



Circle of Friends: A Novel

By Maeve Binchy

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It began with Benny Hogan and Eve Malone, growing up, inseparable, in the village of Knockglen. Benny—the only child, yearning to break free from her adoring parents...Eve—the orphaned offspring of a convent handyman and a rebellious blueblood, abandoned by her mother's wealthy family to be raised by nuns. Eve and Benny—they knew the sins and secrets behind every villager's lace curtains...except their own.

It widened at Dublin, at the university where Benny and Eve met beautiful Nan Mahlon and Jack Foley, a doctor's handsome son. But heartbreak and betrayal would bring the worlds of Knockglen and Dublin into explosive collision. Long-hidden lies would emerge to test the meaning of love and the strength of ties held within the fragile gold bands of a...**Circle Of Friends**.

From the Paperback edition.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Loyal friends Benny and Eve, young women who grew up together in an Irish village, find their relationship tested by the new friendships, romances and opportunities that develop at a Dublin university. According to PW, Binchy's characters have "a colorful way with words, and if the prose is sometimes careless, this is still Irish storytelling at its contemporary best."

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From School Library Journal

YA-- Binchy transports readers to the village of Knockglen in Ireland to meet Benny, the only child of doting parents; Eve Malone, an orphan raised by nuns; and a host of local characters. The girls form a lasting friendship that continues when they go on to college in Dublin. There they meet beautiful Nan, who tries to hide her poor background and drunken father; Jack Foley, a doctor's son; and all their university friends. Provincial Knockglen and fast-paced Dublin become intertwined as the girls try to exist in both worlds. A wonderful, readable story of successes and disappointments, intrigues and loyalty, families and friendships, this novel demonstrates that testing values, maintaining relationships, and coming of age are universal struggles.

- *Katherine Fitch, Thomas Jefferson Sci-Tech, Fairfax County, VA*

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From Library Journal

Best friends since childhood in a small Irish village, first-year college students Benny and Eve are thrilled by the excitement of university life in Dublin. Befriended by Nan, a beautiful classmate with secret ambitions, the three form the nucleus of an ever-widening circle of friends that provides them with a happy sense of belonging and introduces them to a world of carefree activity. However, this light-hearted existence is brought to an abrupt halt when Nan's selfish, callous plans backfire, victimizing Benny and creating within Eve an obsessive desire to avenge Benny. Binchy is a wonderful storyteller, drawing the reader into the hearts of her characters. This engrossing examination of friendship's vicissitudes moves forward effortlessly at a marvelous pace, carrying the reader along on tense, mounting waves of loyalty and deceit. Highly recommended for all popular fiction collections. BOMC alternate.

- *Sister M. Anna Falbo, Villa Maria Coll. Lib., Buffalo, N.Y.*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Leonard Dail:

As people who live in often the modest era should be up-date about what going on or information even knowledge to make these keep up with the era which can be always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what kind you should start with. This Circle of Friends: A Novel is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Paul Cockrell:

Reading can be called brain hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book especially a book entitled Circle of Friends: A Novel your head will drift away through every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a publication then become one type conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get before. The Circle of Friends: A Novel giving you yet another experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful info for your better life on this era. So now let us demonstrate the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

Mary Ponce:

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Lettie Perez:

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