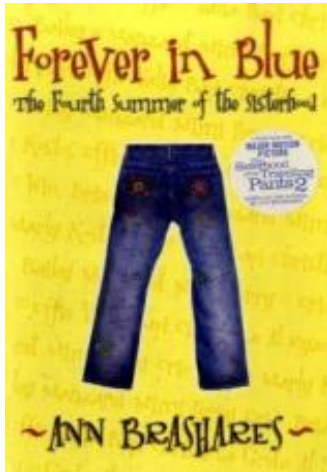


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## Forever in Blue: The Fourth Summer of the Sisterhood

by Ann Brashares

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### About the Book

n/a

### Discussion Guide

- 1.) In the past, the Sisterhood had not shared the Pants during the school year, but only in the summer. In *FOREVER IN BLUE*, we discover that the Pants circulated among the girls while they were at college. If you were a member of the Sisterhood, would you follow suit? Or do you think the Pants should only be used during the summer? Does using the Pants year-round help or hurt the girls' relationships? Why or why not?
- 2.) Which girl has come the farthest, or learned the most, since the first book, *THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS*? Why do you think so?
- 3.) Carmen and Lena reflect on the idea of home throughout *FOREVER IN BLUE*. How would you define *home*? Does a person's definition of home change as she grows up? Might your definition differ from that of a friend?
- 4.) On page 102, Lena thinks about Kostos and whether she's over him. "She wasn't sure she wanted to be the forgetting type, even if she could be. If she forgot Kostos, she feared she'd forget more of herself along with him. Who was she without him?" Given Lena's feelings for Kostos, do you think she's ready to move into a new relationship with Leo? Will someone like Lena ever get over her first love?
- 5.) On page 167, Bridget is talking with Peter. "*I don't have a family to talk about*," she was going to say, but she realized that it wasn't true. She did have a family. They were all under twenty and none of them related to her by blood, but they made her who she was. They represented the best of her. Do you think of your friends as your family, as Bridget does? How would having such strong friendships influence your relationship with your

family? How would it affect your relationships with friends you'd make in the future?

6.) Tibby finds herself in a very adult situation when she's afraid she may be pregnant. How well does she handle her relationship with Brian during this time? If you were in her shoes, would you have pushed your boyfriend away, or would you have wanted his support?

7.) Were you surprised by Carmen's friendship with Julia? Why do you think Carmen forgets how to be herself and lets Julia take control of their relationship? What would you do if you found yourself in Carmen's place?

8.) What do you think of Effie's dating Brian so soon after he and Tibby break up? What would you have done if you were Lena and had to comfort your friend (Tibby) while still supporting your sister (Effie)?

9.) Pants = Love. Can you draw more equations for this book? What does Carmen equal? Bridget?

10.) Where do you think the Pants are? Do you think the girls will find them one day?

11.) If you were a member of the Sisterhood, what would you have done at the end of this book? Was flying to Greece as a group more about looking for the Pants, or more about finally spending time together as friends?

12.) After reading all four Sisterhood books, if you could tell each of the girls one thing about what they have learned, have experienced, or know, what would it be? What would you want to know about each girl in the future?

## Author Bio

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*.

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