

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants

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Carmen got the jeans at a thrift shop. They didn't look all that great: they were worn, dirty, and speckled with bleach. On the night before she and her friends part for the summer, Carmen decides to toss them. But Tibby says they're great. She'd love to have them. Lena and Bridget also think they're fabulous. Lena decides that they should all try them on. Whoever they fit best will get them. Nobody knows why, but the pants fit everyone perfectly. Even Carmen (who never thinks she looks good in anything) thinks she looks good in the pants. Over a few bags of cheese puffs, they decide to form a sisterhood and take the vow of the Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants . . . the next morning, they say good-bye. And then the journey of the pants - and the most memorable summer of their lives - begins.

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

"Funny, perceptive, and moving."-USA Today

"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

"A feel-good novel of substance. . . . Move over, Ya-Ya Sisters."-Kirkus Reviews, Starred

"The loving depiction of enduring and solid friendship will ring true to readers, who will appreciate this recognition of one of life's most important relationships."-The Bulletin, Recommended

Other Books

Summers of the Sisterhood: The Second Summer. With a little bit of sand in pockets, the Travelling Pants and the Sisterhood that wears them are back - and ready to embark on their 16th summer . . . Lena's in love - but will it end in a broken heart? Bridget: She's about

to face up to some painful truths about her late mother . . . Carmen: She's hoping destiny will play her cards right - for once! Tibby's going to film school - so will she be star of the show?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ . With a little bit of sand in pockets, the Travelling Pants and the Sisterhood that wears them are back - and ready to embark on their 16th summer ."