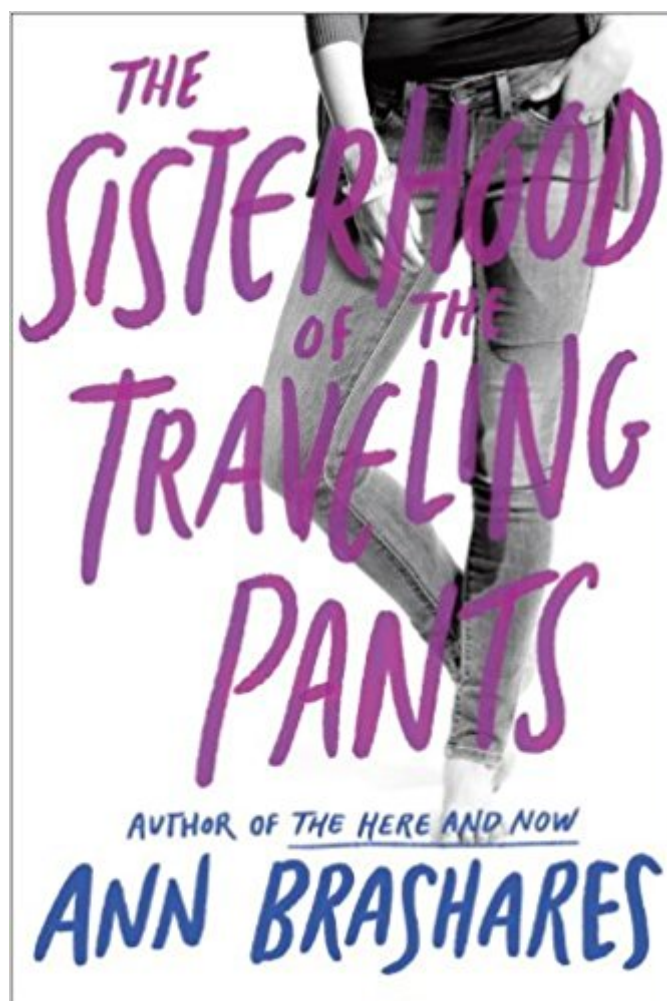


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Sisterhood Of The Traveling Pants (Book 1)



Synopsis

“Funny, perceptive, and moving,” raved *USA Today* of the first novel in the #1 *New York Times* bestselling *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* series by Ann Brashares, author of *The Here and Now*. Some friends just fit together. Once there was a pair of pants. Just an ordinary pair of jeans. But these pants, the *Traveling Pants*, went on to do great things. This is the story of the four friends—Lena, Tibby, Bridget, and Carmen—who made it possible. “An outstanding and vivid book that will stay with readers for a long time.” *Publishers Weekly*, Starred, Flying Start “The loving depiction of enduring and solid friendship will ring true to readers.” *The Bulletin*, Recommended “A feel-good novel of substance.” *Kirkus Reviews*, Starred “Uplifting.” *Seventeen* *Pants* = love. Love your pals. Love yourself.

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

They were just a soft, ordinary pair of thrift-shop jeans until the four girls took turns trying them on—four girls, that is, who are close friends, about to be parted for the summer, with very different sizes and builds, not to mention backgrounds and personalities. Yet the pants settle on each girl’s hips perfectly, making her look sexy and long-legged and feel confident as a teenager can feel.

"These are magical Pants!" they realize, and so they make a pact to share them equally, to mail them back and forth over the summer from wherever they are. Beautiful, distant Lena is going to Greece to be with her grandparents; strong, athletic Bridget is off to soccer camp in Baja, California; hot-tempered Carmen plans to have her divorced father all to herself in South Carolina; and Tibby the rebel will be left at home to slave for minimum wage at Wallman's. Over the summer the Pants come to represent the support of the sisterhood, but they also lead each girl into bruising and ultimately healing confrontations with love and courage, dying and forgiveness. Lena finds her identity in Greece and the courage not to reject love; Bridget gets in over her head with an older camp coach; Carmen finds her father ensconced with a new fiancée and family; and Tibby unwillingly takes on a filmmaking apprentice who is dying of leukemia. Each girl's story is distinct and engrossing, told in a brightly contemporary style. Like the Pants, the reader bounces back and forth among the four unfolding adventures, and the melange is spiced with letters and witty quotes. Ann Brashares has here created four captivating characters and seamlessly interwoven their stories for a young adult novel that is fresh and absorbing. (Ages 12 and older) --Patty Campbell --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A pair of jeans purchased at a thrift store is the unlikely bond that keeps four best friends emotionally connected during the first summer that they spend physically apart. This clever (if initially hokey-sounding) premise sets the course for four intertwined, compelling coming-of-age stories. Carmen doesn't think much of the pants she buys for \$3.49, until she and her pals discover their magical quality. The jeans which fit each girl perfectly despite their very different body types serve as a surrogate friend for Tibby, Carmen, Lena and Bridget as they wrestle with new issues of first love, jealousy, fear and sadness in the months before their junior year of high school. Each girl has a turn with the pants, then sends them on to the next person in the rotation; by summer's end, when the friends are reunited, the jeans will be the symbol of what the girls have experienced. Goethals sounds every bit the teenager here, but her sometimes halting reading never quite captures the crackle of Brashares's writing style. In Goethals's command, the author's snappy asides and retorts occasionally sound cumbersome rather than humorous or biting, as they were intended. Many teen girls will likely take these shortcomings in stride and get lost in a story that speaks to them. Ages 12-up. Simultaneous release with Delacorte hardcover, reviewed in Children's Forecasts July 6. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

'This sequel to the fictional story *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* again tells the story of the four best friends from D.C. This summer the girls all think they will be staying home besides Tibby who will be going to a film program at a college. Although, Bridget does decide to go and visit her grandmother, who she has not seen or heard from in years. This leaves Carmen and Lena home for the summer. Carmen goes through a lot this summer involving her mother, Lena has a pretty tough summer as well, and she reunites with an old friend from Greece but then is forced to go back to Greece near the end of the summer because of a tragedy in her family. A lot has changed since last summer, and the girls are experiencing new difficulties but they are still close friends. Although they all have their different experiences this summer, the pants are still sent around to each of the best friends. They all go through a lot again this summer, but once again they never lose sight of their friendship and love for each other.

The Second Summer of the Sisterhood is another great story for all ages from Ann Brashares. It is a great book for teenage girls, mostly because what the girls in the book go through is what teens are going through now; heartbreak, loss, friendship, and so much more. As teens grow and begin to understand that life is harder and more complex than they ever thought, it is easier to get through these awkward and tough times knowing that other people are going through the same things they are. This book is a great support system if someone needs reassurance that what they are going through is normal. Many people say the second book of a series is never as good as the first, I believe that this is false for this series. The books do not have a lot in common, they play off of each other very well. It really does help show how the girls are growing and how they are maturing, because their stories are getting to be more problematic. At the end of the summer the girls are reunited, they talked about their summers and all that happened.

Carmen let out her breath when she saw the three mothers sitting at the round table. This is showing how close the mothers have become again, for the first time after Bridget's mother's death they all came together to talk and have a good time. The girls were all so happy to see this because I believe it gave them hope for their futures.

The Second Summer of the Sisterhood is a great book to help girls of all ages remember what is important, friendship and staying close to the people who are loving and caring.

This fictional story of four best friends and their first summer apart is a great book that every teenage girl should read. The story of four seventeen girls: Lena, Carmen, Bridget, and Tibby shows the true meaning of friendship and how no matter what life throws at you, you can

always count on your friends for help and support. The story begins with the story of *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, Carmen found these magical pants at a thrift shop and they fit her and her three best friends, despite their different body shapes. The four best friends have been best friends for as long as they can remember, and they will be separated for the first time this upcoming summer. Lena is going to Greece with her sister to visit her grandparents, Carmen is going to South Carolina to see her father, Bridget is going to a soccer camp in Baja California, Mexico, and Tibby is the only one to stay home in Maryland. They all make a deal that they will send the *Traveling Pants* to one another over the summer. They all have their own experiences over the summer, some good and some bad, but they never lose sight of their friendship. *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* is a great book for all ages but mostly for teenage girls. I believe that this book helps show the true meaning of friendship. Also, I think this book can even answer questions teens might have but are too afraid to ask. As teens grow and develop their bodies change, this part of life can be very confusing. Some teens can get very self-conscious, this book shows that there are other people going through the same obstacles as them self. The book includes a lot of examples of how relatable the story is to real life but one strong example is when Lena and Effie got to Greece their grandma wanted to introduce one of their neighbors to Lena. *Lena had a strong suspicion Grandma hasn't just cooked up this idea in the last hour. She suspected Grandma had been plotting something for a long time* (Brashares, 52). This is showing how Lena's grandmother had wanted Kostos and Lena to become close and maybe eventually get married. I know from personal experience grandparents are not afraid to say what they think or what they want to happen, so when Lena's grandmother went out of her way to introduce the two it shows how she wanted them to become friends. I feel as though a lot of grandparents would do this, only because they want the best for their grandchild. *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* is a great book to help teen girls get through the "awkward stages" by helping them realize everyone is going through the same thing.

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